

3.

#### Gay Business & Business Networks

This grouping of endorsements contains gay owned and operated businesses as well as regional and national associations and networks dedicated to workplace equality and building commerce.

Gay businesses have built the foundation for the Gay Community and their contributions back to the community have enabled much of the progress towards economic equality. A healthy structure in commerce has also allowed the community to empower itself and face challenges where financial imperatives are critical to achieving success (eg. HIV/AIDS research). Integral to that structure are the business owners, workplace advocates, employee resource groups (ERG) and the chambers of commerce that represent local and national interests.

As of this writing, gay and lesbian chambers of commerce from Argentina, Canada and the United States have endorsed dotgay LLC and the .gay TLD. In addition gay and lesbian networks from Austria, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom have shown their support along with workplace advocate groups from Italy, Denmark and the United States. With the latest endorsement from the US Military gay ERG OutServe, the largest gay ERG in the world, support from the gay business segment has grown to almost 3 million in individual membership and represents community members identifying as male or female homosexuals, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and ally.

March 22, 2012

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom, and Members of the ICANN Board,

On behalf of the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC), we submit this second letter of support for ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

As the exclusive certifying body for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) businesses worldwide, NGLCC stands at the intersection of LGBT business owners, local communities, global corporations, and the U.S. government. In addition to the estimated 1.4 million LGBT businesses in the United States, NGLCC promotes economic growth and prosperity for the global LGBT business community. Our support of .gay goes beyond boundaries or borders, and we hope that you will consider the economic power of the LGBT business community by establishing the .gay TLD.

The power to share information and grow business opportunities in the United States and abroad, is truly what makes .gay a valuable and important tool for the LGBT business community. This network of global advocacy, as supported by NGLCC and .gay, is critical in assisting individuals, businesses, cities, and countries in their growth and visibility. Global advocacy for the rights of LGBT people, including human rights to fair employment and business best practices starts with establishing a TLD where LGBT entrepreneurs can contribute their knowledge, inspire others, and grow their businesses for future generations.

As of today, .gay has garnered endorsements from a wide swath of LGBT organizations, including nine United Nations accredited LGBT organizations. By granting .gay as a TLD, you will bring these strong partners together in one place—and allow millions of people around the world the opportunity to find strength in a common community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin G. Nelson".

Justin G. Nelson  
Co-Founder and President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chance Mitchell".

Chance Mitchell  
Co-Founder and CEO



Buenos Aires, March 29th, 2012

**Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,**

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the community proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD) as outlined by dotgay LLC.

CCGLAR is the only not-for-profit organization in Argentina for gay and lesbian businesses. The Chamber's mission is to promote a unified and thriving, gay and gay-friendly, business and professional community throughout Argentina.

Our goals are to promote networking within the existing gay and gay-friendly business and professional community, to promote business opportunities for Chamber members, to promote Argentina as a year-round, gay and gay-welcoming tourist destination, to provide resources for our members, and to provide outreach from our community to other organizations.

CCGLAR believes that .gay will become a valuable asset to the gay community, providing a clear and easy way to identify businesses and community organizations that support and empower the members of the gay community. The .gay TLD will become a powerful tool for businesses that affirm diversity and welcome gay employees and customers, easily identifying themselves through the use of a .gay domain name. This provides an intuitive link to the gay community and we support the planning work being done by dotgay LLC to ensure that the .gay TLD will be an inclusive place for all members of the gay community.

CCGLAR believes that the .gay TLD will become a valuable asset to our members, as well as the community at large, creating opportunities and economic growth while highlighting Argentina's openness. Although the gay community is diverse and dispersed globally, both geographically and linguistically, the term 'gay' is the widest and most commonly accepted term to use for a TLD representing the gay community.

