



British Columbia
Human Rights
Tribunal



FORM 1.1 – INDIVIDUAL COMPLAINT

Use This Form to File Your Own Complaint

Case

Case Number: CS-018788

Date Received: 2026-04-15

Step 1 - Party Information

Who experienced discrimination (Complainant)?

Legal name – First name: Jessica

Legal name – Last name: Simpson

Preferred name – e.g. traditional name, nickname, alias:

Use my preferred name: When talking to me, When writing to me, In decision in addition to my legal name

Title: Ms.

Pronoun: She

Complainant's address for delivery

Mailing address: [REDACTED]

Phone number: [REDACTED]

Cell: N/A

Fax: N/A

Email: [REDACTED]

Respondent contact information

Name of the Respondent: Western Standard New Media Corp.

Relationship to you (For example, your employer): News Publisher

Respondent Contact Email: [REDACTED]

Mailing Address:
[REDACTED]

Phone: N/A

Cell: N/A

Fax: N/A

Steps 2A - Areas of Discrimination & Step 2B -Grounds of Discrimination

Area: Publication

Ground

Sex: I am a woman. The Respondent's publication engages the protected ground of sex through its persistent framing of me as male

Race: I am Métis. The Respondent's publication engages my race by explicitly referencing my Métis identity and then subjecting that identity to ridicule

Sexual Orientation: I identify as part of the MMIWG2SLGTBQQIA+ community. The Respondent's publication engages the protected ground of sexual orientation

Indigenous Identity: I am Métis. The Respondent explicitly references and weaponizes my Indigenous identity within the impugned publication

Step 3 - Details of the Discrimination

Details of the Discrimination for each Respondent

Respondent Name: Western Standard New Media Corp.

Describe the harm you experienced in a few words: The Respondent's publication caused significant harm to my dignity, reputation, and psychological well-being by publicly misgendering me and mocking my identity as both a transgender woman and a Métis person. The repeated use of incorrect pronouns, combined with derogatory language such as "this dude" and "Mr. Yaniv," functioned to erase my identity and present me as an object of ridicule. This was compounded by racially charged commentary referencing "band council" and "Chief Jessica," which trivialized my Indigenous identity in a manner that invited public contempt. As a result of this publication, I experienced heightened

emotional distress, anxiety, and a sense of vulnerability, particularly given the Respondent's platform and audience reach. The video contributes to ongoing reputational harm and increases the likelihood of further harassment by normalizing discriminatory attitudes toward me. The cumulative impact is not merely offensive but materially harmful.

Explain how the harm relates to the grounds you have selected before: The harm I experienced is directly connected to the protected grounds I have identified, as the Respondent's conduct explicitly targets my identity across multiple intersecting characteristics. The repeated misgendering—through the use of male pronouns and descriptors—constitutes adverse treatment based on my gender identity or expression and sex, as it denies and invalidates my identity as a woman. This is not incidental but forms a central feature of the publication, thereby establishing a clear nexus between the harm and these protected grounds. Further, the Respondent's mocking references to "band council" settings and the use of titles such as "Chief Jessica" engage my Indigenous identity and race, as they rely on racialized stereotypes and the trivialization of Indigenous governance structures to generate ridicule. The sarcastic framing of the "MMIWG2SLGTBQQIA+ community" and references to the "alphabet" similarly connect the harm to my sexual orientation.

Describe what this Respondent did that harmed you.

Date: 2026-04-15

Conduct: The Respondent, Western Standard, engaged in discriminatory publication contrary to s. 7 of the Human Rights Code by producing and disseminating a video that deliberately targets me on the basis of my protected characteristics. In the impugned content, the Respondent repeatedly misgenders me through the use of male pronouns and descriptors, including "he," "this dude," and "Mr. Yaniv," thereby denying my gender identity and reinforcing harmful stereotypes about transgender women.

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Conduct: This conduct is not incidental but is sustained throughout the publication and forms a central mechanism through which I am portrayed as illegitimate and deserving of ridicule.

Date: 2026-04-15

Conduct: The Respondent further compounds this discriminatory treatment by explicitly referencing my Métis identity and subjecting it to mockery through statements invoking "band council" settings and the fabricated title "Chief Jessica."

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Conduct: These remarks trivialize Indigenous governance and cultural identity, reproducing racialized stereotypes and exposing me to contempt on the basis of my race and Indigenous identity. Additionally, the Respondent's sarcastic references to the "MMIWG2SLGTBQQIA+ community" and the characterization of LGBTQ2S+ identities as "the alphabet" serve to demean and delegitimize sexual and gender minority communities more broadly.

Date: 2026-04-15

Conduct: By broadcasting this content to a wide audience, the Respondent has amplified discriminatory narratives and encouraged public ridicule, thereby exacerbating the harm I experience. The conduct is deliberate, sustained, and aggravated by the Respondent's role as a media organization with significant reach. As such, it constitutes a clear violation of the prohibition against discriminatory publication, as it exposes me to hatred, contempt, and ridicule on the basis of multiple protected grounds.

Step 4 – Time Limit to Make Complaint

Respondent Name: Western Standard New Media Corp.

What is the date of the most recent conduct that you listed as discrimination in the previous step?

2026-04-15

Did the most recent conduct happen in the last year? Yes

Did all of the conduct happen in the last year for all Respondents: Yes

Step 5 - Other Proceedings

Do you have another proceeding about the same events? No

Step 6 - Remedies

Select the kinds of remedies you want that are available under s. 37 of the Human Rights Code:

- **Order to stop the discrimination**
- **Declaration that the conduct is discrimination**
- **Steps or programs to address the discrimination (examples: training, policy)**
- **Compensation for injury to dignity, feelings, and self-respect**
- **Compensation for lost wages or other expenses such as moving expenses, photocopying, costs of attending the hearing (keep receipts)**

Step 7 - Mediation

Do you want to attend a mediation? Yes

Step 8 - Indigenous Peoples

I confirm I am First Nations, Métis or Inuit. I want an Indigenous Navigator to contact me about the process.