



Urban Alliance On Race Relations

302 Spadina Avenue, Suite 507, Toronto, Ontario M5T 2E7
Tel: (416)703-6607 Fax: (416)703-4415 e-mail: info@urbanalliance.ca
Charitable Registration: 11928 0022 RR0001

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

December 05, 2011

Urban Alliance on Race Relations Condemns Threat to Chinese Canadian Community Over Shark Fin Ban

The **Urban Alliance on Race Relations** supports the Chinese Canadian National Council Toronto Chapter in strongly condemning a letter sent to the Toronto Chinese Business Association threatening to poison food in stores and restaurants in Chinatowns across the GTA.

“We live in a democracy and we respect diverse opinions and views as long as they are expressed in an open and fair manner,” says **Sharon Simpson**, president of the board of directors of UARR. “But we will not tolerate any hate activities directed at any group under any circumstances. The differences of opinions in the controversial Shark Fin Ban debate are to be expected and no hate crime can be tolerated.”

“The Urban Alliance has always supported communities under attack at different times,” says **Tam Goossen**, vice president of UARR. “After September 11 we stood in solidarity with the Muslim Canadian community. During the SARS crisis, we helped organize public awareness campaigns regarding Anti-Asian discrimination. During the racial profiling controversy, we were part of a coalition demanding immediate action by police.”

The Urban Alliance calls on the Toronto Police Service to make sure an investigation will be carried out in a timely manner and that Toronto City Council condemns any threat to the Chinese Canadian community over the Shark Fin Ban.

The Urban Alliance on Race Relations was established in September 1975. The mandate of the UARR is to promote respectful and peaceful relationships among the diverse communities within the GTA in our common effort to build a more equitable and inclusive society in Toronto, Ontario and Canada.

-30-

For more information, please contact:

Sharon Simpson @ Sharon.uarr@gmail.com or 416 445-5819 ext. 23 or
Ashley McFarlane @416.703.6607 ext.3