

'Sikh Extremism' Listing



Sikh demonstrators takes part in a rally on outside the UN headquarters in New York.(AP File Photo/Mary Altaffer)

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disappointing to see the addition of imagined "Sikh extremism" to the 2018 Report...There is no explanation for this addition other than Public Safety Canada having tacitly accepted the false Indian rhetoric around rising extremism in the Sikh community.

"Sikhs in Canada have repeatedly denied these allegations and no evidence has ever been provided to substantiate them. Advocacy for Sikh human rights or Khalistan is not extremism and to suggest that it poses a danger to Canada is absolutely ludicrous....

"Accepting Indian allegations of 'Sikh extremism' deeply maligns the reputation of the community and has a real impact on the everyday lives of Canadian Sikhs." The WSO expressed con-

cerns that increased collaboration between Canadian and Indian counterparts may jeopardize the lives of Canadian Sikhs or their family and friends in India.

The B.C. Sikh Gurdwaras Council and the Ontario Gurdwaras Committee, a coalition of 30 places of worship, said the Sikh community had been maligned by the "generalized" accusations, which were "irresponsible and could have wide standing effects on Sikhs throughout Canada."

"We have to go back at least three decades to find anything. ... What's happened in the last year for the Sikh community to be included? What context can they give us? Why now?" Moninder Singh of the B.C. council said. There has been no mention of Sikh extremism in earlier reports.

Marie And Joseph Most Popular Names In Ontario Over The Past 100 Years

TORONTO: Ontario's government says Marie and Joseph were the most popular baby names in the province over the past 100 years.

The province is now celebrating 100 years of recording baby names.

"Choosing a name for your child is an important and personal decision for all parents. The lists of top baby names in Ontario is one way to help parents choose a name for their baby," said Bill Walker, Minister of Government and Consumer Services.

"Having a baby is an unforgettable moment for parents, filled with overwhelming love and many sleepless nights. Ontario's Government for the People is making life easier by making daycare more accessible, respecting their hard-earned tax dollars and investing in the right

services for families."

Since the Roaring Twenties, Marie ranked as the most popular girls name for four decades, followed closely by Mary. Joseph ranked first in boy names over a 30-year period.

The most popular baby name for boys in 2017 was Noah, which replaced Benjamin, while Olivia remained the most popular baby name for girls.

Top girls names for 2017 are:

- 1.Olivia
- 2.Emma
- 3.Charlotte
- 4.Ava
- 5.Amelia

Top boys names are:

- 1.Noah
- 2.Liam
- 3.William
- 4.Benjamin
- 5.Logan

After naming their newborns, parents have up to 30 days to register their child's birth.

ServiceOntario's easy-to-use online 5-in-1 Newborn Bundle is the best way to register a birth. In a few easy clicks, parents can register their child's birth and apply for their birth certificate, Social Insurance Number, Canada Child Benefit and Education Savings Referral service.

• Ontario marked the 100-year anniversary of tracking baby names in 2017. Parents can check the lists of top baby names over the past century to help them choose a name for their baby.

• ServiceOntario's 5-in-1 Newborn Bundle was the first of its kind in Canada when it launched in 2007.

More than 1.3 million newborns have been registered in Ontario using the service.

Malls Are Adding Gender Neutral Bathrooms For Inclusivity

TORONTO: Shoppers at one of Canada's biggest and busiest malls can now use the same bathroom regardless of whether they identify as male or female as Yorkdale Shopping Centre opened its first gender-neutral bathroom.

The Toronto mall is the latest public space to offer such washrooms as schools, restaurants, community centres and other institutions move to be more inclusive.

"The new washroom provides an inclusive option for anyone, including transgender people, people of diverse gender identi-

ties and those who may require accompaniment of some kind," reads a statement released to the media by the mall management.

The 10-stall washroom has been open to the public for just under two weeks and is in addition to the mall's seven men's and women's washrooms respectively, two family facilities, three nursing rooms and several single toilets.

"Yorkdale strives to offer shoppers and employees the choice to use whichever option is most comfortable to them," the mall said. The shopping centre is not

the first mall to do so.

Real-estate company Ivanhoe Cambridge, which operates 28 shopping centres across Canada, has had what it refers to as universal washrooms for some time now.

"We identified the need for such facilities sometime ago," said Roman Drohomirecki, executive vice-president and chief operating officer of retail, as it is the company's intention to provide shoppers and retail partners with a safe, inviting environment.

Starting with its Vaughan Mills retail outlet north of Toronto in

2012, the company has added 20 universal washrooms at nine of its properties, he said, and there are ongoing plans for additional facilities at other locations.

"All of our new projects incorporate design-built universal washrooms.

"All of our renovations or redevelopments call for the addition of universal washrooms beyond our gender specific and family washrooms.

"In our centres, a universal bathroom is for one single person at the time."

Cadillac Fairview and Mor-

guard, both which own several malls in Canada, did not immediately respond to a request for comment about gender-neutral bathrooms at their facilities.

Several other public places have incorporated gender-neutral bathroom facilities.

The Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto also has a non-gender specific washroom with multiple stalls _ as do several Canadian restaurants and universities.

Some community centres and swimming pools around the country also boast inclusive changing rooms.



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