

**THE CORNWALL
PUBLIC INQUIRY**



**L'ENQUÊTE PUBLIQUE
SUR CORNWALL**

Public Hearing

Audience publique

Commissioner

**The Honourable Justice /
L'honorable juge
G. Normand Glaude**

Commissaire

VOLUME 69

Held at :

Hearings Room
709 Cotton Mill Street
Cornwall, Ontario
K6H 7K7

Thursday, November 16, 2006

Tenue à:

Salle des audiences
709, rue de la Fabrique
Cornwall, Ontario
K6H 7K7

Jeudi, le 16 novembre 2006

Appearances/Comparutions

Mr. Peter Engelmann	Lead Commission Counsel
M ^e Simon Ruel	Commission Counsel
Ms. Chrsitine Morris	
Ms. Maya Hamou	
Ms. Louise Mongeon	Registrar
Ms. Reena Lalji	Cornwall Police Service Board
Mr. Neil Kozloff	Ontario Provincial Police
Actg.Det.Supt.Colleen McQuade	
Ms. Diane Lahaie	
Dect.Staff Sgt.Colin Groskopf	
Mr. David Rose	Ontario Ministry of Community
Mr. Mike Lawless	and Correctional Services and Adult Community Corrections
Mr. Darrell Kloeze	Attorney General for Ontario
Mr. Peter Chisholm	The Children's Aid Society of the United Counties
Mr. Peter Wardle	Citizens for Community Renewal
Mr. Dallas Lee	Victims Group
Mr. William Carroll	Ontario Provincial Police Association
Ms. Nadya Tymochenko	Upper Canada District School
Ms. Nicola Simmons	Board
Ms. Roberta Archambault	Ms. Roberta Archambault

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1 --- Upon commencing at 9:36 a.m./

2 L'audience débute à 9h36

3 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
4 veuillez vous lever.

5 This hearing of the Cornwall Public Inquiry
6 is now in session. The Honourable Mr. Justice Normand
7 Glaude presiding.

8 Please be seated. Veuillez vous asseoir.

9 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you. Good morning,
10 all.

11 Mr. Engelmann?

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Good morning, Mr.
13 Commissioner.

14 The next witness the Commission will be
15 calling is Roberta Archambault. I am wondering if the
16 witness could be affirmed?

17 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

18 **ROBERTA ARCHAMBAULT, Affirmed/Sous affirmation solennelle:**

19 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Good morning, Ms.
20 Archambault.

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Good morning.

22 **THE COMMISSIONER:** How are you doing today?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Not bad.

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

25 As you know, folks here are going to ask you

1 some questions today. I want you to take your time when
2 you're answering, that if there is a question you don't
3 understand or if you feel uncomfortable about something,
4 just look over and tell me that either you want a break or
5 you don't understand the question. Questions will be wide
6 ranging and going back a fair bit in your memory, so if
7 there is something you don't remember, that's okay as well.
8 All right?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

10 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. So Mr.
11 Engelmann is going to start asking you some questions.

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Okay.

13 **--- EXAMINATION IN-CHIEF BY/INTERROGATOIRE EN CHEF PAR MR.**
14 **ENGELMANN:**

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Good morning.

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Good morning.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I understand you'd like me
18 to call you by your first name.

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So I'll call you Roberta.

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And, Roberta, your maiden
23 name was Judd?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, it was.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

1 Roberta, I understand that you are a member
2 of the Victims Group?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I am.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And that you are represented
5 by Mr. Lee and his firm?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I am.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I also understand that
8 that's more recent than some of his other clients. So you
9 would not have sworn an affidavit, for example?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, I wouldn't.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Yes. Because you joined the
12 Victims Group after they had standing here?

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Only two weeks ago, so
14 yes.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

16 Can you tell us your date of birth?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** May 15th, 1965.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And let me just think about
19 that. You would be 41 years of age?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Forty-one (41).

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

22 Roberta, I understand you have children of
23 your own?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I do.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How many?

1 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Two.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: Are they boys or girls?

3 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Two girls.

4 MR. ENGELMANN: Two girls.

5 Roberta, you understand that at this Inquiry
6 we're looking into how institutions have responded to
7 allegations of child abuse, in particular child sexual
8 abuse?

9 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I do.

10 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

11 I understand that for a large part of your
12 youth, you were in the care of the Children's Aid Society
13 of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry?

14 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I was.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: It's my understanding that
16 you have alleged that you were physically, mentally and
17 sexually abused while you were in the care of the
18 Children's Aid Society?

19 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: Roberta, I understand that
21 in or about 1980 you would have first disclosed this to a
22 worker at the Children's Aid Society?

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I did.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: Do you remember the worker's
25 name?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Bryan Keough.

2 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. Did you tell Bryan
3 Keough about all those forms of abuse that you alleged or
4 just some of them?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I told him about the
6 mental and the physical. It wasn't until recently that the
7 sexual abuse I suffered when I was younger ---

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Became ---

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** --- came back to me. I
10 blocked it from myself.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And that was the
12 sexual abuse that you allege occurred at the first foster
13 home, correct?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You had told people about
16 sexual abuse at a subsequent foster home?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

19 Roberta, I understand that you have several
20 brothers and a sister?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I have five brothers, one
22 sister and a half sister.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

24 You were the youngest child in the family?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I am.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Were all of your siblings
2 taken into the care of the Children's Aid Society?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** The seven of us that lived
4 with my mother at the time were taken all at once.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And, Roberta, my
6 understanding is that that happened in 1970, when you were
7 five.

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And I also understand that
10 you became a permanent ward of the Children's Aid Society
11 in 1972 when you were approximately seven?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Is it also true that you
14 were in the care of the Children's Aid Society from 1970
15 until approximately 1984?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I was.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So that's about 14 years?

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And your age then would have
20 been from about age five (5) to age 19?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, it was.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Roberta, I understand while
23 you were in the care of the Children's Aid Society you
24 lived in more than one foster home?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I did.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You lived in a home that was
2 owned by the Huberts?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** For approximately 10 years?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Then you lived in a home
7 known as Lapensee?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** For approximately a couple
10 of years?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, a couple of years.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You were there for a while,
13 then you left for a while, then you came back?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I was gone for a
15 couple of months and came back.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And then there was a
17 home you lived in for a very short period of time, the
18 Lalonde home?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, it was just a stay-
20 over basically.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And then the last home you
22 lived in for any length of time was the Durand home?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So I have got them all then?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, you do.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Can you just give us a sense
2 -- I know you were young -- about your family situation and
3 what you can remember just before you went into the care of
4 the Children's Aid Society when you were five?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, we used to have a lot
6 of fun, my siblings and I. There were different people
7 that came in, including my grandparents, tried to take care
8 of us. There's a couple down the street that took care of
9 us, that took care of me. My mother was there once in a
10 while and one day, she went in the hospital. She came back
11 after some woman was taking care of us and it was shortly
12 thereafter that this woman showed up and packed us all into
13 a white ---

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Station wagon?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Pardon?

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** A big station wagon?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** A white station wagon.

18 Thank you. I couldn't think of the word, a white station
19 wagon and we were gone, no explanation, no nothing.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** That was shortly after your
21 mom became ill?

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** When she got back from the
23 hospital.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. Roberta, I understand
25 that you were removed from the home then in approximately

1 September of 1970?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

3 MR. ENGELMANN: Do you remember the day?

4 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I remember crystal clear.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: And the first home you were
6 taken to, that's a home that was owned by Hannah and
7 Boleslaw Hubert?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: And where did they live?

10 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Riverside Heights, just
11 before Morrisburg.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. Despite the fact that
13 this was near Morrisburg, this was the Children's Aid
14 Society of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry?

15 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, it was.

16 MR. ENGELMANN: Do you know why that was?

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Why what was?

18 MR. ENGELMANN: Why this was within the
19 Children's Aid Society of Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I have no idea.

21 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. Roberta, I understand
22 that not all of your siblings, not all of your brothers and
23 sisters went to the Hubert home?

24 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No, I didn't see my
25 brothers until I don't know whether it was Christmas or

1 summer following the taking. As soon as we were taken from
2 my mother, my sister and I were put in a room and I never
3 saw them again until I think it was the summertime during a
4 meeting on a beach.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: The following year?

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, across the beach.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: I understand you didn't see
8 your brothers very often?

9 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: That's the only time I
10 remember seeing my brothers.

11 MR. ENGELMANN: The next summer?

12 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

13 MR. ENGELMANN: And you and your sister were
14 placed in the Hubert home?

15 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

16 MR. ENGELMANN: And you told us you were the
17 youngest. How much older was she than you?

18 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: She is three years older
19 than I am.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: And her name was Jennifer or
21 Jenny?

22 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Jennifer. They called her
23 Jenny.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: Yes and you were called
25 Birdie?

1 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: Did the Huberts have any
3 children of their own that were living in the home when you
4 and Jenny joined them?

5 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: They had a daughter that
6 was two years older than I was and they had an older
7 daughter and an older son living in the home, but they were
8 nine or ten years older than their youngest daughter.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: So you would have been five
10 when you moved there and your sister Jenny was about eight?

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: And they had a younger ---

13 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: They had a daughter that
14 was a year younger than her.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: And during the 10 or so
16 years that you lived in the Hubert home, were there other
17 foster children who were placed there?

