

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



CORNWALL PUBLIC INQUIRY

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER G. NORMAND GLAUDE

DECEMBER 15, 2009

IT IS TIME TO REPLACE SPECULATION WITH FACTS.

I RETURN TO CORNWALL TODAY TO PRESENT MY FOUR-VOLUME REPORT ON THE INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO ALLEGATIONS OF HISTORICAL SEXUAL ABUSE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE CORNWALL AREA. IT IS COMPREHENSIVE AND DETAILED, MEETING MY PLEDGE TO BE THOROUGH AND BALANCED AND PROVIDE ANSWERS ABOUT A PAST THAT HAS DIVIDED THIS COMMUNITY.

MY STATEMENT TODAY IS NOT MY REPORT. TO UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEX, DECADES-LONG INTERACTIONS OF INSTITUTIONS WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH ALLEGED PERPETRATORS AND VICTIMS, YOU NEED TO READ THIS REPORT IN ITS ENTIRETY. I ALSO URGE YOU TO CONSIDER MY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTIVE CHANGE WITHIN INSTITUTIONS AND FOR HEALING AND RECONCILIATION IN CORNWALL.

MANY OF THE ERRORS OF THE PAST WILL RE-OCCUR IF THERE IS NO CHANGE. SOME WILL POINT TO TODAY'S FINANCIAL CHALLENGES AS A JUSTIFICATION NOT TO ACT ON RECOMMENDATIONS. THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN REASONS GIVEN NOT TO CHANGE. MY REPORT DETAILS THESE PAST REASONS AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES. IN MY VIEW, WE CANNOT AFFORD TO FAIL TO TAKE ACTION -- AGAIN.

THIS INQUIRY WAS NOT A CIVIL OR CRIMINAL TRIAL, A POINT I EMPHASIZED MANY TIMES IN THE COURSE OF THIS INQUIRY AND STRESS AGAIN TODAY. IN MY REPORT, I DO NOT FIND ANYONE GUILTY OF A CRIMINAL OFFENCE OR CIVILLY LIABLE. BUT, WHERE APPROPRIATE, I HAVE FOUND ERROR OR MISCONDUCT. THE EVIDENCE I HAVE HEARD AND ANALYZED IN THIS REPORT ALSO DISPELS MANY RUMOURS THAT HAVE BURDENED INDIVIDUALS AND THIS COMMUNITY FOR FAR TOO MANY YEARS.

I WAS GIVEN A MANDATE BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO ACT AS AN INDEPENDENT COMMISSIONER, TO DEDICATE MYSELF WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR TO THE COMPLETION OF MY MANDATE IN A THOROUGH AND COMPREHENSIVE MANNER. WITHOUT SUCH INDEPENDENCE AND FOCUS, THERE CAN BE NO RESTORATION OF TRUST, AND THE NEED TO REBUILD TRUST IS THE FUNDAMENTAL REASON INQUIRIES ARE CALLED.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS AN UNBIASED VERSION OF THE EVENTS OF THE PAST. IT GIVES AN OBJECTIVE VIEW OF WHAT IS NEEDED TO RECTIFY DEFICIENCIES AND REBUILD ON A FOUNDATION OF INTEGRITY, COMPASSION AND EFFECTIVENESS IN RESPONDING TO THE SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

THIS INQUIRY WAS CALLED TO EXAMINE A BROAD SUBJECT MATTER, SPANNING DECADES. MEETING MY MANDATE INVOLVED REPORTING WITH CONSIDERABLE COMPLEXITY AND DETAIL, AND EXAMINING INCIDENTS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF MANY INSTITUTIONS AND INDIVIDUALS.

FUNDAMENTALLY, HOWEVER, THE ORDER-IN-COUNCIL ESTABLISHING THIS COMMISSION ASKED ME TO ASSESS HOW INSTITUTIONS RESPONDED TO ALLEGATIONS THAT YOUNG PEOPLE HAD BEEN SEXUALLY ABUSED IN CORNWALL. DID THEY DO THE JOB THEY SHOULD HAVE DONE? HERE IS A SUMMARY OF MY ASSESSMENT.

THE EVIDENCE IN MY REPORT INDICATES THAT RESPONSES TO REPORTS OF HISTORICAL SEXUAL ABUSE WERE IN LARGE PART INADEQUATE. INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES FAILED TO SERVE THE INTERESTS OF JUSTICE AND THE GOAL OF PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE AGAINST ABUSE.

I FIND THAT THERE WERE SYSTEMIC FAILURES IN THE RESPONSE OF INSTITUTIONS TO ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY. FOR SOME, THIS RESULTED IN REVICTIMIZATION BY THE INSTITUTION FROM WHOM THEY SOUGHT HELP. THE RESPONSE OF INSTITUTIONS BECAME A FURTHER SOURCE OF HARM.

I ALSO FIND THAT INSTITUTIONS THAT BECAME AWARE OF MISCONDUCT BY THEIR EMPLOYEES WERE OFTEN LESS CONCERNED ABOUT VICTIMS THAN ABOUT PUBLIC EMBARRASSMENT, OR ABOUT THE PERCEIVED DIFFICULTY OF DISCIPLINING OR REPORTING EMPLOYEES.

I FIND THAT IN ATTEMPTING TO COMMUNICATE INTERNALLY AND WITH MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, INSTITUTIONS WERE RELUCTANT TO BE FORTHRIGHT AND OWN UP TO MISTAKES, FEARING SCANDAL OR CRITICISM MORE THAN THEY FEARED THE BREACH OF THEIR DUTY TO THE VULNERABLE AND THE PUBLIC.

I FIND THAT THE COMBINATION OF SYSTEMIC FAILURES, INSENSITIVITY TO COMPLAINANTS, RELUCTANCE TO ACT, AND PARTIAL OR NON-EXISTENT COMMUNICATION CREATED OPPORTUNITIES: OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPECULATION — SPECULATION ABOUT BOTH THE MOTIVATIONS OF THOSE MAKING

ALLEGATIONS AND THOSE RESPONDING TO THEM. THIS COMMUNITY WAS SIMPLY NOT WELL SERVED BY THOSE SPECULATIONS. SOME MEDIA COVERAGE CONTRIBUTED TO THE PERPETUATION OF RUMOURS AND ADDED TO SPECULATION. I RECEIVED AN EXPERT REPORT ON MEDIA COVERAGE THAT CONCLUDED THAT THE CITIZENS OF CORNWALL, IN STRIVING TO UNDERSTAND IMPORTANT ISSUES IN THEIR COMMUNITY, WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER SERVED HAD THE MEDIA ENGAGED IN IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS AND VERIFICATION AND SYSTEMATIC SOURCING.

IN MY REPORT, I GO THROUGH EACH INSTITUTION IN CAREFUL DETAIL. TODAY I AM GOING TO DISCUSS SOME OF THE THEMES THAT RUN THROUGHOUT MY EXAMINATION OF INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES, PATTERNS OF RESPONSE I FOUND IN MORE THAN ONE INSTITUTION.

WHEN FACED WITH ALLEGATIONS OF HISTORICAL ABUSE, INSTITUTIONS WERE ILL EQUIPPED. THEY DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE SERIOUS IMPACT OF ABUSE, OR ABOUT RESPONSES TYPICAL OF BOYS AND YOUNG MEN. THEY DID NOT GIVE PRIORITY TO HISTORIC COMPLAINTS, BECAUSE THEY WERE HISTORIC. THEY SAID: "WHAT'S THE HURRY?" THEY DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE CONDUCT OF SURVIVORS, WHO WERE OFTEN RENDERED INARTICULATE OR SILENT BY SHAME AND GUILT, AND WERE

SOMETIMES AGGRESSIVE, ANXIOUS, FEARFUL AND INCONSISTENT. MANY INSTITUTIONS WERE SUSPICIOUS OF THE MOTIVATIONS OF HISTORICAL REPORTERS. THEY ASKED: “WERE THEY JUST IN IT FOR THE MONEY, WERE THEY MENTALLY ILL?” LACK OF TRAINING, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREA OF HISTORICAL ABUSE AND ABUSE OF BOYS AND YOUNG MEN, HAMPERED EVEN WELL-INTENTIONED INDIVIDUALS.

JUST AS THERE WAS LIMITED UNDERSTANDING OF POTENTIAL VICTIMS, THERE WAS LIMITED UNDERSTANDING OF POTENTIAL ABUSERS. THIS MEANT INSTITUTIONS FAILED TO RECOGNIZE THE “GROOMING” BEHAVIOUR OF “NICE GUYS” WITH HIGH STATUS JOBS OR ESTABLISHED POSITIONS IN THE COMMUNITY. THEY MISUNDERSTOOD PEDOPHILIA, ASSUMING SOME ABUSERS WOULD ONLY TARGET BOYS, MISSING FEMALE VICTIMS OF PEDOPHILES WHO SEEK ANY VULNERABLE CHILD. THEY ALSO MISUNDERSTOOD THE MANIPULATION OF RELATIONSHIPS OF TRUST TO EXPLOIT YOUNG MEN, WHICH IS NOT CHARACTERISTIC OF CONSENSUAL SAME-SEX RELATIONSHIPS.

SOME INSTITUTIONS, SUCH AS THE CHILDREN’S AID SOCIETY, HAD BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THESE MATTERS THAN OTHERS, BUT IN SITUATIONS WHERE INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION WOULD

HAVE HELPED, LOCAL INSTITUTIONS WERE RARELY ON THE SAME PAGE, MUCH LESS ON THE SAME TEAM.

I MAKE MANY RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT TRAINING, SOME TO IMPROVE TECHNICAL SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE, SOME TO IMPROVE INTER-INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION, AND SOME TO ENHANCE SENSITIVITY AND UNDERSTANDING. ALL ARE NEEDED. WE PARTICULARLY NEED TO FUND AND RESUME TRAINING BETWEEN STAFF OF CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETIES AND POLICE OFFICERS. I ALSO UNDERLINE THE IMPORTANCE OF ENSURING COMPLAINANTS ARE ACCOMMODATED IN THE CHOICE OF A MALE OR FEMALE OFFICER — WHOEVER INCREASES THE COMFORT LEVEL IN DISCLOSURE.

POLICE FORCES WERE NOT WELL-EQUIPPED TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO VICTIMS OF HISTORICAL SEXUAL ABUSE, PARTICULARLY MEN. INDIVIDUAL OFFICERS OFTEN SHOWED KINDNESS AND COMPASSION, BUT THEIR ORGANIZATIONS DID NOT HAVE THE RESOURCES, KNOWLEDGE OR COMMITMENT TO ENSURE APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-UP AND LIAISON. THIS WAS ALSO TRUE OF THE MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, WHETHER AT THE LOCAL CROWN'S OFFICE, OR FOR CROWN ATTORNEYS ASSIGNED TO PROJECT TRUTH. FAILURE TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FED DISTRUST AND ANXIETY AS MANY COMPLAINANTS BEGAN TO WONDER IF THE

LACK OF RESPONSE WAS INTENTIONAL AND INTENDED TO DISCOURAGE THEM IN MAKING ALLEGATIONS OR TO MAKE THEM SIMPLY “GO AWAY”.

