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Date: 08/19/2024 11:00 AM EDT

Subject: **The UCP's Proposed Transgender Name Change Policy – Practically a “Nothing Burger”**

References:

- A. PCA analysis [“Premier Smith’s Parents’ Rights Policies \(31 Jan 2024\) the Facts and Needed Clarifications Speak for Themselves,”](#) dated February 5, 2024.
- B. PCA [“Proposed Explicit Alberta Parents’ Bill of Rights,”](#) sent to Premier Smith, Ministers of Education and Justice, and all UCP MLAs, dated May 2, 2024.
- C. [“The ‘Crux of the Matter’ for a Just and Balanced Alberta Parents’ Bill of Rights,”](#) sent to Premier Smith, Ministers of Education and Justice, and all UCP MLAs, dated May 2, 2024.

[Parental Consent Alberta](#) (PCA)

This email distribution: Premier, Ministers of Education and Justice, and all UCP MLA constituency offices.

Honourable Danielle Smith,

With our “Petition Presentation Script” (see at end of this text) as a very concise expression of the problem, including our petition remedy as background, may I take this opportunity to focus on the inadequacies of the following government declaration, particularly if it becomes the “cornerstone” of a UCP Parents’ Bill of Rights in October.

“For a minor aged 15 and under, the government will require parental notification and consent for a school to alter the name or pronouns of a child. For 16 and 17-year-olds who choose to alter their name or pronoun, parents do not need to give consent but must be notified.” – Premier Smith, Jan 31, 2024

The following graphic details Alberta’s “key” existing parental-child consent authorities and the impact of the Premier’s Jan 31, 2024 “name change and/or pronoun usage” policy pledge. More specifically, note what does not change.

Existing Categories of Children's Independence by Age From Parental Consent	Age	Premier's Pledged Changes for 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		Legal to Change Name According to Self-identity While at School Without Parental Consent	
Legal to Self-Declare Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity While at School Without Parental Consent	5	Legal to Self-Declare Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity While at School Without Parental Consent	5
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	

A “nothing burger” is a term used to describe a situation that receives a lot of attention, but which, upon closer examination, reveals to be of little or no real significance. -

Wikipedia

Parental concerns are primarily **not** about “regulating” their children’s name change and pronoun usage at school. Parents are seeking “protective/preventive” legislation that restricts and regulates the influences/causes that have led to unprecedented SOGI confusion and extraordinary increases in transgender clinic referrals among our youth. Parents, disenfranchised of proven and long-established child-rearing rights, through Alberta’s GSA law and SOGI policies, are seeking an end to a student’s (their child's) secret and independent right to GSA membership and SOGI self-identification to their school, starting from age five.

Children may identify as transgender, pansexual, transexual, genderqueer, intersex, bigender, gender fluid, polygender, bisexual, non-binary, asexual, queer etc. without wanting or needing to change their name or pronoun usage. According to [Good Housekeeping](#), there are 150 first names that are gender-neutral. What’s government policy on use of nicknames? Moreover, in the event a name change is requested, it is far too late in the child’s gender identity development to be a safe/appropriate trigger point for notifying the parents.

The UCP AGM 2023 rationale for the name/pronoun change policy reads in part: ***“Schools should not be in the business of going behind parents’ backs.”*** If no name change is requested, the policy still leaves parents in the dark and teachers/school staff empowered to deceive parents about their child’s gender identity, e.g. still ***“going behind parents’ backs.”*** Children, starting at age five, can still secretly join the “GSA club – GSA Network – LGBTTPQQAI+ Agency chain” which acts as an activist and unregulated SOGI influence portal into our education system.