18 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

19 MR. ENGELMANN: And were any of them placed
20 for long periods of time like you and Jenny?

21 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: So let's just start from the
23 beginning, first impressions of the home when you arrived.

24 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: First impressions of the
25 home on the way there was great. The drive there to their

1 house was -- I was told how beautiful I was. I remember
2 them stroking my hair in the car. And then I remember when
3 we got there, being taken upstairs to the bathroom and
4 being stripped down in front of a couple members of the
5 family, about four or five -- my sister and I being
6 stripped down and put in the tub and washed out with lice
7 soap.

8 And I knew there was something that had to
9 be wrong right there and then because all of a sudden this
10 nice woman went to this bitter woman saying, "Burn
11 everything because I don't want that lice and dirt in my
12 house."

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Burn what, Roberta?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** All my belongings and all
15 my sister's belongings. I thought how degrading it was
16 even at the age of five to have a bunch of adults watching
17 me be bathed.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Now, you have alleged that
19 you were verbally, mentally, physically and sexually abused
20 in this home.

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Which started first?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** The verbal abuse.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How soon after you arrived
25 did that start?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Right after the first
2 Christmas.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How long did you think you
4 were going to be there when you first got there? Did you
5 have any expectation?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I was told as soon as my
7 mother stopped drinking and got the help she needed I'd be
8 taken -- she'd take me back. We'd be a family again all of
9 us. I was left with that impression until I found out we
10 were Crown wards.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Which happened in 1972?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So until then, you hoped to
14 go back to your mother's?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I never stopped hoping.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And after that, did you have
17 some hopes or expectations about being adopted?

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** The way my sister told me,
19 the chance to be adopted, I was ecstatic. I wanted out of
20 there by then so bad. And when she told me no because she
21 wasn't going to say yes, I was praying they'd ask me
22 because I would have left right there on the spot with or
23 without her.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you have a sense when
25 that happened, Roberta, the possibility for an adoption?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I think I was about seven
2 or eight because I know she was older than I was. I don't
3 really remember how old I was. All I remember is her
4 telling me about it.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.
6 What happened? How did this come up? Did a
7 family come to visit you or was this the ---

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- from the Children's Aid?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Nobody ever spoke to me
11 about it but my sister, she came down into the basement on
12 the excuse of doing something and she snuck into the room -
13 - my bedroom was in the basement -- and she told me we had
14 a chance to be adopted, but she was told to say "No" and
15 that's what she was going to do.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** She was told to say no, she
17 didn't want to be adopted?

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Even though she wanted to
19 get out too, she was told to say no and that's what she was
20 going to do.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

22 Told to say no by whom?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** By Mr. and Mrs. Hubert,
24 that we were happy there.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you were not adopted?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No. I wasn't even asked
2 about it.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Now, you've talked about
4 verbal abuse starting that first Christmas. Can you just
5 give us an example of what you mean by verbal abuse or an
6 allegation of verbal abuse?

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They spoke Polish and
8 German and shortly afterwards, when they asked me to do
9 something, even if it was in German or anything like that
10 and I didn't understand, you could tell just by the way
11 they were talking it was -- I came to understand later on
12 that they were actually insulting me left, right and
13 centre.

14 But they told me basically that -- it was
15 after the -- before summertime showed up, that I was excess
16 baggage, that the only reason I was there was because my
17 sister and I were a package deal and they wanted their
18 daughter to have a sibling to grow up with around her age.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So this started fairly early
20 on?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you and your sister talk
23 about this? Do you remember?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** We weren't allowed to
25 talk. When I was told this, it was after Christmas. We

1 were told that we weren't even allowed to speak to each
2 other anymore. I had to earn my keep if I wanted to stay.
3 We weren't allowed to talk to each other. If we were
4 caught talking, there would be consequences.

5 My consequence for talking to her was I
6 would get boxed in the ears. I would get hit. I would get
7 hit with anything that he had on hand, including his hand,
8 whether it be a cane, his leg brace, kicked with his steel-
9 toed boots. Her punishment was to watch me be beaten if
10 she was caught talking to me. So we learned not to speak.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** This is what you mean by
12 physical abuse?

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** M'hm.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And how old were you when
15 that started?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That was the same summer.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. The summer after you
18 got there. So that would have been in 1971.

19 Now, did a worker from the Children's Aid
20 Society come to the house from time to time?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They showed up.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And did you ever speak to
23 them or did they ask about how you were being treated?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They would ask how we were
25 being treated, but you can't say anything when your abuser

1 is sitting right in the next room. Like, I mean, I was
2 under the impression that I was going back to my mother's.
3 So I figured if I just shut up, I'll -- everything will go
4 away. Everything will stop. I'll go home. So I didn't
5 say anything. I knew there was a consequence to pay.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Were you told when the
7 Children's Aid Society worker would be coming to the house?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They always knew when they
9 were coming because -- I always knew when they were coming
10 because they would clean me up beforehand, put me in
11 clothes that were suitable. Like instead of wearing rags,
12 I would be wearing -- I would have to change, clean up. I
13 wasn't to work with the wood, work with the animals,
14 whatever have you. I was told to look like everything was
15 fine; everything was great. My hair would be washed or
16 brushed before they came over. My change of clothes would
17 be changed, everything.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And this was done by one of
19 the parents?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, I was told to do it.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay.

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Or my sister was told to
23 do it when I was younger.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you know about how often
25 you would have visits when you were younger from the

1 Children's Aid Society?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I don't remember. I
3 really don't.

4 MR. ENGELMANN: Do you remember how much
5 notice you would have? Would it be the morning of or the
6 day before? Do you remember?

7 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: If they were notified the
8 day before, they told me -- they dressed me appropriately
9 for school that day. They would tell me to stay in my
10 clothes from school. I dress in dirt -- in rags and I
11 would go out and work in the morning, cleaning up outside,
12 doing work outside, and then I would come in and get
13 changed to go to school. So I always looked appropriate
14 for school, and when I got home I would have to change
15 again into these grubby clothes. And if they knew a worker
16 was coming, I was told, "Don't change after school; the
17 worker is coming over."

18 MR. ENGELMANN: Did the worker ever come
19 over unexpectedly, to your knowledge?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Never. Never. Never.

21 MR. ENGELMANN: Did you ever have time alone
22 with the worker when you were a child?

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: It's not alone when -- we
24 would go into the living room, but the kitchen was right --
25 there was no door or anything to close off. There was no

1 privacy. You were never really alone because the person
2 was right in the next room and they could hear everything.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you never told one of the
4 Children's Aid workers about verbal or physical abuse at
5 that stage?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Not until I was in high
7 school.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Now, what about contacts
9 with your natural family? Did you have any contact from
10 your mother?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I remember seeing my
12 mother maybe two or three times.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you mentioned your
14 brothers the summer after. Did you have any further
15 contact with them?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No. My oldest brother
17 stopped in one summer, but that was for about 15 minutes.
18 That was it.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Were you told where they
20 were living?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No. I was given no
22 information on any of my family. My grandparents were told
23 to basically stay away after a while too.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did they come and visit for
25 a while?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They tried to. They
2 visited a couple of times, but they always called first.
3 Every time there was a visit from anyone, they always had
4 to call first.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Now, you've alleged that the
6 father in the home physically abused you from time to time
7 and you've given us some examples. Was that the extent of
8 it or were there others?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** He physically abused me
10 weekly.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I'm sorry?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** He physically abused me
13 weekly, just about daily at the end, and she started when I
14 was about 11. She started to beat me.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Was this also something that
16 your sister experienced, to your knowledge?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I only saw my sister get
18 hurt twice.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you ever have bruising
20 from this physical beating you've talked about?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Any bruises that ever came
22 up -- and I didn't bruise easy and I still don't -- any
23 bruises that came up, it was always covered up. They made
24 sure they always hit -- like other than boxing of the ears,
25 it was always done from the neck down and could be covered

1 with clothing.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: Did you ever go to a doctor
3 because of being hurt from physical abuse?

4 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: They wouldn't take me to a
5 doctor. They wouldn't.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: How often did you go for
7 medical visits?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Only when it was mandatory
9 from the Children's Aid for the yearly physical.

10 MR. ENGELMANN: So once a year?

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Once a year.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: You have told us that you
13 were also sexually abused. Who is it that you allege did
14 that?

15 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Are you talking about what
16 I remember, like now?

17 MR. ENGELMANN: What you remember now.

18 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: It was Mr. Hubert and it
19 started when I was -- when the adoption was turned down.
20 My sister turned down the adoption and we became Crown
21 wards.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: So that would have been
23 after 1972?

24 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

25 MR. ENGELMANN: So you would have been seven

1 or eight years old?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Seven or eight years old,
3 yes.

4 MR. ENGELMANN: And this is something that
5 has only come to you as an adult?

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I've had nightmares all my
7 life and I haven't slept at night all my life until the
8 early hours in the morning, and it was just recently, about
9 two months ago, two and a half months ago, that I figured
10 out what it was. It was like a mental block just undone.

11 MR. ENGELMANN: Are you getting some
12 counseling or some help ---

13 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I am.

14 MR. ENGELMANN: --- with this now?

15 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I am.

16 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. And this sexual abuse
17 that has now come back to you as an adult, where would that
18 take place?

