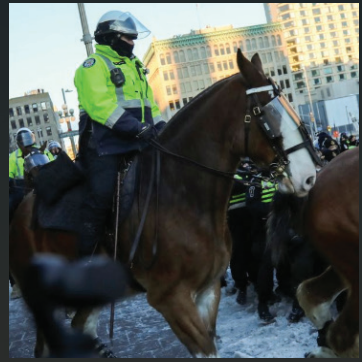


## Federal Court of Appeal confirms that Trudeau abused *Emergencies Act*



Police suppress the 2022 Freedom Convoy

In January 2022, thousands travelled to the nation's capital to voice opposition to Covid vaccine mandates and lockdowns. Right from the start of the historic and peaceful Freedom Convoy protest, our lawyers were on the ground in Ottawa.

On February 14, 2022, the federal government invoked the *Emergencies Act*, violently suppressing the protest and freezing the bank accounts of hundreds of Canadians. The Justice Centre immediately provided lawyers for four Canadians to challenge the federal government's invocation of the *Emergencies Act*. In January 2024, the Federal Court ruled that the Trudeau cabinet had acted illegally and had violated *Charter* rights and freedoms. On January 16, 2026, the Federal Court of Appeal unanimously upheld this lower court decision.

## Protestors ask court to stay \$290 million lawsuit against them



Zexi Li awarded for suing Freedom Convoy

In 2022, Ottawa bureaucrat Zexi Li launched a \$290 million class-action lawsuit against Tamara Lich, Chris Barber and other Freedom Convoy protestors. Her lawsuit even targets Canadians who donated to the protest. Zexi Li and the other plaintiffs believe that \$290 million is appropriate compensation for the "nuisance" they experienced during the protest. (What they call "nuisance," we call "democracy.") The Justice Centre is funding the defence of these peaceful protestors and donors. It recently came to light that Paul Champ, lawyer for Zexi Li and the other plaintiffs, made a side deal with one of the defendants and kept a settlement agreement secret for nearly 22 months, in violation of strict rules of procedural fairness. Our lawyers are now applying for a permanent stay of Zexi Li's lawsuit.

## Justice Centre launches national campaigns to defend free speech

Help us stop ideological overreach in regulated professions. Across Canada, regulated professionals, such as lawyers, doctors, nurses, and psychologists, are increasingly censored and compelled to advance ideologies that violate their conscience. Help us oppose the revival of Bill C-63, the *Online Harms Act*. If Bill C-63 returns, Ottawa will be empowered to censor law-abiding Canadians, punish them for future speech crimes, and control the internet. Bill C-63 will chill lawful expression.

Send a pre-written letter to your elected representatives at [www.jccf.ca/petitions](http://www.jccf.ca/petitions).

## Your donation defends freedom from coast to coast

We rely on voluntary donations to carry out our mission of defending the constitutional rights and freedoms of all Canadians through litigation and education. We do not accept any government funding. Our donors will receive a charitable giving tax receipt for all 2026 donations in February 2027.

Please donate online at [www.jccf.ca](http://www.jccf.ca), by e-transfer to [etransfer@jccf.ca](mailto:etransfer@jccf.ca), or by mail to the address below. You can also donate cryptocurrency, stocks, bonds, and securities. If you would like information about including the Justice Centre in your will, please connect with us at [giving@jccf.ca](mailto:giving@jccf.ca).



**Justice Centre**  
for Constitutional Freedoms

# — The Docket Spring 2026



*"Across Canada, governments, universities, and public institutions are increasingly restricting expression, religious freedom, and basic liberties, and using vague and subjective pretexts for doing so. Whether it's pursuing race-based laws, banning recordings of public meetings, or arresting speakers on campus, these actions threaten the very Charter that protects all Canadians. The Justice Centre is proud to defend these freedoms."*

John Carpay, B.A., LL.B., President and Founder

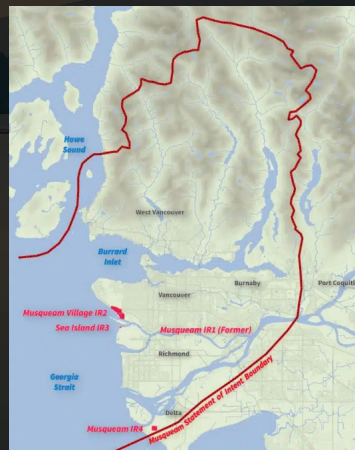
## Biological males do not belong in women's prisons



Former federal inmate and CAWSBAR board member Heather Mason

The federal government allows biological males who self-identify as women, including those with intact male genitalia, to serve their sentences in federal women's prisons. Our donors are helping Canadian Women's Sex-Based Rights (CAWSBAR) sue the federal government for this practice, which violates female inmates' right to security of the person and right to be free from cruel and unusual treatment – rights protected by the *Charter*. Female inmates report being stalked, beaten, harassed, and sexually assaulted by trans-identifying male inmates. Heather Mason, CAWSBAR board member and former inmate of the Grand Valley Institution for Women, explained her motivation in this case: "We initiated this action to highlight the federal government's failure to protect women and to raise public awareness about the cruel and unusual punishment that incarcerated women endure as a result of this transfer policy." On March 3, 2026, our lawyers urged the Federal Court of Canada to grant CAWSBAR public interest standing in this case.

