

Janzen, Heather

Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Nobuko Iwai - Grosvenor Park United Church - Use of Washrooms and Change Rooms - CK 100-26
Attachments: GPUC - City Council Feb 2023 final.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 9:35 AM

To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>

Subject: Email - Communication - Nobuko Iwai - Grosvenor Park United Church - Use of Washrooms and Change Rooms - CK 100-26

--- Replies to this email will go to nobuko.gpuc@sasktel.net ---

Submitted on Tuesday, February 28, 2023 - 09:32

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

I have read and understand the above statements.: Yes

Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2023

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: She/her/hers

First Name: Nobuko

Last Name: Iwai

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: Noh-BOO-koh EE-wah-ee

Phone Number : [3063747766](tel:3063747766)

Email: nobuko.gpuc@sasktel.net

Address: 407 Cumberland Ave South

City: Saskatoon

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code: S7h 2L3

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Grosvenor Park United Church

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: SPC Planning, Development and Community Services

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: unknown at this time

Comments:

This letter supports the current inclusive policies around use of washrooms and change rooms according to one's own gender identity. It also includes numerous links to articles to support this position.

Attachments:

- [GPUC - City Council Feb 2023 final.pdf](#)466.87 KB

Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?: No



The City of Saskatoon

February 28, 2023

Dear Honourable Mayor and City Councillors:

Thank you for the City of Saskatoon's current inclusive and safety-oriented policies regarding washrooms in the City of Saskatoon's recreational facilities.

We are concerned by the rising number of protests and attacks on drag performers and 2SLGBTQ+ community in Saskatchewan and across Canada. The ongoing protest and counter-protest at the Shaw Centre is of particular note. There are hateful and dangerous myths circulating around trans and other queer identities, including online and in-person instances of homophobia and transphobia, coming from some extremists and Christian groups in Canada.

The United Church of Canada affirms that gender, gender expression and sexuality are gifts of God, and that all persons are made in the image of God and welcome people of all sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions. As an Affirming Ministry at Grosvenor Park United Church (Saskatoon, SK), we celebrate the richness and diversity of the Two Spirit and LGBTQ+ community and seek to be public, intentional, and explicit in our support for all God's children.

As we embrace with love the gender, gender expression and sexual diversity represented in the colours of the rainbow, we reflect on this passage in Psalm 139:14 ~ "For all these mysteries I thank you. For the wonder of myself. For the wonder of your works - my soul knows it well".

We support the current policies for Leisure Centres in the City of Saskatoon which expresses a commitment to practice and promote social inclusion, champion human rights, embrace and celebrate diversity. It supports safety for all.

We collectively wish to express our love and stand in solidarity with the City of Saskatoon in support of inclusion and human rights and in opposition to hatred and religious bigotry.

What follows as an appendix are links which offer information on attacks on Trans rights with respect to washroom use, and research on them. Although they are mainly from the US, the findings would not be dissimilar in Canada. The last group of links relate to statistics in Canada.

We hope they will be helpful to you. The fact that there are so many studies and resources points to increasing boldness of those who espouse transphobia and homophobia, and whose repeated lies are meant to create fear and hatred.

The Rev. Nobuko Iwai

For Grosvenor Park United Church.

cc. Ford Ranjer
Living Skies Regional Council
The United Church of Canada

Faith grows with diversity

Appendix

Resource 1: No link between trans-inclusive policies and bathroom safety, study finds (NBC News - September 19, 2018)

<https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/no-link-between-trans-inclusive-policies-bathroom-safety-study-finds-n911106>

Resource 2: Hasenbush, A., Flores, A.R. & Herman, J.L. Gender Identity Nondiscrimination Laws in Public Accommodations: a Review of Evidence Regarding Safety and Privacy in Public Restrooms, Locker Rooms, and Changing Rooms. Sex Res Soc Policy 16, 70–83 (2019).

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s13178-018-0335-z>

Resource 3: Study finds no link between transgender rights law and bathroom crimes (The Boston Globe - September 12, 2018)

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/news/politics/2018/09/12/study-refutes-link-between-restroom-crime-and-transgender-access/5am4LMI1IHecGvJTW4MBqN/story.html>

Resource 4: Gender Identity Non-Discrimination Laws in Public Accommodations: A review of evidence regarding safety and privacy in public restrooms, locker rooms, and changing rooms (UCLA School of Law, Williams Institute - September 2018)

<https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/publications/ma-public-accommodations/>

Resource 5: Why LGBT Advocates Say Bathroom 'Predators' Argument Is a Red Herring (Time - May 02, 2016)

<https://time.com/4314896/transgender-bathroom-bill-male-predators-argument/>

Resource 6: Transgender People and Bathroom Access (National Center for Transgender Equality - July 10, 2016)

<https://transequality.org/issues/resources/transgender-people-and-bathroom-access>

Resource 7: 3 myths that shape the transgender bathroom debate (CNN - March 07, 2017)

<https://www.cnn.com/2017/03/07/health/transgender-bathroom-law-facts-myths>

Resource 8: Transgender teens in schools with bathroom restrictions are at higher risk of sexual assault, study says (CNN - May 06, 2019)

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/05/06/health/trans-teens-bathroom-policies-sexual-assault-study>

Resource 9: School Restroom and Locker Room Restrictions and Sexual Assault Risk Among Transgender Youth (Pediatrics (2019) 143 (6): e20182902)

<https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/Resource/143/6/e20182902/76816/School-Restroom-and-Locker-Room-Restrictions-and>

Resource 10: The imaginary predator in America's transgender bathroom war (USA Today - April 28, 2016)

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2016/04/28/transgender-bathroom-bills-discrimination/32594395/>

Resource 11: Study Confirms That Transgender People Are Not a Threat to Cisgender People in Bathrooms (Teen Vogue - September 20, 2018)

<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/study-confirms-transgender-people-not-threat-to-cisgender-people-bathrooms>

Resource 12: "There have not been any public safety issues" in cities that allow transgender people to use the bathroom of the gender they identify as. (Poynter Institute - April 01, 2016)

<https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2016/apr/01/chris-sgro/equality-nc-director-no-public-safety-risks-cities/>

Resource 13: Not fitting into the gender binary makes public washrooms my enemy (CBC News - June 15, 2021)

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/gendered-bathrooms-first-person-1.6058277>

Resource 14: Transgender bathroom debate has students wondering 'what the big deal is' (CBC News - May 24, 2016)

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/transgender-school-policies-bathrooms-student-voices-1.3589717>

Resource 15: How the 'bathroom debate' crushed Ty Laframboise's wrestling dreams (CBC News - March 07, 2017)

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/laframboise-transgender-policy-1.4014008>

Resource 16: National survey reports widespread harassment and violence in workplaces (Canadian Labour Congress - March 30, 2022)

<https://canadianlabour.ca/national-survey-reports-widespread-harassment-and-violence-in-workplaces/>

Resource 17: Experiences of violent victimization and unwanted sexual behaviours among gay, lesbian, bisexual and other sexual minority people, and the transgender population, in Canada, 2018 (Statistics Canada - by Brianna Jaffray, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, September 09, 2020)

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2020001/Resource/00009-eng.htm>

Resource 18: Brief on Police-Reported Crime Statistics in Canada, 2021: Hate Crimes Targeting Sexual Orientation (Egale Canada)

<https://egale.ca/awareness/brief-on-police-reported-hate-crimes-2021/>

Resource 19: Transgender hate crimes are on the rise even in Canada (The Conversation - August 20, 2019)

<https://theconversation.com/transgender-hate-crimes-are-on-the-rise-even-in-canada-121541>

Resource 20: Transgender hate crimes are on the rise even in Canada (Carleton University - August 20, 2019). The Resource below uses the same image, but the content is different.
<https://newsroom.carleton.ca/story/transgender-hate-crimes/>

Resource 21: Queering Gender- Based Violence Prevention & Response in Canada (Canadian Women's Foundation and Wisdom2Action - June 2022). This includes a downloadable toolkit & response form.
<https://www.wisdom2action.org/gbvtoolkit/>

Resource 22: Child Sexual Abuse Statistics (Darkness To Light)
https://www.d2l.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Statistics_2_Perpetrators.pdf

Resource 23: 17 School Districts Debunk Right-Wing Lies about Protections (Media Matters)
<https://www.mediamatters.org/sexual-harassment-sexual-assault/17-school-districts-debunk-right-wing-lies-about-protections>

End of Resource List