

February 11, 2020

Kathy English, Public Editor

Re: "Brampton immigration consultant stripped of licence, faces fraud charge"

Dear Ms. English,

On behalf of the Canadian Association of Professional Immigration Consultants (CAPIC), I want to point out some inaccuracies in The Star's article "Brampton immigration consultant stripped of licence, faces fraud charge" from February 11"

Given that immigration lawyers and immigration consultants serve the same clients, both should be quoted in an immigration article to ensure balance.

CAPIC is disappointed that a quote originally provided to the writer wasn't included in the article. The quote as stated by CAPIC CEO, Dory Jade, "CAPIC supports the evolution of the immigration consulting industry by urging the Immigration Minister to proclaim the College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants Act as per the Prime Minister's mandate letter. This Act received Royal Assent on June 21, 2019."

Please note that the House of Commons voted in unanimous December 2017 to support the recommendations from the Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration. One of those recommendations called for stronger regulatory powers to crack down on unauthorized representatives.

Further, an entire regulated profession should not be painted with a broad brush. Most immigration consultants are ethical, trained and able to represent their clients' best interests. As it happens, unethical, unauthorized representatives can be found among both lawyers and consultants. For example, Law Societies such as the <u>LSO</u> and <u>LSBC</u> maintain an updated listing of ongoing disciplinary actions against various lawyers.

CAPIC is firmly against unethical practices from both lawyers and consultants. I kindly ask that original quote be included, article be retracted given its bias, or be given the opportunity to respond in the upcoming publication.

Sincerely,

Dory Jade, C.Dir, CEO