

**THE CORNWALL
PUBLIC INQUIRY**



**L'ENQUÊTE PUBLIQUE
SUR CORNWALL**

Public Hearing

Audience publique

Commissioner

**The Honourable Justice /
L'honorable juge
G. Normand Glaude**

Commissaire

VOLUME 58

Held at :

Hearings Room
709 Cotton Mill Street
Cornwall, Ontario
K6H 7K7

Tuesday, October 17, 2006

Tenue à:

Salle des audiences
709, rue de la Fabrique
Cornwall, Ontario
K6H 7K7

Mardi, le 17 octobre 2006

Appearances/Comparutions

Mr. Peter Engelmann	Lead Commission Counsel
M ^e Simon Ruel	Commission Counsel
Ms. Raija Pulkkinen	
Ms. Louise Mongeon	Registrar
Mr. John E. Callaghan	Cornwall Police Service Board
M ^e Daniel Boivin	
Ms. Suzanne Costom	Ontario Provincial Police
Dect.Staff Sgt.Colin Groskopf	
Mr. David Rose	Ontario Ministry of Community
Mr. Mike Lawless	and Correctional Services and
	Adult Community Corrections
Mr. Stephen Scharbach	Attorney General for Ontario
Mr. Peter Chisholm	The Children's Aid Society of
	the United Counties
Mr. Peter Wardle	Citizens for Community Renewal
Mr. Steven Canto	
Mr. David Bennett	The Men's Project
Mr. William Carroll	Ontario Provincial Police
	Association
Ms. Nadya Tymochenko	Upper Canada District School
Ms. Nicola Simmons	Board

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1 --- Upon commencing at 9:34 a.m./

2 L'audience débute à 9h34

3 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
4 veuillez vous lever.

5 This hearing of the Cornwall Public Inquiry
6 is now in session. The Honourable Mr. Justice Normand
7 Glaude presiding.

8 Please be seated. Veuillez vous asseoir.

9 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

10 Good morning, sir.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Good morning, Mr.

12 Commissioner. Good morning, counsel. Good morning, Mr.
13 Seguin.

14 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Good morning.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** The next witness that the
16 Inquiry will be hearing from is Mr. Alain Seguin.

17 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Yes.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** If the witness could be
19 sworn, please?

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

21 **ALAIN SEGUIN, Sworn/Assermenté:**

22 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right, Mr. Seguin.
23 Good morning, sir. Thank you very much for coming.

24 We're going to ask you some questions today
25 and I don't know if you've been following the Inquiry, but

1 what I'd ask you to do is wait until the question is asked
2 fully and then give me your best answer. It's been a long
3 time for a lot of these events, so that you don't remember
4 is something that's part of the whole picture. And if you
5 feel uncomfortable about anything, just speak to me and
6 we'll see what we can do.

7 Do you have any questions?

8 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, that's fine.

9 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

10 **---EXAMINATION IN-CHIEF BY/INTERROGATOIRE EN CHEF PAR MR.**
11 **ENGELMANN:**

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Mr. Seguin, I just wanted to
13 mention that there is a speaker just to your right, so if
14 you are not hearing me or other counsel, you can turn that
15 up. There is also some water there as well. I just
16 wanted to mention that.

17 Sir, I understand that you are a member of
18 the Victims Group; is that correct?

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I am.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And as such you are
21 represented by Mr. Lee and his firm?

22 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I am.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. Did you swear an
24 affidavit, sir, in support of the Victims Group
25 application for standing and funding in this Inquiry?

1 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I did.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: Can you tell us, sir, your
3 date of birth and where you were born?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: I was born here in Cornwall,
5 13th of March 1960.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: So you would currently be 46
7 years of age?

8 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I am.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: Sir, I want to ask you just
10 a little bit of background information, if I can, to start.
11 Can you tell us your current marital status?

12 MR. A. SEGUIN: I am single.

13 MR. ENGELMANN: And you were previously
14 married, sir?

15 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I was.

16 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And do you have any
17 children?

18 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I do. I have two
19 children.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: A boy and a girl?

21 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, a boy and a girl.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: Can you tell us their ages,
23 sir?

24 MR. A. SEGUIN: Their ages now is 20 and 23.

25 MR. ENGELMANN: So 23 and 20?

1 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: And, sir, were you the
3 custodial parent or principal parent for these children?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, absolutely, I was. For
5 a time I was the only parent.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: And, sir, what about your
7 immediate family as you were growing up, did you have
8 siblings?

9 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I did.

10 MR. ENGELMANN: Can you tell us how many
11 brothers, how many sisters?

12 MR. A. SEGUIN: I have no brothers. I have
13 three older sisters and a younger sister.

14 MR. ENGELMANN: So you were five all
15 together?

16 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, we were.

17 MR. ENGELMANN: Sir, have you lived all of
18 your life in the Cornwall area?

19 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I have or very close
20 to. I reside in Summers now.

21 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And that is close to
22 Cornwall?

23 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, it is.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: And I understand that you
25 were educated in both French and English?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I was.

2 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And can you just give us a
3 sense of how many years you would have been educated in
4 French and then when you were educated in English?

5 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I went through the regular
6 school system. I was -- primary school up to Grade 6 in
7 French and also junior high school, 7 and 8 in French, and
8 I then went to an English high school, Grade 9.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And can you tell us which
10 schools you attended?

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Well, I'll start with 7 and
12 8.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Yes.

14 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** It was Jean XXIII which is
15 located on McConnell Avenue in Cornwall and I later went to
16 St. Lawrence High School the first year it opened, a new
17 school on Second Street in the east end towards Anthony.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Sir, I understand that St.
19 Lawrence High School and La Citadelle were co-located prior
20 to that year?

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, prior to that year, St.
22 Lawrence High School was located on McConnell Avenue in the
23 same -- and in that same building co-existed a French
24 language high school called La Citadelle.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And then the year you

1 started at St. Lawrence, La Citadelle continued to exist at
2 that spot?

3 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

4 MR. ENGELMANN: And when you started at St.
5 Lawrence, would that have been in 1974 or thereabouts?

6 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, September '74.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And can you tell us
8 where you were living at that time?

9 MR. A. SEGUIN: My home was located just
10 around the corner, not even a block from the new school on
11 Anthony Street, 420.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And approximately how
13 far from La Citadelle would that have been?

14 MR. A. SEGUIN: That was over a mile from La
15 Citadelle. There would have been bussing.

16 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

17 So the new high school was considerably
18 closer to your home?

19 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, it was.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: Can we talk a little bit,
21 Mr. Seguin, about your work history and ---

22 MR. A. SEGUIN: Sure.

23 MR. ENGELMANN: --- can you tell us, sir, if
24 you are presently working?

25 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I am working presently.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And what type of work?

2 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I am a stationary engineer.
3 I work with boilers and cooling systems.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And is that in Cornwall,
5 sir, or is that somewhere else?

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I am working out of town
7 right now.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And approximately how
9 long have you been doing that, sir?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** About eight years. I worked
11 27 years at the local paper mill here in Cornwall, but it
12 closed down last year. The last six of those years was in
13 that trade.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.
15 So you worked for Domtar here in Cornwall?

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I did.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And I believe you said --
18 was that until this year or last year?

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** March of this year.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.
21 And you worked there for 26 or 27 years?

22 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Twenty-seven (27) years.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you would have started
24 there in approximately 1979?

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes. March 7th, actually.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. You would have been
2 one of the last people working at Domtar then just this
3 year?

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** In 2006?

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And as I understand the work
8 you were doing, the type of work you were doing, working
9 with boilers, stationary engineering work, you've done for
10 approximately eight years now and that is what you are
11 doing at your current job?

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Mr. Seguin, you've been
14 following the Inquiry?

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Somewhat, yes.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you're aware that the
17 Inquiry is examining or looking at the response that a
18 number of public institutions made to allegations of child
19 sexual abuse in the Cornwall area. Is that correct?

20 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I understand.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And, sir, I understand that
22 as a young person, as a child, you were a victim of sexual
23 abuse?

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I was.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And, sir, the man who

1 sexually abused you pled guilty to child sexual abuse?

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, he did.

3 MR. ENGELMANN: And his name was Robert
4 Sabourin?

5 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, it was.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: Can you tell us, Mr. Seguin,
7 how you came to meet Mr. Sabourin?

8 MR. A. SEGUIN: While in junior high at Jean
9 XXIII, I would have been 13-14 years old, thereabouts, and
10 I had some friends who were in high school at Citadelle
11 High School, St. Lawrence/Citadelle. They co-existed. And
12 they were in contact with a teacher there, Robert Sabourin.
13 He was a photography teacher and ---

14 MR. ENGELMANN: Let me just stop you for a
15 second. Were you in Grade 7 at that time?

16 MR. A. SEGUIN: In 7 or 8. I was in Grade
17 7.

18 MR. ENGELMANN: So these were friends that
19 you had that were going to La Citadelle High School?

20 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, they were older than I.

21 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And they introduced
22 you to Mr. Sabourin?

23 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, they did.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: Can you give us a sense, sir
25 -- you said he was a photography teacher at that school?

1 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: He was never -- was he ever
3 one of your teachers?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, he was never a teacher
5 of mine, no.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

7 MR. A. SEGUIN: It depends what you feel he
8 would have been teaching me.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. But he was never
10 teaching you in a classroom?

11 MR. A. SEGUIN: No.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: Where was Jean XXIII in
13 relation to La Citadelle when you were in Grade 7?

14 MR. A. SEGUIN: There was only one building
15 in between the two, and that's another school called the
16 Immaculate Conception, I think.

17 MR. ENGELMANN: So these are both schools
18 just north of the Inquiry on McConnell?

19 MR. A. SEGUIN: That's right.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: So you were introduced to
21 Mr. Sabourin by these two older friends?

22 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

23 MR. ENGELMANN: Can you tell us how the
24 abuse began?

25 MR. A. SEGUIN: Well, for a time he just

1 befriended me. Actually, he befriended more than me; he
2 befriended my whole family and after a time he started
3 abusing me.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. We'll talk a little
5 bit about the befriending. We've heard at this Inquiry
6 about the grooming of victims.

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I would call it that.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Can you give us a sense as
9 to what things he did to befriend you and your family?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** First, he gave me a key to
11 his office in the school. He invited me over to lunch.
12 After a few lunches, he gave me a key. He told me he could
13 teach me how to be a photographer and showed me cameras and
14 so on, lent me cameras. He would invite me on photography
15 excursions. You know "Come with me, we'll go photograph
16 this, photograph that". And on some of these trips, he
17 said "I'll pick you up at home". So he'd show up at my
18 home and he would come in and made a point of meeting my
19 parents and "Oh, your son is a good boy and I'm going to
20 teach him how to do this and do that". He would offer his
21 services for family reunions. I know I'd say that the
22 family is getting together for whatever reason, he would
23 just say "Oh, I'll come, we'll take pictures of that". And
24 that's how he went about it.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. So he came to know

1 your parents early on in your relationship with him?

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: Oh yes.

3 MR. ENGELMANN: Approximately how long after
4 this grooming or this befriending that we've talked about
5 did some sexual abuse start to occur? Can you remember?

6 MR. A. SEGUIN: Oh, it would've been, in
7 hindsight, I would say about six weeks, over a month and --
8 -

9 MR. ENGELMANN: So he gave you a key to his
10 office. Was his office special in any way?

11 MR. A SEGUIN: It was very current at the
12 time. He had pictures of different things on the wall. He
13 had a classroom he taught in and next to it he had sort of
14 like a meeting room and off to the side he had his office.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay.

16 MR. A SEGUIN: So there was a couple of sets
17 of doors that you could use.

18 MR. ENGELMANN: Was there a darkroom as well
19 where he did photography, developed ---

20 MR. A SEGUIN: I seem to remember that there
21 was a darkroom attached. It was another door in that area.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: The key that he gave you,
23 that was to his personal office?

24 MR. A SEGUIN: He had what I could call an
25 outer office and an inner office, sort of like a waiting

1 room area ---

2 MR. ENGELMANN: M'hm.

3 MR. A SEGUIN: --- that he allowed the kids
4 to use on occasion just to hang out or whatever and he gave
5 me a key to get in there.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay.

7 So when you started going there you were in
8 grade 7?

9 MR. A SEGUIN: Yes.

10 MR. ENGELMANN: And how old were the other
11 kids in that school? What were the grades in that school?

12 MR. A SEGUIN: Well, the two people that
13 introduced me were 15. So the kids were all -- they were
14 all older than I.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. So at that time when
16 you were in grade 7, we had the French high school and the
17 English high school in the same premises, which is now
18 called La Citadelle?

19 MR. A SEGUIN: Yes.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: And the grades would have
21 been -- would they have been from grade 9 to 13 at that
22 time?

23 MR. A SEGUIN: Yes, 13 was OACs. It was
24 still part of the curriculum.

25 MR. ENGELMANN: So there were no grade 7

1 students in that school?

2 MR. A SEGUIN: No.

3 MR. ENGELMANN: There were no grade 8
4 students in that school?

5 MR. A SEGUIN: No.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. So you would have
7 been a couple of years younger than all the other kids?

8 MR. A SEGUIN: Yes, I was.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

10 And where did the sexual abuse happen, Mr.
11 Sabourin (sic) -- sorry, Mr. Seguin, from Mr. Sabourin?

12 MR. A SEGUIN: A lot of the abuse occurred
13 at lunch times. He encouraged me to come and meet him in
14 his office area at lunchtime and he would take me into his
15 inner office and he would molest me.

16 MR. ENGELMANN: Mr. Seguin, was that on
17 school days?

18 MR. A SEGUIN: Oh yes.

19 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And would there have
20 been people in the school when you went over to the school?

21 MR. A SEGUIN: I had to walk through all of
22 the classes. On occasions when I got there, all the kids
23 were out in the halls and I just walked through and made my
24 way to his office area and used the key that he gave me and
25 went into his outer office and waited for him, and he would

1 come.

2 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Would people have seen you
3 do that?

4 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Many people saw me do that,
5 but I didn't know these people because they -- there were
6 two people that I would have known, but I don't ever recall
7 running into them specifically. But there was lost and
8 lots of people.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. So students that were
10 older than you would have seen you?

11 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Students, teachers, staff. I
12 remember people there.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. When you say staff,
14 janitors, administration?

15 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Janitors. I remember walking
16 by the administration office. I went right through that
17 hall and there was ---

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did the abuse ever happen at
19 other times other than over the lunch hour?

20 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Yes, other locations, too.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

22 Well, what about just at the school? Did it
23 ever happen at the school at other times?

24 **MR. A SEGUIN:** There would have been a
25 couple of occasions where I met him after school, having to

1 do work on -- if there was something that was being done,
2 like if we were to take pictures of this or that. There
3 was a couple of occasions where he had me meet him after my
4 school with permission from my parents that he would drive
5 me home later.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. So sometimes you were
7 sexually abused at the school after normal school hours?

8 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Yes.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Would there have been people
10 there when you would have gone into the school, to your
11 knowledge?

12 **MR. A SEGUIN:** On those occasions there were
13 few people left in the school.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you said that sometimes
15 he sexually abused you or molested you at other places
16 other than the school.

17 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Yes.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Can you tell us where that
19 might have happened?

20 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Well, there was numerous
21 occasions in his home office. He called it an office. It
22 was a lot more than that. It was his playpen, I would call
23 it.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Was that here in the City of
25 Cornwall?

1 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Yes, it was, on St. Felix
2 Street.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And did he ever abuse you
4 outside of the City of Cornwall?

5 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Yes, he did.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Where was that, to the best
7 of your knowledge?

8 **MR. A SEGUIN:** There was an occasion --
9 well, there was more than one occasion where we went in his
10 car and so on and he molested me in his vehicle, but there
11 is one specific occasion that occurred in Ottawa at the
12 Lord Elgin Hotel. Mr. Sabourin was the photographer for
13 the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall. He was a personal
14 friend of then Bishop Proulx and Bishop Proulx was being --
15 I understand now -- was being promoted. He was being
16 inaugurated to Archbishop of Ottawa-Hull, I think it was,
17 or Ottawa and Mr. Sabourin took me along as his little
18 photography helper. He had me carry his equipment and so
19 on and sat me right down in the front row at the cathedral.
20 I'm not sure which one. That night, he took me back to the
21 Lord Elgin Hotel and molested me.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Had he talked to your
23 parents about you going with him to this important ---

24 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Yes, it was going to be
25 overnight. I was 13-14 years old. I mean, he needed to

1 have permission from my parents. He had taken the time to
2 build this up to a good Catholic family. He made sure that
3 they understood that he was respected by the Bishop and
4 that he was friends with the Bishop.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay.

6 MR. A SEGUIN: My parents were made to feel
7 comfortable with that.

8 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

9 And they then of course let you go on that
10 trip?

11 MR. A SEGUIN: Yes, they did.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: Do you remember if that
13 church was in Ottawa or in Hull?

14 MR. A SEGUIN: I'm not sure where that
15 church was.

16 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay.

17 MR. A SEGUIN: But I know it was -- we
18 stayed in Ottawa and it was the Lord Elgin Hotel.

19 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. Were there many
20 people from Cornwall who would have attended or can you
21 recall?

22 MR. A SEGUIN: I was young. It wasn't
23 something that I was considering. And did I see anyone
24 that I recognized? I don't remember.

25 MR. ENGELMANN: I will just be a moment.

1 So you have talked to us about child sexual
2 abuse in the school.

3 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Yes.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** In his home.

5 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Yes.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** In his car.

7 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Yes.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And in the City of Ottawa.

9 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Yes.

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you remember him doing
11 this to you anywhere else?

12 **MR. A SEGUIN:** He would do it anywhere. I
13 mean, he didn't stop at too much, boy, I'll tell y'a. But
14 anyway, any other specific place? Not ---

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** That's what you remember?

16 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Nothing that strikes me.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. Did he ever do this
18 to you in the presence of anyone, that you can remember?

19 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Yes, but he did it in very
20 sneaky ways. He would do it in ways where he wouldn't
21 bring on the attention of anybody else.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. What do you mean by
23 that?

24 **MR. A SEGUIN:** There was a time when myself
25 and the other two boys that I spoke of were in the vehicle,

1 his vehicle, and it was dark. I sat behind his chair and
2 he would reach back and he would just go through the
3 motions. Then he would stop at a store or whatever, but he
4 would make sure that he changed the seating.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: Did -- sorry ---

6 MR. A SEGUIN: In hindsight I realized that
7 he just wanted to have them all.

8 MR. ENGELMANN: Did he ever do this to you
9 in the presence of an adult?

10 MR. A SEGUIN: In the church when we were
11 photographing -- taking pictures of the inauguration, he
12 would go and take pictures and so on, come down and sit --
13 he would sit the cameras on my lap with his hand underneath
14 the cameras.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: So he fondled you right
16 there in the church?

17 MR. A SEGUIN: He did, right there in the
18 church, in front of all his supposed friends.

19 MR. ENGELMANN: Do you have some sense of
20 about how long this would have continued?

21 MR. A SEGUIN: It wasn't more than two
22 years, between a year and two years.

23 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And do you know how
24 often this would happen or would it ---

25 MR. A SEGUIN: Numerous times. Numerous

1 times. I can't give you a number, but ---

2 MR. ENGELMANN: Would it vary from week to
3 week?

4 MR. A SEGUIN: There was a good stretch
5 where it was weekly, yes. Oh yes.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: And that could be more than
7 one or two times a week?

8 MR. A SEGUIN: Absolutely.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: At the time -- if you can
10 try and just think back to that time -- did you have a
11 sense, as a 12, 13, 14-year-old, as to whether this was
12 right or wrong, what was happening?

13 MR. A SEGUIN: I didn't understand what was
14 happening, but he made me feel that it was wrong because he
15 didn't want me to speak of this. He told me that even if I
16 did, that I probably wouldn't be believed.

17 MR. ENGELMANN: The sense that this might be
18 wrong, sir, did that develop early on or is that something
19 that you came to realize over time, or do you recall?

20 MR. A SEGUIN: At first, like I said, he
21 made me feel like I couldn't talk about it. Therefore, it
22 would have to be wrong. As I matured, I developed a sense
23 that it was very wrong and although I didn't understand
24 what he had -- I was 14 years old, Mr. Engelmann. I don't
25 know if you know any 14-year-olds, but they don't

1 understand all of this. Things of a sexual nature were
2 very, very new to me and I didn't understand. All I knew
3 was this man was an adult. He was respected. I had been
4 taught that adults know what's right and wrong.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You told us about how he
6 befriended you at the beginning and he gave you certain
7 privileges. Did he ever buy you things?

8 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Sure. He'd buy me meals. As
9 the molesting went on, as time went on, there were
10 occasions where he said, "Oh, we're going to be together
11 tonight. Do you want to have some drinks? I'll get you
12 some drinks." Sure, he bought some beers.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So he introduced you to
14 alcohol?

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, he did; drugs. He
16 didn't specifically give me drugs but we discussed it. He
17 made me feel very comfortable that I could speak to an
18 adult about drugs and that he told me about all the kids
19 that he teaches in high school and that they do drugs and
20 at one point he even gave me a pipe that's used to smoke
21 drugs that he had in his office.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you ever talk to your
23 parents about some of the things he was doing to you at
24 that time?

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, I never talked to my

1 parents about it. I didn't feel I could.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: Did you talk to the police
3 about it at that time?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, I didn't talk to the
5 police about it at that time.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: Did you talk to any teachers
7 or guidance counsellors about it at that time?

8 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, I didn't speak about it
9 to anyone at that time.

10 MR. ENGELMANN: You told us he told you that
11 if you talked to someone they wouldn't believe you anyway
12 or words to that effect?

13 MR. A. SEGUIN: That's right.

14 MR. ENGELMANN: Did he ever suggest to you
15 that this was a private thing or a secret thing or words to
16 that effect?

17 MR. A. SEGUIN: He made it seem like it was
18 something that was specific to me. Later on, I realized
19 that there were other boys involved. Even at that time I
20 didn't realize that he had been abusing the other boys that
21 I knew.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: The two boys that introduced
23 you ---

24 MR. A. SEGUIN: That's right.

25 MR. ENGELMANN: --- to him?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** At that time, I didn't
2 realize he had been ---

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You didn't talk to them
4 about it?

5 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you didn't talk to
7 anybody about it at that time.

8 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Can you give us a sense as
10 to how it ended?

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** As I got older I started
12 realizing things and I started realizing that he was very,
13 very wrong in what he was doing. Although I couldn't put
14 into perspective why or where or how it was so wrong, but I
15 just knew that it was wrong and I started moving away from
16 this man and not returning his calls.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How did he react to that?
18 Did he continue to pursue the relationship, his abuse?

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I was getting older at that
20 time and he didn't pursue like terribly and I now realize
21 that I was getting too old for him anyway or that he felt
22 that I wasn't giving into his will anymore. So he didn't
23 pursue it exceptionally and at that time I was going to go
24 into high school and I chose to go to high school at St
25 Lawrence High School.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Now, that high school was
2 closer to your home. Were there any other reasons why you
3 chose to go there?

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I wanted to mention
5 that. I had done all my education in French to that point
6 and looking back at it now, I realized that the last place
7 I wanted to be was in the school where this guy taught and
8 that, you know, that may have influenced my decision more
9 than what I assumed at the time. Because I was raised
10 French and I could have easily and probably should have as
11 a lot of my friends and so on did is, go to school in the
12 French language high school.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So most of your friends from
14 Jean XXIII went to La Citadelle and did their high school
15 in French?

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** M'hm. All my brothers and
17 sisters had gone to school at the then St. Lawrence High
18 School. It was a matter of -- and then other family
19 members went to school in French. I realize now that that
20 choice was influenced by the fact that that person taught
21 at that school.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So by going to St. Lawrence
23 at the new site ---

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I wouldn't have to deal with
25 that person.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** He remained at La Citadelle?

2 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** That's right.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Was that the end of your
4 French language education, sir?

5 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, it was.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You've told us that you
7 didn't tell anybody about this at the time.

8 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** That's right.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So I'd like to ask you when
10 you first told someone that you had been sexually abused by
11 Mr. Sabourin as a child.

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** The first time I told anyone
13 about abuses that I suffered was as I was getting older and
14 I had a son and at that time things started to really
15 percolate inside of me. I didn't understand what it was
16 but there were things in my behaviour that were strange and
17 different and I really didn't understand.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Who was the person you first
19 told?

20 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I told an officer of the
21 Cornwall Police Force, not as a charge but as an
22 explanation to my behaviour. I said, "You know, there was
23 a teacher in high school that did things to me and maybe
24 that's why I'm behaving this way today" or words to those
25 effect. And because of that encounter I very soon after

1 that, maybe a month after that, was in a program at the
2 Royal Ottawa Hospital in Ottawa and one of the first things
3 that I told any of the doctors, the doctor that interviewed
4 me was, "You know, there's a teacher that molested me.
5 There was a teacher that did things to me" and I said high
6 school because that was in and around the time.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Let me stop you for just a
8 minute, Mr. Seguin, if I can. I apologize for
9 interrupting.

