

Monday, July 13, 2020

**Class Action Filed Against RCMP
Lawsuit Alleges Widespread Systemic Racism**

A class action lawsuit was filed on July 7, 2020 in the Federal Court against the RCMP on behalf of racialized individuals who currently work or formerly worked for or with the RCMP. The suit, filed by former RCMP aboriginal constable Margorie Hudson, alleges that she and these individuals were subjected to widespread systemic racism by RCMP non-racialized members and RCMP management and that the RCMP breached their *Charter* rights and failed to ensure that they could serve their country in an environment free of racism.

The Statement of Claim describes the racist comments, derogatory remarks and double standard that Margorie Hudson was subjected to and witnessed during her 30 years with the RCMP. "My hope is that this lawsuit will bring about some positive change for racialized individuals who are still with the RCMP and those who join in the future, as well as give those who formerly worked with or for the RCMP, such as myself, the strength to come forward and perhaps open a path to the healing process."

Vancouver class action lawyer, David A. Klein, who is leading the class action lawsuit added: "For many of the racialized individuals who have contacted our firm, and who come from all over Canada, the consequences of the racism and racist acts they have been subjected to and have endured while working for or with the RCMP have been devastating, including post-traumatic stress syndrome, attempted suicide, depression, career limitations, broken relationships and loss of consortium for their family members. This is due to the paramilitary culture of the RCMP and the ensuing abuse of authority and lack of accountability across Canada."

The lawsuit was filed by the Vancouver office of Klein Lawyers LLP. Klein Lawyers LLP is one of Canada's leading class action law firms. They have represented thousands of Canadians in a host of landmark class actions, including Hepatitis C tainted blood, Nortel, Light Cigarettes, Hormone Replacement Therapy and RCMP gender-based harassment and discrimination.

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