

Guidance for writing letter of support to Alberta

Many public officials will disregard form letters. As such we are providing guidance for topics you may want to include in your letter to urge the Alberta government to adopt some of the measures that were passed at the recent Alberta United Conservative Party (“UCP”) policy convention. While you may choose to email your letter, more attention is paid to letters that are received by mail. To find the addresses and email addresses of Premier Danielle Smith and Ministers, [click here](#). If you live in Alberta you can find the contact information for your MLA [here](#).

The specific policy resolutions that we support that you may want to write about are as follows:

1. Policy Proposal 15: Support all forms of rights and freedoms including those protected by the Charter;
2. Policy Proposal 25: Make all administrative and regulatory bodies subject to the same rules of evidence and burden of proof as followed by the Courts;
3. Policy Proposal 28: Require all regulatory professional associations and trade organizations to limit investigations of their members for complaints regarding professional conduct of their members to instances of activities that occur while ‘on the job’; and,
4. Policy Proposal 29: Ensure prisons are sex-segregated in order to protect female prisoners.

You may also wish to include Policy Proposals 6 (Ban post-secondary institutions from the use of race as a factor in any admissions program or procedure) and/or 8 (Require Teachers, Schools, and School Boards to obtain the written consent of the parent/guardian of a student under the age of 16 prior to changing the name and/or pronouns used by the student.). We highly suggest you read the entire text of each proposal carefully, [here](#).

Below are different points you may wish to bring up in your letter for each Policy Proposal we are supporting.

Policy Proposal 15

- Sex-based rights are protected under the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. The rights of women and girls have suffered as sex has taken a back seat to gender identity and expression. Those rights include dignity, safety, privacy, security, and the ability to fully participate in society.
- The right to freedom of expression and belief/thought:
 - Women are being punished for speaking out about women’s rights
 - Case of Amy Hamm facing a tribunal BC College of Nurses and Midwives with the possibility of the loss of her nursing licence
 - Professor Kathleen Lowery being relieved of duties at the University of Alberta
 - Valérie Pelletier fired from a Montreal women’s shelter

- April Hutchinson received a two-year suspension from the Canadian Powerlifting Union
 - Sport Canada pulled out on a study of elite Canadian female athletes and their opinion on having to compete against self-identified males after being pressured by an American lobby organization
 - Women face harassment and threats for speaking about women's rights and how those rights are in conflict with gender identity rights.
 - Gender ideology is in many ways like a belief system. Those who do not believe in gender ideology are oftentimes forced to use terminology they do not believe in (and in many cases find offensive), such as "cis" and dehumanizing language like "birthing body" and "uterus owner".
- Right to Freedom of Association
 - The constant shutting down of events with women seeking to speak about women's rights. If those events are not cancelled by the venue the attendees and speakers are often times harassed and threatened as they try to get to the event.
- The UN Special Rapporteur for Violence Against Women [issued a statement](#) about the threat of harm and harm women are facing in Western countries for speaking out about how women's rights are being affected by laws and policy changes.

Policy Proposal 28

There is a growing number of complaints being made against licensed professionals to regulatory bodies being entertained based on:

- Activism outside of work hours.
- Opinions that are unpopular.
- Discussions surrounding individual rights (typically women's rights and freedom of expression/free speech).
- Discussions about rights that are in conflict with other rights.
- that are being entertained by professional bodies (ie. psychologists and nurses) about unpopular opinions those individuals have stated publicly while not at work.

The complaints have nothing to do with misconduct at work or doing something illegal. A growing number of disciplinary committees in Canada are entertaining these complaints with professionals facing the real and devastating issue of having their licenses revoked.

Recent examples include

- Dr. Jordan Peterson
- Amy Hamm.
- Other nurses and medical professionals that publicly disagreed with mainstream medical advice or science.

These cases do not involve any complaints from patients or clients.

Policy Proposal 29

- [MLI poll](#) shows the majority of Canadians disagree with housing male offenders in women's prisons, no matter how those males identify.

- Study released by the Correction Service of Canada shows many concerning figures about “gender diverse prisoners” - in particular transwomen. You can refer to either the [one page summary](#), but the tables in the [full report](#) have a lot of useful data. Some of the major data points include:
 - Approximately 32.3% of trans-identified male prisoners were in women’s prisons.
 - 50.8% of trans-identified male prisoners were serving indeterminate sentences.
 - 91.7% of trans-identified male prisoners were serving for a violent offence.
 - 44.3% of trans-identified male prisoners had a history of sexual offences.
 - 74.6% of trans-identified male prisoners had a high static risk rating.
 - 84.8% of trans-identified male prisoners had a high dynamic risk rating.
 - 62.7% of trans-identified male prisoners had a low reintegration potential rating.
 - 39.3% of trans-identified male prisoners were in maximum security prisons.
 - 52.5% of trans-identified male prisoners were in medium-security prisons.
 - 82% of gender-diverse prisoners who had committed a sexual offence were trans-identified males.
 - 94% of sexual offences were committed while the gender diverse offender was living as their biological sex.
- The information from [Jo Pheonix’s report](#) for the MacDonald Laurier Institute has a great amount of information that can be referred to. Page 10 and 11 (Executive Summary) will give you the bulk of the information you will find useful.

Women’s Rights Matter Recommendations

These are the recommendations that we submitted with our letter:

1. Prisons are sex-segregated. If it is warranted that trans-identified males require separate housing from the male population, a “transgender” wing be created in male prisons to accommodate those prisoners.
2. The words “woman” and “girl” be officially defined as ‘human adult female’ and ‘human child female’ respectively to ensure that there is no confusion.
3. Women’s washrooms and changing facilities are sex-segregated and exempt from being deemed discriminatory against any male individual, including trans-identified males.
4. Schools and publicly funded organizations must have sex-segregated washrooms and changing facilities. They may opt to have third mixed-sex spaces.
5. Criminals not be allowed to legally change their sex marker and name and must use their legal name from the time of their arrest.
6. No male may compete in female sports divisions.

You may wish to refer to our letter either in your introductory or concluding paragraph.

We thank you for your participation!