INSTITUTIONS DID NOT VALUE AND RESOURCE RECORD-KEEPING. AS A RESULT, THEY DID NOT KEEP GOOD RECORDS, DID NOT DOCUMENT THE PAST, AND DID NOT ORGANIZE INFORMATION. THIS WAS NOT TRIVIAL. IT MEANT REPEATED LOST OPPORTUNITIES TO INTERVENE AND PREVENT ABUSE, OR TO ENSURE THAT THOSE WHO DID ABUSE WERE HELD ACCOUNTABLE. INVESTMENT MUST BE MADE TO IMPROVE RECORD KEEPING AND, IN PARTICULAR, TO CREATE BETTER DISCLOSURE MANAGEMENT FOR MAJOR PROSECUTION CASES. FOR WARDS OF THE CHILDREN’S AID SOCIETY OF THE UNITED COUNTIES, FAILURES IN RECORD KEEPING AND RELUCTANCE TO DISCLOSE OFTEN MEANT THAT THE LIFE HISTORIES OF THOSE IN CARE WERE LOST OR MADE INACCESSIBLE. WE MUST ALSO ENSURE WE GIVE BACK TO THESE WARDS, THE STORY OF THEIR CHILDHOOD.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC WAS RARELY SEEN AS PART OF THE JOB OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS. AS A RESULT, IT WAS ONLY OCCASIONALLY EMPLOYED AS A USEFUL TOOL, FOR EXAMPLE, TO HONESTLY INFORM A CONCERNED PUBLIC OR AN INSTITUTION’S OWN EMPLOYEES. IT WAS NOT USED IN A HELPFUL WAY TO FIND

OR OVERCOME THE DISTRUST OF POTENTIAL VICTIMS OR PEOPLE WITH RELEVANT INFORMATION. ROBUST AND STRAIGHT-FORWARD COMMUNICATION IS PART OF THE BROADER JUSTICE SYSTEM AND PART OF THE WORK OF ALL PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

I MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT IMPROVEMENTS IN COMMUNICATION AND ENSURING THAT SOUND COMMUNICATIONS PLANS ARE PART OF MAJOR INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS. INSTITUTIONS SPEAKING TO THE PUBLIC ALSO NEED TO ENSURE THEY PROVIDE ACCURATE AND APPROPRIATE INFORMATION. GOOD COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD NOT BE TREATED LIKE A PUBLIC RELATIONS EXERCISE BUT SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN AS A SOLEMN PUBLIC SERVICE.

OF COURSE, THERE ARE REASONS THAT INSTITUTIONS RESORT TO DEFENSIVE OR SELF-SERVING COMMUNICATIONS. THEY FEAR MEDIA CRITICISM AND DAMAGE TO CORPORATE OR INDIVIDUAL REPUTATIONS. THESE ARE NOT GOOD REASONS. THEY ARE REASONS TO DO BETTER, AND SOMETIMES WE MUST ENDURE UNFAIR CRITICISM IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST. YOU WILL SEE NO RECOMMENDATIONS ON THIS LAST POINT. NO ONE CAN MANDATE INTEGRITY, BUT I HAVE SEEN IT IN ACTION. UNFORTUNATELY, I HAVE ALSO SEEN IT MISSING IN ACTION.

INSTITUTIONS WERE ILL EQUIPPED TO DEAL WITH ALLEGATIONS ABOUT THEIR OWN EMPLOYEES, WHETHER A PROBATION OFFICER, TEACHER, PRIEST OR CHILD CARE WORKER. INSTITUTIONS TENDED TO TRY TO FIND A WAY OUT, ALLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO STAY UNDER INEFFECTIVE CONDITIONS THAT FAILED TO PROTECT THE VULNERABLE OR ALLOWING EMPLOYEES TO LEAVE WITH CONDUCT UNDOCUMENTED. THIS PASSED THE RISK TO OTHER WORKPLACES OR OTHER COMMUNITIES.

INSTITUTIONS ARE WELL-SERVED BY COMPREHENSIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES THAT ARE CONSISTENTLY FOLLOWED WHEN ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE ARE MADE AGAINST THEIR EMPLOYEES OR VOLUNTEERS. THIS CREATES A MORE NEUTRAL ENVIRONMENT FOR THE FAIR ASSESSMENT OF ALLEGED EMPLOYEE MISCONDUCT, WHILE REMOVING POTENTIAL RISK. I RECOMMEND STRENGTHENING THESE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AND FOLLOWING THEM STRICTLY – NO EXCEPTIONS.

THE INSTITUTIONS THAT I EXAMINED IN MY REPORT OFTEN STRUGGLED IN WORKING WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS. HELPFUL WORK HAD BEEN DONE TO DEVELOP PROTOCOLS BUT THERE WAS A TENDENCY NOT TO KEEP THEM UP-TO-DATE OR TO REVISE THEM ONCE GAPS OR INCONSISTENCIES AROSE. TRAINING WAS SPOTTY AND THOSE “IN THE TRENCHES” DEALING WITH ACTUAL CASES, DID

NOT SEEM TO KNOW WHAT TO DO. ON AN INDIVIDUAL LEVEL, THERE WAS OFTEN CONSIDERABLE GOODWILL, BUT THE INABILITY TO DEFINE ROLES AND EXPECTATIONS BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS MEANT WELL-INTENTIONED PEOPLE STUMBLED INTO ERROR.

I MAKE MANY RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT ENHANCING AND UPDATING PROTOCOLS. I HOPE THAT JUST WORKING TOGETHER ON UPDATING PROTOCOLS CAN BUILD UNDERSTANDING AND CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIPS – WHO TO CALL WHEN ACTION IS NEEDED ON AN INCIDENT OF SUSPECTED OR REPORTED SEXUAL ABUSE, WHO CAN GIVE SOUND ADVICE AND THE BENEFIT OF EXPERIENCE, WHO CAN PROVIDE SUPPORT IF REPORTING ABUSE RESULTS IN THE ALL-TOO-COMMON ATTACK ON THE REPORTER OF BAD NEWS.

I WANT TO SPEAK TO MY RECOMMENDATION FOR A NEW COMMUNITY PROTOCOL. LOCAL POLICE FORCES OR THE CHILDREN’S AID SOCIETY OF THE UNITED COUNTIES MAY HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS WHERE THE JOB INVOLVES REGULAR CONTACT WITH CHILDREN. IT SHOULD BE CLEAR WHEN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS SHOULD BE INFORMED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF ONGOING RISK TO CHILDREN. I ALSO RECOMMEND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO DEVELOP PROVINCE-WIDE PROTOCOLS OR DIRECTIVES TO DEFINE

CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE ANY CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY IN ONTARIO SHOULD INFORM ANY EMPLOYER OF THE RISK AN EMPLOYEE MAY REPRESENT IN RESPECT TO THE SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN. WE HAVE RULES RELATED TO SCHOOLS AND CHILD CARE JOBS, BUT NOT OTHERWISE. IN DEVELOPING THIS NEW PROVINCE-WIDE PROTOCOL, CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO PRIVACY AND FAIR PROCESSES WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT IN ONTARIO THE PARAMOUNT INTEREST IS ALWAYS CHILD PROTECTION.

MY REPORT SETS OUT THAT MANY INSTITUTIONS FAILED TO HAVE SENSITIVITY TO OR POLICIES GOVERNING CONFLICT OF INTEREST. INDIVIDUALS THOUGHT THEY COULD PROCEED IN SITUATIONS WHERE A CONFLICT WAS APPARENT BECAUSE THEY HAD GOOD INTENTIONS OR BELIEVED THEY COULD NOT BE EASILY INFLUENCED. THEY FAILED TO UNDERSTAND THAT NO ONE IN A CONFLICT SITUATION CAN ASSESS HIMSELF OR HERSELF OR DISREGARD PUBLIC PERCEPTION. FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE AND ACT ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST LED TO THE MISHANDLING OF SENSITIVE CASES. THIS OCCURRED WHEN CHIEF SHAVER OF THE CORNWALL POLICE SERVICE INFORMED HIS FORMER POLICE CHIEF OF THE INVESTIGATION OF HIS SON, EARL LANDRY JR. IT HAPPENED WHEN THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY INVESTIGATED MISCONDUCT BY ITS OWN EMPLOYEES OR FOSTER PARENTS WITHOUT CONTACTING THE

POLICE OR BRINGING IN AN OUTSIDE CHILD PROTECTION AGENCY. IT HAPPENED WHEN THE DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA-CORNWALL RESPONDED TO ALLEGATIONS AGAINST PRIESTS WITHOUT CONTACTING EITHER THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OR POLICE. I HAVE SUGGESTED STRENGTHENING POLICIES RELATED TO THE IDENTIFICATION OF SITUATIONS THAT INHERENTLY RAISE A CONFLICT OF INTEREST. I ALSO RECOMMEND SPECIFIC WAYS OF HANDLING SUCH CONFLICT OF INTEREST SITUATIONS.

MANY WORKING IN INSTITUTIONS STRUGGLED TO OBTAIN RESOURCES TO MEET THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPONDING TO ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE. THEY WORKED ON UNDER RESOURCED AND POORLY DEFINED PROJECTS, IN INADEQUATE OFFICES, HAD POOR COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT, LACKED ADMINISTRATIVE OR TECHNICAL SUPPORT, AND DID NOT HAVE ACCESS TO COLLEAGUES WITH SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE. MANY OVERCAME OR TRIED TO OVERCOME THESE BARRIERS THROUGH HARD WORK AND COMMITMENT, BUT FELL BEHIND. AS A RESULT, MISTAKES WERE MADE, DELAYS OCCURRED, THINGS WERE MISSED. WHILE INDIVIDUALS MAY BEAR ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THIS, IT WAS EQUALLY, IF NOT EVEN MORE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THEIR ORGANIZATIONS THAT FAILED TO RESOURCE, PLAN AND ANTICIPATE NEED. SOMETIMES THESE

ORGANIZATIONS LOOKED FOR SCAPEGOATS INSTEAD OF LOOKING IN THE MIRROR.

IN THIS RESPECT, MY REPORT POINTS TO THE MANY ISSUES INVOLVED IN PROVIDING PROJECT TRUTH WITH AN APPROPRIATE MANDATE AND THE TOOLS TO DO THE JOB. WHATEVER THE FAILINGS OF PROJECT TRUTH, I HAVE NO DOUBT THE OFFICERS ASSIGNED WORKED HARD AND WERE COMMITTED. UNFORTUNATELY, THEY WERE HAMPERED IN SO MANY AREAS.