10 Before you spoke to an officer from the
11 Cornwall Police Service, had you said anything to your then
12 wife who is now your former wife?

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, you're right.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. So let's go there
15 first and then -- how did that come about? Did you have a
16 young child at that time?

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** We had just had a child and
18 like I was trying to explain, this was percolating inside
19 of me and my wife -- I told my wife that things had
20 happened to me at the hand of a teacher. It's not that --
21 we didn't go into great, great detail but she understood
22 and she had stories of her own, too.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Was she supportive at that
24 time?

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, she did, very much so

1 and she agreed to how wrong that was.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

3 Now, I understand you were around 20 or 21
4 at the time. You were very ---

5 MR. A. SEGUIN: I might have been somewhat
6 older.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay.

8 MR. A. SEGUIN: Because I know it was in and
9 around the time that my son was born.

10 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay.

11 I understand sir that the incident that you
12 refer to with Cornwall Police Service happened in 1987?

13 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

14 MR. ENGELMANN: And you would have been
15 approximately 21 at the time.

16 MR. A. SEGUIN: In '87?

17 MR. ENGELMANN: Yes -- or sorry, you
18 would've been approximately 27 at the time.

19 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, 27.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: I apologize.

21 So let's talk about that. Now, you've
22 spoken to your former wife about it. You've confided in
23 her.

24 MR. A. SEGUIN: M'hm.

25 MR. ENGELMANN: You have some children.

1 There's an incident that leads you to speak to the Cornwall
2 Police.

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I don't want to get into it
5 in any detail but you were arrested?

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I was arrested. The
7 police told me concerning an indecent act.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did that involve anyone
9 else, sir, or was that just yourself?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** That was myself.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And as a result of
12 that, can you tell us a little bit about what happened with
13 the Cornwall Police that you can remember?

14 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Due to that incident, which
15 I now realize was this whole issue percolating in trying to
16 find its way out so that I could make sense of it, I was
17 brought before the Cornwall Police Department. And in one
18 meeting, I remember meeting with a staff sergeant, Staff
19 Sergeant Trottier who told me that due to this incident I
20 would have to go to the Royal Ottawa Hospital for
21 assessments. At that time, in trying to explain, I
22 mentioned that, you know, when I was in high school there's
23 a teacher that did some things to me and I don't know if it
24 has anything to do with this but somehow inside of me --
25 words to that effect.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right. And you recall
2 saying words to that effect ---

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I do.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- to Staff Sergeant
5 Trottier?

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I do.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How do you remember that it
8 was Staff Sergeant Trottier? Is there something about him
9 or how do you remember that?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Well, Officer Trottier is
11 very tall and has red hair and I remember it to be Sergeant
12 Trottier.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. So when you told him
14 about -- and I just want to make sure the word is right --
15 inappropriate actions by a teacher?

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did he ask you who the
18 teacher was or when this happened?

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** He never said a word, didn't
20 ask a question. He took it as a comment. Nothing. No
21 reaction.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So do you know what, if
23 anything, he did or the Cornwall Police did about your
24 comments?

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I have no idea.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** But he told you that you had
2 to go to the Royal Ottawa Hospital. Is that correct?

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** M'hm.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you go to the Royal
5 Ottawa Hospital?

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I did, diligently.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And I'll come back to the
8 Royal Ottawa Hospital a bit later but, did you go there a
9 number of times?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I did.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** For a number of years?

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I did.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And that started in or
14 around the fall of 1987?

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, it did.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So your discussion with
17 Staff Sergeant Trottier would have been shortly before you
18 started going to the Royal Ottawa Hospital?

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes. I think he even had a
20 date and an appointment for me at that time.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Aside from his physical
22 appearance and that recollection you have, any other reason
23 why you recall that incident and what happened?

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, because I know it was
25 the last time I dealt with the Cornwall Police Force on

1 that issue and I specifically remember it because that's
2 the point where I was told you have to go to this hospital
3 for assessment and my reaction was, "Something happened. A
4 teacher did something to me," and it was my attempt to try
5 and explain why I was there and why this incident happened.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you know, Mr. Seguin, at
7 that time whether Mr. Sabourin was still a teacher or not?

8 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I didn't know.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. Did you have any
10 concerns that you can remember then or later about the
11 actions of the Cornwall Police Service at that time?

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Could you repeat that, Mr.
13 Engelmann, please?

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** At that time, back in 1987
15 or later, did you have any concerns about the actions of
16 the Cornwall Police Service at that time?

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Back in '87?

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Yes.

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, I didn't have any
20 concerns at that time.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** What about now, looking
22 back?

23 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Looking back, I mean, I
24 pointed out that there was a teacher that was acting
25 inappropriately in Cornwall and there was no reaction. The

1 intent was strictly that I was to be sent and treated like
2 I was -- I don't know the right word.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Well, let me ask you this.
4 The referral to the Royal Ottawa Hospital, was that a
5 referral to assist or support you as a victim of sexual
6 abuse?

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, absolutely not.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Was it a referral for you to
9 deal with this as an offender or alleged offender, or do
10 you know?

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I felt like they were
12 sending me there because there was something wrong with me.
13 I only bring this incident up because people need to know
14 the effects of child abuse -- sexual child abuse. You all
15 need to know what it does to people.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** The program that you went
17 into there, I said we'll talk about it a bit later, but to
18 your knowledge, was it a program that did deal with people
19 who were abused as well as people who were allegedly
20 abusing?

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No. No, the program was set
22 up to -- as far as I could tell, the program was set up to
23 determine how much of a risk this person is to society.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Would you have seen one
25 doctor there or multiple doctors?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Multiple doctors.

2 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you know if they were
3 psychiatrists, psychologists or both?

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** They were psychiatrists.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And as I understand it, you
6 went as an outpatient?

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And that happened for two,
9 three, four years?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** A number of years, two or
11 three, yes.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you would have travelled
13 to Ottawa to get that ---

14 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- treatment or counselling
16 or service?

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you remember, sir,
19 whether any part of this program dealt with substance or
20 drug or alcohol abuse or was it geared to ---

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, it was geared to
22 sexuality. They weren't trying to find out if I abused
23 substances.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you recall whether during
25 any of those sessions when you attended at the Royal Ottawa

1 Hospital, if you talked about your own abuse?

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: That was one of the first
3 things I did.

4 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And did you tell them
5 that a teacher had abused you?

6 MR. A. SEGUIN: I absolutely did. I named
7 him too.

8 MR. ENGELMANN: You gave them the teacher's
9 name?

10 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

11 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. Did you tell them
12 approximately when the abuse occurred?

13 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

14 MR. ENGELMANN: Did you tell them
15 approximately how old you were at the time?

16 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

17 MR. ENGELMANN: And did you tell them for
18 approximately how long it went on?

19 MR. A. SEGUIN: I don't know if I told them
20 that, but one of the first things I told them was that a
21 teacher had done some very inappropriate things to me, that
22 he was a high school teacher and that his name was Robert
23 Sabourin.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: Do you know if ---

25 MR. A. SEGUIN: I don't think they asked me

1 those questions. I think I volunteered that.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: What do you think about
3 that, volunteering as opposed to being asked?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: Well, I think in hindsight
5 now, at the time -- nothing made sense to me at the time,
6 but in hindsight I realize that they should have been
7 trying to find out everything they could about a child
8 that's been molested.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: Do you know if anybody from
10 the Royal Ottawa Hospital followed up and ---

11 MR. A. SEGUIN: I don't ---

12 MR. ENGELMANN: --- did anything about what
13 you told them?

14 MR. A. SEGUIN: I have no idea. The only
15 things that I remember concerning my abuse at the Royal
16 Ottawa Hospital were times when I brought it up and spoke
17 of it.

18 MR. ENGELMANN: And do you know if -- was
19 this during a group session or a one-on-one session or did
20 you only do one or the other?

21 MR. A. SEGUIN: It was mostly one-on-one
22 sessions. There was a lot of testing, different types of
23 testing that they did.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: And would you have told one
25 doctor about this or more than one doctor? Do you recall?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** More than one doctor.

2 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. So you don't know
3 then, sir, if they followed up with either the School Board
4 or the police, anybody from the hospital?

5 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** They weren't interested.
6 They were interested in me, not what happened to me. The
7 whole perspective was not a victim perspective here.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** The perspective -- the
9 victim perspective, counselling for being a victim of child
10 sexual abuse, have you ever had that?

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, later on in life I did
12 that.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. Can you tell us
14 approximately when you would have first had some
15 counselling for being a victim?

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** At different points I dealt
17 with a Hugh Carie of the General Hospital, an outpatient
18 program, I think.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How did you come to end up
20 there? Was that your own initiative or was that a
21 referral, or do you recall?

22 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** That was due to problems in
23 future -- later relationships and I went to see him through
24 my EAP Program at work.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** That's an Employee

1 Assistance Program?

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

3 MR. ENGELMANN: At Domtar?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: So you went to see someone
6 there and then you got the referral as a result of your
7 initiative?

8 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. Are you -- was this
10 just on one occasion or have you ---

11 MR. A. SEGUIN: On different occasions.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: And have you had any
13 counselling or support assistance recently, sir?

14 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes. I don't know, I think
15 it's three years back I did some counselling through the
16 Men's Project, and I have to tell you their approach was a
17 lot different than the Royal Ottawa Hospital's approach
18 was.

19 MR. ENGELMANN: That's a positive or a
20 negative difference, sir?

21 MR. A. SEGUIN: A positive difference.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: Can you just explain to us
23 briefly why?

24 MR. A. SEGUIN: Because I wasn't made to
25 feel that there was something wrong with me.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And did you see the Men's
2 Project here in Cornwall or was that in Ottawa or both?

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** In Cornwall here.

4 **THE COMMISSIONER:** We will be taking a break
5 very shortly.

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Thank you.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Sir, I was just going to ask
8 you about whether you, at some point in time, came forward
9 about the child sexual abuse? You mentioned the comments
10 to Staff Sergeant Trottier about inappropriate actions on
11 the part of a teacher. You mentioned your comments to
12 doctors at the Royal Ottawa Hospital which were more
13 detailed and described the name of the teacher, et cetera.

14 Did you ever come forward later to any form
15 of institution to complain or to talk about the child
16 sexual abuse you suffered at the hands of Mr. Sabourin?

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, later on I formally
18 charged Robert Sabourin for molesting me through the --
19 well, what I did was I called the Project Truth hotline
20 that was in the newspaper.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. So tell us how that
22 happened, why then? Were you in counselling? Did you see
23 something? What happened? What was the spark?

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I had started doing
25 counselling on different occasions and I have been dealing

1 with what had happened to me. I saw it in the paper that
2 Robert Sabourin had been charged by some other boys that he
3 molested and that gave me the strength to be able to come
4 forward with what happened to me.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And do you remember
6 approximately what year that was, sir?

7 MR. A. SEGUIN: In '95, in that area.

8 MR. ENGELMANN: It was during Project Truth,
9 right?

10 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, yes, because I didn't
11 know who I would call about this. So I saw that there was
12 a hotline number in the newspaper that you can call to
13 bring forward your story.

14 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

15 MR. A. SEGUIN: And I called it and I was
16 told that an officer or someone would be in contact with
17 me.

18 MR. ENGELMANN: Let me just stop you there.

19 MR. A. SEGUIN: Sure.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: Did you know what police
21 force that was or who was dealing with Project Truth?

22 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, it was just a number in
23 the newspaper. I didn't necessarily associate it with a
24 specific police force.

25 MR. ENGELMANN: You phoned that number?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I phoned that number.

2 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And what did you say? What
3 did you do?

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I said, you know, I would
5 like to speak to someone about the fact that I was abused
6 as a boy, that I don't remember specifically what, but I
7 know that I was told, "Okay, someone will contact you in
8 the very near future" and I gave them my phone number and
9 my name.

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And did someone then
11 contact you relatively soon?

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, someone contacted me.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And do you recall
14 approximately how long after you made that first phone call
15 to the hotline?

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, I don't remember.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** It wasn't years though?

18 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, it wasn't years.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And it wasn't months? It
20 was weeks, presumably?

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Reasonable.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And do you remember
23 who contacted you or what was arranged?

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I don't remember who
25 contacted me but I remember what was arranged. I was told

1 to -- that I should come into the Cornwall Police
2 Department at such and such a time to speak to such and
3 such an officer ---

4 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

5 MR. A. SEGUIN: --- to give a statement.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: Now, at that point in time,
7 you said you'd been -- you'd had some counselling ---

8 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: --- through EAP. You saw
10 the article in the paper about Sabourin and you had some
11 courage from that.

12 Do you recall what your family circumstances
13 were then, sir?

14 MR. A. SEGUIN: I was in a common law
15 relationship and I had two children at home and my common-
16 law spouse had two children at the time too.

17 MR. ENGELMANN: And did you discuss things
18 with her or the children about coming forward?

19 MR. A. SEGUIN: Oh, absolutely. We had
20 discussed it quite a bit, not just coming forward, but we
21 had talked about what had happened to me and ---

22 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. Sir, I understand
23 that in or about January of 1998 you actually gave a
24 statement to a police officer.

25 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Would it be fair to say that
2 your call to that hotline would have probably been in 1997?

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And do you remember
5 whether you gave that statement at home or whether that was
6 at a police station?

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** The statement was given at
8 the Cornwall Police Station.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And do you remember whether
10 there was one officer or two officers?

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I remember at least one
12 officer.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. Do you remember
14 whether the officer was male or female?

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Female officer.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And do you remember
17 whether she was working with the Project Truth Inquiry or
18 did that come up?

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I assumed she was.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Why did you assume that?

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Because I called the Project
22 Truth hotline.

23 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Do you know whether this
24 lady was an OPP or a Cornwall Police?

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I didn't know at the time.

1 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Do you know now?

2 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I know now.

3 **THE COMMISSIONER:** And what ---

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** She was Cornwall Police
5 Department.

6 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

7 Mr. Engelmann, I don't know, but if you
8 could pick a spot where we could take break or ---

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** This actually might be a
10 good time, sir, if that's suitable for you.

11 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. We'll take a
12 short break and come back.

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Great.

14 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
15 veuillez vous lever.

16 The hearing will resume at 10:50.

17 --- Upon recessing at 10:38 a.m./

18 L'audience est suspendue à 10h50

19 --- Upon resuming at 10:58 a.m./

20 L'audience est reprise à 10h58

21 **THE REGISTRAR:** This hearing of the Cornwall
22 Public Inquiry is now in session. Please be seated.

23 Veuillez vous asseoir.

24 **ALAIN SEGUIN, Resumed/Sous le meme serment:**

25 --- **EXAMINATION IN-CHIEF BY/INTERROGATOIRE EN CHEF PAR MR.**

1 **ENGELMANN:**

2 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Mr. Seguin, just before the
3 break, I was asking you about Project Truth hotline and
4 you're coming forward in or around 1997.

5 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** There's a couple of
7 questions I've been asked to put to you by other counsel
8 that I just think I'll add right now, if I may.

9 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Sure.

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You mentioned the Men's
11 Project earlier.

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And going there for what you
14 said was positive, a positive experience.

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you remember how you came
17 to know about the Men's Project, whether that was a
18 referral or whether that was something you found out about
19 on your own. Do you remember?

20 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I remember seeing it in the
21 newspaper and I think I called that number.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. So again, it was
23 something you saw in the paper like the Project Truth ad?

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And again, just

1 before I ask you about the statement and the interaction
2 with the Police in January of 1998, I just want to ask you
3 a couple of questions about whether a third party was at
4 all involved in encouraging you to come forward about a
5 complaint and, in particular, I want to ask you if a
6 Constable Perry Dunlop ever met with you or spoke to you
7 about filing a complaint before you came forward?

8 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I didn't know Perry Dunlop.
9 I didn't know of Perry Dunlop. I didn't know what Perry
10 Dunlop was doing. I met Perry Dunlop once. I said two
11 words to him later, way after my complaint.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay.

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** My perpetrator plead guilty
14 before I even knew of Perry Dunlop.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And just to follow
16 up, did you ever meet with his wife, Helen, or ---

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Or any member of his family?
18 No.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay.

20 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** The charges were done, over,
21 prosecuted and he pled guilty before I even got involved
22 with any of them.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

24 And you came to know of them because of some
25 work that you were involved in in a coalition to bring an

1 inquiry to the City of Cornwall?

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I got to know his
3 brother-in-law Carson Chisholm, but I never got to know
4 Perry himself.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay.

6 MR. A. SEGUIN: Although I respect what he
7 did.

8 MR. ENGELMANN: So as a result of your call
9 to the hotline, you receive a phone call back. You go down
10 to the Cornwall Police Station as asked?

11 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: And you're interviewed
13 there?

14 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

16 I would just like -- the Clerk will show you
17 a document now.

18 MR. A. SEGUIN: Sure.

19 MR. ENGELMANN: For the record, it's
20 Document Number 736406.

21 THE COMMISSIONER: And do you want it marked
22 as Exhibit 89?

23 MR. ENGELMANN: I'll just be a moment, if I
24 can, sir.

25 Mr. Seguin, if you could just look at the 5th

1 page of the document.

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: The 5th page, the last page?

3 MR. ENGELMANN: Yes, there's a signature
4 there. Is that your signature?

5 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, it is.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

7 And this is a statement that you gave to the
8 Cornwall Police Service on January 26, 1998. Is that
9 correct?

10 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, it looks like it.

11 MR. ENGELMANN: If that could be Exhibit 89,
12 sir?

13 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

14 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, thank you.

15 --- EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO. P-89:

16 Alain Seguin - Statement of a Witness -
17 January 26, 1998

18 MR. ENGELMANN: Now, you remember, as we had
19 discussed this previously, that you gave a statement to a
20 female police officer ---

21 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I did.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: --- at the Cornwall Police
23 Station?

24 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I did.

25 MR. ENGELMANN: I think you said at the

1 time, you weren't sure if ---

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: I was ---

3 MR. ENGELMANN: You thought she was involved
4 in Project Truth?

5 MR. A. SEGUIN: I know where it was. All I
6 knew, it was -- I assumed it was a Project Truth
7 investigation.

8 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

9 Now, as I reviewed the statement and you've
10 had a chance to look at this briefly before your testimony
11 today, sir?

12 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, briefly.

13 MR. ENGELMANN: As I understand it, the "L"
14 which is then followed by a question; that's Lyne White.
15 The "A" followed by the answer, is Alain presumably.
16 That's your answer?

17 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

18 MR. ENGELMANN: Is this written in your
19 handwriting or in her handwriting?

20 MR. A. SEGUIN: In her handwriting.

21 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And after it was
22 written up, you were presumably asked to sign it?

23 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And you've had a
25 chance to review the statement. Can you tell us -- just

1 before I get to the content, do you know if there was
2 another officer present at the time?

3 MR. A. SEGUIN: I don't think so.

4 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And Lyne White or L.
5 White was a female officer. You described that?

6 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: Were you asked at that time
8 whether or not you had a preference for a female or male
9 officer?

10 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, I was never asked.

11 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. Were you comfortable
12 giving the statement to Constable White?

13 MR. A. SEGUIN: Constable White made me feel
14 comfortable enough, yes, she did.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: I realize the statement was
16 now given over eight years, but having reviewed it, I'm
17 wondering if it accurately describes your answers to the
18 questions that were put to you and the answers that you
19 gave, to the best of your knowledge?

20 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, to the best of my
21 knowledge, these are the questions I was asked and those
22 were my answers.

23 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And I understand,
24 sir, as a result of your reviewing the statement, you have
25 discovered an error?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I have discovered an
2 error.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Can you tell us about that
4 and where it is in the statement?

5 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, the abuse that I
6 suffered in Ottawa at the Lord Elgin Hotel was during the
7 inauguration of not Bishop Proulx, but of the then Bishop -
8 - not Bishop LaRocque but of the then Bishop Proulx.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. So if we're looking
10 at page 4 of 5, and the Bates page number, for the record,
11 7141418, there's a reference to the inauguration of
12 Archbishop LaRocque?

13 **MR. A SEGUIN:** Yes, it should read
14 Archbishop Proulx.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And do you know
16 whether he was made Bishop or an Archbishop, or do you
17 remember?

18 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I didn't know at the time,
19 but I know now that he was being inaugurated as an
20 Archbishop.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And so there's two
22 references to Archbishop LaRocque. Those references should
23 be changed to Archbishop Proulx? Is that what you're
24 saying?

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, they should.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And is that just a
2 mistake you discovered after the fact, or was that written
3 out incorrectly?

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** It's a mistake that I was
5 making. I wasn't sure of the Bishop's name when I was 14
6 years old. I later realized that the Bishop to which this
7 inauguration had to do was Bishop Proulx.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And I think you told
9 us earlier that Mr. Sabourin had told you that he had a
10 special relationship with the Bishop?

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, Mr. Sabourin himself
12 had told me that he was personal friends with the Bishop
13 and that he did photography for the Diocese.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And he had told your
15 parents that when they were deciding whether or not to give
16 you permission to go?

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Oh yes, absolutely. He made
18 himself seem very revered.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Now ---

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** There's also a mention,
21 Mr. Engelmann, I don't know if you're going to get it,
22 about Chateau Laurier?

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I'm sorry?

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** About the Chateau
25 Laurier?

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Yes, yes. I was just going
2 there, sir.

3 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Sorry.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You mentioned as well, sir,
5 in your evidence earlier today that you thought the abuse
6 took place at the Lord Elgin Hotel?

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I note in the statement on
9 page 4, that same Bates page number, you've mentioned the
10 Chateau Laurier.

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes. At the time of the
12 statement, I was not sure which of the two hotels it would
13 have been. I'm now sure that it was at the Lord Elgin
14 Hotel.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. All right.

16 And again, that wasn't a transcription
17 error; that was your error in what you told the officer?

18 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** That's right.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Is that what you're saying?

20 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** That's right. It was my
21 error. At 14 years old, I wasn't sure which hotel it was,
22 but I realize that it was the Lord Elgin Hotel.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay.

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** And I wasn't sure at 14
25 years old -- I wasn't sure when I gave the statement on the

1 name of the Bishop, but it was Bishop Proulx.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And do you know if
3 you were 12, 13 or 14 when you were in Ottawa?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: It was later on in the
5 abuse.

6 I would say that I was 14.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: Now, on the first page of
8 this statement you're asked some questions and you give
9 some answers about other individuals, not about Mr.
10 Sabourin.

11 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: Is that correct?

13 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

14 MR. ENGELMANN: On the second page you're
15 asked "What was this individual's name?" and you give a
16 long answer and you talk about Mr. Sabourin. Is that
17 correct?

18 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

19 MR. ENGELMANN: Then on the fourth page,
20 7141418, you're asked a second question, "What does
21 molesting mean to you?"

22 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

23 MR. ENGELMANN: And you give an answer.

24 Aside from those two questions, "What was
25 this individual's name and what does molesting mean to

1 you?" , to your knowledge did Constable White ask you any
2 other questions about Mr. Sabourin's abuse of you?

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, I don't recall being
4 asked any other questions. It was very traumatic at the
5 time. I gave her as much information as I felt I could to
6 the questions that she asked. I do feel now that there
7 could've been a lot more detail if there would've been more
8 questions asked.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did anyone from the Cornwall
10 Police Service ever ask you other questions other than
11 those two questions about Mr. Sabourin?

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I'm including what you told
14 us from 1987, 1998 and since.

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, I was never asked any
16 more questions.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you give a statement in
18 January of 1998 and -- I'll just be a moment.

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Sure.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I understand some 15 months
21 later that Mr. Sabourin is sentenced. I want to ask you
22 about follow-up or contact, that you can remember, from the
23 Cornwall Police Service first, after you give the statement
24 in January of '98. Do you remember the next contact you
25 had with them?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** After the statement, the
2 next one that I remember is the time where I was asked to
3 prepare a Victim Impact Statement and I was given a package
4 of paperwork to fill out.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. Do you recall whether
6 that was someone from the Cornwall Police Service, whether
7 that was someone from the OPP or whether that was someone
8 from the Crown Prosecutor's Office?

9 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I seem to remember I had to
10 go and pick this package up at the Cornwall Police station.
11 I'm not sure what Force the officers were with.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. Do you remember
13 actually going to the police station and picking up a
14 package?

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes. I met with -- I was in
16 a room with, I think, three people, one of which I know is
17 -- I remember to be a police officer. I don't remember his
18 name and I don't know who the other people were.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you take this package
20 home with you or did you fill something up there? What did
21 you do?

22 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I brought it home with me.
23 There was some explanation on how to fill it out. In the
24 package there was some information on how to fill it out.
25 I got help to fill out the Victim Impact Statement.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Who gave you help, sir?

