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March 16, 2015

Professor Emir Ramic, Director  
Institute for the Research of Genocide – Canada

*Sent by email*

Dear Mr. Ramic,

Thank you for your letter of March 8, 2015 regarding the procurement by the Government of Canada of military targets with ethnic or national descriptions. I share your disappointment in the decision by the Government of Canada to purchase targets on behalf of the British military with specifically ethnic descriptions, including that of “Bosnian male.”

The association of military targets with a particular ethnic or national community is unnecessary, unhelpful, and incompatible with Canada’s proud tradition as a multicultural society. These inappropriate targets should not be used on Canadian soil, or procured by the Canadian government. Although the notice of procurement has been amended to remove overt references to the targets’ ethnic or national identity, the Government of Canada should apologize for selecting these targets in the first place, and commit to avoid purchasing such targets in future.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Paul Dewar, M.P.  
NDP Foreign Affairs Critic



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