THE CAPACITY TO WORK THROUGH COMPLEX, INTERCONNECTED INFORMATION THAT IS CHARACTERISTIC OF MULTI-OFFENDER, MULTI-VICTIM CASES WAS NOT PRESENT AT PROJECT TRUTH. THIS TYPE OF PROJECT REQUIRES SOPHISTICATED, PAINSTAKING INVESTIGATORY WORK, LINKAGE ANALYSIS AND DOGGED FOLLOW-UP. THOSE SETTING UP THIS PROJECT DID NOT ADEQUATELY ANTICIPATE AND RESOURCE THE PROJECT WITH WHAT WAS NEEDED. THEY DID NOT LOOK AT THE “BIG PICTURE” BUT BECAME BOGGED DOWN IN REACTION TO THE AGENDAS SET BY OTHERS.

I ALSO MAKE FINDINGS REGARDING THE OVERSIGHT PROVIDED BY THE CORNWALL POLICE SERVICES BOARD. DURING THE TIME UNDER REVIEW, ITS MEMBERS FAILED TO ACT AS A TEAM AND TO

CONSTRUCTIVELY GUIDE ITS POLICE STAFF, IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF CORNWALL. RESOURCE AND POLICY LIMITATIONS LED TO MISTAKES AND DELAYS IN MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF HISTORICAL REPORTS OF SEXUAL ABUSE.

I MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF COMPLEX PROJECTS INVOLVING MULTI-VICTIM, MULTI-PERPETRATOR CASES. I ALSO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CORNWALL POLICE SERVICES BOARD FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF ITS STEWARDSHIP FOR THE POLICE SERVICES OF THIS COMMUNITY.

INSTITUTIONS ALMOST NEVER MADE EFFORTS TO REACH OUT TO POTENTIAL VICTIMS, OR IN THE CASE OF KNOWN PERPETRATORS, CONDUCT INTERNAL REVIEWS TO SEE WHO MIGHT HAVE BEEN HARMED AND HOW THEY COULD BE HELPED. MANY COULD HAVE BEEN HELPED EARLIER WITH COUNSELLING OR BY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THEIR PAIN AND HUMILIATION.

IT IS NOT TOO LATE. I ASK FOUR INSTITUTIONS TO MAKE A PUBLIC APPEAL TO LOCATE POTENTIAL VICTIMS AND OFFER COUNSELLING AND SUPPORT. I ASK THEM TO UNDERTAKE A RESPONSE OF RESPECT, DIGNITY AND COMPASSION. THESE INSTITUTIONS ARE:

- THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

- THE DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA-CORNWALL
- THE CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO
- THE UPPER CANADA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD.

I ALSO ASK THESE INSTITUTIONS TO CONSIDER A PUBLIC APOLOGY TO CONFIRMED VICTIMS. I SUGGEST THAT BISHOP PAUL-ANDRÉ DUROCHER OF THE DIOCESE AND CLAUDE LEGAULT OF THE CORNWALL PROBATION AND PAROLE OFFICE SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THEIR INSTITUTIONS. I HAVE OBSERVED THESE MEN AND BELIEVE THEY CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE FOR VICTIMS, THROUGH THEIR WORDS AND ACTIONS.

I SPOKE OF THE ROLE OF MY REPORT IN DISPELLING RUMOURS. I WILL ADDRESS SOME MATTERS THAT I THINK NEED TO BE MADE CLEAR AFTER YEARS OF CONTROVERSY.

IN DECEMBER 1992, FORMER ALTAR BOY DAVID SILMSER REPORTED ALLEGATIONS OF HISTORICAL SEXUAL ABUSE TO THE CORNWALL POLICE SERVICES. HIS ALLEGATIONS WERE MADE AGAINST ST. ANDREWS PRIEST, FATHER CHARLES MACDONALD AND PROBATION OFFICER KEN SEGUIN, A FRIEND OF FATHER MACDONALD. THERE WAS A CONFIDENTIAL FINANCIAL

SETTLEMENT ARRIVED AT BETWEEN MR. SILMSER AND THE DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA-CORNWALL AND FATHER CHARLES MACDONALD. IT INCLUDED AN ILLEGAL CLAUSE REQUIRING MR. SILMSER TO WITHDRAW HIS CRIMINAL COMPLAINT AGAINST THE PRIEST. THE WITHDRAWAL OF MR. SILMSER'S COMPLAINT LED TO THE DISCLOSURE OF HIS ALLEGATIONS ABOUT FATHER MACDONALD AND KEN SEGUIN TO THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY BY CONSTABLE PERRY DUNLOP OF THE CORNWALL POLICE SERVICE. ALL THIS LED TO COMMUNITY RUMOURS AND ALLEGATIONS OF A CONSPIRACY TO COVER UP. PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS WAS UNDERMINED.

IN ADDRESSING THESE RUMOURS OF CONSPIRACY, I FOUND NO EVIDENCE THAT THE CORNWALL POLICE SERVICE AND THE DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA-CORNWALL CONSPIRED TOGETHER IN RESPECT TO THE SILMSER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA-CORNWALL AND FATHER CHARLES MACDONALD. HOWEVER, THE INVESTIGATION OF THE SILMSER COMPLAINT BY THE CORNWALL POLICE SERVICE WAS DEEPLY FLAWED, AND THEY FAILED TO INVESTIGATE THE ILLEGAL CLAUSE AT ALL.

WHEN THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE CARRIED OUT ITS INVESTIGATIONS OF THE ILLEGAL CLAUSE, IT WAS AN INCOMPLETE AND LIMITED INVESTIGATION THAT FAILED TO FOLLOW UP TO

OBTAIN KEY DOCUMENTS AND INTERVIEW KEY WITNESSES. THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE APPEARED NOT TO RECOGNIZE HOW SERIOUS THE ALLEGATIONS WERE -- UNDERMINING THE VERY FOUNDATIONS OF PUBLIC RELIANCE ON THE INTEGRITY OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM. THE 1994 RE-INVESTIGATION OF THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST FATHER CHARLES MACDONALD BY THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE WAS EQUALLY FLAWED.

IN RESPECT TO THE RUMOURED INVOLVEMENT OF OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IN A CONSPIRACY RELATED TO THE SILMSER SETTLEMENT, I FIND THAT ALTHOUGH CROWN ATTORNEY MURRAY MACDONALD SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE SUSPICIOUS OF THE COMMUNICATIONS FROM MALCOLM MACDONALD, REPRESENTING FATHER CHARLES MACDONALD AND JACQUES LEDUC, REPRESENTING THE DIOCESE, THE CROWN ATTORNEY HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE ILLEGAL SETTLEMENT CLAUSE AT THE TIME IT WAS ENTERED INTO. HE FOUND OUT ABOUT THE TERMS OF THE SILMSER SETTLEMENT ONLY WHEN IT WAS GENERALLY KNOWN TO THE PUBLIC.

I FIND THAT CROWN ATTORNEY MURRAY MACDONALD HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF SPECULATION DUE TO THE CONVICTION OF HIS FATHER, MILTON MACDONALD, ON CHARGES OF SEXUAL ABUSE. CONCLUSIONS DRAWN AND RUMOURS FUELLED BASED ON THIS

HAVE BEEN ENTIRELY IMPROPER. WHILE CROWN MACDONALD MADE ERRORS IN JUDGMENT, WHICH I ADDRESS, THESE WERE IN NO WAY RELATED TO OR MOTIVATED BY HIS FATHER OR ANY DESIRE TO PROTECT HIS FATHER.

THE LOCAL PROBATION AND PAROLE OFFICE IN CORNWALL WAS CONFRONTED WITH SERIOUS MATTERS RELATED TO THE CONDUCT OF ITS PROBATION OFFICERS IN RESPECT TO YOUNG PROBATIONERS. THE REPEATED FAILURE TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION IN THE FACE OF CLEAR EVIDENCE OF MISCONDUCT AND THE FOSTERING OF AN OFFICE ENVIRONMENT THAT INHIBITED DISCLOSURE RESULTED IN HARM TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND PUBLIC DISTRESS ABOUT THE ACTIONS OF ITS PUBLIC OFFICIALS. THE DESIRE TO AVOID NEGATIVE PUBLICITY OR TO CARRY OUT THE WORK OF EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE LED TO PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF INDIFFERENCE AND SUPPRESSION OF INFORMATION. SOME OF THESE PERCEPTIONS WERE WELL DESERVED.

WHILE THE RESPONSES OF THE PAST WAS CLEARLY INADEQUATE, IN RESPECT TO THIS INSTITUTION, I WAS HEARTENED BY THE WORK THAT WAS STARTED IN THE LATE 1990'S BY LOCAL MANAGER CLAUDE LEGAULT AND BY THE CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE DISPLAYED BY MR. LEGAULT AND DEPUTY MINISTER DEBORAH

NEWMAN. THIS GIVES HOPE THAT MORE WILL BE DONE AND RECENT IMPROVEMENTS SUSTAINED.

BEHIND MANY COMMUNITY RUMOURS ABOUT CONSPIRACY AND NEGATIVE PERCEPTIONS OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM WERE DIFFERING EXPECTATIONS FOR THE MANDATE AND OUTCOMES OF THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE'S PROJECT TRUTH.

IT IS MY VIEW THAT MANY PEOPLE BELIEVED THAT THE 1997 PROJECT TRUTH WAS ESTABLISHED TO INVESTIGATE THE LARGER ISSUE OF WHETHER THERE WAS AN ENDEMIC PROBLEM OF SEXUAL ABUSE IN THE CORNWALL AREA AND WHETHER PROMINENT PEOPLE WERE ACTING TOGETHER TO PERPETRATE OR COVER UP THIS ABUSE. THIS WAS NOT WHAT PROJECT TRUTH DID. INVESTIGATORS DID TAKE INDIVIDUAL ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE SERIOUSLY, BUT THESE WERE ADDRESSED AS INDIVIDUAL CASES, NOT AS ONE PART OF A POSSIBLE INTERCONNECTED WHOLE. IN TERMS OF INVESTIGATION THAT WENT BEYOND INDIVIDUAL CASES, I FIND THAT PROJECT TRUTH FOCUSED ON ONLY THREE DISTINCT ISSUES:

- WHETHER CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS IDENTIFIED BY PERRY DUNLOP AND RON LEROUX WERE MEMBERS OF A GROUP OR CLAN OF PEDOPHILES;

- WHETHER CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS CONSPIRED TO OBSTRUCT JUSTICE WITH THE ILLEGAL SETTLEMENT WITH DAVID SILMSER AND WHETHER A CONSPIRACY WAS FORMED DURING A 1993 “VIP MEETING” ON STANLEY ISLAND; AND
- WHAT HAPPENED TO PORNOGRAPHIC TAPES SEIZED FROM THE HOME OF RON LEROUX.

THESE ISSUES WERE DEFINED IN ALLEGATIONS MADE IN THE SO-CALLED FANTINO BRIEF AND THE FOCUS OF THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE WAS ON DISPROVING THESE ALLEGATIONS. THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE FAILED TO DEFINE THEIR OWN ACTIVE INVESTIGATION BUT REACTED TO ISSUES DEFINED BY THOSE OUTSIDE THE INVESTIGATION. THEY DID NOT PURSUE ALL AVAILABLE EVIDENCE BY CONTACTING INDIVIDUALS WITH RELEVANT INFORMATION AND OBTAINING AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS.

THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE CONCLUDED PROJECT TRUTH BY SAYING THERE WAS NO PEDOPHILE RING IN CORNWALL. SINCE THEY DID NOT INVESTIGATE THIS, THEY COULD NOT HAVE REASONABLY COME TO THIS CONCLUSION. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT I FIND THERE WAS A RING OF PEDOPHILES. IT IS NOT MY ROLE

TO MAKE SUCH A FINDING. BUT I DO FIND THAT NO INVESTIGATION PROVIDED CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE ON THIS POINT.

THE OPP OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO PROJECT TRUTH INVESTIGATED AND THEN THE MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ASSIGNED EXPERIENCED CROWN COUNSEL, SUCH AS MS SHELLEY HALLETT, TO EVALUATE AND PROSECUTE CASES. HOWEVER, THERE WAS NO DEDICATED CROWN COUNSEL WHO COULD WORK ON THE PROJECT FULL-TIME FROM INCEPTION AND THOSE ASSIGNED HAD INADEQUATE RESOURCES AND UNREALISTIC WORKLOADS.

AS A RESULT, CROWN ATTORNEY SHELLEY HALLETT, RESPONSIBLE FOR SEVERAL PROJECT TRUTH PROSECUTIONS, INCLUDING THOSE AGAINST JACQUES LEDUC AND FATHER CHARLES MACDONALD, DID NOT PRODUCE OPINIONS IN A TIMELY WAY. THIS CONTRIBUTED TO DELAY. IN ADDITION, SHE DID NOT MAINTAIN A METHODOICAL DISCLOSURE REGISTER AND THIS CONTRIBUTED TO DISCLOSURE PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, I FIND CROWN SHELLEY HALLETT TO BE A COMPETENT PROFESSIONAL WHOSE COMPASSION AND EXPERIENCE MADE HER AN ASSET TO PROJECT TRUTH. IT WAS UNFORTUNATE THAT HER PARTICIPATION WAS TERMINATED EARLY DUE TO ISSUES OF DISCLOSURE ARISING IN THE LEDUC PROSECUTION. IN TERMS OF WHY AND HOW THIS HAPPENED, I FIND THAT DETECTIVE INSPECTOR HALL OF THE

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE, WHILE HAVING MANY STRENGTHS AS A POLICE OFFICER, LOST SIGHT OF HIS PROFESSIONAL DUTIES AND THE GOAL OF BRINGING A MATTER TO TRIAL ON THE MERITS WHEN HE PROVIDED A LETTER TO DEFENCE COUNSEL FOR MR. LEDUC WITHOUT DISCUSSION WITH MS HALLETT. BY HIS ACTIONS, HE CONTRIBUTED TO THE LOSS OF MS HALLETT FOR PROJECT TRUTH AND THE STAY OF THE LEDUC PROSECUTION.

I EXAMINED THE ROLE OF THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF THE UNITED COUNTIES AS AN INVESTIGATOR OF ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AND AS A PARTNER WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS IN RESPONDING TO ALLEGATIONS. I ALSO EXAMINED IT AS AN INSTITUTION FACING ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF DUTY BY ITS OWN STAFF, FOSTER PARENTS OR GROUP HOME STAFF. IN THIS LATTER AREA, THERE WAS EVIDENCE THAT THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY STRUGGLED WITH EFFECTIVELY INVESTIGATING ITSELF AND THIS RESULTED IN ERRORS IN JUDGEMENT AND RESPONSE.

HOWEVER, I WAS STRUCK BY THE HUMILITY AND CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TAKEN BY MANY WITNESSES FROM THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY. WHERE MISTAKES WERE MADE – AND THERE WERE MANY WITH VERY SERIOUS IMPACTS -- THEY WERE GENERALLY ADMITTED. AS WELL, I RECEIVED INSIGHTFUL RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR FUTURE CHANGE. IN PARTICULAR, I WAS GREATLY AIDED BY IAN MACLEAN, ANGELO TOWNDALE, RICK ABELL, AND BILL CARRIERE.

MANY IN THE CORNWALL COMMUNITY BECAME UNEASY WHEN THEY HEARD OF ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE AGAINST PRIESTS IN THEIR COMMUNITY. THE RESPONSE OF SENIOR DIOCESE OFFICIALS WAS PREOCCUPIED WITH AVOIDANCE OF SCANDAL – DESIRING TO KEEP ISSUES “WITHIN THE CHURCH”. THIS MEANT THAT THEY DID NOT CONTACT THE CHILDREN’S AID SOCIETY OR POLICE WHEN THEY SHOULD HAVE DONE SO, AND DID NOT TURN THEIR CONCERN AND RESOURCES TO THE SUPPORT OF THOSE REPORTING OR THEIR FAMILIES. IN SOME CASES, THOSE WITH A CONFIRMED HISTORY OF SEXUAL ABUSE WERE PERMITTED TO STAY IN ROLES WHERE THEY WERE A RISK TO YOUNG PEOPLE – IN THIS AND OTHER COMMUNITIES. WHEN POLICE INVESTIGATIONS DID OCCUR, COOPERATION FROM THE DIOCESE WAS GRUDGING AND GUARDED. ALL THIS UNDERSTANDABLY EXACERBATED PERCEPTIONS THAT “THERE WAS SOMETHING TO HIDE”.

WHILE THIS HISTORY OF THE PAST HAS MANY DISCOURAGING CHAPTERS, I DO BELIEVE THAT THE PAGE HAS BEEN TURNED. BISHOP DUROCHER SEEMS SINCERE IN SEEKING AND IMPLEMENTING CHANGE. POLICIES ARE IMPROVED AND THE

DIOCESE APPEARS RECEPTIVE TO FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS, BASED ON THIS REPORT, AND ON IMPROVING RELATIONSHIPS WITH SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE. IMPORTANTLY, I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTIVE MEETINGS BETWEEN SURVIVORS AND THE BISHOP AND WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

IN THE COURSE OF THIS INQUIRY, I HAVE BEEN ASKED TO FIND THAT PERRY DUNLOP IS A HERO. AND THAT HE IS A VILLAIN. I DO NEITHER. HIS IS A MIXED LEGACY. IN REPORTING SUSPICIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE BY FATHER CHARLES MACDONALD TO THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY, CONSTABLE PERRY DUNLOP THEN ACTED IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH HIS DUTY. HIS PERCEPTION THAT HIS EMPLOYER WAS UNFAIRLY SANCTIONING HIM BECAUSE OF THIS, LED TO A COMPLETE BREAKDOWN IN TRUST BETWEEN CONSTABLE DUNLOP AND JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS. WHILE ON STRESS-RELATED MEDICAL LEAVE, MR. DUNLOP WAS CUT OFF FROM THOSE WHO MIGHT HAVE OFFERED INSTRUCTIVE GUIDANCE. INSTEAD, HE HIRED AN INEXPERIENCED LAWYER, CHARLES BOURGEOIS. IN ADDITION, HE CLUNG TOO LONG TO THE HOPE THAT MR. RON LEROUX WAS, IN PERRY DUNLOP'S WORDS, THE "UNDERCOVER OPERATOR OF THE PAEDOPHILE WORLD" WHO COULD PROVIDE RELIABLE INFORMATION TO SUBSTANTIATE MR. DUNLOP'S VIEWS.

I DO NOT FIND MR. DUNLOP DELIBERATELY INFLUENCED MR. LEROUX'S ACCOUNTS, BUT THE USE OF LEADING QUESTIONS FOR A SUGGESTIBLE PERSON LIKE MR. LEROUX RESULTED IN MR. LEROUX GIVING STATEMENTS THAT WERE LATER RECANTED AS FALSE. IN OUR SYSTEM OF JUSTICE, IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO RELY ONLY ON THE EVIDENCE OF A WITNESS LIKE MR. LEROUX. HAVING HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE MR. LEROUX, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, GIVEN HIS STATE OF MIND WHEN HE APPEARED BEFORE ME, TO GIVE GREAT CREDENCE TO HIS TESTIMONY. THAT DOES NOT MEAN EVERYTHING MR. LEROUX SAID WAS FALSE. SOME OF HIS INFORMATION WAS SUPPORTED BY OTHER EVIDENCE.

MR. DUNLOP'S ACTIONS IN CONDUCTING UNAUTHORIZED INVESTIGATIONS AND THE STRAINED RELATIONSHIP WITH POLICE AND THE MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL RESULTED IN SOME CASES BEING STAYED BECAUSE OF DISCLOSURE ISSUES. THIS MEANT THAT THERE WAS NO TRIAL ON THE MERITS, A PROBLEM FOR ALLEGED VICTIMS, ALLEGED PERPETRATORS AND A CONCERNED COMMUNITY. WRONGLY, MR. DUNLOP HAD BEGUN TO ACT ON THE PREMISE THAT THE "ENDS JUSTIFY THE MEANS". THIS APPEARED TO EXTEND TO THE RETENTION OF INFORMATION AND HIS METHODS OF INVESTIGATION. I FIND IN MY REPORT THAT THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE SHOULD HAVE ACTED MUCH

EARLIER TO OBTAIN FULL DISCLOSURE FROM PERRY DUNLOP. HOWEVER, IT IS ALSO THE CASE THAT MR. DUNLOP FAILED TO CO-OPERATE AND RESPOND TO REASONABLE REQUESTS BY THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE.

DISCLOSURE ISSUES AROSE IN A PRE-EXISTING ENVIRONMENT OF DISTRUST BETWEEN MR. DUNLOP AND JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS. THIS COULD NOT BE REPAIRED, ALTHOUGH THERE WERE INDIVIDUALS OF GOODWILL WHO TRIED. MR. DUNLOP'S FAILURE TO RESPOND TO VALID ORDERS OF THE ONTARIO COURTS TO TESTIFY AT THIS INQUIRY WERE THE ULTIMATE MANIFESTATION OF THIS INGRAINED PATTERN OF MISTRUST FOR JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS.

I BELIEVE THAT FORMER JUDGE AND MPP GARRY GUZZO WAS GENUINELY MOTIVATED BY CONCERN FOR ALLEGED VICTIMS IN CORNWALL. HOWEVER, MANY OF HIS COMMUNICATIONS WERE CARELESS AND BASED ON INCOMPLETE, UNVERIFIED AND, IN SOME CASES, FALSE INFORMATION. BECAUSE OF HIS POSITION AS AN MPP AND FORMER JUDGE, HE UNFORTUNATELY GAVE LEGITIMACY TO INNUENDO.

MR. DAVID SILMSER CAME FORWARD TO THE CORNWALL POLICE SERVICE AND MADE ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AGAINST FATHER CHARLES MACDONALD AND PROBATION OFFICER KEN SEGUIN.