2 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Bob Smith of the Children's
3 Treatment Centre.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. Was that assistance
5 that ---

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- you asked for or was
8 that assistance that was offered, or how did that work?

9 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, it was assistance that
10 was being given to my children at the time and I was
11 involved in what they -- in my children's counselling there
12 and I felt comfortable with Bob Smith and I explained the
13 situation to him and he was willing to help me out.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And did you fill out a
15 Victim Impact Statement, sir ---

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I did.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- with his assistance?

18 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I did.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you remember what you did
20 with it or who you might have given it to?

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I had been instructed to,
22 when it was complete, to drop it off at the counter at the
23 police station, or I may have been given a name to have it
24 brought to. Like you drop it off at the counter and it's
25 addressed to a certain officer. I don't specifically

1 remember who. It may have been Constable White.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: Did you bring a completed
3 form back to the Cornwall Police Station?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I did.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: Do you know if you had any
6 interaction between January of '98 and April of '99, other
7 interaction with the Cornwall Police Service?

8 MR. A. SEGUIN: I would have a hard time
9 with dates.

10 MR. ENGELMANN: With respect to your
11 complaint.

12 MR. A. SEGUIN: Okay. Any interaction with
13 the police force. Could you repeat that, please?

14 MR. ENGELMANN: Sure.

15 You talked to us about -- you gave a
16 statement. We know that was in late January ---

17 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

18 MR. ENGELMANN: --- 1998, and at some point
19 you were asked to come and pick up a Victim Impact
20 Statement and a form, and you did, and you took it and you
21 had some help filling it out from Bob Smith and you brought
22 it back to the station.

23 MR. A. SEGUIN: Right.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: Do you recall if you had any
25 other dealings with them, the Cornwall Police?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, actually, I remember
2 just the opposite. I remember feeling that there wasn't
3 very much communication, that my information on the case
4 was coming from the newspaper.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay.

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** And I found that very
7 distressing that I didn't know what was going on.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** When did you next find out
9 something about the case? You mentioned the newspaper. Do
10 you remember?

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** There was a couple of
12 references in the newspaper that he was -- had been up
13 before the judge in court and I remember saying, "I didn't
14 know that." Maybe I would've wanted to be there.
15 Actually, I would've. And then the last one is when he
16 pled guilty and I read that in the paper and, you know, I
17 realized -- I was quite upset actually, like how come I
18 wasn't there? I mean, they wanted my Victim Impact
19 Statement but yet they didn't ask me to come down and read
20 it. I couldn't understand how that went.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** To your knowledge, did
22 anyone from the Crown Prosecutor's or Crown Attorney's
23 Office ever try and contact you about that court date or
24 about the sentencing or the guilty plea?

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, I don't remember. I

1 don't remember anybody attempting to contact me.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: What about to provide you
3 with some victim services or support?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: I was never offered any
5 victim services of any kind.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: By anybody, to your
7 knowledge?

8 MR. A. SEGUIN: No.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: Do you recall if -- you
10 mentioned picking up forms and a package at the police
11 station. Do you recall if there was any information about
12 the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, either in that
13 package or another package that you might have received?

14 MR. A. SEGUIN: I distinctly remember
15 references to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board and
16 that whoever it was I spoke to when I picked up the
17 package, they mentioned that and said that I should read it
18 carefully and that that was set up to help people who were
19 affected by crime. The package had explanations.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: Did you ever fill it out and
21 apply?

22 MR. A. SEGUIN: I didn't apply for any kind
23 of compensation.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: Did anyone follow up with
25 you to try and assist you in doing that, to your knowledge?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, nobody assisted me in
2 filling those parts of that package out. I only got help
3 to fill out the Victim Impact Statement.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And that was the help that
5 you asked Bob Smith to give you?

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I requested it myself,
7 yes.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you find out about Mr.
9 Sabourin and his court dates in the newspaper.

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** M'hm.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You told us that you weren't
12 happy about that.

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, I wasn't happy about
14 that.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** What about his sentence, did
16 you hear about that in the newspaper too?

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I did and I was even
18 less happy about that.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Why is that, sir?

20 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I mean, I think the paper
21 said that the man pled guilty and was given a sentence of
22 two years less a day with a certain amount of probation. I
23 remember at the time I felt cheated. I didn't think this
24 man was paying enough at all, at all. I mean, bad enough
25 one person but there was a number of people that were part

1 of that case that charged him.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: So you thought that the
3 penalty or the punishment was insufficient?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: Absolutely insufficient.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: To your knowledge, sir, were
6 you ever asked your views on what an appropriate sentence
7 would be or an appropriate disposition of the charges
8 against Mr. Sabourin?

9 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, I was never asked. In
10 later years I found something even more disturbing was that
11 when I went and requested files to try and make sense of
12 what happened from the courts, I realized that even after
13 his sentencing and into his probation I didn't see anywhere
14 in those papers where he was to stay away from children.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: Now, you've told us that
16 there was no follow-up by the police other than what you
17 described and no contact at all with the Crown prosecutor,
18 that you know of. What about the school or the School
19 Board? After Mr. Sabourin was charged and right up through
20 the conviction and after that, did the School Board or any
21 officials from the School Board approach you?

22 MR. A. SEGUIN: None whatsoever.

23 MR. ENGELMANN: So you weren't offered any
24 counselling services or other services by the School Board?

25 MR. A. SEGUIN: None.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Mr. Seguin, you've described
2 for us the fact that on numerous occasions for over a year,
3 up to two years, you were sexually abused as a child.

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I wanted to ask you if you
6 can describe for us in your own words some of the impact
7 that that abuse has had on you, on your life, on your
8 family.

9 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I have a lot of trouble with
10 relationships. I have trouble trusting people that I allow
11 close to me. While you gentlemen were out in college,
12 trying to become lawyers and further your education, I was
13 struggling just to try and be normal, just to get myself to
14 a place where I could even consider furthering my
15 education. The abuse itself was one impact on me, but how
16 I reacted to that abuse is something that scars and hurts
17 just as much because I went on to hurt people that were
18 very close to me; not understanding what was happening to
19 me, just trying to deal with my feelings, completely
20 confused. So I had to spend the rest of my life trying to
21 deal with the people that I hurt. I managed to do that,
22 but it took most of my life. And later on, as a father,
23 you know, there were some protection aspects of me that was
24 missing towards my children. You know, because things
25 happened to my children too and I didn't react properly.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** In what sense, sir?

2 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Well, things happened to my
3 children and I should have been able to react and say "Gee,
4 we have to call the police. We have to have this
5 investigated. Someone's hurting my kids." I wasn't able
6 to do that. Because of what happened to me, I cowered, I
7 shied away and I -- "No, shhh shhh, can't talk about that.
8 No, no". Luckily I had someone near me at the time that
9 was strong enough to kick me in the pants and say, "Oh no,
10 you're not, your kids are -- they're going to charge this
11 man, this person and we're going to deal with it through it
12 all and your children are going to go on and get some
13 counselling", and that's how I ended up at the Children's
14 Treatment Centre.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you were able to ---

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** But can you imagine trying
17 to live with that? I was not reacting to my kids and my
18 kids were in danger.

19 **THE COMMISSIONER:** How are things now, sir?

20 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Somewhat better for my
21 children.

22 **THE COMMISSIONER:** They are growing up and -
23 --

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** My children have a much
25 better chance than I ever had.

1 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm.

2 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Because they were able to
3 deal with their problem right away.

4 **THE COMMISSIONER:** So how do you foresee the
5 rest of your life now?

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** How do I foresee the rest of
7 my life?

8 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm.

9 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Well, I think that I'm as
10 normal now as anyone else. And my life starts now. So I
11 don't really know what to foresee.

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm. Thank you.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** The help your children got
14 at the Children's Treatment Centre, that was valuable in
15 your view?

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Very valuable to them.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Is that something that could
18 have been valuable to you some time ago?

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Oh, absolutely. Absolutely.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Sir, I want to ask you --
21 it's questions that we've asked other witnesses who have
22 appeared here. We're dealing with the response of
23 institutions to allegations of child sexual abuse; whether
24 individuals thought they responded appropriately and, if
25 not, if they had suggestions or recommendations about how

1 the institutions might respond differently or might respond
2 now in dealing with situations similar to what you went
3 through.

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: Right.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: I just want to ask you about
6 a few of the institutions that you were involved with and
7 whether in your view you thought they responded
8 appropriately at the time and how they could respond
9 better.

10 So let's start with the Cornwall Police
11 Service. You talked about an interaction in 1987 with
12 Staff Sergeant Trottier. You talked about further
13 interaction in January of 1998 and a brief encounter after
14 that about the Victims Impact Statement. Do you think
15 their institutional response was appropriate in your case?
16 Let's start there.

17 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, I don't think that their
18 response was appropriate. I feel that there was a missed
19 opportunity. If attention would have been given to the
20 fact that I was trying to express that I had been injured
21 and that maybe what was going on was a reaction to an
22 injury, I think things could have been a lot different for
23 myself.

24 As for when I did come forward and charge
25 Robert Sabourin, I don't feel that I was kept up to date.

1 I think that I should have been given the opportunity to
2 read my Victim Impact Statement in front of the judge as
3 I'm here today to try and show what has gone on. I think
4 that that would have, first of all, impacted the
5 sentencing, which is something I wanted to do. And
6 secondly, it would have impacted my potential to heal.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** We have heard that police
8 forces now refer victims to support services and other
9 referral services. If that had been done back in '87 or
10 '98, would that be something that you would have wanted to
11 have?

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Oh yes, absolutely. I saw
13 the benefit it brought to my kids.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Is that something you think
15 is important today?

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Oh yes, absolutely.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** What about the school board?
18 Back when this was happening, you didn't tell the
19 principal, you didn't tell the teachers at this high school
20 that this was happening?

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, I didn't tell anyone.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Is there something that they
23 should have done, in your view, if you hadn't officially
24 complained?

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** As an adult today, I can see

1 that if they didn't know they should have known, but I feel
2 that there were individuals that knew. Actually, I'm
3 pretty sure that there were certain individuals,
4 professional people that were told. I was younger than
5 most of those kids and I was walking around that school
6 like I belonged ---

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Were you walking around with
8 Mr. Sabourin from time to time?

9 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** From time to time, oh yes,
10 and nothing was ever questioned. Not that I know of.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** What about the follow-up
12 afterwards when the charges came out, everything else. Did
13 you expect the school board to come forward then to do
14 something or not?

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I would have expected an
16 explanation of -- because by '87, I knew there were others.
17 I would have expected the school board to try and explain
18 but there was never any contact.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** What about the Crown
20 Attorney's Office or the Crown Prosecutor's Office? I'm
21 thinking once you went in and a charge was laid until the
22 court appearance where things were dealt with and the
23 sentencing. Did you think -- you had no contact with them?

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I had no contact with them
25 and now that I know what their job and purpose is, I feel

1 that, yes, they should have been in contact with me.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: You think that's important
3 that Crown attorneys stay in touch with victims of crimes?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I do because I would
5 have liked to have heard that "I'm here to represent you
6 and I'm going to fight to try and bring justice to the
7 situation you are involved in."

8 MR. ENGELMANN: You said you wanted to read
9 your Victim Impact Statement or have some involvement at
10 least in the court hearing.

11 MR. A. SEGUIN: I would have liked to, yes.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: Now, you have mentioned
13 going to the Royal Ottawa Hospital for a number of years.

14 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: I want to just go there with
16 you briefly.

17 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

18 MR. ENGELMANN: I want you to look at a
19 document first.

20 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

21 MR. ENGELMANN: Madame Clerk, I do not want
22 this document on the screen.

23 Does the witness have a copy of the
24 document?

25 MR. A. SEGUIN: Not at this time.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. If he could be given
2 a copy of the document.

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Thank you.

4 **THE COMMISSIONER:** So exhibit number 90?

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Yes. I just want to ask the
6 witness a couple of questions about the document.

7 **THE COMMISSIONER:** It is going on the
8 lawyers' screens, isn't it?

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I'm sorry?

10 **THE COMMISSIONER:** It will be going on
11 counsel's screens or do they have a copy of it or do they
12 aware of it?

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** They should all have a copy
14 of it. It was brought to their attention. This is a
15 clinical record from the Royal Ottawa Hospital, Department
16 of Psychiatry, and the document -- sir, this is a document
17 about you, correct?

18 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Your case history?

20 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And this document has some
22 intimate medical and personal information; is that fair?

23 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, that's correct.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Let's just take it off the
25 screen. The document number is 117950.

1 I've spoken to the witness about the
2 document and because of the intimate medical, personal
3 nature of the document he has asked that we file the
4 document as a "C" exhibit, as a confidential exhibit. He
5 does want to refer to one aspect of it that he wishes to
6 speak about publicly.

7 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I'd like to enter it as a
9 "C" exhibit, unless there's any -- I don't know if there is
10 any objection to that from any counsel here. Maybe we
11 should just stop before I ask about that.

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm. So do all counsel
13 have a copy of this and are aware of the contents? And I
14 guess we should canvass everyone to see what their position
15 is with respect to your procedure.

16 Mr. Wardle?

17 **MR. WARDLE:** No objections to having it
18 marked as an in camera exhibit.

19 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

20 Mr. Lee?

21 **MR. LEE:** I have no objections, sir.

22 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

23 Mr. Bennett?

24 **MR. BENNETT:** No objections, Your Honour.

25 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

1 Mr. Chisholm?

2 **MR. CHISHOLM:** No objections, sir.

3 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

4 Mr. Rose?

5 **MR. ROSE:** No objections, sir.

6 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

7 Mr. Scharbach?

8 **MR. SCHARBACH:** No objections, sir.

9 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

10 Mr. Callaghan?

11 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** No objections, sir.

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

13 Ms. Costom?

14 **MS. COSTOM:** No objection.

15 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

16 Mr. Carroll?

17 **MR. CARROLL:** No objection.

18 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Upper Canada District

19 School Board?

20 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** No objections, Mr.

21 Commissioner.

22 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

23 And the Catholic District School Board is

24 not -- give me a moment. I will read it over and see.

25 **(SHORT PAUSE/COURTE PAUSE)**

1 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

2 Exhibit 90, there's been a request that we
3 make a "C" exhibit. It is a case history dated September
4 25th, 1987 from the Royal Ottawa Hospital and I will
5 exercise my discretion at this point and have it marked a
6 "C" exhibit, and the reasons for that are that in my view
7 at this point at least, there is no public interest that
8 the matter be further publicized and I feel that the case
9 history and the damage that may be done to the privacy
10 interests of Mr. Seguin are well served by being made a "C"
11 exhibit.

12 **--- EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO C-90:**

13 Alain Seguin - Clinical Record - Department
14 of Psychiatry

15 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Mr. Engelmann, you have a
16 question of him?

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Yes. Thank you.

18 Mr. Seguin, just before I get into one
19 particular aspect of this report, I just want to retrace
20 what you told us about your visits to the Royal Ottawa
21 Hospital. My understanding is you started going there
22 sometime in 1987?

23 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And would have continued
25 going there for approximately three, maybe four years?

1 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: As an outpatient?

3 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

4 MR. ENGELMANN: You explained to us that you
5 would have told more than one doctor about the sexual abuse
6 that you suffered at the hands of Robert Sabourin?

7 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, in detail.

8 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And you would have
9 explained that he was a high school teacher?

10 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

11 MR. ENGELMANN: You would have given them
12 information about your age at the time and what he would
13 have done to you?

14 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: I don't know if you had an
16 expectation at that time, but what do you think their
17 response should have been as an institution and those
18 individuals that you were dealing with there with respect
19 to the information you gave them?

20 MR. A. SEGUIN: Their response should have
21 been to inquire with the police departments and find out
22 where this person was and if there were other complaints
23 and is this person still in contact with children and could
24 he be still molesting children. I volunteered as much
25 information. I even volunteered that I wasn't sure where

1 he was, that I know that he had to leave town, but that he
2 may be teaching.

3 MR. ENGELMANN: And you don't know what, if
4 any, follow-up they did?

5 MR. A. SEGUIN: None. None that I know of.
6 I wasn't asked any specific questions. It basically dealt
7 with what I was telling them.

8 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And you told us about
9 the program and that it wasn't a program for victims.

10 MR. A. SEGUIN: That's right.

11 MR. ENGELMANN: But really a program for
12 offenders or alleged offenders of some form of sexual
13 offence.

14 MR. A. SEGUIN: M'hm.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: The case report that's now
16 been marked as Exhibit C-90, did you know of this document
17 at that time when it was done in September of 1987?

18 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, I didn't.

19 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay.

20 MR. A. SEGUIN: This is the first time I see
21 the full document.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: And, sir, I understand that
23 recently you were made aware of a part of the contents of
24 this document?

25 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I was.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And I'm referring in
2 particular to one line which I understand I can read
3 publicly?

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, by all means.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And it says:

6 "At the age of 12 to 14, he was
7 involved in a homosexual relationship
8 with a high school teacher whom his
9 cousin introduced to him."

10 Now, I just want to stop here for a minute.

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** A friend introduced me.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. In any event:

13 "At the age of 12 to 14 he was involved
14 in a homosexual relationship with a
15 high school teacher."

16 Is that how you would have described what
17 Mr. Sabourin was doing to you?

18 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Do you people know many 12,
19 13, 14-year-old homosexuals?

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Seeing that recently, how do
21 you feel about how that is described?

22 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I'm angry.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Why are you angry?

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Because this is a
25 professional person making this determination, one of our

1 leaders, people that I'm supposed to trust.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: So you describe that you're
3 being sexually abused or molested by a high school student?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: I'm telling these people
5 that someone is doing inappropriate things to me and I'm
6 trying to show that it's affecting me and that it has
7 affected me, and this is how this person put it.

8 THE COMMISSIONER: Sorry, Mr. Engelmann, for
9 the record, you said "a high school student".

10 MR. ENGELMANN: I'm sorry, a high school
11 teacher.

12 THE COMMISSIONER: A high school teacher.

13 MR. ENGELMANN: Yes.

14 MR. A. SEGUIN: I don't think that a 12 or
15 13 or 14-year-old boy, girl, can have any serious decisions
16 on sexuality. I don't think they've developed that part of
17 their lives.

18 MR. ENGELMANN: Does it matter to you that
19 the person is a teacher dealing with a student?

20 MR. A. SEGUIN: Very much so. I was not a
21 willing participant in a homosexual relationship. I was
22 molested by an adult.

23 MR. ENGELMANN: Sir, I understand that you
24 were involved, as have been other victims of child sexual
25 abuse, in trying to lobby the government to have this

1 Inquiry or an inquiry?

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I was involved with the
3 Coalition for Action on Child Sexual Abuse in Cornwall and
4 we worked hard to try and educate people on the fact that
5 children can't be used as toys and that what went on in our
6 City of Cornwall was totally unproportionate, that the
7 amount of sexual abuse that took place in our town is not
8 proportionate to other places. Something went definitely
9 wrong and we fought for an inquiry to try and answer the
10 questions of what went wrong.

11 Although I'm not completely satisfied with
12 the objectives of this Inquiry, I will participate fully,
13 completely and as honestly as I can.

14 MR. ENGELMANN: Mr. Seguin, I want to thank
15 you for your participation, for your attendance and for
16 answering some difficult questions.

17 If you could answer questions that some of
18 the other lawyers may now have for you? Before they ask
19 you questions, they will identify themselves and they will
20 tell you which party it is they represent.

21 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: Thank you again.

23 THE COMMISSIONER: All right.

24 Mr. Wardle.

25 --- CROSS-EXAMINATION BY/CONTRE-INTERROGATOIRE PAR MR.

1 **WARDLE:**

2 **MR. WARDLE:** Mr. Seguin, as I think you
3 know, I'm Peter Wardle. I'm counsel for Citizens for
4 Community Renewal.

5 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, Mr. Wardle.

6 **MR. WARDLE:** I have a few questions for you
7 and I want to just pick up, if I can, on what you just said
8 about something being definitely wrong in Cornwall.

9 I know you were very involved in the move,
10 starting as far back as Bill 102, to get a public inquiry
11 for the City; correct?

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Maybe not as far back as
13 Bill 102, but I became very involved in the movement that
14 Bill 102 started.

15 **MR. WARDLE:** And I know you've been very
16 active and you've obviously had an opportunity to think
17 perhaps far too much about your own circumstances.

18 I want to take you back, if I can, to the
19 original abuse that took place involving you while you were
20 12, 13, 14.

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

22 **MR. WARDLE:** I just want you to think a
23 little bit and perhaps get some observations from you about
24 the circumstances involving your abuse in connection with
25 the school. And I think you said earlier in response to

1 Mr. Engelmann's questions that Mr. Sabourin had an office
2 at the school; correct?

3 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

4 MR. WARDLE: And there were a number of
5 rooms associated with that office?

6 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

7 MR. WARDLE: And you were given a key?

8 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I was.

9 MR. WARDLE: And over a fairly lengthy
10 period of time, you came and went to the school and entered
11 the office with the key?

12 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

13 MR. WARDLE: And at the time, you were not a
14 high school student. You were still in grade 7, as I
15 understand it?

16 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I was a student at Jean
17 XXIII.

18 MR. WARDLE: And so you were not a student
19 at the high school La Citadelle?

20 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, I wasn't.

21 MR. WARDLE: And do you know what Mr.
22 Sabourin told other people at the school about you and why
23 you were there?

24 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, I don't know what he
25 told other people.

1 **MR. WARDLE:** And do you know what -- from
2 your own observations at the time, you know he had
3 relationships with other boys?

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I do now, yes. I did later.
5 At the time, I didn't.

6 **MR. WARDLE:** Did you see him involved with
7 any other boys? And when I say involved, I mean just even
8 in a social sense, just hanging around other boys besides
9 yourself?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Endless number of boys,
11 endless number of boys. He surrounded himself with boys.

12 **MR. WARDLE:** And was that in the school
13 setting or outside the school setting, or do you recall?

14 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** In the school setting he
15 made a very easygoing place of his outer office for
16 students to sort of hang out. On some occasions I didn't
17 need to use the key. There were other kids in his outer
18 office. At his home, it was incredible the traffic of boys
19 there.

20 **MR. WARDLE:** And are you -- do you know or
21 can you recall whether adults, people working at the
22 school, teachers, janitors, whoever they were, would have
23 seen you coming and going and using the key?

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I was seen coming or going,
25 but I was never questioned. Generally, at lunchtime the

1 halls were quite busy. There were few occasions where it
2 was quiet for some reason or other. I may have been early.

3 **MR. WARDLE:** And do you know the
4 circumstances that led to Mr. Sabourin leaving that school?

5 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I didn't at the time, but I
6 know somewhat what happened now.

7 **MR. WARDLE:** All right.

8 Do you know, for example, that he eventually
9 resigned his employment with the Board?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** He was asked to resign.

11 **MR. WARDLE:** He was asked to resign? How
12 did you find that out and when did you find that out?

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I knew that he was asked to
14 resign or asked to move on sometime in the '80s. I had
15 heard of a boy that had complained of abuse and I thought
16 that due to that Mr. Sabourin was asked to leave.

17 I thought he was ran out of town by the
18 police department but I later on found out that he -- his
19 wife had found some pictures. This is a story I was told,
20 that his wife had found some pictures of him with young
21 boys. I didn't realize but he was probably taking pictures
22 of me and others while he was having his jolly little fun.
23 And his wife found some of these pictures and from my
24 understanding these pictures were brought to the principal
25 of the school where he worked, Jeannine Séguin, and that

1 she later on brought those pictures to the attention of the
2 school board and the outcome of that was not charges but
3 that he was asked to resign.

4 **MR. WARDLE:** All right. And if I suggested
5 to you that that happened around 1976, would that surprise
6 you?

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, that would not surprise
8 me.

9 **MR. WARDLE:** And that would've been not long
10 after the events that you've told us about this morning?

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Absolutely.

12 **MR. WARDLE:** If in fact we learn at this
13 Inquiry that Mr. Sabourin was allowed to resign without any
14 further steps being taken to inform the police, do you have
15 any comments now about the appropriateness of that course
16 of action?

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I would say that it's
18 typical, typical of the attitude, typical of the
19 unwillingness to deal with this situation by many
20 institutions.

21 **MR. WARDLE:** Now, I just want to -- I have
22 only a couple more questions for you and I just want to
23 elaborate, if I can, or get you to elaborate a little bit
24 on the trip to Ottawa with Mr. Sabourin in connection with
25 Bishop Proulx. Can I suggest to you this; that, first of

1 all, I understand your family was a Catholic family?

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

3 MR. WARDLE: And you were French speaking?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

5 MR. WARDLE: And do I take it that it was
6 important for your family to know that Mr. Sabourin had a
7 relationship of some kind with the Church?

8 MR. A. SEGUIN: Well, they felt secure in
9 that. They felt secure when he told them about his
10 relationship with the Church. That made them feel at ease
11 because like all good Catholic families in Cornwall, we
12 trusted the Church very much.

