

7073236

The Ottawa Sun, Wednesday, July 5, 2000

*Ottawa's true voice*

J. DOUGLAS CREIGHTON OC, Founder
HARTLEY STEWARD, Founding Publisher

COMMENT

Courageous

Perry Dunlop was driven by principle, nothing more, nothing less.

For seven years, the Cornwall police officer aimed a light into the darkest corners of a community's secrets, exposing what he called a ring of pedophiles that had operated in the city virtually untouched for decades.

For that he was once suspended and on numerous times threatened with worse.

He was often ignored or shunned, even by friends and colleagues, for exposing the dirty little secrets of people who had earned the public's trust and respect as pillars of the community.

Despite a wall of public indifference and outright denial, Perry Dunlop wouldn't stop asking the uncomfortable questions, just as he wouldn't stop answering the door when victim after victim after victim showed up to tell his story to just about the only person in town they thought they could trust,

This week Perry and his equally courageous wife, Helen, announced that after seven long years fighting for the truth on behalf of victims, they were packing up and heading west for a new life.

They're all but broke, having mortgaged the home to the hilt battling one legal action after another. They have no jobs awaiting them.

Not that we worry for them. The courage and perseverance that saw them through these past seven years equip them well for the challenges ahead.

We worry more for the community they leave behind — a community not yet cleansed of the stain of allegations involving abuse laid against numerous individuals.

It took years, but Dunlop's allegations finally prompted a full OPP probe that, to date, has led to more than 100 charges against 14 individuals.

Helen Dunlop says it's only the tip of the iceberg and expresses hope that somebody will pick up where they must leave off.

Hopefully, that will be the case, particularly as MPP Garry Guzzo voices demands for a provincial inquiry into the entire affair.

In the meantime, Cornwall, indeed all Canadians, owe a debt of gratitude to the Dunlops.

It's always easier to join the rest of the crowd in turning away from the scene of a crime, lest we become involved.

The Dunlops refused to turn away.

They became involved, even at enormous personal risk and sacrifice. Heroes.

7073237

The Ottawa Sun, Wednesday, July 5, 2000

*Ottawa's true voice*

J. DOUGLAS CREIGHTON OC, Founder
HARTLEY STEWARD, Founding Publisher

COMMENT

Courageous

Perry Dunlop was driven by principle, nothing more, nothing less.

For seven years, the Cornwall police officer aimed a light into the darkest corners of a community's secrets, exposing what he called a ring of pedophiles that had operated in the city virtually untouched for decades.

For that he was once suspended and on numerous times threatened with worse.

He was often ignored or shunned, even by friends and colleagues, for exposing the dirty little secrets of people who had earned the public's trust and respect as pillars of the community.

Despite a wall of public indifference and outright denial, Perry Dunlop wouldn't stop asking the uncomfortable questions, just as he wouldn't stop answering the door when victim after victim after victim showed up to tell his story to just about the only person in town they thought they could trust.

This week Perry and his equally courageous wife, Helen, announced that after seven long years fighting for the truth on behalf of victims, they were packing up and heading west for a new life.

They're all but broke, having mortgaged the home to the hilt battling one legal action after another. They have no jobs awaiting them.

Not that we worry for them. The courage and perseverance that saw them through these past seven years equip them well for the challenges ahead.

We worry more for the community they leave behind — a community not yet cleansed of the stain of allegations involving abuse laid against numerous individuals.

It took years, but Dunlop's allegations finally prompted a full OPP probe that, to date, has led to more than 100 charges against 14 individuals.

Helen Dunlop says it's only the tip of the iceberg and expresses hope that somebody will pick up where they must leave off.

Hopefully, that will be the case, particularly as MPP Garry Guzzo voices demands for a provincial inquiry into the entire affair.

In the meantime, Cornwall, indeed all Canadians, owe a debt of gratitude to the Dunlops.

It's always easier to join the rest of the crowd in turning away from the scene of a crime, lest we become involved.

The Dunlops refused to turn away.

They became involved, even at enormous personal risk and sacrifice.

Heroes.