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Committee to Advance Equity and Inclusion ([www.caeid.org](http://www.caeid.org))

I strongly support the initiative of the Committee to Advance Equity and Inclusion in the workplace and the wider community. The labour movement has always played an important role in advocating for the rights of workers, and I am so pleased to see a focus on the need to bring about greater equity by standing up against bias and discrimination.

The government of British Columbia is an important ally in this work. In 2018 the government re-established the BC Human Rights Commission with a mandate to address the root causes of inequality, discrimination and injustice in BC by shifting laws, policies, practices and cultures. This work is done through education, research, advocacy, inquiry and monitoring.

More recently the government passed anti-racism data legislation as a step to dismantle systemic racism and discrimination faced by Indigenous, Black and people of colour. Data collected under the act will help identify gaps in programs and services and allow government to better meet the needs of Indigenous, Black and racialized British Columbians. The act is the first of its kind in Canada to be co-developed with Indigenous Peoples.

I would like to thank all the activists who have come together to form the Committee to Advance Equity and Inclusion; your work is highly valued and will help make our communities stronger.

Yours sincerely,

Raj Chouhan, MLA  
Burnaby-Edmonds

*Raj Chouhan is the founding president of the Canadian Farmworkers' Union, and he served as the Director of Bargaining at the Hospital Employees Union for 18 years. Raj has also served as a member of the Labour Relations Board of B.C. and the Arbitration Bureau of B.C.*

*A founding member of the B.C. Organization to Fight Racism, Raj has worked in promoting human rights and racial equality having also served as Vice President of B.C. Human Rights Defenders.*

*Raj has taught courses on Human Rights, the B.C. Labour Code and collective bargaining since 1987. He has traveled across Canada to give seminars and attend conferences that raise awareness of issues regarding racism, poverty, worker rights, and discrimination.*