CCGLAR supports dotgay LLC in creating a business model for the .gay TLD with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the service, non-profit, business and media constituents in the gay community, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

**Pablo De Luca**  
President & Co-Founder  
Argentina Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce

**Gustavo Noguera**  
Vicepresident & Co-Founder  
Argentina Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce

C A M A R A D E C O M E R C I O G A Y L E S B I C A A R G E N T I N A



31 March 2011

Dear Members of the ICANN Board:

I would like to let you know that we are very interested, and support ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The Canadian Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce advocates on behalf of the estimated 100,000 LGBT owned and operated businesses in Canada and hundreds of thousands of LGBT professionals. The prospect of a space where LGBT consumers and businesses can go for information, resources, products and more is sensational. The opportunity for many supportive allies and corporations to reach the LGBT market is an exciting prospect as well.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD's like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN's insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

We look forward to hear more about this opportunity as this process moves forward.

Respectfully,

*R. Bruce McDonald*

**R. Bruce McDonald**  
Co-Founder - Chair  
Canadian Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce



7 March, 2012

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

OutServe is the association of actively-serving LGBT military personnel that launched on July 26, 2010. With almost 5,000 members and 50+ chapters worldwide, we are growing daily. OutServe will soon be the largest LGBT ERG (employee resource group) in the world.

The inclusion of .gay TLD can benefit our association by providing additional avenues of communication for our members around the world.

.gay is the best umbrella term for the community TLD because of it being the most commonly accepted, politically correct and all-inclusive term.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive string support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

*Thomas Nibbio*

Thomas Nibbio

VP-Global Development

OutServe

300 N State St. #2432

Chicago, IL USA 60654

+1-312-961-6464



December 7, 2011

Dear Members of the ICANN Board:

Out & Equal Workplace Advocates, a non-profit organization dedicated to equality in the workplace for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) employees, is pleased to support the community .gay application in the upcoming gTLD application process.

We believe that .gay will provide a clear and simple way for LGBT people around the world to easily identify businesses, events, and community organizations that support and empower us. It is important that businesses who affirm diversity and welcome LGBT employees and customers be able to easily identify themselves by using a .gay top level domain name. This provides an intuitive link to the LGBT community and we support the planning work being done by dotgay LLC to ensure that the TDL will be an inclusive place for all LGBT people.

We believe that .gay will become a valuable asset to LGBT businesses and consumers, as well as the community at large, creating opportunities and economic growth while highlighting our countries openness to the LGBT community.

The business community has been a global leader in providing equal benefits and equal treatment for LGBT people, often outpacing governments. We believe that they should be wholeheartedly supported in their efforts to reach out to LGBT people.

We hope we can count on your support of the community application for the .gay domain.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Selisse Berry".

Selisse Berry  
Founding Executive Director  
Out & Equal Workplace Advocates

155 Sansome Street, Suite 450  
San Francisco, CA 94104

Phone (415) 694-6500  
Fax (415) 694-6530  
[www.outandequal.org](http://www.outandequal.org)

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Angela "Q" Wilson



Milan, Italy  
December 14, 2011

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level domain (TLD).

"Parks - Liberi e Uguali" is a not for profit Italian organization, whose members are Italian companies or Italian branches of International companies. Amongst our members: Citi, Johnson&Johnson, IKEA, Lilly, Roche and Telecom Italia.

At Parks we support our member companies in the process of fully understanding and appreciating the business opportunities related to having in place a comprehensive Diversity strategy. We assist them in implementing policies to create an inclusive and respectful work environment, in particular for their GLBT employees.

Parks is an independent organisation, not related to any political party, trade union or any employers' association but willing to cooperate with all those parties to build a more open and accepting labour environment in Italy.

We believe .gay TLD will help us to further build a cohesive and aware GLBT community in Italy and to strengthen the role of Italian and International business in Italy in supporting the development of civil rights in our Country.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Best regards,

Ivan Scalfarotto, Founding Executive Director  
Parks - Liberi e Uguali



7th of December, 2011

Dear Dr. Crocker, Dr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Our organization, Q-Factor, is a non-governmental organization based in Denmark. Our mission is to promote lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) equality through business. We work with companies in the Nordic countries to make events, research and other projects which drive equality for LGBT individuals in these countries.