HE SUBSEQUENTLY RECEIVED A FINANCIAL SETTLEMENT FROM THE DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA-CORNWALL AND FATHER CHARLES MACDONALD. ONE PERSISTENT CRITICISM HAS BEEN THAT: “HE DID IT FOR MONEY”. IN MY VIEW, MR. SILMSER’S PRIMARY CONCERNS WERE TO EXPLAIN TO HIS MOTHER WHY HE CHANGED AND HIS YOUTH BECAME SO TROUBLED AND TO GET A WRITTEN APOLOGY TO SHOW HIS MOTHER. MANY VICTIMS AND ALLEGED VICTIMS HAVE SINCE CARRIED THE BURDEN OF BEING SEEN AS “IN IT FOR MONEY”. THIS IS LARGELY NOT SUSTAINED BY EVIDENCE AND IS UNFAIR TO MANY OF THEM.

I HAVE GIVEN SOME ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS FOUND IN MY REPORT AND WILL SUMMARIZE THE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS DIRECTED AT EACH INSTITUTION. BEFORE DOING THIS, I WANT TO TALK BRIEFLY ABOUT THE PROCESS FOR REACHING MY CONCLUSIONS.

THIS INQUIRY PUT IN PLACE MANY SAFEGUARDS TO ENSURE PROCEDURAL FAIRNESS. I HAVE QUESTIONED PAST ACTIONS AND MADE FINDINGS OF MISCONDUCT BUT IN ALL CASES, HAVE PROVIDED A FAIR PROCESS FOR THE ASSESSMENT AND TESTING OF EVIDENCE. I CONSIDERED ALL AVAILABLE EVIDENCE, DOCUMENTARY AND ORAL. THIS INVOLVED THE REVIEW OF THE TESTIMONY OF 167 WITNESSES OVER 345 DAYS OF HEARINGS AND

THE EXAMINATION AND REVIEW OF 3,640 WRITTEN EXHIBITS. IN CONSIDERING THIS EVIDENCE, I TOOK CARE NOT TO MAKE FINDINGS SOLELY BASED ON THE CONTENTS OF NOTES OR OTHER DOCUMENTS OF THOSE WHO DID NOT TESTIFY. I LOOKED FOR DIRECT OR INDIRECT CORROBORATION OF THE ACCURACY OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE CONCLUDING ANY FACTS SET OUT IN DOCUMENTS WERE CORRECT. AS WELL, IN LOOKING AT PAST CONDUCT, I CONSIDERED INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD IT OCCURRED. I HAVE NOT MEASURED RESPONSES OF PAST DECADES AGAINST THE STANDARDS OF TODAY.

THE *PUBLIC INQUIRIES ACT* DIRECTS COMMISSIONERS TO BE MORE INFORMAL AND INVESTIGATORY IN APPROACH, RECOGNIZING THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH INQUIRIES ARE ESTABLISHED. HOWEVER, I OBSERVE THAT INQUIRIES HAVE BECOME MORE LITIGATIOUS OVER TIME, WITH MORE JURISDICTIONAL AND PROCEDURAL CHALLENGES. FOR THIS INQUIRY, I WAS REQUIRED TO ISSUE 39 RULINGS, ORDERS AND DIRECTIVES. THERE WERE FOUR JUDICIAL REVIEWS, ONE STATED CASE AND TWO APPEALS TO THE COURT OF APPEAL. IN ADDITION, WE APPEARED AT DIVISIONAL COURT IN ONTARIO SEVERAL TIMES AND ONCE IN THE COURTS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA IN RESPECT TO THE ATTENDANCE OF MR. DUNLOP. THIS INCREASED TIME AND COSTS. DEALING WITH NUMEROUS LEGAL CHALLENGES MAY DEFEAT ONE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF A

PUBLIC INQUIRY: TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF MATTERS EXPEDITIOUSLY. IN CHAPTER 12 OF MY REPORT, I GIVE ADVICE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO ABOUT IMPROVED PROCESSES TO EXPEDITE FUTURE INQUIRIES.

ONE OF THE LEGAL CHALLENGES AT THIS INQUIRY AROSE IN RESPECT TO MY DECISION TO HEAR DIRECTLY FROM VICTIMS AND ALLEGED VICTIMS OF ABUSE. IN MY VIEW, THIS DECISION, UPHELD BY ONTARIO COURTS, WAS ESSENTIAL TO UNDERSTANDING WHAT HAPPENED. IT WAS ALSO CRITICAL TO UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF ABUSE, AND IN SOME CASES, THE IMPACT OF STRUGGLES WITH THE JUSTICE SYSTEM. TO ME, IN WRITING THIS REPORT, THE VALUE OF THIS TESTIMONY WAS CONFIRMED.

I HAVE DISCUSSED PATTERNS OF RESPONSES CHARACTERISTIC OF SEVERAL INSTITUTIONS BUT HAVE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS TAILORED FOR EACH. MY RECOMMENDATIONS ARE TARGETED AT TASKS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN FULLY COMPLETED. SOME POSITIVE CHANGE HAS OCCURRED OVER TIME, AND NEW LEADERSHIP HAS EMERGED. MANY INSTITUTIONS SEEM INTENT ON MAKING MORE PROGRESS AND APPEAR RECEPTIVE TO BEING INFORMED BY THE INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THIS INQUIRY. THIS IS A POSITIVE SIGN FOR THE FUTURE. HOWEVER, MUCH IS LEFT TO BE DONE. TO ENSURE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THE RESPONSE OF

INSTITUTIONS TO HISTORIC AND CURRENT ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE, AND TO AVOID REPETITION OF THE MISTAKES OF THE PAST, ACTION NEEDS TO BE TAKEN ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN MY REPORT.

MY RECOMMENDATIONS ARE DESIGNED TO MEET THE NEEDS AND MANDATE OF INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTIONS. IN BROAD TERMS, THEY ADDRESS DEFICITS IN:

- THE TYPE AND EXTENT OF PROFESSIONAL TRAINING, WHETHER AIMED AT SPECIFIC SKILLS OR CHANGES IN ATTITUDE;
- MANAGEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST;
- THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROCESSES AND PROTOCOLS THAT ENSURE INSTITUTIONS GIVE PRIORITY TO SEXUAL ASSAULT AND ABUSE CASES, WORK TOGETHER, PROPERLY RECORD AND SHARE INFORMATION AND PUT THE NEEDS OF THOSE THEY SERVE AHEAD OF INSTITUTIONAL INTERESTS;
- THE MANAGEMENT OF INVESTIGATIONS AND FOLLOW UP WHERE CLERGY, EMPLOYEES OR VOLUNTEERS ARE ACCUSED OF ABUSE;

- SUPPORT TO COMPLAINANTS, INCLUDING COMMUNICATIONS, COUNSELLING AND OTHER SERVICES; AND
- THE MANAGEMENT OF COMPLEX MULTI-VICTIM, MULTI-OFFENDER INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS.

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CORNWALL COMMUNITY POLICE SERVICE INCLUDE ENSURING HISTORICAL SEXUAL ASSAULT OR ABUSE CASES ARE ACCORDED HIGH PRIORITY AND INVESTIGATED IN AN EXPEDITIOUS MANNER. RESOURCES SHOULD BE AVAILABLE TO DO THIS. CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION TRAINING AND COURSES IN HISTORICAL SEXUAL ABUSE, MALE-ON-MALE ABUSE AND DUTY TO REPORT TO THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY ARE ESSENTIAL, AS IS JOINT TRAINING WITH STAFF OF CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETIES AND OTHER JUSTICE PARTNERS. EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT AND APPROACH TO INTERVIEWING COMPLAINANTS AND COMMUNICATING AND SUPPORTING VICTIMS AND FAMILY MEMBERS. SUPERVISION AND MENTORSHIP BY EXPERIENCED SENIOR OFFICERS COULD ENSURE OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO SEXUAL ABUSE AND HISTORICAL ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS PERFORM WELL AND THAT INFORMATION IS RECORDED AND RETAINED. IF THERE ARE ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE POLICE FORCE OR THEIR FAMILIES, AN OUTSIDE POLICE FORCE SHOULD BE BROUGHT IN. PROTOCOLS

SHOULD BE KEPT CURRENT AND REVIEWED FOR INCONSISTENCIES OR GAPS, AND A NEW PROTOCOL ON REPORTING ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE TO PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYERS DEVELOPED. THE POLICE SERVICES BOARD SHOULD ENSURE ITS MEDIA RELEASES OR THOSE OF POLICE OFFICERS ARE APPROPRIATE AND ACCURATE.

IN CONSIDERING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE, I AGREE WITH A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY DEPUTY COMMISSIONER LEWIS, IN PARTICULAR IN THE AREA OF DEVELOPING TRAINING FOR INVESTIGATION OF HISTORICAL SEXUAL ABUSE AND RESUMPTION OF JOINT TRAINING WITH CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETIES. THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE ALSO NEEDS TO GIVE HISTORICAL SEXUAL ABUSE CASES HIGH PRIORITY AND ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT A PROTOCOL FOR SPECIAL PROJECT INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING SEXUAL ASSAULT OR ABUSE CASES, WITH ADEQUATE RESOURCES MADE AVAILABLE. IMPROVED PROCESSES FOR INTERVIEWING AND COMMUNICATING WITH COMPLAINANTS SHOULD BE ADOPTED.

I MAKE MANY RECOMMENDATIONS AIMED AT IMPROVED NOTE TAKING, RECORD KEEPING AND RECORD ACCESS. GIVEN THE MISHANDLING OF THE DESTRUCTION OF PORNOGRAPHIC VIDEOS TAKEN FROM THE HOME OF RON LEROUX, A MISHANDLING THAT STOKED YEARS OF RUMOURS, I STRONGLY ENDORSE BETTER

PROTOCOLS FOR RECORDING CONTENTS OF SUCH MATERIAL AND ANY PROPERTY DESTRUCTION. THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE SHOULD ALSO DEVELOP A DIRECTIVE RELATED TO INFORMING PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS THAT AN ALLEGATION HAS BEEN MADE REGARDING AN EMPLOYEE WHO HAS CONTACT WITH CHILDREN IN THE COURSE OF HIS OR HER WORK.

THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE SHOULD WORK WITH THE CORNWALL CROWN ATTORNEY TO ESTABLISH A LOCAL COURT MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL. IT SHOULD REVIEW MAJOR CASE MANAGEMENT PROTOCOLS TO RECTIFY INCONSISTENCIES AND GAPS, PARTICULARLY IN RESPECT TO INTERACTION WITH THE MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE NEEDS TO BE SYSTEMATIC AND ACCURATE IN PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND INCLUDE COMMUNICATIONS AS PART OF ANY MAJOR CASE MANAGEMENT ENDEAVOUR.

MY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA-CORNWALL INCLUDE REVISING THEIR GUIDELINES TO ENSURE THAT THEY IMMEDIATELY REPORT ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE TO THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY, AND NOT WAIT UNTIL THE DIOCESE CONDUCTS A PRELIMINARY INQUIRY. COMPLAINANTS 16 AND OVER SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED BY DIOCESE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS TO REPORT ALLEGATIONS TO THE POLICE.

