

Sunday, 24 August 2003

Right Honourable Jean Chrétien
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0A2

Dear Mr. Chrétien,

I am writing to you to express my joy and excitement at your recent decision to fully support gay marriages. I know you have recently come under political fire for your decision, but I wanted to thank you for taking such a hard stance.

I'm a twenty-three year old woman who recently graduated from the University of Toronto. Like most girls growing up, I dreamed about my wedding and getting married to someone I loved. It's almost heartbreaking when you realise you're gay, and probably won't be able to experience your dreams. I cried when I found out the Ontario Superior Court had ordered the provincial government to allow gay marriages in the province. Finally, I was considered an equal citizen under the law, and could live out my dreams.

Someday, I hope gay and lesbian Canadians outside of Ontario and British Columbia are able to experience this same joy. Thank you for recognising our struggle, and acknowledging that we deserve to have our relationships legally accepted.

Please continue to not listen to your detractors, and keep up the fight for gay marriage. Civil unions, as your government has said, are unacceptable, because they create a two-tiered system of marriage. "Separate and equal" is inherently *not* equal, as history has hopefully taught us with segregation in the United States.

Thank you again for fighting for the rights of all Canadians.

Sincerely,

Andrea