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CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
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### *Ottawa*

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*Matthew Dubé*

Député / Member of Parliament  
Beloeil—Chambly

### *Constituency*

1991 Blvd de Périgny, Suite 105  
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Dear Minister Goodale,

As you are aware the Public Safety report entitled '2018 Public Report on the Terrorism Threat to Canada' published December 11, 2018, has left Canadians with many questions.

Of initial concern is the addition of 'Sikh/Khalistani Extremism' to the list of Current Terrorist Threats to Canada. Previous reports from your department on terrorist threats contained no similar reference and there is no evidence included in the report that points to an increase in threats to Canadians' public safety that would precipitate this inclusion.

We can understand the need for protection of sensitive information in discussing issues of national security, however the report itself states, "attacks around the world in support of this movement have declined," and the report provides no information whatsoever that would explain this sudden and unanticipated addition of a new and major threat.

Following the response from Canadians across the country, you announced you would be removing the reference to the Sikh community, as well as to the Shia and Sunni communities, but that doesn't negate the need to provide clarity as to why the inclusion was made in the first place.

Current evidence in the public domain show there has not been a serious threat to public safety in Canada related to the Khalistani movement in over 25 years. If that situation has changed, the Canadian public has a right to know and if the situation has not changed, you must explain why such an inclusion is appropriate now.

We know the implications of publicly disparaging an entire community without reasonable cause. We can remember the treatment of members of the Muslim faith in North America following the attacks of 9/11. We would do well to remember the lessons of history in this regard.



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In response to this letter, I urge you to provide a clear explanation including any evidence where it is appropriate to release, clarifying the various motivations for including new threat factors. I believe we all would benefit from a fulsome understanding of the reasons that lead to the decisions outlined in this report.

This government has repeated many times the importance of evidence-based decision making, a process New Democrats wholeheartedly support. This is your opportunity to demonstrate your government's commitment to ensure decisions made are supported by the facts and objective evidence.

I look forward to the continuation of this discussion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Dubé', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matthew Dubé  
NDP Critic for Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness