

**Algoma University College**  
**1520 Queen Street East**  
**Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario**  
**Proud Algoma Club (LGBT)**  
33 Irwin Avenue  
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario  
P6A 3P7  
(705)-949-8912  
Contact person: Sarah Broad  
[teddyandwanda@riseup.net](mailto:teddyandwanda@riseup.net)

**RE: ARSON OF LGBTQ@UTSC BULLETIN BOARD**

Dear David and LGBTQ@UTSC members:

I am writing to you on behalf Proud Algoma, the LGBT club at Algoma University College, in Sault Ste. Marie. I am writing in support of LGBTQ@UTSC after learning of the hate-motivated incidents that have taken place on your campus, including the recent act of arson.

The successive acts of vandalism against the LGBTQ@UTSC campus group's bulletin board are unacceptable.

I am reminded of a conference that I recently attended, in Upper Peninsula, Michigan, at a Unitarian Church. Being down in Michigan made me realize how lucky we, here, in Canada, truly are, simply based on the fact that in the US, it is still legal to fire an individual based on the fact that they are suspected to be in the LGBT community,

However, if incidents like the one perpetrated against your campus were to continue, I would have to rethink my recent feelings of gratitude at my geographic location.

These incidents not only attack the ability of your group to function, but also create a chilling climate on campus for queer and trans students. All students have the right to feel safe in their learning environment, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

I am pleased to see that LGBTQ@UTSC has responded to these incidents by exposing students to the sexual and gender diversity of the campus community. Your actions send a strong message to the perpetrators that homophobia and transphobia have no place on campus, and that acts of hate will only be met with increased visibility of queer and trans students. Your actions will also allow students of all identities to participate in building a safer and more inclusive campus community for LGBTQ students.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if we can assist you in working towards a resolution and prevention of future acts of homophobia and transphobia. We look forward to supporting LGBTQ@UTSC in its fight against intolerance and for building a safer campus for queer and trans students.

Please let us know if there's anything at all that we can do, up here!

Sincerely,  
Sarah Broad

(Of Proud Algoma)