

Fired Québecer Can Sue for National Origin Discrimination



Did a heavy equipment operator's French Canadian roots factor into the decision to fire him? The BC Human Rights Commission found that there was enough evidence to allow the case to go to a hearing, including alleged comments of the company owner about 'f***ing frenchies' as being a 'bunch of hippies with funny accents' that come to BC 'to party and trash the parks.' Maybe the owner never made those comments; and maybe the company's contention that it fired the operator purely for performance problems was true. The point was that a hearing would be necessary sort all of this out [*Richard v. North Construction Ltd. and another*, 2021 BCHRT 135 (CanLII), September 28, 2021].