

FINAL

PRESS BRIEFING NOTES

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DECEMBER 13, 2006

WHAT WE HOPE TO DO TODAY IS TO FILL YOU IN ON THE BIGGER PICTURE ON PHASE 2 – INCLUDING WHAT’S HAPPENED ALREADY. AND TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF WHAT YOU MIGHT EXPECT TO SEE OVER THE NEXT YEAR IN TERMS OF PHASE 2.

I’LL START WITH THE BIG PICTURE – FIRST, WHAT WE THINK PHASE 2 IS AND SECOND, WHAT WE THINK ARE THE PARTS OF PHASE 2.

THE CORNWALL PUBLIC INQUIRY HAS A UNIQUE MANDATE THAT NO PUBLIC INQUIRY IN ONTARIO HAS HAD – TO SUPPORT HEALING AND RECONCILIATION. THAT IS WHAT PHASE 2 IS ALL ABOUT.

IN PHASE 2 OF THE CORNWALL PUBLIC INQUIRY, WE WILL WORK WITH THE PARTIES AT THE INQUIRY, THOSE AFFECTED BY CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE, INTERESTED PROFESSIONALS AND THE CORNWALL COMMUNITY TO:

- o CONTRIBUTE TO THE CREATION OF A HEALING ENVIRONMENT IN CORNWALL;
- o ENGAGE IN OPEN AND INCLUSIVE PROCESSES OF CONSULTATION ON A RANGE OF POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO HEALING AND RECONCILIATION;
- o DEMONSTRATE RESPECT FOR A WIDE RANGE OF PERSONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL EXPERIENCES AND PERSPECTIVES;

- o OBTAIN AND SHARE KNOWLEDGE OF ISSUES AND SOLUTIONS
IN ORDER TO DEVELOP WELL-FOUNDED AND SUPPORTABLE
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE.

TO PUT THIS IN TANGIBLE TERMS, THESE ARE WHAT WE BELIEVE
CONSTITUTE THE PARTS OF PHASE 2:

- o COUNSELLING AND WITNESS SUPPORT, INCLUDING
ASSESSMENT OF COUNSELLING SUPPORT;
- o THE ADVICE OF AN EXCEPTIONAL ADVISORY PANEL,
ENGAGED IN PROCESSES OF GENUINE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE
TO FIND OUT WHAT PEOPLE NEED, WANT, DON'T WANT, WANT
TO DO FOR AND WITH OTHERS IN CORNWALL;
- o ACTION-ORIENTED RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND TRAINING;
- o CONSULTATIONS ON THE BEST WAY TO HAVE
OPPORTUNITIES, OTHER THAN THE FORMAL EVIDENTIARY
HEARINGS, FOR PEOPLE AFFECTED BY ABUSE OR ALLEGED

ABUSE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN CORNWALL SO THEY CAN EXPRESS THEIR EXPERIENCES AND THE IMPACT ON THEIR LIVES – HOW TO PERMIT PEOPLE TO SPEAK FREELY “IN THEIR OWN WORDS”, BUT IN A SAFE AND NON-LITIGIOUS ENVIRONMENT;

- o OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARTIES AND THE PUBLIC TO SAY WHAT PROCESSES, SERVICES OR PROGRAMS SHOULD GO FORWARD TO ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY HEALING AND RECONCILIATION.

SO WHAT HAVE WE DONE ALREADY? AND WHAT TO EXPECT?

- o WE HAVE ESTABLISHED INNOVATIVE COUNSELLING SUPPORT AND WITNESS SUPPORT – AGAIN, A FIRST FOR INQUIRIES. TO DATE, WE HAVE ABOUT 150 COUNSELLING FILES OPEN AND ABOUT 2 DOZEN PROVIDERS OF COUNSELLING.

- o **WHAT TO EXPECT:** NEXT WEEK THE COMMISSIONER NORMAND GLAUDE WILL MAKE A STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT OF COUNSELLING SUPPORT, AS PROMISED WHEN WE SET UP COUNSELLING SUPPORT. IN THE ABSENCE OF A REVIEW, THE SUPPORT WOULD END IN MARCH 2007. WHILE THE COMMISSIONER MAY LEAN TO EXTENSION, IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO DO A PROPER REVIEW AND ALSO DECIDE HOW LONG TO EXTEND AND IF THERE ARE IMPROVEMENTS OR ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO BE MADE. THE COMMISSIONER WILL GIVE ALL THE DETAILS ON HOW AND WHEN THIS WILL HAPPEN.

- o THE COMMISSIONER HAS APPOINTED AN EXCEPTIONAL ADVISORY PANEL WITH AN IMPRESSIVE RANGE OF EXPERTISE AND AN INTEREST IN BEING A “FRIEND TO CORNWALL”. SINCE THEIR JULY APPOINTMENT, THEY HAVE PARTICIPATED IN ABOUT 30 COMMUNITY MEETINGS TO HEAR WHAT PEOPLE

THINK – AND THEY HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY OPEN TO HEARING CRITICISMS, FEARS, HOPES AND IDEAS.

