

*Can't Buy My Silence* has been working with Dougald Lamont, the Liberal leader in Manitoba, to bring legislation based on the PEI model forward in Manitoba to ban the misuse of NDAs.

Last week the Non-Disclosure Agreements Bill ((Bill 225) passed Second Reading in the Manitoba legislature, so now it progresses to the Committee stage. This is a very important stage because this is where most amendments are made to legislation - and it is also when the public can testify.

Testimony to a Parliamentary committee is "privileged" - that is, you cannot be sued for anything you say there. So, you can if you wish to speak about your NDA with no risk of legal action.

Also, you do not need to live in Manitoba to testify. Testimony can also be both in-person or by phone or Zoom.

We do not yet have a date set for the Committee hearings but in order to put pressure on the government to set this date, we are asking people to begin to contact the Office of the Clerk and ask to be placed on the list to testify.

The number to call is (204) 945-3636

Here is a possible text for you to use if you are feeling nervous or uncertain about making this call.

"My name is ..... and I want to testify at the Committee Stage of the Non-Disclosures Agreement Bill (Bill 225).

I have personal experience that I wish to share with Committee as they consider this important piece of legislation.

I appreciate that no date has yet been set for the Committee hearings, but I would like my name and contact details (provide) to be recorded and to hear from you when the date(s) is fixed."

I (Julie) have called in myself to (204) 945-3636 and the response was very efficient and polite. I was asked:

- was I a private citizen or speaking on behalf of an organization?
- did I live in Manitoba or out of province and if the latter, what town did I live in?
- would I testify in person, by phone or by Zoom?
- they asked for my phone number and email in order to contact me when the date is set.

Thank you for considering this! Get your voice heard!