13 MR. WARDLE: And is it fair to say that it
14 may also have had some impact on your relationship with
15 him, that he told you that he had this relationship with
16 the Church?

17 MR. A. SEGUIN: Absolutely. It raised him
18 higher in my eyes.

19 MR. WARDLE: Thank you, sir. Thank you for
20 your testimony today.

21 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

22 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

23 Mr. Bennett, do you wish to ask any
24 questions?

25 MR. BENNETT: --- asked the questions,

1 Commissioner?

2 **THE COMMISSIONER:** No, you don't. I don't
3 know, does he, Mr. Engelmann?

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** He has the ability to
5 suggest questions to Commission counsel and he has done so.

6 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Terrific. Well, there
7 you go.

8 Mr. Chisholm? Sorry, Mr. Bennett.

9 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Good morning, Mr.
10 Commissioner.

11 Good morning, Mr. Seguin. My name is Peter
12 Chisholm. I'm counsel for the local Children's Aid
13 Society. I have no questions for you. Thank you for
14 coming today.

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I didn't quite understand
16 the gentleman before you. What was that about?

17 **THE COMMISSIONER:** He doesn't have -- Mr.
18 Bennett is here for the Men's Project.

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Okay.

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** And he doesn't have -- he
21 has standing for Phase 2 and to participate by speaking
22 with Commission counsel with respect to any questions he
23 might have and he did that at the break.

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Okay. Great. Thank you.

25 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Thank you, sir.

1 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you, Mr. Chisholm.

2 All right.

3 Mr. Rose, any questions?

4 **MR. ROSE:** I have no questions.

5 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

6 Mr. Scharbach?

7 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Sir, I have a few.

8 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Sure.

9 --- CROSS-EXAMINATION BY/CONTRE-INTERROGATOIRE PAR MR.

10 **SCHARBACH:**

11 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Good morning, Mr. Seguin.

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, good morning, sir.

13 **MR. SCHARBACH:** My name is Stephen Scharbach
14 and I'm a lawyer for the Ministry of the Attorney General.

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

16 **MR. SCHARBACH:** And I just have a few
17 questions for you.

18 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** That would be Michael Bryant
19 today?

20 **MR. SCHARBACH:** It would be.

21 **(LAUGHTER/RIRES)**

22 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Mr. Seguin, you first
23 brought your statement to the attention of the police, the
24 Cornwall Police I believe you said, and that was in January
25 of 1998; is that correct?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I understand that, from
2 the documentation.

3 **MR. SCHARBACH:** And Mr. Sabourin pleaded
4 guilty and was sentenced about 15 months later; is that
5 correct?

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Again, from the paperwork,
7 that's about the time span, yes.

8 **MR. SCHARBACH:** And I understand from the
9 time that you made your first statement in January, January
10 26th, I believe, 1998, until the time that Mr. Sabourin was
11 charged with offences relating to his contact with you,
12 there was about a three-week gap; is that correct?

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** If you say so. I have a
14 little bit of trouble with the time spans.

15 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Okay. Now, at the time that
16 you brought your -- at the time you made your statement to
17 Constable White, I believe it was, ---

18 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

19 **MR. SCHARBACH:** --- of the Cornwall Police -
20 --

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

22 **MR. SCHARBACH:** --- you would've had a
23 meeting with her in which you went over all of the facts
24 that ended up in the statement that we have before us;
25 correct?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No. There was only one
2 meeting with Constable White and that was the time where I
3 gave my statement.

4 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Okay. And at the end of
5 that meeting, did she give you her card or any contact
6 information?

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** She may have. I don't
8 recollect.

9 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Did she invite you to
10 contact her again should any additional information come to
11 mind?

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Not that I remember.

13 **MR. SCHARBACH:** After that meeting in
14 January, do you remember the next meeting with Constable
15 White or someone from the Cornwall Police?

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I know there was one but I
17 don't recollect when or at what point.

18 **MR. SCHARBACH:** And would it be fair to say
19 that that next meeting or that next contact, Constable
20 White informed you that ---

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I'm not even sure that
22 Constable White was present. There was three people.
23 There was an officer. I'm not sure if Officer White was
24 present. Someone gave me a package that was requesting a
25 Victim Impact Statement.

1 **MR. SCHARBACH:** That was the meeting that
2 you informed us of earlier in which you got the information
3 for the Victim Impact Statement?

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

5 **MR. SCHARBACH:** And did they go over the
6 Statement with you or go over the instructions with you at
7 that time?

8 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** They may have said that I
9 could get help from someone to fill it out. They -- I
10 remember they paid particular attention that I should read
11 the information about the Victims of Crime Compensation
12 Board I think it is, and that there may be a recourse for
13 me down in that avenue.

14 **MR. SCHARBACH:** There was certain
15 explanatory information concerning the Criminal Injuries
16 Compensation Board?

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, there was. I didn't
18 pay particular attention to it but there was some forms.
19 That's all I remember.

20 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Would it be accurate to say
21 that it was information designed to give victims some
22 information concerning the Criminal Injuries Compensation
23 Board, how to contact them, how to make an application?

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

25 **MR. SCHARBACH:** With respect to the Victim

1 Impact Statement, was it explained to you that this was
2 your opportunity to let the court know how you had been
3 impacted by this crime?

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

5 MR. SCHARBACH: Were you told that the
6 Victim Impact Statement would be placed before the judge?

7 MR. A. SEGUIN: I don't remember what part
8 of that but I know that I assumed that I would be reading
9 the statement to the judge.

10 MR. SCHARBACH: Did anyone tell you that,
11 that you would be reading it before the judge?

12 MR. A. SEGUIN: I don't remember.

13 MR. SCHARBACH: At this point of this
14 meeting that you had with -- I believe you said you knew
15 Constable White was there and there were two other people
16 that you ---

17 MR. A. SEGUIN: I didn't state that I knew -
18 - there was an officer there at the second meeting. I
19 don't know who -- I don't recall who the officer was.

20 MR. SCHARBACH: Okay.

21 MR. A. SEGUIN: I seem to remember three
22 people, of which I know one was a police officer.

23 MR. SCHARBACH: And at that point did they
24 tell you that these charges were likely to end in a guilty
25 plea?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No. There was no discussion
2 about pleas or plea bargains.

3 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Okay. Now, if I can jump
4 back a moment to your initial meeting with the Cornwall
5 Police Officer, Constable White, I asked you about other
6 contacts or contacts that came later and you've told us
7 about your meeting with the three individuals.

8 Between that period of time, was there any
9 contact between you and the investigating officer?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Not to my recollection.

11 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Is it possible that there
12 was some contact but you don't remember it?

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I don't remember.

14 **MR. SCHARBACH:** After you had your meeting
15 concerning the Victim Impact Statement ---

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** There would have been maybe
17 a phone call to instruct me to come to a meeting in order
18 to receive this package.

19 **MR. SCHARBACH:** I guess what I'm getting at,
20 was there any communication with you to the effect, for
21 example, that charges were going to be laid as a result of
22 your statement?

23 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No. There was -- I don't
24 remember a conversation stating that there would be charges
25 because the -- I know the man was already charged.

1 **MR. SCHARBACH:** But at some point you did
2 learn that charges were laid in respect of your
3 information.

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Obviously I was asked to
5 come in and fill out a -- get a package to fill out a
6 Victim Impact Statement. I was let down by how little
7 communication there was. There may have been a phone call
8 or so, but I wasn't impressed with the amount of -- because
9 this was something very traumatic for me, very important
10 for me and there was very little information going back and
11 forth.

12 **MR. SCHARBACH:** I appreciate that.
13 But would it be fair to assume that by the
14 time you had your meeting concerning the Victim Impact
15 Statement, you would've learned at least by that time that
16 charges had been laid with respect to your case?

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I may have learnt that at
18 that meeting. I don't remember the conversations in
19 between.

20 **MR. SCHARBACH:** I appreciate it's a while
21 ago now, but at that meeting were you told what the next
22 steps were going to be?

23 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I was told that I
24 should fill out the Victim Impact Statement and read over
25 the information and that I should return it to the police

1 department. I seem to remember to address it to a specific
2 officer and to drop it off at the counter.

3 MR. SCHARBACH: Do you remember who that
4 specific officer was?

5 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, I don't remember who it
6 was.

7 MR. SCHARBACH: From your perspective, was
8 there one officer who was in charge of the investigation?

9 MR. A. SEGUIN: No.

10 MR. SCHARBACH: Did you ever attempt to get
11 in touch with the police service to find out what the
12 status was of the case?

13 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, I didn't call.

14 MR. SCHARBACH: After the meeting with the
15 three individuals, I understand that you completed the
16 Victim Impact Statement, you delivered it back to the
17 Cornwall Police; is that fair?

18 MR. A. SEGUIN: To the police station, yes.

19 MR. SCHARBACH: To the police station.

20 MR. A. SEGUIN: I assumed that I was dealing
21 with the Project Truth investigation because that's the
22 number I had called.

23 MR. SCHARBACH: And was there any follow-up
24 on your Victim Impact Statement?

25 MR. A. SEGUIN: I don't remember.

1 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Is it possible that there
2 was some follow-up but you just don't recall it now?

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I suppose it's possible. I
4 don't recall. If I remembered, I would tell you.

5 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Right.

6 Did you ever get in touch with the Crown
7 Prosecutors' Office?

8 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I have no idea who that
9 would've been.

10 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Those are my questions.
11 Thank you, Mr. Seguin.

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** You're welcome.

13 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Mr. Callaghan.

14 --- CROSS-EXAMINATION BY/CONTRE-INTERROGATOIRE PAR MR.
15 **CALLAGHAN:**

16 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Good afternoon, sir.

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Good afternoon.

18 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** My name is John Callaghan.

19 I'm for the Cornwall Police and I know you followed the
20 proceedings and I think we all appreciate the efforts you
21 put in over the years, and I want to say that at the
22 outset.

23 I'd like start a little bit with respect to
24 your involvement with Lyne White who was the officer who
25 you met with. I'm just trying to clarify things, because I

1 know, as you said, it was a traumatic event and that -- I
2 just want to be clear about some of the things leading up
3 to it.

4 You may not remember this, but you've kind
5 of indicated it, but the Cornwall Police, on December 10th,
6 issued a press release that Mr. Sabourin had been charged
7 and invited people who might have information to contact
8 the Cornwall Police. And we know you did contact the
9 Cornwall Police and I'm just trying to clarify perhaps that
10 is what caused you to call rather than the Project Truth,
11 because you ended up dealing with the Cornwall Police. Is
12 there -- could that possibly be the case?

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, I specifically remember
14 reading just a small excerpt of people having charged
15 Robert Sabourin and I was ecstatic. I mean, I couldn't do
16 it myself. I wasn't strong enough, but boy, I was glad
17 when I heard somebody was stronger than me.

18 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Absolutely.

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** So at that time, I got into
20 much more discussion with my spouse.

21 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And as I understand it ---

22 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** And I then realized that I
23 could charge and having no specific avenue to do that, I
24 specifically remember calling the Project Truth hotline,
25 which was all over the paper, asking for information of

1 different aspects. It wasn't specifically on a case to
2 Robert Sabourin.

3 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And it's probably a small
4 point, I mean, I take it that you saw a newspaper article
5 rather than any press release issued by the Cornwall
6 Police?

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** It was not a press release.
8 It was an article in the paper. No, it wasn't anything
9 specific.

10 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And I take it that from your
11 evidence -- and I think it's important for the Inquiry to
12 hear, that notwithstanding all the counselling, all the
13 work you did, and I recognize it's with Mr. Carry and the
14 Ottawa Hospital, et cetera, it took a long time to be able
15 to come forward. It took the strength of others, I think
16 is the way you put it?

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** That's exactly the way I put
18 it.

19 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Okay. And just to clarify
20 some of the dates, I've asked that you be provided with
21 Document 7134152 which is just -- and all I'm doing is I
22 want to just put it in context so the dates are clear. I
23 think we gave notice, and if we didn't, I think I could
24 probably do it without the document.

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** And yes, I'd appreciate some

1 help with the dates.

2 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Okay. It's 7134152.

3 Do you not have it? Well, I can just --
4 and you don't have to accept this, sir, and I'm sure the
5 document will go in another time, but the notes of Ms.
6 White would indicate that on January 7th, contact was made
7 with the Cornwall Police. That's in 1998. Would that be
8 close to your recollection?

9 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I'll accept that.

10 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And then the notes further
11 indicate that an appointment was set up at that time for
12 the next date, January 8th, but it had to be cancelled
13 because of the ice storm. Do you remember that?

14 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I remember that it was
15 during the ice storm.

16 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Right. And then the contact
17 -- the note that we have said that you would get back to
18 them about setting up an appointment and then the notes
19 further indicate that Constable White left messages with
20 you on the 20th and 21st of January 1998. Does that sound
21 correct?

22 **THE REGISTRAR:** I have it.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I think the document Mr.
24 Callaghan has described, the clerk now has it.

25 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I think it's important that
2 the witness have it.

3 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** That's fine. I just don't
4 want to delay the proceedings.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I think the document speaks
6 for itself.

7 **THE COMMISSIONER:** So Exhibit Number?

8 **THE REGISTRAR:** Ninety-one (91).

9 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Ninety-one (91).

10 **THE REGISTRAR:** Can it go under "P"?

11 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** I believe so. I'll take
12 Commission counsel's guidance. I don't see why not.

13 --- **EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO. P-91:**

14 Officer's notes re: Alain Seguin - January
15 7, 1998

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** So you're saying, sir, that
17 ---

18 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** I'm just trying to put it in
19 context.

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Just a minute. Just to
21 help you out here, these are notes from a police officer's
22 notebook?

23 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Correct.

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

25 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And what I'm trying to

1 indicate, and it's a matter just to set the context, that
2 on -- if you've got it there, sir, you'll see on January
3 7th, '98, at least this officer was assigned the case and we
4 understand that's when contact was made?

5 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Well, how do you know
6 that?

7 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Well, I'm suggesting that's
8 what the evidence will be. You don't have to accept that
9 as a case. I'm just asking the witness whether he has any
10 recollection, and I think what the witness is saying, it
11 would be in about that time and I'm trying to put some
12 parameters around it for everybody, Mr. Commissioner.

13 It doesn't have to be exact. It might be a
14 little earlier or a little later. I'm just trying to get
15 some ---

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I just know that there was -
17 - during the ice storm there was a problem with people
18 getting around and moving around and ---

19 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And then if you go to the
20 next page, she's got notes that she tried to contact you
21 and that you got back to her somehow and attended on the
22 26th of January '98. Do you see that on the next page?
23 Does that sound ---

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** So I got back to her on the
25 26th. Was that too long after the initial ---

1 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** No, no, it's not at all,
2 sir. In fact, sir, I would suggest to you that really --
3 -

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** That's the ice storm.

5 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Right. It's the ice storm.
6 It's getting things together. And what I'm trying to
7 illustrate is that Mr. Sabourin is charged with your
8 offence on 11th of February '98. So really, it was
9 somewhere in the vicinity of a little over two weeks.
10 That's the only point I'm trying to make and to illustrate
11 that, sir. And so you have the correct -- so have a
12 record.

13 And, sir, I take it -- you've indicated that
14 you felt comfortable with Constable White?

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Constable White made me feel
16 comfortable enough that I could speak of what had happened
17 to me.

18 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Right.

19 And I'm going to suggest to you that you
20 spoke to her in a general context and then went to the
21 questions directly, went to the questions thereafter and
22 worked on the answer, not worked on the answer but gave
23 your answer with respect to those questions?

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I did.

25 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And I'm going to suggest to

1 you, sir, that at the time, you actually advised her that
2 you had had the counselling in Cornwall and Ottawa, you've
3 already spoken of. Do you recall telling her that?

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I don't recall telling her
5 that, but I know that part of the reason why I was able to
6 come forward was that I had been able to do some work on
7 it, that I had faced the fact that I had been molested.

8 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Right.

9 But you spoke to her about the counselling
10 you'd already had, is what I'm trying to suggest, that she
11 was aware that you'd had counselling?

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I may have mentioned that I
13 had been through counselling. I don't recall specifically.

14 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And I don't know ---

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Did she tell you that?

16 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Well, there are notes of
17 which notice has not been given which would indicate that
18 she was aware that you had received counselling. So I'm
19 assuming that you gave it to her. And I apologize, it's
20 just that I don't have the notes here. But I'm just asking
21 you whether you recollect?

22 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I don't recollect
23 specifically.

24 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And so in respect of your
25 Victim Impact Statement, you're aware that the Crown calls

1 the witnesses for a trial and not the police?

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, I'm not aware of that.

3 MR. CALLAGHAN: Okay. You weren't aware.

4 So you weren't aware it was the Crown's decision whether or
5 not you would testify at the trial?

6 MR. A. SEGUIN: I was not aware of that.

7 MR. CALLAGHAN: I take it you weren't aware
8 of the Crown manual in 1994 which suggested in serious
9 cases that they should be in contact with the victims?

10 MR. A. SEGUIN: I was not aware.

11 MR. CALLAGHAN: And I take it, as Mr.
12 Engelmann has indicated, that you're aware that, in part
13 through the work of the Men's Project and the work you've
14 done yourself, sir, that they now have at least a level,
15 perhaps not at the right level, but they now have a level
16 of victim services for men who have suffered the abuse that
17 you've suffered in Cornwall today?

18 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I'm aware of that too
19 and my children had to deal with the same thing.

20 MR. CALLAGHAN: But that they didn't have it
21 in 1997 or even 1987?

22 MR. A. SEGUIN: Not that I remember.

23 MR. CALLAGHAN: All right.

24 And, sir, in respect of your first
25 attendance in 1987, I think the easiest way I might deal

1 with this is through the "C" document, and if the "C"
2 document could be shown to the witness?

3 Do you have that "C" document, sir?

4 **THE COMMISSIONER:** That's the Royal Ottawa
5 Hospital record.

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I have it.

7 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And I think it should be
8 made clear, sir, that under the circumstances, you have
9 never been involved with the police in terms of being
10 investigated by the police other than the one incident? I
11 just want to make sure everybody understands that you're
12 not the kind of guy that's had that kind of contact with
13 the police. This is only one incident in your life,
14 correct?

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** In 1987, yes.

16 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Right. Okay. And rather
17 than have you relay the incident, is it -- would you say
18 that it's generally a correct statement of the incident,
19 what is described under "Account of the alleged offence" in
20 the "C" document in front of you?

21 **THE COMMISSIONER:** So what part of the
22 document -- the first paragraph, "Account of the alleged
23 offence". Can you read that, not out loud, just to
24 yourself?

25 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Yes, I'm just trying -- I

1 mean, this is a personal issue and I think that it doesn't
2 need to go on the record. It's in the record by virtue of
3 the "C" document.

4 I'm sorry, sir, you're not to read it out.

5 **THE COMMISSIONER:** No, no, I told him that
6 already.

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Could you tell me again
8 which part you want me to read?

9 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Well, the one that says
10 "Account of alleged offence". Rather than you having to
11 describe in the record, I want to just ask you whether
12 that's a relatively accurate statement of the offence which
13 you saw the police about in 1987?

14 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, if you listen to the
15 experts that brought through a litany of things here, it's
16 textbook reaction to being molested by an adult.

17 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** I'm not disputing that, sir.

18 What I'm going to suggest to you though,
19 sir, that that would probably be the second most traumatic
20 event that you've had to deal with. That's a phrase that
21 your lawyer suggested to me, other than Mr. Sabourin
22 actually dealing with the police on that incident was very
23 traumatic for you?

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, it was.

25 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Right.

1 And then, sir, you refer to Dr. Carry -- is
2 it Dr. or Mr. Carry?

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** A counsellor.

4 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And you referred to Mr. Hugh
5 Carry. Were you seeing him before the alleged offence or
6 did you only start seeing him after the alleged offence?

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I'm not sure now.

8 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** There's a note under
9 previous Psychiatric and Medical History which I'd ask
10 whether that's accurate, but it still doesn't tell me
11 because I'm not sure of the date of the alleged offence as
12 to whether you were seeing Mr. Carry before or after?

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Pardon me, could you take me
14 to that specific ---

15 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Last paragraph on the
16 first page.

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Okay.

18 **THE COMMISSIONER:** And, he's asking you
19 something about Mr. Carry. And the question, I guess, was,
20 were you seeing Mr. Carry before you got involved in this
21 incident?

22 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Right, before the alleged
23 offence. Let's call it the alleged offence.

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Yes.

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No.

1 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** No? Okay. You were seeing
2 the other doctor mentioned in the ---

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Are you questioning the
4 reference to Mr. Hugh Carry in that paragraph?

5 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Well, I'm not questioning
6 it. The problem is, sir, I think we should put on the
7 record you were never then charged with that alleged
8 offence, were you, sir? The Cornwall Police didn't proceed
9 with a charge against you given the circumstances?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I don't have a criminal
11 record, sir.

12 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Right. But you were never
13 charged, as I understand it, for that alleged offence?

14 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I was brought into the
15 police station and I don't know how they went about things.

16 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Okay. All right. You know
17 what? That speaks to the fact that you've never been
18 involved with the police before, and that's a good thing.

19 All I'm trying to -- I think it's important
20 that people know that you were never charged and I think
21 that we can say that. I think the Commission will accept
22 it. I think your counsel will accept that you were never
23 charged for that alleged offence. You came in; you saw the
24 police but were not charged. Would that sound accurate to
25 you?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Okay.

2 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And then I guess you don't
3 recall seeing Mr. Carry before?

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I'm reading this, I'm trying
5 to make sense of it in time, but I don't know.

6 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** When you went to see the
7 Cornwall Police about the alleged offence, were you meeting
8 in a room or were you meeting in a hallway, where were you
9 meeting?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Meeting with?

11 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** In 1987, with I guess Mr.
12 Constable Trottier.

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** In 1987, when I met with
14 Constable Trottier that would be the time when he informed
15 me that the police department was requesting that I attend
16 the Royal Ottawa Hospital.

17 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Before you get there I just
18 want to say, were you in a room?

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

20 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And it was just you and
21 Constable Trottier?

22 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I imagine it would have
23 been his office.

24 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And I just want to set the
25 state of mind here. According to the reports at the time,

1 you were struggling quite considerably with the events that
2 had happened to you with respect to Mr. Sabourin.

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

4 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And I'm going to suggest,
5 sir, that you were depressed according to these reports,
6 that you were trying to deal with these things.

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

8 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** I'm going to suggest that
9 you were emotional about it because it weighed with you for
10 so long.

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

12 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And that the alleged defence
13 was merely you acting out in respect to that issue.

14 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes. I think that you could
15 have a lot of experts that spend a lot of time trying to
16 explain that. It's not something I'm exceptionally proud
17 of in my life.

18 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And no one -- sir, your
19 record is impeccable and I think everybody listening to
20 this should understand that, that this is part of, probably
21 -- and I am not a doctor, but I think we can take notice of
22 the fact that this a continuum of that, the original
23 assault event.

24 And what I'm trying to get at though, sir,
25 is that it was a fairly emotionally charged discussion with

1 the officer because ---

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, he was telling me I had
3 a problem and that it was a psychological problem and that
4 the police department was requesting that I go under some
5 type of testing and there's some kind of program. It was
6 difficult.

7 MR. CALLAGHAN: He saw you as presenting --
8 as an upset person, a person with emotional problems who
9 needed assistance; is that fair to say, from what you said?
10 I'm just trying to -- that's how it was perceived, "Sir,
11 you need some help."

12 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, I was being dealt with
13 like a person who was being aggressive in some type of way.

14 MR. CALLAGHAN: Sorry, yes. Well, I mean,
15 that's your perception of what they were doing. Could it
16 not have been that they saw you as someone who didn't need
17 to be charged but needed help because of your emotional
18 state? And I am not suggesting ---

19 MR. A. SEGUIN: I can't say what the police
20 force's impressions of me were but I know that I was sent
21 down a path that had to do with aggressors and not victims.
22 I don't know how better to explain that.

23 MR. CALLAGHAN: And I appreciate it's
24 difficult. You had indicated that the Cornwall Police had
25 you admitted to the Royal Ottawa Hospital. I mean I

1 suggest to you that the report here says that, in fact, it
2 was your social worker, Mr. Carry, that did that. And it
3 says on the front line -- and it may be no difference to
4 you, it's a difference to me who did it. But it says in
5 the paragraph and I think I can read this if somebody ---

6 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Just remind the last ---

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** From which statement?

8 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Under the heading
9 "Identification."

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Is that off the "C"
11 document?

12 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** That's off the "C" document,
13 sir. Yes, sir.

14 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** From my understanding, there
15 is only one line admissible off that "C" document.

16 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Okay, that's fine. I mean I
17 don't particularly -- so long as the Commissioner has it
18 and we all have a record of what I'm talking about. What
19 I'm suggesting, sir, is that ---

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** In all fairness, sir ---

21 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** What's that?

