



ALBERTA

JUSTICE AND SOLICITOR GENERAL

Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Acadia

AR 10139

October 14, 2014

Jan Buterman
President
Trans Equality Society of Alberta
P.O. Box 2053 Edmonton Main
Edmonton, AB T5J 2P4

Dear Jan Buterman:

Thank you for your letter dated September 22, 2014 respecting gender identity under the *Alberta Human Rights Act*.

The Government of Alberta supports building an inclusive and welcoming province where people are treated equally. The *Alberta Human Rights Act* is an important part of achieving this goal.

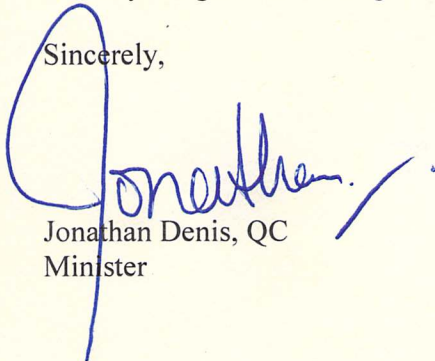
As you note in your letter, while gender identity is not expressly listed as a prohibited ground of discrimination in the *Alberta Human Rights Act*, in practice, the *Act* is interpreted so that discrimination on the basis of gender identity is prohibited. The Government of Alberta supports this interpretation as it extends important human rights protection to transgendered Albertans.

It is also important that the language of Alberta's statutes accurately reflects the law as it is applied and interpreted in practice.

Given this, I have asked officials with my ministry to look into this matter on my behalf. I have shared a copy of your letter with my officials to assist in that process.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Denis, QC
Minister

If you would like to drop by I would be pleased to meet with you personally about this issue.