



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Karen
* Last name	Cepuran
Email	kcepuran@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	support for the banning of conversion therapy bylaw
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Hello, I would like to submit my support for the banning of conversion therapy bylaw for the City of Calgary. I believe conversion therapy is a very harmful practice that should not be accepted or allowed in our community.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Michelle

* Last name Dulmage

Email mdulmage@shaw.ca

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

There is no place for conversion therapy, not in Calgary and not in 2020

From:
To: [Public Submissions](#)
Subject: FW: Bill re Conversion Therapy Ban
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 9:10:30 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: LYNN ADAMSON [<mailto:lynnadamson@shaw.ca>]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 7:33 PM
To: City Clerk <CityClerk@calgary.ca>
Subject: [EXT] Bill re Conversion Therapy Ban

To Whom it may Concern,

My husband and I would like to express our deep concern over the Conversion Therapy Bill. First, we want you understand that we do not support any harmful tactics that have been instituted in the past, in order to try and “convert” those dealing with same-sex attractions or gender identity issues. However, having said that, we are greatly concerned over the wording of this current bill. It opens the door for penalties to those people/institutions that offer to help people seeking their assistance. And it closes the door to those honestly seeking help, to be able to find it.

We would ask that the wording of this Bill be changed, to allow those seeking help to be able to readily attain it. There are many testimonies of the LGTBQ community that found the freedom and peace that they were looking for through the availability of pastors, friends and councilors. My husband and I personally know of 2 young men that although initially practiced a homosexual lifestyle, are now happily married in a heterosexual relationship. All people should be able to experience the benefit of a variety of resources and assistance other than from only one perspective.

Thank you for your attention to this email.

Sincerely,
Scott and Lynn Adamson



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Marianne

* Last name Brown

Email mailmariannebrown@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Yes To Calgary Conversion Therapy Ban , No ammendments, No changes.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear Mayor Nenshi, and City of Calgary Councillors.
Please vote to ban conversion therapy in the City of Calgary. The ban should remain as written, with no amendments, and no changes.
I have been researching conversion therapy in Canada for over three years. My position in doing this research is as an ally to the 2SLGBTQ+ community, and to support bans of CT - municipal, provincial, and federal. I also supply information to journalists, and academics, writing about conversion therapy.
Conversion therapy happens all across Canada. Much of my research has landed me in Alberta, and in particular in the City of Calgary. Conversion therapy ministries, biblical counsellors and psychotherapists (33 in Calgary are members of the PACCP - Professional Association of Christian Counsellors and Psychotherapists), Journey Canada office, retreats, and courses, churches, colleges, youth organizations, and conferences that support conversion therapy type, or actually practice it. Hundreds of clergy, elders, and church members Alberta have signed the hateful One Accord - "it is contrary to Scripture to approve of homosexual immorality or transgenderism..."<https://oneaccord.one>. One Initial Signatory of the 'accord' is Paul Dirks - who has spoken out against the ban.
If there is anything that you need from me, including Journey Canada Annual Reports which list organizations they have partnered with in Calgary (these are no longer available on the Journey Canada website, but I have several years downloaded), please contact me.

ISC:

1/2

Unrestricted

May 20, 2020

12:42:58 PM



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Thank you very much. This Ban on Conversion Therapy is needed, and I applaud you for your work on this important issue.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Wendy

* Last name Aikins

Email wendyaikins@gmail.com

Phone 4032388252

* Subject Gay conversion

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I believe that gay conversion is cruel, twisted, ineffective and another way to punish LBGTQ2S. It has been medically proven to increase suicide ideation and successful suicides. Our provincial government is made up of evangelical cult members (wilberforce) who are against anything resembling a caring and humane society and Calgary needs to show they are wrong and there is no place for discrimination in any form



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Crystal

* Last name Cram

Email Crystalcram@hotmail.ca

Phone

* Subject BAN CONVERSION THERAPY

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I think that the subject matter says enough. Can't believe we have to even debate this!!! Do the right thing



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Vincent

* Last name Ellis

Email vellis11@msn.com

Phone

* Subject Ban conversion therapy abuse

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

So called conversion therapy is a toxic abuse and dehumanization of people and children. It should not be tolerated in Calgary



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Sara

* Last name Heerema

Email sara.heerema@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Calgary ban of conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please ensure that the Calgary bylaw relating to the ban of conversion therapy is passed. There is no place in today's society for this barbaric and ineffective practice. Ban gay conversion therapy NOW.



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* First name	Dawson
* Last name	Cole
Email	dawsontcole15@gmail.com
Phone	4035859051
* Subject	Ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	You are personally attacking Churches and people trying to actually help. You are preventing us from sharing are story's to other. Shame on all of you!
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* First name	Kim
* Last name	Jones
Email	kajones1206@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please consider this email an indication of my absolute support for the proposed bylaw opposing conversion therapy. Please make sure this horrid practice never occurs in our city again.
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* First name	Rebecca
* Last name	MacDonald
Email	rebecca_macdonald@hotmail.com
Phone	587-222-3885
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am a strong supporter of this bylaw - conversion therapy is harmful and not relevant to the world we live in today, a world where LGBTQ2S+ communities have fought to establish rights that are degraded by the continued offering of conversion therapy services. I urge council to unanimously pass this bylaw, ensuring that the rights of all citizens are protected and we can all continue to grow as an accepting city and community.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Samantha
* Last name	Fodor
Email	samantha.fodor@gmail.com
Phone	4038290125
* Subject	Conversion therapy has no place in our city

Dear whom it concerns on at the City Clerk's Office and City Council,

Thank you for hearing my concern about an upcoming vote on conversion therapy scheduled this Monday May 25th, 2020.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Protecting human rights must be held to a greater standard, above the comfort of those who hold outdated views on what love looks like. Not only does conversion therapy not work as it is based on flawed knowledge of human sexuality, it is extremely traumatic and psychologically and socially harmful to its victims and our city. It also contributes to the compromised safety of the greater LGBTQ+ community that it exists here at all. It preys upon the normal confusion of people navigating the complexities of sexuality and gender, around coming out or being labelled 'different' by folks who have a severe and dangerous gap in their understanding due to extreme prejudice, religious or otherwise. Make no mistake, this practice is not just a difference of opinion; it perpetuates violence. By allowing this practice to exist, we are encouraging a society that tells you it is bad to be LGBTQ+.

What I love about my city is the growing intolerance of intolerant views. I hope that by banning conversion therapy, this will be one more pillar in a legacy that continues to put the rights of the people above the comfort of those with outdated bigoted views. I believe this is the only civil course to take, given the high stakes. Please choose the view that love is love, and protect our vulnerable LGBTQ+ citizens.

