

To: Christine Elliot, MPP

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I am a private Canadian individual living in Toronto, Ontario, and have a complaint that I wish to be resolved.

This issue is regarding vaccine deployment to individuals who received AstraZeneca and Covishield vaccinations and were given no choice on their first or second shot, which happened to me. I received my first shot on March 13 (2021) as I got a call (SDM) that I could get the shot on a Saturday if I wanted. The policy at that time was to get the first shot offered, so I took it. I was called and did not apply because weeks before I enquired about what would happen with vaccines and they just took my name and number down. The second shot happened the same way with them simply calling me up and telling me I could get an appointment on Sunday (May 30, 2021) for a second shot which like the first shot I accepted as per government recommendations. The choice of a second Mrna shot was not a reality yet and since I am not gifted with precognition it was AZ now or later in my mind.

So for both shots I had no choice but to accept whatever was given and in time what was given was shown to be a possible health hazard on both shots with less efficacy than the other shots given to the rest of the population. Furthermore we were given shots about to expire or even expired shots. We watched as the vaccines in our arms were taken off the list of vaccines given out to Ontarians as second and first doses. Finally the AstraZeneca shots have more chances to disrupt travel and accommodation or access to events around the world and in particular the Covishield shot of which was my first as shown in the EU ban on those who have that shot. As I do a lot of intergovernmental advocacy I can only see this as being a constant hassle and impediment to my work. In summary, I was given inferior health care compared to other Ontarians based on my age which is a defined group that is discriminated on. This is a violation of the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Therefore, due to my age and others like me of the similar age group, we were given an inferior level of health care which is a violation of Ontario Human Rights Code (Section 1: Freedom from Discrimination) and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms (Section 15: No discrimination with regard to services). The Ontario Human Rights violation can be taken care of by the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal. I believe I can present the Charter Application in Small Claims Court and have crafted a way to get it in there. As an aside I have issued three Charter Applications in the past decades with two that went nowhere and one that got kicked up to a higher court that resulted in them ruling that my rights may have been violated; and I can do this again if I have to.

As a private individual I don't want to do any of that, I just want the same health care as my family and friends now have. That means two shots of an Mrna vaccine that will also appear on our future vaccine passport. Do that and I do nothing with the Ontario Human Rights violations or the violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. All will be forgiven in the early days of the pandemic if the Government is willing to write the wrongs that happened with revaccination to the current standard; that is only reasonable among reasonable people. Deny corrective action for those seeking corrective action, and I can only assume that discriminatory healthcare based on age is official government policy and will have to be addressed in the courts and tribunals, as a private citizen is compelled to act under a moral imperative. This does not have to go public for as long as I see that those motivated like me to ask for help, get it, then that is good enough for me not to go public and/or take any further action.

Please respond to this request in a timely manner. And don't insult my intelligence by telling me the shot is as good as the others. Nobody in Ontario wants the vaccination program I got. That is like telling me white or brown skin scientifically does not matter so there is no racism in Ontario, there is and rationality or scientific studies have nothing to do with it – and BTW, I am a Black Man. The fact is that home and abroad, my health care is looked at as “second class” and that is all there is to it! You can change this at your discretion and I hope and trust you will do so without hesitation.

I have sent this letter to the Premier Doug Ford, Health Minister Christine Elliot and Solicitor General Sylvia Jones. I await your reply and thank you for your attention.

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