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SEPTEMBER 22, 2017

The Honourable Marie-France Lalonde

25 Grosvenor Street
18th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1Y6

Dear Hon. Marie-France Lalonde,

I first contacted you back in June, 2017, when I mailed you a copy of my Report of Systemic Misfeasance in Ontario Policing and the Coordinated Suppression of Whistleblowers. On August 11, 2017, The Honourable Ralph Goodale responded to that same communication and indicated that the matter was important and falls under the purview of his provincial colleagues responsible for policing in Ontario, (naming yourself, Assistant Deputy Minister Stephen Beckett and Deputy Minister Matthew Torigian). I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated September 13, 2017, wherein you state that since The Honourable Yasir Naqvi “has the lead on the Independent Police Oversight Review” you have shared my correspondence with him.

I am writing you once again to advise you that as one of your constituents and advocate for both the taxpayer and police communities I am not satisfied with your response, or lack thereof, to my research and courage in coming forward with my report. My report was prepared with the sole intention of forcing legislators to accept that major problems exist with police legislation, culture and civilian governance. I have observed your social media accounts for months and I know that you have met with police leaders and discussed the future of policing. These same police leaders are being investigated, arrested, suspended with pay, having class action lawsuits filed against their services, and are being reported to the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario in unprecedented numbers. If the writing is not yet on the wall that status quo will lead Ontario policing into demise, I can promise you that the worst is yet to come. Since the release of my report, I have been contacted by dozens of officers from across Ontario who have fallen victim to the systemic misfeasance or who have been injured during their careers and not provided adequate support but rather been subjected to tyranny and oppression which has had many of them on the verge of suicide. This is no longer a delicate political issue; these voices must now be heard.

For decades, both the Ministry of the Attorney General as well as the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services have been the subject of reports and recommendations that would have prevented many of the systemic issues that exist today, and yet; actions taken have been few and insufficient.

I may only appear to be one voice and one opinion to you and your colleagues but let me assure you that, although I may have been the only police officer with the courage to address these issues, I am not the only police officer passionate about improving the morale and respect within the profession.

In the absence of effective leadership, people resort to civil litigation. It is unfortunate that in our democratic civilization we need lawyers and judges to solve issues that can be handled by objective human beings. I am once again offering my time to engage in dialogue with you, or any of your colleagues, to ensure that changes that are made to policing in Ontario are in the best interests of our communities, our officers, and our taxpayers.

Respectfully,

Kelly Donovan

PRESIDENT

cc. Deputy Minister Matthew Torigian
Assistant Deputy Minister Stephen Beckett
The Honourable Yasir Naqvi