

Minister of Canadian Heritage
and Official Languages



Ministre du Patrimoine canadien
et des Langues officielles

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0M5

Mr. Mark Vandermaas
info@voiceofcanada.ca

MAR 02 2011

Dear Mr. Vandermaas:

Thank you for writing to me about the screening of the documentary film entitled *Iranium* at Library and Archives Canada (LAC). I appreciate you taking the time to share your views with me.

LAC is an agency in the Canadian Heritage Portfolio responsible for its own day-to-day operational decisions, under the direction of the Librarian and Archivist of Canada. In this case, the role of LAC in the event was to offer a space within its facilities for a movie screening.

I am pleased that LAC decided to offer the Free Thinking Society the opportunity to reschedule the viewing of the film. This decision reflects the fact that the principle of free speech is one of the cornerstones of our democracy, which Canadians value. It is in this spirit that we support the ability of Canadians to screen and to view films representative of different points of view.

As you are already aware, there were attempts to prevent this event from happening. I would like to reiterate that our Government will not bend to pressures or threats of violence and will not allow others to dictate which films will and will not be shown in Canada.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of our correspondence to Dr. Daniel J. Caron, Librarian and Archivist of Canada, so that he is also aware of your views.

Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Moore', written over a white background.

The Honourable James Moore, P.C., M.P.

c.c.: Dr. Daniel J. Caron

Canada

Mark Vandermaas, Editor - VoiceofCanada.ca

From: min.moore@pch.gc.ca

Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2011 9:22 AM

To: info@voiceofcanada.ca

Subject: Reply to Mark Vandermaas from the Minister