

STEVE SUKHBIR, LGBTQ2+ REP
REPORT TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 15 – 17, 2022

I have reached out to the other Human Rights Committees and have been attending meetings virtually. There have been questions from members with respect to Gender Neutral Bathrooms, Positive Space and the Employment Equity Act.

Pride Planning Events are coming to light where available and hopefully we will be able to meet again and in person.

I am also looking for ideas, comments and concerns with regards to the following topics:
 - Senior's Care, Pronouns, diversity

The following

15 February	Regina Human Rights Committee Meeting	Via Zoom
23 February	Winnipeg Human Rights Committee Meeting	Via Zoom
24 February	National Human Rights Committee (LGBTQ2s+ group) Meeting	Via Zoom
02 March	Edmonton Human Rights Committee Meeting	Via Zoom
08 March	Edmonton Area Council Meeting	Via Zoom
09 March	Calgary Human Rights Committee Meeting	Via Zoom
20 April	National Human Rights Committee (LGBTQ2s+ group) Meeting	Via Zoom
12 MAY	PRC Meeting	Via Zoom
14 JUL	Communications Committee Meeting	Via Zoom
24 JUL	Pride Celebration CFB Edmonton	
28 JUL	PRC Meeting	Via Zoom
03 AUG	Trans Townhall (CFB Edmonton)	Via Teams
31 AUG	Communications Committee Meeting	Via Zoom

Note:

- Thought I would give a small update as we addressed the Employment Equity Update proposal. The review and proposals have been completed by PSAC and the results (and concerns with recommendations) has been made to the

governing committee. They are awaiting to hear back with regards to consultations and the reactions and interactions with other pieces of legislation and the effects of the changes if passed. Employment Equity surveys at work and online have been submitted individually as well.

- <http://psacunion.ca/lgbtq2> Link for PSACs LGBTQ2+ page for info in washrooms and Blood Ban etc.
- <https://psacunion.ca/building-trans-inclusive-workplaces> Trans Inclusive Workplaces Link with resources
- *Message posted to Facebook and Allies at the Human Rights Committees...*
 - *This March 31st is the International Transgender Day of Visibility, a day to celebrate trans people in society. However, it is also a day to raise awareness of the discrimination and hardships transgender people face all over the world. we acknowledge and appreciate the contributions transgender members have made in our workforce. Their skills and talents play a part in strengthening the Union, and in turn society as a whole. there is still some work that needs to be done to create a more accepting work environment for everyone regardless of gender and sexual orientation.*
- As we celebrate Gay Pride Month let us remember it is about standing up against sexual discrimination and violence. Let us celebrate with high spirits and inspiration to all; motivate the future and salute the spirit of gays to never give up for their rights and keep fighting like the heroes we are.

Remember it takes guts to stand up for what you are, to shout out loud to the world who you really are!

Wishing you a very Happy Gay Pride and equality for everyone

- <https://publicservicepride.ca/events/#pspw>
- Trans townhall notes:

I participated in a trans town hall (for the military) and the following points were raised

- Learning on how we can make things better (it is a slow process and will not happen overnight)
- Each region has different types of coverage and processes so not everything discussed is relevant to the different regions and sometimes we have to acknowledge that
- Individual cases can be problematic and people needs to know things are addressed for the “community” and there will always be systemic barriers

- Muslim and gay/trans treated differently
- Positive Space courses (more needed) and qualification for ambassadors are under review

Some places that require doctor's letters for transitions and the cost of these

- Communications with management and other parties with regards to transitions (medical issues excepted) (explanation if people are considering change then we need to have a chat with management etc. to help understand before it becomes an issue/grievance)
- Complications with mental health and some medical services who have little or no understanding (tact) of Trans issues
- IVF for trans members and those considering it (not much info on this as of yet)
- Encouraging others to bring their respective issues, research topics to be discussed and having peer support groups (maybe a Facebook group that is private) to discuss issues and share information, concerns etc.

General reminder we always continue the discussion and be part of the change. Participation is always important

In Solidarity,

Steve Sukhbir

LGBTQ2+ REP

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