

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 rehashes 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 innuendo 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 "fake 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 eyeballed by CSIS, but there was nothing to disclose beyond innuendo - 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, unwarranted, 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 malevolent 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, "That 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.

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