

**ONTARIO
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE**

BETWEEN:

MICHAEL MCATEER, SIMONE E.A. TOPEY AND DROR BAR-NATAN

Applicants

-and-

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CANADA

Respondent

AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL MCATEER

I, MICHAEL MCATEER, of the City of Toronto in the Province of Ontario,

AFFIRM AS FOLLOWS:

1. I was born in Dublin, Ireland on August 31, 1933.
2. I am a journalist.
3. I became a Canadian landed immigrant in 1964 and have resided in Canada ever since. I now hold a permanent resident card.
4. I am an Irish citizen.
5. For many years, I have desired to become a Canadian citizen. I wish to fully participate in Canadian Society: vote in elections, travel on a Canadian passport, and so on.
6. I have not been able to take Canadian citizenship because one of the requirements is that of taking an Oath of or affirming allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her

Heirs and Successors.

7. My family has a long history of commitment to republican beliefs and of support for the establishment of an independent, democratic and inclusive Irish Republic. My father, who was English-born (as was my mother), was a democrat and a strong advocate of social justice who saw British dominance in Ireland as a hindrance to progress and social change. He was wounded in the civil war of the early 1920's, fighting for the republican cause, and later faced discrimination for his republican principles.

8. I too am a committed republican and a democrat. I believe that, despite what flaws it may have, a democratic form of government is one that I can fully support. I take oaths very seriously, and so taking an oath of allegiance to a hereditary monarch who lives abroad would violate my conscience, be a betrayal of my republican heritage and impede my activities in support of ending the monarchy in Canada.

9. The institution of hereditary monarchy, with its hereditary privileges, its perpetuation of a class system, and its insistence that the monarch be a member of the established Church of England is anachronistic and discriminatory and has no place in a democratic, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-religious country such as Canada. I will not take an Oath to such an institution because it is not in keeping with my beliefs of egalitarianism and democracy.

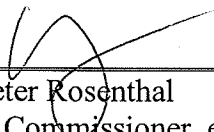
10. With its mix of people from all over the world, Australia is much like Canada. Also, like Canada, Australia is a constitutional monarchy with Queen Elizabeth II as its reigning monarch. Several years back, Australia changed its citizenship oath of allegiance to eliminate any mention of the Queen and her heirs and successors. Their oath now reads in part: "From this time forward I pledge my loyalty to Australia and its people whose

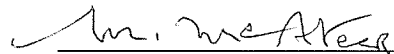
democratic beliefs I share, whose rights and liberties I respect and whose laws I will uphold and obey." I would feel comfortable in making such a pledge, with "Australia" replaced by "Canada".

11. The rest of the present Canadian oath requires new citizens to faithfully obey the laws of Canada and to fulfill the obligations of a Canadian citizen. I have no objection to taking this part of the present oath.

12. I affirm this Affidavit in support of the Application herein and for no other or improper purpose.

Affirmed before me at the City of Toronto)
this 9 day of November, 2012)


_____)
Peter Rosenthal
A Commissioner, etc.


_____)
Michael McAteer