

From: Pat Perkel <pperkel@mediacouncil.ca>
Date: February 16, 2016 at 1:36:13 PM MST
Subject: Complaint to National NewsMedia Council
To: tedjkuntz@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Kuntz,

Thank you for contacting the National NewsMedia council with your concerns about the Toronto Star's December 14, 2015, editorial and Maclean's sponsored content article.

We have reviewed both the editorial and the article, as well as the Vaccine Choice Canada material that you provided.

It has been well established in journalistic standards and practices, and in rulings by predecessor media councils, that editorial writers have wide latitude to express views and opinions that may not be shared by all readers, including the latitude to be provocative.

Given that the editorial noted does not exceed those established journalistic bounds, we can find no defensible basis for your complaint.

In regard to the Maclean's article, it is clearly marked as sponsored content, and recognized as advertising. Accepting advertising revenue is not a de facto conflict of interest or violation of journalistic standards. I would also point out that the NNC does not consider complaints about advertising.

Your request that the NNC assist in raising media awareness of issues around mandatory vaccines is beyond, and in fact contrary to, the National NewsMedia Council mandate.

As well representing the public in matters concerning fair and accurate reporting, the NNC upholds the democratic rights of freedom of speech and freedom of the media. As such, the NNC does not suggest topics for media coverage, nor does it direct the media on how to cover the news.

Any effort to engage the media about the vaccination issue must come from VCC itself or its supporters.

I appreciate that this issue is close to your heart, and realize that this is unlikely to be the response for which you hoped, but we thank you again for your inquiry.

Kind regards,

Pat Perkel

December 16, 2015

Toronto Star Newspapers Limited
1 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON
M5E 1E6

To the Attention of: John D. Cruickshank, Publisher

Dear Mr. Cruickshank

I am writing with regards to the Opinion/Editorial in the Toronto Star titled: **Make It Harder to Opt Out of Immunization: Editorial** (published December 14, 2015).

Is The Toronto Star aware that this action is intended to deprive Canadians of their Charter rights to fundamental **freedoms of conscience and religion**, their legal right to **security of the person**, and their medical right to **informed consent**?

Additionally, this action would be in direct violation of the **Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights**; Article 6 – Consent:

*“Any preventive, diagnostic and therapeutic medical intervention is only to be carried out with **the prior, free and informed consent** of the person concerned, based on adequate information. The consent should, where appropriate, be expressed and **may be withdrawn by the person concerned at any time and for any reason** without disadvantage or prejudice.”*

Please advise on the Toronto Star’s position with regards to protecting and preserving our Charter Rights and Freedoms, our medical ethic of informed consent, and the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights, Article 6 – Consent.

Sincerely,

Ted Kuntz
1805-1128 Quebec Street
Vancouver, BC V6A 4E1

December 15, 2015

Maclean's Magazine
One Mount Pleasant Road
11th floor
Toronto, ON
M4Y 2Y5
Canada

Dear Maclean's Magazine

It has come to my attention that Maclean's Magazine has been including advertisements in your magazine for vaccine manufacturers with the express intention of *"fighting to make vaccines mandatory"* (http://contentviewer.adobe.com/s/Maclean's%20Magazine/e5d3693b3f95480a8a76987efdc3a82d/RG_MME_20151221_REG/15MAC0072387.p1.html).

Is Maclean's aware that this action is designed to deprive Canadians of their Charter rights to fundamental **freedoms of conscience and religion**, their legal right to **security of the person**, and their medical right to **informed consent**?

Additionally, this action would be in direct violation of the **Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights**; Article 6 – Consent:

*"Any preventive, diagnostic and therapeutic medical intervention is only to be carried out with **the prior, free and informed consent** of the person concerned, based on adequate information. The consent should, where appropriate, be expressed and **may be withdrawn by the person concerned at any time and for any reason** without disadvantage or prejudice."*

Please advise on Maclean's Magazine's position with regards to protecting and preserving our Charter Rights and Freedoms, our medical ethic of informed consent, and the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights, Article 6 – Consent.

Sincerely,

Ted Kuntz
1805-1128 Quebec Street
Vancouver, BC V6A 4E1