

Email from the Globe and Mail - Wednesday, February 8, 2023:

Mr. Chan

I am seeking your comment on a story that I will be writing.

In an Oct 28, 2023 national security briefing to Prime Minister Trudeau on Chinese election interference in the 2019 election, CSIS Director David Vigneault raised concerns about you and Conservative MPP Vincent Ke. The director mentioned you had returned to active politics and cautioned that government MPs should be vigilant in their dealings with you.

In 2019 at another national security briefing with the PMO, your name was also flagged with respect to co-chairing Mary Ng's election campaign. In the end, you did not take up that role as Ms. Ng was uncomfortable with your comments on Hong Kong police crackdown on pro-democracy protests.

I am told that CSIS's concerns involve meetings you had with Wei Zhao from the Chinese consulate and Vice Consul-General Yaodong Zhuang going back to January and April 2019.

Do you have any comment on the fact that CSIS continues to raise alleged national security concerns about you?

Has CSIS interviewed you so you could have a chance to respond or refute their suspicions?

I look forward to your response.

Feel free to call me at 613-302-2246 if you prefer to discuss the matter.

Regards-Bob

My response - Friday, February 10, 2023:

Dear Mr. Fife,

I am writing in the hope that you will resist both the siren call of sensationalism and the temptation to follow the despicable and embarrassing example of your colleagues who have chosen to collude with malicious, unreliable, and unvetted sources to justify their continuous reporting of false and unsubstantiated allegations about me. As noted by Toronto Star columnist Martin Regg Cohn in 2015, "Journalists at the Toronto Star and various other media learned long ago that Chan was one of those provincial politicians being eyeballed by CSIS, but there was nothing to disclose beyond innuendo — innocuous and innocent activities." I believe any linking of my name to baseless, slanderous insinuations and innuendo without the full disclosure of the facts and sources is a clear violation of journalistic balance and integrity.

The effect of your colleagues' publications in 2015 and in the years since, and your own statement to me about a recent briefing by CSIS to Prime Minister Trudeau, serves only to ignite xenophobia and cause continued, unwarranted, and irreparable damage to my reputation and the safety of my family. The terror and threats we experienced from the attempts at character assassination made it necessary for me to take extreme measures. Those measures included a meeting a few years ago with a senior York Regional Police



Michael Chan @michaelchanyr

Intriguing that @robertfife didn't mention Han Dong to me. @scoopercooper failed to report he knew no authentication but published "breaking fake news" anyway. Dishonest fiasco!



Gerald Butts @gmbutts · Mar 24

Turns out my sources are pretty damn good. pic.twitter.com/xY9SRCWKfi twitter.com/gmbutts/status...

7:06 PM · Mar 24, 2023 · 438 Views



Who can reply?

Accounts @michaelchanyr mentioned can reply