

Millionaire Immigrant Abusing Legal Aid¹

I am an immigrant who is eager to defend the reputation of immigrants in general. A life-long banker told me that some groups of immigrants tend to exploit the Canadian humanitarian system beyond its intended bounds. They squeeze as much as possible out of it without any feeling of shame. Their cultures seem too weak to restrain them from such cheap behaviour, while they seem to ignore the restraints of whatever religion they may follow. I do not know whether in the banker's mind the Sikhs are included in these groups. The few Sikhs I personally know lead me to think otherwise.

However, in view of the disgust expressed by the people (*Province*, Aug. 10, A21) about a Sikh millionaire demanding legal aid, I would advise the Sikh community to do all they can to protect their reputation. They should either rein in that millionaire amongst them or simply foot his bill and let the trial run its course. After all, the whole affair comes out of imported Sikh politics for which many Canadians are losing their patience. Your reputation is at stake and your welcome may wear thin.

Recently, our Governor General , who is also an immigrant, reportedly demanded that immigrants should leave the politics of their homeland behind them and not disturb Canada. He who has ears....

¹ Letter to the Editor, *The Province*, 11 Aug/2003, in response public complaints about abuse of legal aid, 10 Aug/2003, p. A21.