



BC's Union for Professionals

Honourable Pablo Rodriguez
Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
Via email : hon.pablo.rodriguez@pch.gc.ca

December 19, 2022

To the Honourable Minister Rodriguez,

Re: Continuing Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission on the topic of Canada's strategy to end systemic racism.

The Professional Employees Association (PEA) is BC's union for professionals. We were formed in 1974 to represent licensed professionals employed in the BC Public Service. Since that time, we have grown to support over 2,800 members in a wide range of professions in the education, legal and health care sectors. More than 90 per cent of our members work in the public sector and approximately half work directly for the Province of BC.

Systemic racism is a concern not only in BC but across Canada. All Canadians, but especially non-racialized Canadians, need to change any and all racial views that cause serious injustice and inequality. The PEA calls on you as the Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism to uphold the Canadian Charter of Human Rights and to dismantle systemic racism and discrimination in Canada. For the last three years, the Government of Canada has focused on an anti-racism strategy, which ends in 2022 and needs to be measured and renewed with a stronger commitment than ever.

Thank you for considering this important issue, which was brought forward by PEA members at our most recent convention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Scott McCannell
Executive Director
Professional Employees Association

505-1207 Douglas Street Victoria, BC V8W 2E7 • Tel: 250-385-8791 • Toll Free: 1-800-779-7736 • Fax: 250-385-6629

Visit us at pea.org