19 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: It was a place where he
20 used to go. He used to take me fishing every time he went
21 fishing and he did that a lot to feed the chickens, to put
22 fish in the freezer. He used to do smoked eel, Mr. Hubert,
23 and he always took me with him and it started at a place we
24 called the private beach because you had to go down.
25 Nobody knew about -- not very many people knew about this

1 beach, and you drove about a half mile in by the far side
2 of the marina.

3 MR. ENGELMANN: This is a place that it
4 would just be the two of you that would go?

5 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes. He never took anyone
6 else.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: Did this happen anywhere
8 else, Roberta?

9 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: In the garage. Well, the
10 garage was an added attachment. The garage was one great
11 big place, but it was divided; one place for the cars, one
12 place for the dog kennels, and it had a Laz-Y-Boy chair in
13 it, carpeting, a big table, an upstairs.

14 MR. ENGELMANN: That's all in the garage?

15 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes. And where there was
16 the kennels, it was heated during the wintertime. That's
17 where it took place in the wintertime. In the summertime
18 it was usually at night when he would take me fishing with
19 him.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: How long did this go on,
21 thinking back?

22 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I remember Mrs. Hubert
23 taking me to see a doctor called Dr. Gourley just before I
24 left. That's when it stopped.

25 MR. ENGELMANN: So that would have been --

1 -

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Just before I told Bryan
3 Keough what was going on.

4 MR. ENGELMANN: So that would have been in
5 1980?

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yeah.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: And you would have been
8 about 15?

9 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

10 MR. ENGELMANN: Do you know if your older
11 sister experienced this as well?

12 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No. She just -- she
13 didn't even know about me.

14 MR. ENGELMANN: Did anyone know about this,
15 to your knowledge, or suspect anything was wrong?

16 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: The only one I could think
17 of suspecting anything would have been Hannah Hubert.

18 MR. ENGELMANN: That's the mother?

19 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: And that was when I was
20 11.

21 MR. ENGELMANN: Why do you say that? What
22 happened?

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: For some reason she
24 started hitting me in the stomach and telling me she made
25 damn sure I never reproduced.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I'm sorry?

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** She made sure I would damn
3 well never reproduce.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** That's what she said to you?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yeah.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you know what triggered
7 that?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** She found some alcohol.
9 He was supposed to have quit drinking and she found some
10 alcohol and just -- I don't know what else happened that
11 would have triggered her to do what she did.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you ever get admitted to
13 the hospital when you were a child living with the Huberts?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I was 11 years old. I
15 tried to commit suicide.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** What did you do?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I was supposed to go
18 upstairs and wash my hands, and because I was told that
19 their son -- I wasn't allowed to go see their son in
20 Cornwall here and he knew there was something wrong. He
21 would argue with his parents about it. And he was going to
22 take me for the weekend and she told me I had blown it
23 because one reason or another. I can't remember the
24 reason. I went upstairs and I just opened the cabinet in
25 the bathroom and I just started taking handfuls of pills

1 and I came downstairs and I sat at the kitchen table, my
2 little table out in the hall -- not the hall but the back
3 room, and I passed out in my dinner plate. I remember
4 being redressed and washed down and then waking up in the
5 hospital.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you were supposed to be
7 going away for the weekend?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** To one of their sons.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Who didn't live at home
10 obviously?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, he was married. He
12 liked me, him and his wife liked me and they were estranged
13 with Boleslaw and Hannah ---

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** --- because the fight was
16 about the way I was being treated. I knew that.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And when you weren't allowed
18 to go you took a lot of pills?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I figured he was going to
20 rescue me, him and his wife Suzanne were going to rescue
21 me, and when I realized I couldn't go there for the weekend
22 I figured I had -- I wasn't getting out so I tried to kill
23 myself.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you know what pills you
25 took?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** She had a range of pills
2 in there. There was nerve pills of all kinds in that
3 cupboard. I remember opening like four or five different
4 bottles and just taking half the bottle, just handfuls of
5 them.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So after you passed out at
7 the dinner table or at your dinner table ---

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I was -- pardon?

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You woke up in the hospital?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I was disoriented. My
11 head started reeling and I was disoriented and I started
12 falling off the chair and I remember them waking me up and
13 taking me into the living room -- like they had to go
14 through the kitchen and into the living room -- and his
15 chair was right there by the stairs and they got a
16 washcloth and everything and washed me down and changed me.
17 I remember being -- like hearing them talking about go get
18 this, go get that, and then we'll clean her up and then
19 we'll take her to the hospital, and that's what they did.

20 I don't remember the ride there. I remember
21 waking up in the hospital and asking for my sister. That
22 was my next memory was waking up and asking for my sister.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you know how long you
24 were in the hospital?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** A couple of days as far as

1 I know, two, three maybe.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: And did you tell anybody
3 what happened and why you were there?

4 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No, I assumed they knew.
5 When I got back from the hospital I assumed they knew
6 because there was a lock on the bathroom cupboard where all
7 her medications were.

8 MR. ENGELMANN: So you couldn't get into the
9 cupboard anymore?

10 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No, I couldn't. And my
11 sister knew.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: Did you talk to a doctor or
13 nurse about what happened?

14 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No, I didn't. Nobody
15 asked me what happens -- happened. I just assumed
16 everybody knew.

17 MR. ENGELMANN: Were you told at some time
18 later what other people said or thought happened?

19 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Not until I was out of the
20 Children's Aid did I find out; that they said it was a
21 cheerleading accident.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: A cheerleading accident?

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: A cheerleading accident.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: Were you cheerleading at 11
25 years of age?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I was doing cheerleading.
2 I was quite athletic. But I never took no falls in school
3 or anything like that.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Was there an issue about
5 convulsions at all, do you know, or seizure?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I don't remember. All I
7 remember is the passing out and that. I never had
8 convulsions in my -- I've never had them. Like I mean like
9 as far as I can ---

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Was there any follow-up with
11 the social worker or child care worker that you know of?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Nothing. Not even a
13 doctor. It was like it never happened. Everything went
14 back to the daily routine when I got back.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** As you said, you weren't
16 allowed -- or the cupboard was locked?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** The cupboard was locked.
18 The bathroom door was -- the lock was taken off the
19 bathroom door. I was not allowed to go in the bathroom and
20 lock the door.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you ever have a
22 discussion with the Huberts about what you did?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They never discussed it
24 with me.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Now, when did you first tell

1 anybody about any of the abuse that you alleged took place
2 in this home and what was the circumstance, anybody outside
3 of the home?

4 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I was down in the basement
5 scrubbing clothes before they were put in the washer, socks
6 and underwear before they were put in the washer -- that
7 was one of my jobs -- and Mrs. Hubert started insulting my
8 mother and calling her a whore, and I told her that she
9 wasn't my mother and she says "I am your mother." She says
10 "She's no longer your mother. I'm your mother and you'll
11 do as I say." And she says "Just for what you've done you
12 won't get the pants I bought you", and I said "I don't want
13 the damn pants" and she left the basement.

14 And I was called upstairs, cause he came in
15 at 10 o'clock every day, a little after 10:00 for coffee.
16 I was called upstairs and he kept telling me to come closer
17 and closer, and so I got close enough, just within reach,
18 and he grabbed me by the hair and he started pulling me
19 towards the basement stairs and slapping me around and
20 saying -- he started to open the basement door and he said
21 -- he told me not to -- his words were that she had said
22 "You swore at my wife. My wife said you told her that you
23 didn't want the f'n this" but he used the real words, and
24 called her everything under the sun. I mean, she told him
25 I swore up and down and he was trying to throw me down a

1 flight of stairs and I took off through the back bush and
2 he couldn't catch me because he had a bad leg.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you ran away?

4 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I ran away. I snuck back
5 from the fields and I grabbed my bike and some boots cause
6 I needed ---

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How old were you, Roberta?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Oh, God. I don't think I
9 was even out of public school yet. I think I was in grade
10 eight, seven, eight.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So 12 or 13?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

14 And where did you go?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I cut through the back
16 fields and over the railroad tracks and I biked down the
17 service road to a friend's house, Robin Seymor's (phonetic)
18 house, and I told her mother.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** What did you tell her?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I told her that he tried
21 to throw me down a flight of stairs and that he had beaten
22 me for a while and I told her about how I was excess
23 baggage and that I'd have to earn my keep. I told her as
24 much as I could. And she said "Everything is going to be
25 fine." She picked up the phone. She called them because

1 she -- I don't know whether she didn't believe me or what,
2 but she called them and they told her that everything was
3 fine and I was just overreacting, to have me come home
4 everything would be fine, and I knew that it was useless to
5 try and fight it so I went back.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So nobody contacted the
7 Children's Aid then? You went back home?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I went back. I went back
9 to that house, yes.

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Roberta, you stayed in that
11 home for another couple of years after that; correct?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And I understand that you
14 also had an altercation of a physical nature at school?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Is that correct?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I got in an argument, not
18 even an argument. Some girl in my homeroom who was three
19 times my size, I was so small, was picking on how poor I
20 was and nobody would want me and how ugly I was, and I just
21 -- I turned around and said something really insulting to
22 her and she said she'd get me at break, and at lunch hour I
23 went out to have a cigarette and she came up to me and
24 started beating me in the face. The teachers lounge was
25 right there. Nobody came out. I just stood there. She

1 just kept punching me and I'd go down and I'd stand back up
2 and I'd just say "Let me know when you're done."

