

## **DON JAIL HATE MAIL TARGETED AT BLACK GUARDS**

### **Media Release**

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The Urban Alliance on Race Relations (UARR) joins the National Anti-Racism Council of Canada and the Toronto and York Region Labour Council in calling for action by the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services and the Province of Ontario in addressing hate mail targeted at Black guards at Toronto's Don Jail.

"There needs to be rigid disciplinary action for those responsible," says Sri-Guggan Sri-Skanda-Rajah, President of UARR. "The evidence points to the fact that this was not the work of inmates. It is unacceptable for workers to be expected to return to a workplace where they face hateful threats from fellow staff."

Racist incidents directed at staff at the Don Jail, as well as other detention centres in the city have been on the radar since as early as 1992, when Sri-Skanda-Rajah participated in the Commission on Systemic Racism in the Ontario Criminal Justice System. "If the province is serious about addressing this, then something must be done right away," adds Sri-Guggan Sri-Skanda-Rajah.

The National Anti-Racism Council of Canada is committed to being a national, community-based, member-driven network that provides a strong, recognized, effective and influential national voice against racism, racialization and all other forms of related discrimination in Canada.

The Toronto and York Region Labour Council is a central labour body that represents 195,000 women and men who work in every sector of the economy. Its mandate is to organize and advocate on issues that are vital to working people throughout the region.

Urban Alliance on Race Relations is a non-profit, community-based organization established in 1975. Our mission is to work with all Ontarians to build an equitable and inclusive society for all.

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