

For Immediate Release

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Federal Party Leaders Urged to Combat Anti-Asian Racism

The Chinese Canadian National Council for Social Justice (CCNC-SJ) calls out all federal party leaders to publicly denounce anti-Asian racism and take concrete action within their own parties and in their policy commitments.

Recently, candidates from different parties have been called out for racist or discriminatory content in their social media. Some of them have resigned. Michel Gauthier, a Conservative candidate, has not.

“It is disheartening to see that no political party has taken the time during their campaign to draw attention to the issue of racism and their proposed strategy to combat racism and specifically anti-Asian racism. It is egregious that a party took no actions when faced with its candidate’s blatantly anti-Chinese online post while the party is courting votes from Chinese Canadian communities,” said Amy Go, President, CCNC-SJ.

Unabashed anti-Asian assaults during the pandemic have generated fear and anxiety. Anti-Asian racism is not a flavour of the month issue.

Canadians who identify or share Asian heritage live with a heightened awareness of racism in Canada because of the pandemic. It is systemic and historical, and our communities are ready to cast their ballots in favour of candidates who support anti-racism work and policy reform.

Actions are needed from political leaders to eradicate racism within their own parties and prioritize resources to bring about systemic change.

“As anti-racism voters, we demand that our voices be heard,” added Amy Go.

CCNC-SJ’s mission aims to engage, educate, and advocate for equal rights of all Canadians during the election campaign. This includes broadening election issues to focus on anti-racism and supporting truth and reconciliation with Indigenous communities. To this end, CCNC-SJ and its national partners have created an accessible online campaign to inform Asian-Canadian communities and reports on the in impacts of anti-Asian racism in Canada.

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