

D-5H

RR#2 Forest Ont.  
P.O. Box 25, N0N 1J0

July 17/99

Mr. Don Elliott, QC.  
500 Exmouth St.  
Sarnia, Ontario

Dear Mr. Elliott,

We have continued to have serious offenses at Ipperwash Beach. We now seriously question the ability of the OPP or interest of the OPP to keep us safe.

On the long weekend in July on the Saturday A.M. approx. 1:30, a Mr. XXXXXXXXXXXX (in his fifties) and his friend XXXXXXXXXXXX from London, Ontario were assaulted by eight native youth, 18, 19 to 20 yrs. old on Mr. XXXXXXXXXXXX property. Mr. XXXXXXXXXXXX and his friend were thrown to the beach and kicked about their heads, chests & abdomens. Mr. XXXXXXXXXXXX was severely injured with facial wounds, broken ribs, etc. and rendered unconscious. He was treated at Strathroy Hospital. His friend, although also injured, was not so as seriously. Mr. XXXXXXXXXXXX has owned property on West Parkway Dr. Ipperwash Beach for over thirty years. Although he has experienced harassment problems, he was afraid to complain to the OPP for fear of further problems from natives. He always tried to avoid confrontation. He has a summer home here as well as a four unit rental. His family & some of his tourists were being threatened on his deeded property when these natives approached after consuming Budweiser beer. Mr. XXXXXXXXXXXX tried to talk to them to avoid any trouble. His female tourist ran to call 911 after the beating started. She had to call 911 seven times before the police came. After the incident when Anne McGowan reported OPP deserting us again and leaving the scene of a native confrontation, the Town made the OPP give us two OPP for Ipperwash exclusively. One to be here 10 pm to 2 am and the other specifically for the Beach areas 11 pm to 3 am.

The call to help XXXXXXXXXXXX was placed at 1:30 am. Neither policeman showed up right away. They waited for 6 cruisers from other areas of Lambton to be there for backup first.

The residents believe if these two had attended immediately XXXXXXXXXXXX would not have been beaten unconscious. These arrogant hooligans even went after the police who used pepper spray. The tourist who called 911 was renting from XXXXXXXXXXXX. She went to Grand Bend to make a positive I.D. on two native men the police caught. They also arrested 1 female native. She was let go on the Sunday morning. It is my understanding one more male was arrested Mon. July 5/99 in this incident. They have not been identified to us or the media because the OPP are refusing to release their names. We are outraged. Had it been one of us beating a native we'd be all over the front page. XXXXXXXXXXXX's tenant refused to stay here and left the day after to return to Toronto. He lost \$4,800.00 in income for her six week stay.

On July 13/99 Mr. XXXXXXXXXXXX who also resides on West Parkway Dr. Ipperwash was assaulted by XXXXXXXXXXXX, a native from Kettle Pt. Mr. Montgomery lives 2 doors over from a Ministry of Natural Resource property which has parking & a washroom. On July 13/99 at approx. 9:45pm., XXXXXXXXXXXX heard what he thought was firecrackers being lit off in the MNR property. 2 wks ago natives had deliberately set fire to this property. Fortunately the fire did not get out of hand, but the grass & bramble are very dry due to no rain. XXXXXXXXXXXX approached the property cautioning the natives about possibly starting a fire and to do what they were doing in a safer area. XXXXXXXXXXXX lit a Roman Candle firecracker and pointed it at XXXXXXXXXXXX. XXXXXXXXXXXX was burned on the chest & abdomen by the firecracker shooting out. The native then chased XXXXXXXXXXXX with an axe threatening to kill him. XXXXXXXXXXXX got home & got the OPP. Another resident walking his dog on the beach saw the native run onto the beach & identified him by name to the OPP. We still have not been informed what this native is charged with. Mr. XXXXXXXXXXXX has had his home vandalized 7 times in the last year, his vehicle stolen & burned and now he himself has been burned. This man is hardly up here. His home here is

only 7 yrs. old. He lives in Brampton and now has stated he will not come back here and has put his house up for sale.

XXXXXXXXXXXX did however go to XXXXXXXXXXXX of the Forest Standard and also to OPP in Forest to complain about the shoddy protection for residents here.

Re: Another Issue.

Larry Parks of OPP – acting as a native liaison officer between Kettle Pt, Stoney Pt at the Base & the OPP confirmed through the Police Committee Meeting July 14/99 that the Anishinabek Native Police will be patrolling West Ipperwash Beach. The residents there are outraged because we pay \$300.00 per house for OPP under the Bosanquet policing agreement.

OPP ?????? reason for this is that there are not enough OPP officers because of those needed in Grand Bend. It was the OPP Brass that assured Lambton County 68 OPP officers was sufficient to fulfill the contract. 22 – 28 officers are sent to Grand Bend. We feel that directing traffic, liquor offenses & parking tickets in Grand Bend is not as important as the life threatening situations we have at Ipperwash. If the OPP need Anishinabek why are they not being rotated to Forerst, ??????, ??????, Grand Bend, etc. The Anishinabek will not deal with a native situation at all, never mind on the West Beach.

We are being totally compromised all around. Someone is going to get killed and you know what? I don't think anything will change.

I believe the real reason the Anishinabek have been asked by OPP to patrol the West Beach is because of XXXXXXXXXXXX's incident where the police walked away. They just will not deal with native offenses on the West Beach.

We are a community ready to fire the OPP and get RCMP in here if possible. Let's face it the OPP will not go on the Base, Ipperwash Park, Kettle Point Reserve or the West Ipperwash Beach. What is left to police here at \$300.00/ house?

Sincerely,

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