ISC:

1/2

Unrestricted

May 20, 2020

2:53:21 PM



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Thank you for your time.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Colin
* Last name	Doucette
Email	colindoucette@gmail.com
Phone	5878303998
* Subject	Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support the banning of conversion therapy.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Marissa

* Last name Johnston

Email marissaajohnston@outlook.com

Phone

* Subject Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Anything short of a complete ban, one without these amendments, is acceptable to the Queer Community of Calgary. No one should be victimized for being themselves and these amendments allow for the victimization of our youths to continue. The damaged done by conversion therapy is clear and the only way forward is without it. We cannot allow these amendments to undo the new image of Calgary, as an increasingly inclusive beacon, and put vulnerable persons at risk of these practices once again.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Chelsea

* Last name Keith

Email

Phone +15878886405

* Subject Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion therapy is archaic and should be banned immediately.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Angela

* Last name Elia

Email angela.elia@gmail.com

Phone 40370394445

* Subject Bylaws ban on conversion. Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I support the city's proposed ban on conversion therapy. It is dangerous and damaging. Please vote to ban the practice



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Linda

* Last name Bossler

Email bosslerlinda@gmail.com

Phone 4032858075

* Subject In support of the Bylaw to Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am sending this message to all City Councillors to urge you to pass the bylaw to ban conversion therapy just as it has been drafted. I was present at the meeting in February when councillors passed a motion in favor of the ban. At that meeting there was clear direction given to draft a bylaw that was strong and gave authorities the means to follow through with stiff penalties. The current draft of the bylaw does that and does not need to be changed because no individual, no matter how they identify, needs to be changed. Please pass this bylaw just the way it is. Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Deloris

* Last name Booker

Email

Phone 403-286-8965

* Subject Gay conversion therapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear Alderman - Please vote to support the ban on so-called "Gay Conversion Therapy". This abusive and cruel form of psychological torture has no place in our city, our province or our country. Thank you



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Carisa

* Last name Morden

Email carisajayne@hotmail.com

Phone

* Subject Support for Conversion Therapy Ban AS IS

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I support the proposed bill banning conversion therapy as is. Amendments to this bill could leave vulnerable people open to victimization.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Moon-Young

* Last name Cho

Email mmycho@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Calgary Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I strongly disagree with conversion therapy law.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Meredith

* Last name Cashion

Email meredithanncashion@gmail.com

Phone (403) 870-8763

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
I strongly encourage Council to do the right thing and ban the practice of conversion therapy



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jennifer

* Last name Barge

Email silverflo@gmail.com

Phone 4036691568

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I wanted to let my City Council know that I am in support of banning conversion therapy.

Please protect human rights and keep Calgary progressive and moving forward.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Elizabeth

* Last name Comes

Email elizabeth.comes@gmail.com

Phone 4039712489

* Subject I support the proposed Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I wholeheartedly support Calgary's proposed Conversion Therapy Ban. Please do whatever possible to protect our LGBTQA+ people from harmful interactions that may end up forced on them by family or religious institutions. They deserve to be safe and free to make their own choices regarding their sexuality and/or their gender identity.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Lisa

* Last name Baerg

Email lisa.baerg@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversation therapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am proud to be a Canadian. I am proud to be a Bible believing Christian in Canada, where up until now my religious rights and freedoms have been protected. I don't agree with the term "conversion therapy" and I am deeply sorry if there are people who have not been shown love in whatever stage of life they are in. However, I am asking the council to show tolerance to faith groups and allow them to talk about what they believe, without the threat of being fined. I pray that the council will make the right decision that will be for ALL people.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Benjamin
* Last name	Wiebe
Email	legomystarwars@shaw.ca
Phone	(403) 615-0076
* Subject	Gay Conversion Therapy ban Bill

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I do agree that Gay Conversion Therapy is dangerous. I think it isn't healthy and has a negative impact on those apart of the LGBTQ community and those who identify as Homosexual. I think this bill should be given the teeth to dive into those who prey on the LGBTQ community and such.

That said, I do think this bill and how its defined does impact religous freedoms, and by banning segments of the bible, this is very dangerous. By having vaguely defined descriptions of what is banned, it imposes on freedoms for Christians like myself. I think that without ammending this bill, the vagueness of this can step on freedoms of Christians that don't support or condone Gay Conversion Therapy.

Please reconsider this bill in its current state.
Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Kristin

* Last name Jones

Email ki-ton@shaw.ca

Phone

* Subject Prohibited Businesses Bylaw - Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I support the prohibition of this business as per the proposed bylaw.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Glen
* Last name	Sharegan
Email	glensbox@gmail.com
Phone	403 660 2429
* Subject	CPS2020-0532, PROPOSED SCHEDULE A FOR CONVERSION THEROPY

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Druh Farrell is my Councillor.

I am concerned that the schedule does not provide latitude, or any conditions under which a person of the age of majority could so much as voice that the wish they had a heterosexual desire or, and that if they did and, if the person they were speaking to so much as empathized, that they would be subject to a fine.

Would you please and a point c) something to the to the effect of an individual of the age of majority may ask for and initiate council to aid in persuing any sexual orientation they wish, subject to they have complete freedom to ignore or leave such council at anytime, without undue barriers to immediate termination.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Cyhrus
* Last name	Horbachewsky
Email	resisttoexist@gmail.com
Phone	5878395584
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Bill

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

We definitely need to ban conversion therapy, and I am in support of this bill.



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* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Carly

* Last name Fulmes

Email cfulmes@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I would like to show my support as a member of the LGBTQ+ community to ban conversion therapy. I strongly believe that this is a choice up to the individual and cannot be forced on any one person.



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* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name A

* Last name Eckstein

Email laughingeckstein@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Ban on conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Our country was founded on freedom of speech, and freedom of religion. We do not stop people from attending a religious institution of their choice (whether we agree with their choice or not). Similarly, we do not have the right to stop people from attending counselling of their choice (whether we agree with it or not), nor do we have the right to ban counseling choices. Inform people, but respect them enough to let them make their own choice.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Ginger

* Last name Genge

Email capulate@hotmail.com

Phone 4039034403

* Subject I do not agree with banning conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Banning conversion therapy is against our constitutional freedoms.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Aaron
* Last name	devine
Email	aaron-devine@hotmail.com
Phone	4034710110
* Subject	Conversion therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I am against conversion therapy !



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Leon

* Last name Lau

Email leon.lau@gmail.com

Phone 4034530827

* Subject Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I do not agree with the city's upcoming ban on conversion therapy. First, it is not in the city's mandate to legislate psychological services. Let professional organization with trained professionals do that work. Second, this treatment is provided on a voluntary basis. Otherwise, it would be kidnapping and a criminal matter. Third, the city has no business in limiting the functions of private citizens and their businesses.

Sincerely,
Leon Lau



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name DANIEL

* Last name MCMULDROCH

Email mcmuldd@gmail.com

Phone 4036163812

* Subject Conversation therapy bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Honestly I'm shocked this wasn't banned years ago. Time to leave the stone ages and embrace diversity. I support the prohibition of conversion therapy 100%.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Valerie

* Last name Pruegger

Email pruegger@telus.net

Phone 403-256-2770

* Subject Agreement to Ban Conversion 'Therapy'

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

This shouldn't even be open to the public to debate. As a psychologist, this is counter to the American and Canadian Psychological ethical standards and has been widely denounced by both bodies. This is a matter of human rights, and it is the government's unilateral responsibility to protect the rights of all of its citizens, not put this to a vote for the religious right to debate against science and ethical clinical practice. This is not a therapeutic method!

From: [Julia Stickel](#)
To: [Public Submissions](#)
Subject: [EXT] Submission Re: Conversion Therapy Ban
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2020 10:51:35 PM

To Calgary City Council,

I am a mother of four little ones, ages 2, 5, 6, and 8. My 6 year old still confuses pretend things and reality. When our family watched The Sound of Music recently, she questioned, “Are those people actually singing for real?”

So I’m concerned that if my son wants to be a girl and have his genitals removed when he is 8, I will go to jail if I encourage him to chat with a counsellor or encourage him to delay a decision until after puberty (when the vast majority of gender dysphoria cases resolve themselves).

