



October 13, 2017

Hon. Ahmed Hussen, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

Hon. Ralph Goodale, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness

House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A6

RE: Chelsea Manning's Inadmissibility to Canada

Dear Minister Hussen and Minister Goodale,

I write on behalf of the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association ("BCCLA") about the recent decision to deny Chelsea Manning entry to Canada due to her criminal record.

Ms. Manning is an internationally recognized advocate for freedom of expression, transparency, and civil liberties. Many Canadians are interested in hearing what Ms. Manning has to say about these issues and about whistleblowing in the U.S. military. Her sentence was commuted by President Obama in January 2017 and she was released from prison early. In light of the fact that Ms. Manning has important information that is sought by Canadians, the BCCLA thinks that it is in the public interest for Ms. Manning to be granted entry to Canada.

We urge you to exercise your discretion to permit Ms. Manning to enter Canada should Canadians invite her to the country for speaking engagements. The freedom to hear is an important part of freedom of expression and we believe that admitting Ms. Manning is a course of action that is respectful of this freedom.
Sincerely,

Josh Paterson

Executive Director