

Further to your request and in response to Daniel Joseph's published article.

Maxime Bernier, on countless documented occasions, has refused to accept that identity politics has any place in the governance of Canada and he promotes, and our party believes, that all Canadians should be treated equally. In short, the PPC does not recognize 'hyphenated Canadians' as anything that should be considered more than a recognition of one's heritage and proud tradition.

Mr. Joseph's assertions, while he may be communicating his own opinions and thoughts, are baseless and without fact - to my knowledge. If Mr. Joseph truly believes that he has encountered any form of discrimination from anyone with the People's Party of Canada, particularly at the organizational level, based on his ethnicity, his heritage or his racial identity, he should bring those matters forward so that they can be thoroughly and completely investigated.

Ours is absolutely an inclusive political party. Last weekend, I attended or participated in four separate multi-riding functions. There were individuals from a multitude of ethnic, religious, racial, cultural, gender and societal backgrounds in attendance - and on the various Boards of Directors. Anyone who suggests that the People's Party of Canada is not attracting individuals from all aspects of our shared Canadian identity is seriously misrepresenting the actual facts. All of our PPC members are working collaboratively together to create a new vision for Canada that is inclusive, not exclusive.

My final statement is a correction of a misrepresentation by Mr. Joseph. Mr. Joseph did not 'resign' from the position of President of the Kelowna-Lake Country People's Party of Canada EDA last Friday, as stated.

Mr. Joseph was officially removed from that position more than two weeks earlier, not for any reason that involved his racial identity or even his personal beliefs. Mr. Joseph was removed from his position for a clear violation of the policies and the principles of the People's Party of Canada. Mr. Joseph wrote an letter dated March 2, 2019 in which he clearly indicated that he was not committed to nominating and running a candidate for the People's Party of Canada in the upcoming 2019 federal election.

To quote Mr. Joseph in his March 2, 2019 email, in part, "**my EDA has debated not nominating a candidate in order to support the Conservative nominee**".

As the prima facie reason for the very existence of the People's Party of Canada Electoral District Association is to seek out, nominate and support the best possible candidate to run in elections for the PPC, Mr. Joseph's position on the matter was wholly unacceptable to the People's Party of Canada. Mr. Joseph was advised, in writing, of the PPC's decision at the time and the incumbent

President of the PPC Kelowna-Lake Country EDA, Peter Neville, has been in office for the last couple of weeks.

When we responded to Mr. Joseph, advising him that he was not able to remain as President, Mr. Joseph was, in fact, encouraged to remain as a member and even put his name forward as a 'candidate nominee' if he so chose.

We, at the People's Party of Canada, believe strongly in 'fact based' engagement with the media and with the public, including all voters within the riding of Kelowna-Lake Country. We trust that this response to Mr. Joseph's allegations will allow all voters within the riding of Kelowna-Lake Country, and indeed, all Canadians to know that the People's Party of Canada is, and will remain, an inclusive, principled political party, worthy of your support - and your vote going into the 2019 Canadian Federal Election.

Also, for the record, we have no knowledge of which particular individual(s) Castanet has reached out to for comment, as Castanet has alleged. I know that I personally have not been contacted for a response concerning this article.

**Glen Walushka, People's Party of Canada
Regional Coordinator, BC**