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Subject: Court reserves decision on Saskatchewan's school name change and pronoun law

Reference: ["The UCP's Proposed Transgender Name Change Policy - Practically a 'Nothing Burger'"](#) sent to Premier Smith, Ministers of Education and Justice, and all UCP MLAs (Aug 19, 2024).

Honourable Danielle Smith,

In a seven-minute video by Global News, released 28 September – [Court Reserves decision on Saskatchewan's school pronoun law](#) - an [EGALE](#) lawyer offers the *2SLGBTQI* activist organization's position on Saskatchewan's school name change and pronoun law. Even with the application of the notwithstanding clause, the case is not a slam dunk for the Moe government.

As articulated in the reference email, the fixation (political capital carelessly spent) on name change and pronoun usage is disappointing. The policy declaration has become a distraction from addressing the real issues concerning parents' rights and their children's safety. These concerns are particularly acute in Alberta where flawed 2015 GSA governance still remains in need of significant remedy.

The Alberta government's replication of Premier Moe's name change policy runs the risk of backfiring in the courts. Furthermore, if the name change law is upheld as constitutional, it remains a lame governance solution to the many parents' rights and children's safety concerns (see the petition document below for further details).

Carman Bradley

Founder [Parental Consent Alberta](#)



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.