22 **THE COMMISSIONER:** It says here, sir -- Mr.
23 Seguin, I'm going to read just this part for you, all
24 right? Trust me for a minute. What he is getting at is it
25 says:

1 "This patient is a 27-year-old male,
2 married, machine operator at Domtar,
3 who was referred by his social worker,
4 Mr. Hugh Carry."

5 And that's what he is getting at. He just wants to ask you
6 questions about that. All right?

7 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And what I am trying to get
8 at, sir, is that your recollection might be somewhat faulty
9 on who did the admitting and I'm going to suggest to you
10 that it was probably Mr. Carry because it's not ordinarily
11 what the Cornwall Police would do, would admit someone to
12 Ottawa. Do you recollect?

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** From the documentation, it
14 seems that it could have occurred that way. I don't
15 remember seeing Hugh Carry in any part of that.

16 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** You don't?

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I don't recall it that way.

18 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Because in the bottom
19 paragraph, they reference you having seen Mr. Carry for the
20 past two months, that is, the two months prior to September
21 25th, 1987. Do you see that?

22 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I see it.

23 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** I'm assuming that Mr. Carry,
24 and I put it to you, you can agree or disagree, but I
25 understand him to be a very reputable social worker in

1 Cornwall.

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I trusted Hugh Carry.

3 MR. CALLAGHAN: And I take it that you would
4 have relayed your story to Hugh Carry.

5 MR. A. SEGUIN: I don't remember seeing Hugh
6 Carry prior to the Royal Ottawa. I don't remember that.

7 MR. CALLAGHAN: But would you accept that
8 this document indicates that you did?

9 MR. A. SEGUIN: It seems to indicate that.

10 MR. CALLAGHAN: And you had said something.
11 And, sir, it's all a matter of perception in terms of where
12 you were sitting at the time and the issues you were going
13 through, but back to the first paragraph, the admittance to
14 the Royal Ottawa Hospital was for what was indicated at the
15 end of the first sentence. I will take the Commissioner's
16 guidance as to whether I can read it and I don't think it's
17 necessary to, unless it's necessary for the record.

18 And not because you were an aggressor,
19 necessarily.

20 I know this is confusing the way we are
21 doing it but I think you get the picture. What I'm trying
22 to indicate is that I know your perception was one thing
23 but this document indicates that you were actually admitted
24 by Mr. Carry for a different reason. Could that possibly
25 be true or the case? I mean that's not true or not. I

1 mean it's a matter of being ---

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: Could you lead me to the
3 paragraph?

4 MR. CALLAGHAN: It's that first sentence
5 under "Identification", at the very end. It says that Mr.
6 Carry admitted you for a particular purpose. You had
7 indicated earlier that you were admitted because you were a
8 danger to others and I'm suggesting to you, sir, that the
9 real reason you were was for what was stated in this first
10 paragraph.

11 And I'm not suggesting, sir, that -- that
12 doesn't change how you perceived what was happening but
13 simply suggesting that that's what those working on the
14 situation thought they were doing for you.

15 MR. A. SEGUIN: Well, I would have to agree
16 with that.

17 MR. CALLAGHAN: And the discussion with
18 Constable Trottier -- I know we have talked about it being
19 an emotional discussion and I've got to believe, sir, and
20 you can correct me if I'm wrong, that you had a wallop of
21 emotions for a whole lot of reasons: for the conduct in
22 the alleged offence, for the Sabourin issue, for some of
23 the issues referred to in this report. And I'm going to
24 suggest to you that that was probably an emotional
25 discussion for you.

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, it was.

2 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And I know you have been
3 very circumspect in saying very little about what you told
4 Mr. Trottier in the sense there was one sentence that
5 something happened to you in high school. Is it at all
6 possible that you could have had that discussion with Mr.
7 Carry and that's what resulted to this? Is that possible?

8 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I don't remember it.

9 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** But it could be possible?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I remember mentioning it to
11 Officer Trottier when he told me that I would have to
12 attend the Royal Ottawa Hospital.

13 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** But I mean -- I'm just
14 trying -- because we've gone through some of the
15 recollection issues here and I'm just -- I'm concerned
16 because you know what it looks like and the concern ---

17 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** That's the way I remember
18 it. But it still doesn't explain the inactivity to the
19 fact that I told.

20 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Told Ottawa Hospital,
21 absolutely.

22 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** How about Hugh Carry? You're
23 saying that I told Hugh Carry.

24 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** I don't ---

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I'm trying to tell you that

1 I mentioned it to Officer Trottier. It doesn't matter. I
2 mentioned it. Nobody, nobody acted on it.

3 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Okay. And sir, I hear what
4 you're saying. I'm not suggesting Mr. -- I have never met
5 Mr. Carry, I must confess. I'm just trying to understand
6 what ---

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** And yes, I agree that I was
8 emotional. And I'm being shown that maybe my memory wasn't
9 as good as I thought. But I do remember that I told
10 somebody.

11 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Yes. And there is no
12 question, in this document, you told somebody. There is --
13 you should take great comfort in this document, clearly you
14 told, because it's stated right in the document.

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** And I do remember mentioning
16 it to Officer Trottier because I remember how hard it was
17 for me to be told and I had to find a way to explain my
18 behaviour and that's how I did that.

19 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And I understand that, sir,
20 and I'm suggesting that it was apparent from your behaviour
21 that a) you're not the type of guy who gets into trouble
22 with the police and this was a stressful situation which
23 you were dealing with. I'm going to suggest to you that
24 what the Cornwall Police did was sought either a referral
25 to Mr. Carry or to someone to make sure that you got

1 treated and not charged. Is that fair?

2 MR. A. SEGUIN: I'll accept that.

3 MR. CALLAGHAN: I think those are my
4 questions, sir. I want to thank -- sorry.

5 MR. A. SEGUIN: You are trying to say that I
6 wasn't charged because somebody felt that I was a victim?

7 MR. CALLAGHAN: I think what I'm trying to
8 suggest to you, sir ---

9 MR. A. SEGUIN: Because I'll tell you that I
10 did not feel that way at all.

11 MR. CALLAGHAN: I know you didn't. What I'm
12 going to try to suggest to you though, sir, is your conduct
13 hurt nobody. Your conduct was not conduct that necessarily
14 had to beget a charge and that you presented yourself in an
15 honest, forthright way and you were very upset and you were
16 very emotional. And I think all the testimony and these
17 records demonstrate that you were dealing -- if I can be
18 very blunt -- the demons of Mr. Sabourin. And that when
19 presented -- and I'm not -- I can't say to you, sir, that I
20 have people who recollect you telling them this incident.
21 But I can tell you, it seems to me, having seen this
22 evidence of what was happening, that you were very
23 emotional and that they were seeking to get you assistance
24 rather than charge. That's all I'm trying to suggest and
25 it seems to me you did get some assistance and I recognize

1 it may not have been -- I don't stand here ---

2 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** If any of that assistance
3 was geared to the proper way, why did the admitting doctor
4 consider me a homosexual?

5 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** You know what, sir? I can't
6 answer for him. And I understand the question. I'm afraid
7 I can't answer it. But I thank you for your time and I
8 thank you for the work you've done in the community.

9 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** You're welcome.

10 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And hopefully we can, at the
11 end of this, help people in your position better.

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. On that note,
13 we will take -- Mr. Engelmann?

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** There are other counsel,
15 yes. I was wondering if this would be an appropriate time
16 for lunch. Sorry.

17 **THE COMMISSIONER:** I thought so, too.

18 All right. So have a good lunch and we will
19 come back at 2 o'clock. All right.

20 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order. All rise. À
21 l'ordre. Veuillez vous lever.

22 The hearing will resume at 2:00.

23 --- Upon recessing at 12:37 p.m./

24 L'audience est suspendue à 12h37

25 --- Upon resuming at 2:04 p.m./

1 L'audience est reprise à 14h04

2 **THE REGISTRAR:** This hearing of the Cornwall
3 Public Inquiry is now in session. Please be seated.
4 Veuillez vous asseoir.

5 **ALAIN SEGUIN, Resumed/Sous le même serment:**

6 **THE COMMISSIONER:** As you can see, the
7 security here is not lax. The Commissioner's door is
8 locked at all times preventing from coming in.

9 How was lunch?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Very good, thank you.

11 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. So you
12 understand you are still under oath?

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I do.

14 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

15 Now, Mr. Callaghan has completed and so that
16 would bring us to Ms. Costom.

17 **MS. COSTOM:** Good afternoon, Mr.
18 Commissioner.

19 --- CROSS-EXAMINATION BY/CONTRE-INTERROGATOIRE PAR MS.

20 **COSTOM:**

21 **MS. COSTOM:** Good afternoon, Mr. Seguin.
22 I'm Suzanne Costom and I'm one of the attorneys
23 representing the Ontario Provincial Police.

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

25 **MS. COSTOM:** I have a number of points that

1 I would like to clarify with you this afternoon. But I
2 would first like to begin by echoing the sentiments of Mr.
3 Callaghan and thanking you for coming and sharing these
4 very, very difficult memories with us and hoping that your
5 ability to share will help things improve in the future.

6 MR. A. SEGUIN: Thank you.

7 MS. COSTOM: I want to bring you back to the
8 time just before you made a statement to Constable White of
9 the Cornwall Police Service in January of '98.

10 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

11 MS. COSTOM: Okay. You mentioned earlier
12 that you saw an article in the newspaper in which you
13 learnt that Mr. Sabourin had been charged with a number of
14 offences against other individuals.

15 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

16 MS. COSTOM: And that that what had given
17 you the strength to ultimately do what you did which was to
18 call the Project Truth hotline.

19 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

20 MS. COSTOM: You said you saw something in
21 the paper for this Project Truth hotline and you called the
22 number.

23 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

24 MS. COSTOM: Because you were emboldened by
25 the strength of others.

1 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

2 MS. COSTOM: Okay. Sometime later, you
3 received a call back from the Cornwall Police Service.

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes. I ---

5 MS. COSTOM: You received a call back
6 informing you to go to the Cornwall Police Station?

7 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

8 MS. COSTOM: And you said that it was ---

9 MR. A. SEGUIN: I didn't know who I was
10 talking to other than it was the authorities.

11 MS. COSTOM: And you were sent to what
12 turned out to be the Cornwall Police Station?

13 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

14 MS. COSTOM: Okay. And you said earlier, in
15 response to a question by Mr. Engelmann, that there was a
16 reasonable amount of time that had passed between the time
17 that you made your call to the hotline and the time that
18 you were called back.

19 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes. I don't remember it as
20 being excessively long.

21 MS. COSTOM: You were satisfied ---

22 MR. A. SEGUIN: It was reasonable.

23 MS. COSTOM: You were satisfied with the
24 rapidity with which your call was returned?

25 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

1 **MS. COSTOM:** Okay. And you said that you
2 went to the authorities and you weren't sure where you were
3 going. You know now, of course, that it was the Cornwall
4 Police Service?

5 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

6 **MS. COSTOM:** You said also and, in fact,
7 this is what triggered it, that you knew that Mr. Sabourin
8 was before the courts as he had been charged by other
9 people?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

11 **MS. COSTOM:** Okay. If I tell you that Mr.
12 Sabourin's charges were laid by the Cornwall Police Service
13 in the other cases and that is why you were sent to the
14 Cornwall Police Station, so that your case could be joined
15 with the other cases, does that make sense to you?

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, it would.

17 **MS. COSTOM:** Okay. Thank you.

18 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

19 Mr. Carroll?

20 **MR. CARROLL:** Nothing. Thank you.

21 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

22 Upper Canada District School Board? And
23 it's Ms. Tymochenko?

24 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Tymochenko.

25 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

1 --- CROSS-EXAMINATION BY/CONTRE-INTERROGATOIRE PAR MS.

2 TYMOCHENKO:

3 MS. TYMOCHENKO: Good afternoon. My name is
4 Nadya Tymochenko and I'm acting on behalf of the Upper
5 Canada District School Board. Thank you for being here
6 with us this afternoon. I don't have too many questions.

7 I wanted to confirm some things with you
8 though. You had talked about the fact that Mr. Sabourin
9 had met your parents, and I believe the phrase that you
10 used was that he ingratiated himself with your parents?

11 MR. A. SEGUIN: Oh yes, he did.

12 MS. TYMOCHENKO: And so then I gather from
13 that that your parents were approving of your relationship
14 with him?

15 MR. A. SEGUIN: I wouldn't have called it a
16 relationship at the time of any kind, but they ---

17 MS. TYMOCHENKO: They believed him?

18 MR. A. SEGUIN: They became -- they were
19 made to feel comfortable with the fact that he would spend
20 time with me. Some of it was I was going to be employed as
21 his helper on camera assignments and so on.

22 MS. TYMOCHENKO: And this so-called
23 employment that he may have characterized, that was a way
24 for him to get approval for you to attend on these
25 excursions with him?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I'm only referring to the
2 fact that he would tell me, "Well, if you help me, I'll
3 give you \$10" or whatever. He met my parents. He spoke
4 with them. He explained who he was, that he was a teacher
5 and that he was very close to the church, that he knew the
6 Bishop personally, that he worked for the church as a
7 photographer at times.

8 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Okay. And as a result, I'm
9 assuming that your parents had no reason to suspect that he
10 was in any way abusing you?

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No.

12 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Okay.

13 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** And they didn't. They
14 trusted him.

15 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** You had indicated that you
16 didn't disclose to any of your teachers or to any
17 authorities at the school or to your parents. Did you
18 disclose to any of your friends or perhaps your sisters?

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No.

20 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** And I understand that you
21 made a decision to pursue English language education at the
22 secondary level and attended St Lawrence as opposed to, for
23 example, La Citadelle.

24 Were your sisters at the time attending La
25 Citadelle?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No, I think I fell in
2 between the cracks and that was one or two years where I
3 had no siblings in high school.

4 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Okay. All right.
5 So that decision didn't seem strange to your
6 parents? That was just a decision that you were prepared
7 and allowed to ---

8 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** It seemed strange to my
9 parents.

10 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Oh, did it?

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** They wondered why I would
12 choose not to pursue my education in French. I explained
13 it as being bussing, but I know now that part of the reason
14 was very much that the last place I would have wanted to be
15 was in the same building as that man.

16 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Okay. I understand that
17 your experience at the Ottawa Hospital was not the first
18 opportunity that you had for either counselling or therapy
19 or however you might want to characterize it and that you
20 did have an opportunity to see someone for counselling when
21 you were in secondary school, when you were in high school?

22 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** When I was in high school?
23 Could you elaborate on that?

24 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Yes. Perhaps if we could
25 refer to the "C" document.

1 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Yes. Look at the "C"
2 document.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Just for the record, Exhibit
4 90.

5 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Exactly.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Yes.

7 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Exhibit 90, the last
8 paragraph on the first page is what you're looking at?

9 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Yes, that first line there.

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Under "Account of the
11 alleged offence"?

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** No. I'm sorry, the last
13 paragraph ---

14 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** The last?

15 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Perhaps I could read it
16 into the record. I won't read the whole thing, just the
17 first part.

18 **THE COMMISSIONER:** No, it's okay. Just read
19 -- you see "He was seen"? Do you see that sentence?

20 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

21 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Just read that first
22 sentence or paragraph, if you wish.

23 **(SHORT PAUSE/COURTE PAUSE)**

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Okay. Actually, it
25 should just be the first ---

1 MS. TYMOCHENKO: The first sentence, yes.

2 THE COMMISSIONER: --- sentence that has to
3 do with -- so the question was did you see someone else
4 before you went to the Royal Ottawa? Is that it?

5 MS. TYMOCHENKO: Yes.

6 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, I think that that is in
7 reference to the fact that when I was approximately 15 or
8 so, I started to experiment with drugs and so on and my
9 family became concerned ---

10 MS. TYMOCHENKO: M'hm.

11 MR. A. SEGUIN: --- and had me see someone --
12 I don't remember who that was -- for a short period.

13 MS. TYMOCHENKO: Okay. The reason I'm
14 asking is I was wondering if that relationship was one in
15 which you would have felt comfortable to make a disclosure
16 of your abuse?

17 MR. A. SEGUIN: No, absolutely -- I know
18 that I didn't at that time.

19 MS. TYMOCHENKO: Okay. Do you know or could
20 you perhaps provide some opinion on why you might not have
21 felt comfortable at that time?

22 MR. A. SEGUIN: My parents obviously saw
23 some strange behaviour in me and they wanted me to see
24 someone to try and cover that, but I didn't disclose to
25 that person that I had been molested by a teacher.

1 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Do you have any
2 recollection of the particular individual who you saw?

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** No.

4 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Okay.

5 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Not specifically.

6 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Well, the reason I'm asking
7 is I was wondering if you could perhaps provide some
8 recommendations regarding what kind of relationship might
9 have allowed you to have disclosed at that time. In most
10 cases, one would assume that this type of relationship
11 would be a safe one, one where you might have felt that you
12 could disclose, and I was wondering if you maybe could
13 provide us with some insight into how it might have been
14 different?

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I couldn't disclose it at
16 that time. I was living my life in fear of being -- of
17 someone bringing it even up to me in a word or anything. I
18 was constantly looking over my shoulder, wondering, "Does
19 anybody know? Does anybody know? What does that make me?"
20 So no, I didn't disclose at that time.

21 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** And you don't feel that
22 there was anything that this individual or someone else
23 could have done to have helped you to be able to disclose?

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I don't remember any
25 specific questions that were asked that would have made me

1 feel like, well, if an adult has been doing something to
2 you, then it would have been wrong. No, there were no
3 questions like that.

4 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** And would that have been
5 something that you would have needed to hear before you
6 felt safe enough to disclose?

7 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Well, it would at least have
8 given me an opportunity. The first person I disclosed to
9 was my wife, and that was the strongest, closest
10 relationship that I was involved in.

11 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** M'hm.

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I don't think that I could
13 have, at that time, did that to just a stranger. Actually,
14 my biggest fear was that a stranger might know.

15 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Okay. Thank you. I have
16 no further questions.

17 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

18 Mr. Lee.

19 **MR. LEE:** I have no questions.

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

21 Mr. Engelmann.

22 --- **RE-EXAMINATION BY/RÉ-INTERROGATOIRE PAR MR. ENGELMANN:**

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Mr. Seguin, I just have a
24 few questions ---

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Sure.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- that arose from
2 questions you were asked by other counsel.

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Pardon me?

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** They arose as a result of
5 questions that you were asked by other counsel.

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So I'm just going to ask you
8 a couple of things for clarification.

9 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Sure.

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And it would be helpful if
11 you had that exhibit again, Exhibit C-90.

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** That's the confidential case
14 history.

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you were asked a number
17 of questions by Mr. Callaghan ---

18 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I was.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- the lawyer for the
20 Cornwall Police Service, and I just want to make sure I
21 understand how you left a few things with him. He asked
22 you about a fellow by the name of Hugh Carry.

23 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And do you know who that
25 person is?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I do.

2 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And this person is a
3 social worker?

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, he is.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And if I understand
6 your answers correctly, you don't recall actually going to
7 him for counselling at or about the time of the issue
8 that's being discussed in the case history?

9 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I remember seeing Hugh Carry
10 for counselling. Obviously I thought it was later ---

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay.

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** --- but obviously from this
13 document it was during the case with the Cornwall Police
14 Department.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

16 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** As near as it can make sense
17 to me, the first place I was sent to was to see Hugh Carry.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

19 And there's a reference to a referral coming
20 here, to the Royal Ottawa Hospital.

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I'm just wondering, your
23 conversations with Officer Trottier -- I'm not sure if he
24 was a constable or a staff sergeant or what his rank was at
25 the time -- did he or did he not suggest to you that you

1 should go through this program at the Royal Ottawa
2 Hospital?

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I'm not sure if, from these
4 documents, piecing it together, I'm not sure if Officer
5 Trottier was referring to I had to go do counselling with
6 Hugh Carry or if it was after the counselling with Hugh
7 Carry, now I had to go do counselling at the Royal Ottawa.
8 Obviously I was not sure.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And the issue about
10 telling him about the teacher and inappropriate behaviour
11 by the teacher, are you sure about that?

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I'm sure about that.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you're sure about
14 telling Officer Trottier about that?

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes, I am.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Now, there was a suggestion
17 to you that this counselling at the Royal Ottawa Hospital
18 would be some kind of support for you as a victim of abuse.
19 Mr. Callaghan suggested that to you?

20 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I didn't feel it was that
21 way.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And I remembered your
23 answer, and I would like you just to take a look at
24 something in the report, because he referred you to the --
25 he referred you to the first sentence in the report; do you

1 recall that, and, in particular, those last three words in
2 that first sentence?

3 MR. A. SEGUIN: "Sexual behaviour
4 assessment"?

5 MR. ENGELMANN: Yes.

6 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: If you take ---

8 MR. A. SEGUIN: That's what I was told it
9 would be.

10 MR. ENGELMANN: And if you take a look at
11 the very end of the report, on the third page ---

12 MR. A. SEGUIN: Okay. Whereabouts on the
13 third page?

14 MR. ENGELMANN: It's the very end under
15 "Plan".

16 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes.

17 MR. ENGELMANN: Take a look at paragraph 2.
18 You don't have to read it out loud. That's your call. But
19 I'm just wondering if that refreshes your memory ---

20 MR. A. SEGUIN: Oh yes, it does.

21 MR. ENGELMANN: --- at all about why you
22 were there and when you were there ---

23 MR. A. SEGUIN: Yes, it absolutely does.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: --- as an alleged offender
25 or as a victim.

1 **THE COMMISSIONER:** One person at a time.

2 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I'm sorry.

3 Did you hear my question, sir, whether it
4 refreshes your memory as to whether you were there as an
5 alleged offender or offender or as a victim?

6 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** M'hm. Well, that sentence
7 makes specific reference to sexual offender package.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you talked to us about
9 some testing that you were required to do as well?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay.

12 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** So I did not feel like it
13 was for my benefit and I never felt like I was being
14 counselled or treated as a victim of any kind. Like I
15 mentioned before, every time I brought it up no one seemed
16 to want to go down that road. They had a different agenda.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Those are my questions.

18 Mr. Seguin, the Commissioner may have a
19 question for you.

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Mr. Seguin, there's a
21 couple of areas I would like to look at. The first one was
22 -- and I just want it for clarification because I don't
23 think I heard it correctly. At one point we were talking
24 about the school and whether anybody knew that the abuse
25 was going on and you said something about there were

1 individuals that were told, some professionals. Do you
2 remember that? Can you help me out on that?

3 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** In later years I was told
4 about instances where other victims, other boys had gone
5 forward and spoke to Jeanine Séguin, the principal of the
6 school.

7 **THE COMMISSIONER:** I know you heard about it
8 afterwards but was that relating to events in your period
9 of time when you were being abused or after or before?

10 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Some, very much later as in
11 maybe the past six years or so, but I do remember
12 instances, and it is in the report I gave to Constable
13 White is that a few years after my abuse stopped there was
14 talk of an instance concerning a boy where it was brought
15 up to the school board and to the principal of the school.

16 **THE COMMISSIONER:** And do you know what
17 happened after that?

18 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Sometime after that, Robert
19 Sabourin was asked to resign.

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. Okay.

21 Now, the other area that I would like to
22 discuss with you is you have indicated that you were quite
23 willing to participate in this Inquiry but that there were
24 some things that you weren't agreeable with or that you
25 thought the Commission should be doing differently.

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Yes.

2 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Can you talk to me about
3 that a little bit?

4 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Well, Justice Glaude, you
5 know, it's hard to make connections between one institution
6 and another, you know. Sometimes these things are done
7 much more on a personal basis.

8 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm.

9 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Like one person could have
10 been a very good friend of another person and each of them
11 being part of different institutions. But you know, "I
12 will invite you over to my house and we will discuss some
13 things" or "I will ask you for a favour." I think that
14 this Inquiry should have looked into personal relationships
15 as much as relationships between institutions.

16 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm. All right. Okay.
17 That's one point.

18 Anything else that you want me to consider?

19 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** You're asking me how to
20 improve things?

21 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Yes.

22 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Or you're asking me
23 specifically about this Inquiry?

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** I'm asking you about
25 both.

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Because I have wrote out a
2 few recommendations for the future.

3 **THE COMMISSIONER:** So can we finish off with
4 the mandate of the Inquiry or about the Inquiry generally?

5 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I feel that the victims
6 could have been much more a part of the Inquiry process in
7 the way of formulating the guidelines.

8 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm.

9 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Actually I feel that they
10 should have been. I know that personally I requested that
11 of Mr. Bryant and I did that on behalf of many victims in
12 Cornwall.

13 I think that some of those personal
14 relationships affected the process of justice in a lot of
15 these cases but that can't be investigated when you're
16 talking strictly about institutions. I mean, you won't
17 send your investigators down to investigate a personal
18 relationship. You want them to keep it towards
19 institutions.

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** But I think you get the gist
22 of what I'm trying to say.

