



June 17, 2024

Subject: REMC Response to Letter from CBC President & CEO Catherine Tait

On Thursday, June 13, [the Office of CBC President & CEO Catherine Tait issued a reply](#) to the [open letter](#) that the Racial Equity Media Collective (REMC) and Documentary Organization of Canada (DOC) published on June 6, which now includes [over 750 signatories](#).

REMC appreciates the CBC's prompt response as well as its open acknowledgement that the discriminatory conduct of its production executive has caused "hurt" and that CBC remains "committed to regaining trust within the documentary community."

We are disappointed, however, that the reply otherwise avoids substantive engagement with the community's concerns.

CBC's statement speaks of the importance of creating a "safe space for our staff to share their opinions and lived experiences." But it notably declines to acknowledge the duty of safety that CBC also owes to the independent filmmakers that CBC relies upon to produce much of its documentary content.

Our letter urged CBC to "establish a clear channel for independent creators to report instances of discrimination, including how those who seek to report discrimination will be protected, and what kind of procedures and timelines for resolution they can expect."

CBC's response does not address this concern. And while their letter speaks of a "divisive" environment that is "fraught with nuance and contradiction," we would hope this particular demand would be wholly uncontroversial: independent producers deserve clarity as to how they can safely seek redress should they experience discrimination from a CBC employee.

CBC's response does note that some of the commitments sought in our June 6 letter "are already in place" and that "we will take the others under consideration." But we must underscore that CBC's professed desire to regain the community's trust will only ring true when CBC makes a detailed, substantive, and public effort to articulate the policies and concrete actions that will address the community's concerns.

Until such time, REMC will continue to consult with racialized creators and the broader documentary community as to how we can most effectively advance their collective interests in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julian Carrington".

Julian Carrington
Managing Director, Racial Equity Media Collective