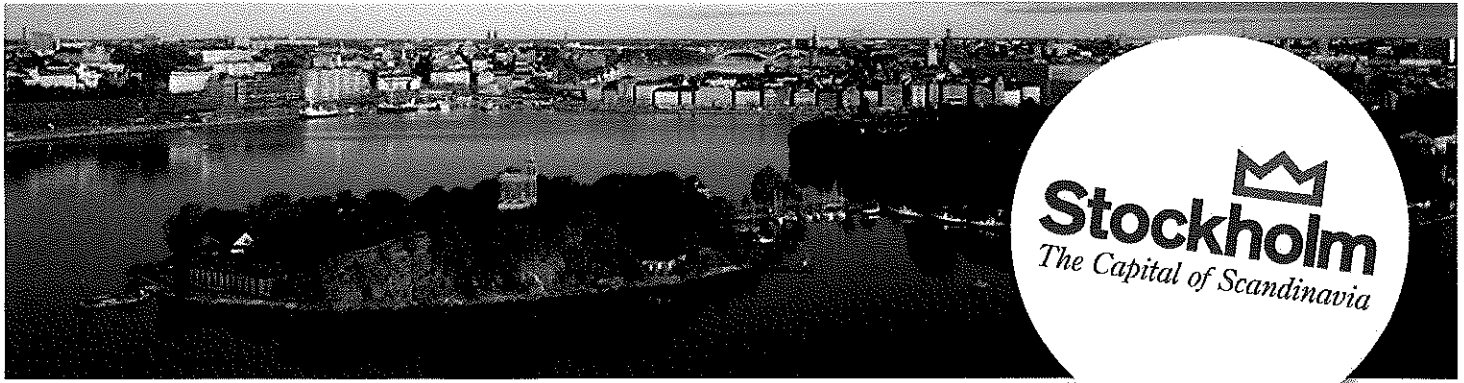
The .gay TLD would help our organization by consolidating the community and allowing us the ability to be visible to our target community. We see this as an opportunity to bring together the LGBT community in a new way and continue to push for equal rights throughout the world.

We feel that "gay" is the most suitable umbrella term for the community as it is the most commonly used and understood term worldwide. The term is not only recognizable to the LGBT community but also to non-LGBT individuals. It is important to have a term that we can proudly stand behind to unite the movement for LGBT rights worldwide.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD. Thank you!

Best Regards,

Becky Steckhahn-Strohmer  
Co-Founder & CEO  
Q-Factor



October 11, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The Stockholm Gay & Lesbian Network is a project within Stockholm Visitors Board which works to market and develop Stockholm as an interesting and attractive destination. It functions as a network-based partnership cooperating closely with the travel industry in Stockholm and special interest organizations such as Stockholm Gay Life, QX, IGLTA (the International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association) and Stockholm Pride, as well as VisitSweden. The project also organizes educational tours for the travel trade and the media, advertises in targeted media, carries out PR work and participates in fairs, travel shows and events.

The gay and lesbian scene in Stockholm is like the city itself: warm, open-minded and welcoming, easily accessible and fun. The Pride festival, held every year in July, is the highlight of the year in the gay calendar and although there is no center of gay life in Stockholm there are many gay and gay-friendly clubs, bars, restaurants and other establishments to enjoy. Being able to incorporate the .gay domain into our online portfolio will not only enhance our efforts to reach and inform the LGBT community worldwide, but it will also put our stamp on Sweden being a destination that welcomes the LGBT community.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD's like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN's insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

Christina Guggenberger  
Project Manager Stockholm Gay & Lesbian Network  
STOCKHOLM VISITORS BOARD

P.O. Box 16282  
SE-103 25 Stockholm  
Visiting address: Drottninggatan 33  
Ph +46 (0)8 508 28533  
[www.visitstockholm.com/gay-lesbian](http://www.visitstockholm.com/gay-lesbian)