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you were physically
4 beaten by another student?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Another student, yes.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you have a discussion
7 with anybody at the school about it?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I wondered why nobody came
9 out. I went home that night. The next morning I went into
10 Mr. White's automotive class and he looked at me and kind
11 of chuckled and said "I expected you to have a black eye at
12 least. That was quite the beating you took yesterday" and
13 I said "I don't bruise that easily. When you've been
14 beaten as many times as I have you don't bruise that easy."
15 And the whole room went silent and then class started.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You said that to your
17 teacher in front of the class?

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** In front of the class, and
19 then the class started. Everything was quiet for a minute
20 or two and then "Let's start class."

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you remember what grade
22 you were in at the time?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** It was in grade 10.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** When is it then that you
25 spoke to your Children's Aid worker and started to tell him

1 or her about abuse?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Shortly afterwards.

3 MR. ENGELMANN: Shortly after the incident
4 at the school?

5 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Shortly after the incident
6 at school.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: And why was it you felt that
8 you could talk to a Children's Aid worker about abuse,
9 because you hadn't done it before?

10 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I figured I'd take one
11 more chance of getting out of there. My sister was old
12 enough to leave. She had promised me when she turned down
13 the adoption that she would never leave without me, and I
14 knew she had a chance for a life outside that home. There
15 was a couple that were willing to let her live with them
16 and she had somebody who wanted to marry her, but she
17 wasn't leaving because of me and I knew that, and I just
18 couldn't. I thought there's got to be life outside of
19 this.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: So you were 15 and your
21 sister was 18?

22 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: So I took the chance from
23 school and I called Bryan Keough, and he seemed so nice on
24 the phone and said he'd be right down.

25 MR. ENGELMANN: So you spoke to him outside

1 of the home?

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. I called him from
3 the school and he came and he talked to me at the school
4 every afternoon for three months. Once a week, sometimes
5 twice a week we'd sit in the car from like lunchtime until
6 the time it was time for me to get on the bus so they
7 wouldn't know that he was coming to the school.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So he came to see you at the
9 school and you would speak in his car?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** We'd sit in his car, write
11 in his book. I thought he was writing down everything I
12 was telling him and ---

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** What kind of things were you
14 telling him?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Everything about from the
16 very beginning knowing something was wrong with the
17 degrading of the way we were cleaned up when we got there
18 to when the verbal abuse started, when I was told that I
19 was excess baggage, they only wanted my sister, and that if
20 I was to stay I was to earn my keep. That meant working
21 around the house. I wasn't allowed to speak to my sister
22 because she was no longer my sibling.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you told ---

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I told him everything.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You told him about the

1 verbal abuse?

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** And I told him about the
3 beatings. I told him we weren't allowed to say anything.
4 I told him about the running away. I told him about the
5 suicide attempt. I told him everything. And I couldn't
6 understand why it was taking so long to get out of there.

7 I went home that first night and I packed my
8 bags and she came in and she unpacked them.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** "She" being Mrs. ---

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Mrs. Hubert. She kept
11 unpacking my stuff and I kept packing it, and I kept --
12 every time this would happen I would call Bryan Keough. We
13 would meet at the school again, and this went on and on and
14 on and on. And then finally one day she said to me "If you
15 don't behave yourself, I'm going to call the Children's
16 Aid", and I said, "Please". And she picked up the phone
17 and I said, "Please, call them".

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You wanted her to call?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I said, "If you don't, I
20 will."

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So do you know for how long
22 you met with Bryan Keough at the school every week, once or
23 twice a week?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Once or twice a week for
25 almost three months.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** But you didn't tell him
2 about any sexual abuse?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I blocked that from
4 myself. I'd tell him everything else. I wish it wouldn't
5 have happened because the beatings, the verbal abuse, I can
6 control, but that I couldn't. So I just blocked it from
7 me; self-preservation.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** When you spoke to Mr.
9 Keough, it was just the two of you?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** There was no one that could
12 hear you?

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No. He would come into
14 the school, let them know he was taking me for the
15 afternoon. He'd sign me out; he'd sign me in; stuff like
16 that. They knew, the school knew he was meeting with me.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you asked him to have you
18 removed from the home?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I begged him.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And then Mrs. Hubert
21 eventually asked for you to be removed as well? And you
22 were happy ---

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** But I left her no choice.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Were you finally removed
25 from that home?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I was.

2 **MR. ENGELMANN:** When was that approximately?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** My last meeting with Bryan
4 Keough. One afternoon, I called him one last time from the
5 school. My bags were already packed again. I had packed
6 them that morning and when I got back, he left. I got on
7 the bus. He went back to Cornwall. I went home -- well, I
8 went back to the house and I was told to bring my boxes and
9 stuff from the basement; that somebody was coming to get
10 me; that I would no longer be living there.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** This was when? Was it
12 approximately December of 1980?

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, it was.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you know, Roberta, if
15 your sister then moved shortly thereafter?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Shortly thereafter she
17 left. She got a hold of me at Lapensee's foster home to
18 let me know she had moved out and she was safe.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So she kept her promise to
20 you?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** She kept her promise to
22 me, yes.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Now, the Lapensee home, that
24 was the second home you were placed in?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Can I take a break please?

1 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. Let's take a
2 15 minute break. Thank you.

3 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
4 veuillez vous lever.

5 The hearing will resume at 10:40.

6 --- Upon recessing at 10:25 a.m./

7 L'audience est suspendue à 10h215

8 --- Upon resuming at 10:55 a.m./

9 L'audience est reprise à 10h55

10 **THE REGISTRAR:** This hearing of the Cornwall
11 Public Inquiry is now in session.

12 Please be seated. Veuillez vous asseoir.

13 **ROBERTA ARCHAMBAULT, Resumed/Sous le même serment:**

14 **THE COMMISSIONER:** So do you think we can go
15 on for a few more questions.

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

17 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

18 --- **EXAMINATION IN-CHIEF BY/INTERROGATOIRE EN-CHEF PAR MR.**
19 **ENGELMANN (cont'd/suite):**

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Mr. Engelmann.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Roberta, we were just
22 starting the second foster home that you were placed at.

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** That home, I will call it
25 the Lapensee home.

1 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

3 And I understand you were 15-years old when
4 you were placed there?

5 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: And that would have been
7 right at the end of 1980?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: And I understand that you
10 lived there, although there was a gap, until the spring of
11 1983?

12 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

13 MR. ENGELMANN: And the gap is the period of
14 time when you lived with your natural mother or you were on
15 your own ---

16 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I went to try to live with
17 my natural mother ---

18 MR. ENGELMANN: Yes. Yes.

19 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: --- and found out ---

20 MR. ENGELMANN: It didn't work?

21 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No. It lasted a week.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

23 And then there was an additional gap where -
24 --

25 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I lived on the streets and

1 eventually realized it was -- I couldn't live on the
2 streets. I needed a place to live, so I ended up
3 contacting the Children's Aid down there and going back to
4 Lapensee's.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you know how long that
6 was when you were away from that home?

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** It couldn't have been more
8 than three months.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you're a week or so at
10 your mother's and then ---

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** On the street.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- two to three months on
13 the street?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Well, I stayed with a
15 friend of hers on and off for about a week, a week and a
16 half and then it was on the streets.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How old were you then?

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I don't remember. I don't
19 recall. I ---

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Sixteen (16) or 17?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, about that. About
22 that. All I remember is still being in high school and it
23 still the beginning of my high school year, about mid, and
24 I couldn't take the change of environment at the school and
25 ---

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

2 Well, let's talk about what happens at the
3 Lapensee home.

4 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Okay.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** My understanding is that it
6 was a foster home for girls?

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And that when you arrived
9 there, there were other girls who were there as foster
10 children?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. When I first moved
12 in they only had the farmhouse and they had -- there was
13 five other girls the day I moved in and two boys.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** There were boys?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** There were two boys there,
16 Patrick and Donald.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

18 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Were they part of the
19 family or were they ---

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They were foster children
21 too.

22 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Okay. All right.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So there were some male
24 foster children?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, there were two. They

1 were kept on one side of the house. We were kept on the
2 other.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** This home was located where?

4 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Just outside of
5 Martintown.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did I hear you correctly
7 there was a home in the town and also ---

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, shortly afterwards,
9 they purchased the convent next to the church in
10 Martintown, right in Martintown.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Yes.

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** And that became the girls'
13 group home.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So they had the girls in
15 Martintown and they had boys outside of the farmhouse?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They kept the boys at the
17 farm.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Now, they had some children
19 of their own. Did they not?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I know they had a son.

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. They had -- there
23 was Larry, Brian that lived there, and they had two
24 daughters that lived there; well, three actually. April
25 was still there because they had adopted her as far as I

1 know, and Carol and Nicki.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: Did you have a worker from
3 the Children's Aid Society that was primarily responsible
4 for you while you were at that home?

5 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, she was responsible
6 for all of us.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: What was her name?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Mary Miller.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

10 And the adults who ran that group home?

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Edward and Alice Lapensee.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: Approximately, how many
13 foster children were you with while you were there at any
14 one time?

15 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: At any one time, it was up
16 to about eight, nine, once we got the convent.

