

Ms. Alexis Klein
President
LGBT CCI Company
Email: info@lgbtcci.com

Dear Ms. Klein:

Thank you for your email of October 21, 2016, addressed to Premier Christy Clark, regarding the LGBT Corporate Canadian Index (LGBT CCI). As Attorney General and Minister of Justice for British Columbia, human rights issues are part of my ministerial mandate; therefore, I have been asked to respond on behalf of Premier Clark.

Congratulations on your work highlighting the importance of investing in and working with businesses which institute policies and programs that recognize the diversity and inclusion of all genders. While it would not be appropriate for me to endorse a private venture such as the LGBT CCI, I can say that British Columbia is very committed to the recognition of LGBT rights. For example, by unanimous vote, our Legislature decided on July 25, 2016, to amend the British Columbia *Human Rights Code* by including explicit protections against discrimination on the grounds of gender identity and expression. Our objective in introducing and passing this legislation was to ensure that these protections are widely recognized and reflected in the law.

Since then, the Minister of Education announced new anti-bullying measures to ensure that all students, regardless of their sex, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, enjoy a safe, inclusive and welcoming learning environment. Minister Mike Bernier's announcement requires that the Province's boards of education include explicit reference to sexual orientation and gender identity or expression in their anti-bullying policies. This change aligns with the Ministry of Education's Expect Respect and A Safe Education (ERASE) Bullying Strategy and the goal of supporting inclusive and respectful school environments where all students can thrive and be themselves.

Thank you for writing and I wish you success with the launch of the LGBT CCI.

Yours very truly,

Original signed by:

Suzanne Anton QC
Attorney General
Minister of Justice

pc: The Honourable Christy Clark