Vienna, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2012

**Queer Business Women Austria support dotgay LLC and the .GAY domain**

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

Queer Business Women (QBW) facilitates professional, personal and business exchange between lesbian women and it's main goal is to strengthen the visibility of lesbians both in working environments and in society. QBW cooperates with a number of organizations nationally and internationally. Based in Vienna with membership throughout the country of Austria, the network aims to raise the profile and identity of the gay community, lesbian women in society, economy, culture and politics

QBW support the .gay TLD as a community domain for the gay community. GAY is the best umbrella term got the community TLD because it is the most commonly accepted, politically correct and all-inclusive term. The internet is an integral part of the ongoing development within the gay community. As innovators online, the gay community has made great progress in the area of gay rights and equality by sharing information and stories around the globe and empowering its members. There is however a long way to go and the .gay TLD will provide a safe and self-managed place to continue this work.

QBW believes that the business model for the .gay TLD as proposed by dotgay LLC ensures the best management of the TLD for our community. The model provides a safe space online and revenues to support the community it offers to serve. We truly believe it gives ownership of the TLD to the community whom it should belong to. QBW supports dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the gay service and non-profit community, business community, and members of the community, thus creating a strong new TLD.



Eva S. Götz, Head of the Bord  
Queer Business Women

www.queer-business-women.at  
Queer Business Women  
c/o Dr. Ricki Oelmack  
Cottagegasse 42/6, 1180 Vienna, Austria

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The European Gay and Lesbian Manager Association (egma) is an umbrella organization of national LGBT affiliated business associations which represent almost 2,500 LGBT managers, professionals and entrepreneurs in Europe. egma acts as a platform accessible to all member organizations, providing the LGBT business community with easy access to local agendas and events as a base for European networking.

egma is committed to forming a broad-based coalition, representing the various interests of LGBT-owned business professionals, corporations and allies. egma aims to take an active role in European politics, focusing on topics that concern the LGBT business community. Together with its member associations, egma organizes events and projects relating to discrimination at the workplace and diversity management.

We support the community-based approach of dotgay LLC and place value in this model as it brings much needed resources to our community – not simply benefiting the community but creating a stronger more cohesive society at large. In a community made of so many different and unique expressions of Self, GAY is a universally accepted term to describe the diversity of our community.

The innovative business model that dotgay LLC proposes ingrains social responsibility in a way that will benefit our community for generations to come. We believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,



Angelo Caltagirone  
President



Zürich, December 19, 2011

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level domain (TLD) as a community domain by dotgay LLC.

WyberNet is an association of professional lesbian women, networking to build business relationships, exchange knowledge and socialize. Based in Zurich, with membership throughout the country of Switzerland, the network aims to raise the profile and identity of the gay community, women in society, economy, culture and politics. WyberNet members consist of lesbian politicians, entrepreneurs, artisans, freelancers, professionals, leaders, artists and academics.

We at WyberNet support the .gay TLD as a community domain for the gay community. GAY is the best umbrella term for the community TLD because it is the most commonly accepted, politically correct and all-inclusive term. The internet is an integral part of the ongoing development within the gay community. As innovators online, the gay community has made great progress in the area of gay rights and equality by sharing information and stories around the globe and empowering its members. There is however a long way to go and the .gay TLD will provide a safe and self-managed place to continue this work.

We believe that the business model for the .gay TLD as proposed by dotgay LLC ensures the best management of the TLD for our community. The model provides a safe space online and revenues to support the community it offers to serve. We truly believe it gives ownership of the TLD to the community whom it should belong to.

