



MEDIA ADVISORY

January 16, 2009

Cornwall Public Inquiry Phase 2 policy discussion workshop:

Final Inquiry policy discussion to address duty to report child abuse

(Cornwall, ON) The last of a series of policy workshops has been scheduled by the Cornwall Public Inquiry. The final workshop will focus on issues around the duty to report child abuse and will be held on January 20, 2009. The workshops have been on-going for the past several years, as part of Phase 2 work to create ways to foster healing and reconciliation in the Cornwall community.

“The issue of the duty to report child abuse, the information about it and other supports related to it, are issues that have been raised as being of public policy interest,” said Colleen Parrish, Director of Policy for the Cornwall Public Inquiry. “It was important to our Phase 2 work that we bring this issue to the public in the form of a policy discussion workshop.”

The policy workshop will provide the public with an opportunity to hear presentations by several qualified panelists including Professor and Associate Dean Carol Stalker, Professor Amanda Topham and Ms Maureen Reid. Professor Stalker, of Wilfred Laurier University, is the chief author of the research paper “*Policy and Practices of Child Welfare Agencies in Response to Complaints of Child Sex Abuse 1960-2006*”. Professor Topham, of King’s University College, University of Western Ontario, also worked on the research paper, examining various jurisdictional responses to child abuse over time. Ms Reid, of the Children’s Aid Society of London and Middlesex, is an experienced social worker and program manager with extensive experience in responding to physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children.

Colleen Parrish, Director of Policy, will moderate the session. Following a presentation by panelists, there will be an opportunity for questions from counsel of the parties and questions/brief comments from the public. All are welcome on a first come, first seated basis. Simultaneous translation will be available.

To register, contact Lori Loseth at 613-938-7102 or e-mail her at lori.loseth@ontario.ca.

Workshop Details

Date: January 20, 2009
Time: 7 to 9 p.m.
Location: St. Lawrence Ballroom

Ramada Inn
805 Brookdale Ave., Cornwall

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For more information:
(613) 294-5679