23 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Yes. Okay.

24 How about recommendations? Sorry, were
25 there any other comments with respect to the Commission?

1 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I would hope that some of
2 these perpetrators would be forced to come to this Inquiry
3 and they would be asked specific questions about their
4 involvement with some of these boys because I think that
5 it's just as important to hear them say -- deny, if they
6 want, but that they be here, because I had a lot of trouble
7 being here and telling you exactly what went on here and I
8 would like to see some of these perpetrators be given -- I
9 would like to see these lawyers be given the opportunity to
10 ask questions of these people. You have that power, Mr.
11 Glaude.

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Well, we will see about
13 that.

14 All right. Recommendations.

15 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Do you mind if I refer to
16 some notes?

17 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Absolutely.

18 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** I won't spend much time on
19 the obvious things because most of it you all already know.
20 Like we have to make sure that people understand that
21 children can't be used as sexual toys and that the law has
22 to absolutely enforce that.

23 I feel that a lot can be done to raise the
24 age of sexual consent. I don't feel that -- I feel that at
25 14 it opens up loopholes that some of these people can use

1 to their advantage. It also sends a bad message to most
2 people if the age of sexual consent is considered to be 14.

3 You already know that sentencing of these
4 perpetrators is totally, totally lenient. And I feel that
5 these perpetrators need to be named publicly to protect the
6 families in the area.

7 One of the most important things, and I have
8 two, and they may not be obvious but I think that screening
9 people that are going to be put in positions of authority
10 over children is very important. More and more children
11 are being raised outside the family in daycares and
12 schools, et cetera. Screening I understand is being done
13 by institutions but I don't think that they're the right
14 people to do this screening. I don't trust these
15 institutions to screen their own employees. I feel the
16 task could be better done by unrelated people or authority
17 whose only objective is to protect the children because
18 these people, being an outside authority, they would not be
19 motivated by a religion or favouritism. They would not be
20 hiring their friends and putting them in charge of our
21 children.

22 There are agencies that accomplish some
23 things in these ideas. The Canadian Safety Standards
24 Association tests children's toys and children's car seats.
25 They don't care which company makes them. Their regard is

1 strictly to the child.

2 An agency unrelated to these institutions
3 should be in charge of screening anyone who will be in
4 regular contact with our children and our teenagers. It's
5 not just children. Teenagers are very vulnerable; I know
6 that.

7 Lastly, I would like to address the thing
8 that needs to change the most and in my opinion the reason
9 why we're all here. I feel that Crown attorneys, lawyers,
10 judges as yourself but mostly police officers should all be
11 encouraged to point out the flaws in our justice system.
12 Who better to know the problem than the ones who have to
13 make it work? That's you guys. You know the problem.

14 The problem that brought us here today is
15 the same one faced by Larry Seguin, the first person
16 through here, when he had to go write to his MPP. It's the
17 same problem that Mrs. Lise Brisson spoke of when she went
18 to the media and it's the same problem that drove Perry
19 Dunlop to take the actions that he did.

20 That problem was, and it still is, the
21 unwillingness of our public institutions and justice system
22 to see the seriousness of the abuse perpetrated against our
23 young. Don't you understand? Nobody was doing anything.
24 That's why people did what they did. And you're going to
25 hear it again because there's more coming.

1 So prevailing was this unwillingness to act
2 that it actually developed an attitude of reckless
3 disregard among our leaders on this issue. You are being
4 shown that this reckless disregard by our leaders and
5 institutions led to perpetrating teachers, priests and
6 other professionals that led to these molesters being
7 allowed to move on and to abuse more children rather than
8 being stopped.

9 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. Thank you
10 very much, sir.

11 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** You're welcome.

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** I want to take the
13 opportunity for thanking you for coming up here. It's not
14 easy. But more importantly I think is the fact that you
15 have given us a lot of thought, that it has been
16 unfortunately part of your life and I wish you all the best
17 in the future, sir.

18 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Is the bishop going to
19 apologize to me also through his lawyers?

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** No.

21 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Okay.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Thank you very much, Mr.
23 Seguin, for being with us.

24 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** You're welcome.

25 **MR. A. SEGUIN:** Is that all?

1 MR. ENGELMANN: Yes.

2 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, we're all going to
3 stand ---

4 MR. A. SEGUIN: I'm sorry.

5 THE COMMISSIONER: --- because I'm told that
6 we need to gather exhibits and things for the next witness.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: We're going to be hearing
8 from Mr. Andre Lavoie and we're going to take a short
9 break.

10 THE COMMISSIONER: Let me know when you're
11 ready to go.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: Thank you.

13 THE REGISTRAR: Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
14 veuillez vous lever.

15 The hearing will reconvene at 2:45.

16 --- Upon recessing at 2:34 p.m./

17 L'audience est suspendue à 14h34

18 --- Upon resuming at 2:54 p.m./

19 L'audience est reprise à 14h54

20 THE REGISTRAR: This hearing of the Cornwall
21 Public Inquiry is now in session. Please be seated.
22 Veuillez vous asseoir.

23 LE COMMISSAIRE: Merci. Bonjour.

24 MR. RUEL: Good afternoon, Mr. Commissioner.
25 We have Mr. Andre Lavoie as the next

1 witness.

2 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm.

3 **MR. RUEL:** Mr. Lavoie.

4 So Madam Clerk, I guess you're going to
5 swear the witness.

6 **ANDRE LAVOIE, Affirmed/Sous affirmation solennelle:**

7 **LE COMMISSAIRE:** Bonjour, Monsieur Lavoie.

8 **M. LAVOIE:** Bonjour, monsieur le
9 commissaire.

10 **MR. RUEL:** Mr. Commissioner, for the record,
11 Mr. Lavoie wishes to testify in English.

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** That's fine.

13 **MR. RUEL:** And we discussed that a few
14 minutes ago. Mr. Lavoie may ask for some portions of his
15 testimony, if he feels like it -- to testify in French but
16 that should go in English.

17 So you're comfortable with that, Mr. Lavoie?

18 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, I am.

19 **LE COMMISSAIRE:** Si à aucun moment vous
20 voulez vous exprimer en français, sentez-vous libre de le
21 faire.

22 **M. LAVOIE:** C'est juste parfois il y a
23 certains souvenirs qui sont plus facilement exprimés en
24 français.

25 **LE COMMISSAIRE:** C'est ça. Exactement.

1 **M. LAVOIE:** Je vous remercie.

2 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Counsel might be advised
3 that they should get some headphones because we're going to
4 do that again.

5 **MR. RUEL:** Yes. So counsel.

6 **LE COMMISSAIRE:** On va prendre une seconde.

7 **(SHORT PAUSE/COURTE PAUSE)**

8 **MR. RUEL:** We're good to go?

9 Mr. Commissioner, there's just one point.
10 Mr. Lee just pointed out to me that he does not represent
11 this witness.

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

13 **MR. RUEL:** So he's got a prime seat today,
14 but it's not for the purpose of representing Mr. Lavoie.

15 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Okay. Great.

16 **---EXAMINATION IN-CHIEF BY/INTERROGATOIRE EN CHEF PAR MR.**
17 **RUEL:**

18 **MR. RUEL:** So, Mr. Lavoie, thank you for
19 coming here today.

20 The first question I would ask you is are
21 you familiar with the mandate of this Commission?

22 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, I am, through what I've
23 read in documents.

24 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. So you know that we're
25 dealing with the institutional response of the justice

1 system in various public institutions here in Cornwall?

2 MR. LAVOIE: That is correct.

3 MR. RUEL: So in your case would it be fair
4 to say or correct to say that the institutions involved are
5 the school or the Upper Canada School Board, the Cornwall
6 Police, the Crown and there's one issue we're going to talk
7 about, a discussion you had with a priest as well?

8 MR. LAVOIE: That's right. That pretty well
9 covers it.

10 MR. RUEL: Mr. Lavoie, could you give the
11 Commission some background about yourself?

12 MR. LAVOIE: About myself personally?

13 MR. RUEL: Yes.

14 MR. LAVOIE: Let's see, I was born in 1952,
15 in November, in a family of seven children. I'm in the
16 middle pretty well. I'm number five. I was raised in a
17 house that was essentially a rooming house where we had
18 anywhere between eight and sixteen boarders. So it was a
19 rather busy house. It was a fascinating place in the sense
20 that my first memories are of the refugees from Hungary who
21 came over to Canada to escape the Soviet Union taking over
22 Hungary. Afterwards, it was followed by the people that
23 built the Seaway and then it was the people that built the
24 401. So the house was always full of people and activity,
25 et cetera.

1 **MR. RUEL:** Where was that house?

2 **MR. LAVOIE:** At 705 Walton Street.

3 **MR. RUEL:** In Cornwall?

4 **MR. LAVOIE:** In Cornwall. So I was raised
5 in that environment, went to school, l'École St-Felix-de-
6 Valois for kindergarten and Grade 1, St. Albert Le Grand
7 until Grade 8, le Collège classique for 1 year and then I
8 went to St. Lawrence High School to do my Grade 13,
9 followed by a stint at Algonquin College for one year,
10 which I failed, and there's a story to that connected to
11 what happened to me. Two years playing music in
12 Hawkesbury, Montreal, Lachute, every hell hole around
13 there, and then back to the University of Ottawa for a
14 four-year program in Communications. I'm presently a
15 freelance film producer, director of documentaries and have
16 been for 30 years.

17 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. You mention the classical
18 college. That's a high school here in Cornwall, right?

19 **MR. LAVOIE:** No, that was -- I started in
20 Grade 9 and I think at that time, they even had a
21 baccalaureat level. So it was a Catholic, I guess, school
22 run by priests.

23 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. And then you went to St.
24 Lawrence. St. Lawrence is a high school here in Cornwall?

25 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes.

1 **MR. RUEL:** So Grade 9 to 13?

2 **MR. LAVOIE:** That is correct.

3 However, St. Lawrence High School became La
4 Citadelle because there was a great desire to have a
5 francophone high school in the City of Cornwall, and I
6 believe it's around 1971, it became both St. Lawrence High
7 School and La Citadelle. Within the same walls they have
8 both groups on shifts.

9 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. Was that a Catholic school
10 or it's a public ---

11 **MR. LAVOIE:** I think it's a public school.

12 **MR. RUEL:** Okay.

13 **MR. LAVOIE:** Although there was a religious
14 element in that school.

15 **MR. RUEL:** You mentioned you were a film --
16 -

17 **MR. LAVOIE:** Director.

18 **MR. RUEL:** --- director. What kind of film
19 do you direct?

20 **MR. LAVOIE:** I'll do a film on anything.
21 I'm interested in everything that moves. I've done
22 everything from cross-country ski marathons, world champion
23 kick-boxing. I've done a film on great Olympic athletes.
24 I've done a historical drama on Dollard-des-Ormeaux. I've
25 done a recent documentary on the impact of mad cow disease

1 on Canadian agriculture. I do a whole bunch of stuff.

2 MR. RUEL: And are they shown to -- on TV?

3 MR. LAVOIE: They're usually -- more
4 recently they've been shown on television, be it CBC, RDI,
5 whatever.

6 MR. RUEL: RDI is the French news channel --

7 -

8 MR. LAVOIE: The French news.

9 MR. RUEL: I gather you are married as well?

10 MR. LAVOIE: That's right.

11 MR. RUEL: Do you have any children?

12 MR. LAVOIE: No.

13 MR. RUEL: And in terms of your family
14 background, can you describe what was your father doing?

15 MR. LAVOIE: My father was a labourer. He
16 could write his name. That's about all he could do in
17 terms of skills. He couldn't read, no fault of his own.
18 Although, when I first started to know my father, he had
19 already started drinking, so his presence was pretty much
20 absent during -- at the time that I was growing up, while
21 my mom was looking after 18 boarders, 7 kids and running
22 the household.

23 MR. RUEL: Okay. Would they get involved in
24 assisting you in the pursuit of your education?

25 MR. LAVOIE: Somewhat. They would encourage

1 us to get an education, yes, but there were limitations.

2 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. You gave a statement to
3 the Cornwall Policy Service on March 14, 1996 concerning
4 allegations of abuse. Is that correct?

5 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, it is.

6 **MR. RUEL:** So, Madam Clerk, I would ask -- I
7 would like to show the document to the witness. It's
8 Document 735176.

9 Mr. Commissioner, just a point, as we go
10 along, there's going to be some issues with respect to some
11 documents, but I guess I'll address them along the way.

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** We'll cross that bridge
13 when we get to it.

14 **MR. RUEL:** Yes.

15 Were you ready to proceed with it? I don't
16 know if we have to wait for Madam Clerk to show it on the
17 screen?

18 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. So this is
19 Exhibit 92.

20 **MR. RUEL:** Exhibit 92.

21 **--- EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO. P-92:**

22 André Lavoie - Statement of a Witness -
23 March 14, 1996

24 **MR. RUEL:** So, Mr. Lavoie, do you recognize
25 this document?

1 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, I do.

2 **MR. RUEL:** And do you remember giving a
3 statement to a Mrs. Heidi Sebalj from the Cornwall Police
4 Service on March 14, 1996?

5 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, I do.

6 **MR. RUEL:** Have you read this document?

7 **MR. LAVOIE:** I've read it recently.

8 **MR. RUEL:** And does it accurately reflect
9 what was discussed during the interview?

10 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes. There's a few inaudible
11 stuff in there, but I can imagine why.

12 **MR. RUEL:** So in this conversation with Mrs.
13 Sebalj you indicated that you had been assaulted by a
14 school teacher; correct?

15 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes.

16 **MR. RUEL:** What was the name of that
17 teacher?

18 **MR. LAVOIE:** Robert Sabourin.

19 **MR. RUEL:** Is it correct to say that Mr.
20 Sabourin, following the statement that you gave, he pled
21 guilty and was found guilty in relation to the facts that
22 you brought out and was sentenced to two years less a day.
23 Are you aware of that?

24 **MR. LAVOIE:** Myself and other victims
25 included.

1 **MR. RUEL:** Other victims as well?

2 **MR. LAVOIE:** That's correct.

3 **MR. RUEL:** So we will discuss a bit later
4 the circumstances that led to you giving the statement to
5 the police, but I just wish for now to cover some of the
6 elements contained in the statement relating to Mr.
7 Sabourin and some facts concerning the abuse.

8 So in the statement you mention that you --
9 the abuse took place at St. Lawrence High School/La
10 Citadelle, right?

11 **MR. LAVOIE:** That is correct, amongst other
12 places.

13 **MR. RUEL:** When did you start -- in what
14 year did you start high school?

15 **MR. LAVOIE:** I was at St. Lawrence High
16 School from 1967 until '72, I believe.

17 **MR. RUEL:** So it's ---

18 **MR. LAVOIE:** Five years.

19 **MR. RUEL:** --- the five grades, so '67 to
20 '72.

21 **MR. LAVOIE:** That's right.

22 **MR. RUEL:** How old were you when you started
23 there?

24 **MR. LAVOIE:** I believe I was 14.

25 **MR. RUEL:** And when you finished, you were?

1 **MR. LAVOIE:** Eighteen (18) -- 17-18.

2 **MR. RUEL:** Nineteen (19), is that possible?

3 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, somewhere in there.

4 **MR. RUEL:** So Mr. Sabourin was a school
5 teacher there, right?

6 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, he was.

7 **MR. RUEL:** How did you meet Mr. Sabourin?

8 **MR. LAVOIE:** He was teaching French and I
9 was assigned to his French classroom.

10 **MR. RUEL:** So Mr. Sabourin was -- was he
11 your teacher in Grade 9?

12 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes.

13 **MR. RUEL:** And subsequently, did he remain -
14 - was he your teacher for the following years?

15 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, although the nature of his
16 teaching varied quite a bit. He covered a lot of ground
17 and he went on to do courses in speed reading and
18 eventually film making.

19 **MR. RUEL:** So he was your teacher for all of
20 the five years.

21 **MR. LAVOIE:** That is correct.

22 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. In 1967, do you know if it
23 was Mr. Sabourin's first year as a teacher at that school?

24 **MR. LAVOIE:** I am not sure, but I'm pretty
25 certain that it was his first year.

1 **MR. RUEL:** Do you know where he came from?

2 **MR. LAVOIE:** Montreal.

3 **MR. RUEL:** Do you know what was his
4 background?

5 **MR. LAVOIE:** Teacher and previous to that,
6 military.

7 **MR. RUEL:** Had he told you anything about
8 his work as a teacher in Montreal or did he allude to any
9 other issue relating to his teaching in Montreal?

10 **MR. LAVOIE:** Well, at one point, many times,
11 actually, he told me that -- after he'd started abusing me
12 obviously, he started telling me that I should not break
13 the silence because terrible things would happen to himself
14 and myself, and I'd be responsible for breaking that
15 silence, of course, and that he had a previous -- I can't
16 find the right word, but this school in Montreal had
17 politely asked him to leave that school for sexual
18 innuendos.

19 **MR. RUEL:** He mentioned that to you?

20 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, he did, sir.

21 **MR. RUEL:** Do you know if he was charged?

22 **MR. LAVOIE:** I have no idea.

23 **MR. RUEL:** So when did you get this
24 information?

25 **MR. LAVOIE:** It was over the course of the

1 abuse over the five years and every time, you know -- I
2 mean, occasionally, he'd come into the school and run up to
3 me for some reason and say, "Andre, if anybody asks any
4 questions, don't say anything. This could go back to
5 Montreal", stuff like that, and he'd buy my silence by
6 telling me that, you know, "If anything blows up here, it's
7 your fault."

8 MR. RUEL: Did you tell that to anyone?

9 MR. LAVOIE: No, I did not.

10 MR. RUEL: So you mention in your statement
11 to Mrs. Sebalj that you had an interest in arts, music,
12 photography, film making, at the time. Is that right?

13 MR. LAVOIE: From a very young age, I had
14 great interest in literature, in music, in film and
15 airplanes.

16 MR. RUEL: Did you have a chance to pursue
17 those interests prior to getting at La Citadelle?

18 MR. LAVOIE: Literature, as soon as I could
19 read, I read everything I could put my hands on. I would
20 buy books occasionally and get shit from my mom for
21 spending money needlessly when there was a perfectly fine
22 public library. Music, grade 9 at St Lawrence High School
23 I took up the saxophone which I wanted to play since I was
24 five years old I think. And films is something that I was
25 always passionate about. And, you know, in high school, I

1 approached photography and stuff like that.

2 **MR. RUEL:** Do you still play saxophone?

3 **MR. LAVOIE:** Occasionally.

4 **MR. RUEL:** So Mr. Sabourin, I gather from
5 the statement that he expressed an interest in your own
6 interest in those areas. Is that correct?

7 **MR. LAVOIE:** Well, he very rapidly
8 identified my interest in literature, music and film. It
9 was perfect. So I was a perfect victim for him because he
10 was sort of a role model. He took an interest in me. You
11 know, say, "You're interested in music? Well, I've got
12 music at home that I can show you, a nice stereo system,
13 all kinds of records and stuff" and he would play me all on
14 those things. So he immediately satisfied whatever
15 cravings a kid might have.

16 **MR. RUEL:** So he invited you to his home?

17 **MR. LAVOIE:** Well, yes, he had a basement
18 apartment.

19 **MR. RUEL:** How quickly did that happen
20 following the start of the school year?

21 **MR. LAVOIE:** Well, September, October -- to
22 be invited to his basement apartment, would be about
23 October, mid-October.

24 **MR. RUEL:** And how did you see Mr. Sabourin
25 vis-à-vis yourself?

1 **MR. LAVOIE:** How did I perceive him?

2 **MR. RUEL:** Yes, how did you perceive him?

3 **MR. LAVOIE:** Well, you know, the
4 encouragement in literature, film and music did not come
5 from my parents. I mean, they didn't have a clue like
6 "What is this guy?" And so as soon as somebody would take
7 an interest in me and in this case, that teacher, as soon
8 as he took an interest in me, I felt great. I mean, "Gee,
9 here is somebody that can line me up and make sure that I
10 do my very best academically and artistically." That was my
11 first reaction. "Wow, this is wonderful." But that's soon
12 turned sour.

13 **MR. RUEL:** Is it fair to say that this is
14 the first time a person had shown interest in what you ---

15 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes.

16 **MR. RUEL:** Yes?

17 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes. This was the first time
18 somebody actually showed an interest in me as a person.

19 **MR. RUEL:** So he was a French teacher at the
20 time. So how did you get to discuss those things?

21 **MR. LAVOIE:** Well, we discussed literature.
22 I did book reports. I'd tell him -- you know, he'd ask me,
23 "What are you reading?" It ran the gamut, you know, Jules
24 Verne to Dostoevosky. Nothing was sacred. Then in terms
25 of music, popular music that was happening around that

1 time, especially anything involving the saxophone, I was
2 deeply interested in. So he had these saxophone type
3 records. And in films, we had these nice Nikon camera with
4 interchangeable lenses that was an absolute joy to behold.
5 And I had access to all that stuff.

6 **MR. RUEL:** Where was that located?

7 **MR. LAVOIE:** Well I saw those things in his
8 basement apartment.

9 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. So I gather from your
10 statement that by Christmas the situation with Mr. Sabourin
11 evolved into sexual abuse. So can you give some details as
12 to that evolution?

13 **MR. LAVOIE:** Okay. So he would encourage my
14 studying habits. He would show me ways to make notes out
15 of books so that I could remember parts of them better. A
16 real lesson how to study and how to memorize information so
17 that you could do better at your exams. That's the way it
18 started.

19 And then following -- a few weeks later, he
20 would say, "Well, now you need to know how to relax. You
21 have worked pretty hard, so why don't you lie down on the
22 bed here and I will turn down the lights and things and I
23 will see you in a few minutes." And it progressed to where
24 he would come over and give me massages.

25 And over a short period of time, it was

1 "Well now, you can take your shirt and relax here. You
2 know, you're fine", followed by, "Now you can get your
3 pants down. You will be much more comfortable. You can
4 get your underwear off because. You know, you trust me.
5 You know, I'm quite comfortable here" to eventually, you
6 know, stroking my penis and he was actually quite --
7 comment je dirais ça? -- he actually asked me after
8 stroking my penis and getting me to have an erection, he
9 asked me, "Do you want me to put your penis in my mouth?"
10 In other words, the onus was on me. I gave him permission
11 to do that and from that moment, the trap was closed.

12 **MR. RUEL:** So the first time, where did that
13 happen?

14 **MR. LAVOIE:** In his basement apartment.

15 **MR. RUEL:** So this evolution was from
16 September until approximately December; is that accurate?

17 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, I remember having a
18 wonderful Christmas that year.

19 **MR. RUEL:** So that was before Christmas?

20 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes.

21 **MR. RUEL:** I also gather from your statement
22 that you were subsequently abused by Mr. Sabourin; is that
23 right?

24 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes.

25 **MR. RUEL:** So until when did the abuse last,

1 do you remember?

2 **MR. LAVOIE:** Well, at least the five years
3 through high school, and there might have been a few after
4 finishing high school. I remember seeing him very
5 occasionally. But I wanted out of that situation and,
6 second of all, I was too old for him. He liked kids.

7 **MR. RUEL:** Through high school, you were
8 subject to abuse on the part of Mr. Sabourin?

9 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, persistently. Would you
10 like to have some idea of the frequency?

11 **MR. RUEL:** Yes.

12 **MR. LAVOIE:** After a while, I considered
13 myself Tuesdays and Thursdays. That lasted for at least
14 three to four years, plus the occasional weekend and there
15 you are. So do the math, you know.

16 **MR. RUEL:** You mentioned -- well, if I may
17 ask, this is a bit sensitive, but the type of abuse that
18 you suffered in the hands of Mr. Sabourin, can you describe
19 it a little bit?

20 **MR. LAVOIE:** Okay.

21 **MR. LEE:** Mr. Commissioner?

22 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Yes.

23 **MR. LEE:** Mr. Lavoie isn't my client but I
24 have some concerns with this witness being asked for
25 details of the abuse given that many of my clients are

1 going to come on and have expressed a very strong desire to
2 not be asked similar questions about details of abuse. So
3 I would just like to get it on the record now that, unless
4 there are some reasons that the particular details of the
5 abuse are relevant, I'm not sure that that's a question we
6 really need to get into.

7 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. First of all,
8 we will deal with your question. But the fact that your
9 clients may be asked different questions is irrelevant to
10 this witness. All right. So I will get that out of the
11 way.

12 Why do we have to get into ---

13 **MR. RUEL:** Well, it's in the statement. I
14 can withdraw the question.

15 **THE COMMISSIONER:** It is in the statement so
16 ---

17 **MR. RUEL:** Yes. That's fine, Mr.
18 Commissioner ---

19 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Unless there's any
20 particular use for it.

21 **MR. LAVOIE:** I think it would be interesting
22 to let you know that the abuse occurred in many, many
23 different places.

24 **MR. RUEL:** Yes, we will get to that.