As a mom, I’ve found that presenting symptoms are almost never the real issue, and dealing with presenting behaviors rarely addresses the real issue. It takes lots of gentle questions while snuggling on the couch to get at the root issue, and my children don’t often know right away why they want something or are misbehaving.

My concern with the proposed conversion therapy ban is that children who want to change genders often switch genders again, and suicide rates are higher after gender reassignment surgery rather than being lower.

If one of my children struggles with their gender, I would love to process their feelings with them and encourage them to embrace their gender and deal with any underlying issues, rather than Han encouraging surgery, only to face a high chance of suicide.

However, under the proposed legislation, I will face jail time for encouraging my child to seek spiritual guidance or seeking psychological testing to see if other issues are at play, such as multiple personality disorder.

I urge City Council to more narrowly define “conversion therapy” and to allow parents to act in the best interest of their children.

Sincerely,
Julia Stickel
Calgary, Alberta



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Cheten

* Last name Patel

Email chetenp@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Proposed Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hello,
I am writing to express my support for the proposed bylaw banning conversion therapy, as it is currently written. Conversion therapy is not freedom of speech. It is outright discrimination and there is no place for it in our community. We should be working to create an environment where we are all accepted and feel safe and I believe this bylaw is a step in that direction. Please make the right decision on May 25th to push this bylaw through as it is written and help make Calgary a more inclusive and accepting city.
Thank you!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Rochelle

* Last name Lamoureux

Email

Phone 4034835896

* Subject Ban on Conversion Therapy Bill

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion Therapy is appalling and should not be allowed to exist in any form. I would like my representative to know that I would like the "ban on conversion therapy bill" to pass as it is.

Homophobia kills and has no place in our fine city.

Thank you for your time.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Freya
* Last name	MacLean
Email	freya_maclean@hotmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I am writing to express my support for the conversion therapy bylaw, and the encourage council to pass it, as is. Please Make the decision to be a part of creating a more inclusive community for all Calgarians.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name A.K.
* Last name ROSS
Email akross28@gmail.com
Phone 4032458748
* Subject Banning Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am 100% totally in favor of the City of Calgary Council banning the practice of conversion therapy against anyone, young or old, especially in the GLBTQ community. I support this bylaw. Please pass it ASAP for the protection and benefit of all. We have all been given by God the ability to chose, and such therapy violates this freedom to be who the individual sees themselves as being. If someone wants to go through some sort of prayer, counselling, etc., to cope and address their own confusion, that is fine. I don't believe this bylaw prevents that. It does prevent parents from forcing their ideologies on their children against their God-given right to be treated with respect and dignity.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jenessa

* Last name Drebnisky

Email jenessa.drebnisky@gmail.com

Phone 4034721192

* Subject Support of Bylaw Against Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I'm writing in to show my support of the bylaw against conversion therapy exactly as it is. It's important that this passes to protect all Calgarians, and to show that we are a progressive city that lives in the 21st century, rather than following archaic and harmful methods of conversion therapy. Please make the right choice.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jessica

* Last name Vergata

Email jmvergata@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion therapy decision

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I support the full, current ban on conversion therapy and stand against weakening the language through amendments.

I state this as a Christian Calgarian - there is no excuse for any faith to abuse people under the guise of religious freedom.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Ingrid Susan

* Last name Hewitt

Email issuehew@gmail.com

Phone 403-809-1637

* Subject Conversion therapy ban.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am a committed Christ follower and active church member in Calgary. I fully support the proposed bylaw to ban conversion therapy as it currently stands. It is not a threat to religious freedom, but an affirmation of our responsibility to uphold basic human rights. Conversion therapy is cruel and based on bias not science. It is not "a conversation," it is coercion. It is not therapy but abuse. It is a vehicle for spreading hate in our community.
Please pass the proposed bylaw as it stands.
Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Christina

* Last name Bartlett

Email christinajbartlett@gmail.com

Phone 5879175692

* Subject Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I do not want this bylaw passed as it is written. I don't agree with conversion therapy and believe it should be banned. Our city should be proud to have citizens living authentically and valued as they are. Let's continue to make Calgary a city we can be proud of – one that's welcoming, kind and inclusive!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Sierra
* Last name	Holzen
Email	Sierraholzen@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion therapy ban
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please ban conversion therapy in our city. I want, more than anything, for my son to grow up in a world that accepts people for who they are.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jenavieve

* Last name Nakamura

Email jenam@live.ca

Phone 4034642690

* Subject Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please pass the bylaw to ban Conversion Therapy as it currently is. It needs no amendment and is vital to protect marginalized communities from this barbaric practice.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Enya Morgan

* Last name Heinrichs

Email enyaheinrichs@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Ban Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I stand for this ban and I support its implementation as soon as possible. No church or religion should interfere with sexual orientation and sexuality under the ideas and propaganda of sin. Thank you for all your hard work.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Cheryl
* Last name: Kirkpatrick
Email: midcounsel@icloud.com
Phone:
* Subject: Vote on Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
We live in a country where we are given the privilege of making choices for which we are very fortunate. Please do not take that wonderful opportunity away by voting to bring in a by-law that would make Conversion Therapy illegal. It should be up to us as individuals to make the choice or have the freedom to make the choice to undergo such therapy. It is not right to have that choice taken away from individuals by government officials. Please keep our freedoms available by voting against the by-law on May 25th.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Chris

* Last name Ball

Email spidey220@msn.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I hope Calgary stays on the right side of history and keeps Conversion Therapy BANNED

J Dwayne Irwin
872 Sierra Morena Court SW
Calgary Alberta T3H3C6

May 20, 2020

To: Honorable Mr. Evan Woolley

Re: Conversion Therapy Bylaw

Dear Councillor;

I am writing to voice my concern about the upcoming vote on May 25, 2020 regarding the Conversion Therapy Bylaw that Calgary is considering passing. The silent majority myself included, are deeply concerned about passing such a bylaw for our city. The proposed bylaw essentially making it illegal to council an individual back to a heterosexual lifestyle, could possibly serve to incriminate counsellors, clergy, life coaches, and psychologists. This will very likely promote further hatred, division and bullying of those you seek to protect. We need to walk in love be wise about this very sensitive topic

A bylaw against conversion therapy takes away and violates our Charter of Rights and Freedoms and our Constitution for the protection of free speech, freedom of religion, and freedom to choose council. This is clearly out of a city's legal jurisdiction. I look to counsellors to uphold the law of our great country

To think of a fining or jailing a pastor, a priest, or clergymen of any faith is an attack on all religion and immoral. This bylaw if passed, could cause further unintended hatred and division. I fail to understand **why our city needs or wants a bylaw like this? Is there a problem that I am not aware of?** Please ask your constituents what they think or a plebiscite for all Calgarians to contribute thought.

As an elected official you are accountable to the citizens of Calgary.

When the election process started each councillor ran on a platform on how they would best serve their constituents and city. Being voted into office, comes with expectations that you will live up to your promises.

Therapy Conversion was not likely front and center in your original electoral platform. I would encourage all city counsellors to focus on civic priorities which better foster good community relationships, not add to division and disunity between the general populace. Our city and the world for that matter have enough divisive issues, what real leadership is about is fostering peace, unity, and love. Issues like economic planning, LRT and transportation, lowering crime rates, reducing gangs, fire and emergency response timelines, and general health matters such as Covid 19. Those in my opinion should trump the subject matter.

