

For Immediate Release

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**CCNC-SJ's Statement on P.E.I. Hockey's Suspension of Keegan Mitchell for Defending his Teammate
Against Anti-Asian Racism**

CCNC-SJ applauds the actions of Mr. Keegan Mitchell in defending his team against the inexcusable and traumatic acts of racism against his teammate. With the dramatic spike in anti-Asian racism and attacks in the past two years, it is heartening that courageous and principled bystanders like Mr. Mitchell are willing to take a stand and intervene as bystanders in the face of racism.

CCNC-SJ was extremely disappointed that Mr. Mitchell was initially suspended for his actions for speaking up against racism and upholding the Canadian value of inclusion. We are encouraged that Hockey P.E.I. has recanted on its initial error, and has now expressed its support for racialized communities and chosen to take a stand against racism. CCNC-SJ hopes that for Hockey P.E.I. and the community at large, this is an important moment of learning and solidarity that racism cannot be quietly tolerated, but must be openly challenged and confronted.

"We commend Mr. Mitchell for his bravery and willingness to speak up not only for his teammate but also for racialized communities in spite of the significant personal risks," said Amy Go, president of CCNC-SJ.

With official recognition and growing evidence of systemic and rampant racism in Canada, **CCNC-SJ demands that the government:**

- Recognize the continuing and prevalent harms of anti-Asian racism.
- Provide funding to community organizations to support public education, training, and other strategies to combat racism

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