25 **THE COMMISSIONER:** That's a fair question

1 and that's a fair comment.

2 MR. RUEL: I withdraw the question.

3 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

4 MR. RUEL: I think Mr. Lee has a fair point.

5 During those years, were you ever abused on
6 school premises at La Citadelle or St Lawrence which was in
7 the same building?

8 MR. LAVOIE: I was abused at St Lawrence
9 High School and La Citadelle repeatedly.

10 MR. RUEL: Do you recall when the abuse
11 started on the school premises?

12 MR. LAVOIE: Probably mid-term grade 9,
13 towards février, march ---

14 MR. RUEL: Sorry?

15 MR. LAVOIE: Towards February, March of '68.

16 MR. RUEL: You say repeatedly. What was the
17 -- I guess it varied through time, but what was the
18 frequency of the abuse you suffered from Mr. Sabourin at
19 the school?

20 MR. LAVOIE: Tuesdays and Thursdays
21 basically.

22 MR. RUEL: Can you describe where the abuse
23 would take place on the school premises?

24 MR. LAVOIE: It happened in one, two, three
25 different places, but I will try to describe them as best I

1 can. One of them -- he had a classroom and in the back of
2 the classroom there was a small closet, approximately six
3 feet by four feet wide, a bunch of books in there and just
4 enough space so he could lay down his little blanket in
5 there. He would lock the door from the inside sort of ---

6 **MR. RUEL:** Lock the door of the classroom or
7 of the closet?

8 **MR. LAVOIE:** Well, both actually. However,
9 a few times it happened that the cleaning staff would come
10 into the classroom of course to do their work and would
11 want to clean up the closet, so they would either knock or
12 whatever. If he heard them, his excuse was always, "We
13 have an opened roll of film. We cannot or I cannot open
14 the door just now."

15 **MR. RUEL:** Was there some opened rolls of
16 films there?

17 **MR. LAVOIE:** No, there was a naked little
18 student there.

19 **MR. RUEL:** The classroom, was that the
20 classroom where you were receiving -- having your French
21 lessons there with Mr. Sabourin?

22 **MR. LAVOIE:** In that classroom, that was --
23 the grade 9 classroom was upstairs but I guess the abuse at
24 the school really started around grade 10.

25 **MR. RUEL:** Okay.

1 **MR. LAVOIE:** Because that classroom was a
2 separate one and he was starting to teach stuff like speed
3 reading at that time, if I remember correctly.

4 **MR. RUEL:** But he was using that classroom
5 as a teacher, was he?

6 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes.

7 **MR. RUEL:** So that classroom, the building
8 is on which ---

9 **MR. LAVOIE:** It's on the corner of McConnell
10 and Second.

11 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. Was there an entrance
12 close to the classroom?

13 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, it was one of the main
14 entrances to the school.

15 **MR. RUEL:** On which street?

16 **MR. LAVOIE:** It was on Second Street.

17 **MR. RUEL:** And where was the classroom? So
18 you would enter the building on Second Street. Where was
19 the classroom?

20 **MR. LAVOIE:** There was a bank of classrooms
21 to the right of that entrance, one of which was the
22 classroom that he used.

23 **MR. RUEL:** And the closet was in the
24 classroom?

25 **MR. LAVOIE:** That is correct.

1 **MR. RUEL:** Was there a separate entrance to
2 the closet or it was a ---

3 **MR. LAVOIE:** No, it was just a closet with a
4 door.

5 **MR. RUEL:** Were you abused at other
6 locations on the school premises?

7 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, he got some sort of office
8 set up pretty close to where that classroom was located.
9 Immediately beside that classroom, there was a nursing
10 station with a couch and stuff and he liked to go there
11 quite a few times. And then next to that one was a series
12 of offices. Part of it was his offices and he would use
13 that as a base for abusing me, too. So there were
14 essentially one, two, three locations at the school that he
15 used.

16 **MR. RUEL:** So the nursing or nurse station
17 was next to the classroom?

18 **MR. LAVOIE:** That's right.

19 **MR. RUEL:** And the office, where was it
20 located?

21 **MR. LAVOIE:** Sort of next to the nursing
22 station.

23 **MR. RUEL:** So all on the same floor?

24 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes.

25 **MR. RUEL:** So was there a place where the

1 abuse was more frequent or it was a ---

2 **MR. LAVOIE:** Oh my god, pick a spot. I'm
3 not really clear on that one, you know, it was like the
4 flavour of the day, I guess. But I would say his office
5 was where a lot of it -- but I remember like very
6 intensely, it was probably in his office because of the
7 ritual that was associated with going in there. He was a
8 man of many rituals. He adored rituals. Would you like an
9 example?

10 **MR. RUEL:** Without describing the exact
11 abuse, what was the ritual?

12 **MR. LAVOIE:** Well, the ritual in this case
13 was that school went out, I don't know, at four o'clock.
14 So he'd ask me during the day or at any given time in that
15 day to show up at his office at 4:00, which I'd do, and
16 then he would say, "All right. Now, get undressed and I'll
17 come back in 10 minutes", which I would do, I guess. Then
18 he would leave and then come back in 10 minutes and do
19 whatever he needed to do. I think he enjoyed that little
20 10 minutes of knowing that he's got somebody in his office
21 that he is expecting to visit. He enjoyed that kind of
22 thing.

23 **MR. RUEL:** Would he lock the door?

24 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, I guess he would, yes.

25 **MR. RUEL:** Did you have a key to those --

1 **MR. LAVOIE:** No.

2 **MR. RUEL:** Either the room, no?

3 **MR. LAVOIE:** No, I never had a key. So he
4 would invite me in, close the door, say, "I will come back
5 in 10 minutes" and that was it.

6 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. Those areas on the school
7 premises, were those busy areas in the sense were there
8 many students or teachers or staff present or close that
9 could pass by those areas?

10 **MR. LAVOIE:** It was one of the main,
11 probably the main entrance to the school in terms of what
12 students are concerned. It was near a gymnasium which was
13 right next to where his offices were. So yes, there was a
14 lot of va-et-vient. There was a lot of traffic there. I
15 mean, I'm stuck in the stupid office and I can hear kids
16 playing basketball, having fun, kids in the hall saying,
17 "Hey, what are you going to do tonight?", you know, all
18 this kind of stuff and I'm sitting there with a twit.
19 Sorry.

20 **MR. RUEL:** So you mentioned a ritual that
21 would happen essentially at 4 o'clock. So this is how it
22 would generally happen, right, at the end of the day?

23 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes.

24 **MR. RUEL:** So at the end of the day, 4
25 o'clock, was there a lot of people still in the school, in

1 particular in that area?

2 MR. LAVOIE: Yes. There was a fair amount
3 of people coming out. I mean, it was the end of the school
4 day, so yes.

5 MR. RUEL: Was Mr. Sabourin ever caught in
6 action, if I may say, abusing you at the school premises?

7 MR. LAVOIE: No, he was never caught abusing
8 me.

9 MR. RUEL: You mentioned that you heard
10 people knocking on the door ---

11 MR. LAVOIE: Yes.

12 MR. RUEL: --- on some occasions. Do you
13 know who those people were?

14 MR. LAVOIE: Most of the time it was
15 cleaning staff, but it could have been a student coming
16 around to pick up something, because it was sort of an
17 activity area also, his office, you know. So it could have
18 been any number of people, but of course he always had the
19 convenient excuse of having exposed film.

20 MR. RUEL: So would anybody -- from what you
21 can remember, would anybody see you going to those rooms
22 for the purposes you have described, either teachers or
23 students or any other person?

24 MR. LAVOIE: Well, two things. The windows
25 to his office were always masked with black paper and stuff

1 so nobody could see inside. I am not invisible, so yes,
2 people would see me entering that space, but I was never
3 challenged. I don't recall being challenged.

4 **MR. RUEL:** Would you see teachers in that
5 area?

6 **MR. LAVOIE:** Of course.

7 **MR. RUEL:** Were you frequently seen in the
8 presence of Mr. Sabourin at the school?

9 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, I was seen a lot with this
10 guy.

11 **MR. RUEL:** What do you mean? Can you
12 explain?

13 **MR. LAVOIE:** Well, you know, he gave me
14 driving lessons. I had access to his car at any time that
15 was parked right beside the main entrance. I was his
16 technician. If there was anything happening, a
17 presentation of films or whatever, I was the film
18 projectionist and he would stand right beside me as the
19 film was running. The principal obviously knew I was in
20 audiovisual because a few years later after leaving high
21 school, she hired me back as an audiovisual technician. So
22 she knew that I didn't learn that by myself. Somebody gave
23 me access to these instruments.

24 **MR. RUEL:** Who was the principal?

25 **MR. LAVOIE:** At the time that was Jeannine

1 Séguin, but St Lawrence High School had a different
2 principal.

3 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. But the principal you're
4 referring to now, is it Mrs. Séguin or someone else?

5 **MR. LAVOIE:** Jeannine Séguin.

6 **MR. RUEL:** So did you ever report the abuse
7 to anyone at the time?

8 **MR. LAVOIE:** No, sir, I did not.

9 **MR. RUEL:** Never to the school authorities
10 or other teachers?

11 **MR. LAVOIE:** No.

12 **MR. RUEL:** Not even your parents?

13 **MR. LAVOIE:** No.

14 **MR. RUEL:** Why is that?

15 **MR. LAVOIE:** Oh my God! From the age of 14
16 on, I was living what you might describe as a reign of
17 terror. I was terrorized. I was going through this
18 abominable situation over which I had no control and he was
19 extremely manipulative and he had ingratiated himself with
20 my family, my friends. I mean, who do you turn to? I
21 mean, you're carrying this dirty little secret. At best, I
22 figured I'm there; I'm going to deal with it myself. But
23 it took quite a toll.

24 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. So you never told anyone,
25 but did you believe anyone knew about what was going on

1 with Mr. Sabourin?

2 **MR. LAVOIE:** I'm sure somebody must have
3 suspected something. I mean, you know, it's just not
4 natural to be in the presence of a teacher at such a
5 frequency. I mean, unless -- I just don't understand why
6 it was not spotted. I think there were different
7 situations that presented themselves. You know, he's
8 amongst other teachers and stuff and there's this little
9 kid that's hanging around. Nobody raised an eyebrow about
10 that, but we're not talking about the ice age. I believe
11 that in the '70s somebody should have been curious to find
12 the situation that was going on.

13 **MR. RUEL:** Madam Clerk, I'd like to show the
14 witness Document Number 737319. This is a Victim Impact
15 Statement that you -- well, that is dated October 8, 1998.
16 Do we have it?

17 **MR. LAVOIE:** I have it.

18 **THE REGISTRAR:** I don't have the whole
19 thing, just excerpts.

20 **MR. RUEL:** Oh, I see, just the excerpt.

21 So this is, Mr. Commissioner, a larger
22 document and I'm just referring to an excerpt of the larger
23 document which contains the Victim Impact Statement. So
24 that was mingled with other documents provided, I believe,
25 by either the Crown or ---

1 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Exhibit 93.
2 Are there any confidentiality problems or
3 concerns?
4 **MR. RUEL:** Not with this one.
5 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.
6 **MR. RUEL:** Mr. Commissioner or Madam Clerk,
7 are we ready to go with this document?
8 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Yes.
9 **MR. RUEL:** Yes?
10 Do you recognize this document, Mr. Lavoie?
11 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, sir, I recognize this
12 document.
13 **MR. RUEL:** What is it?
14 **MR. LAVOIE:** A Victim Impact Statement.
15 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Just a second. That
16 wasn't what that was on the screen.
17 **MR. RUEL:** Now I'm at page 7153077.
18 **(SHORT PAUSE/COURTE PAUSE)**
19 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.
20 **MR. RUEL:** So, Mr. Lavoie, do you recognize
21 this document?
22 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, sir, I do.
23 **MR. RUEL:** And did you write it?
24 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, sir, I did.
25 **MR. RUEL:** Is the date accurate?

1 **MR. LAVOIE:** I would presume that it is,
2 yes.

3 **MR. RUEL:** Have you read it?

4 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes.

5 **MR. RUEL:** And does it reflect what you
6 wrote?

7 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, it does.

8 **MR. RUEL:** I would like to show you page 4
9 of the document, but on the system that would be page
10 7153080 -- sorry, it's page 6 of the document. So it's
11 7153082. In the third paragraph you mention -- I'll read
12 it for you:

13 "Afraid to go to cry for help, the
14 abuse continues for years."

15 And then a bit later:

16 "Why do other teachers not recognize
17 the abuser's need to be constantly
18 surrounded by young boys? Rumours
19 circulate."

20 So what kind of rumours would circulate, Mr.
21 Lavoie?

22 **MR. LAVOIE:** I wrote this a long time ago.
23 Just let me check. I don't really recall the rumours
24 within the school. I do remember, for example, 1967 or
25 '68, I was in the Boy Scouts and I was invited to do a

1 presentation. My abuser had a whole series of slides from
2 Expo '67. I put the slides together, brought the kit to
3 the Boy Scout Local or wherever we met and my abuser was
4 there, and within about five minutes, my Scout leader comes
5 to tell me, "Get this guy out." That's all he needed to
6 say. I knew exactly what he meant and I went to the abuser
7 and said, "You've got to get out of here." That sort of
8 stuff.

9 MR. RUEL: What did he mean? Did he know
10 about what was going on, in your view?

11 MR. LAVOIE: I think there was an unwritten
12 code where people can say certain things and he understood
13 exactly what I meant, but my Boy Scout leader never came
14 back to me, asking me questions or anything like that.
15 That did not happen. So that's the sort of rumour, and it
16 was also rumours amongst the kids.

17 MR. RUEL: Where?

18 MR. LAVOIE: My friends sometimes would ask
19 me, "Andre, does anything happen with Sabourin?" And I
20 would always inevitably deny and deflect the question.

21 MR. RUEL: Would that happen at school? The
22 kids in question, were they at school?

23 MR. LAVOIE: Yes. I mean, we're not talking
24 about dozens of kids here. I'm talking about a few.

25 MR. RUEL: In your statement to Constable

1 Sebalj that we looked at a few minutes ago, you indicated
2 that you accompanied Mr. Sabourin at a teacher's conference
3 in Timmons, Ontario; is that correct?

4 **MR. LAVOIE:** That is correct.

5 **MR. RUEL:** Do you remember when that
6 happened?

7 **MR. LAVOIE:** Which year? Oh my God! I know
8 what music was playing, Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young.
9 They were very popular in those days. It could have been
10 in Grade 11, 10. I'm not sure exactly. I don't recall --
11 but anyway, it's not a question of the time, but anyway,
12 yes, he took me over to a teacher's conference in Timmons
13 for two or three days.

14 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. So can you give the
15 Commission some details about the circumstances that
16 brought you to this conference and what happened there?

17 **MR. LAVOIE:** Okay. Well, of course, he
18 always has a reason to have me around, and in this case he
19 had to go up to the conference in the evening and he didn't
20 like driving at night. So he needed his driver, myself.
21 So I drove him up there and we got to the hotel where the
22 conference was supposedly happening. He had rented a room;
23 finds out they only have rooms with two single beds. So he
24 proceeds to do a huge, huge fit, screaming, "I want a
25 double bed. I want a double bed." And so it could not be

1 accommodated, and so we left. He went to another motel
2 until he found a motel with a double bed.

3 The next morning, he takes me over to the
4 conference, where the conference is being held and all the
5 teachers are sitting at these long tables. Of course, I
6 recognize a few teachers from my own school. There were
7 teachers from up north.

8 MR. RUEL: How many teachers were there from
9 your own school?

10 MR. LAVOIE: This is a picture I'm trying to
11 forget. There would have been anywhere from 20 to 40,
12 something like that.

13 MR. RUEL: From your own school?

14 MR. LAVOIE: No, no, from my own school I
15 would say there would be about eight to ten, including
16 Jeannine Séguin.

17 MR. RUEL: So that was a conference not --
18 like a general teachers' conference?

19 MR. LAVOIE: That's right. It was not
20 simply for that one school.

21 MR. RUEL: Okay. So what happened? You
22 were talking about the ---

23 MR. LAVOIE: Yes. Walking in there, you
24 mean?

25 MR. RUEL: Yes.

1 **MR. LAVOIE:** Okay. So I walk in there in
2 the company of the abuser and it's surreal because I feel
3 so fragile. So I walk in there and he's been doing his
4 regular -- being very charming, sort of thing. Jeannine
5 Séguin is sitting there. She's the Dame Judy Dench of high
6 school principals. You can see she's totally in control.
7 I don't know what's wrong with that picture, but I would
8 think that something might not be just right. I would have
9 some concerns about a teacher taking a student to Timmons
10 for a conference for which he has no use, but no questions
11 were ever raised.

12 **MR. RUEL:** Was there any other children or
13 any other teenager there?

14 **MR. LAVOIE:** No.

15 **MR. RUEL:** So when you mentioned Mrs.
16 Séguin, this is the school principal that you referred to
17 earlier?

18 **MR. LAVOIE:** That's right.

19 **MR. RUEL:** This is Jeannine Séguin, right?

20 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes.

21 **MR. RUEL:** You mention another incident in
22 your statement to Constable Sebalj. You indicate that you
23 tried to quit school in Grade 11.

24 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, I did.

25 **MR. RUEL:** So the school is still the same

1 school? It's St Lawrence or La Citadelle?

2 MR. LAVOIE: It's in the shift.

3 MR. RUEL: It's in the shift?

4 MR. LAVOIE: Yes, I think Grade 11 was
5 shifting at that time.

6 MR. RUEL: Okay. So you tried to quit
7 school?

8 MR. LAVOIE: That's right. I mean, I had
9 the perfect opportunity in the sense that I was playing in
10 a band. We bought the school bus, did the school bus
11 thing. I rented a house in Long Sault. We all lived in
12 the house, practised all day, played a few gigs. I just
13 figured I'm out of school. I'm out of there.

14 We all lived in the house, practiced all
15 day, played a few gigs and I just figured I'm out of
16 school, I'm out of there, you know. So this to me was
17 safe. I was in the environment of my peers. I was doing
18 something that I truly enjoyed. Yes. Yes, it was great,
19 other than the food.

20 MR. RUEL: The music was an element. Was
21 there any other reason why you would quit school?

22 MR. LAVOIE: I just wanted to get out of
23 that hellhole. I mean I was going through -- from the age
24 of 14 when the abuse started until this very day, I don't
25 think there is one day that goes by -- there might one or

1 two -- without myself truly, deeply thinking how to end the
2 pain, and the only solution that I can find is suicide. So
3 I have been living with death my whole life because every
4 time that he abused me, I would die basically, because I
5 just couldn't take it. So I would split my body from my
6 spirit; "Take the body, take whatever you want. Have fun.
7 When you're done, I'll try and recombine the two", which is
8 not easy to do because you're dragging around a piece of
9 dirt and then you live with that for the rest of your life.
10 And the pain starts.

11 So you know, I have faced the muzzle of a 12
12 gage shotgun and looked at it and just pondered, this could
13 end right now. The only thing that stopped me is the one
14 question, what if. What if something happens that changes
15 my future in a dramatic way in the next second, but I just
16 pulled the trigger, right. Also, I don't like a mess.

17 So the final solution that I have come up
18 with, which is really, truly elegant is an excellent bottle
19 of scotch and a blend of carbon monoxide, and that is so
20 satisfying knowing that that solution is there for me and I
21 can take it anytime.

22 Now, why at my age should I be thinking
23 about that kind of thought? There is only one reason and
24 that's because some asshole took it upon himself to abuse
25 me and many others. And I think if you listen to the

1 victims that will be coming through here, if you just touch
2 that little suicide note, you will find that we are all on
3 the same page.

4 **MR. RUEL:** Coming back to this issue of when
5 you left school, were you ever called by anyone to get
6 back, for example?

7 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, somebody called my
8 parents. I think it was a guidance counsellor had phoned
9 at my parents' place. So I'm visiting my parents and my
10 mother says, "You should call this guy, you know. He'd
11 really like you to get back to school and stuff." I don't
12 want to call this guy. I don't want to talk to him. He's
13 got nothing to offer me. Maybe he knows that's something's
14 not right. Maybe he knows that someone is doing some kind
15 of silly shit here.

16 So I called the guy up and he says, "Andre,
17 you should really come back to school. First of all,
18 you're a pretty good student and you know what, we've got a
19 radio station here we'd like you to fix up because you know
20 you're good in electronics." I'm going, I don't want to go
21 back there. You know, I'm thinking I'm going to be abused
22 again. But the guy insisted, insisted and also the band
23 wasn't doing so well and I wanted an education. I mean, I
24 wanted an education and went back and the abuse started
25 right back.

1 **MR. RUEL:** What did you discuss with him
2 apart from that?

3 **MR. LAVOIE:** The guidance counsellor?

4 **MR. RUEL:** Yes.

5 **MR. LAVOIE:** That was it.

6 **MR. RUEL:** Did he ask you about the reason
7 why you left?

8 **MR. LAVOIE:** No. He said, "Andre, come back
9 to school; radio station." That's it, which I thought was
10 a little disappointing.

11 **MR. RUEL:** So you have been away for how
12 many ---

13 **MR. LAVOIE:** Oh about, September, October,
14 November. I went back to school in November.

15 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. When you were at St
16 Lawrence and/or La Citadelle, were you aware at the time if
17 Mr. Sabourin was abusing other people?

18 **MR. LAVOIE:** Not initially. Initially I was
19 truly certain I was the only one because I mean Tuesdays
20 and Thursdays are busy enough, right. And eventually I did
21 find out he had other victims. I would see them come out
22 of the very same room that I had come out of so many times
23 and they had that look on their face that is unmistakable,
24 that I know extremely well, intimately well. And I would
25 see these victims come out and then say, "There's another

1 one and another one." And all of a sudden I would see like
2 five or six. This is nuts, this is crazy, but again I was
3 paralyzed in not trying to be able to do anything for these
4 other victims.

5 MR. RUEL: Did you ever speak to these
6 students? I suspect they were students, right?

7 MR. LAVOIE: Yes.

8 MR. RUEL: So did you ever speak to them
9 about ---

10 MR. LAVOIE: No.

11 MR. RUEL: --- your story or theirs?

12 MR. LAVOIE: No. With the experts that you
13 have heard for the last six months or so, you know about
14 the silence of the victims and that it takes a strong
15 trigger for victims to come out and actually to say,
16 "Excuse me, I think I have been abused." It takes a strong
17 trigger and other than that, you will deny, deny, deny,
18 reflect and as you grow up, "I think I have dealt with it,
19 you know. I'm an adult, I can cope with this. It's over."
20 Not so over.

21 MR. RUEL: You said you met people that you
22 recognized as victims. How many people do you think were
23 in that category?

24 MR. LAVOIE: That I would know for sure? I
25 don't know. The body count during high school would

1 probably stand at about 12 at least. When I first made my
2 statement to Heidi Sebalj I started calling other victims
3 just to make sure that I wasn't alone in there and I
4 located about eight, nine other victims within a week, of
5 which three chose to testify to Heidi Sebalj and the other
6 people just didn't want a thing to do with the abuse.

7 **MR. RUEL:** Okay.

8 **MR. LAVOIE:** So by extension there must be,
9 like, at the hands of Sabourin anywhere from 30, 40 victims
10 up.

11 **MR. RUEL:** You said in your statement to
12 Constable Sebalj that you were abused at other places than
13 at the school, right?

14 **MR. LAVOIE:** That is correct.

15 **MR. RUEL:** Can you briefly give us some ---

16 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Locations.

17 **MR. RUEL:** --- details and what places, yes?

18 **MR. LAVOIE:** My favourite is our house.
19 We've had boarders coming from all nationalities for years
20 and years and never have I been abused. He was in the
21 process of moving his family from Montreal to Cornwall and
22 he was purchasing a house. He needed a place to stay in
23 the meantime. So he asked my parents very kindly could he
24 stay in our house. Of course my parents said yes. He went
25 on to say to my parents, "Would it be all right if Andre

1 slept in my bedroom because I'm teaching him studying
2 skills and we might go on quite late in the night? And he
3 seems to be doing very well at school." So yes, I did
4 share his bedroom in my family house for about six weeks.

5 It happened in his car, driving lessons.
6 Every single driving lesson was paid with, yours truly,
7 abuse. That could be happening in a field anywhere. He
8 would park the car anywhere and he would be quite
9 satisfied. He could be doing that while I was driving. He
10 particularly enjoyed that one. I think he had a sense of
11 danger.

12 Driving to Timmins. I remember driving to
13 Timmins and it's dark, this road is under construction and
14 they were building at that time and I see this rock base
15 and I'm going, "I'm going to smash the car into the rock
16 base and end this stuff now." I just didn't have the
17 strength to do that.

18 But, you know, the car. What else? Gee,
19 school, car? Oh, at his house when his wife and kid moved
20 in; kitchen; his office upstairs; his office downstairs.
21 He took me on a trip to Quebec City. He took me to a trip
22 to Kingston. Took me on trips to Montreal; every single
23 time.

