

October 21st, 2024

To whom it may concern,

I refrained for several years from pursuing Canadian citizenship, despite having made Canada my home, due to the great discomfort I felt in being made to recite an oath declaring my allegiance to a monarch. I see this as state sanctioned subjugation which does not align with my personal beliefs.

In 2014, in specific reference to the Citizenship Oath, the Court of Appeal for Ontario in the case of McAteer v. Canada held that,

*“the reference to the Queen of Canada is a symbolic reference to our form of government, a democratic constitutional monarchy,” and “the appellants have ample opportunity to publicly disavow any association with the message that they attribute to the oath.”<sup>1</sup>*

Therefore, as suggested by the Court, **I hereby completely disavow the first part of the Citizenship oath which pledges allegiance to the British Crown in perpetuity.**

I reaffirm my commitment to faithfully observe the laws of Canada, including the Constitution which recognizes and affirms the Aboriginal and treaty rights of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples - and to fulfill my duties as a Canadian citizen.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MG' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Matthew Gilligan

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<sup>1</sup> McAteer v. Canada, 2014 ONCA