

## **Aboriginals, Racism, Political Correctness<sup>1</sup>**

### **Aboriginals and Sayers vs Rachel Marsden**

Accusations of racism are often the cheapest way to cut down courageous individuals who dare speak the politically incorrect truth. Such accusations are often based on racism on the part of the accusers themselves and their own insecurity. In the words of a proverb in my own native language, we apparently once again have a case on our hands of the pot accusing the kettle of being dirty and black.

This time the victim is Rachel Marsden, who said a few things about Aboriginals and their culture that can hardly be disputed. That Aboriginals have been victims of barbaric racism by Caucasians is *not* in dispute. That *cannot* be disputed. However, that does not mean Marsden's comment about the placing of "First Nations culture on a pedestal" by the Olympiads is necessarily racist. It is an honest opinion shared by more people than just Marsden. I personally suspect that this "peddling a politically correct fantasy" about Aboriginals by these people was the price they had to pay to keep First Nations from launching an international protest against this 2010 display of exorbitantly exploitative display of infantilism. It is, I strongly suspect, a cheap way of buying off the "Natives."

Marsden is correct: Vancouver was built by Europeans. Which Aboriginal designed even just one of the city's high rises or paved just one of its streets? Let alone, crawl around its filthy sewer system that mixes Aboriginal substance indiscriminately with that of the rest of us for

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<sup>1</sup>Letter to Editor, *Metro*, 9-12 Oct/2009.

maintenance purposes? What's so racist about that obvious fact? I've also heard it said that it was Asians who took post-Expo Vancouver to the next level and turned it into the modern city it is today. As a Caucasian, do I now yell "Racism!?" Nonsense. Recognize the facts! Or, at least, uphold the freedom of honest opinion and expression.

Marsden is also correct in her assertion that Europeans planned to teach "the natives discipline, order, and capitalism...." I judge that they were completely unsuccessful in that effort. Aboriginals did not need to be taught discipline and order. In his book about his maternal ancestors, Michael Ignatieff describes the admiration his ancestors had for the dignified bearing of Aboriginals—far above that of Caucasian Canadians who conquered them. If Aboriginal society is now in disarray, we must seek the *primary*, but not the only, cause in Canada's governments and their agents.

One Judith Sayers, an advisor apparently, supports the racist charge by reminding us that the first Caucasians would not have survived the hardships they suffered in Canada were it not for First Nations' giving them food and showing them the trails. How does this prove Marsden ignorant? Sayers *supports* Marsden: *trails, not roads, not streets!* Why should public expression of honest and politically incorrect sentiments be outlawed? Sayers should wake up and realize that the alleged Canadian effort at promoting inclusion will not succeed on basis of the political correctness she appears to be supporting. But then, she is on a Canadian university campus, generally hotbeds for political correctness. So what else can we expect? She needs to spell out for us how Marsden's article is "ignorant" and a "slap" in the face of Aboriginals.