WyberNet supports dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the gay service and non-profit community, business community, and members of the community, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,  
WyberNet

Sofia E. Hilgevoord  
President

**Regionalgruppen:**

**Basel**

basel@wybernet.ch

**Bern**

bern@wybernet.ch

**Innerschweiz**

innerschweiz@wybernet.ch

**St. Gallen**

st.gallen@wybernet.ch

**Thurgau**

thurgau@wybernet.ch

**Zürich**

zuerich@wybernet.ch

**WyberNet**

Postfach 1751  
CH-8040 Zürich

contact@wybernet.ch  
www.wybernet.ch



**GAY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

BCM-GBA, London WC1N 3XX

Tel 0844 562 4005

Fax 0844 562 4006

[hello@gba.org.uk](mailto:hello@gba.org.uk)

[www.gba.org.uk](http://www.gba.org.uk)

Mr Beckstrom, Mr Dengate-Thrush  
ICANN

November 30, 2011

Dear Mr Beckstrom, Mr Dengate-Thrush and members of the ICANN Board

We would like to add our support for the proposed creation of a .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The Gay Business Association has been working with gay and gay-friendly businesses and organisations in the UK since 1983. In that time we have seen vast improvements in equality for LGBT people around Great Britain. Most recently our Government has passed a Goods and Services Act which prohibits discrimination in areas such as hotels and marketing.

Creating a .gay TLD would give added credibility to a wide range of services, and make it easier - and safer - for young people to find good help and support. And while this will be important in the UK, it will be critical in countries where they still face daily discrimination, much of it built into local laws.

Even as I write, countries like Russia and Nigeria are preparing more draconian legislation, which will make life even more difficult for LGBT people to be safe.

We believe that a .gay TLD would help signpost legitimate gay and lesbian sites where genuine help can be found. For this reason we commend you to approve its creation.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Coote  
Director

OLIVER FRITZ  
PRESIDENT

TECHNOPARKSTRASSE 8  
CH-8005 ZÜRICH

P: +41 43 534 50 09  
M: +41 78 614 03 86  
EMAIL: oliver.fritz@network.ch

Dotgay LLC  
307 Seventh Avenue, Suite 2004  
**New York, NY 10001**  
USA

Zürich, 13. January 2012

## Letter of Support

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top level domain (TLD).

Network is the Swiss association of gay decision makers. We are committed to openness, respect, social diversity and equality in our society. Network provides a contact network and facilitates meetings at a personal and professional level. Thanks to our members' skills, Network is committed to all matters involving homosexuality whether it be in a political, cultural, scientific or social setting.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,



Oliver Fritz  
President

To combine business development, leadership and social action  
to expand economic opportunities for the LGBT community  
and those who support equality for all.



Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that the Greater Seattle Business Association (GSBA) writes this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The GSBA is the largest business chamber of its kind in the United States, and the second largest business chamber in Washington State. More than a chamber, GSBA is a vibrant community organization with a broad and diverse membership base of over 1,000 member organizations. Proudly serving the LGBT community since 1981, GSBA is widely known throughout the Puget Sound Region for its annual Guide & Directory, which is distributed to 20,000 businesses, nonprofits and individuals each year. In addition, the organization offers numerous networking opportunities throughout the year.

The mission of GSBA is to combine business development, social action and leadership to expand economic opportunities for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community and those who support equality for all.

For many of us it is almost unimaginable to remember a time in our city's past when police harassment and blatant discrimination from public agencies against the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community was just part of daily life. This brand of adversity gave birth to a movement for equality in 1969, later inspiring a small group of local gay business owners to band together and form a coalition in 1980. Its mission was to serve as a catalyst to end discrimination in Seattle.

The original board of nine incorporated the Greater Seattle Business Association (GSBA) in 1981 to organize gay-owned businesses and create a unified voice for the local LGBT business community. What eventually followed was the enforcement of anti-discrimination laws. Having met its initial charge, GSBA focused on strengthening the LGBT community economically. What was once a small group of visionary business leaders soon became a strong, vibrant and diverse community.

