

New Brunswick's

SHAME

KINGSCLEAR

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT



PETER GOLDRING

The Kingsclear Boys Training School staff in Fredericton, New Brunswick has been a shameful story of massive child abuse and unconscionable political cover-up.

The following is an article written by Peter Goldring and published in the *Fredericton Daily Gleaner*, November 12, 2003.

New Brunswick's Kingsclear Boys training school affair has been an incredible saga of justice gone awry.

The numbers are staggering, involving no less than 1,400 known sexual assaults, over 35 years, attested to by 233 victims. The victims identified Karl Toft and 14 others. Unbelievably, only one person, Toft, alone atones, with a 13-year sentence greatly shortened by parole.

Toft, who admits to 200 sexual assaults alone, was only subject to 34 charges, relating to 14 boys. Inexplicably, additional charges were stayed. Now in receipt of a government pension for his 35 years of "hard work," Toft walks the streets unescorted, while Edmonton community residents quite justifiably fear for their children's safety, and

wonder how this person could possibly be set free.

Canada's weak laws allow many serial, incorrigible pedophiles to return to the street, while in New Brunswick known pedophiles avoid justice altogether. It has been repeatedly made known by the Kingsclear victims that there were many more than just Toft involved in the organized sexual assaults on New Brunswick's disadvantaged youth, yet Canada's justice system strangely remains mute to accusing others.



Peter Goldring standing in front of the Kingsclear Reformatory in New Brunswick

Even New Brunswick Justice Richard L. Miller, head of the narrowly mandated 1992 Miller Inquiry into the abuse at Kingsclear, spoke out repeatedly in frustration over the inquiry's inability to get to the bottom of the real issue as to who in high govern-

ment office outside of the Kingsclear institution - were the parasites preying on the boys. Unfortunately (though conveniently for the abusers), the inquiry was not charged with the specific task of carrying out an investigation to that extent.

In the fall of 2002, Edmonton lawyer Casey O'Byrne issued a civil statement of claim, on



behalf of four victims, against the RCMP itself and specifically against a former senior member of the RCMP, Staff Sgt. Clifford McCann, who was on active duty during the Kingsclear days.

The accusations are very disturbing and so graphic that the wonderment is why the RCMP did not lay charges long ago. Most sexual assault charges are typically laid based on a single complainant. Accusations such as these should have been answered expeditiously, as confidence in our national police force is at risk.

How could the public now have confidence that the RCMP has fairly concluded its lengthy investigation into the Kingsclear affair and still was impartial, given a civil claim against itself and against one of its former senior members? Furthermore, as exemplified by the following letter extract from the federal solicitor general to me of Dec. 4, 2002, his comments reflect both confusion on his part and further detachment on the part of the RCMP:

“The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in J Division (New Brunswick) has informed me that the investigation was reopened in October, 2001. I have been assured that that RCMP has completed a very thorough investigation, and that the complainants were advised of the results . . .

However, with respect to the allegations concerning the actions of a retired member of the RCMP, this investigation is ongoing and, as such, it would be inappropriate for me to comment further at this time.”



RCMP New Brunswick "J" Division Headquarters

If the investigation into Kingsclear was completed, the investigations of a retired RCMP member must have been completed too, since both are interrelated and inseparable.

Of greater concern is whether the solicitor general's view as to it being "inappropriate to comment" is simply stalling or just an excuse to not have to respond to calls for information.

Stalling long enough can relieve the courts of the messy business of trying the living. Dead men can't be tried.

The fact of the ongoing investigation and the consequent "inappropriateness" of ministerial comment were used as one of the reasons to reject a recent parliamentary committee motion to have a review of the Kingsclear affair and to conduct a committee investigation. The minister's letter continues to confound those trying to elicit parliamentary resolve to get to the truth of matters.

On Dec. 11, 2002, I introduced a Private Member's Motion, M328, in the House of Commons, by which



I called on Parliament to mandate a review by a committee completely independent of the RCMP of the entire proceedings of the Kingsclear Training School Affair to date, including the investigations, which followed the release of the Miller Inquiry report. My motion has not yet been debated.

Irrespective of the reality, the optics speak of neglect, dereliction of duty, deal-making, concealment and cover-up, with many pedophiles involved and all but one, Karl Toft, getting off free. Was a deal made to make Toft the fall guy, and another for him to avoid dangerous offender status, to enable him to walk free some day? How many victims' rights to prosecute have been bought off with compensation settlements intended to protect high-placed, guilty pedophiles? With a poorly explained investigation, anything is possible.

There is a litany of reasons why justice must now be served in the Kingsclear affair. Many hundreds of boys were sexually assaulted. Former RCMP Staff Sgt. McCann is now facing civil accusations by four former inmates of actions amounting to serious criminal misconduct.

A pedophile ring was acting under the nose of New Brunswick corrections' officers and the RCMP. The silence was bought by the New Brunswick

government, through the pay out of millions of taxpayers' dollars to victims.

After that, a weak penalty was arranged for fall guy pedophile Karl Toft, who conveniently avoided a dangerous sexual offender hearing. Shamefully, accused community leaders and a senior RCMP officer are free of any charges.

The victims want closure, through bringing to justice all who are guilty. Karl Toft did not act alone.

Nobody believes that an investigation, supposedly under way, in one form or another, for 20 years, could come to no clear conclusions and result in no



Kingsclear School access road blocked on day of Press Conference with Peter Goldring

criminal charges.

No less than the reputation of Canada's national police force is at stake here. Some victims have been told by RCMP not to lay complaints because the RCMP would not investigate the complaints, or nothing would be done, even if an investigation took place.

The so-called investigation of Kingsclear has resulted in little more than a vile carpet, bulging with the mess of pedophile vice swept under it.

The New Brunswick Kingsclear pedophile ring went to high community officers.

The victims want and rightly expect that the trail will be followed and that justice will be done. It is a fundamental principle of our justice system that no one is above the law.

That principle must be applied to bring New Brunswick pedophiles to justice.

The solicitor general must seize the Kingsclear and post-Kingsclear investigation files and appoint an

independent investigator to review the proceedings and then report the findings to Parliament.

The clouds of doubt must be removed from the Kingsclear investigation.

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Update—December 5, 2003

After 30 years and many many press releases, questions, interviews, newspaper stories along with a recent CBC Documentary Special "One of Their Own" reported by Caroline Dunn, incoming Prime Minister Paul Martin has stated that the Kingsclear—McCann issue will be investigated.

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This brochure series is intended to highlight special issues that Member of Parliament, Peter Goldring, has been involved in. If you wish to comment, please take a moment and fill out the survey below, write or call to the address above.

Your Opinion Matters...

Do you believe that the RCMP should investigate themselves on serious criminal accusations?

- Yes No No Opinion

Do you believe Karl Toft should be declared a dangerous offender?

- Yes No No Opinion

Do you believe all pedophiles should be named on a national sex offender registry?

- Yes No No Opinion

Comments: _____

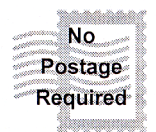
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