

Commitment to religious equality in the Canadian Bar Association

WHEREAS the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* guarantees the right to equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination based on religion and other grounds (section 15), and also guarantees freedom of religion (section 2(a));

WHEREAS the Canadian Bar Association is opposed to all forms of religious discrimination in the legal profession and otherwise;

WHEREAS lawyers from diverse religious communities have made and continue to make important contributions to the legal profession and cause of justice in Canada;

WHEREAS the CBA recognizes that the administration of justice is enriched by the equal and full participation of religious lawyers without discrimination;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CBA:

- affirm its commitment to religious equality and diversity, and to combatting any religious discrimination within the legal

S'engager envers l'égalité religieuse au sein de l'Association du Barreau canadien

ATTENDU QUE la *Charte canadienne des droits et libertés* garantit le droit à la même protection et au même bénéfice de la loi, indépendamment de toute discrimination fondée sur la religion ou d'autres motifs (article 15), et garantit également la liberté de religion (paragraphe 2a));

ATTENDU QUE l'Association du Barreau canadien s'oppose à toute forme de discrimination fondée sur la religion dans la profession juridique et ailleurs;

ATTENDU QUE les avocats et les avocates provenant de différentes communautés religieuses ont, par le passé, apporté d'importantes contributions à la profession juridique et à la cause de la justice au Canada, et continuent de le faire;

ATTENDU QUE l'ABC reconnaît que la participation égale et à part entière des avocats et avocates religieux sans discrimination à leur égard enrichit l'administration de la justice;

QU'IL SOIT RÉSOLU QUE l'ABC :

- affirme son engagement envers l'égalité et la diversité religieuses, et envers la lutte contre toute discrimination fondée sur la religion au sein de la

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profession and against lawyers based on their religious beliefs;

- update all internal bylaws and policies to specifically include religion in any list of enumerated grounds pertaining to equality, diversity or inclusion.

Moved by Constitutional and Human Rights Section

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profession juridique et à l'égard des avocats et des avocates au motif de leurs croyances religieuses;

- mette à jour ses règlements administratifs et politiques de manière à inclure expressément la religion dans toute énumération de motifs liés à l'égalité, la diversité ou l'inclusion.

Proposée par la Section sur le droit constitutionnel et les droits de la personne

Submission Form 2020 Annual Meeting

1. Title of Resolution:

Commitment to religious equality in the Canadian Bar Association

2. Estimated cost of implementation to CBA:

(Including the amount of any increase in budget requirements, any potential savings, and the amount of staff time to implement the resolution) Note: National Office staff can assist in calculating implementation cost.

Nominal cost to review and update bylaws and internal policies. The Finance Committee has reviewed the resolutions and agrees with this assessment.

3. Contact person who can assist the Board of Directors to implement the Resolution:

Name: Derek Ross
Firm name: Christian Legal Fellowship
Telephone: (519) 601-4099 E-mail: execdir@christianlegalfellowship.org

4. Implementation Calendar

(List steps to be taken by the CBA to implement the Resolution and suggested dates for completion of each step)

Update all internal bylaws and policies to specifically include religion in any list of enumerated grounds pertaining to equality, diversity and/or inclusion: 12 months.

5. Indicator of Success

(The practical result which, if achieved, will show that the Resolution has been successfully implemented by the CBA.)

All CBA initiatives directed at promoting equality will include religious equality.

6. Any information not appearing on the face of the Resolution to inform the deliberations:

(Attach or link to any background papers or other documentation in addition to this form which should be submitted to the Annual Meeting with the Resolution. Attach or link to documentation in both French and English, where it exists in both official languages.)

Law Society of Upper Canada [Respect for Religious and Spiritual Beliefs: A Statement of Principles of the Law Society of Upper Canada](#) (10 March 2005).

Barreau du Haut Canada [Tolérance à l'égard des convictions religieuses et spirituelles : énoncé de principes du Barreau du Haut Canada](#) - 2005

7. (i) Person moving Resolution:

Will be present at Annual Meeting:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Name: Derek Ross

Firm name: Christian Legal Fellowship

Address: 285 King Street, London, ON

Telephone: (519) 601-4099

E-mail: execdir@christianlegalfellowship.org

(ii) Person seconding Resolution:

Will be present at Annual Meeting:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Name: Nour El-Sabah Farhat

Firm name: Gattuso Bourget Mazzone

Address: 1010, Sherbrooke W, Montreal (QC)

Telephone: (514) 586-6687

E-mail: nfarhat@gattusogbm.com

(iii) Branch, Section, Committee or Subcommittee sponsoring resolution, if any:

CBA Constitutional and Human Rights Section

8. Branches, Sections, Committees or Subcommittees directly affected by implementation of this resolution:

All.