

07SEP14

Dear Sirs et Madames,

As half of a binational couple, I came to Canada to live in 1999, once we were assured that we could not emigrate my sweetheart to the US. Both of us are cradle Anglicans, and my father is a practicing priest in Ft. Myer's Beach, Fla.

The laws in my new country have evolved to allow same sex marriage, but due to our desire for a church wedding, we remain simply partnered.

I don't have the training to defend marriage according to scripture. I see the church as a community to which I wish to align myself, but has little use for those of us who do not adhere to stereotypes. My heritage in the church has been one of social activism, poverty ministration, community justice and support of those less fortunate.

I currently serve in the RCAF, my return offering to the country that gave me a new life. Legally, we are common-law and that's what we need to be above board, but wouldn't it be lovely to also have the validation of our spiritual roots. Our talents are placed elsewhere and that saddens me.

Thank you for your attention,
Pte. Heather Nicholson