INFORMATION-SHARING BETWEEN DIOCESES SHOULD BE OPEN AND DETAILED IN RESPECT TO ABUSE BY CLERGY. RECORD KEEPING AND NOTE TAKING SHOULD BE IMPROVED AND RELEVANT TRAINING PROVIDED TO CLERGY, EMPLOYEES AND ALL VOLUNTEERS. THE DIOCESE SHOULD INSTITUTE RIGOROUS PROCEDURES TO EVALUATE THE SUITABILITY OF PRIESTS IT SUPPORTS FOR MINISTRY.

RESPONDING TO BISHOP DUROCHER'S REQUEST, I MAKE A SERIES OF SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS TO AMEND THE DIOCESE'S PROTOCOLS AND JOINT PROTOCOLS IN RESPONSE TO ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE BY CLERGY, VOLUNTEERS OR EMPLOYEES. I ALSO PROPOSE THAT BISHOP DUROCHER BRING CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION IN DEVELOPING A UNIFORM NATIONAL PROTOCOL.

THE DIOCESE SHOULD ALSO ENSURE THAT PRIESTS INVOLVED IN SEXUAL ABUSE RECEIVE TREATMENT AT ONLY QUALIFIED TREATMENT CENTRES THAT SPECIALIZE IN SEXUAL DISORDERS AND EVALUATE OUTCOMES IN AN OBJECTIVE, PROFESSIONAL MANNER.

I HAVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF THE UNITED COUNTIES TO IMPROVE THEIR WORK IN PROTECTING CHILDREN. THE SOCIETY SHOULD REVIEW AND UPDATE PROTOCOLS AND PRACTICES, PARTICULARLY IN AREAS I HAVE FLAGGED. SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS IN RECORD KEEPING ARE NEEDED, AS ARE CLEAR CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST POLICIES. ALL SERIOUS OCCURRENCES INVOLVING ABUSE ALLEGATIONS IN FOSTER OR GROUP HOMES SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE POLICE. CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY STAFF SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN JOINT TRAINING WITH POLICE OFFICERS. I KNOW THEY WISH TO DO SO AND SO DO OFFICERS FROM THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE AND CORNWALL COMMUNITY POLICE SERVICE.

THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO CAN HELP THIS CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY – AND ALL CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETIES. IT SHOULD AMEND LEGISLATION TO ENSURE IT IS CLEAR THAT DUTY-TO-REPORT PROVISIONS APPLY TO HISTORICAL CASES WHERE THERE IS AN ONGOING RISK TO CHILDREN. THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD ALSO DEVELOP STANDARDS TO FACILITATE RELEASE OF CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY RECORDS AND CHILDHOOD INFORMATION TO WARDS, SO THEY DO NOT LOSE THEIR OWN HISTORY AND CAN ACCESS IT ONCE AND FOR ALL.

CHAPTER 10 OF MY REPORT ADDRESSES THE UPPER CANADA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD AND THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO. BECAUSE SIMILAR ISSUES AROSE AT BOTH BOARDS, I HAVE ADDRESSED MY RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOTH. INDEED, I THINK THE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE INSTRUCTIVE FOR OTHER SCHOOL BOARDS IN ONTARIO.

BOARDS SHOULD ENSURE ALL POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS ARE KEPT CURRENT. THEY SHOULD AUGMENT EXISTING POLICIES WITH THOSE REGARDING DISCIPLINE OR TERMINATION OF EMPLOYEES CHARGED OR CONVICTED OF SEXUAL OFFENCES, THE PREPARATION OF COMMUNICATIONS PLANS FOLLOWING DISCLOSURE OF INCIDENTS OF ABUSE AND THE REPORTING OF ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE FOR STUDENTS 16 AND OLDER.

BOARDS SHOULD OFFER TRAINING ON IDENTIFYING INAPPROPRIATE PATTERNS OF BEHAVIOUR BY AUTHORITY FIGURES AND CIRCULATE PERIODIC QUESTIONNAIRES TO ASCERTAIN THE EXTENT TO WHICH ITS EMPLOYEES UNDERSTAND EXISTING POLICIES, IN ORDER TO FOCUS TRAINING NEEDS.

BOARDS SHOULD CONDUCT PHYSICAL AUDITS OF SCHOOLS TO REMOVE UNNECESSARY LOCKS OR PUT WINDOWS IN DOORS TO

FACILITATE OBSERVATION AND SHOULD ALSO PERIODICALLY AUDIT TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY REGARDING DRIVERS WITH A HISTORY OF SEXUAL OFFENCES.

GIVEN THE REORGANIZATIONS OF SCHOOL BOARDS IN THE AREA, BOARDS SHOULD DEVELOP A PROTOCOL FOR DEALING WITH INFORMATION REQUESTS ON HISTORIC INCIDENTS WITH A VIEW TO ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION.

BOARDS SHOULD RECEIVE COPIES OF CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS AND ANY SCREENING INFORMATION FOR PRIESTS, MEMBERS OF RELIGIOUS ORDERS, COUNSELLORS, PSYCHOLOGISTS AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE REGULARLY IN SCHOOLS. IF A SCHOOL BOARD PAYS THE SALARY OR PROVIDES AN OFFICE TO SUCH AN INDIVIDUAL, THAT BOARD MUST ENSURE THEIR SUITABILITY AND APPLY THE SAME POLICIES AS ARE IN PLACE FOR TEACHERS AND OTHER EMPLOYEES, SHOULD THERE BE A REPORT OF ABUSE.

MY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL INCLUDE IMPROVEMENTS AND UPDATES TO PRACTICE MEMORANDUM, POLICIES AND PROTOCOLS, PARTICULARLY FOR HISTORICAL ABUSE AND THE CARRYING OUT OF AUDITS OF LOCAL CROWN OFFICES TO ENSURE PROTOCOLS AND POLICIES ARE

FOLLOWED. THE MINISTRY SHOULD ENSURE PROSECUTION FILES ARE IN THEIR POSSESSION, NOT WITH INDIVIDUAL CROWNS. FAILURE TO DO THIS CAUSED ISSUES WHEN PROSECUTION FILES REMAINED WITH CROWN HALLETT, INSTEAD OF BEING PROMPTLY FORWARDED TO NEWLY ASSIGNED PROSECUTORS.

SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN DISCLOSURE TRACKING, RECORD TRACKING AND MANAGEMENT OF CROWN OPINIONS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST CASES IS NEEDED. CROWN COUNSEL SHOULD GET ONGOING TRAINING ON THE DUTY TO REPORT ABUSE, INCLUDING THEIR PERSONAL DUTY, AND PARTICIPATE IN ASPECTS OF REINSTITUTED JOINT TRAINING WITH CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETIES AND POLICE.

WHEN PROJECTS LIKE PROJECT TRUTH ARISE IN FUTURE, THE MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHOULD ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF A DESIGNATED CROWN OR TEAM OF CROWNS AND THAT PROJECTS ARE APPROPRIATELY RESOURCED. WORK NEEDS TO BE DONE TO AUGMENT THE MAJOR CASE RESOURCE DOCUMENT CURRENTLY IN PLACE AND TO ADOPT IT AS A FORMAL POLICY. SUCH POLICIES NEED TO CONSIDER THE ISSUES THAT ARISE WHEN CASES ARE PROSECUTED IN A SMALLER COMMUNITY. THE MINISTRY AND ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE SHOULD WORK TOGETHER ON OPERATIONAL PLANS FOR SPECIAL PROJECT

PROSECUTIONS. IN TERMS OF MANAGEMENT OF DELAY, I RECOMMEND THAT THE MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONSIDER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LESAGE/CODE REPORT IN RESPECT TO EMPOWERING JUDGES TO RULE AT THE PRE-TRIAL STAGE.

THE ORDER-IN-COUNCIL ESTABLISHING THIS INQUIRY DIRECTED ME TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE HEALING AND RECONCILIATION NEEDED BECAUSE OF THE DISSENSION, CONFUSION AND PAIN OF THE PAST. THOUSANDS WITHIN THIS COMMUNITY ASKED FOR THIS INQUIRY BECAUSE NEIGHBOUR DISPUTED WITH NEIGHBOUR AND MANY DISTRUSTED THE INSTITUTIONS ESTABLISHED TO PROTECT, NURTURE AND SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY. TRUST NEEDED TO BE REBUILT.

PHASE 2 OF THE CORNWALL PUBLIC INQUIRY WAS AN UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH HEALING AND RECONCILIATION COULD BE DISCUSSED AND CONCRETE PLANS DEVELOPED FOR THE FUTURE. I MAKE VERY SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS IN VOLUME 2 OF MY REPORT TO BENEFIT CORNWALL AND THE STORMONT, DUNDAS AND GLENGARRY AREA. BASED ON MY OBSERVATIONS, THE WORK OF HEALING AND RECONCILIATION HAS STARTED AND IF GIVEN SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT, THIS COMMUNITY WILL BE

SECOND TO NONE IN TERMS OF ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS, INNOVATION AND THE EXAMPLE IT SETS FOR OTHERS.

MY REPORT PUTS FORWARD A FIVE-YEAR AGENDA FOR HEALING AND RECONCILIATION. IT'S A PLAN THAT WILL ENSURE NEEDED CHANGE ENDURES. IT'S A PLAN THAT WILL MAKE A PRACTICAL DIFFERENCE IN THE DAILY LIVES OF PEOPLE IN CORNWALL AND STORMONT, DUNDAS AND GLENGARRY. IT'S A PLAN THAT CAN CONTRIBUTE TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

I RECOMMEND THE CREATION OF A RECONCILIATION TRUST WITH FUNDING OF \$5 MILLION DOLLARS. WORKING IN COOPERATION WITH PROVINCIAL PUBLIC SERVANTS, THE TRUST SHOULD INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, PRÉVAction, CITIZENS FOR COMMUNITY RENEWAL, THE SURVIVOR LEADERSHIP GROUP AND ST. LAWRENCE COLLEGE.

IF IMPLEMENTED, THE TRUST COULD ENSURE ACTION ON INITIATIVES IN CORNWALL AND AREA TO ADDRESS THE IMPACT OF PAST ABUSE, TO PREVENT FUTURE SEXUAL ABUSE, FOR EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONALS AND FOR EFFORTS DIRECTED AT RECONCILIATION AND INCLUSION. I HAVE SUGGESTED THAT APPROVAL OF UP TO \$200,000 IN CAPITAL SPENDING FOR ANY ONE PROJECT BE INCLUDED IN THE TRUST'S APPROVAL AUTHORITY.

IN ADDITION, THE TRUST COULD APPROVE UP TO 25 RECONCILIATION SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SURVIVORS OF ABUSE TO OBTAIN THE EQUIVALENT OF A HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION OR FOR THOSE SEEKING TO ATTEND ST. LAWRENCE COLLEGE. I HAVE HEARD ABOUT THE EDUCATION DEFICIT FOR MANY SURVIVORS WHOSE EDUCATION WAS INTERRUPTED BY THE TRAUMA OF ABUSE. THIS IS A STEP IN ADDRESSING THAT DEFICIT.

