Man gets his Mounties

Muslim to become an RCMP recruit again after 9-year battle — and collect \$650Gs

TOM GODFREY Sun Media

year court battle. yesterday, following a nineup as a Mountie came true mourpour's dream to saddle Mississauga realtor Ali Tah-

with the experience I have contribute to the force even 35. "I feel there is a lot I can said a juhilant Tahmourpour, dream to become a Mountie, "It has always been my

a package worth more than Tribunal yesterday ruled in Mountie training and receive have the option to complete his favour, ordering that he A Canadian Human Rights

His hattle began in 1999

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Commission. Canadian Human Rights individual and systemic racwhen he filed a complaint of ism against the RCMP and

for wearing a religious pon-dant and failing to properly weeks into the 22-week course 1999, but was booted out 14 a senior cadet in training in lim originally from Iran, was Tahmourpour, a Mus-

notified his drill sergeant Tahmourpour refused and their jewelry for training, but All cadets were to remove

For more photos,

of the pendant and his relibrunt of jokes. to Tahmourpour being the of the incident and that led but the entire class was told to keep the matter private, it on. He asked the sergeant gious beliefs about keeping

investigation. warranted a more thorough sion, but the Federal Court of Appeal determined the case dian Human Rights Commisfurned down by the Cana-His complaint was initially

than \$650,000 in various to Tahmourpour in the next the RCMP has to offer a spot tribunal awarded him more cadet training program. The Rights Tribunal determined terday, the Canadian Human In its 65-page ruling yes-

forms of compensation.

our. "I have always said I can tion for me," said Tahmoupgiven a fair chance." become a Mountie if I was "This is a feeling of vindica-

Regina. to complete his training in forces member said he's ready toms inspector and armed The former Canada Cus-

'Mounted officer'

officer too." him and become a mounted have always wanted to follow a mounted officer," he said. "I "My great grandfather was

carned as an RCMP officer in salary his client would have pensation package includes Barry Weintraub said the com-Tahmourpour's lawyer, rights commission. RCMP Sgt.

the last eight years.

ble minorities. Weintraub said. "Hopefully improve its treatment of visithe RCMP will take this decinine years for this to happen, sion to heart and take steps to "It is unfortunate that it tool

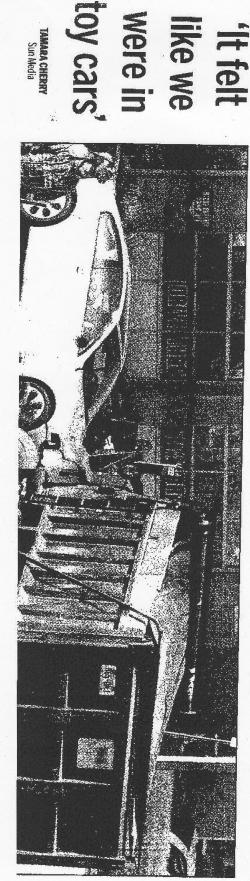
gated or responded to his RCMP, who never investiabout his treatment to the at first oudined his concerns Jensen said Tahmourpour Tribunal head Karen

responded until they were orced to do so by the human She said the Mounties never

reviews the decision. Deschenes said the force is reserving comment until it Nathalie



ALI TAHMOURPOUR Brunt of jokes



TAMARA CHERRY Sun Media