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Michael Chan

@michaelchanyr



My response to the Globe&Mail Feb. 13 article @RobertFife @reggcohn #markham #mkmpoli #yorkregion #onpoli #canpoli #cdnpoli

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 21, 2023

STATEMENT FROM MICHAEL CHAN

MARKHAM - I wish to make a statement about yet another deeply offensive attack on me contained in a Globe and Mail story published on February 13. In an ongoing pattern of harassment and character assassination that the Globe and Mail began in 2015, this story reiterates false and unsubstantiated allegations that originated in 2010 from later censured CSIS Director Richard Fadden.

For 13 years now, the linking of my name to baseless, slanderous insinuations and innuendos without the full disclosure of facts and sources has amounted to little more than an exercise in racial profiling that targets innocent Canadians. Further, it significantly contributes to "take news" and violates the standards of unbiased ethical journalism that is a fundamental pillar of our democracy.

As noted by respected Toronto Star columnist Martin Regg Cohn in 2015, "journalists at the Toronto Star and various other media learned long ago that Chan was one of those provincial politicians being eyed by CSIS, but there was nothing to disclose beyond innocuous - innocuous and innocent activities."

The consequences of Globe and Mail publications in 2015, and in the years since, have served only to ignite xenophobia and cause continued, unmerited, and irreparable damage to my reputation and the safety of my family. The terror and threats we experienced made it necessary for me to take extreme measures. Those measures included a meeting a few years ago with a senior York Regional Police official to seek help and with whom I shared information about malicious organizations to aid their investigation if I suddenly disappeared or died. The personal attacks perpetrated by the Globe and Mail were especially egregious and disheartening for someone like myself who has always put the interests of Canada and Canadians first and foremost, and who has a long, true record of exemplary public service.

The recent story's content is especially grievous given the obvious indication that its content was substantially based on illegally collusive sharing of information by CSIS employees.

In 2010, Mr. Fadden, who was appointed by Prime Minister Stephen Harper, first publicly blurted out false and unsubstantiated allegations, stating, "There are several municipal politicians in British Columbia and in at least two provinces there are ministers of the Crown who we think are under at least the general influence of a foreign government." This reckless and unprecedented behaviour elicited widespread condemnation and resulted in a House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security holding two briefing sessions. The Committee issued a report that concluded, "It is the Minister of Public Safety require Richard Fadden to resign" for "creating a climate of suspicion and paranoia", a clear judgement on the serious incompetency of the CSIS Director.

During these 13 years of slanderous and persistent abuse of my civil rights, I have never been interviewed by CSIS regarding their false and unsubstantiated allegations. However, I am aware that they have conducted intimidating interviews with my friends and acquaintances and then instructed them to keep their mouths shut.

The content of the unlawful sharing of information by CSIS employees violates my privacy and is exceptionally ridiculous and defamatory in reference to my activities in 2015. The fact is that, from late 2008 to late 2009, I travelled extensively outside of Canada to Southeast Asia to develop an overseas project as a private citizen. My travels included multiple meetings with numerous consular officials of Southeast Asian and Asian countries. In between those trips, I returned to Canada to fulfil my responsibilities as a member of the Board of Governors for an educational institution. My absences from Canada would have made it impossible for me to have played any role in the 2019 federal electoral campaign.

In 2017, the current CSIS Director admitted to organizational systemic racism. It is evident to me that this reprehensible workplace climate, described by employees as an "old boys' club", has long spilled over into the conduct of CSIS employees in the wider Canadian society.

Unjustifiably stoking fears of immigrants as disloyal citizens and enemy aliens without concrete evidence is a practice that has led to some of the worst injustices in world history. It serves only to create division, hate, and the destabilization of a peaceful, harmonious, vibrant society. It also undermines one of Canada's key advantages in the global economy - the deep ties and connections of our multicultural population to nations around the world.

Canadians do not expect that employees of a taxpayer-funded federal agency responsible for national security would indulge in such a duplicitous practice that in itself undermines the values they should be seeking to uphold.

4:22 PM · Feb 21, 2023 · 8,711 Views



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Accounts @michaelchanyr mentioned can reply



Rouge Pines @PinesRouge · Feb 26



You have much support. Stay strong. Remember: "Rumours are carried by haters, spread by fools, and accepted by idiots."



Burnie Slanders @MyBurnerTweeter · Feb 25



Pulling the xenophobia/racism defence card...classic move from the CCP