



Q1. Bill C-389 was on the Order Paper awaiting second reading in the Senate when Parliament was dissolved. It would have explicitly added “gender identity” and “gender expression” to the the *Canadian Human Rights Act* as a prohibited ground of discrimination and transphobia to the *Criminal Code* as potential hate-based crime. Will you commit to supporting a bill similar to Bill C-389?

Yes

Q2. Do you agree that the current lifetime ban on blood donation by men who have sex with men is discriminatory and do you support changing this policy to reflect an individual donor’s behaviour and practices, such as recent testing, rather than be based on that individual being in a particular social group?

Yes

Q3. The ban on homosexuals serving in the Canadian Armed Forces was lifted in 1991. Do you favour reinstating the pensions of service members who were dishonourably discharged prior to the ban being lifted?

Yes

Q4. Do you support increased federal funding and initiatives for hate crimes prevention and anti-homophobia/transphobia education in schools, communities, workplaces and police services?

Yes

Q5. NSRAP favours amending legislation such as the Employment Insurance Compassionate Care Leave Benefit, Infirm Dependent Tax Credit, and Caregiver Tax Credit to include support provided by close friends, or "chosen families," rather than limiting them to spousal or biological relatives. Would you support legislation to create an LGBT-inclusive homecare tax credit?

Yes

Q6. Would you support reinstating the mandatory long-form census?

Yes

Q7. Do you support increased federal funding for LGBT awareness and sensitivity training for members of the Immigration and Refugee Board, and other border and asylum authorities?

Yes

Q8. Do you favour increased federal support for increased LGBT refugee protection in transit countries and countries of first asylum, and improve the reception and integration of LGBT refugees in Canada?

Yes. Qualified. Everyone should have the same rights, so we need to make sure that all refugees are welcomed equally and with dignity. However, I will also say that we should assess the urgency of refugee claims on a case by case basis. Those who face the most danger in their home country should be admitted first. Since gay and lesbian refugees may in fact face death or grievous bodily harm in their homelands, they may require special treatment to ensure their safety.

Q9. Have you spoken in the House of Commons or elsewhere or taken any other actions to support equality and justice for lesbian, gay, bisexual or trans people?

Yes! I marched in the gay pride parade in Toronto last year, and I attended the Halifax Pride Parade as well. Before this year I have not lived in a major city center so have not been able to attend events easily. I am an advocate for gay rights in general though and do my best to speak out against homophobia whenever possible.

Q10. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the first diagnosed case of AIDS. Do you support making it easier to manufacture and export generic HIV/AIDS drugs?

Yes

Q11. Do you support federal funding for support of LGBT elders and history in Nova Scotia?

Yes

Q12. Do you support federal funding for LGBT economic development, and cultural industries and festivals, such as pride festivals in Nova Scotia?

Yes

Q13. Do you support the reinstatement of the Court Challenges Program, which was cancelled in 2006 and provided funding for groups and individuals seeking to advance their equality and language rights under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*?

Yes

Please provide any comments you have about particular questions or other issues relating to the LGBT community:

Where to begin? I wish the LGBTQ2 Community well and I hope that in the future our country can strive towards, and achieve, true equality for all, regardless of the differences we may have as individual citizens. Thank you for forwarding me your survey!

-Mike Dewar
GPC candidate for Halifax.