Community is defined as a body of persons having a common history or common social, economic, and political interests and it is our belief that .gay will serve and benefit the LGBT community. The GSBA supports dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

Jerome M Bader  
Director of Marketing & External Relations  
Greater Seattle Business Association



National Association of Gay & Lesbian Real Estate Professionals  
2105 Lavers Circle, suite 403  
Delray Beach, FL 33444  
NAGLREP.com

February 25, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

The National Association of Gay & Lesbian Real Estate Professionals (NAGLREP) strongly supports the formation of the proposed .gay TLD. NAGLREP is a LGBT real estate trade organization with a mission of both advocacy and business. We are proud to work closely with the Diversity Committee of the National Association of Realtors, the largest trade organization in the USA with 1.3 million members. See <http://www.realtors.org/diversity>

We feel the .gay TLD would enhance our marketing outreach, in addition to enhancing all LGBT organization's online recognition. If the .gay TLD is approved, please reserve naglrep.gay for our organization as we will be proud to purchase the domain.

Thank you,  
Jeff Berger

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Berger', is positioned below the typed name.

NAGLREP Founder & CEO



Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

CAGLCC, the Capital Area's LGBT Chamber of Commerce is the nonprofit, nonpartisan, mostly-volunteer network of nearly 4,000 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) and ally professionals who own or are employed by businesses, nonprofits, and government agencies in Washington, DC, Virginia, and Maryland. The CAGLCC's mission is to advocate, promote and facilitate the success of LGBT businesses and their allies in the Metro DC region

CAGLCC builds bridges across greater Washington's LGBT and allies' communities by bringing together men and women professionals of all ages, races and backgrounds to form a dynamic network that helps our participants succeed. Members work in a variety of fields, including technology, financial or strategic planning, marketing, public relations, advertising, arts, media, journalism, hospitality, architecture, consulting, real estate, law, banking, insurance, publishing, travel, specialty services, education, health care, government, associations, international affairs, and management

The diverse LGBT community is well recognized as a key driver in a thriving Metro DC economy. This is happening because of CAGLCC's work to build synergies between LGBT business owners, LGBT professionals and organizations intent on doing business with the LGBT suppliers and professionals. Business equality for all is resulting in economic prosperity for all in the DC Metro region.

It is our belief that .GAY will serve and benefit the global LGBT community. As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. .GAY will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD. ICANN's insight to the importance of the .GAY TLD and decision on who will manage the .GAY TLD is a valuable one.

Sincerely,

Mark Guenther  
Executive Director  
CAGLCC

CAPITAL AREA GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Committed to advocate, promote and facilitate the success of LGBT businesses, professionals and their allies in the Metro DC region.

1425 K Street NW • Suite 350 • Washington, DC 20005

[www.CAGLCC.org](http://www.CAGLCC.org)



24 Dixwell Ave, #155 | New Haven, CT 06511 | [info@thecabo.org](mailto:info@thecabo.org) | [www.thecabo.org](http://www.thecabo.org)

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November 23, 2011

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The Connecticut Alliance for Business Opportunities (CABO) is Connecticut's statewide lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender chamber of commerce. Our membership reaches over 3,000 individuals, business owners and/or employees within the state of Connecticut. Additionally, we have partnerships with two of Connecticut's largest employers, Aetna and Foxwoods Resort Casino.

We feel the .gay domain would benefit our members by allowing them additional opportunities to show their support for the LGBT community at large by utilizing the .gay domain. The term gay is the widest and most commonly accepted term in the community for everyone to fall under. While gay may not be seen as appropriate by some within the community, this term certainly can be applied to the vast amount making it the best choice.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jenn Tracz Grace'.

Jenn Tracz Grace  
Executive Director  
CABO, Inc.

**STRENGTHENING BUSINESSES.  
BUILDING COMMUNITY.**



September 21, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Dr. Crocker and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce NY is the largest and fastest growing chamber serving the LGBT and allied business community of the metro NYC area. Our members are small, medium and large private businesses, multi-national corporations, non-profit organizations, individuals and students from the tri state area and beyond.

