

CLLR DR KUMAR

In this world and our very own society that is full of conflict, hatred, manipulative lies, prejudice, racism, and personal attacks on individuals, we, as publicly elected Councillors, need to come together to discuss our differences and try and reconcile them with **collegiality**.

Friends, the Cabinet needs to investigate properly the issues I have raised with you which has been reported in the media as well-- - those of bullying, discrimination and most particularly the manipulative lies. These issues are not going to wither away on their own. Brushing them under the carpet will be foolish and complete baloney. Colleagues, please remember that it is always rewarding to resolve a conflict rather than to dissolve a professional relationship.

I don't want to raise the detail of my concerns here. Suffice to say that I have been the subject of iniquitous, immoral, and sustained abuse and direct discrimination.

Some of you may know that these issues were raised in the House of Commons a few weeks ago, which can only damage the reputation of our charming city and council.

All I am asking is for the Cabinet to set up an investigation that is independent of the Council itself. This should be empowered to discuss all the allegations of both sides, particularly when very recently I have been branded as perpetrator and not the victim, in a transparent manner. My family and 16-years old son and his young friends ask me, "Did you give death threat to a woman councillor?" "Were you told to leave a council event as your presence would be embarrassing for the then Mayor of the city?" There are many, many. Therefore, Chair, I would also like to suggest that an independent member of the Race Panel is involved.