

Follow-up Email to “Open Letter to Alberta Premier Regarding Getting Things Done for Albertans”



Reference:

- A. Parental Consent Alberta “Open Letter to Alberta Premier Regarding Getting Things Done for Albertans” dated November 17, 2022 (attached).
- B. [Mandate Letter](#) to Minister of Education, the Honourable Adriana LaGrange, dated November 9, 2022.

Dear Premier Smith,

Attached is a comparison table of recent UCP principles, commitments, and resolutions along with the organizational goals of [Parental Consent Alberta](#) (PCA). From this table, it is clear we are united in:

*Affirming that the family is the basic unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State to ensure that parents, legal guardians and caregivers have the right and responsibility to oversee the healthcare and education of their own children, including but not limited to the cultural, linguistic, religious, spiritual and moral upbringing and heritage of their children.*

This commitment declared, is your UCP government concerned that young children today are empowered to make life-altering decisions without the knowledge and consent of their parents or guardians? Alberta’s children are at risk of jeopardizing their future by making decisions and declarations they do not have the maturity to contemplate fully, nor understand the potential long-term ramifications. The Parental Consent Alberta [website](#) fully expands on these concerns, including supporting facts and evidence ([click here](#) for a 5 minute summary of reasons for our on-going [petition](#) campaign).

The [Mandate Letter](#) to Minister LaGrange (Ref. B.) makes one mention to Alberta parents – “Continue to support parental choice throughout our educational system.” How can “parental choice” and “the right and responsibility to oversee the healthcare and education of their own children” have any credibility/utility when parents **no longer** have the right/power to know **who** is influencing their children’s sexual/gender development, **where** and **when** this is happening, and **what** their children are being told and doing while at school and related to the “[Gay-Straight Alliance Club](#) - [GSA-Network](#) - [LGBTQ Activist Chain](#)?” This reality adversely impacts 733,000 students, their parents and their families regardless of the type of school attended.

On January 5, 2023, the National Post published an article by Tom Blackwell titled “[Some parents object as Canadian schools quietly aid students’ gender transition](#).” The article reads in part:

*When a student in a Calgary Grade 6 class came out as transgender this year, the teacher made one thing clear to the other pupils: they mustn't let slip their classmate's new gender identity to her parents. The couple was not yet aware of the change.*

*It seemed like an odd message for a group of 11-year-olds, says the mother of one of the pupils. "This upset me so much," she says. "Kids were being taught to lie to parents"...*

*It's just one way the education system has become intimately involved in the transgender process, which affects an "exponentially" growing number of young Canadians. Schools accept name and pronoun preferences, provide gender-neutral washrooms and teach from a young age about gender identity. In some cases, they can even refer students directly to gender-treatment clinics.*

*But as health professionals applaud the developments, some parents of children with gender dysphoria — the sense that their birth sex does not match their gender identity — are bristling at the role schools are playing. **Teachers, principals and guidance counsellors, they complain, are essentially usurping the traditional responsibilities of mothers and fathers as they help advance children's gender transition.***

***"The way that I see it, the schools are triangulating the family — they're becoming a wedge between the child and parent,"** said the mother of a teenage girl-at-birth whose school in Ontario's Hamilton-Wentworth board adopted a name change immediately after he came out as a boy. [My bolding]*

In the domains of children's sexuality and gender education/development, [Gay-Straight Alliance](#) law and student [Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity \(SOGI\)](#) governance have radically and detrimentally altered the rights, roles, responsibilities and powers of Alberta parents, their children, and the provincial government. Longstanding family freedoms and autonomy vis-à-vis the State have been fundamentally diminished. Current Alberta governance:

- disenfranchises longstanding parental powers listed in [Alberta Family Law Act](#) s.21 para 5 and 6 ([click here](#) for the list of infringed rights);
- empowers tens of thousands of cognitively/psychologically vulnerable youth, sexually wavering/ questioning/confused children, and/or gender dysphoric youth, with consent and association independence from their parents' oversight that they are not mature enough to handle responsibly and safely on their own;
- contradicts the UCP's "Declaration of Principles and Commitments," October 16, 2020, and the "Policy and Governance Resolutions" declared at the October 20, 2022 UCP AGM (see attached); and
- nullifies the utility of [Education Act](#) S.58.1 - Notice to Parent: "A board shall provide notice to a parent of a student who will receive instruction dealing with human sexuality (paraphrased)," (for full S.58.1 text [click here](#)).

Does the UCP government still assert that the secrecy of 5,6,7...year-olds attending GSAs and declaring a SOGI self-identity to their school is protected from their parents under the *Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*? This was Minister LaGrange's position declared in her [email response](#) (July 20, 2021). In the matters of GSA and SOGI policies there has been little variance between PC-NDP-UCP governance. The UCP policy that teachers will know best

when to alert “*in the dark*” parents to GSA/SOGI-related crises puts children at risk ([click here](#) for details). Does the UCP government not see the detrimental conflict between this secrecy position (regardless of age, maturity, psychological or medical history, and the child’s family values) and the UCP principles, commitments and policy/governance resolutions recently declared (see attached)?

There is a reason a student (K-12, 5-18) is registered by a parent or legal guardian as a [Dependent Student](#) along with his/her legal name. Only a student 18 years of age and older, or 16 years or older and living independently as determined by a board in accordance with section 6 of the Education Act, can self-register as an [Independent Student](#).

PCA believes this petition statement is the minimum efficient legal remedy:

**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.**

Please advise if you are aware of these severely eroded parental rights, the resulting development harms to Alberta children, and the lost autonomy of the nuclear family vis-à-vis the State. Are the UCP principles, commitments and resolutions of October 2020 and 2022 valid? Are they seen by the Party as a work-in-progress, still pending fulfilment? Under your leadership, what will the UCP do to remedy these governance grievances, if you are not willing to legislate as PCA advocates?

Best regards,

Carman Bradley

Founder Parental Consent Alberta

