

From: contact <contact@parentalconsentalberta.ca>

To: "premier@gov.ab.ca" <premier@gov.ab.ca>, "brooks.medicinehat@assembly.ab.ca" <brooks.medicinehat@assembly.ab.ca>

Date: 03/04/2025 10:43 AM EST

Subject: The Minimum Remedy Needed to Bring Safe and Rational Balance to Parent-Child-State Rights

Honourable Danielle Smith,

Regarding the Education Amendment Act 2024, Minister Nicolaides declared that *"Bill 27 will increase transparency, clarity and consistency in the education system"* and *"will keep families informed."* The attached paper titled ***"Facts Leading to Questions About Education Amendment Act 2024 Probable Effectiveness,"*** contends these talking points don't stand up against an honest and thorough analysis. Clusters of facts are presented in the attached document followed by questions the Minister should ponder, and the government should answer.

The seven-page analysis has this structure:

- Introduction (how the government has framed the problem to be fixed)
- Key Features of the Education Amendment Act 2024
- Evidence of Unprecedented SOGI Confusion Among Our Youth
- Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) Influences Overlooked in the ACT
- ATA DEHR and Inclusive Education Influences Overlooked in the Act
- Shortcomings of the ACT's Name Change and Pronoun Usage Policy
- Existing Parental Rights and UCP Resolutions Overlooked
- Categories of Children's Independence by Age from Parental Consent
- Final Parental Consent Alberta (PCA) Comments

The facts and twenty questions raised cast serious doubt on the notions of increasing *"transparency, clarity and consistency in the education system"* and keeping parents informed. Alberta parents deserve clarity from the government on all the questions, with priority response to these:

Q18 - At what age should children be given full secrecy and independence to associate with the "GSA club – GSA Teacher Sponsor/Advisor – GSA Network – LGBTTPQQAI+ Activist Agency" chain?

Q19 - At what age should children be given full secrecy and independence to decide and give a SOGI self-identity to their school?

Until the government clarifies its position on Questions 18 and 19, they will not have made a serious attempt to address and/or remedy the concerns of the protesting parents.

Parental Consent Alberta has argued, since 7 July 2020, that this age must be **sixteen**. The paper below is another appeal and explanation of why to the government. **Children ages 5 to 15 must have parental**

consent before they give a SOGI self-identity to their school and/or join a GSA. Given the facts of the situation, this recommendation is a legislative remedy the UCP should accept with alacrity.

This email has been sent to the Premier, Ministers of Education and Justice, and to all UCP constituency offices.

Respectfully,

Carman Bradley

Founder [Parental Consent Alberta](#)



**Facts Leading to Questions About [Education Amendment Act 2024](#)
Probable Effectiveness**

Scroll to next page.

Facts Leading to Questions About [Education Amendment Act 2024](#) Probable Effectiveness

Introduction

In developing the Education Amendment Act (hence forth the “ACT”) the Education Ministry engaged with some 250 stakeholders, including parent and teacher representatives, superintendents, school boards, and mental health organizations. The above stakeholder consultations acknowledged, it appears from the features of the ACT that the parents and protesters (in graphic across) and their compatriots throughout the province and nation were either not consulted, or have been ignored. These marchers are not seeking new “opt-in” legislation to replace the existing “opt-out” law, nor will parental consent authority over a name or pronoun change request by children (under age 16) adequately address their concerns.



After much research and analysis of the ACT, including government talking points, the conclusion reached is that the “political” problem the Premier and Education Minister chose to “frame” is how best to make complaining parents and protesting Albertans feel better informed, more included/involved, while retaining untouched the ideologically divisive education environment which caused the protests.

A few ACT-related (Bill 27) government talking points:

- *“Bill 27 puts students first while supporting the important parent-child relationship.” - Premier Daniel Smith*
- *“Bill 27 will increase transparency, clarity and consistency in the education system” and “will keep families informed.” - Minister of Education, Demetrios Nicolaides*
- *“We believe that one of the greatest responsibilities we have as parents, teachers, and community leaders is to preserve our children’s choices as they grow and develop. This is key to ensuring they are prepared to make the most impactful decisions affecting their lives.” - Minister of Education, Demetrios Nicolaides*

This paper clusters various facts, like these talking points which are followed by questions the readers should ponder and where justified seek unambiguous answers from their government.

Q1 – What does “puts students first” mean in “Parent-Child-State” responsibilities and relationships, first ahead of who/of what – parents, family, puts 5,6,7,8...year-olds ahead of their parents?

