

January 24, 2014

Dear Nova Scotia Barristers Society,
Cc: J. Rene Gallant (President) & Emma Halpern (Equity Advisor)

In light of your upcoming discussions about Trinity Western University's accreditation we, as concerned students and community members, would like to take this opportunity to express our disapproval for Trinity Western University's proposed law school.

There are already significant barriers to accessing law school that work to systematically disadvantage people, particularly along the lines of race, class, gender, and ability. This is an opportunity for you as representatives of our profession to reassert your commitment to creating a legal education environment that is accessible to, and inclusive of, all members of our society. Condoning a law school that explicitly discriminates against a historically marginalized group significantly undermines this goal, and would be a serious step backwards for the legal community in Nova Scotia.

Recognizing and upholding human rights is at the cornerstone of our legal system. As such, we urge you to oppose TWU's Nova Scotia accreditation. We also encourage you to create an accreditation requirement in Nova Scotia that prevents any law school from discriminating on a constitutionally protected ground, such as sexual orientation.

This is an issue that affects and implicates all members of our legal community. As leaders and representatives of our profession we hope that you take this opportunity to reaffirm your commitment to non-discrimination, equality, and access to education. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

OUTLaw Society
Schulich School of Law

And the below signatories:

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