



**Representatives from the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network and the HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic Ontario to speak to House of Commons Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration**

*Will testify that Canada's excessive demand regime violates the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and should be repealed*

**OTTAWA November 17, 2017** — Under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (“IRPA”), foreign nationals are inadmissible to Canada if their health condition might reasonably be expected to cause an “excessive demand” on health or social services, or if they have an inadmissible family member. Due to the high cost of antiretroviral medications, people living with HIV are generally deemed medically inadmissible.

Representatives from the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network and the HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic Ontario (HALCO) will appear before the Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration to make the case that excessive demand:

1. is discriminatory and violates the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and Canada's international human rights obligations;
2. is not in line with IRPA's objectives; and
3. is a costly, cumbersome and inefficient process to administer.

The joint submission to the committee, which elaborates on why the excessive demand regime should be repealed, [is available on the Legal Network website](#).

**WHO:** Maurice Tomlinson, Senior Policy Analyst, Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network and Meagan Johnston, Staff Lawyer, HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic Ontario.

**WHAT:** Presentation to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration, calling for a repeal of excessive demand regime in the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* — a human rights violation that discriminates against people living with HIV and other disabilities.

**WHEN:** Monday, November 20, 2017. 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Room 253-D Centre Block, Parliament Hill, Ottawa.

Maurice Tomlinson and Meagan Johnston are available for interviews prior to appearing before the standing committee and following their presentation. Both will be testifying in-person.

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