



S 210209

This is the 1st affidavit of Brian Versteeg in this proceeding and it was made on December 21, 2020

File No. _____
Vancouver Registry

In the Supreme Court of British Columbia

Between

ALAIN BEAUDOIN, BRENT SMITH, JOHN KOOPMAN, JOHN VAN MUYEN,
RIVERSIDE CALVARY CHAPEL, IMMANUEL COVENANT REFORMED CHURCH,
and FREE REFORMED CHURCH OF CHILLIWACK, B.C.

Petitioners

and

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
and DR. BONNIE HENRY IN HER CAPACITY AS PROVINCIAL HEALTH OFFICER
FOR THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Respondents

AFFIDAVIT OF BRIAN VERSTEEG

I, Brian Versteeg, of Smithers, in the Province of British Columbia MAKE OATH AND SAY AS FOLLOWS THAT:

1. I am an Elder of Faith United Reformed Church in Telkwa, British Columbia (the "Church"), and as such I have personal knowledge of the matters herein deposed to except where stated to be on information and belief and where so stated, I verily believe them to be true.
2. On December 4, 2020, Elders, Deacons of the Church Council, as well as some voting members of the church met for the annual budget meeting of our Church.
3. Thirty-four people were in attendance at the meeting, which took place in the fellowship hall of our Church, which accommodates at least a hundred people.
4. Our understanding was that business meetings were still allowed under the Provincial Health Order concerning gatherings.
5. However, during the meeting, the RCMP officers arrived at our Church because someone had reported our meeting.

6. I met the officers outside and explained to them that we believed the meeting was within the provincial guidelines as a business meeting, and not a worship service.
7. The officer who engaged me in conversation indicated that that was not his understanding. While he recognized that we were meeting for business and not for worship, in his understanding the meeting was still illegitimate.
8. The officer insisted that we stop the meeting or face a fine.
9. He mentioned that support group meetings such as AA were allowed, but our meeting was not.
10. I went back into the meeting, and explained the situation to the members who had gathered. We agreed to conclude the meeting soon.
11. I told the officer that we would be done in about 10 minutes. The officer stated that the meeting needed to be closed immediately.
12. We complied and adjourned the meeting.
13. I swear this Affidavit *bona fide* in support of the Petition for Judicial Review, and for no improper purpose.

SWORN BEFORE ME at the City of)
HOUSTON , in the)
 Province of British Columbia, on this)
21 day of December, 2020.)

Claire E. Buhler)
 A Commissioner for Taking Affidavits)
 within the Province of British Columbia)

Brian Versteeg
 BRIAN VERSTEEG

Claire E. Buhler
 Commissioner for Taking Affidavits
 in the Province of British Columbia
 3400 11th St, Bag 2000
 Houston BC V0J 1Z0
 250-845-5828

CB