- o **WHAT TO EXPECT:** WE HAVE LISTENED TO COMMUNITY VIEWS ON TIMING OF ACTIVITIES AND VARIOUS AREAS OF INTEREST; WE ARE GOING TO ASK PEOPLE TO MEET IN LARGER GROUPS TO TALK OF SPECIFIC ISSUE AREAS AND WHAT SHOULD AND COULD BE DONE; SOME MEETINGS WILL INVOLVE SPECIFIC GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS AND SOME WILL BE PUBLIC – WHATEVER LEADS TO OUR GOALS OF CONSTRUCTIVE AND RESPECTFUL SOLUTIONS; PUBLIC MEETINGS WILL BE LISTED ON OUR WEBSITE WHEN THEY OCCUR.

- o WE HAVE ISSUED FOR DISCUSSION AN AGENDA OF ACTIVITIES TO DO IN PHASE 2 – IT’S ON OUR WEBSITE – AND WE HAVE ASKED FOR FEEDBACK – AND GOT IT. WE HAVE TAKEN THE FEEDBACK, MADE SOME REVISIONS AND THIS WEEK WE’LL

POST THE FINAL VERSION AND AN INVITATION TO THOSE WHO WANT TO DO THE WORK. THERE WILL BE A PRESS RELEASE ON THIS.

- o THE MANDATE OF THE CORNWALL PUBLIC INQUIRY SAYS – AND I WILL QUOTE HERE:

“THE COMMISSION MAY PROVIDE COMMUNITY MEETINGS OR OTHER OPPORTUNITIES APART FROM FORMAL EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS FOR INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY THE ALLEGATIONS OF HISTORICAL ABUSE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE CORNWALL AREA TO EXPRESS THEIR EXPERIENCES.”

- o **WHAT TO EXPECT:** THE COMMISSIONER IS INTERESTED IN DETERMINING HOW TO BEST MEET THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE WHO MAY WANT TO GIVE THEIR ACCOUNTS OF EXPERIENCES AND IMPACTS IN A PROCESS THAT IS NOT A PUBLIC HEARING.

SO, IN LATE WINTER, WE WILL HAVE A CONSULTATION ON HOW TO DO THIS. WE'LL HAVE A PAPER WITH SOME MODELS – BECAUSE PEOPLE NEED EXAMPLES TO SEE HOW THINGS COULD WORK AND DECIDE WHAT THEY LIKE OR DON'T LIKE. WE'LL HAVE A MEETING WITH SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES, AND WITH THOSE WHO PROVIDE COUNSELLING SERVICES, AND WITH OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY WHO MAY WANT TO EXPRESS THEIR EXPERIENCES. AND WE WILL HAVE A SEPARATE MEETING WITH ALL THE LAWYERS. FROM THIS WE WILL DECIDE WHEN AND HOW TO MEET THIS IMPORTANT PART OF THE PHASE 2 MANDATE.

- o WE HAVE HAD AND WILL HAVE ACTIVITIES GOING ON DURING PHASE 2. BUT PART OF PHASE 2 IS CLEARLY TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT HEALING AND RECONCILIATION FOR THE FUTURE, AND TO SUGGEST TO THE COMMISSIONER WHAT HE WOULD RECOMMEND.

- o **WHAT TO EXPECT:** THERE WILL BE A PROCESS FOR ALL THE PARTIES AT THE INQUIRY TO MAKE SUBMISSIONS ON PHASE 2 RECOMMENDATIONS. WE WILL ALSO WRITE EVERYONE WE HAVE MET OR WILL MEET IN OUR PHASE 2 CONSULTATIONS AND ASK THEM FOR THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS. AND WE WILL INVITE THE PUBLIC VIA OUR WEBSITE TO GIVE THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS. WE MAY EVEN HAVE SOME MEETINGS ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT PEOPLE WANT TO DISCUSS. THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM THE PHASE 1 SUBMISSION PROCESSES WHICH IS CONFINED TO PARTIES. WHEN WILL THIS HAPPEN? WE THINK A FEW MONTHS AFTER PHASE 1 SUBMISSIONS ARE RECEIVED BY THE CORNWALL PUBLIC INQUIRY.

SO I HOPE THIS WAS OF SOME HELP IN UNDERSTANDING PHASE 2. I WANT TO STRESS THAT BECAUSE WE ARE LISTENING TO PEOPLE, WE WON'T BE DOCTRINAIRE. IF PEOPLE GIVE US BETTER IDEAS

THAN THE ONES WE COME UP WITH, THEN WE WILL GO WITH THEM.

SO YOU WILL SEE PHASE 2 AS EVOLVING – NOT JUST A LIST WE

“TICK OFF” OVER TIME.

I ALSO WANT TO SAY THAT WE DO THINK SOME OF THE THINGS

THAT WILL HAPPEN WILL BE A SOURCE OF KNOWLEDGE AND

INSPIRATION FOR OTHERS OUTSIDE CORNWALL, AND WE ALWAYS

KEEP THAT IN MIND.