

## Conversion Therapy – Responses to the Practice in Other Jurisdictions

Jurisdiction	Date	Action
<b>Alberta Municipalities</b>		
St. Albert	July 8, 2019	<p>St. Albert City Council passed the following resolution:</p> <p><i>Whereas Council on June 11, 2018 adopted a Declaration that St. Albert embraces diversity and is proud to be a place where all residents and visitors are valued and included; And</i></p> <p><i>Whereas Conversion Therapy seeks to alter through medically and socially unacceptable means the manner in which members of the LGBTQ2S+ community self-identify and express to others their uniqueness as individuals, and as such Conversion Therapy is a cruel and degrading practice, contrary to the principles of Council's June 11, 2018 Declaration and having no place in the welcoming and inclusive community that St. Albert strives to be;</i></p> <p><i>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipal Council of the City of St. Albert, Alberta fully supports elimination of the practice known as Conversion Therapy, in St. Albert and elsewhere, and strongly urges the Government of Canada to enact legislation making the practice of Conversion Therapy a criminal offence.</i></p> <p><i>And that Administration be directed to prepare a bylaw by December 31, 2019 for Council's consideration to:</i></p> <p><i>Amend the Land Use Bylaw to provide that activities commonly known as "conversion therapy" (i.e., practices or techniques aimed at changing or attempting to change a person's sexual orientation or gender identity or expression) are neither a permitted nor a discretionary use in any land use classification;</i></p> <p><i>Amend the Business Licensing Bylaw to provide that conversion therapy is not a lawful business activity in St. Albert and no business license shall be issued for any person or organization that has conversion therapy as part of its business activities.</i></p> <p><i>Set a fine of \$10,000 for those advertising or offering conversion therapy service for minors within St. Albert.</i></p>
Spruce Grove	August 12, 2019	<p>Spruce Grove City Council passed the following resolution:</p> <p><i>That administration research and prepare a report back to Council by October 15, 2019 regarding the potential to ban the practice of conversion therapy in Spruce Grove. The report will provide the following information, but not limited to:</i></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>the legal processes required to ban conversion therapy;</i></li> <li>• <i>the changes required to our Land Use Bylaw so that conversion therapy is not a permitted or discretionary use;</i></li> <li>• <i>the changes required to the business license bylaw;</i></li> <li>• <i>information on what other municipalities in Alberta are doing to end conversion therapy practices; and</i></li> <li>• <i>what enforcement and fine options should be applied to anyone found to be practicing conversion therapy in our city.</i></li> </ul>
Edmonton	August 27, 2019	Edmonton City Council passed a motion directing City of Edmonton administration to prepare a bylaw that prohibits the licensing, practice, and promotion of conversion therapy in Edmonton. Administration will look at all mechanisms to enforce the prohibition, including a \$10,000 fine, and other mechanisms through the City of Edmonton's Zoning Bylaw and Business License Bylaw.
<b>Elsewhere in Canada</b>		
Vancouver	June 19, 2019	<p>The City of Vancouver passed an amendment to their Business Prohibition Bylaw.</p> <p>The bylaw states that the following is prohibited:</p> <p><i>"Charging a fee for any services that seek to change the sexual orientation or gender identity of any person."</i></p> <p>The following is excepted from the prohibition:</p> <p><i>"Services prohibited do not include services that provide acceptance, support or understanding of a person or the facilitation of a person's coping, social support or identity exploration or development, or any services related to sex-reassignment surgery."</i></p>
Manitoba	May 22, 2015	<p>The Province of Manitoba took measure under existing legislation to ban the practice of conversion therapy in the province. Specifically, the Manitoba Government asked regional health authorities and health-profession colleges and association to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure health professionals are not practicing conversion therapy;</li> <li>• Review their codes of ethics and standards of practice to ensure the practice of conversion therapy is not accepted as legitimate; and</li> <li>• Encourage anyone who has experienced conversion therapy from a health professional to file a complaint with the professional's college or association.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, the Manitoba Health Minister stated that Manitoba Human Rights legislation did not permit discrimination based on sexual orientation or preference, so health care professionals could not discriminate against a patient on that basis, and thus cannot apply conversion therapy to a person of any age.</p>

Ontario	June 4, 2015	<p>The Government of Ontario passed the <i>Affirming Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Act</i>. This Act applies to health professionals in Ontario. Under this Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health professionals in Ontario cannot perform conversion therapy on any person under 18, or on any person without that person's consent;</li> <li>• A substitute decision-maker (similar to a "guardian" under Alberta law) cannot consent to conversion therapy on another person's behalf; and</li> <li>• Conversion therapy cannot be funded by public health care (by a medical professional billing the Province) or by insurance (insurers cannot cover conversion therapy as an insured service)</li> </ul>
Nova Scotia	October 11, 2018	<p>The Government of Nova Scotia passed the <i>Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Protection Act</i>. Under this Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health professionals and persons in positions of trust cannot perform conversion therapy on any person under 19, except on a consenting person that is at least 16;</li> <li>• A substitute decision-maker (similar to a "guardian" under Alberta law) cannot consent to conversion therapy on another person's behalf; and</li> <li>• Conversion therapy cannot be funded by public health care (by a medical professional billing the Province) or by insurance (insurers cannot cover conversion therapy as an insured service)</li> </ul>
<b>In Progress</b>		
Alberta (Provincial)		A working group to study whether conversion therapy should be banned was created by the previous Provincial Government. It is unclear whether the working group will continue.
British Columbia	May 27, 2019	<p>The Legislature of the Province of British Columbia gave first reading to Bill M-218-2019 proposing to enact the <i>Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Act</i>, which proposes to prohibit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>the provision of conversion therapy to minors by health professionals, as a hospital service or professional service, and by persons in a position of trust or authority,</i></li> <li>• <i>the payment or reimbursement of the cost of conversion therapy provided as a hospital service or professional service, and</i></li> <li>• <i>the expenditure of public funds for the provision of conversion therapy.</i></li> </ul> <p>(summary excerpted from Bill M-218-2019)</p>
Canada (Federal)		Bill S-260 was introduced in the Senate in April, 2019. The bill proposes to make it a criminal offence to practice conversion therapy, to make it a criminal offence to advertise conversion therapy to children, and to make it a criminal offence to receive a financial or material benefit from practising conversion therapy.