## Secret Agreement gives Vancouver to the Musqueam Indian Band



Greater Vancouver area affected by agreement with Musqueam Indian Band

A secret "Rights Recognition Agreement" between the Musqueam Indian Band and Canada's federal government recognizes Musqueam Aboriginal title over Vancouver, Burnaby, New Westminster, Richmond, North Vancouver, West Vancouver, Port Moody and other parts of the Lower Mainland. The Tsawwassen, Squamish and Cowichan Aboriginals claim the same area. The Musqueam Band, made up of approximately 1,500 members, claims this agreement will not impact the homes or private property of two million or more people who live in the same area. Yet the actual Agreement says otherwise. Musqueam promises to refrain from collecting rent are not legally binding. Further, this Agreement creates a race-based third level of Aboriginal government for Musqueam members to exercise authority over Greater Vancouver, alongside the federal and provincial governments. This race-based governance echoes South Africa's disastrous Apartheid laws (1948-1991). This Agreement, signed in secret, is a recipe for mistrust, strife and conflict, not reconciliation.

## Challenging illegal recording bans across Canada

City councils and school boards across Canada are shielding their decisions from public scrutiny by banning citizens, parents, and taxpayers from recording public meetings. Recording bans violate the rights of both speakers and listeners, for the Supreme Court has declared that members of the public have a right to information pertaining to public institutions. In the last six months, our lawyers have sent legal warning letters to the Municipality of North Huron, the Town of Whitby, and the Ancaster High Secondary School Council in Ontario, advising that their recording bans violated the constitution. All have reversed their bans. On April 30, 2026, our lawyers will argue in court that Springfield, Manitoba is violating the *Charter* by banning the public from recording council meetings. Our lawyers have also filed a constitutional challenge in the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador against Musgrave Harbour's recording ban.

## Charlottetown Police pursue "proactive" hate policing



The Charlottetown Police Service and the Canadian Race Relations Foundation have together announced a new "proactive" approach to generate more complaints about hate crimes. Encouraging the public to report a particular kind of crime more often seems to be a politicization of law enforcement, designed to achieve a political objective. Our lawyers have filed a Freedom of Information request seeking records on Charlottetown's new policies and new training sessions for police and citizens. Why do Charlottetown police believe that hate crimes are significantly under-reported? What impact will "proactive" hate policing have on Islanders' free speech and legal rights?

## Dr. Widdowson arrested twice for questioning mass grave claims



RCMP forcefully remove Dr. Widdowson from UBC's Vancouver campus on January 22

On December 2, 2025, Canadian academic Dr. Frances Widdowson was arrested at the University of Victoria for engaging with students about unproven claims of an unmarked mass grave at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School in BC. She has devoted much of her research career to exposing what she calls an "Aboriginal industry" in which lawyers and consultants profit from federal transfers to Indigenous peoples, who often still lack clean drinking water and other necessities. Upon arriving on campus, she faced nearly 100 aggressive protestors. Police charged Dr. Widdowson under BC's *Trespass Act* – an offence punishable by fines up to \$2,000 or six months imprisonment. "My arrest at the University of Victoria is an indication of an institution that is completely unmoored from its academic purpose," stated Dr. Widdowson. Later, on January 22, 2026, RCMP officers detained and removed Dr. Widdowson from the University of British Columbia following a chaotic scene involving hundreds of angry protestors. The universities of Victoria and British Columbia are shielding their nearly 100,000 students from critical discussions about truth and reconciliation. With help from our donors, Dr. Widdowson will challenge her trespassing tickets.

## Journalist Cory Morgan will defend his freedom of expression at trial



Journalist Cory Morgan of the *Western Standard*

In March 2025, Calgary journalist Cory Morgan travelled through the Siksika reserve to document the serious challenges facing this Aboriginal community, including housing shortages, poverty, crime, and lack of access to clean water. His motivation? "I am committed to exposing the conditions on Canadian Indigenous reserves while seeking effective system solutions to the problem," said Corey. On April 9, 2025, however, Siksika officers served Cory with two \$1,000 trespassing tickets, even though no law prohibits anyone from travelling on public roads through the reserve. With help from our donors, Cory will challenge these tickets before the Alberta Court of Justice on June 30, 2026. "This case presents an important opportunity to affirm that journalists and commentators cannot be punished simply for documenting realities and expressing lawful opinions in public spaces," Cory remarked. "I am grateful for the support of the Justice Centre in this action to preserve press freedom..."