



Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
Palais Wilson
52 rue des Pâquis
CH-1201 Geneva, Switzerland

21 September 2012

RE: Canada's 2013 Universal Periodic Review

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am pleased to provide our submission to the Human Rights Council (HRC) for Canada's 2013 Universal Periodic Review (UPR). As Canada's only national lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans (LGBT) human rights organization, Egale supports the UPR process, and believes it is vital that the HRC work to ensure that all UN Member states fulfill their international human rights obligations, particularly in regards to LGBT persons.

Egale has over 4,000 active members across Canada, and over 44,000 engaged supporters. Since our founding in 1986, Egale has intervened before Canadian courts and tribunals in 24 cases including 11 before the Supreme Court of Canada. In all cases Egale has advocated to protect and safeguard LGBT human rights. Egale is widely recognized for its expertise in LGBT human rights issues. We work with various orders of government in Canada on issues as diverse as developing inclusive educational policies, hate-crimes prevention campaigns, and the training of police officers.

Internationally, Egale contributes to many equality initiatives. Amongst others, Egale has participated in the UN Conference on Human Rights, the UN World Conference on Women, and the International Foreign Ministers Meeting at the Council for Global Equality. Egale is currently applying for ECOSOC Consultative Status and will submit its formal application during the next intake in June 2013.

Should you have questions regarding our submission for Canada's review, please do not hesitate to contact Michael Pelz, our Policy Analyst for International Affairs. He can be reached at mpelz@egale.ca.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Kennedy
Executive Director
Egale Canada
(t) +1 (416) 964-7887 ext. 21
(e) hkennedy@egale.ca