

Laroque criticized

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By Don McArthur,

Eugene LaRoque, who retired in the Windsor area after serving nearly three decades as bishop of the Alexandria-Cornwall diocese, figures prominently in Tuesday's report.

It concluded LaRoque didn't do enough to root out rogue priests when he learned of alleged transgressions and, in his testimony before the inquiry, LaRoque "acknowledged that he should have monitored situations involving clergy sexual abuse in the diocese much more closely."

The report said LaRoque, who was bishop from 1974 to 2002, "failed to take appropriate action to ensure that young people in the community" would not be targeted by a problem priest and failed to notify authorities about the allegations.

The report also found LaRoque did not do enough to "identify other potential victims" of an abusive priest, did not "adequately co-operate" with the police investigation and failed to "maintain supervision" of the priest, who was transferred to another diocese.

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