As a business organization that specifically supports the LGBT community, the .gay TLD is an obvious and needed tool to further define and elevate our massive buying and business power. In a community made of so many different and unique expressions of Self, GAY is the most universally accepted term to describe the diversity of our community. We are thrilled to count dotgay LLC among our growing list of NGLCCNY members and acknowledge them for this effort to build unity and a cohesive identity for LGBT business owners.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

Richard Ocegueda  
President  
National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce NY

**National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce NY**  
116 West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, NY, NY 10001  
T 646 383 6043 F 212 629 3225  
[www.nglccny.org](http://www.nglccny.org)



L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center

**McDonald/Wright Building**

Administration  
1625 N. Schrader Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90028  
Tel: 323-993-7400  
Fax: 323-308-4480  
TDD: 323-993-7698

**Health & Mental Health Services**

Jeffrey Goodman Special Care Clinic  
Mental Health Services  
Sexual Health Program  
Women's Health Program  
1625 N. Schrader Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90028  
Tel: 323-993-7500  
Fax: 323-308-4400

**The Village at  
Ed Gould Plaza**

1125 N. McCadden Place  
Los Angeles, CA 90038  
Tel: 323-860-7302  
Fax: 323-308-4484

**Jeff Griffith Youth Center**

7051 Santa Monica Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90038  
Tel: 323-860-2280  
Fax: 323-308-4479

**The Spot**

745 N. San Vicente Avenue  
West Hollywood, CA 90069  
Tel: 323-993-7440  
Fax: 323-308-4170

[www.lagaycenter.org](http://www.lagaycenter.org)

March 17, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board:

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .GAY top-level-domain (TLD).

The L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center is the world's largest organization dedicated to serving the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community and has been working to build the health, advocate for the rights and enrich the lives of LGBT people for more than 40 years.

Our wide array of services and programs includes: low-cost HIV/AIDS medical care and medicine for those most in need; housing, food, clothing and support for homeless LGBT youth; support services for LGBT seniors; low-cost counseling and addiction-recovery services; legal services; health education and HIV prevention programs; transgender services and medical care; mentoring for LGBT youth; cultural arts and much more.

The power to network and easily share information is especially critical to people who are members of communities that struggle against discrimination. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to develop at a rapid rate, the Internet and new TLD's like .GAY will help link LGBT people with resources and important support services like those offered by the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center.

The Center supports the community based business model presented by dotgay LLC and SPI Marketing which would direct 67 percent of all profits from the sale of .GAY domain names to non-profit LGBT organizations. We urge you to give their application strong consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lorri L. Jean", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Lorri L. Jean  
Chief Executive Officer



Spreading LGBT culture across Canada

February 14 2012

Dear ICANN Board,

We are pleased to hear that you are considering a .gay top level domain for the internet. We enthusiastically support this proposed domain and look forward to seeing and using it soon.

Rainbow Link is a small organization that gathers LGBTQ material (mostly books) and gives it away to organizations in Canada. If we have something long enough we then offer the material to LGBT organizations around the world. Since we started counting in 2009 we have given away about \$70,000 worth of books to libraries and organizations across Canada. Please see our website at [www.rainbowlink.ca](http://www.rainbowlink.ca) for our current list.

We think that having a .gay domain will make it easier for LGBTQ people across Canada to find us and get some free stuff to help bring LGBTQ culture to the LGBTQ people in their area. Most people grow up in their own culture LGBTQ people do not.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in pink ink that reads "Peter Bernier".