I RECOMMEND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FAMILY AND CHILD ADVOCACY CENTRE IN CORNWALL. THE FEDERAL OMBUDSMAN FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME HAS ALSO STRONGLY SUPPORTED SUCH CENTRES TO CREATE THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT TO RECEIVE DISCLOSURES OF ABUSE BY CHILDREN OR ADULTS. WIDESPREAD IN THE UNITED STATES, SUCH CENTRES HAVE A RECORD OF PROVEN SUCCESS. IT HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED TO MY SATISFACTION THAT LEADERSHIP AT CORNWALL INSTITUTIONS LIKE THE CORNWALL COMMUNITY POLICE SERVICE AND THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF THE UNITED COUNTIES ARE READY TO STEP UP AND MAKE THIS WORK IN CORNWALL.

I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT THERE BE FUNDING TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE A SURVIVOR-LED ADULT COMMUNITY HEALING RESOURCE CENTRE IN CORNWALL TO GIVE SURVIVORS A PLACE TO MEET, TO INVITE IN PROFESSIONALS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

TO WORK TOGETHER ON THE ONGOING WORK OF PERSONAL HEALING AND COMMUNITY RECONCILIATION. THERE WILL BE NO RECONCILIATION IF THERE IS NO PLACE FOR SURVIVORS TO HELP THEMSELVES AND TO WORK WITH OTHERS FOR CONSTRUCTIVE REBUILDING OF RELATIONSHIPS OF TRUST.

I RECOMMEND THE START UP OF A RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR ONGOING RESEARCH INTO THE CAUSES, IMPACTS AND NEEDED RESPONSES TO ABUSE. THIS RESEARCH INSTITUTE LOCATED AT THE CORNWALL CAMPUS OF ST. LAWRENCE COLLEGE WOULD WORK IN CONCERT WITH A PLANNED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AT THAT COMMUNITY COLLEGE. I ALSO RECOMMEND A FIVE-YEAR SPEAKERS PROGRAM TO CONTINUE THE EDUCATIONAL WORK DONE BY THIS INQUIRY IN BRINGING TOP PROFESSIONALS IN THE FIELD OF THE ABUSE OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO SHARE EMERGING INFORMATION AND PRACTICAL APPROACHES.

I RECOMMEND CONTINUED SUPPORT TO THE LOCAL ORGANIZATION, PRÉV ACTION, SO IT MAY CONTINUE ITS IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION AS A CATALYST FOR POSITIVE CHANGE IN THIS COMMUNITY. ITS WORK DONE TO DATE HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL IN MOVING IDEAS TO THE STAGE WHERE THEY CAN BE ASSESSED AND IMPLEMENTED.

MY RECOMMENDATIONS TO SUPPORT HEALING AND RECONCILIATION IN CORNWALL AND STORMONT, DUNDAS AND GLENGARRY ARE DESIGNED TO WORK TOGETHER. I HAVE CHOSEN INITIATIVES THAT REINFORCE EACH OTHER – THEY MEET CURRENT NEEDS BUT BY BEING INTERDEPENDENT, INCREASE THE LIKELIHOOD OF SUSTAINING CHANGE OVER TIME.

OVER THE PAST YEARS, MY ADVISORY PANEL HAS BEEN WORKING TO FIND WORKABLE AND INCLUSIVE APPROACHES THAT HAVE ROOTS IN THIS COMMUNITY. MY REPORT DETAILS THESE IN VOLUME 2. I SEE THE “MADE IN CORNWALL” SOLUTIONS AS A VERY HOPEFUL SIGN FOR A POSITIVE FUTURE. I THANK ALL THOSE WHO INVESTED IN DEVELOPING THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR COMMUNITY HEALING AND RECONCILIATION. THOSE WHO GAVE INFORMAL TESTIMONY ALSO CONTRIBUTED PHASE 2 RECOMMENDATIONS. I COMMEND TO YOU ALL, VOLUME 3, “THE VOICES OF INFORMAL TESTIMONY”. IT PROVIDES A UNIQUE AND POIGNANT UNDERSTANDING OF THE EXPERIENCES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MANY IN THIS COMMUNITY.

I HAVE ALSO CONSIDERED PERSONAL HEALING, ONE OF THE PRECONDITIONS OF COMMUNITY HEALING. THIS INQUIRY BROKE NEW GROUND IN CREATING COUNSELLING SUPPORT AND WITNESS SUPPORT PROGRAMS. SOME 388 INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN TO

COUNSELLING WITH THE COUNSELLOR OF THEIR CHOICE THROUGH FUNDING PROVIDED BY THIS INQUIRY. THIS PRACTICAL HELP HAS CHANGED LIVES – IT MAY EVEN HAVE SAVED LIVES. MANY HAVE NOT COMPLETED NEEDED COUNSELLING WITH THE COUNSELLOR OF THEIR CHOICE, AND THEREFORE I RECOMMEND A PERIOD OF CONTINUATION FOR THOSE STILL NEEDING COUNSELLING – UP TO 5 YEARS – TO ENSURE PAST TRAUMAS ARE ADDRESSED.

IN ADDITION, I RECOMMEND THAT THE CORNWALL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL BE PROVIDED WITH AN ADDITIONAL COUNSELLOR POSITION TO SERVE HISTORICAL VICTIMS OF ABUSE WHO COME FORWARD IN THE FUTURE. I ALSO RECOMMEND IMPLEMENTATION OF A TRANSITIONAL PROGRAM FOR THOSE NOW IN COUNSELLING OR FOR THOSE WHO ARE HISTORICAL VICTIMS OF ABUSE FROM THE CORNWALL AND STORMONT, DUNDAS AND GLENGARRY AREA TO ATTEND A ONE-WEEK RESIDENTIAL HEALING PROGRAM. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS ADVANCE PERSONAL HEALING, AN INTEGRAL PART OF COMMUNITY HEALING AND RECONCILIATION.

IN SPEAKING OF THE CONTINUATION OF COUNSELLING SUPPORT, I REMIND EVERYONE THAT MANY IN COUNSELLING TODAY WERE AFFECTED BY PAST INSTITUTIONAL FAILURES. THEY OFTEN WAITED DECADES TO GET HELP. MANY GOT HELP FOR THE FIRST TIME THROUGH THIS INQUIRY. READ MY REPORT AND SEE HOW

THEY WERE AFFECTED AND UNDERSTAND, AS I DO, WHY THEY NEED THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE COUNSELLOR THEY KNOW AND TRUST.

IT IS TROUBLING TO ME THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO APPEARS TO HAVE MADE A DECISION TO DISCONTINUE COUNSELLING SERVICES BASED ON INDIVIDUAL CHOICE BEFORE RECEIVING THIS REPORT. I HOPE THEY RECONSIDER. MAKING DECISIONS WITHOUT CONSULTATION OR CONSIDERATION OF THE VIEWS OF SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE IS AN UNWELCOME ECHO OF THE INSTITUTIONAL FAILURES THAT BROUGHT US HERE TODAY.

WHILE I HAVE OFFERED A STRONG INTEGRATED PLAN FOR HEALING AND RECONCILIATION IN CORNWALL, I HAVE ALSO LOOKED AT WHAT CAN BE DONE THROUGHOUT ONTARIO. WE KNOW ABUSE OCCURS IN ALL COMMUNITIES. WHAT HAS BEEN LEARNED IN CORNWALL CAN BENEFIT ALL IN ONTARIO. I HAVE MADE RECOMMENDATIONS IN VOLUME 2 ABOUT PROVINCE-WIDE EDUCATION, SERVICES AND PUBLIC POLICY CHANGE.

I HAVE CONCLUDED THAT AS A SOCIETY WE MUST RECOGNIZE THE IMPACT OF HISTORICAL SEXUAL ABUSE AND RESPOND MORE APPROPRIATELY. THERE MUST BE AN END TO THE PERCEPTION

THAT SURVIVORS OF ABUSE ARE “IRRITANTS”. IN PARTICULAR, THE NEEDS OF MALE VICTIMS MUST BE ADDRESSED.

IT IS MY VIEW THAT A STRATEGIC PLAN MUST BE PUT IN PLACE FOR SERVICES FOR MEN IN ONTARIO WHO HAVE SUFFERED ABUSE. I HAVE MADE CLEAR THE CONSIDERATIONS THAT MUST GO INTO SUCH A PLAN – IT IS NOT JUST WHAT IS THE CHEAPEST DELIVERY SYSTEM. ONTARIO NEEDS MORE THAN PIECEMEAL RESPONSES. MEN NEED INTEGRATED AND COHERENT PLANS FOR SERVICES AND A WAY OF TRACKING AND MEASURING IMPLEMENTATION AND EFFECTIVENESS OF SERVICES. RIGHT NOW, THERE IS NO INTEGRATED PLAN.

WHILE WORK ON A STRATEGIC PLAN PROCEEDS, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE FEW ORGANIZATIONS NOW SERVING MEN CONTINUE. I HAVE DIRECT KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEN’S PROJECT AND THE GATEHOUSE, WHOSE FINANCIAL POSITION IS NOT CURRENTLY STRONG, BUT THERE ARE LIKELY OTHERS. ORGANIZATIONS WITH EXPERTISE IN SERVING MALE SURVIVORS NEED TO BE SUSTAINED TO GIVE THE KNOW-HOW AND ADVICE THAT COULD RESULT IN AN EFFECTIVE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE FUTURE.

WHILE I HAVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SERVICES FOR MEN, I ALSO ADDRESS GAPS IN SERVICES FOR BOTH WOMEN AND MEN. I

RECOMMEND EXPANSION OF THE USE OF PSYCHOLOGISTS AND SOCIAL WORKERS AS A WAY TO BROADEN ACCESS TO NEEDED LONG-TERM COUNSELLING FOR THOSE WITH A HISTORY OF SEXUAL ABUSE AS CHILDREN OR YOUNG PEOPLE. THERE IS A SHORTAGE OF OHIP-COVERED PSYCHIATRISTS, PARTICULARLY FOR FRANCO-PHONES, AND MANY NEEDING LONG-TERM COUNSELLING CANNOT AFFORD IT. I ALSO RECOMMEND TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE IN REMOTE OR RURAL AREAS SO THEY CAN GET TO COUNSELLING. AS WELL, I RECOMMEND SECURE FUNDING FOR SURVIVOR PEER OR MENTOR ACTIVITIES TO REDUCE SOCIAL ISOLATION AND BUILD SELF-ESTEEM. SURVIVOR PEER OR MENTOR ACTIVITIES ARE NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BUT CAN BE A POWERFUL AND COST-EFFECTIVE WAY TO MAKE A CONSTRUCTIVE DIFFERENCE, IF APPROPRIATELY SUPPORTED WITH TRAINING AND ACCESS TO PROFESSIONAL GUIDANCE.