17 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

18 And if I understood you correctly, you were
19 looking forward to living in a new place?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I figured 15-years old --
21 there's an old saying 15 years -- the day you're born is
22 supposed to be the best year of your life, so I figured 15,
23 new start.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: Well, you told us about some
25 of what happened at the previous home and how you were

1 eager to get out.

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I was eager to get out of
3 it and figured this was going to be a new start.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Nothing could be worse
6 than that.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And in fact I understand
8 that approximately three months after you arrived there,
9 you were asked if you wanted to go back to the previous
10 home, and you said, no, you did not want to?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, no.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So can you give us a sense
13 as to how things started at the Lapensee home and whether
14 things were okay there.

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Well, when I got there, it
16 just seemed a little strange. It was kind of like first
17 going into the Children's Aid, you go in there, and
18 everybody is looking through your bags of clothes and
19 commenting on it, and whatever have you. It's kind of like
20 a sit down around the table and all of my stuff was again,
21 gotten rid of and replaced with other clothing. I was
22 ridiculed about the clothes that were sent with me because
23 they were all too small or they were rags or whatever.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** No issues about talking to
25 one another there?

1 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No, no, no.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: The kids?

3 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: The kids didn't say much
4 of anything. They -- on the surface they stayed pretty
5 cool especially the girls. Like I never had a chance to
6 talk to anyone really and it's a chance to talk to other
7 kids my age.

8 MR. ENGELMANN: So how did things start?
9 Were there any issues? Was everything just fine?

10 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Pardon?

11 MR. ENGELMANN: Were there any issues
12 starting at this home or was everything just fine?

13 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: The issues started shortly
14 after we moved in there -- after I moved in there. Shortly
15 afterwards, there was one weekend, I myself, I didn't get
16 to go to -- and nobody wanted me. None of my family wanted
17 me that weekend, relatives.

18 MR. ENGELMANN: Okay. Well, let me just
19 understand then. After you moved into this home, the
20 Lapensee home, would you see a relative or relatives
21 typically on a weekend?

22 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Well, what they did was on
23 weekends, they were supposed to have their free time, and
24 everybody was supposed to go home to a relative or whatever
25 have you.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Where would you go?

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Well, my sister and her
3 husband, they took me once in a while and my brother took
4 me once in a while, and my grandmother and my grandfather
5 took me once in a while. And then it just all stopped.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** What happened when that
7 stopped and you had to spend the weekends at the Lapensee
8 home?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I had nowhere else to go
10 so I stayed there. On the weekends they'd go to the farm
11 and I ---

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you'd go to the farm
13 with them?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes or the cottage,
15 depending if it was summertime, the cottage.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** What happened then?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That's when I was
18 introduced to Brian Lapensee.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Who is Brian?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That's their son. He was
21 older. He had a wife.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How much older?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** As far as I -- I'm saying
24 around 21 because I remember hearing 21, 21, 21 and
25 thinking it was just the wrong age for him to do what he

1 was doing.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: So he was approximately six
3 years older than you were?

4 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: And he was married?

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Well, I was told he was
7 married to this girl that he had gone out west with.

8 MR. ENGELMANN: And was he living with the
9 Lapensee's or was he living ---

10 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: He moved back in to the
11 Lapensee farmhouse where we spent the weekends.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

13 And what happened?

14 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: The first weekend I spent
15 there, Robin, another girl that lived in the foster home,
16 she -- well, it was bedtime and we went up to our side of
17 the house, and she was crying and the lights were out, and
18 I asked her what was wrong. She told me that Brian had
19 been touching her inappropriately and so I changed beds
20 with her because I knew she was only there because of the
21 situation with her parents. It was a nasty divorce. And
22 as far as I was concerned, she didn't belong there, and she
23 didn't -- I had already been abused. I figured she was
24 still innocent. She shouldn't have been damaged, so I
25 changed beds with her, and he came in thinking it was her,

1 and basically as soon as I started making any noise, like
2 raising my voice, he disappeared back through the -- there
3 was a crawl -- he'd call it a cupboard basically, door that
4 you had to crouch down and crawl through basically. That
5 led to the other side of the upstairs, and that's how he
6 came in and out.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So a half door?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Not even a half door. It
9 wasn't any bigger than -- well, from about here to the end
10 of the table. I mean, this door is no higher than this.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So he left when you ---

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** When I started making
13 noise ---

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- were making noise?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** --- he was afraid, he
16 would -- it was like "Shhh", and he took off.

17 As the weekends went on and Robin would go
18 to her grandmother's, I was the only one left there.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You were the only foster
20 child that would be with him on the weekend?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** The only female ---

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** The only female, yes.

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** --- left there. Everybody
24 else had a place to go.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And did things happen?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Well, they started
2 offering to let me drink. They would sit in the living
3 room and, "Would you like a glass of wine?" I'd say,
4 "Sure." And then it was, "Would you cook me something?"
5 And the thing was to cook something in the kitchen, you
6 would have to leave the living room and he was always in
7 the kitchen by the wood stove drinking, Brian Lapensee. It
8 was basically a set-up. They never watched him. They knew
9 what he was doing. They just turned a blind eye.

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you were 15 and 16 when
11 this took place?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And there was some form of
14 sex?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** A lot of fondling, a lot
16 of probing, but forcing to do ---

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** That's okay. You can ---

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** The proper words is oral
19 copulation, but I never had sex with him.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You didn't have sexual
21 intercourse?

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I never had sexual
23 intercourse with him. I didn't want to end up being one of
24 the girls that got pregnant.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You had heard about others

1 that had?

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That was one of the first
3 things that I was told, "Watch out for Brian. He's gotten
4 a couple of girls pregnant. They've been taken to
5 Montreal." One actually admitted to me she had been taken
6 to Montreal and had an abortion when she was 14.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How long after you had moved
8 into the Lapensee home did he do something to you?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Pardon?

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How long after you had moved
11 into this home did he do something to you, did Brian do
12 something to you of a sexual nature?

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** It was the first weekend I
14 was left alone there with Robin, and that would have been
15 within the first three -- no more than three months of
16 living there.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So in the spring of 1981?

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How often did this happen
20 that he would do something?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Everybody left on a Friday
22 after school. They were driven into town and I was driven
23 out to the farmhouse or to the cottage.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** This would happen on the
25 weekends?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** On the weekends. Every
2 weekend after my family turned their back on me.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you tell the parents
4 about sexual abuse from their son?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, because I was
6 basically told this is the last place for me.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Who told you this was the
8 last place for you?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Their daughters told me,
10 Nicki especially, Nicole, and so did -- Alice implied it,
11 that she would do anything to protect her son.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** But who told you this was
13 the last place for you, this was your last-chance foster
14 home?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They all made it clear.
16 Like, he did, she did, their youngest daughter, Nicole.
17 This is the last place for me. This was the home for the
18 most problem children, especially teens, and I was a
19 problem teen, and after that, there wasn't any place for
20 me.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you ever speak with Mary
22 Miller, the woman from the Children's Aid Society?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And she would speak to you
25 on a regular occasion?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Anytime she would stop in
2 for a visit. We knew she was coming. They would call and
3 they would tell us, "Well, Mary -- everybody make sure that
4 they don't have plans after school. Mary Miller is going
5 to be here. She wants to talk to you."

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So the foster parents were
7 notified again when the worker would come?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you were told?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I was told. We were all
11 told.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you tell the worker
13 about what was happening to you from the son?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I denied it through my --
15 -

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I'm sorry?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I denied it at first
18 because I didn't think I had anything else left. No place
19 else that wanted me.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did she ---

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Or anyplace else to go.
22 And she never talked to us alone. They were always within
23 earshot. Nobody could say anything.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did she actually ask you
25 specifically about him?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** She asked me if Brian had
2 been in the home and if he had touched me, made advances at
3 me, and I denied it.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** She asked you that
5 unsolicited? You didn't speak about it and she asked you
6 about it?

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** She asked me about it.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you know why she was
9 asking you about it?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Because there had been
11 reports. Somebody had reported that he had been doing this
12 to them too, and I knew who it was and I just -- I failed
13 her. I failed her by not saying what I should have said.
14 I was just ---

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So she ---

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I didn't want to live on
17 the streets again.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So she had asked you a
19 direct question and you denied it for a while?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I did.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you eventually tell her?

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I did.

23 **THE COMMISSIONER:** How long was it before --
24 between the time when you denied it and then you told her?
25 Was it a question of days, weeks, months?

1 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: More like years.

2 THE COMMISSIONER: More like years. Okay.

3 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: When you have nowhere else
4 to go and it's made clear to you ---

5 THE COMMISSIONER: M'hm.

6 MR. ENGELMANN: I understand that in
7 approximately December of 1982, there was another teenager,
8 another foster child living at the Lapensees who complained
9 about sexual abuse by the son?

10 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

11 MR. ENGELMANN: Were you aware of that at
12 the time?

13 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I was.

14 MR. ENGELMANN: Were you living there then?

15 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I'm pretty sure I
16 was, if it's the incident I'm thinking of.

17 MR. ENGELMANN: Right.

18 And were you asked then by Mary Miller about
19 sexual abuse from Brian?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

21 MR. ENGELMANN: And were you still denying
22 it at that point?

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: By then I could drink
24 myself into oblivion on the weekends, and it didn't matter.
25 At least, I had a place to sleep, food in my stomach. I

1 would go to school.