Peter Bernier  
Co-ordinator  
Rainbow Link





THE GAY MARKETING & MEDIA AGENCY

Monday 23 May 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

I am writing this letter in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

As a marketing business specifically targeting LGBT audiences across the world, we believe that .gay TLD will create a significant impact on the marketing landscape for organisations, in the corporate, public and charity sector organisations to effectively reach their core audiences.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD's like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN's insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

Uweri Jong  
Managing Director  
Boutique Marketing

April 4, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The DC Center for the Lesbian Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) community works to celebrate, strengthen, and support the LGBT community in the Metro-DC area. We rely heavily on the internet to connect with our community. The DC Center sends out a weekly e-mail newsletter which reaches over 7,000 individuals each week. I believe the .gay top-level domain has the potential to help us enhance our internet outreach and strengthen our community and our organization.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD's like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN's insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,



David Mariner  
Executive Director  
The DC Center

May 2, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members,  
ICANN Board

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Community Marketing is the global leader in LGBT market research and communications. Based on our research, we find that the LGBT community, and the companies that market to us, are very connected via the Internet, and are early adopters. Having a .gay TLD will further enable marketing communications and commerce.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD's like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN's insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Warm regards,



Thomas Roth, President  
Community Marketing, Inc.  
tom@CommunityMarketingInc.com

Cologne/Germany, december 2nd 2011

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Founded in 1984, the Gay History Centre Cologne (CSG) documents and archives gay life in all its facets, with special reference to the city of Cologne and the Rhineland. We conceive the CSG to be part of the German LGBT movement, supporting the on-going struggle for our rights by keeping the memory and cultural heritage of gay history alive. At the same time it is our basic aim to reach and sensitize the general public to LGBT affairs and topics by publications, exhibitions, guided tours and many other activities and events.

We strongly believe that .gay will be a perfect device to bring and keep the worldwide LGBT community strongly and visibly together. At the same time .gay provides wonderful prospects of how to intensify our passionate work on gay history by getting in touch with LGBT archives and history centres all over the world.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,



Marcus Velke  
(on behalf of the CSG executive committee)



Neil Cerbone Associates

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October 20, 2011

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Neil Cerbone Associates is a consulting and training firm founded in 1980; we operate in 55 countries on 4 continents. Our clients include dozens of Fortune 500 and Global 1,000 companies, as well as non-profit and government institutions, including Accenture, J&J, PepsiCo, JP Morgan Chase, Citibank, U.S. Bank, 5/3 Bank, PwC and KPMG.

Since becoming certified as an LGBT owned firm by the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce our business has escalated significantly. A great deal of the work we do focuses on LGBT related issues including strengthening our clients' ERG value proposition and behavioralizing inclusion. I believe that when we correspond with the leaders of our diversity and inclusion clients, a .gay TLD would resonate on multiple levels. It would demonstrate our commitment to being identified as a gay owned business; it would also encourage all gay ERGs to establish their own .gay URLs. We would be eager to bring this option to every appropriate client and prospect we engage.

I would also like to validate the importance of using .gay as the community TLD rather than LGBT or any other option. Certainly "gay" is the most commonly accepted and all inclusive term in LGBT community but that is not the main reason behind my thinking. With bullying attracting more and more attention, "gay" has deteriorated from an identifying adjective into a discriminatory slur. Bringing it forward via TLD obliterates any negativity it may have acquired during these trying times. I see it as a powerfully courageous move for our entire community.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

*Neil Cerbone*

President

# Immigration Link

February 12 2012

Dear ICANN Board,

I am pleased to hear that you are considering a .gay top level domain for the internet. I support this proposed domain and look forward to using it to reach more potential clients who would like to emigrate to one of the world's most LGBTQ friendly countries.

Immigration Link is a small business that specializes in immigration to Canada by LGBTQ singles and couples from around the world. I have helped thousands of couples from more than sixty countries successfully immigrate to Canada.

I hope that having a .gay domain will make it easier for potential clients to find my business. I will then be able to help them improve their lives by immigrating to Canada where their love will be respected and accepted, where they will be able to marry one another and take their rightful place in society. I currently have several domains and websites that respect them and explain Canadian immigration: [gayimmigration.ca](http://gayimmigration.ca), [lesbianimmigration.ca](http://lesbianimmigration.ca), [transimmigration.ca](http://transimmigration.ca) and [biimmigration.ca](http://biimmigration.ca).

I support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,



Peter Bernier, RCIC  
Senior Consultant  
Immigration Link