City officials should not be legislating on sexual preferences one way or the other. The proposed bylaw is and will be an election issue and the citizens of Calgary will have a say, as they should.

I reiterate and encourage you and all councillors to consult your constituents wishes and focus on your civic duties, which you won your seat.

For the record I have a good friend who is transgender and I get along with her just fine. If she were to choose to convert back, if that's even possible, I would hope she could have access to medical and psychological guidance, as she did in the first place.

If you would like to discuss this further, I can be reached either by email: djirwin@telus.net or at 403-874-7976

Thank you for your time and serving our great city.

Sincerely yours,

Dwayne Irwin
Concerned Citizen, Ward 8



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Erin
* Last name	Choquette
Email	erinmchoquette@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Ban on Conversion Therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please consider this my full support for the proposed conversion therapy ban. This archaic and dangerous practice has no place in our society. I am hopeful that council will approve this ban and protect the vulnerable people subjected to conversion therapy.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Rowan

* Last name Rochel

Email rowanrochel@outlook.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

To Whom It May Concern,

Calgary has come a long way in supporting queer rights. Please continue to show Canada that we are continually thinking forward and acknowledge the damage and lives taken from conversion therapy. Being someone who is a minority of sexual/romantic attraction and/or gender diversity, I can attest that there is nothing wrong with me or others like me. Gender and sexual identities are not something to villainize and not something to be corrected. By banning conversion therapy, we will be saving lives and showing support through actions, not just words.

Sincerely,
Rowan Rochel
(They/them pronouns)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Johanna

* Last name Holden Parker

Email

Phone

* Subject The importance of banning conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion therapy is a disgusting thing to do to anyone, and some methods used are akin to torture. Others are emotionally and mentally abusive, and should not be allowed, not anywhere. But of course, we can only positively affect so much, so let's start with Calgary. I want this place, my home city, to be a safe place for everyone, and allowing disgusting people to force their beliefs on other people in an abusive manner is not something we should stand for. I would love if we didn't have to outright ban this, as it should be common knowledge that you should not abuse people for loving in a way that is different, but unfortunately bad people take advantage of holes in the rules. So I ask that this bylaw be made and passed with care, to ensure that there are no loop holes or vague language that could be abused by people who want LGBTQ+ people to suffer. I love this city, and I want it to be, and remain, an even safer place for everyone. So again, I ask that you please ensure this bylaw is airtight. That will save lives.



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* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

If conversation therapy is consensual, there is no reason to banned it.
If it is banned, so should hormone therapy. Lawsuit in UK has already proven that it is a dangerous practice on teens.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Samantha

* Last name Tallerico

Email s.tallerico15@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Banning conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

To whom it may concern,
I am writing to express my opinion on the upcoming bylaw regarding Banning Conversion Therapy.

To be honest, I was surprised to hear that this was still happening in my own city, in 2020. I endorse that this bylaw banning conversion therapy be passed without any further amendments and allow the beautiful citizens of Calgary to live their lives with the freedom we all deserve, regardless of their orientation.

Thank you Mayor Nenshi and City Council for unanimously voting this forward.

Thank you,
Samantha Tallerico



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Emily
* Last name	Debrey
Email	ecwolf@hotmail.com
Phone	4034710078
* Subject	Vote to ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

With respect, I would like to petition Calgary city council concerning the decision to ban therapy or support for those wishing to transition from LGBT lifestyle. I would encourage the council to maintain a sensitive openness to the unique challenges of therapists who encounter diverse patient needs. This should include the Bible as a source of wisdom, encouragement and hope. Please consider carefully case histories within our own country which have resulted in tragic outcomes for those who were confined or betrayed by a system experimenting with power. If council members are unfamiliar, I would beg them to study the case history of Bruce/Brenda/David Reimer— who suffered deep psychological harm due to an unhealthy transition. With compassion, please vote on behalf of LGBT individuals in allowing the widest range of options to those struggling with their sexual identity. As a Calgarian, I am dismayed to think our city would limit supports for a vulnerable people group with highly sensitive needs.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Mira

* Last name Martini

Email mira.anne.martinu@gmail.com

Phone 2042926532

* Subject ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

just like freedom to have your own religion, you should be free to have your own sexuality. so called 'conversion' is really just shaming and manipulating people, and can be traumatic and damaging to the individual. we don't need this in our society, people can seek help in less damaging places if they so choose and can learn to be comfortable with who they are without stigma



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Ban on Conversion Therapy is not the most important subject to be voted on this days, God is always a good thing for society to keep doing (trying) to do good things.

Dear Councillor XXX,

I am writing to you out of concern for the proposed "conversion therapy" bylaw that is currently being considered by city council.

We all agree that Calgary needs to be safe and welcoming for all people. We want LGBTQ2S+ people to be welcome, along with people of various faiths, backgrounds, and communities. People throughout Calgary have different approaches and beliefs when it comes to things like sexuality and faith, and we all can live together.

As explained at the Community and Protective Services Committee meeting on May 13 and 14, the bylaw would deeply interfere with the ability of many Calgarians, including many religious communities, to care for people in a manner that is consistent with their beliefs around sexuality.

It would also mean that many sexual minority people who choose not to identify with their sexuality or who want to change their sexual behaviour would be prohibited from obtaining support consistent with their values.

Finally, we are very concerned about the fact that council made it clear that speaking events where faith-based understandings of sexuality is taught would be a violation of the bylaw and punished accordingly.

We are calling on the City to change the bylaw in a way that makes way for sexual minority adults to consent to the counseling and support of their choosing. We are also asking that the City include provisions in the bylaw that create space for the expression of traditional beliefs regarding sexuality and gender, including requirements for compliance with such beliefs in the context of family relationships and religious communities, including religious organizations, religious schools, and houses of worship.

The City of Calgary's conversion therapy bylaw represents a significant and dangerous intrusion into the relational and spiritual lives of citizens. We are asking the city to make reasonable accommodations for people who want the freedom to make their own decisions about their sexual lives, and whose sincere beliefs do not align with the city's vision.

Kind regards,

Signed XXX

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read "Maiten Ross".



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Artur

* Last name Galindo

Email ardealga@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Petition to City Council to respect the choices and Fundamental Freedoms of individuals

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please, my family of three (all registered voters) does not support any level of approval to a ban on what is conventionally called "conversion therapy" in the City of Calgary. We believe that until the majority of Calgary citizens can safely participate in further public discussions, the potential approval would not be acceptable. My family and other members in our community understand that there was no substantial participation of more members of society in the discussions because of the quarantine restriction brought on us by the COVID-19 pandemic. We urge the Calgary City Council to respect the voluntary choices of individuals concerning their sexuality, identity, and religious practices. We demand the rewording of this bylaw, and the observance that there will be no interference from government in our private lives.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Kevin
* Last name	Tran
Email	tran_kevin@live.com
Phone	4034016575
* Subject	Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please change the wording to be more inclusive of everyone's beliefs and not just blind sentiments. The current wording on the bylaw for conversion therapy prevents those who would otherwise prefer to seek out treatment for their gender dysphoria. Religious groups should also have the right to teach all of their message as long as it doesn't encroach on others rights. It is perfectly reasonable to allow each group to preach their own message on this issue and to not call it oppressive or discriminatory.

From: Connie [<mailto:connie@careerplan.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2020 12:14 PM
To: 'druh.farrell@calgary.ca'; 'themayor@calgary.ca'
Subject: Conversion Therapy Bylaw
Importance: High

Dear Druh Farrell and the Mayor,

I am writing to you regarding the proposed “conversion therapy” bylaw that is currently being considered by city council.

We agree that Calgary needs to be safe and welcoming for all people and no coercive or abusive methods should be used to make individuals comply with a specific worldview. LGBTQ2S+ must feel welcome along with people of various faiths, backgrounds, and communities. People throughout Calgary have different approaches and beliefs when it comes to things like sexuality and faith. Despite our differences, we all can live together.

As explained at the Community and Protective Services Committee meeting on May 13 and 14, the bylaw would deeply interfere with the ability of many Calgarians, including many religious communities, to care for people in a manner that is consistent with their beliefs around sexuality. It would also mean that many sexual minority people who choose not to identify with their sexuality or who want to change their sexual behaviour would be prohibited from obtaining support consistent with their values.

Finally, I am very concerned about the fact that council made it clear that speaking events where faith-based understandings of sexuality is taught would be a violation of the bylaw and punished accordingly.

I am requesting that The City change the bylaw in a manner that makes way for sexual minority adults to consent to counselling and support of their choice. I also ask that The City include provisions in the bylaw that creates space for the expression of traditional beliefs regarding sexuality and gender, including provisions for compliance with such beliefs in the context of family relationships and religious communities, including religious organizations, religious schools, and houses of worship.

The City of Calgary’s conversion therapy bylaw represents a significant impact on the relational and spiritual lives of citizens and may contribute to disharmony within our community if not worded carefully. I am asking The City to make reasonable accommodations for people who want the freedom to make their own decisions about their sexual lives, and for individuals whose sincere beliefs do not align with The City’s vision.

Kind regards,

Connie Covey, EdD (abd)

From: [Barbaatar, Davaa](mailto:Barbaatar.Davaa)
To: [Public Submissions](#)
Subject: FW: [EXT] RE: Conversion Therapy Bylaw(Calgary)
Date: Thursday, May 21, 2020 9:22:08 AM

From: rshilka@yahoo.com [mailto:rshilka@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 11:56 PM
To: Office of the Mayor <TheMayor@calgary.ca>; City Clerk <CityClerk@calgary.ca>
Cc: John Armstrong <armstrong3j@yahoo.ca>
Subject: [EXT] RE: Conversion Therapy Bylaw(Calgary)

Mayor Naheed Nenshi,

I am writing this letter in hopes that you, an elected representative of Calgarians will be mindful of how you vote on the proposed 'Conversion Therapy Bylaw'.

To be clear, I am frustrated that in the midst of all that Calgary families and taxpayers are dealing with, I even need to address you regarding the above bylaw. This is not an issue I personally feel is appropriate for City Counsellors, or yourself to be wasting time, energy, or my tax dollars on. This is not an issue that should further fan the flames of division in our city, our province, or our country.

As a proud wife, and mother of five children, when I read this bylaw, what stands out to me most profoundly, is how incredibly vague it is written. If this is really about allowing the vulnerable, and those struggling to have the power and ability to make the best choices for their lives, this bylaw will only stand in the way of that freedom. Further to that, this bylaw threatens to cause more division, isolation, and fear, as it makes those in our charitable communities and organizations, those that are in fact supportive, vulnerable to fines and egregious charges themselves.

Calgary, is known for its compassion, and it's charitable community spirit. Please do not allow this bylaw to undermine this attitude of generosity. Calgary, and this province were built on strong community values, family, love of neighbor. There should be no penalty, or apprehension for any Calgarian, to lend a listening ear or simply answer a call for help from a hurting soul in our midst. God knows, there are many. We are called to be the hands and feet of Christ, to serve. I strongly see this bylaw as a stumbling block, and a barrier to friendship and compassion, that already exists in our community.

I, Roxanne Armstrong, do NOT support the Conversion Therapy Bylaw.

As a Calgary taxpayer, I also want you to know that my family will be watching very carefully as to how you, and all City Counsellors vote on May 25, 2020.

Respectfully,

Roxanne Armstrong
129 Mt Assiniboine Place SE Calgary Alberta T2Z 2N7



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Malori

* Last name Stan

Email malori.stan@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Support of Proposed Bylaw to Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

There is an abundance of accounts and testimonies of suffering; feelings of guilt and shame; social exclusion; threats and injuries; and persons who have been brutalized and tortured to the point of causing injuries, permanent scars and even death. As a consequence, homophobia and purported therapies aimed at changing sexual orientation lack medical justification and are ethically unacceptable.

On the main city of Calgary landing page, the heading reads: making life better every day.

My question, then, is for whom? Who are we, as Calgarians, making life better for? Certain people? With certain beliefs? Who belong to certain groups? Or ALL Calgarians? Now is the time to decide what kind of people we are. What we believe in.

I know what I believe. I believe that I live in a city that values ALL its constituents. A city that is full to the brim with compassionate, understanding, empathetic, welcoming, and caring people. In that city, one that builds its people up and supports them, conversion therapy is not supported. Not now. Not ever. I am, therefore, in FULL SUPPORT of a bylaw to place a ban on all forms of conversion therapy.

ISC:

1/1

Unrestricted

May 21, 2020

5:11:14 PM



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Corben

* Last name Watts

Email corben05@live.ca

Phone

* Subject BAN CONVERSION THERAPY

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Providing therapy to prevent being gay is akin to providing therapy to prevent being tall. No one has control over their orientation and "praying the gay away" amounts to bullying and harrassment. Canada needs to make the practice of administrating conversion therapy a crime.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Link
* Last name	Bechtold
Email	lof.bechtold@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

It is incredibly important for this bylaw to be passed in such a way that NO conversion therapy will continue to be practiced. Canada is a multicultural country, and as such it is our duty to support and respect each other's differences. Legal conversion therapy is authorized restriction of our Freedom of Expression, an entrenched right in Canada's Charter. The LGBT+ community is not harming anyone by being themselves, but by forcing us to forfeit our identities, we are being harmed and disrespected on a deeply personal level. This cannot be allowed to continue.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

As a queer person living in Calgary, I know that so people many have been harmed by homophobia and transphobia, along with countless people around the world who have been harmed or have died as a result of conversion therapy. I fully support the proposed ban on conversion therapy, with no amendments whatsoever. Calgary can has an opportunity to further it's acceptance of this community, and show it's belief that LGBTQ+ people do NOT need to change, we are not broken, and we do not need to be "fixed" or "converted." Any alternative represents hate and violence against the community.
Ban all conversion therapy of any form. Show that Calgary is truly inclusive.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Michelle

* Last name Bjolverud

Email mickbj@yahoo.com

Phone

* Subject Support for Conversion Therapy Bylaw as written

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in support of the bylaw, banning conversion therapy, as it is written without amendments.



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Zoe
* Last name	Bechtold
Email	z.s.f.bechtold@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Bi-Law

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support the banning of conversion therapy. I believe conversion therapy is harmful and should be ended.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Andrea

* Last name Kitchen

Email andy.k.kitchen@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Support for Conversion Therapy bylaw as written

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in support of the bylaw, banning conversion therapy, as it is written without amendments.

