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Thompson Rivers University Students' Union
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Head of Administration Sergei Chernyshov
Administration of Bogradskiy District
Ulitsa Novaya, 10, Bograd, 655340, Republic of Khakassiya

January 17, 2018

Removal of Lyubov Litsegevich's Adoptive Children Should Be Reversed

Dear Head of Administration,


On behalf of the Thompson Rivers University Students' Union we are writing to urge you to annul the decision to remove seven adopted underage children from **Lyubov Litsegevich** and return them into her care immediately, and to protect **Lyubov Litsegevich's** family from baseless child endangerment accusations.

We are deeply troubled by reports from Amnesty International of efforts to punish **Lyubov Litsegevich** because of unfounded accusations that she was fostering the "wrong" gender identity in one of her sons because she allowed his hair to grow long.

We strongly believe that you and the Bogradskiy administration have a responsibility under international law to investigate these reports, including the *Covenant on the Rights of the Child Article 29(2)* – the responsibility to take all appropriate measures to ensure that the child is protected against all forms of discrimination or punishment on the basis of the status, activities, expressed opinions, or beliefs of the child's parents, legal guardians, or family members. If your investigation finds these reports to be true, then we would urge you to take action to annul this decision, reunite the family, and hold any responsible person or official accountable for their illegal and immoral actions.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,


Tatiana Gilbert
President
TRU Students' Union


Caitlin Orteza
Vice-President Equity
TRU Students' Union

cc: Head of Education Directorate Olga Cherkunova, Ambassador Alexander Darchiev