

COPY -

August 10, 1998.

James P. Bateman
RR#1-Summerstown Road,
Summerstown, Ontario.
K0C 2E0.

Bob Kilger, M.P.,
Chief Government Whip,
Constituency Office,
501 Montreal Road,
Cornwall, Ontario.
K6H 1C1.

Re: "PROJECT TRUTH"

Dear Mr. Kilger,

On or about July 12, 1998 I telephoned your office and left a message regarding comments you made to the Cornwall daily, Standard-Freeholder surrounding "PROJECT TRUTH." You phoned me on Wednesday July 15, 1998 but you were unable to reach me. I have returned your call twice since the 15th of July and I have left messages; we have not made contact. Perhaps this letter will suffice. The publication I am referring to was dated July 11, 1998. Also, I wanted to direct your attention to the following points; 1)Publication Ban, 2)Comments by editorial staff of the Standard-Freeholder dated July 4, 1998; 3)Your comments in the Standard-Freeholder dated July 11, 1998; and 4)The peculiar absence of political level comment.

Furthermore, I wanted to bring to your attention the editorial in the Ottawa Sun dated July 12, 1998 entitled, "THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER" which in tone and fact is quite contrary to your comments and the comments of the Standard-Freeholder as mentioned above. Additionally, I am directing your attention to Bob Roth's column in the Seaway-News dated July 19, 1998 entitled, "FREEHOLDER TAKES PATHETIC STAND ON CHILD ABUSE ISSUE," as well as other "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR" published in newspapers other than the STANDARD-FREEHOLDER. Again, the editorial tone and substance is quite different from yours and the Standard-Freeholder. I find the aforementioned points to be quite odd; your statements are so fundamentally different from those of the news media; other than the STANDARD-FREEHOLDER. For Your Information: a)I am a local citizen, paying substantial municipal, provincial and federal taxes; b)I have children who attend the local school and engage in local sporting and cultural activities; c)My family dispense all of our disposable incomes in this community; e)I have been employed in the community and social services sector for eleven years; d) We depend upon local police, justice system officials, politicians, clergy and other prominent representatives of this community to provide a safe, healthy and progressive community that will subsequently result in prosperous and sound citizens. We are not only interested in attracting new business and citizens to this community, but we must KEEP what and WHO we have now.

August 10, 1998.
Bateman to Bob Kilger, Liberal M.P.
Chief Government Whip.
page two of three.

Re: "PROJECT TRUTH"

The Ottawa Sun, Seaway News and Glengarry News have fallen into yet another, dark, dreary, stinky quagmire lurking on the shores of the Seaway; "THE PERCEPTION OF COVER-UP, SECRECY AND CENSORSHIP" reaching high levels of society and public administration in this community.

On Saturday, July 4, 1998, I believe the "Standard-Freeholder" chastises the community for spreading rumours. Instead of providing information explaining "publication bans" and "rumour", the daily "tabloid" elects to print its own rumour, innuendo and misinformation. Subsequently in the same article the Standard-Freeholder naively writes, "If you don't read it in the newspapers or hear it on the radio, then consider it not to be true. If ever there was a time to practice the GOLDEN RULE, it is now!"

On Saturday, July 11, 1998 I was shocked to read your statements in the Standard-Freeholder. Instead of wanting to get to the truth of the matter and rid this community of rumour, you also indirectly chastise the community with the statement; "the "epidemic of rumours" that swept the city did nothing to help the situation." I find your comments to be your effort to present the impression that "PROJECT TRUTH" is over, so let's get on with our lives. This, I find quite odd. I believe that some people may conclude that the voice of suppressed "PUBLIC OPINION" is subsequently expressed through rumour, and this in fact forced "PROJECT TRUTH" into the light. Furthermore it is written in the Standard-Freeholder that Bob Kilger is confident residents can "turn the page."
In my opinion, Provincial Liberal M.P.P. John Cleary's comments were equally as naive, ignorant and suspicious.

On Sunday July 12, 1998, just one day after your statements appeared in the Standard-Freeholder the Ottawa Sun finally struck the nail on the head. They printed the editorial that should have been written by the Standard-Freeholder and the words that should have come out of your mouth. The Ottawa Sun editorial is entitled, "THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER." Among other comments The Sun writes, "More charges must be laid. More men, very, very prominent men in the Cornwall area...and we know most of their names-must face the consequences of using their community status, their position within the Roman Catholic Church, and their influence within the system as insulation against being publicly tried as participants in what has rightly been called "a paedophile clan."

August 10, 1998.
Bateman to Bob Kilger, Liberal M.P.,
Chief Government Whip,
page three of three.

Re: "PROJECT TRUTH"

Why have you chosen to hide behind "LET THE POLICE DO THEIR JOB?" Did they do their job in the past? In my opinion, this position you choose to pursue casts a shadow of doubt on your responsibility to the people who elected you to office and to your commitment to this community.

On July 18, 1998 Claude McIntosh and the Standard-Freeholder again chastise the public. Thankfully, the very next day, Bob Roth's article (July 19, 1998) in the Seaway News entitled "FREEHOLDER TAKES PATHETIC STAND ON CHILD ABUSE ISSUE" did, as the Ottawa Sun did, "HITS THE NAIL ON THE HEAD!"

On July 21, 1998 the Standard-Freeholder published a picture of lawyer Michael Edelson leading his client; prominent Cornwall lawyer Jacques Leduc, (previous lawyer for the Catholic Diocese) from the court where Mr. Leduc made a court appearance. Mr. Leduc with seven other men were charged with sex crimes.

In conclusion: Mr. Kilger your deafening silence is eerie to say the least. Your statements are dangerously naive in my opinion.

In a telephone conversation with John Cleary, local Provincial Liberal M.P.P., he stated to me that he had a responsibility to the business people locally and that he didn't want to scare people away like the smuggling issue did. I find his logic to be ludicrous.

It is my opinion that you could dump as much funding into this community as the country or business could afford; the problem is not with the working class, proximity, or lack of an infrastructure. Mr. Kilger as you well know; the problem is with the autocratic, medieval and clannish community leadership which continues to smother growth and prosperity.

If you wish to contact me, you may call me at 613-931-3446.

Sincerely,

James P. Bateman