

Canada Day: Sorry Fantino you Failed

July 1, 2008

Today is Canada Day and we remember that Canada is founded upon certain Truths that have been inscribed in the Constitution. These Truths include the belief that ALL PEOPLE are Equal before and under the law. This means a person cannot be discriminated against based on their Race etc.

This means that Race Based Policing is illegal in Canada which is why Commissioner Fantino and every single OPP officer continue to deny that the OPP has forced this policy upon the People in Caledonia. If the Commissioner believed that the actions of his officers were legal in Canada he would be willing to publicly state that the OPP has created a Two Tier Justice system. But such a policy not only would be illegal, it also would violate the fundamental Human Rights that each person has.

Commissioner Fantino has tried to slander and attack anyone who speaks out against his illegal actions. Under his leadership people have been arrested merely for standing on the street with a Canadian Flag. Under Fantino's leadership many violations of people's rights have occurred, including placing a hidden camera in a person's home, and willfully imprisoning someone without any criminal charge being laid. The endless resources of the OPP have been used to intimidate peaceful citizens.

In Dec. 2006 the OPP blamed the local Baptist Church for the illegal arrest of Bo Chausse when they claimed Bo was arrested because the Church said he was trespassing. After an OPP Press Release stating Mr. Chausse was arrested for Trespassing, OPP Officer Murray testified in court the arrest had nothing to do with Trespassing.

We would completely agree... the repeated illegal arrests by the OPP have nothing to do with anyone committing an illegal act but the OPP, under Fantino's leadership, targets law abiding citizens to silence their Right to Free Speech.

McGuinty's hope was that such use of force by the OPP and the continuous slander by the Commissioner against the People would cause Canadians to turn on their fellow citizens. Three Senior members of McGuinty's Government were part of Fantino's threatening email to Haldimand Council. The last thing that McGuinty and Fantino wanted is a council that believes they have the Right to speak on behalf of the People.

Unfortunately, people of low moral fiber were elected to Haldimand Council including the spineless Craig Grice. Mr. Grice ran an election campaign claiming he would be a voice of the People and presented himself as a lion but turned out to be a mouse. Although Mr. Grice encouraged me to have Flag Raising Events in Caledonia, he caved into his fears when Fantino threatened him and since then he has repeatedly lied to the public about this.

There can be no greater crime against the people in a Democracy than when an elected official allows himself to be intimidated into silence. One could only hope that on this Canada Day Mr. Grice would remember who he was elected to serve and what a serious obligation he has to the People of Caledonia. Mr. Grice needs to decide to stop sucking up to McGuinty and start speaking for the People. If not, the only noble thing for him to do would be to step down and allow someone who isn't a coward to represent the People.

Although Fantino won at intimidating the Council members, he failed to silence the People. The Mayor may have decided to stop speaking out but the People will not be silenced and they will not allow Caledonia to become the next Ipperwash.

This Canada Day should remind all Canadians that there are things more important than money. Those in power may attack your character, may threaten your financial security, may take away your freedom by illegally placing you in jail but they cannot take away your Hopes and Beliefs in an Equal and Free society. For all of Fantino's abusive use of power over the past 18 months he has failed. No greater proof of this can be found than when the local media and a local artist start to depict the true story that Fantino and McGuinty don't want Canadians to hear.

In every generation there must be those who will pay the price to ensure that others, even those who do not appreciate it, can live in an Equal and Free society. Throughout history there have always been those who were willing to stand up to those in positions of power even when taking such a stand would be costly.

Caught in the Middle



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When elected officials fail the People in a Democracy then it is left to average citizens to ensure that Freedom remains Free.

Happy Canada Day.

Gary McHale
Executive Director of Canadian Advocate of Charter Equality