- In 2023, a Gallop survey of Americans found that 23% of Generation Z declared themselves other than heterosexual. This percentage is a tenfold increase over the Baby Boomer generation.

Q8 – Where in the ACT or in related debate is there evidence (tangible or implied) that the government cares that 10.8% of students surveyed in Edmonton public schools neither identify as male or female?

Q9 – Are these unprecedented trends the new “natural/normal” or the “unnatural/abnormal” result of triggering by institutional, outside agency, student peer, and governance influences?

Q10 – Who in our education system advocates for, affirms, or teaches, heteronormative sexuality/gender development? Where in the curriculum is the need to promote heterosexuality among our youth?

Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) Influences Overlooked in the ACT:

Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) law has created what should be labeled a “GSA club – GSA Teacher Sponsor/Advisor – GSA Network – LGBTTPQQAI+ activist agency pipeline or chain” of affirmative action/indoctrination. The chain starts with unsupervised peer-led GSA clubs, impacted by teachers applying the Alberta Teachers’ Association (ATA) publication “[GSAs and QSAs in Alberta Schools: A Guide for Teachers](#)” (a must read). Appendix A to the publication lists GSA affirmative advocacy activities and Appendix B details so-called “age appropriate” advocacy for sexual diversity, starting in elementary schools. The [Guide](#) (page 31) states Type 4 GSAs are to effect educational and social change by striving to move students and parents “*beyond tolerance,*” i.e. to unconditional affirmation of all “SOGI” identities. The GSA “clubs” and ATA Teacher Sponsors/Advisers ([Guide](#), pages 32 and 42) further connect with an off school property, adult-run, provincial GSA network, further associated to sexual minority activist agencies, including [Camp fYrefly](#).

The ACT declares a new policy of ministerial review and approval of all external “third-party” influencers dealing with SOGI matters in our schools. This change is heralded as bringing the outside of school “adults” like those associated through the GSA Network, for example [AltView](#), under *Alberta Education* oversight/accountability. Some might see this policy as a significant victory. It is at best a shallow change to the education environment because the goals of the adults in the “GSA Network and LGBTTPQQAI+ activist agency chain” **quite align** with the ATA’s Diversity, Equity and Human Rights (DEHR) program and our government’s “Inclusive Education” policies (see next cluster), therefore:

- *Alberta Education* is unlikely to restrict outside third-party agencies that seamlessly align with already approved/permitted ATA DEHR and inclusive education goals.
- in the event that the Minister chooses to block access to a GSA club for an agency like [AltView](#), the ATA GSA Sponsor Teacher/Advisor allied in purpose with [AltView](#) would become a bridge and facilitate the intended instruction/indoctrination.

Another work around of the third-party overwatch is to take the student off school property or make other arrangements to connect with Network adults and/or LGBTTPQQAI+ activist agencies elsewhere. Read the Calgary Herald article titled “[Corbella: Some alarming revelations about two GSAs at Alberta](#)”

[Court of Appeal.](#)” **Into this ideologically biased GSA chain, students, whether straight or SOGI self-identifying, starting in kindergarten (age 5), can secretly join without parental awareness and consent.**

Read Theresa Ng, informed Albertans, [“Albertans, will you take a stand to protect our children?”](#)

The Education Minister claims student membership in a GSA club is a student’s personal information, protected by privacy legislation under the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act \(FIPPA\)](#). One would not argue against children ages 5-15 joining the GSA chain, if they have parental consent or if the youth was registered as an “independent student.” Note students under age 16 cannot be registered as “independent.” Regarding parental rights to a student’s record/file, the [Education Act](#), under s.56 (1) Student Records, states:

“A board shall establish and maintain IAW the regulations a student record for (a) each student enrolled in a school operated by a board...(3) The following persons may review the student record maintained in respect of a student: (a) the student; (b) the student’s parent, except where the student is an independent student.”

Surely, in the case of students under age 16, there is no legal authority for keeping a unique, separate, and secret record of GSA membership or SOGI self-identification, which is inaccessible to parents. Yet, the Minister of Education denies all parents, regardless of their child’s age and medical history, the right to know if the child is in a GSA club and give their consent. How ironic/inconsistent/irrational, to assert “ironclad” student privacy provisions in the [FIPPA](#), yet the government in the ACT, in the case of a name or pronoun change request, declares students under age 16 must inform their parents and gain parental consent. Moreover, those age 16 and older must declare a name change to their parents. Clearly, a student’s privacy rights can be overturned, if the government wants. The Minister’s assertion that the [FIPPA](#) binds government policy options is false.

