



216 ORGANIZATIONS RELEASE STATEMENT CALLING ON ALL CANADIAN POLITICAL PARTIES TO INCLUDE LGBTQ2 PEOPLE IN FEDERAL PUBLIC POLICY

September 30, 2019

Today, **216 organizations across Canada** have released a pre-election statement calling on all major Canadian political parties to protect and actively support the rights of LGBTQ2 people and to continue to meaningfully include our communities in the development of federal public policy and initiatives.

Over the past five decades, we have seen ongoing progress regarding basic human rights and towards full inclusion in Canada society. Legal advances, including basic protections against discrimination and recognition of our relationships and families, have led to Canada being lauded as a global leader in the advancement of human rights for sexual and gender minorities. But there is still a long way to go to achieve true inclusion and acceptance. Many federal departments and agencies are now working to incorporate specific concerns and issues facing LGBTQ2 Canadians into public policy. Today's statement calls on all parties to continue to address issues of discrimination and include LGBTQ2 communities in their policies and initiatives.

The official statement and signatories can be found [here](#).

In addition, many LGBTQ2 organizations will come together from across Canada to hold **five town halls on LGBTQ2 issues** facing people in Canada.

- October 8, 2019: Toronto, Edmonton and Vancouver
- October 9, 2019: Ottawa
- October 15, 2019: Montreal

Representatives from all major political parties have been invited to attend these events. Journalists will receive a media advisory with further details in the days to come.

The town halls are organized by a consortium of national and regional LGBTQ2 organizations, including: the Canadian Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity, the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network, the Canadian LGBT+ Chamber of Commerce, the Community-Based Research Centre, le Conseil québécois LGBT, Dignity Network / Réseau Dignité, Egale Canada, Fierté Canada Pride, ProudPolitics, and XTRA.

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