



Mr. Hamilton,

Mr. Bashir Mohamed ("**Mohamed**") has retained me in relation to the matters raised in your notice letter dated November 5, 2018, issued on behalf of your client, Mr. Kerry Diotte ("**Diotte**").

Mr. Mohamed disputes the manner in which his tweets have been characterized in the November 5, 2018 letter. Mr. Mohamed specifically disputes the assertion that the tweets referenced are inflammatory and untrue, or that they constitute libel or slander.

Mr. Diotte is a Member of Parliament, a public figure, who in the past has posed with Ms. Faith Goldy ("**Goldy**"), a renowned White nationalist and racist, in photos that he himself has posted on social media. Mr. Diotte has praised the work of Ms. Goldy publicly. Mr. Diotte also has a history of liking tweets made by well known racist twitter accounts. Mr. Diotte has failed to denounce these White nationalists and racists even after people have called on him to do so. Mr. Diotte has failed to distance himself from the dangerous ideologies these individuals hold and espouse.

Mr. Mohamed, a former constituent of the riding that Mr. Diotte represents, noted Mr. Diotte's support and affiliation with such White nationalists and racists, and his refusal to denounce these individuals or their ideologies. Based on these facts, Mr. Mohamed, in the impugned tweets, draws and expresses the reasonable opinion that Mr. Diotte himself supports these views, and is therefore also a racist.



Considering the circumstances, Mr. Mohamed's tweets represent fair comment, and touches on matters in the public interest: a Member of Parliament expressing support for a well known White nationalist and racist, who has for the past number of years been at the source of inflammatory statements regarding the place and status of minorities in Canada.

Mr. Mohamed will not issue an immediate retraction or take down his tweets. Mr. Mohamed will vigorously defend any attempt by Mr. Diotte to restrict his right to free expression, particularly on matters that are the very heart of his right to political and democratic expression.

Moving forward, I kindly ask that you refrain from contacting my client directly in this matter, and direct any future correspondence to my office.

Please contact my office if you have any questions or require further clarification to the matters raised in this email.

Best,