



RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

PETITION No.: **421-02656**

BY: **MR. THERIAULT (MONTCALM)**

DATE: **SEPTEMBER 25, 2018**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **SIGNED BY THE HONOURABLE CHRYSIA FREELAND**

Response by the Minister of Foreign Affairs

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

SUBJECT

Canadians abroad

ORIGINAL TEXT

REPLY

- Canadian consular officials are providing consular services to Mr. Toufik Benhamiche. They are also in contact with his family in Canada.
- Canadian consular officials are closely monitoring this case and are also in regular contact with local authorities in Cuba.
- The Government of Canada continues to raise this case.
 - Of note:
 - The Consular Operations Bureau at Global Affairs Canada raised the case with the Cuban Embassy in Ottawa.
 - The Deputy Minister of Trade raised the case with the Cuban Minister of Tourism during his visit to Canada.
 - Canada's Parliamentary Secretary for Consular Affairs also raised the case with the Cuban Ambassador to Canada.
 - Canada's Chargé d'Affaires in Cuba raised the case with Cuba's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

- Canadian officials continue to seek further ways to raise this case, including through diplomatic channels.
- The Government of Canada does not interfere with the judicial process of another country.
- The Government of Canada expresses its sincere condolences to the family of the Canadian citizen who tragically died in this accident.