



August 20, 2020

Dear Members of our 3HO, Sikh Dharma, and KRI Community,

Sat Nam. In our August 13 letter that accompanied the report by An Olive Branch, we reflected on the challenges that face us collectively as a community. We recognized that the last few months have been very painful for members of our community and that there is a degree of polarization in our community. We also affirmed the SSSC's commitment to creating an environment where all feel welcome to participate in a collective dialogue about our past and our future as a community. We expressed our hope that community members with differing views will be able to talk with each other, listen to each other, and be heard by one another. And we offered a prayer that this collective dialogue will illuminate the path forward.

We have been saddened to witness the rising level of harmful communication among community members over the recent weeks. Many of these communications have been directed at the SSSC itself. As a public-facing organization that exists to serve our constituencies, the SSSC welcomes input and feedback and will not shy away from the difficult conversations that face us as a community. The SSSC also welcomes the opportunity to participate in constructive dialogue about the ways in which it can better serve its constituencies.

However, name-calling, shaming, threatening, bullying, and other forms of abusive and harmful language have no place in our community and cannot contribute to a constructive dialogue. Such language, whether in emails or social media posts, serves only to deepen divides and build enmity. And it hurts everyone. The harm is intensified a thousand-fold when threatening and abusive language is aimed directly at individual community members and their families.

In the strongest terms, the SSSC rejects the use of such language. It is antithetical to our community values and extremely harmful. We urge our fellow community members to embrace the highest standards of civility in our discourse with each other and to communicate with the consciousness that we all aspire to. Let us remember always to recognize that the other person is you. And let us seek to understand each other through compassion and with love.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees,
Siri Singh Sahib Corporation