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加拿大國會參議院議員

The Honourable Vivienne Poy

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安省多倫多市

CANADA

Toronto, Ontario

December 16, 2010

The Honourable James Moore, P.C., B.A.  
Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

By E-Mail: [Moore.J@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Moore.J@parl.gc.ca)

Dear Minister Moore:

I am writing with respect to the current controversy regarding the article on November 10, 2010 in Maclean's Magazine entitled "Too Asian". I attach a link to *An Open Letter, A Call to Eliminate Anti-Asian Racism*, dated November 23, 2010, sent to both Maclean's Magazine and the Toronto Star which cited the Maclean's story: <http://www.facebook.com/TooAsianTALKBACK>. This Facebook page is collecting comments and organizing individuals nation-wide. It is accessed by over 10,000 people daily. To date, the Letter has been endorsed by over 100 organizations across Canada, including the Chinese Canadian National Council Toronto Chapter, the National Association of Japanese Canadians, the Council of Agencies Serving South Asians, the Komagata Maru Heritage Foundation, the Canadian Federation of Students (ON), Sien Lok Society of Calgary, and the list of organizations continues to grow. The settlement organization, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. and the Canadian Jewish Congress – Pacific Region (CJC-PR) have also critiqued the Maclean's article. Victoria, Vancouver, and Toronto City Councils have all passed motions condemning the article.

From your website listing the 2010-2011 recipients of the Canadian Periodical Fund, it is evident that Maclean's receives substantial funding totalling 1.5 million from Canadian Heritage. On behalf of the many individual Asian Canadians who have responded to the Maclean's article, as well as the organizations that have formally endorsed the letter, I would like to draw your attention to the criteria for ineligibility for these funds – specifically, "periodicals that contain offensive content (defined as "material that is denigrating to an identifiable group") in the opinion of Canadian Heritage". With respect, I would suggest that given the ongoing public response to the "Too Asian" article in Maclean's, that this be deemed offensive material and a legitimate reason for Maclean's to have its funding revoked.

This is not the first time that Maclean's has courted controversy. Only a few months prior to this article, Maclean's featured the Bonhomme Carnaval on the cover carrying a suitcase of cash, and labelled Quebec "the most corrupt province in Canada". The magazine has also been subject to numerous complaints about its anti-Islamic bias. It has offended large portions of the Canadian population through its divisive journalism, which is increasingly unprofessional. As such, given Maclean's propensity for speculation, editorializing, and courting controversy merely for the sake of publicity, it should no longer be deemed worthy of public funding by Canadian Heritage.

I respectfully request that you consider reviewing the allocation of 1.5 million in public funding to Maclean's Magazine, in response to public concerns. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best regards,

Vivienne Poy