

November 13, 2015

Citizenship Judge Albert Wong,  
Citizenship and Immigration Canada,  
200 Town Centre Court, Suite 370,  
Scarborough, ON M1P 4X8

Dear Citizenship Judge Albert Wong,

This is to let you know that immediately after my citizenship ceremony on November 30, 2015, I will be following the advice of Weiler J.A., Lauwers J.A., and Pardu J.A., in their ruling on *McAteer v. Canada* against my co-appellants and myself, 2014 ONCA 578, paragraph 76<sup>1</sup>:

“...the appellants have the opportunity to publicly disavow what they consider to be the message conveyed by the oath. ...”

As a further explanation, allow me to quote from my own September 2012 affidavit to the court in this matter<sup>2</sup>:

I find the phrase “I affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, Her Heirs and Successors” repulsive. To me, it states that some people, the royals and their heirs, are born with privilege. It is a historic remnant of a time we all believe has passed, in which the children of peasants could be nothing but peasants, and in which aristocracy existed as a closed club.

I appreciate that the monarchy in Canada is mostly symbolic (I could not live here had it been anything more). Yet it is precisely the wrong symbol: a symbol that we aren't all equal and that some of us have to bow to others for reasons of ancestry alone.

... I feel that the requirement of taking the (first half of) the oath is tantamount to hazing. To be initiated as a Canadian, I am required to participate in an initiation ritual that I find disturbing and humiliating. It is a ritual that has no practical meaning and only carries what I regard as a repugnant symbolic meaning. Moreover, it is a ritual that born-Canadians are not subject to.

... I feel there is much value in becoming a Canadian citizen. Should this Application be dismissed and possible subsequent appeals be denied, I will likely hold my nose and shut my eyes, surrender to some hazing and unhappily take the oath of citizenship in contradiction to my conscientious beliefs as indicated above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dror Bar-Natan". The signature is written in a cursive style. Above the signature, there is a faint digital timestamp: "Fri Nov 13 12:00:51 EST 2015".

Dror Bar-Natan, CIC Client ID 51976833.

CC: The Honourable John McCallum, P.C., M.P., Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship; The Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould, P.C., M.P., Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada; some press.

<sup>1</sup>see <http://www.ontariocourts.ca/decisions/2014/2014ONCA0578.htm>.

<sup>2</sup>see [http://drorbn.net/AcademicPensieve/Projects/Citizenship/BAR-NATAN\\_Affidavit.pdf](http://drorbn.net/AcademicPensieve/Projects/Citizenship/BAR-NATAN_Affidavit.pdf).