



Dr. Patricia Albanese, President, Board of Directors, Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences

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June 12, 2019

Dear Dr. Albanese:

The Council of the Bibliographical Society of Canada/la Société bibliographique du Canada (BSC-SbC) is writing in response to the racial profiling of Black Canadian Studies Association (BCSA) member Shelby McPhee on June 2, 2019. We stand with the BCSA, and want to add our voices to the many other scholarly associations that have called upon the Federation to respond promptly and thoroughly to this incident. As scholars of the history of texts and media in Canada, we are well aware of the long history of anti-Black racism in this country, and call upon the Federation to recommit itself to addressing the ongoing impact of anti-Black racism within academic spaces.

We support the BCSA's four demands that the Federation 1) commit to working with the BCSA to ensure that Congress is a welcoming space for their members, 2) ensure delivery of a letter by the BCSA to the two accusers involved in the incident, 3) add reference to anti-Black racism to the theme of Congress 2020, and 4) waive the BCSA's fees for Congress 2020 should they choose to remain a member. It is incumbent upon the Federation not only to respond fully to these demands, but also to take a leadership role in addressing the ongoing issue of racial profiling at Congress. We look forward to hearing what the Federation's plans are for ensuring that Congress is a safe event for all of its members.

Best,

Hannah McGregor

Assistant Professor of Publishing at Simon Fraser University

On behalf of the council of the BSC-SbC