



A Few Facts About Justice & Cornwall

Courtesy of the Red Flag Committee

The Hush Money

- **December 1992:** D.S. informs Cornwall Police Service that he was sexually molested by Father Charles MacDonald and probation officer Ken Seguin.
- **Summer(?) 1993:** Former Crown Attorney Malcolm MacDonald, Bishop Eugene Larocque, and lawyer Jacques Leduc meet to discuss the sex abuse allegations against Father Charles MacDonald. Subsequently, D.S. is offered a \$32,000 pay-off.
- Jacques Leduc, acting as legal counsel for Bishop Larocque and the Alexandria-Cornwall diocese, is involved in preparing the release statement which will be signed by the victim. To that end, he translates a French release he happens to have on hand and gives it to Malcolm MacDonald.
- **2 September 1993:** In the presence of Malcolm MacDonald and lawyer, Sean Adams, D.S. signs the release. D.S. and Mr. Adams also sign statements confirming that Adams has explained the contents and effect of the release to the victim.
- The release contains an illegal clause: it prohibits the pursuit of criminal charges.
- A hold is put on the \$32,000 pay-off cheque. D.S. is unable to cash it until he has personally gone to the Cornwall Police Service to say he does not want to pursue his sex abuse allegations against Father Charles MacDonald.

Did you know?

- There are allegations of cover-up against Ontario's office of the Attorney General.
- All Ontario Crown Attorneys are employed and paid by the office of the Attorney General.
- All Ontario provincially-appointed judges are employed and paid by the office of the Attorney General.
- Justice G. Normand Glaude is employed and paid by the office of the Attorney General.
- An inquiry headed by a provincially-appointed judge means the office of the Attorney General will be investigating itself.

The Exoneration

- **3 February 1995:** Malcolm MacDonald is charged with obstruction of justice.
- **Ottawa, 12 September 1995:** Malcolm MacDonald pleads **guilty** in an Ottawa court room. He is granted an **absolute discharge** by Senior Judge B.W. Lennox (now Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice).
- C. Flanagan, the Brockville Crown Attorney prosecuting the case, supports and justifies Malcolm MacDonald's absolute discharge by testifying to Malcolm MacDonald's "exemplary background" and the fact that no charges were laid against Father Charles MacDonald.
- The Crown Attorney exonerates Leduc and Adams. According to Flanagan, Leduc received the signed release from Malcolm MacDonald in a sealed envelope. Leduc claims he did not know there was an illegal clause in the signed release because he didn't open the envelope before forwarding it to diocesan officials. And Adams claims he did not recall seeing the illegal clause

even though he read and explained the release to the victim. (Diocesan officials claim they never saw the illegal clause because the sealed envelope was received and filed - unopened.)

The Public Interest

- **22 December 1998:** Crown Attorney Robert Pelletier advises Project Truth that it would be “contrary to the public interest” to pursue the allegations of death threats against Perry Dunlop and his family, and “I do not consider the public interest to be served were charges laid.”
- Pelletier had previously been removed from a Project Truth case because of a conflict-of-interest arising from his friendship with another Cornwall Crown Attorney, Murray McDonald.

The Charges

- **11 March 1996:** Father Charles MacDonald is charged with seven counts of indecent assault against three former altar boys.
- **22 June 1998:** Jacques Leduc is charged with twelve counts of sexual assault.
- **11 March 1999:** Malcolm MacDonald is charged with three counts of sexual assault. (Died before standing trial)

The Files

- **1999:** Project Truth officers forward their file on Bishop Eugene Larocque to the office of the Attorney General. The AG’s office is to decide if charges will be laid.

- **July 2005:** Bishop Larocque’s file - approximately 1,000 pages - is filed away somewhere in the office of the Attorney General.
- **July 2005:** The files of 26 more Project Truth suspects are filed away somewhere in the office of the Attorney General.

The Trials

- **16 January 2001:** The Leduc trial kicks off with Justice Colin McKinnon, a federally-appointed judge, on the bench. McKinnon had previously provided legal service to the Cornwall Police Service for years, provided personal legal services to former Chief of Police Claude Shaver, and recommended that Perry Dunlop be charged under the Police Services Act for showing the sex abuse allegations against Father MacDonald to the Children’s Aid Society. Six weeks into the trial, McKinnon is obliged to recuse himself after he is confronted with hard evidence of his serious conflict of interest.
- A stay, an appeal and a trial later, Leduc claims his Charter right to a speedy trial has been violated. He “walks.”
- **13 May 2002:** Father Charles MacDonald claims his Charter right to a speedy trial has been violated. He “walks.”
- The above trials all degenerated into the trial, derogation and defilement of former Constable Perry Dunlop.

The Lawsuit

- **June 2005:** a sex abuse lawsuit is launched against Bishop Eugene Larocque.

Earlier this year, Attorney General Michael Bryant said: “I know the people of Cornwall want to make sure we get this right.” Ask Mr. Bryant to get it right and appoint an out-of-province judge: Tel: 416-326-2220, Fax : 416-326-4016, email: mbryant.mpp@liberal.ola.org and/or Mail: The Honourable Michael Bryant, Ministry of the Attorney General, Queen’s Park, 720 Bay St., 11th Flr., Toronto ON, M5G 2K1.

