

For Immediate Release

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Chinese Canadian Communities Call for Direct Action to Address Systemic Racism in Canada

June 4/2020/Toronto/ The Chinese Canadian National Council for Social Justice (CCNC-SJ) calls for clear action to combat racism, commends the Prime Minister for words of solidarity and condemns the Quebec Premier's denial of systemic racism.

"Prime Minister Trudeau says that 'racism is real' but Quebec Premier Legault says it is not. What hope do we have that our political leaders will take any action to stop the acts of overt racism directed against our communities?", said Susan Eng, Director of CCNC-SJ.

CCNC-SJ urges political leaders to prioritize direct and specific action to address all forms of racial violence and discrimination faced by racialized communities in Canada.

"True leadership is demonstrated by action. We urge our PM to show his commitment to the currently urgent issues of anti-Asian and anti-Black racism by devoting federal government attention and resources to immediate action", says Amy Go, President of CCNC-SJ.

CCNC-SJ stands in solidarity with Black communities facing systemic racism (<https://ccncsj.ca/ccnc-sj-stands-in-solidarity-in-fighting-anti-black-racism/>). We recognize both our separate realities and common struggles. The increase of violent attacks towards the Chinese Canadian and Asian communities in wake of the global pandemic reminds us yet again that our belonging to our country is conditional, and that direct action is urgently needed for all communities of colour.

On May 31, in a virtual town hall with leaders from the Asian Canadian communities and the Minister of Diversity and Inclusion and Youth, Amy Go presented to a national audience six targeted priorities from CCNC-SJ to address our nation's systemic racism (<https://ccncsj.ca/presentation-by-amy-go-minister-of-diversity-and-inclusion-and-youth-virtual-town-hall-with-leaders-from-the-east-asian-canadian-communities/>):

- Proactive federal leadership, including fixing the glaring gap of anti-Asian racism in the federal anti-racism strategy

- Timely hate crime investigation and prosecution, and more support for victims of racism
- More Government support and funding for public education and media campaigns
- Revamp education curriculum to validate experiences of all Canadians
- Disaggregated data in public health addressing racial and other disparities, to develop effective strategies
- Commitment to core funding to ensure sustainability of community organizations' efforts

Dismantling systemic racism is an ongoing effort that takes the combined contribution of everyone, but especially those with the privilege and power to affect change on a policy level.

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