24 **MR. RUEL:** The other trips, were those
25 school trips?

1 **MR. LAVOIE:** No, not really. Some of them
2 were just like out for the weekend, you know. Little
3 jaunts. He always had made up some sort of reason to
4 justify to my parents that I should accompany him.

5 **MR. RUEL:** Do you know if -- well, you must
6 know that Mr. Sabourin left St Lawrence and La Citadelle or
7 La Citadelle at some point, right?

8 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, yes, I don't know very
9 much details. I was already out of the picture by then.

10 **MR. RUEL:** So he left after you had already
11 -- after you finished your high school education?

12 **MR. LAVOIE:** That's right, yes.

13 **MR. RUEL:** Do you know the circumstances for
14 his departure from the school?

15 **MR. LAVOIE:** I was never informed of the
16 reasons for his departure. I've got -- again another
17 rumour, but somebody told me like 15 years ago or whatever
18 that someone found photographs and submitted it to his
19 mother who obviously knew her husband was a pedophile and I
20 guess that's what broke the camel's back because she
21 reported it to the school. Now, that's what I heard.
22 That's all I know. I know that he's got two photographs of
23 myself in there. That's about all.

24 **MR. RUEL:** There were photographs?

25 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, there were photographs of

1 naked boys, of which two are taken of yours truly.

2 MR. RUEL: Okay. I see, photographs of
3 yourself.

4 MR. LAVOIE: Yes.

5 MR. RUEL: Can you explain the circumstances
6 of the two pictures?

7 MR. LAVOIE: Well, my two precious pictures
8 were taken in the closet behind -- in that classroom by the
9 closet door. The greatest invention for pedophiles over
10 the last 50 years is the Polaroid camera which is fabulous
11 because nobody needs to develop the film. So he had one of
12 the first Polaroid cameras going around and he was taking
13 pictures. He must have had a nice collection.

14 MR. RUEL: So there were two pictures of
15 you; that's what you're saying?

16 MR. LAVOIE: I say photographs because I
17 know he had at least two photographs of me. Now, he must
18 have had other photographs of other kids, for sure.

19 MR. RUEL: May I ask what kind of
20 photograph? Were you dressed, were you naked?

21 MR. LAVOIE: I was standing by the closet
22 door, fully naked.

23 MR. RUEL: Could your face been seen on the
24 photographs?

25 MR. LAVOIE: I think I did a motion like

1 this at some point, trying to at least shield part of my
2 face, but what the heck, you know, how much good is that
3 going to do?

4 **MR. RUEL:** Did you tell that to anyone,
5 about the photographs?

6 **MR. LAVOIE:** No, I did not.

7 **MR. RUEL:** So coming back to the statement
8 that you gave to Constable Sebalj from the Cornwall Police
9 Service, that was on March 14, 1996. So I wish now to ask
10 you to explain to the Commission what prompted you to make
11 this complaint after many years.

12 **MR. LAVOIE:** I will give you the
13 explanation. Is it okay if we have a little break after I
14 give the explanation?

15 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Oh absolutely.

16 **MR. LAVOIE:** Okay.

17 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Yes, you're quite right.

18 **MR. LAVOIE:** Okay.

19 I have to give just a little bit of
20 background. Before I was actually capable of breaking the
21 silence, I had a death-defining moment a few years or a
22 year or so before I divulged the information to Heidi
23 Sebalj. I had an operation to correct my jaw and it
24 corrected the jaws, so both jaws are cut open and then re-
25 attached with wire and stuff, so you can't really breathe

1 from your mouth. You can only feed yourself with a tiny
2 syringe. Anyway, it's quite a mess.

3 Anyway, I was at home recuperating and for
4 the first time within three days of that operation my wife
5 had to go to run errands, pharmacy and stuff. So I decided
6 to lie down and all of a sudden I feel like something is
7 not right. I'm checking my nose and all of a sudden the
8 blood started spurting as if an artery had been cut. And
9 so I went downstairs because I didn't want to bleed on the
10 carpet. I went downstairs to the kitchen to call 911.
11 While this is happening, I've got blood all over the place.
12 I'm choking. I'm basically drowning in my own blood and
13 I'm going to be falling unconscious at any point and I
14 could just feel myself going.

15 And that was the most perfect moment I have
16 ever had in my life because at that point, at that very
17 moment I could make a decision. I could let myself go,
18 right there and die. Perfect. End of problem. Or, I
19 could fight this thing and survive on one condition,
20 integrity; "Lavoie, stop whining to yourself, stop
21 protecting that asshole and go on with your life."

22 So that was my defining moment and from then
23 on, once the wires were out and stuff, I did call up the
24 Cornwall Police to say, "I want to make a statement."

25 **MR. RUEL:** When did that happen?

1 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Let's take a break now
2 then.

3 **MR. RUEL:** Okay.

4 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Is that all right?

5 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes. Yes, that's fine. Thank
6 you.

7 **THE COMMISSIONER:** We will take a 15-minute
8 break.

9 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
10 veuillez vous lever.

11 --- Upon recessing at 3:55 p.m./

12 L'audience est suspendue à 15h55

13 --- Upon resuming at 4:13 p.m./

14 L'audience est reprise à 16h13

15 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
16 veuillez vous lever.

17 This hearing of the Cornwall Public Inquiry
18 is now in session. Please be seated. Veuillez vous
19 asseoir.

20 **ANDRE LAVOIE, Resumed/Sous le même serment:**

21 **MR. RUEL:** Mr. Commissioner, just a couple
22 of points before we keep going on with this witness.

23 There was a publication ban issued in the
24 prosecution of Mr. Sabourin. The publication ban was on
25 the name of all of the victims in that prosecution and it

1 was issued on April 12, 1999, before the judge, the
2 Honourable Judge Renaud of the Ontario Court of Justice
3 here in Cornwall. Mr. Seguin, who testified earlier today,
4 and Mr. Lavoie have indicated to us that they wish to
5 testify publicly, openly, and they didn't want any
6 restriction on the publication of their name or any
7 information that could identify them.

8 So the Attorney General for Ontario -- I
9 don't know if there is a representative here today -- have
10 presented a motion before the Superior Court to get the
11 publication bans with respect to those two individuals
12 lifted. So we just got the order by Mr. the Honourable
13 Justice Panet, lifting the bans with respect to Mr. Alain
14 Seguin and André Lavoie. So it's for the media
15 essentially. So I guess there's no restriction now as to
16 the publication of information concerning those two
17 witnesses.

18 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. Okay. Thank
19 you.

20 **MR. RUEL:** The other issue is that I
21 referred to a document which was the Victim Impact
22 Statement. We did not mark this document. The problem
23 with this document -- well, the problem -- the issue is
24 that it's part of a larger group of documents that contains
25 what seems to be a Crown Brief in the Robert Sabourin

1 prosecution, but we're not totally sure if it's the exact
2 Crown Brief, but in any event, in that document, which is
3 Document Number 737319, there is the Victim Impact
4 Statement and there is a portion of the notes, the police
5 notes, of Constable Heidi Sebalj, which I intend to refer
6 to when I discuss the police issues with Mr. Lavoie.

7 So I would suggest we enter that whole
8 document as Exhibit ---

9 **THE REGISTRAR:** Ninety-three (93).

10 **MR. RUEL:** --- 93.

11 **THE COMMISSIONER:** No -- yes, yes, 93. All
12 right.

13 And any comments as to whether ---

14 **MR. RUEL:** Yes. The Victim Impact Statement
15 itself, the witness or Commission counsel don't have issues
16 with it. However, with respect to the police notes, Mr.
17 Callaghan may have some comments, but there are in the
18 notes -- you can read the names of a number of victims or
19 alleged victims that we either did not meet that will not
20 testify or that otherwise never came forward or, you know,
21 there was no conclusion to the investigation or there was
22 no charges. So we would not want those names to come out.
23 So I would suggest that this exhibit, for the moment,
24 pending your decision based on the arguments you heard, I
25 believe, yesterday, that the Exhibit be marked "C" for

1 confidential for the moment.

2 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

3 Any comments? Mr. Wardle?

4 **MR. WARDLE:** No comments, Mr. Commissioner.

5 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Mr. Lee?

6 **MR. LEE:** No comments.

7 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Mr. Chisholm?

8 **MR. CHISHOLM:** No comments, sir.

9 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

10 Mr. Rose?

11 **MR. ROSE:** No comments.

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Mr. Scharbach?

13 **MR. SCHARBACH:** Nothing to add. Thank you.

14 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Mr. Callaghan?

15 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** The only comment, sir, is --

16 and I spoke to Mr. Engelmann about that -- in the body of
17 the notes there is one person who asked for anonymity.

18 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm.

19 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And I don't know how we left

20 -- how that would be dealt with. Obviously, we were to

21 identify it and we spoke to Mr. Engelmann about it. So

22 it's a little different than the ordinary "C" note or the

23 "C" designation.

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm.

25 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** I just raise that. I'm not

1 sure how the Commission wants to deal with it, but as it's
2 a "C" document at the moment, I don't think that causes a
3 big problem.

4 **THE COMMISSIONER:** So basically we're going
5 to name it a "C" document with full intentions of making it
6 a "P" document once we've resolved issues about names.
7 Presumably, either it will be resolved with my ruling or if
8 there's an issue about anonymity, we can have a hearing and
9 we can determine that and then we can deal with it.

10 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Yes, and I think that's
11 probably the way to go. I just want to alert you that it's
12 different than just the personal information in there.

13 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Right. I understand.

14 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** There's a slight difference
15 on this one.

16 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Sure.

17 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** And I take it these are
18 being identified like I did, for identification purposes.

19 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm.

20 **MR. CALLAGHAN:** Okay. Thank you.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I just wanted to agree with
22 Mr. Callaghan. There is a slightly different issue here
23 with one individual.

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** But I think it can be

1 resolved and hopefully as soon as we have a decision on the
2 arguments that were made yesterday, we can deal with all of
3 those matters.

4 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

5 So just to make it very, very clear, that
6 aside from the one "C" exhibit that we have filed for Mr.
7 Seguin, all of the other exhibits dealing with the issues
8 of confidentiality were placed as "C" exhibits temporarily,
9 as is number 93, and the purpose for that is so that we can
10 deal with confidentiality issues, and so with the full
11 intention, so far at least, that they will be put as "P"
12 exhibits which will be open for the public and open for the
13 press. So I just don't want people to start looking and
14 saying that we're all putting things as "Cs". I fully
15 intend to keep this hearing as open and as transparent as
16 possible.

17 So having said that, it will become C-93 for
18 the time being.

19 --- **EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO. C-93 :**

20 André Lavoie - Victim Impact Statement

21 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

22 So what I propose to do is perhaps go for
23 another 20 minutes, cover off an area and then what we'll
24 do is resume tomorrow morning at 9:30. Is that ---

25 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, 20 minutes would be good.

1 **MR. RUEL:** Thank you, Mr. Commissioner.

2 **--- EXAMINATION IN-CHIEF BY/INTERROGATOIRE EN-CHEF PAR MR.**
3 **RUEL (cont'd/suite):**

4 **MR. RUEL:** So, Mr. Lavoie, we were now
5 discussing the events that led to your complaint to the
6 Cornwall Police in 1996. So you were explaining that you
7 had close to that experience which prompted you to make a
8 complaint. You mentioned that you made a complaint to the
9 Cornwall Police.

10 I would like to know -- I'm not sure if I --
11 I don't recall if I asked you this. Do you remember when
12 that happened, they did this experience, I guess, this ---

13 **MR. LAVOIE:** The experience would have been
14 probably in '95, looking at October or November, but I
15 still had to go six to eight more weeks with my jaw fully
16 wired until it properly healed. So I wouldn't have spoken
17 to anybody until probably early January.

18 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. And then who was the first
19 person you spoke to about the events?

20 **MR. LAVOIE:** I spoke to my wife because I
21 wanted to make sure that she knew that this was coming out.
22 Surprise, surprise. I did mention it to my parents at one
23 point. One of their neighbours was very involved with
24 helping -- very helpful for my parents, very close friends
25 with my parents at the time and also very involved with the

1 Church.

2 MR. RUEL: We'll get to that in a few
3 minutes.

4 MR. LAVOIE: But anyway, I called -- who did
5 I call? I called the Cornwall Police and I said I'd like
6 to make a statement and they referred me to Heidi Sebalj.

7 MR. RUEL: When you decided -- you took that
8 decision to bring the complaint against Mr. Sabourin, did
9 that provoke any mental or physical reaction?

10 MR. LAVOIE: Initially I thought it's like
11 going to war. I thought I'd be fine. I mean, no problem,
12 address this issue, do things right. I had no idea that I
13 was entering the long, slippery slope to depression. That
14 came as a complete surprise to me and it's very insidious
15 because it takes a while. It's not a matter of a trigger.
16 It takes weeks, months, and it just progresses. That's
17 what I entered into, not knowing that that would be a
18 consequence of coming forward with the charges.

19 MR. RUEL: So I gather that you suffered
20 from depression after making or after deciding to press
21 charges, essentially?

22 MR. LAVOIE: Yes.

23 MR. RUEL: Do you remember when?

24 MR. LAVOIE: Oh, it probably started soon
25 after because once you entered into this process, it's like

1 all the memories come flooding back. All the smells come
2 flooding back, and it's not -- I guess I've dealt with this
3 before. It's like you're in it. You're re-living all that
4 stuff with an intensity that even I could not have conjured
5 up. It was horrible. So it started pretty soon. At some
6 point I had to go to see my family doctor and I just had a
7 fit in her office, and I said, "I think I've been abused."
8 And there we go. She referred me to a psychologist within
9 days.

10 MR. RUEL: Okay.

11 MR. LAVOIE: She took it in hand and said,
12 "André, you need help."

13 MR. RUEL: And were you -- did you see a
14 psychiatrist?

15 MR. LAVOIE: Yes. Well, from the family
16 doctor, a psychologist; psychologist -- the family doctor
17 prescribes medicines, drugs. The psychologist talks about
18 stuff and the psychiatrist just monitors the effect of the
19 drugs on your mental state and adjusts the cocktail
20 accordingly to the way you're reacting to it.

21 MR. RUEL: So you were prescribed medication
22 for it?

23 MR. LAVOIE: Oh yes, that's right, pretty
24 well all kinds of stuff that's on the market there.

25 MR. RUEL: So when did you contact the

1 Cornwall Police?

2 MR. LAVOIE: That would have been probably
3 soon in '96.

4 MR. RUEL: M'hm.

5 MR. LAVOIE: It would have been -- I don't
6 think there was a long period of time between my calling
7 the Cornwall Police and meeting with Heidi Sebalj. I think
8 that was a fairly -- as I recall, a fairly efficient
9 process.

10 MR. RUEL: Okay. And you were called or I
11 guess you were called by Mrs. Sebalj for the interview. Is
12 that the way it happened?

13 MR. LAVOIE: Yes, that's right. She called
14 me and asked me to show up at the Cornwall Police Station
15 to make a statement.

16 MR. RUEL: Okay. Did you go there alone?

17 MR. LAVOIE: Yes, I did.

18 MR. RUEL: And the interview you gave is the
19 statement essentially that we reviewed together ---

20 MR. LAVOIE: That is correct.

21 MR. RUEL: --- a bit earlier.

22 For how long did the interview last?

23 MR. LAVOIE: Oh my God; it's an hour and
24 some, an hour and a half maybe. An hour, an hour and a
25 half. I was in a bubble there.

1 **MR. RUEL:** And how did you feel going
2 through those events with Mrs. Sebalj?

3 **MR. LAVOIE:** Horrified. Horrified. I mean,
4 it's the first time in my life that I actually had to put
5 words to what had happened to me and it was very, very
6 difficult to even find those words. It was hell, but I
7 needed to get through it so that she would have enough
8 material to start the investigation. That was my purpose.
9 She could start somewhere.

10 **MR. RUEL:** Okay. Did you meet anybody else
11 at the Cornwall Police when you attended on March 14, '96?

12 **MR. LAVOIE:** I don't believe so. I mean,
13 other than a receptionist, but it was just Heidi and
14 myself.

15 **MR. RUEL:** Mrs. Sebalj, her name is Heidi
16 Sebalj, right?

17 **MR. LAVOIE:** That's right.

18 **MR. RUEL:** And was she the main investigator
19 in the file?

20 **MR. LAVOIE:** As far as I'm concerned, she's
21 pretty well the only person I spoke to. So I would say
22 yes, she was, in my view, the main investigator.

23 **MR. RUEL:** I would like to bring you back to
24 your statement ---

25 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Exhibit 92.

1 **MR. RUEL:** --- which is Exhibit 92, and it's
2 at page -- Madam Clerk, do you need the page number of the
3 transcript or the document number? The Bates number? It's
4 7137552. So it's about -- there's no numbers there, but
5 about two-thirds down the page, and it starts with "Yeah,
6 he's still in town." Do you get that? So that sentence
7 you indicated that:

8 "He's still in town and my fear right
9 now is that I waited all this time to
10 say anything. Actually, I couldn't
11 talk about it for all this time. I
12 just, within the last few months,
13 starting being able to talk about it.
14 I know he was involved with activities
15 at the Church St-Felix. I'm just
16 concerned that he's probably still
17 abusing kids, unless he's found God,
18 which I doubt."

19 So can you explain to the Commission what
20 you meant by those words?

21 **MR. LAVOIE:** That would coincide with the
22 situation where I went to visit my parents and talked to
23 them about what was going on. I mean, as far as I knew
24 they were still very good friends with my abuser. So I had
25 to tell them first that, "Look, here's the truth. There's

1 a real thing here, and I will be pressing charges." So I
2 talked to him briefly about it. My parents are a bit
3 naïve, but that's all right. They were good folks. The
4 neighbour, through my parents, was a very helpful person,
5 helped my parents out a lot for all kinds of jobs and help,
6 and I respected the man. I knew that he was also involved
7 in church activities like setting up tables for whatever
8 event, et cetera.

9 MR. RUEL: What was his name?

10 MR. LAVOIE: Monsieur Émard. He was the
11 direct neighbour to my parents and Sabourin, at that time,
12 lived about five houses away from my parents, so close
13 proximity there.

14 So anyway, I went to see Mr. Émard and I
15 said, "Monsieur Émard, do you know if Sabourin is still
16 involved in church activities or is he doing anything in
17 the parish?" He says, "Yes, of course. He says he wants
18 to be in charge of the altar boys." I just went, "No, no."
19 He said, "Yes, he wants to be in charge of the altar boys,
20 leur formation, their training." I went, "Holy shit, no,
21 this can't be."

22 So what I did is I drove back to Ottawa and
23 I hit the phone, called up l'Église St-Felix-de-Valois and
24 I end up with Curé Desrosiers. How do you say curé in
25 English? Can anybody help me out?

1 **MR. RUEL:** Parish priest.

2 **THE COMMISSIONER:** We had that -- what's the
3 curé?

4 **MR. LAVOIE:** He's the boss of the parish.
5 Help me out.

6 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Not the deacon?

7 **MR. RUEL:** No.

8 **MR. LAVOIE:** Anyway ---

9 **THE COMMISSIONER:** The interpreters will
10 tell us?

11 **MR. LAVOIE:** Monsieur le curé en anglais
12 c'est?

13 **THE COMMISSIONER:** They can't hear you. Can
14 somebody put the headphones on? Just a second. Pastor?
15 Anyways, we'll get on with it. Le curé.

16 **MR. LAVOIE:** Monsieur le curé. So I call up
17 monsieur le curé and I say to him ---

18 **THE COMMISSIONER:** And who is it?

19 **MR. LAVOIE:** Curé Desrosiers.

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Desrosiers?

21 **MR. LAVOIE:** Oui.

22 **THE COMMISSIONER:** You're sure about that?

23 **MR. LAVOIE:** Desrosiers, oui.

24 **MR. RUEL:** Do you know his first name?

25 **MR. LAVOIE:** No. We never call a priest by

1 their first name.

2 MR. RUEL: Sir, I think we have an answer.

3 And the parish, just before you go on with
4 this, you mentioned St-Felix-de-Valois?

5 MR. LAVOIE: St-Felix-de-Valois, yes.

6 MR. RUEL: Where is that?

7 MR. LAVOIE: Well, the parish is right down
8 on St-Felix Street, but they're now located ---

9 THE COMMISSIONER: Here in Cornwall?

10 MR. LAVOIE: Yes, yes, definitely here in
11 Cornwall. It was the parish that my parents went to church
12 with, my neighbours, anything. So it was very close to
13 their house.

14 MR. RUEL: So then what happened?

15 MR. LAVOIE: So I make the call to Curé
16 Desrosiers and I said, "I heard that Sabourin wants to be
17 responsible for the training of the altar boys." I said,
18 "I'm going to be pressing charges, criminal charges,
19 against him because he's a pedophile." I said, "You can't
20 let him around kids." And his response was, and this is
21 precious, "On a toujours gardé un oeil dessus." "We've
22 always kept an eye on him."

23 At that point I didn't have anything more to
24 add to this conversation. I hung up the phone and I just
25 couldn't believe what I was hearing.

1 **MR. RUEL:** What did that mean, in your view?

2 **MR. LAVOIE:** Well ---

3 **MR. RUEL:** What did you understand from
4 that?

5 **MR. LAVOIE:** I cannot come to any conclusion
6 where somebody would make a comment, a pedophile around
7 kids, that "We always keep an eye on him." Does that mean
8 that they are ultimately responsible for his actions? Does
9 that mean that they always keep on eye on him, making sure
10 he doesn't assault other boys? That is so naïve. Either
11 he's really naïve or completely out of it. I mean, I don't
12 know. I cannot comment on this. I give it to you and go
13 figure.

14 **MR. RUEL:** Page Bates number 7137569 of the
15 same document, which is the statement you gave to Mrs.
16 Sebalj ---

17 **THE REGISTRAR:** The page again?

18 **MR. RUEL:** Page 7137569. It's the last page
19 of the transcript. In the middle of the page, of the
20 paragraph, essentially, Constable Sebalj is asking you:

21 "Is there anything else right now right
22 off the top that you think I should
23 know about?"

24 And you answered:

25 "Yes, he might still be active."

1 What did you mean by that? Was that related
2 to what you just referred to and the altar boys at Parish
3 St-Felix-de-Valois?

4 **MR. LAVOIE:** I just felt that people age,
5 some of us more gracefully than others, and you would think
6 that pedophiles at some point would find other activities
7 to occupy their time. I'm pretty sure that in this case
8 this predator was a voracious predator who would stop at
9 nothing to continue having access to the weakest link of
10 our society, which is the children. He will stop at
11 nothing. That's what I meant.

12 **MR. RUEL:** When you referred to -- you
13 called the Curé Desrosiers, did anything happen from their
14 part that you know of after that?

15 **MR. LAVOIE:** I have no idea. I do not know.
16 That was -- I had put the word out that I was going to be
17 pressing charges. I felt that people would look after
18 whatever, take care of the situation.

19 **THE COMMISSIONER:** And when was that phone
20 call to the parish priest?

21 **MR. LAVOIE:** I would say that was about a
22 month and a half, two months before seeing Heidi Sebalj or
23 something like that.

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Okay.

25 **MR. RUEL:** So, Mr. Commissioner, I just have

1 two or three questions.

2 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Sure.

3 **MR. RUEL:** And I think we would be ready to
4 adjourn, if you accept, of course.

5 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm.

6 **MR. RUEL:** Do you know where Mr. Sabourin --
7 at the time when you met with Constable Sebalj, do you know
8 where Mr. Sabourin was?

9 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, he was in Cornwall at that
10 time.

11 **MR. RUEL:** Okay.

12 **MR. LAVOIE:** But he soon moved to Montreal
13 at some point, but I don't have dates or times for that.

14 **MR. RUEL:** Is it fair to understand from
15 your testimony that when you pressed charges and you made
16 mention of the fact that he might still be active, you felt
17 that there was a sense of urgency to deal with the matter?

18 **MR. LAVOIE:** Yes, absolutely. Absolutely.

19 **MR. RUEL:** So, Mr. Commissioner, I think I
20 would ready to ---

21 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

22 So we will reconvene at 9:30 tomorrow
23 morning.

24 **MR. LAVOIE:** Merci.

25 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;

1 veuillez vous lever.

2 The hearing is now adjourned. La séance est
3 ajournée.

4 --- Upon adjourning at 4:37 p.m./

5 L'audience est ajournée à 16h37

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Sean Prouse a certified court reporter in the Province of Ontario, hereby certify the foregoing pages to be an accurate transcription of my notes/records to the best of my skill and ability, and I so swear.

Je, Sean Prouse, un sténographe officiel dans la province de l'Ontario, certifie que les pages ci-hautes sont une transcription conforme de mes notes/enregistrements au meilleur de mes capacités, et je le jure.



Sean Prouse, CVR-CM