

Perry - May 6, 1997

Ministry of the
Solicitor General and
Correctional Services

Office of the
Minister

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MAY 01 1997

Mr. Perry Douglas Dunlop
333 Amelia Street
Cornwall ON K6H 3P4

Dear Mr. Dunlop:

Thank you for your letter dated April 7, 1997 regarding concerns you have for the safety of children in the Cornwall area.

I wish to assure you that I am deeply concerned about community safety in our province. I am committed to dealing effectively with criminal activity, particularly the incidence of crime against children.

As Solicitor General and Minister of Correctional Services, I have general superintending authority over the delivery of police services in the province, and my staff monitor the activities of all police agencies on my behalf for that purpose. However, the general administration of operational policing is left to each of the police services. These organizations are, through a local Police Services Board, responsible for the provision of law enforcement and crime prevention in their respective jurisdictions. Therefore, it is inappropriate for me, as Solicitor General and Minister of Correctional Services, to become directly involved in operational policing matters, nor must I be perceived as interfering, in any way, with any operational policing issue or an ongoing investigation.

I understand that the concerns that you have raised in your letter are currently being investigated by members of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) in consultation with the Regional Director of Crown Attorneys, East Region, and that some of these matters are currently before the courts. If you have new information that may assist the investigators, I would strongly urge you to make your concerns known to the investigators, as these allegations properly fall within the jurisdiction of the OPP. I suggest that you either contact the police investigators directly or the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police, Mr. Thomas B. O'Grady by writing to him at the Lincoln M. Alexander Building, 3rd floor, 777 Memorial Avenue, Orillia, Ontario, LSV 7V3.

Mr. Perry Douglas Dunlop
Page two

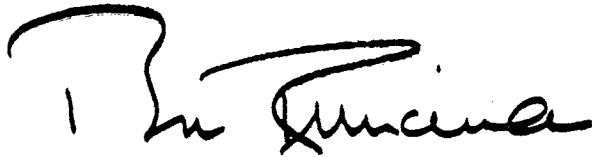
The *Police Services Act* of Ontario establishes a public complaints system in which any member of the public may complain about the conduct of a police officer including the Chief of Police. Where the complaint alleges misconduct on the part of an officer, the individual is entitled to have his or her complaint investigated. In certain circumstances, an individual is entitled to an independent review by the Police Complaints Commissioner who may call a civilian board of inquiry to address the complaint

If you wish to lodge a complaint of misconduct against an individual officer in accordance with the Act, you may do so directly, either orally or in writing, with the involved police agency, at any police station or at any detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police. You may, likewise, forward a written complaint to the Office of the Police Complaints Commissioner, Province of Ontario, 595 Bay Street, 9th Floor, P. O. Box 23, Toronto, Ontario, M5G 2C2. The toll free number is 1-800-267-5648.

I have enclosed a copy of a brochure entitled How To File A Complaint Involving a Police Officer published by the Office of the Police Complaints Commissioner.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Runciman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Robert W. Runciman, MPP
Leeds-Grenville
Solicitor General and
Minister of Correctional Services

Enclosure