

6-29-2004

The Ipperwash Inquiry - Symposium on Government/Police Relations: Memorandum Re June 28-29, 2004 Symposium

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Parties with Part Two Standing

FROM: Nye Thomas
Director, Policy and Research
Ipperwash Inquiry

DATE: June 4, 2004

RE: Ipperwash Inquiry/Osgoode Hall Law School
Symposium on Police/Government Relations

The Ipperwash Inquiry and Osgoode Hall Law School have agreed to jointly sponsor and administer a one-day academic research symposium on the subject of the relationship between the police and government. This project will include:

- An academic research and public symposium;
- Production and distribution of research papers from experts in relevant disciplines; and,
- Publication of a background volume of symposium papers and related material.

The symposium represents a unique partnership between one of Canada's leading law schools and a major public inquiry. The symposium is a major component of Part Two of the Ipperwash Inquiry.

SYMPOSIUM DATE AND LOCATION

The symposium will be held on Tuesday, June 29, 2004. The symposium will start at 8:30 am and conclude at 5:00 pm. The symposium will be held at the Osgoode Professional Development Centre, 1 Dundas Street West, 26th Floor, Toronto, Ontario.

The Inquiry and Osgoode Hall Law School will also host an evening reception and dinner on the evening of Monday, June 28, 2004. The reception and dinner will be held at the Delta Chelsea Hotel, located at 33 Gerrard Street West, Toronto, Ontario. The reception will begin at 6:30pm and dinner will begin at 7:00pm.

As you no doubt realize, the reception and dinner fall on the same day (June 28) as the federal election. Planning for this event preceded the election call and we are unable to move event. We will, however, maintain a tight schedule so that people will be able to watch the returns as soon as possible.

ATTENDANCE AT RECEPTION AND SYMPOSIUM

All parties with Part Two Standing at the Inquiry are invited to attend the reception and symposium. ***Because space is limited, each party will be limited to two persons at both events.***

Members of the public and the media will be invited to attend the symposium. Space constraints may limit the ability to accommodate all members of the public who wish to attend. As noted above, however, all the conference materials will be available on the Inquiry website after the conference.

The Commissioner and Inquiry counsel and staff will attend the conference.

SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

The symposium will address the following issues:

- Core Principles of the Government /Police Relationship;
- The Legal Sites of Government-Police Relations;
- The History and the Future of the Politics of Policing;
- An International and Comparative Perspective;
- Government-Police Relations in an Aboriginal Context;
- The Oversight of Government-Police Relations in Canada: The Constitution, the Courts, Administrative Processes and Democratic Governance

Mr. Justice Peter Cory will open the conference at the evening reception with a speech entitled "Reflections on Recent Experience with Public Inquiries."

A draft agenda is attached. Refreshments, coffee, and lunch will be provided.

SYMPOSIUM PAPERS

The Inquiry and Osgoode have commissioned six academic-quality research papers to be distributed and/or presented at the symposium.

The researchers selected to author and present the commissioned papers represent a diverse mix of scholars who are leading experts in relevant areas of concern to the Inquiry, including:

- Professor Kent Roach, Faculty of Law, University of Toronto.
- Professor Dianne Martin, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University.
- Professor Margaret Beare, Department of Sociology and Osgoode Hall Law School, York University.
- Professor Philip Stenning, Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand.
- Professor Gordon Christie, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University.
- Professor Lorne Sossin, Faculties of Law and Political Science, University of Toronto.

The Inquiry and Osgoode will also commission several subject-matter experts to attend the symposium and comment on the research papers.

The papers will use a multi-disciplinary, comparative, and case study-based methodologies to provide concrete examples, ideas, and theoretical models. They are intended, from their various perspectives, to help the Inquiry flesh out the ways that the interaction between police independence and democratic governance/accountability has played out in different countries and in different settings. The authors have been asked to illustrate their ideas with concrete examples. The authors have also been asked to reflect the diversity of opinion that exists within their topic areas. This approach reflects the Inquiry's public education and public policy development mandate. In all instances, identification of principles and options policy have been strongly encouraged.

The papers are not intended or expected to provide final answers. The papers will form only a part of the information that the Commissioner and Inquiry will have available in considering this issue. Other information will include public submissions by parties with standing and the public and the evidence presented at Part One of the Inquiry. The goal is to provide a framework for ongoing discussion and to provoke innovative, creative and practical ideas that will also stand alone as an academic and intellectual contribution to an important matter of public policy.

Finally, the writers have been asked to avoid discussing or speculating on the specific facts surrounding the death of Dudley George or the role of the police or government in the Ipperwash matter. These issues will be canvassed in Part One of the Inquiry. It would be inappropriate and premature for authors to draw any conclusions regarding Ipperwash in the absence of a comprehensive factual record that has been tested in evidential hearings.

DISTRIBUTION AND PUBLICATION OF SYMPOSIUM PAPERS

The commissioned papers, any commissioned commentaries, and a summary of the discussion at the symposium will be published on the Inquiry's website. We will attempt to distribute drafts of the papers prior to the conference. At the latest, drafts will be distributed to parties at the conference.

The Inquiry and Osgoode will also facilitate the publication of a background volume of symposium papers and related material by an academic publisher following completion of the Inquiry.

PARTY SUBMISSIONS

As noted above, parties will be invited to review and comment upon the draft papers and commentaries after the conference. Papers will not be finalized until parties have had a reasonable opportunity to comment.

RECORDING

The full day sessions, including participant discussions, will be audio recorded. The Inquiry and Osgoode will prepare a summary of the symposium discussion to be posted on the Inquiry website.

PARTICIPATION/DISBURSEMENT FUNDING

As noted in my May 25th, 2004 memo, the Inquiry will consider providing disbursement funding to parties with Part Two standing to facilitate their participation in the symposium. Applications for disbursement funding should be made in writing and should specify who is likely to attend and the sum requested.

The Inquiry will consider these applications in accordance with relevant provincial government guidelines.

REGISTRATION

Parties must register in writing by sending an email or fax to my attention at the following address:

Noelle Spotton
Policy Counsel
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(f) 416-314-9393
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The letter or email must specify:

- Who is attending
- Which event will be attended (the reception, the symposium or both)
- Organizational affiliation (if any)
- Whether participation/disbursement funding is requested and what sum is requested.

You must forward your registration to the Inquiry by Friday, June 18th, 2004 to guarantee seats at the conference.

All registrations will be confirmed in writing.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND MATERIAL

The Inquiry will distribute a final agenda and other materials prior to the conference.