



Ontario
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March 24, 2000

Mary-Lou LaPratte
P.O. Box 25
R.R.#2
Forest, Ontario
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Dear Ms. LaPratte:

I thank you for your letter dated February 21, 2000. I realize the level of your frustration is rising, and quite rightfully so. I would like to assure you that I am not hiding behind any lawsuit. However, I must abide by the legal advice my lawyer is providing me with respect to these matters.

In your letter, you asked some very specific questions to which I will attempt to give specific answers. However, you seem to imply that the provincial government has an equal say with respect to the issues surrounding Ipperwash. This is not the case. It is the federal government that has jurisdiction in these matters.

1. I am not privy to any information on the Ipperwash Provincial Park negotiations, except for the fact that there are ongoing discussions. However, what is said, about what and by whom -I do not know, and I can tell you that this issue has absolutely nothing to do with the lawsuit against me.
2. I also am not privy to any information concerning the round table meetings. I do not know who sits at them or what is discussed. Once again, this issue is totally unrelated to the lawsuit against me.
3. Because I am not on the negotiating team and I am not privileged to their deliberations, I do not know what can be expected in terms of compensation. However, my position has been well documented and it has not changed. Furthermore, this issue is unrelated to the lawsuit.

* You are quite right - more information concerning the issues you raised should be made available. But the fact of the matter is I cannot give you this information because I do not have it. I believe it is quite likely that I am not able to obtain this kind of information because of the lawsuit.

You will know that I have expended a lot of effort with respect to these matters and quite frankly I find your comments a little disheartening. I am doing my best in spite of the

circumstances and so I will attribute your comments to an increasing level of frustration which I share.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marcel".

Marcel Beaubien, M.P.P.
Lambton-Kent-Middlesex
MB/jv