



OFFICE OF **MAYOR CHARLIE HALES**
CITY OF PORTLAND

October 3, 2016

Welcome!

On behalf of the City of Portland it is my pleasure again to extend a warm welcome to all participants of the Bridgetown Invitational Tournament (BIT). Which is Portland's only 9 game International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO) affiliated tournament. Held the weekend of October 7-9, 2016. Our city is proud to host you again for the third anniversary of this event.

Portland is a city that celebrates diversity and the rights of all individuals, and one with a long history of leadership in supporting the LGBTQ community. This USBC certified Bowling Tournament has helped promote those inclusive strides we as a city pride ourselves on.

As last year, you all can look forward to crossing the year old Tilikum Bridge, and have the opportunity to use the newly opened MAX orange line to Milwaukie and its hassle free transportation option it provides. Along with experiencing the continuous growth of our restaurant community, local businesses and local products. Portland Oregon is a city connected by bridges, food, and community engagement, which makes this a great time to visit prior to the holidays along with sales tax free shopping.

Bridgetown Invitational Tournament has drawn in bowlers as far north as Vancouver BC, and this year is expected to bring in bowlers from the Seattle-Tacoma area, Vancouver, and Portland in addition to other West Coast cities.

I hope that our guest, in addition to exploring new ways to be successful as a community, will also take some time to explore the Portland metropolitan region. As Portlanders, we are extremely proud of what our city has to offer both residents and visitors. It is a place of outstanding natural beauty, fascinating and unique culture, a national destination for northwest-inspired culinary experiences and strong commercial activities accessible by our nationally renowned transportation system.

No matter what activities you choose to pursue during your stay, you'll find the people of Portland ready to help make your visit as enjoyable as possible. Best wishes for a successful tournament and a wonderful visit to our fine city!

Sincerely,

Charlie Hales
Mayor