



November 30, 2020

Dear Members:

RE: Anti-Sikh Racism

The South Asian Bar Association of British Columbia (“**SABABC**”) condemns the bullying of a Sikh youth in Telford, England by his classmates. A video of this incident has rightly garnered significant media attention and depicts two students attacking a young Sikh man, ultimately pulling off his turban and pinning him to the ground.

Unfortunately, these types of incidents are all too common and occur regularly, even here in British Columbia. All of our members, on some level, can relate to what the young man experienced. Despite these events occurring across an ocean, such events always feel too close to home.

SABABC condemns the atrocious events that occurred and condemns all acts of bullying and discrimination that occur on a daily basis against Sikhs and other South Asians, recorded on video or otherwise. Our differences are a strength and should be celebrated. They should not be used to ostracise and divide people, particularly young people.

While we may not personally know the young man, we want it to be known that he has support from the South Asian community across the world, including in British Columbia. SABABC hopes that justice will be served, and the perpetrators of this atrocious attack are held accountable.

South Asian youths, regardless of their faith, who experience similar bullying because of their differences should also know that they have the support of the South Asian community.

To our members: we ask that you show your support and voice your concerns in your local community when such injustices are brought to your attention.

Sincerely,

SABABC Board of Directors