

[Home](#) / [News](#) / [Crime](#) / [National](#)

Air India families request urgent meeting with Canada's public safety minister

The families of some Air India bombing victims have requested a meeting with minister Gary Anandasangaree after learning the RCMP has no more leads in Canada's deadliest terrorist attack

By [Kim Bolan](#)

Published Sep 22, 2026 Last updated 6 days ago 3 minute read  [Join the conversation](#)



Canada's Public Safety Minister Gary Anandasangaree at a memorial for Air India flight 182 victims in Ireland on June 23, 2026. PHOTO BY KIM BOLAN /PNG

The families of some Air India bombing victims have requested an urgent meeting with Public Safety Minister Gary Anandasangaree after learning that the

RCMP has no more leads to pursue in
Canada's deadliest terrorist attack.

Relatives of the 329 people who died on June
23, 1985, when a bomb destroyed Air India
Flight 182 off the coast of Ireland were
summoned by the RCMP to a Sept. 12
meeting in Toronto, where they were told the
investigation was now inactive.



STORY CONTINUES BELOW

Several family members later told Postmedia
they were devastated by the news that the
RCMP had given up investigating the
unprecedented terrorist attack which was
plotted and hatched by B.C. suspects

connected to the Babbar Khalsa group
demanding an independent state in India's
Punjab region.



Sunrise

Start your day with a roundup of
B.C.-focused news and opinion.

Sign Up

By signing up you consent to receive the above
newsletter from Postmedia Network Inc.

Interested in more newsletters? [Browse here.](#)

Toronto resident Sudha Berry, who lost her
16-year-old brother Sharad in the bombing,
sent a letter to Anandasangaree's office on
Tuesday requesting the meeting.

She noted that the minister had issued a
statement to some media saying the
investigation remained open, despite the
RCMP saying it's now inactive with no
suspects to pursue.

"You must be aware that new leads will not
magically appear without active effort from
the RCMP and other law enforcement
authorities," Berry said in her letter. "The
stance you have taken is illogical and
unacceptable to the families. How can the
minister for public safety allow the criminals
behind the largest terrorist act in Canadian
history to go unpunished and for the families
to go without justice?"

TRENDING

1



**Truth and Reconciliation Day 2026:
What's happening in Metro Vancouver**

She said the families want more information on “the nature of scrutiny and oversight your office has had over the investigation over the years.”

STORY CONTINUES BELOW

And they want to know the minister’s “plan for reinvigorating the investigation on an urgent basis.”

Air India Flight 182, travelling from Canada to India via London, was downed off the coast of Ireland when a B.C.-made suitcase bomb exploded, killing everyone on board. A second B.C.-made bomb, destined for another Air India flight, blew up at Tokyo’s Narita Airport the same day, killing two baggage handlers.

Two B.C. men linked to the Babbar Khalsa — a designated terrorist group — were charged in 2000, but acquitted in 2005. A third suspect, Inderjit Singh Reyat, was convicted

2



Decision to fast-track \$44 billion Alberta-B.C. oil pipeline expected Thursday

3



What's open and closed on Truth and Reconciliation Day 2026

4



New Leger poll finds majority in B.C. think NDP has done poorly – but not sold on Conservatives

5



B.C. judge drops drug charges against Vancouver compassion club, declares law illegal

of manslaughter in both bombings and is now out of prison.

A subsequent judicial inquiry exposed investigative and intelligence failures by the RCMP and CSIS both before and after the bombings. And several other suspects, some living and some who have since died, were identified at both the trial and inquiry though were never charged.

Berry's letter also said she had expected more from Anandasangaree, who flew to Ireland this year and last to attend the annual memorial service near where flight 182 crashed.

ADVERTISEMENT

“Given your connections to the community, your previous meetings with the families at the anniversaries and your personal expressions of sympathy, we had expected you to do much better than your

predecessors,” her letter said. “You now have an opportunity to show your leadership and change the trajectory of the investigation.”

Anandasangaree’s office issued a statement to Postmedia, reaffirming that the investigation remains open and that “should new, credible information or evidence come forward, it will be assessed and investigated and may lead to further investigative steps.”

His office did not respond to the families’ request for a meeting.

Sanjay Lazar, who lost his parents and three-year-old sister in the bombing, also urged Anandasangaree to meet with families as soon as possible to look at ways to carry on the probe.

And he said it is important that all the surviving family members, including those based outside of Canada, are part of the conversation.

“Information is not being disseminated to everybody,” said Lazar, who lives in Pune, India, but attended the Toronto meeting in person. “There is a process of conversation that everybody must have. Everybody’s lost their loved ones.”

He said the RCMP has not reached out to India-based families of victims, including those related to the Air India crew members who died.

“I do believe the government will have to look at this deeply and clearly, and talk to the families because it speaks to how poorly the RCMP and the investigative agencies have handled this and many many other matters in the years gone by.”

kbolan@postmedia.com



COMMENTS

You must be logged in to join the discussion or read more comments.

Sign in

Create an Account

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Postmedia is committed to maintaining a lively but civil forum for discussion. Please keep comments relevant and respectful. Comments may take up to an hour to appear on the site. You will receive an email if there is a reply to your comment, an update to a thread you follow or if a user you follow comments. Visit our [Community Guidelines](#) for more information.

FOLLOW



The conversation is now closed

ALL COMMENTS 4

NEWEST ▾



stan Holly 7 DAYS AGO

So how much do they want

👍 0 🗨️ 0



Brian Mees 7 DAYS AGO

It's good chance that after 41 years any possible guilty parties will be in the ground, (or on a pyre), and they wish us to continue to spend millions more on chasing ghosts.

1 REPLY 👍 3 🗨️ 0



Ray R 7 DAYS AGO

What else do you people want ? Enough tax payers money has been spent on this. Sad event no doubt, people have been arrested and tried before the courts, time heals all wounds, time to get on with life

👍 4 🗨️ 0

Powered by  **viafoura**

[Manage my account](#)

[News](#) [Sports](#) [Arts](#) [Life](#) [Opinion](#) [Business](#) [Lives Told](#) [ePaper](#) [Subscribe](#)

Follow Vancouver Sun



[Advertise With Us](#) [Advertising Solutions](#) [Postmedia Ad Manager](#) [Savings](#) [Digital Ad Registry](#) [Site Map](#) [Contact](#)

[Privacy Policy](#) [Terms of Use](#) [FAQ](#) [Copyright & Licensing](#) [My Account](#) [Manage My Print Subscription](#)

365 Bloor Street East, Toronto, Ontario, M4W 3L4

