

# EGERTON BAPTIST CHURCH

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Joint Clerks  
Special Joint Committee on the Constitution of Canada  
Postal Box 1044  
South Block  
Parliament Buildings  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A7



Dear Sirs,

I find it difficult to understand why Mr. Trudeau and his government insist on what is understood as the total package. Why the hurry to have the total package accepted?

For Example, I and many others have serious doubts about the wisdom of seeking to entrench human rights in the constitution. To make the enforcing of human rights a matter for the courts does not assure us of the due recognition of human rights. In Britain, from which I came in 1956, human rights are assured by political activity and by vigilance on the part of the citizens. I was a conscientious objector to war during the second World War in Britain and I have nothing but praise for the way in which my rights were recognized and justice was seen to be done.

If there is some measure of consensus on parts of the package as a result of the meetings of the special joint committee, let us patriate the constitution on that basis. For example, if there is clear consensus to patriate the constitution with an amending formula, let us do that. If we can manage to get the principle of equalization accepted, let us include that. It seems to me, however, as a pastor and a citizen that the most questionable part of the package is the entrenching of human rights in the constitution. If that be so, and if that be established through the meetings of the committee, why not allow time for that debate to be continued on into the future.

By all means, however, patriate the constitution with as much good will and understanding as Mr. Trudeau and his government can manage to acquire.

I respectfully submit this to you after lengthy and due consideration.

Yours truly,

Alexander McCrae.