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HI

July 31, 1995

Hon. Charles Harnick
Attorney General
720 Bay St., 11th Floor
Toronto, Ont.
M5G 2K1

Dear Mr. Harnick:

I met on July 30, 1995 with a number of people representing the West Ipperwash Property Owners' Association.

Before I proceed any further, let me tell you that in Lambton riding we have two First Nation communities, Walpole Island, and Kettle and Stoney Point. I am sure that you are familiar with the Kettle and Stoney Point community.

My concern is with the residents of Ipperwash Beach that I have met with. They have a unique situation to deal with and honestly, Charles, I need help, advice and direction as this is a difficult and sensitive situation in this riding.

Tensions have again escalated over this past weekend and my constituents have the following concerns:

1. As of May, 1995, the Association has spent \$214,000 and the Town of Bosanquet \$67,000 in legal fees to defend the civil action brought on by members of the Kettle and Stoney Point band. The residents are being sued individually (114) for trespassing, etc. on native lands.
2. The Province has apparently been put on notice that it will also be sued.
3. Residents are faced with a situation whereby they cannot sell their properties because of the legal action taken.
4. Residents have to pay property taxes while the ownership of their property is in the hands of the court system.

5. Apparently this is a unique situation in Canada as it is the only case where third party action has been taken by the First Nation.
6. There is a lot of intimidation going on at the moment and the residents feel threatened.
7. Law enforcement is basically non-existent and the O.P.P. does not seem too keen in getting involved.
8. Residents are stressed out and the situation is becoming unbearable.

Charles, we need to meet as soon as possible with the residents before this situation becomes even more complex. I need advice on how the Province wants to proceed in this matter. There are many other issues which we have to address.

Hoping to hear from you in the near future.

Sincerely,



Marcel Beaubien, M.P.P.

P.S. I have been briefed by Staff Sergeant W. Lacroix of the Petrolia O.P.P. detachment this morning.

MB:fm

C.C. Ralph Dailey, President, West Ipperwash Property Owners' Assc.

Fred Thomas, Mayor, Town of Bosanquet

Hon. Bob Runciman

Beaubien opens a Toronto office

Marcel Beaubien, Lambton MPP and parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, has now opened his Toronto office.

The office address is 11th Floor, 801 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario, M7A 2B2. The phone number is (416) 326-3064 and fax number is (416) 325-3213.

The Toronto office is staffed by executive assistant Wayne Beaton and is open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

One other staff person will be hired at a later date.