WHEN WE ADDRESS PREVENTION OF ABUSE – SOMETHING EVERYONE WANTS – WE MUST PROVIDE TREATMENT FOR THOSE WHO OFFEND, SO THERE ARE FEWER VICTIMS OF KNOWN PERPETRATORS. TO OBTAIN NEEDED INFORMATION ON TREATMENT MODELS – WHAT WORKS BEST – THE APPROACH TAKEN IN MY REPORT IS TO RECOMMEND A SERIES OF FIVE-YEAR PROJECTS, BASED ON VARIOUS MODELS, TO PROVIDE TREATMENT TO ADULT OFFENDERS, INCLUDING THOSE WITH THEIR OWN

HISTORY OF VICTIMIZATION AS A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON. THIS COULD GIVE US MUCH NEEDED INFORMATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF LONG TERM PROGRAMS OF INTERVENTION WITH POTENTIAL SEX OFFENDERS. IN THIS REGARD, I SUGGEST CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO THE PROPOSAL OF THE CORNWALL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL AS ONE PROJECT.

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY DIVISIVE ISSUES IN RESPECT TO THE WORK OF THIS INQUIRY. HOWEVER, EVERYONE AGREES THAT THERE IS MORE NEED FOR EDUCATION AND AWARENESS IN RESPECT TO SEXUAL ABUSE OF YOUNG PEOPLE. I RECOMMEND A PROVINCE-WIDE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN SIMILAR TO ONES THAT EXIST FOR DRUNK DRIVING AND ELDER ABUSE. YOUNG PEOPLE ARE WATCHING TV AND ARE ON THE INTERNET. IF THEY SEE MESSAGES THAT ABHOR ABUSE AND SUPPORT DISCLOSURE, WE HAVE A CHANCE AT CHANGING THE PATTERN OF SHAME AND GUILT THAT IMPRISONS THE ABUSED AND EMPOWERS THE ABUSER.

I ALSO RECOMMEND THAT THE SAFE SCHOOLS ACTION TEAM PROVIDE ONE MORE REPORT TO MAKE SURE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ARE SAFE AT SCHOOL AND ELSEWHERE. THAT REPORT WOULD SET OUT THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSES OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM TO THE ABUSE OF YOUNG PEOPLE BY TRUSTED ADULTS. YOUNG PEOPLE NEED TO HEAR ABOUT THIS ISSUE REGULARLY, AT LEAST

ANNUALLY, NOT JUST A FEW TIMES IN THEIR SCHOOL LIFE. I ALSO ADVOCATE WIDESPREAD EDUCATION OF PROFESSIONALS AND ALL PARTNERS IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM SO THAT PROFESSIONALS WILL HAVE THE TOOLS TO ACT TO PREVENT ABUSE AND RESPOND APPROPRIATELY WHEN IT IS DISCLOSED. I RECOMMEND EDUCATION ON APOLOGIES, SO THEY ARE MADE PROMPTLY WHEN WARRANTED AND IN A WAY THAT IS HEALING AND NOT HARMFUL.

IN PHASE 2, WE HAD SEVERAL RELEVANT POLICY WORKSHOPS. ONE WAS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF AN OMBUDSMAN FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE. THE IDEA WAS INTERESTING, BUT ON BALANCE I WAS NOT CONVINCED THAT THE CREATION OF SUCH A POSITION WOULD BE OF VALUE. IN SETTING PRIORITIES, I SUPPORT DIRECT SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS TO GET A BETTER JOB DONE INITIALLY RATHER THAN MORE OVERSIGHT MECHANISMS. I BELIEVE ONTARIO WOULD BE BETTER SERVED BY A VICTIM LIAISON SERVICE FOR ALL VICTIMS, NOT JUST THOSE WHOSE CASE GOES TO TRIAL. I RECOMMEND PRIORITY BE GIVEN TO CORNWALL AND THE UNITED COUNTIES IN ESTABLISHING THIS SERVICE.

THIS INQUIRY ALSO CONVENED A POLICY ROUNDTABLE ON CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS IN CIVIL SETTLEMENTS. FOR MANY SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE, SECRECY AND SHAME ARE A PART OF THEIR INJURY. HAVING TO MAINTAIN SILENCE IN RETURN FOR

MONEY CAN HAVE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES. I THINK MANY LAWYERS OR MEDIATORS CONSIDER CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS AS “BOILERPLATE” IN THE SETTLEMENT PROCESS. THEY NEED EDUCATION TO BE MORE SENSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE.

I ALSO RECOMMEND THAT THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT SHOULD CEASE REQUIRING CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS IN SETTLING CASES INVOLVING SEXUAL ABUSE, ALTHOUGH THERE SHOULD BE PROTECTION AVAILABLE IN RESPECT TO THE IDENTITY OF THE VICTIM AND AMOUNT PAID IF THIS IS THE WISH OF THE VICTIM. I ALSO RECOMMEND THIS POLICY BE EXTENDED TO OTHER PUBLICLY FUNDED INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS SCHOOL BOARDS, CHILDREN’S AID SOCIETIES AND POLICE FORCES, WITHIN THREE YEARS.

SENTENCING PRACTICES FOR THOSE CONVICTED OF ABUSE WAS OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST TO THE PUBLIC AND SO A PHASE 2 EVENT WAS HELD ON THE TOPIC. AN INTERESTING PAPER ON SENTENCING PATTERNS WAS PROVIDED. I DO NOT HAVE JURISDICTION TO RECOMMEND CHANGES UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AND DO NOT DO SO. I DO RECOMMEND THAT THE MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL UNDERTAKE A THOROUGH REVIEW OF SENTENCING PRACTICES IN CASES OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE TO DETERMINE IF CROWN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES NEED REVISION. I ALSO RECOMMEND EXPERT TRAINING AND ACCESS TO

EXPERT INFORMATION FOR CROWN ATTORNEYS IN SENTENCING. LAST, I RECOMMEND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO SHOULD APPROACH OTHER PROVINCES AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO REVIEW SENTENCING IN CASES OF ABUSE.

I RECOGNIZE THAT MY PHASE 2 RECOMMENDATIONS REQUIRE FUNDING IN DIFFICULT ECONOMIC TIMES. THERE MAY BE SYMPATHY FOR THE INITIATIVES BUT RELUCTANCE TO FUND. I CAUTION THAT THERE IS A HIGH PRICE TO PAY FOR NOT ACTING – A PRICE PAID HERE AND ELSEWHERE. I BELIEVE THAT MY RECOMMENDATIONS ARE PRACTICAL, REASONABLE, AND HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED WITH AN EYE TO COST. I ASK THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO AND AFFECTED INSTITUTIONS TO GIVE THEM EARLY AND SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION.

DO NOT THINK THAT WITH THE RELEASE OF THIS REPORT THAT THE ISSUES OF ABUSE OF YOUNG PEOPLE OR REPORTS OF HISTORICAL ABUSE ARE “PAST HISTORY”, SOMETHING WE CAN NOW FORGET ABOUT. WE CAN LOOK AT MEDIA REPORTS EVERY DAY AND SEE THIS IS NOT THE CASE. SO WHILE I HAVE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE, I ALSO WARN AGAINST COMPLACENCY AND THE RISK OF “BEING TIRED OF THIS ISSUE”. WORK NEEDS TO CONTINUE.

AT THE INCEPTION OF MY WORK AT THIS INQUIRY, I DECIDED IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT THIS INQUIRY BE LOCATED IN THIS COMMUNITY, CONDUCTING ITS HEARINGS AND ACTIVITIES CLOSE TO THOSE WHO WOULD BE MOST AFFECTED BY MY REPORT. I AM GLAD TO BE BACK HERE TODAY TO RELEASE MY REPORT, AND TO SPEAK TO THIS COMMUNITY IN PERSON.

IN RETURNING TO THIS COMMUNITY, I RETURN TO THE REASONS THIS INQUIRY WAS CREATED AND WHAT IT HAS ACCOMPLISHED. THIS INQUIRY PROVIDES A REPORT THAT DETAILS ALL FACTS AVAILABLE. ONLY A SHARED BASIS OF FACT CAN FORM THE BASIS OF RESPECTFUL DIALOGUE. THIS INQUIRY HAS RAISED AWARENESS OF THE REALITY AND IMPACT OF MALE SEXUAL VICTIMIZATION. YOUR SONS, BROTHERS, FATHERS AND MALE FRIENDS DESERVE BETTER. THIS INQUIRY HAS ALSO HIGHLIGHTED THE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES OF REVICTIMIZATION WHEN INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE FAILS COMPLAINANTS AND THEIR FAMILIES. YOUR DAUGHTERS, SISTERS, MOTHERS AND FEMALE FRIENDS ALSO DESERVE BETTER.

THIS INQUIRY HAS BEEN BALANCED IN RECOGNIZING BOTH ERROR AND UNFAIR CRITICISM, AND IN EXPLAINING THE GENESIS OF BOTH. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PAST IS ESSENTIAL TO MOVING FORWARD IN FUTURE. THIS INQUIRY PROVIDES PRACTICAL

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTIONS, THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO AND FOR HEALING AND RECONCILIATION. IF ADOPTED, THESE WILL REBUILD PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND THE JUSTICE SYSTEM AND CREATE HOPE AND TRUST FOR THE FUTURE.

CORNWALL IS NOT A COMMUNITY ECLIPSED BY THE DARK CLOUD OF SCANDAL. IT IS A COMMUNITY WHERE THE WORK OF HEALING AND RECONCILIATION HAS STARTED AND WHERE THERE ARE PEOPLE OF GOOD INTENTIONS AND SENSITIVITY WHO ARE INVOLVED AND EAGER TO KEEP GOING. WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF NEEDED CHANGES AT INSTITUTIONS AND AN INTEGRATED PLAN FOR HEALING AND RECONCILIATION, CORNWALL WILL BE A BEACON OF HOPE FOR OTHER COMMUNITIES. IT WILL BE AN EXAMPLE OF HOW TO IMPLEMENT EFFECTIVE INITIATIVES TO EDUCATE AND EMPOWER A COMMUNITY TO PREVENT SEXUAL ABUSE, TO RESPOND TO ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AND TO CARE FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY ABUSE.

MY WORK IS COMPLETED TODAY, WITH THE DELIVERY OF THIS REPORT. I LEAVE THIS COMMUNITY WITH A SOLID FACTUAL RECORD AND THOROUGH ANALYSIS BECAUSE THIS IS NEEDED TO REMOVE THE UNCERTAINTY THAT HAS BEEN AN IMPEDIMENT IN

RELATIONS BETWEEN NEIGHBOURS AND BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS AND THOSE THEY SERVE.

THE LESSONS OF THE PAST CAN SERVE A BETTER FUTURE. I HAVE COME TO CARE DEEPLY ABOUT THAT BETTER FUTURE, FOR THOSE WHOSE LIVES WERE DEVASTATED BY ABUSE, FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED A GENUINE DESIRE TO DO THEIR BEST FOR THOSE THEY SERVE, FOR THOSE WORKING WITH GOODWILL FOR CHANGE AND FOR THOSE REACHING OUT FOR UNDERSTANDING. I WILL WATCH WITH GREAT INTEREST THE PROGRESS IN INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE TO HISTORIC ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE. AND TO THIS COMMUNITY, I DO NOT SAY “GOOD-BYE” BUT “AU REVOIR”.