2 **MR. ENGELMANN:** When -- what triggered or
3 what allowed you to finally say to Mary Miller that this
4 was happening to you? Do you remember what triggered that?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Robin was gone by then.
6 She went home for Christmas and never came back. So by
7 Easter time, we went to a family function -- well, a family
8 function -- Easter dinner at one of the relatives', and I
9 was close with their nephew, Pierre. He came into the
10 living room, which was attached to the kitchen in their
11 home, and heard Brian verbally making sexual innuendos at
12 me, putting his hands on me knee, telling him what he
13 wanted to do to me, what he wanted me to do to him, and he
14 grabbed a hold of him and punched him in the head.
15 Everybody freaked out and told him to take it outside, and
16 they did. The last thing I saw as I ran out that door was
17 Pierre on top of him, pounding in Brian's face, and I went
18 and hid. They had a guest cottage and I hid under the sink
19 in the guest cottage and they came and got me I don't know
20 how long afterwards. It was Pierre that came and got me.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Roberta, I understand that
22 was Easter of 1983?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, it was.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And shortly after that, I
25 understand that you attempted to commit suicide again?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** When I got back home, back
2 to the Lapensee home, it was the middle of the weekend and
3 their daughter Nicole, the youngest, told me that I had
4 ruined it for everybody, especially myself and that now, I
5 didn't have a home. I had nothing. I had thrown it all
6 away. So I went and bought two bottles of Anacin, and I
7 took them and I went to bed, hoping not to wake up.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** This was as a result of what
9 had happened at the Easter family ---

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And do you remember -- you
12 woke up. Do you remember ---

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I woke up, but I told them
14 I wasn't feeling good. I didn't tell them I had ODeD.
15 They said to get dressed and go to school, so I did. It
16 was before lunch, around lunchtime that some of the friends
17 I hung around with, one in particular, Henry, realized that
18 there was something wrong with my eyes and I was
19 staggering. I couldn't stand up straight. And he asked me
20 what I -- he pulled me off to the side and asked me what I
21 had done. I didn't explain anything. I just told him I
22 had ODeD the night before, tried to kill myself, and he
23 took me to the nurse's station inside of the office, and
24 they called Mary Miller.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Was that a nurse's station

1 in the school?

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Well, it's like a -- I
3 guess it was the nurse's station. They had a chair that
4 folded out, way back, like in a kind of flat position and
5 somebody was there with me. I don't know who it was, but
6 somebody stayed with me until Mary Miller got there. She
7 took me to the hospital.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

9 And when you were at the hospital and you
10 were with Mary, were you asked to see a psychiatrist?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And is this when you told
13 Mary Miller about what the Lapensees' son was doing to you?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** On the ride there, I told
15 her why I tried to kill myself and she talked to me after
16 they had given me the charcoal and that, and they got me
17 into a bed. She talked to me some more and I told her
18 everything; and I told her that I had lied to her earlier
19 because I wanted to have a home.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you also tell her about
21 what he had done to some of the other girls in the home?

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I told her -- yes, I told
23 her about being told shortly after I moved in there about
24 the kids that had been taken to Montreal for abortions, the
25 list of names. I told her ---

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you ---

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** --- about the other girls
3 that he was doing the same thing to.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you ever go back to the
5 Lapensee home?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Never, not after that.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So after you left the
8 hospital, Mary Miller placed you in another home?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. It was only a
10 temporary thing. It was no more than two weeks.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And did you ask Mary whether
12 something was going to be done, whether there was going to
13 be an investigation of what happened?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I asked her, I think it
15 was in the hospital, if they were going to -- if he was
16 going to be investigated. She told me yes. The OPP would
17 be brought in and everything would be taken care of, and I
18 just assumed because she told me that.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did anybody follow up with
20 you after that?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Well, I always thought --
22 nobody did. I always thought it was strange that the OPP
23 were investigating this home and it was closed. Why wasn't
24 I interviewed?

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you know if he was

1 charged or what happened?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I thought he had been
3 charged.

4 MR. ENGELMANN: And who told you the home
5 was closed by the Children's Aid Society?

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Mary Miller did.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: Now, were you offered some
8 counseling or some help after this by the Children's Aid
9 Society?

10 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No. No, I wasn't.

11 MR. ENGELMANN: You weren't at the Lalonde
12 home long and you were sent to another home, deRonde; is
13 that right?

14 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: The deRondes. Yes,
15 Patricia and -- well, his name is Jean, but we called him
16 Fred and we called her Pat.

17 MR. ENGELMANN: And I understand that home
18 was in St. Andrews?

19 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: And things were better
21 there?

22 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

23 MR. ENGELMANN: Things worked at that home?

24 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I couldn't understand --
25 they tried everything to make me a part of their family but

1 -- if they touched me or anything like that, like a
2 reassuring hug or for making supper or whatever or doing
3 something with the kids or watch the kids or that, to me
4 that was like being sexually abused all over again. I
5 don't like to be touched even to this day, except for by my
6 children.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You still have ---

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I have big issues, yes.
9 Only certain people are allowed to touch me and only when I
10 allow it.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** But you thought they made
12 every effort to accommodate you in their home?

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. They tried. They
14 tried.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And ---

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I didn't understand why I
17 didn't get counseling or anything. They were supposed -- I
18 was told that it was the top home in Ontario and that they
19 could help me. It didn't work.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You were able to finish high
21 school when you were living in their home.

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. Yes, I did.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And after that, you left
24 their home and you were 19 then?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. On my graduation day

1 -- actually, it was a week before my graduation. I was
2 told that after I graduated, I had three months to find a
3 place to live. They offered -- Fred and Pat offered to
4 help me find a place to live, and that would be the end of
5 the CAS's care of me. I was now an adult. I was on my
6 own.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Were you ready, do you
8 think, you were prepared to do that?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I didn't even know how to
10 pay a bill. I didn't have a bank account. I didn't know
11 nothing about budgeting. I didn't know nothing about
12 nothing; about doing groceries or anything like that. I'd
13 never done any of that stuff before.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you know, Roberta, if the
15 deRondes had been told about your history and about what
16 had happened to you at the other homes?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** When I moved in there, I
18 was under the impression they knew what had happened to me,
19 and it wasn't until I met up with them three years before
20 Jean deRonde died and I made amends with him and his wife
21 that I found out she knew nothing about me. She was never
22 told anything about my history. She got me and told, I was
23 told, I was a troubled child. I had been through a lot and
24 to do the best she could. She had no idea what had
25 happened to me.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** No knowledge of physical or
2 sexual abuse?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** None of it.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you think they should
5 have been told?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I think if they would have
7 been told, they would have got me the help I needed. I
8 don't think, I know they would have. They were that way.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You've told us you have two
10 girls of your own.

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I do.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And at some point, a few
13 years back was the CAS called about your own children?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** By the time my first one
15 was one, the Children's Aid were called in on me.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How old is she now?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** She's 15.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So it's back in about 1992?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. She was ---

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I'm sorry?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I had had her at a
22 neurologist because she was banging her head. She had
23 black and blue marks around her head and like I couldn't
24 stop her from doing it. And he did tests on her and found
25 out that she was what they classify a head banger. When

1 she -- she fell and -- she leaned against the door and fell
2 and got a concussion. When I took her to the hospital just
3 to make sure nothing was wrong, like to make sure that she
4 was going to be okay, I told them about her doctor, Dr.
5 Keon up in Ottawa, her neurologist, that she was a head
6 banger; that I had a helmet at home, but she kept getting
7 it off. The Children's Aid -- well, the hospital decided
8 that this should be investigated because the child did have
9 black and blue marks on the front and the back of her head.

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Were you okay about that?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Well, it was fine. I
12 invited them in. Like I mean, I had nothing to hide. Like
13 I mean, my child was a head banger. I had explained it at
14 the hospital. I explained it to them. And Sandy actually
15 showed them because ---

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Yes.

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** You know ---

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you tell them about your
19 past, the worker?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That was the first thing I
21 did. I invited them in, gave them coffee, and said -- told
22 them "You know, you think you're dealing with me, but -- an
23 Archambault -- my real name is Roberta Judd, and I think
24 you should go back and look at your files, find out who I
25 am. Like look through them."

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you tell them you'd been

2 ---

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That I had been mentally -

4 --

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- awarded?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I said I was a Crown ward.
7 I had been mentally, physically, sexually abused while in
8 their care and that if they thought I would be doing any of
9 that to my children, I am not because I will not repeat the
10 mistakes that were done to me. I would not raise my
11 children and hurt them the way I'd been hurt.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you know if they followed
13 up on that at all?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They looked into it and
15 they saw that you know, if they'd been doing their job,
16 they did with myself and my children ---

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I'm sorry?

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** If they would have done
19 the same investigation on myself while I was a Crown ward,
20 I wouldn't have gone through what I did. They did an
21 excellent job with myself and my children. They checked my
22 home to make sure everything was safe. They even brought
23 in safety things like wall plugs, door plastic things,
24 things for the cupboards to keep the ---

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So you thought they did an

1 excellent job when ---

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: They did.

3 MR. ENGELMANN: --- they investigated in
4 1992?

5 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

6 THE COMMISSIONER: And how is your daughter
7 now?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Oh, great. As soon as she
9 could talk, that was it. She still hasn't stopped.