The fact that anyone would argue that torturing a human being is just, in the name of "religious freedom" is shameful and astonishing, especially in this day and age.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Ashley
* Last name	Barber
Email	ashleyhbarber82@gmail.com
Phone	4038092870
* Subject	Banning conversion therapy.
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please pass the bylaw to ban conversion therapy as it is written, without any amendments to weaken it. As a teacher, I have seen how amazing it is when people in positions of power support members of the LGBTQ community, and how harmful and devastating it is when they don't. You have the power to save lives. Please do this.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Kelli

* Last name S

Email kpgmp@outlook.com

Phone

* Subject Support Ban on Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

From listening to both sides of the debate last Wednesday and Thursday, it is abundantly clear that this bylaw needs to pass as it is written. Administration and the subject matter experts on the panel were very clear in their answers to all questions and it is evident that they have taken all matters into consideration in writing this bilaw. We need to show the LGBTQS+ community that we are behind them and that Calgary is not only a safe place for them to live but that they are an important part of this city. Please support this bylaw just as it is written.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Alyssa

* Last name Scanga

Email alyssascanga@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Support Conversion Therapy Ban With No Amendments

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion therapy is a horrible practice that actively teaches people to hate themselves and who they are. It is inhumane and a violation of the basic human rights of LGBT+ people. I wholeheartedly support the motion to ban conversion therapy and see no necessary amendments. It is time to ensure that Calgary is a safe and welcoming place for all, regardless of sexuality or gender identity.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Mackenzie

* Last name Cumming

Email mackrosecumming@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Bylaw Banning Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion therapy is terribly harmful to LGBTQ+ people. It is essentially telling them that their feelings and life are inferior to those of others, and that they should be suppressed. This is not only deeply harms them emotionally, but also violates the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which dictates that every person has the right to freely express themselves. Conversion therapy is both harmful and violates the rights of Canadians, and should not be legal in the City of Calgary.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hi,
As a resident of Ward 9, I'm writing to show my support in passing the bylaw to Ban Conversion Therapy as written.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Andie

* Last name Dombrova

Email

Phone +14039680903

* Subject Supporting the ban of conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
please stop conversion therapy, it's horrible and inhumane



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Melaine
* Last name Hunt
Email melainehunt@gmail.com
Phone 4034024688
* Subject Conversion therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hello!

My name is Melaine and I am writing to support the ban on conversion therapy. Conversion therapy is a step backward and represents suppression of the LGBTQ2S+ community. Through a Ban on conversion therapy we, as a city, take a step towards acceptance of sexual and gender diversity. I understand that this ban is controversial in nature but through passing it I hope that we can make the rights of every member of the LGBTQ2S+ community more accepted. Conversion therapy should have been banned long ago and the sooner we enact this bill the sooner we can take a step into a better and more equal future!

Sincerely,

Melaine Hunt



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Priya
* Last name: Migneault
Email: priyam4@educbe.ca

Phone:

* Subject: Ban on Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

As a Calgarian and a proud ally to the LGBTQ+ community I believe the city should ban conversion therapy once and for all. We pride ourselves on being an inclusive and forward thinking city, province, and county but we cannot continue forwards without everyone. Majority of people just want to truly feel accepted and loved and if we can not as Calgarians accept that, something must fundamentally wrong with our values and morals because everyone deserves that amount of humanity. Please stand with your community this Monday and ban conversion therapy.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Rachel

* Last name Friesen

Email rachfries@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Banning Conversion Therapy, CPS2020-0532

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Please see attachment.

Dear Mayor Nenshi and City Council,

I thank you for your dedication and hard work to ensure the wellbeing of the people of Calgary. I appreciate the great responsibility you have and the difficulties you must go through in order to make the best decisions possible on behalf of the people. Although I do not live in your beautiful city, I would like to share my story with you in hopes of helping as you come to a decision regarding the proposed bylaw to prohibit "conversion therapy" in Calgary.

I am currently 28 years old. I was 20 when I began to recognize in myself same-sex attraction. As I looked back on my life at that time, I also began to recognize many moments of this attraction throughout my childhood and teenage years, and many memories and experiences began to make sense to me in a way they hadn't previously. At this time these realizations felt very freeing, but also scary as I was unsure of how people in my life would react, especially those in the faith community that I was very much a part of. However, I knew what I felt, and began to make decisions in my life in pursuit of this. I ended a heterosexual relationship in order to explore and pursue my same-sex attraction, began to spend time at gay bars, came out to some of my closest friends (even though this almost ended some of those friendships), and engaged in other same-sex activities. I initially believed I was gay, but eventually came to identify as bi-sexual.

Although initially this felt like a freeing and exciting revelation to me, eventually I began to feel conflict with myself. About a year and a half later, I went through some experiences that caused me to become more invested in my Christian faith, and desire for this faith to become my defining identity. Although I had trusted people and other resources (both that shared my faith and that didn't) that assured me I could hold on to my Christian identity and my bi-sexual identity, the more serious I became about my faith, the less I believed this was true. I came to a point where I had to make decisions about how I wanted to live my life even if it meant disregarding and seeking to change some feelings and desires in order to pursue others I deemed of more importance to me. I decided this for my own happiness and well-being, based on my own values. Part of the process of being able to live the way I desired according to the feelings I desired involved reaching out to friends and to leaders in my faith community for counsel, accountability, strategies, and encouragement. I am beyond grateful that I had (and have) these people in my life to help enable me to walk out the decision I wanted to make for my own life, and live the way I desired to live. I can tell you with confidence, that in my case, my feelings have changed along with the way I identify. There are rare moments when I still feel conflicting feelings of attraction within me, but I have the freedom to choose how to address them, what to do about them, and whether or not I need to identify with them. I get to decide who I am and what values I live by, and no one or nothing else, even feelings that might come from within my own self, gets to dictate that for me based on their assumptions of how I should walk things out. When I feel conflicted, I have the freedom to seek counsel from people I trust, to be open and honest about what I am feeling and what I desire to do about it based on the faith and values I choose to live by and find joy in, and to find help and encouragement from those people in order to make the choices I want to make. Because of this, I am able to freely live the life I want to live and find joy, purpose, and fulfillment in the things I want to.

As you make this decision for your city, I humbly ask you to please keep stories like mine in mind. Abuse, manipulation, and forced counsel need to be fought against. But in the process, please do not take away opportunities for people like me to seek out counsel and support - support that is so beneficial in order to explore and accept sexual orientations and identities that align with our own personal values and are not based on the assumptions of others. Please allow us to make our own decisions. Please don't assume our priorities in life for us. And please don't punish those who would offer that counsel, in turn punishing us by removing the counsel from us. I ask you to reconsider the scope and definitions of any proposed bylaw and/or ban, and ensure you are protecting the freedoms of all, regardless of faith, values, and conviction.

Thank you for hearing out my stories and considering my words.

Yours respectfully,

Rachel Friesen
Saskatoon, SK



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Nicole
* Last name	Raposo
Email	nicolepraposo@gmail.com
Phone	4038378778
* Subject	Support for Bylaw Banning Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support the passing of the bylaw banning conversion therapy with NO amendments. This bylaw is crucial for the safety and well-being for LGBTQ2SIA+. Our city should be promoting a place of acceptance of all people and vote in favour of human rights and not discrimination or hate. Again, I fully support the passing of the bylaw banning conversion therapy as is, with no amendments.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Toik
* Last name	Tieleman
Email	toiktieleman@gmail.com
Phone	890-5605
* Subject	I support the bylaw.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am 17 years old. Even now in such a modernized world I still see something that astoundingly has not yet been left in the past: conversion therapy. Conversion therapy is harmful to its "patients" in every way imaginable, and in no way beneficial. There is no rational reason for it not to be banned. I support the bylaw for the safety of my friends, family, and citizens among the LGBT+ community and for them to live a life free of extremist oppression.

From: Susan Makus [<mailto:smakus@telus.net>]
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2020 7:58 AM
To: City Clerk <CityClerk@calgary.ca>
Subject: [EXT] URGENT: Concerns Over Proposed Bylaw to Ban Conversion Therapy

May 22, 2020

Dear City Clerk,

Please distribute this letter to all members of City Council.

I am writing to you out of concern for the proposed "conversion therapy" bylaw that is currently being considered by city council.

We all agree that Calgary needs to be safe and welcoming for all people. We want LGBTQ2S+ people to be welcome, along with people of various faiths, backgrounds, and communities. People throughout Calgary have different approaches and beliefs when it comes to things like sexuality and faith, and we all can live together.

As explained at the Community and Protective Services Committee meeting on May 13 and 14, the bylaw would deeply interfere with the ability of many Calgarians, including many religious communities, to care for people in a manner that is consistent with their beliefs around sexuality.

It would also mean that many LGBTQ+ people who choose not to identify with their sexuality or who want to change their sexual behaviour would be prohibited from obtaining support consistent with their values.

Finally, we are very concerned about the fact that council made it clear that speaking events where faith-based understandings of sexuality is taught would be a violation of the bylaw and punished accordingly.

We are calling on the City to change the bylaw in a way that makes way for sexual minority adults to consent to the counseling and support of their choosing. We are also asking that the City include provisions in the bylaw that create space for the expression of traditional beliefs regarding sexuality and gender, including requirements for compliance with such beliefs in the context of family relationships and religious communities, including religious organizations, religious schools, and houses of worship.

The City of Calgary's conversion therapy bylaw represents a significant and dangerous intrusion into the relational and spiritual lives of citizens. We are asking the city to make reasonable accommodations for people who want the freedom to make their own decisions about their sexual lives, and whose sincere beliefs do not align with the city's vision.

Kind regards,

Susan C. Makus

Calgary, Alberta

Susan

Susan C. Makus, CPHR - Retired
Ph: 403.510.1532
Email: smakus@telus.net
424 Oakhill Place SW
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T2V 3X6

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Dear Councillor Ward Sutherland,

I am writing to you out of concern for the proposed “conversion therapy” bylaw that is currently being considered by city council.

We all agree that Calgary needs to be safe and welcoming for all people. We want LGBTQ2S+ people to be welcome, along with people of various faiths, backgrounds, and communities. People throughout Calgary have different approaches and beliefs when it comes to things like sexuality and faith, and we all can live together.

As explained at the Community and Protective Services Committee meeting on May 13 and 14, the bylaw would deeply interfere with the ability of many Calgarians, including many religious communities, to care for people in a manner that is consistent with their beliefs around sexuality.

It would also mean that many LGBTQ+ people who choose not to identify with their sexuality or who want to change their sexual behaviour would be prohibited from obtaining support consistent with their values.

Finally, we are very concerned about the fact that council made it clear that speaking events where faith-based understandings of sexuality is taught would be a violation of the bylaw and punished accordingly.

We are calling on the City to change the bylaw in a way that makes way for sexual minority adults to consent to the counseling and support of their choosing. We are also asking that the City include provisions in the bylaw that create space for the expression of traditional beliefs regarding sexuality and gender, including requirements for compliance with such beliefs in the context of family relationships and religious communities, including religious organizations, religious schools, and houses of worship.

The City of Calgary’s conversion therapy bylaw represents a significant and dangerous intrusion into the relational and spiritual lives of citizens. We are asking the city to make reasonable accommodations for people who want the freedom to make their own decisions about their sexual lives, and whose sincere beliefs do not align with the city’s vision.

Kind regards,

Signed Gwen James

From: Cal Ellerby [<mailto:calellerby@nucleus.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2020 9:18 AM
To: City Clerk <CityClerk@calgary.ca>
Subject: [EXT] Conversion Therapy Proposal

Thank you for serving in your role as a city leader. The Bible frequently speaks of the importance of the city elders and that as Christ follower's we are to pray for you regularly. The decisions that you must make have profound impact on the lives and livelihoods of not only our great city but often the entire nation. I recognize the weight of many of these decisions that not only represent your constituents but also must at some point be judged over time as to their wisdom and impact.

I am writing today to express my deep concern over the Conversion Therapy proposal that you as a city leader will be considering on Monday. I agree that people's rights and freedoms are to be respected and honored. This issue creates much emotion and requires wisdom that exceeds that of people alone. As a pastor it is not uncommon to either converse with or at least be approached by those that are struggling to deal with personal discouragement and defeat when trying to understand themselves and their sexual orientation or sexual appetites.

These are extraordinarily complex challenges and it would be a grievous error to assume that there are not many, many people who wish to have support from their faith community as they seek to understand the challenges they face. To vote in favour of this onerous proposal before council is to punish those that seek that support.

The assumption of the committee that submitted this proposal is that the faith community is imposing undesirable religious values on people, when in fact they have obviously never sat in an office with someone broken and in tears wishing to make different choices in their lives.

This proposal is an egregious overreach of the role of city council and needs to be defeated. **Please vote against** the Conversion Therapy proposal on Monday May 25th.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Rev. Calvin Ellerby
Apostolic Church of Pentecost of Canada

Cal Ellerby

Church Planting Catalyst



Apostolic Church of Pentecost Of Canada
#119 -2340 Pegasus Way NE
Calgary Ab. T2E 8M5

www.acop.ca

E cal@acop.ca

P (403) 273-5777

F (403) 273-8102
C (403) 993-6721

“...extending grace & igniting hope”

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jenna

* Last name Magee

Email jemageepickle@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion therapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
I support the ban with no ammendments.



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* Last name

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Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Kaitlyn

* Last name Harvie

Email

Phone 5878303670

* Subject Bylaw that bans conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
I support this bylaw



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Annie

* Last name Peters

Email peters.annierose@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion therapy ban bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am extremely for the ban, and hope it is enacted post haste. Conversion therapy hurts not helps. If someone wants to speak to a licensed therapist or psychologist about their orientation and wanting to change that is one thing, but no one should make that decision for them and no one should undergo mental or physical torture because of who they like.

-----Original Message-----

From: Rebecca Marjoram [<mailto:ramarjoram@gmail.com>]

Sent: Friday, May 22, 2020 9:05 AM

To: Keating, Shane <Shane.Keating@calgary.ca>; Office of the Mayor <TheMayor@calgary.ca>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@calgary.ca>

Subject: [EXT] Conversion Therapy Ban

Good morning Councillor Keating and Mayor Nenshi,

I'm reaching out regarding the conversion therapy bylaw vote slated to happen on Monday May 25, 2020. I understand that the bylaw was unanimously passed without alteration through the City Council's Committee on Community and Protective Services about a week and a half ago, and now it moves to City Council for a vote on Monday. I would like to articulate my support for the bylaw AS IS, and ask that no changes be made to the wording. I do not support any alterations or edits, especially ones that lead to loopholes.

I applaud the City for making this a priority and introducing this bylaw in the first place, as I believe conversion therapy is a threat to members of the LGBTQ2s+ community that can cause immense harm. I would hate to see this effort to protect vulnerable citizens fall flat because of any changes made to the bylaw that result in conversion therapy continuing in any way, shape, or form.

When it comes time to vote on Monday, please vote to pass the bylaw as-is, and keep our friends, families, and neighbours safe from the suffering that conversion therapy causes.

