



Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice

A national faith-based organization founded in support of Unitarian values

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President, Rev. Frances Deverell

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To all Senators in the Canadian Senate

Dear Senator;

I am writing on behalf of Canadian Unitarians For Social Justice to ask you to support Bill C-389 and to help expedite it through the Senate so that it will become part of Canadian Law before any election may be called.

Equal rights and opportunities for well-being for all Canadians is the central theme of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms as well as the Canada Human Rights Act. For transgender people it is particularly essential to be included in the Criminal Code hate crimes law. These people have been subjected to hate-based violence more than almost any other group.

Canadian Unitarians For Social Justice promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person. We believe everyone should be treated with justice, equity and compassion. Transgender people are often misunderstood. Many people believe they have chosen their path and could choose to live with their birth gender. If you ever took the time, as I have, to listen to their stories, you would know that this is not the case, and that no one would go through what transgender people have to face if they didn't have to. We hope you will open your heart and mind to the challenges transgender people face, and will give them, for the first time, their full rights under the law.

We have a great opportunity here in Canada today to stand up for what is right on this important issue. Please be among those who stand for human dignity and equal rights by including gender identity and expression as prohibited grounds for discrimination under the law.

In faith,

Rev. Frances Deverell,
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