



Phone: 604 514-1614/ Email: CultureGuard@gmail.com/ Website: CultureGuard.com

To: Deborah Marshall, Executive Director, Public Affairs, BC Ferries.

Via email: deborah.marshall@bcferries.com

Dear Ms. Marshall,

Please direct this demand to each member of the Board of Directors and the Executive.

Thank you,

Kari Simpson

July 8, 2018

Re: **BC Ferry's flying the political propaganda symbol known as the "Pride Flag"**

Attention: **Board of Directors, BC Ferry Services Inc.**

I'm writing to request the immediate removal of the 'Pride Flag' from all vessels, buildings and any other locations managed by the BC Ferry Corporation.

The 'Pride Flag' is a political symbol, and thus fails to meet the test of neutrality *required by law* for anything displayed by institutions that are public in nature.

The 'Pride Flag' is offensive, oppressive and traumatic. It is a divisive symbol that signifies a lust for power over other groups—it is *not* a symbol of inclusivity! For those who have been sexually assaulted by a member of the same sex, it is a horrific trigger of the memory of a forced event, that can have devastating effects on the victim—especially a child victim.

For those who hold constitutionally protected religious beliefs, it is offensive to be confronted with the sexual politics of the loud, aggressive and abusive political movement that the 'Pride' Flag represents.

For those who believe in equal treatment of all people, it is oppressive to give one group power and privilege over others.

Tell me, are you willing to fly a Christian, Muslim or the Star of David flag? These groups have the same rights as those represented by the ‘Pride Flag’. What about celebrating life and denouncing the legalized murder of babies—the ultimate child abuse. Will you fly the symbol of Pro-Life? If the answer is “no”, then you have a bigger problem than the one you have already created.

Discrimination is discrimination, and it violates the BC Human Rights Code. Always. You cannot give preferential treatment to one group and deny another.

Flags, as we all know, are a declaration of victory, power over a staked claim. The ‘Pride Flag’ is a political statement that has no legal right to fly its colours at stations required by law to be neutral. The creator of the ‘Pride Flag’, Gilbert Baker, a sex activist, is unabashed in his motive for the flag’s creation. He didn’t mince words when he declared its meaning: “That’s what flags are for. Flags are about *proclaiming power*... that visibility is key to our success and to our justice.”

The Chair of the BC Ferry Services Inc. board, Mr. Donald Hayes, as a co-founder of the Dr. Peter Aids Foundation, is no stranger to the politics of sex activism, and the billions of dollars of taxpayers’ money funding costly initiatives for diseases that are, for the most part, 100% preventable. Last year taxpayers benefited that charity with over \$4.2 million dollars. I won’t go into the costs associated with the current 30-year high epidemic of syphilis among young homosexual males in Vancouver—except to say that Mr. Hayes, of all people, should know that “celebrating” Pride events might make pharmaceutical companies and their shareholders happy; but for already over-burdened taxpayers there’s nothing to celebrate or to take “pride” in.

I have two granddaughters who will be riding the ferry from Nanaimo to Tsawwassen in the near future. The oldest of the two, at the tender age of 14, was viciously bullied after she complained when the ‘Pride Flag’ was hoisted over her school. Her position was that the Canadian flag represents *everyone*. And she’s right! She also stated that the ‘Pride Flag’ declared a political takeover of her school and gave victory to a select identifiable group over all others.

For this reasoned and fair position, she was harassed, threatened, bullied online, told to “get the f... out” of her school...

The good news is that the ‘Pride Flag’ did not continue to fly over her school this year—after the threat of legal intervention. My granddaughter doesn’t need to be confronted with this oppressive, divisive political propaganda when she boards a ferry of which, as a British Columbian, she is part owner.

The BC Ferry Services Corporation has no legal authority to promote the political agenda of the sex activists, and never should have agreed to participate in a political agenda that overtly bullies and oppresses other groups, which should have equal rights.

It's regrettable that as a Board, you have failed to protect the values you claim to represent. The 'Pride Flag' is offensive, because the sex activist power lobby has overstepped their political boundaries and bullied too many people; but the tide is now turning.

It is my hope that you'll investigate this matter and determine who made the outrageous decision to violate BC Ferry's stated value of "caring." According to your statement this means: "Operating from a position of kindness and empathy for those who travel and work with us." And under "Respect" you state: "Respect is paramount in our interactions with others."

The decision to offend, oppress and traumatize groups and individuals by flying this divisive political symbol violates, in the most extreme way, the very values you purport.

Please remove the Pride flags and all related political symbols forthwith. Failure to do so will result in legal action.

Kari Simpson
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