

October 16, 2025

Sarah Paquet
Director and Chief Executive Officer
Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC)
234 Laurier Avenue West, 24th Floor
Ottawa, ON K1P 1H7 Canada

Dear Ms. Paquet,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Government of Prince Edward Island and the many Islanders who are deeply concerned about continued allegations of money laundering and foreign interference in our province. These allegations primarily center around the activities of certain Buddhist groups and their affiliates operating within the province.

The seriousness of these allegations cannot be overstated. Recent public statements have suggested that Prince Edward Island may be at risk of being used as a conduit for illicit financial activity, including money laundering tied to foreign interests. While these allegations remain unverified, their nature warrants careful review by the appropriate federal authorities, including FINTRAC.

Islanders are proud of our province's reputation for transparency, fairness, and community trust. But that trust is now being tested. The uncertainty surrounding these allegations is creating unease among residents, and the absence of clear answers is allowing speculation to flourish. We believe FINTRAC has a critical role to play in restoring confidence by reviewing these claims and ensuring that any wrongdoing, if present, is identified and addressed.

There is currently an investigation underway with the Island Regulatory and Appeals Commission regarding land holdings associated with some of the same entities. Should any irregularities or suspicious financial patterns be uncovered, we trust that FINTRAC will be prepared to receive and assess this information in coordination with other federal and provincial authorities.

We urge your office to prioritize this matter and to work collaboratively with law enforcement and regulatory bodies to determine whether financial crimes have occurred. Allegations of this nature, whether substantiated or not, have the potential to erode public trust. A review by a credible authority will help reassure Islanders that the appropriate oversight measures are in place and functioning as intended.

This is not just a matter of financial oversight—it is a matter of public trust. Islanders deserve to have confidence that our systems are strong, oversight is effective, and our institutions are working together to protect the integrity of our province.

We also ask that FINTRAC issue a reminder to all regulated sectors of their reporting obligations. Real estate professionals, lawyers, and financial institutions must continue to meet the standards of client identification, record keeping, and the reporting of suspicious or large cash transactions.

This is what Islanders want. It is what our government expects. And it is what is needed so that Islanders know the truth about what is happening in their province.

Sincerely,

Hon. Rob Lantz

Premier of Prince Edward Island

lon. Jill Burridge

Minister of Finance

CC: Hon. François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Finance

Hon. Bloyce Thompson, Deputy Premier, Minister of Justice & Public Safety, and Deputy

Attorney General - Government of Prince Edward Island

Hon. Heath MacDonald, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food in Canada

Kent MacDonald, MP for Cardigan Sean Casey, MP for Charlottetown Bobby Morrissey, MP for Egmont