



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 03
Series of 2019

DECLARING MARCH 9 OF EVERY YEAR AS LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER (LGBT) DAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ITOGON.

WHEREAS, the “EQUAL PROTECTION CLAUSE” of the 1987 Philippine Constitution guarantees that no person or class of persons shall be deprived of the same protection of laws which is enjoyed by the other persons of other classes in the same place and in like circumstances;

WHEREAS, the Philippines is a signatory to various international treaties that provide for the protection of rights of persons with diverse sexual orientation and gender identity, among which is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR);

WHEREAS, section 3 of R.A. 9710 provides that “All individuals are equal as human beings by virtue of the inherent dignity of each person. No one should therefore suffer discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, gender, age, language, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, disability, birth or other status as established by human rights standards;”

WHEREAS, in “Ang Ladlad LGBT Party versus COMELEC,” the Supreme Court ruled that freedom of expression constitutes one of the essential foundation of a democratic society, and this freedom applies not only to those that are favorably received but also to those that offend, shock, or disturb;

WHEREAS, in consonance with the foregoing legal provisions and jurisprudence, this administration aims to end up all forms of discrimination against the so-called LGBT Community, promote their well-being, give them the opportunity to freely identify themselves and work along with the rest of the society for the good of our people, and to be given equal opportunity to be recognized as members of the community;

WHEREAS, from their significant role as village “Babaylans” in the pre-Spanish era, the LGBTs since then up to these modern times gradually transformed into more productive citizens who, by capitalizing on their ingenuity and distinct talents and skills, they continue to bring honors to our country as they have significantly contributed to our economic growth and national development despite their diverse sexual orientation and gender identity;

WHEREAS, just like the other sectors of society, it is deemed proper to officially declare a certain day in a year wherein the LGBT Community could gather together along with other members of the community to celebrate as one for the promotion of peace, unity and harmony amongst people;

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the powers vested in me as Local Chief Executive, I, **ATTY. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN**, Municipal Mayor of the Municipality of Itogon, Benguet Province, hereby promulgate as follows:

Section 1. March nine (9) of every year is hereby DECLARED as LGBT Day in the Municipality of Itogon, Benguet Province.

Section 2. In celebrating this occasion, LGBT members or those with diverse sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) shall organize activities or programs such as but not limited to (a) public forum wherein the important role of lesbians, gay, bisexual or trans-genders to the society shall be discussed with the end view of gaining social acceptance and eventually putting an end to all forms of discriminations; (b) symposiums or exhibits showcasing the creativity, talents and skills of LGBTs (c) conduct voluntary civic works in their respective barangays; (d) knowledge sharing or technology transfer on good grooming, personal hygiene, beauty care; interior design; floral arrangements, etc., such that the knowledge and skills derived therefrom could be transformed into livelihood or income generating activities by the participants; (e) beauty pageants; and/or (f) musical-literary arts competitions;

Section 3. The municipal government and its component barangays through their respective barangay officials are hereby enjoined to actively support the programs and activities of the LGBT community in relation to the celebration of the LGBT Day, and such other programs and activities of the latter in pursuit of the goals and objectives of this Executive Order as discussed in the above premises;

Section 4. The Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office is hereby tasked as the lead office in the conduct of monitoring and evaluation of the projects, programs and activities of the annual celebration of the LGBT Day. Provided further that the LGBT Community through their duly authorized representative(s) shall present to the MSWDO their proposed programs and activities prior to the conduct thereof;

Section 5. Separability Clause. If for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this Executive Order is declared invalid or unconstitutional by courts of competent authority, the part or provisions hereof not affected thereby shall remain to be in force and effect.

Section 6. Repealing Clause. All Executive Orders and Issuances inconsistent herewith or parts hereof are deemed repealed and/or modified accordingly.

Section 7. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect immediately in accordance with the pertinent provision of the Local Government Code.

DONE this 10th day of April, 2019 at Itogon, Benguet.


ATTY. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN
Municipal Mayor

Copy furnished:

- Hon. Crescencio C. Pacalso
Provincial Governor
- The Honorable Sanguniang Bayan
Itogon, Benguet
- All Department Heads
This municipality
- The DILG-MLGOO
Itogon, Benguet
- All Punong Barangays
This municipality
- file