The argument that [FIPPA](#) binds government policy against informing parents of GSA membership is spurious for another reason. The clubs are intended to be free of institutional oversight/accountability. There is no regulation requiring an adult (Teacher Sponsor/Advisor or other) to be present at meetings/activities, nor that a record of club attendance be kept. Fact is the clubs were to have no more oversight than a chess club. To date, school staff have little idea who is a member, when they attend, and what they hear or do in the club. Read Lucia Corbella, Calgary Herald, [“Corbella: Couple warns their daughter could have died under new GSA law.”](#)

The Smith government appears to side with those claiming that the State (i.e. Alberta Education) knows better than parents what is in the best interest of our children regardless of age and other factors. The talking point that the State must “*preserve our children’s choices as they grow and develop*” reveals the Education Minister’s support of unconstrained advocacy for diversity, equity, and inclusivity (DEI) policies in our schools. The talking point “*keeping families informed,*” appears more rhetorical than substantive.

Q11 – Do parents have the right to know at all times and in all circumstances under Alberta Education jurisdiction, who is influencing their children’s sexual development, where and when this is happening, and what their children are being told and doing while at school or associated with the GSA Network,

regardless of whether their children are straight, gay, lesbian, queer, trans-identifying, wavering in sexuality, or gender confused?

ATA DEHR and Inclusive Education Influences Overlooked in the Act:

The ATA [Diversity, Equity and Human Rights \(DEHR\) program](#) is a union-led affirmative action initiative promoting SOGI ideology within both public and separate schools. The ACT proposed parental “opt-in” consent provision regarding instruction in SOGI matters will not isolate children from activist teachers promoting ATA DEHR objectives in schools. Moreover, “inclusive education” policies like secret SOGI self-identification and secret declaration to school staff, regardless of the child’s age, maturity, and psychological/medical history, thwart the ACT’s intent of “*transparency, clarity, and “keeping the family [parents] informed,*” as declared by the Minister of Education. The “opt-in” consent provision will be no more effective than the “opt-out” approach due to continued “GSA chain” dynamics and unfettered “diversity,” “equity” and “inclusivity” (DEI) policies implemented by the ATA in schools.

Q12 – In matters of SOGI self-identity, is it Alberta government policy that parents must accept a child’s professed identity, regardless of the child’s age, maturity, and psychological/medical history; and the family’s cultural, linguistic, religious, and spiritual upbringing/heritage?

Q13 – What evidence is there to suggest that a parental notice and “opt-in” right for parents will be more effective than the current “opt-out” approach initiated in 2009?

Shortcomings of the ACT’s Name Change and Pronoun Usage Policy:

- Name change and pronoun usage policy does little to address the root causes of the unprecedented gender dysphoria/confusion among Alberta youth.
- Parents are not concerned about regulating name changes and pronouns, which are symptoms of identity dysphoria/confusion. At the heart of parental concerns is the actual “identity,” and how to best mitigate school environmental influences causing skyrocketing gender clinic referrals.
- By the time a child wishes to socially transition with a name change, it is much too late in the development process for a school to finally inform the parents. Moreover, children may identify as transgender, pansexual, transexual, genderqueer, intersex, bigender, gender fluid, polygender, bisexual, non-binary, asexual, queer etc. without wanting to change their name or pronoun usage.

Q14 – Is it rational for the government, through the ACT, to deny students under age 16 the secrecy and independent right to an informal name or pronoun change (related to a SOGI self-identity), while maintaining a student secrecy right (from parental knowledge and consent) for all SOGI identities, including transgender “when no name/pronoun change is requested”?

Q15 – Why has the government placed so much political capital on this informal name change policy, under the assertion it’s a huge gain for parental rights?

Q16 – Do the proposed parental notice and consent rights of parents for their child’s name change or pronoun change at school adequately remedy parental rights and child-rearing concerns?

Existing Parental Rights and UCP Resolutions Overlooked:

- [Alberta Family Law Act](#) states parents have the rights:
 - To make decisions about the child’s education, including the nature, extent and place of education and any participation in extracurricular school activities.
 - To make decisions regarding the child’s cultural, linguistic, religious and spiritual upbringing.
 - To decide with whom the child is to live and with whom the child is to associate.
- The UCP AGM approved the following resolution in 2022: *“Affirm the freedom of religion and conscience rights of parents and their children, ensuring the government does not interfere with the teaching and training of their children, including matters with respect to identity, sexuality and morality; and uphold the rights of parents so as not to require them to affirm or socially condition a child in a gender identity that is incongruent with the child's birth sex.”*

Q17 – Do policies of secret membership in the GSA chain and secret SOGI self-identification at school, starting at age five, align with parental rights declared in [Alberta Family Law](#) or in UCP resolutions?