PCA has asked the Notley, Kenney and Smith governments on numerous occasions “*Who is liable should a child be harmed at school related to GSA involvement or a SOGI self-identity, kept secret from the parents?*” The following articles demonstrate the legitimacy of parent concerns:

- Licia Corbella, Calgary Herald, “[Corbella: Some alarming revelations about two GSAs at Alberta Court of Appeal.](#)”
- Licia Corbella, Calgary Herald, “[Corbella: Couple warns their daughter could have died under new GSA law.](#)”
- Theresa Ng, Informed Albertans, “[Albertans, will you take a stand to protect our children?](#)”

In closing, once again PCA asserts that the crux of any balanced and safe Parents’ Bill of Rights must be the clarification by legal standard at what age it is safe and appropriate, indeed in the best interests of the child, to give students full secrecy and complete independence from parental oversight and consent authority. Specifically, this standard should clarify:

- (1) at what age can children (independently and secretly from parents) associate with unregulated student peers in a GSA club or with unaccountable adults in the GSA Network;
- (2) at what age can children (independently and secretly from parents) access sexuality and gender indoctrination/materials through school GSA clubs;
- (3) at what age can children (independently and secretly) decide and give a SOGI self-identity to their school; and
- (4) at what age can children (independently and secretly from parents) decide to access change and washroom facilities intended for students of the biologically opposite sex? [Moreover, who in the school will approve such a wish and on what basis?]

Our petition statement (below) recommends a legal standard which also gives voice and relief to numerous past UCP AGM resolutions related to family autonomy from the State, that thus far have never been converted into governance.

Best regards,

Carman Bradley

Founder [Parental Consent Alberta](#)



(Petition statement next page)

Petition to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta

The undersigned residents of Alberta draw the attention of the Legislative Assembly to the following:

Whereas:

- There are some 607,000 students under age 16 in the Alberta school system, which includes tens of thousands of cognitively and/or psychologically vulnerable youths.
- All students under age 18 must be registered as “dependent” by a parent or guardian, with the exception that students 16 years or older living independently as decided by a board based on s.6 of the Alberta Education Act, or party to an agreement under s.57.2 of the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act, are considered “independent” under the Education Act, and thus mature enough to self-register.
- Alberta Family Law Act s.21 (para 5 a and b, and para 6 a, c, d, e, g, and h) details the powers, responsibilities, and consent authorities of parents or guardians over their “dependent” children, including *“to decide with whom they may associate”* and *“to make decisions about the child’s education, including the nature, extent and place of education and any participation in extracurricular school activities.”*
- Alberta Education Act “Notice to Parent” s.58.1 grants parents and guardians the right of notice to and consent authority over all instruction of their children related to human sexuality.
- The result of gay-straight alliance (GSA) club and sexual orientation gender identity (SOGI) legislation in March 2015, children starting from age 5 have been granted full independence from their parents or guardians to secretly declare a SOGI self-identity to their school and/or join a GSA club. Teachers and school staff are directed to keep the child’s privacy by deceiving parents or guardians to the student’s GSA membership and SOGI status at school.
- GSA clubs are student-led, unsupervised, and non-transparent to parents and school staff. The GSA clubs are coordinated through the adult-run Alberta GSA Network, which connects the clubs to sexual minority affinity agencies. These adults and agencies are not accountable to *Alberta Education* or Alberta parents.
- Parents, whether with confused/wavering, straight, or LGBTTTTPQQAL+ identifying children, no longer know who is influencing their children’s sexuality and gender development, where and when this is happening, and what their children are being told and doing while at school and in association with the *“GSA Club – GSA Network – LGBTTTTPQQAL+ Affinity Agency Chain.”*
- Gender and sexuality confusion among Alberta youth has now reached unprecedented levels.
- A legal standard is needed to clarify at what age it is safe and appropriate, indeed in the best interests of the child, to give students full secrecy and complete independence from parental oversight and consent regarding: (1) with whom they can associate; (2) what sexuality and gender indoctrination and materials they receive; and (3) when they can decide and give a SOGI self-identity to their school.

Petition statement:

To the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, in Legislature Assembled:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to introduce legislation that requires children ages 5 to 15 to obtain parental consent before they become a member of a Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) or provide a sexual orientation/gender identity (SOGI) self-identification to their school.