

March 31st, 2025

Ottawa - On the International Transgender Day of Visibility, over 200 queer, trans and allied organizations across Canada have published an open letter to the leaders of Canada's major political parties urging them to uphold equality, freedom and human rights for queer and trans people in Canada. The letter is available publicly at www.rainbowequality.ca/letter

The letter, authored by Queer Momentum, Egale Canada, the Enchanté Network and the Dignity Network of Canada, recognizes the global backlash against 2SLGBTQIA+ equality, and urge party leaders to "reject any effort, however veiled, to roll Canada backwards on equality and human rights for queer and trans people."

The letter ends with a call for continued Canadian leadership on queer and trans issues, citing "Canada's commitment to freedom, equality and human rights for queer and trans people has made us a better country and created a better world. In this time of backlash, Canada can once again be an example on the global stage - by choosing unity over division and human rights over discrimination".

"We are witnessing the rise of anti-trans hate and two Canadian provincial governments rolling back on the freedom, human rights and healthcare access of transgender people and their families." Fae Johnstone, Executive Director of Queer Momentum and lead author on the letter, said, "When freedom and human rights are under attack, it is critical that federal party leaders across the political spectrum speak up and show their support for 2SLGBTQIA+ people and our human rights".

"During this time of rising hate, it is important that Canada protects what we value as a nation. We've come a long way on 2SLGBTQI+ rights and equality, but we still have a long way to go," said Tyler Boyce, Executive Director of the Enchanté Network, "Commitments from all parties to uphold freedom, reject hate and ensure stable, long-term funding will reassure 2SLGBTQI+ Canadians and allies that equality and inclusion remain a priority."

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