Categories of Children’s Independence by Age from Parental Consent:

Existing Categories of Children’s Independence by Age From Parental Consent	Age	Impact of Bill 27 on Categories of Children’s Independence by Age From Parental Consent	Age
Legal Age of Majority (Full Independence)	18	Legal Age of Majority (Full Independence)	18
Legal to Drink Alcohol/Buy Cigarettes or Lottery Tickets		Legal to Drink Alcohol/Buy Cigarettes or Lottery Tickets	
Legal to Stop Attending School	16	Legal to Stop Attending School	16
Legal to Vote in Federal & Provincial Elections	18	Legal to Vote in Federal & Provincial Elections	18
Legal to Watch a Restricted Movie		Legal to Watch a Restricted Movie	
Legal to Marry Without Parental Consent	18	Legal to Marry Without Parental Consent	18
Legal to Join Military Without Parental Consent		Legal to Join Military Without Parental Consent	
Legal to Change Name Without Parental Consent		Legal to Change Name Without Parental Consent	
Legal Right to Leave Home Without Parental Consent	16	Legal Right to Leave Home Without Parental Consent	16
Legal to Get a Tattoo Without Parental Consent		Legal to Get a Tattoo Without Parental Consent	
Legal to Get Employment Without Parental Consent		Legal to Get Employment Without Parental Consent	
Legal to Decide Health Care Without Parental Consent		Legal to Decide Health Care Without Parental Consent	
Legal to Change Name According to Self-identity While at School Without Parental Consent	5	Legal to Change Name According to Self-identity While at School Without Parental Consent	5
Legal to Self-Declare Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity While at School Without Parental Consent		Legal to Self-Declare Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity While at School Without Parental Consent	
Legal to Join a Gay or Queer-Straight Alliance (GSA club) While at School Without Parental Consent		Legal to Join a Gay or Queer-Straight Alliance (GSA club) While at School Without Parental Consent	

Q18 - At what age should children be given full secrecy and independence to associate with the “GSA club – GSA Teacher Sponsor/Advisor – GSA Network – LGBTTPQQAI+ Activist Agency” chain?

Q19 - At what age should children be given full secrecy and independence to decide and give a SOGI self-identity to their school?

Final Question – In light of probable status-quo impacts of the ACT on “parental rights and children’s developmental health concerns,” how long will it take the caring, loving, protesting parents (pictured at the beginning of this paper) to see the truth and restart the protest marches and rallies?

Final Parental Consent Alberta (PCA) Comments:

- ACT legislation which leaves students ages 5 to 15 empowered to secret independence from parents regarding SOGI self-identity and GSA membership, while at school, is not a serious attempt to find a safe, rational, fair and balanced relationship between “Parent-Child-State” rights.
- The concept that children (students) starting at age 5 should be free from parental knowledge and consent in matters SOGI self-identity and GSA membership is a fundamental assault on proven/established parental rights set out in [Alberta Family Law Act](#) and an offensive on family autonomy from the State. This reality is ironic given longstanding [UCP AGM resolutions](#) and six continuous years of UCP governance.
- Parents of students under age 16, who wish their children to join a GSA or give a SOGI self-identity to their school should be empowered to give such consent. Their children should receive the affirmation and support the parents are seeking.
- **On the other hand, parents who wish to not “opt-in” their children to SOGI-related instruction, should be empowered to give consent/approval before their child (under age 16) attends a GSA club and/or expresses a SOGI self-identity to the school.** This approach is rational, consistent, fair, and balanced and is aligned with the ACT’s name and pronoun change policy for youth under age 16. Anything less, given existing GSA dynamics and the ATA DEHR program, makes a mockery of “opt-in” notice and consent rights for parents. Anything less, is a declaration by the State that it knows better than parents what is in their children’s best interest, regardless of age, maturity, medical factors, etc. **Albertans should expect and demand better from their UCP Government.**

These facts and questions are extracts from two broader analyses titled [“Bill 27 – More is Needed to Remedy Parenting Concerns and Bring About Rational/Balanced ‘Parent-Child-State’ Rights,”](#) and [“Breaking the Mirrors and Removing the Smoke – A Primer on UCP’s Education Amendment Act 2024,”](#) written by Carman Bradley, founder of [Parental Consent Alberta](#) (PCA).

