

## Position Statement

August 20, 2025

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The Penticton & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce unequivocally denounces racism in any form, especially when it seeks to undermine the democratic process. We are deeply disturbed by the incident involving the vandalism of Penticton city council candidate Ankit Sachdeva's campaign sign, which bore a racially charged message targeting their visible minority status.

Acts of racism do more than target an individual, they undermine our shared values and weaken the very foundation of fair and respectful engagement. Without that foundation, democracy cannot thrive, nor can our community remain welcoming to the diverse people whose contributions are essential to the services and quality of life we all depend on.

We firmly believe that candidates must be evaluated on the strength of their platforms, the integrity of their character, and the vision they offer for our community. Click on the following links to read their thoughts on local issues:

[John Archer](#)  
[Aaron Baisarowicz](#)  
[Juliana Buitenhuis](#)  
[Darcy Derbyshire](#)

[Wayne Llewellyn](#)  
[Ankit Sachdeva](#)  
[Jordan Shade](#)  
[Philip Solman](#)

[Shannon Stewart](#)  
[Nick Stulberg](#)  
[Jason Town](#)  
[Janine Walker](#)

We call on all residents, businesses, and all of the candidates running in this municipal byelection to uphold the principles of inclusion and respectful, issue-driven dialogue, and to stand united in condemning racism.

Sincerely,



Jordan Knox,  
President



Michael Magnusson,  
Executive Director