10 MR. ENGELMANN: So given what happened then
11 in 1992, did you at some point that year ask the Children's
12 Aid Society if you could have your own file?

13 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I was curious. I was
14 curious. I wanted to know what was in my file.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: And when you talk about your
16 file, you mean the file they had on you when you were in
17 their care for 14 years?

18 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes. I figured 15 years -
19 - well, 14 close to 15 years of my life, the file must be
20 nice and thick, you know, but I ended up with five pages,
21 four or five pages.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: Just before we get to what
23 you ended up with, I'm going to show you a couple of
24 documents, why was it important for you to get your file?
25 Why were you asking for it?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I thought there would be
2 something in there, a proof of what happened to me.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Was that important to you to
4 have that?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, because I thought --
6 I had just -- sometimes, they say that the mind plays
7 tricks on you, and I knew this wasn't a trick of my mind. I
8 thought why investigate me, are you investigating me
9 because I was an abused child or are you investigating me
10 because somebody had called in, you know. And they did a
11 wonderful job and I thought, well, if they did a wonderful
12 job investigating myself and my child, then maybe all of
13 the facts are actually in the files, you know, of what
14 happened to me ---

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay.

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** --- and I'd like to see
17 that and maybe something can be done with it. Maybe we
18 can, you know, correct the system somehow.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

20 So you asked them for your complete file?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you were very
23 disappointed, you said, because you only got four or five
24 pages?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. It blew me away.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

2 So let's -- I just want to show you a
3 document, Roberta. It's document number 738545. It should
4 be a few pages. If she could just be handed the whole
5 document, there's a few pages. In fact, there are one,
6 two, three, four pages. Starting with Bates page 717812.
7 It's a letter dated October 22nd, 1992. Counsel, the
8 document number is 738545, Bates page 7172812.

9 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Will this be an exhibit?

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Yes, it will.

11 **THE COMMISSIONER:** And is it a public ---

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** It is public.

13 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. Thank you.

14 **THE REGISTRAR:** One-twenty-six (126).

15 **THE COMMISSIONER:** I'm sorry?

16 **THE REGISTRAR:** One-twenty-six (126).

17 **THE COMMISSIONER:** One-twenty-six (126).

18 --- **EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE No. P-126:**

19 Various correspondences re Roberta
20 Archambault

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Roberta, is this a letter, a
22 copy of a letter you would have received after having made
23 a request for your file?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, it is.

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

1 And if I'm understanding this correctly,
2 you're being told that the information is now ready?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you can get it by
5 contacting Fran Lepage?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

8 So when you received that letter ---

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I was ecstatic. I thought
10 I'd get my file.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I'm getting my life.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And did you in fact call
14 Fran Lepage?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. She told me my -- to
16 come pick up the document. She referred to it as the
17 document.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And did you go down and get
19 the document?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you said -- well, what
22 happened when you went down? This is ---

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** When she gave me five
24 pages, I asked her where the rest was, and she said to me
25 that they could only give me a summary of my life because

1 of second and third parties and whatever reasons. She gave
2 me a bunch of legal reasons. This was all I could have.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did she offer to let you
4 look at the whole file?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I asked her and she told
6 me it was against the rules.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay.

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I wasn't allowed.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. So I'm going to just
10 ask you then to look at, I guess, it's the same document
11 number, 738545, Bates page 7172778 running through to
12 7172782.

13 **THE REGISTRAR:** Exhibit P-127.

14 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Exhibit number 127.

15 And that's public as well, Mr. Engelmann?

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Yes.

17 **--- EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE No. P-127:**

18 CAS Record Files - Background

19 Information for Roberta Archambault

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** The last two pages have some
21 medical information, but Roberta is not asking that there
22 be a "C" exhibit.

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** A what? Pardon?

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** The last two pages of this
25 summary -- this is the five-page document that you got; is

1 that right?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, it is.

3 MR. ENGELMANN: There is some medical
4 information in this document, but you haven't asked us to
5 make this a confidential exhibit.

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

8 So this is what you got, and as I understand
9 it, you weren't very happy about just getting this?

10 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No. I was actually -- I
11 ranted and raved to my husband at the time just how you
12 could put 15 years into this much paper, this little bit,
13 15 years of my life, and none of it say anything about what
14 happened to me, and it looked like I was a problem.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: There's nothing about being
16 physically abused?

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Nothing but ---

18 MR. ENGELMANN: Nothing about being verbally
19 or mentally abused?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Nothing.

21 MR. ENGELMANN: Nothing about sexual abuse
22 until ---

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: There's a reference, is
25 there not, Roberta, at 7172780, the third paragraph from

1 the top of the page.

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

3 MR. ENGELMANN: I believe that's the only
4 reference to any form of possible sexual abuse. Do you see
5 that?

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I see it. Because
7 when I read this matter it was investigated by the CAS. I
8 wondered where the rest of the people were that were
9 supposed to be on that, like the police and everything
10 else. Because I was under the understanding that the OPP
11 were called in.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: So you're not happy that
13 you're getting three or four or five pages after 15 years
14 approximately in their care? As I understand it, you're
15 not happy with some of the content, because it differs from
16 your experience?

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, a lot.

18 MR. ENGELMANN: In fact, reading this it
19 seems that your time at the Hubert house was quite
20 different then what you've described to us.

21 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

22 MR. ENGELMANN: Is that fair?

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Very fair to say. It's
24 like this is somebody else they are talking about. This
25 isn't me.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Is there anything in here
2 about what you were telling Bryan Keough for approximately
3 three months?

4 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Other than at one point I
5 tried to return home to my mother, you know, that I wanted
6 to be with my mother, like I mean, that was one of the
7 things that I became a Crown ward. Like I mean other than
8 ---

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You told us that for
10 approximately three months before you left the Hubert home,
11 you were speaking to him at least once or twice a week and
12 telling him some of the abuse.

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, and the thing was
14 that when I read the -- there's no mention of it. There's
15 nothing.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay.

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** It's like she wanted to
18 get rid of me like she gotten rid of other kids.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** But at the very end, that
20 was true, right, the very end?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They came and got me
22 because I demanded that if she didn't call and have me
23 removed I would.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** She even offered to have

1 me stay. She told me if I wanted to change my mind and
2 stay before I got in the car, I was more than welcome to.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** You didn't want to though?

4 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Now, were you satisfied with
6 this as ---

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, that's why it's still
8 in my possession.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- the final story from the
10 CAS?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, because I wasn't happy
12 with it, I just -- this isn't what happened to me. This
13 isn't my life.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did you end up going to see
15 a lawyer sometime in 1994 to try and get further access to
16 CAS records?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I did.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** If I could have you take a
19 look at again it's Document 738545, Bates pages 7172810 and
20 7172811.

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I see where you're
22 talking about.

23 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you have those two pages?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. That I'm sure
25 wouldn't ---

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** One of the pages appears to
2 be a letter written by Myron Breslow?

3 **THE COMMISSIONER:** No, that's exhibit 126 --
4 no, I am sorry, that's exhibit -- yes, 126 ---

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Oh, I see. It's part of
6 that package. I apologize. All right. So we're looking
7 at Exhibit 126, Bates page 7172810.

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Is that a letter that you --
10 I'm sorry, is that a lawyer that you would have retained,
11 Roberta?

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Did you hire Mr. Breslow?

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I went to Legal Aid.

14 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Right.

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** And they told me to pick a
16 lawyer and I did. And it was Myron Breslow.

17 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay.

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** And I wanted the contents
19 of my file.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Yes. I note it says you'd
21 like to receive the entire contents of your Children's Aid
22 file, and in fact, then you signed a consent ---

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- asking that they give it
25 to -- they release the entire contents of your CAS file to

1 your lawyer.

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Because I figured if I
3 couldn't get it on my own, I figured a lawyer could.

4 MR. ENGELMANN: Then on May 25th, 1994 there
5 is a letter from Françoise Lepage and William Carrière to
6 your lawyer. Do you see that? It's Bates page 7172809.

7 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I see this, yes.

8 MR. ENGELMANN: And again, you didn't get
9 the entire contents of your file did you?

10 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No.

11 MR. ENGELMANN: I just want you to take a
12 look at another document then, Roberta. It's 738545 is the
13 document number, Bates page 7172783 through 7172785, it's a
14 3 page document.

15 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

16 MR. ENGELMANN: Is that the document that
17 was sent to your lawyers?

18 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: This one's done by Richard
19 Abell to my lawyers. This is the second time I went back.

20 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

21 So you still didn't get the entire contents
22 of your file?

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No. This is basically it.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: Now you have a three page
25 summary.

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. Three years for --
2 three pages for 15 years, I wasn't happy.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Now again, if we look at the
4 second page, 7172784 at the bottom, there's a reference to
5 sexual advances by the son at the Lapensee home.

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** There doesn't appear to be
8 any description of any abuse from the first home.

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No.

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Although if we look at the
11 top of page 7172785, it's the third reference, there's a
12 note of accusations of "ill treatment and false
13 accusations" in the Hubert foster home.