Thank you,
Rebecca Marjoram

Hello,

My name is Kate Zia. I support banning conversion therapy. It is an abusive practice that is not founded in science.

Thank you.
Kate Zia
3629 3rd Street Sw
Calgary AB
T2S 1V6

From: Richard Anderton [<mailto:randerton@live.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2020 6:25 PM
To: City Clerk <CityClerk@calgary.ca>
Subject: [EXT] "Prohibited Businesses Bylaw" (Conversion Therapy) Very Poorly Worded Bylaw Proposal.

Dear Calgary City Clerk,

My apologies, on Monday May 11 when I uploaded my Comments regarding this issue through the "public submissions" form on the city's website, it apparently did not work. I've updated my comments and submit them to you today...

I believe the proposed "Prohibited Businesses Bylaw" (Conversion Therapy) is a very poorly worded bylaw proposal.

Here are the Top 6 Reasons why, and some other comments & considerations...

Preliminary Remarks...

- **This is a VERY Important Subject.**

Based on the amount of written submissions, and people requesting their 5 minutes to speak to Council, this is a far more important issue than I believe has been recognized by City Council previously. It's very important City Council moves carefully and thoughtfully on this issue.

- **There Are 2 Sides, and People Disagree.**

Based on the information I've read, and heard, there are very definitely two sides to this issue. And, people disagree. This much is clear! I believe this is at least in part because of the following reasons, and this is why I believe this is a very poorly worded bylaw proposal...

1.) The Proposed Definition is so Broad it's Confusing.

So, what are we actually talking about? Are we talking about cattle prods, electric shocks, hallucinogenic drugs, and lobotomies? Well of course we don't want anyone to do that. Or, are we talking about simply talking, or counseling? Conversation is not a crime! Yet, some of the people I heard made comments that made me think this bylaw would make it a crime. Much more clarity about the specific definition of what conversion therapy is will be required to make this bylaw actually work.

2.) The Proposed Bylaw Discriminates against Heterosexuals.

In your efforts to protect one group, you have ended up actually discriminating against another group. If someone who was once heterosexual experiments with the homosexual lifestyle you've denied them the right to seek help to transition back to a heterosexual lifestyle. You are therefore discriminating against that group of people.

3.) It Denies Basic Rights and Freedoms Guaranteed under the Charter.

If our basic rights of freedom of choice are guaranteed under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, this proposed bylaw denies people's rights to seek help to transition back from an LGBT lifestyle to a heterosexual lifestyle should someone so choose.

4.) It Denies Basic Rights of Advertisers.

If your favorite coffee shop advertises a "pumpkin spice latte" and you take a friend there who is allergic to, or doesn't like pumpkin, the coffee shop owner should not be fined \$10,000 or sent to prison for advertising their pumpkin products. We have to believe that consumers are intelligent enough to purchase products and services that they want, and avoid those that they believe will be harmful to them. Because they may be helpful, desirable, or enjoyable to someone else.

5.) All kinds of our laws are designed to "repress or discourage" certain behaviour.

Rape is a sexual behaviour - which is illegal in Canada. We actually do want to discourage and repress this type of sexual behaviour. Speeding is also illegal in Alberta. Our current laws are designed to repress and discourage speeding behaviour - even if someone says they were "born" to drive fast. It's called self-control, and this is still a virtue that is applauded by our culture. If someone wants help to increase their personal self-control, why should that be denied them?

6.) Current bylaw wording Is Unlikely to Withstand a Court Challenge.

Because of these fundamental flaws in the wording of this bylaw it is extremely unlikely that it would survive a court challenge.

These are the main reasons I think the wording of this bylaw proposal is very poor.

However, I also believe there are some other points to consider that are extremely important, and even somewhat disturbing. Here are my summary thoughts...

- **Dr. Kristopher Wells is obviously Partisan.**

It now appears clear that Dr. Kristopher Wells is very biased in his opinions and what is more frightening is that he has somehow gained significant influence with some of our City Counselors. For anyone to say conclusively and categorically that there is no support for any one position is untenable. It is in fact impossible for him to accurately make claims about all of the studies by everyone on the entire planet. I believe some of his comments on Wednesday, May 13, 2020 should put into question the validity of this so-called "expert".

- **Beware of "Outsider Influence".**

Right now, in the forefront of the news, is president Donald Trump acknowledging that members of the Chinese Communist Party have "infiltrated" many American institutions. However, he acknowledges that they may not be acting in the best interests of America. The same thing has happened in Calgary over the last few weeks regarding this bylaw. City Council has invited input, and are now getting input from people all around the globe – some of whom may not be "acting in the best interest" of the citizens of Calgary. Again I would urge City Council proceed with extreme caution.

- **What about the Traditional Family?**

Sounds like an organization will be violating this bylaw if they promote the benefits of a heterosexual relationship, or recommend this kind of relationship to anyone. Can you confirm whether or not this is true? I also want to remind all City Counsellors that according to Statistics Canada over 95% of their constituents that are in "intact" families, are in heterosexual families with a male father/husband, and a female mother/wife. The current wording of this bylaw seems more about attacking the traditional family than defending any minority in our community.

- **This Is a Distraction from City Council's Real Business.**

It is my firm belief and opinion that this is a distraction for City Council. It seems to me that this is more of a health issue that should be taken care of under the jurisdiction of the Province of Alberta. And the Federal Government is also already working on similar legislation. Calgary's City Council should rather be focused on fixing the city's horrific pothole problem, and trying to figure out how to lower taxes particularly in the beltline.

CONCLUSION:

Therefore, I strongly urge you to either vote against this proposed bylaw, or at very least for some significant amendments.

Thank you

Sincerely,
Richard Anderton
Calgary, AB
RAnderton@Live.com
Cell: 403-809-8255



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Carolyn

* Last name Chin

Email chinster@telus.net

Phone

* Subject Support to Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear Council, I am writing this in SUPPORT of BANNING the terrible practice of CONVERSION THERAPY and applaud Council for passing the motion to do so. I hope on Monday that Council is able to receive enough public support to vote yes to the ban. It is absolute ludicrous to think that in this day and age we are even having this discussion. Love is love and the cruel practice of conversion therapy must stop now. It is unfortunate to learn of incidences where it continues covertly and I hope this will be the first step in ensuring it stops now.

This is not an issue of rights which some groups arguing against the vote are saying. It is an issue that protects the health (mental health specifically) of the citizens of Calgary. This reminds me of the time years ago when Council was voting on the smoking bylaw. It is common sense and we are passing a bylaw that protects the health (mental health this time) of the citizens of Calgary. People who are opposing this proposed bylaw are scared of change and are not truly impacted personally by the bylaw not passing. However if they were a member of the LGBTQ2S+ community, they would have a completely different perspective.

As a person who identifies as heterosexual, I wasn't going to take the time to write in support of the ban as I thought it's a done deal and would have no reason to believe why it wouldn't pass. But I recently learned that the vast majority you are hearing from are those who oppose the ban?!?!? I am shocked and suspect you aren't hearing from the supporters of the ban because like me, it doesn't make sense that we are even

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Unrestricted

May 22, 2020

11:52:50 AM



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

having the debate. The year is 2020 and times have changed. Calgary needs to show leadership just like we did in support of the smoking bylaw years ago and vote YES to the ban. End the cruel practice. Love is love. There really isn't much more to say.

If I can assist in the process to make this happen, please feel to get in contact with me.