

Attention News/Assignment Editors

Ipperwash Inquiry Ruling on Standing and Funding Issued

TORONTO, May 7 /CNW/ - Justice Sidney B. Linden, the Commissioner of the Ipperwash Inquiry, today issued his ruling on standing and funding. The ruling is posted on the Inquiry's web page: www.ipperwashinquiry.ca Hearings of applications for standing were held in Forest, Ont., on April 20, 21, 22 and 23, 2004.

Standing before a Commission of Inquiry gives the individual or organization the right to take part in the proceedings and to make submissions on terms set by the Commissioner.

The Ipperwash Inquiry was established by the Government of Ontario on November 12, 2003, under the Public Inquiries Act. Its mandate is to report on events surrounding the death of Dudley George, who was shot in 1995 during a protest by Aboriginal people at Ipperwash Provincial Park and later died. The Commission is also directed to make recommendations that would avoid violence in similar circumstances.

The Commissioner intends to separate the inquiry into two phases that will run concurrently. Part I will deal with the events surrounding the death of Dudley George. Part II will deal with the policy issues and recommendations directed to the avoidance of violence in similar circumstances.

In the Ruling, 17 parties have been granted standing to participate in Part I of the inquiry and 28 parties have been granted standing in Part II of the Inquiry.

The hearings will start on July 13, 2004 at the Forest Memorial Community Centre (Kimball Hall), the same venue where the hearings on standing were held.

A preliminary schedule is available on the Inquiry's web page www.ipperwashinquiry.ca.

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