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Was that ever explained to
16 you?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you know what it means?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** None of this made any
20 sense, it was -- I just kept looking from one to the other,
21 they were all -- they contradict each other, as far as I
22 could see they contradict each other, there's -- they have
23 me being two different people.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Let me ask you this. Did
25 you attempt to get further information or meet with someone

1 from the Children's Aid Society when you got this three
2 page summary or did you just let it go?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Oh, I didn't. I made an
4 appointment to see Richard Abell.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And who was Richard Abell?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Richard Abell, as far as I
7 -- what I did was I called up the Children's Aid and I
8 didn't know the proper terms to use. I asked to talk to
9 the top dog, whoever was in charge, because I had a problem
10 with this summary. And he made an appointment with me and
11 I asked him point blank "What happened to everything I had
12 told Bryan Keough about that had happened in the first
13 foster home and the Huberts, and he said he had no idea;
14 that he would call Bryan Keough out west and find out.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Bryan Keough no longer
16 worked for him?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, he had moved out west.

18 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That's why Mary Miller --
20 well, from the understanding that's why Mary Miller took
21 over my case, he had moved out West.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So did Mr. Abell call Mr.
23 Keough when you were present or did he call him at some
24 later time? Do you know?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I don't recall whether or

1 not he was on the phone with him or not. I know he was on
2 the phone at one time while I was talking to him about the
3 -- Bryan Keough and him telling me that Bryan Keough didn't
4 write anything down because I was, as far as he was
5 concerned, I was just a liar.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** He didn't believe you.

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** He didn't believe me. I
8 was just lying. I just -- I was a problem. I wanted
9 attention. I was into everything -- like I mean, they
10 wrote down like I mean, I was a liar; I was a thief; I was
11 sexually active. Like I mean I was 15 years old. Lying is
12 something I can't even do to this day. Stealing, I
13 couldn't steal. I even taught my children since the age of
14 4 and 2 not to take anything that wasn't theirs.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So Mr. Abell told you he'd
16 called Mr. Keough. Mr. Keough hadn't written anything down
17 ---

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Nothing.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- because he didn't
20 believe you?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** He didn't believe me.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So there was no follow-up to
23 your knowledge?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Pardon?

25 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So there was no follow-up

1 then by Mr. Keough, he just didn't believe ---

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, he didn't believe me.
3 He just got fed up with me complaining and took me out of
4 there, believed what she said, Ms. Hubert.

5 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Did Mr. Abell ---

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** He apologized to me. He
7 apologized to me and wished me the best of luck and he
8 hoped that I'd find the answers I was looking for whatever
9 they may be.

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** How did you feel after that
11 meeting?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Robbed. There was nothing
13 left. How could they do what they did to me and there be
14 no justice. These people -- these people they're supposed
15 to protect the kids, listen to them.

16 There's evidence here of what they would
17 have -- when they came into my home and investigated my
18 children and myself, a worker should have seen that I was -
19 - something was wrong. I went from being, as they put it,
20 a bubbly child to all of a sudden this different person.

21 Well, if I see a child like that or if they
22 would have come into my home and see my kids like that,
23 then I'd expect them to do something. But in my case they
24 did nothing. There was no justice for me. There was no
25 protection. That's what they were supposed to offer was

1 protection, a home, somewhere safe. That's not what I got.

2 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Roberta, you've told us
3 about physical, mental, verbal, sexual abuse. This abuse,
4 are you still suffering from this today?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I do. It takes
6 every ounce of strength I've got plus the never pills to go
7 out and do groceries. And I cover everything when I am
8 around my children, no matter how dramatic it is, with
9 laughter and survive anything.

10 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Are you able to work?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, because it takes me a
12 while to be affectionate again. My children are my world.
13 I am affectionate with my children. I hug them. I tell
14 them I love them. I tell them I believe in them and they
15 can be anything they want be. I'll defend them to the
16 death though. Go in -- I will work up the courage to
17 defend them at school if there is a wrong done at school or
18 whatever.

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Your girls are doing well,
20 aren't they?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They are doing fantastic.
22 But they don't know that there's a number of people that I
23 can count on one hand that are allowed to put their arm
24 around me and hug me.

25 If I go out in public, I get home thoroughly

1 exhausted. I can't go into the bank and then do groceries
2 because I have panic attacks so bad that I can't do both on
3 the same day. It takes me a day to recover from just going
4 to into a bank. It takes me a day to recover from doing
5 groceries. From the anxiety attacks, I can't take the bus.
6 I can't be around crowds of people. This, what I am doing
7 right now, there's no words. Sorry.

8 **MR. ENGELMANN:** The institution that you
9 dealt with, and you dealt with them until your summary in
10 '94 and your meeting with Mr. Abell of the Children's Aid
11 Society, I am just -- you've talked to us about your
12 dealings with them on and off over the years. How do you
13 feel about how they responded to what was going on and
14 whether that was appropriate or not?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They didn't respond. When
16 I became a ward -- when they took me in, when I became a
17 ward, it was like becoming a number because after that
18 there was no protection. There was no talking. There was
19 no nothing.

20 I think they should have treated -- just
21 because you're a foster home and you take in kids and
22 you've gone through the course or whatever they make you go
23 through, they should treat every child with the safety net
24 of being questioned outside the home just like they do a
25 potential victim, and let that child know that if they are

1 in danger, you can say something.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: Well, let's ---

3 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: We will not send you back
4 to that situation.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: All right.

6 So let's just talk about recommendations or
7 suggestions. You know that we're looking into how
8 institutions respond to child abuse, child sexual abuse.

9 How is it that the Children's Aid Society,
10 in your view, should respond in circumstances like the ones
11 you found yourself in? Do you have some suggestions or
12 recommendations for this Commission?

13 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Have these children
14 checked. If you think that a child is being abused,
15 whether they're in care, foster care, or whether they're
16 just anybody's children like my own, like I have custody of
17 my children -- when there was an accusation against me,
18 they didn't come to me and make an appointment. They went
19 to the school, saw my child without my knowledge and then
20 they just popped into my house. And I think that's the way
21 the system should work, because ---

22 MR. ENGELMANN: So they shouldn't tell ---

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Anybody can put on a show.
24 You can clean up your house. You can clean up your
25 children. You could tell them what they can and cannot

1 say.

2 If you're a victim you -- a victim isn't
3 strong enough when they're that young to defend themselves
4 unless they feel they have the security blanket of being
5 away from the abuser. And I think everybody knows that.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** So they shouldn't make the
7 appointment beforehand?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They shouldn't make an
9 appointment. They should just walk in there just like they
10 do to people they're investigating. Walk into the homes.

11 **MR. ENGELMANN:** What about the interviews
12 with the children?

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Interviews should never be
14 done in the home.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Where would you do them?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** At the schools. They do
17 it at the schools now with children. They get a report on
18 a child; they go to the school. I've done it -- I've had
19 it done to me five times -- four or five times. They go to
20 the school; they interview the child.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

22 So they are doing that now and that's
23 something that you agree with?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** But they're not doing it
25 to the children that are in their care.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Oh.

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** This is my problem. Our
3 problem is that just because you become -- you go into
4 foster care, you shouldn't be -- that privilege of being
5 interviewed outside of the foster parent -- outside of
6 their earshot, outside of their home should stop.

7 Surprise inspections. Go visit those
8 children more often. Make a rapport with them. Let them
9 know they have a safety net, that if there's a problem,
10 we'll take you out of there. We won't make you wait six
11 months. We won't send you home to them. We will find you
12 a place to stay. We'll find out what's going on.

13 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm.

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No system is perfect. Not
15 everybody is what they seem to be.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Roberta, are there other
17 suggestions or recommendations that you might have for us?

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I think -- I sit up here
19 and I look at all the kids that I've been through, and I've
20 been in contact with some of them over the years. I know
21 one in particular that to this day, she hears my name and
22 she breaks down because she was abused too. I think
23 counseling should be offered to her, that she shouldn't
24 have to come in here to get the counseling. Somebody
25 should go to her and say, "Listen, we could give you the

1 counseling you need if you want it. Nobody needs to know.
2 The government will finally give you the help you need to
3 carry on with your life."

4 There are so many kids out there, so many
5 that were abused, not only sexually but physically and
6 mentally, that didn't make it. I know ones that have died,
7 committed suicide. I know ones that have lost their
8 children because they didn't know how to love.

9 **THE COMMISSIONER:** M'hm.

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I went the opposite way.
11 Most abused children abuse their children. I went the
12 opposite way. I became a pacifist. But some of them,
13 maybe they didn't and maybe if they had the help and the
14 guidance they need to understand that these people were
15 sick, maybe then they could get to the point where they
16 could realize that they're not in the wrong. There's too
17 many of them out there. They're still lost and they're
18 losing their children to the Children's Aid because of it,
19 and it's just going to continue, a vicious cycle.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Roberta, thank you for
21 coming here and talking to us about your experience.

22 You're going to be asked a few questions
23 from some of the lawyers here. They will identify
24 themselves and they will let you know who it is they
25 represent before asking some questions.

1 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Is it too -- sorry ---

2 MR. ENGELMANN: Is that all right?

3 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Is it too early to take a
4 little break, Your Honour?

5 THE COMMISSIONER: No, it's not.

6 Before we go though, the last document,
7 which is the further synopsis signed by Mr. Richard Abel is
8 Exhibit Number 128.

9 --- EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO. P-128:

10 CAS Record Files - Additional History for
11 Roberta Archambault

12 MR. ENGELMANN: Thank you.

13 THE COMMISSIONER: All right.

14 I'm just wondering if we should take an
15 early lunch. