



THE GLOBE AND MAIL

CANADA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER • FOUNDED 1859 • GLOBEANDMAIL.COM

April 10, 2006

Coalition of Arab Canadian Professionals and
Community Associations
P. O. Box 71066 L'Esplanade Laurier
181 Bank Street
Ottawa, Ontario K2P,1W0

Dear Samer Roumani,

This is in response to your petition expressing concern about an editorial in The Globe and Mail on Feb.15 referring to a Hamas video.

We have spent considerable time looking into the concerns and complaints from a number of people in your petition and have responded to a number of them. Let me deal with your questions:

Plagiarism.

Plagiarism is taking the prose or unique ideas of someone else and suggesting it is your own prose or unique ideas. This is clearly not the case with this editorial.

Unnamed source/need for correction.

The main issue for us is that the video is real, is really on a Hamas website and that the translation was accurate. We had an Arabic speaker listen to the video as it appeared on palestinegallery.com, which is hosted on palestine-info.net. We have been assured by various experts that it is fair to describe these websites as Hamas sites. Since we have no evidence that the editorial is incorrect, we would not write a correction.

Develop relationships, both formal and informal.

As you know, we have a full time correspondent in the Middle East, Mark MacKinnon, who writes fair and balanced copy about that region. We have also encouraged a number of Arab and Muslim writers to write for our comment page. We are meeting with one group next month.

/2...

444 FRONT STREET WEST, TORONTO, ONTARIO M5V 2S9

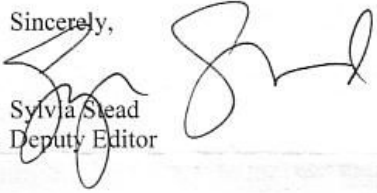
A DIVISION OF
 Bell Globalmedia

Mr. Roumani, we are sensitive to the charges and wish to have a positive and open dialogue with members of a number of communities. You might not agree with our editorial stance on every subject, but we make every effort to understand the positions on all sides of a debate.

I appreciate reasoned dialogue with many readers on their view of our newspaper. In fact, we offer many venues for disagreement from our web join the conversation to letters to the editor and op-ed articles.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Stead
Deputy Editor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sylvia Stead', is written over the typed name and title. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.