

We did it!

In a pair of 7-2 decisions, the Supreme Court of Canada today affirmed the Ontario and BC law societies' decisions to reject Trinity Western University's proposed law school.

The five-judge majority, writing in a united voice, argues that the law societies have a legitimate interest in ensuring principles of diversity and non-discrimination are fundamental to the integrity of the legal profession. Permitting a law school with a discriminatory admissions policy would be contrary to this end and therefore a decision to approve was unreasonable. "A more diverse bar is a more competent bar."

Specifically, **none of the justices on the Court sought to open the door to institutional religious rights**. We've seen how claims of religious freedom are being used to roll back decades of progress on human rights and anti-discrimination legislation in the USA and it's reassuring to know that Canada's highest court has bucked that trend.

The majority talked about "evangelical members of the TWU community" as having a claim to the right rather than the school itself, while Justice Rowe went further agreeing with our submissions that TWU does not have an institutional right to freedom of religion.

We're overjoyed by this decision, and [your support helped us get there](#).

Help us celebrate today: [Share our full news piece with your friends](#).

- [Click here to share on Facebook](#)
- [Click here to share on Twitter](#)

We'll have more to share over the coming week as we start to digest what these ruling will mean for secularism in Canada, but for today we're celebrating.

Cheers

Ian Bushfield
Executive Director



www.bchumanist.ca | facebook.com/bchumanist | [@bchumanist](https://twitter.com/bchumanist)
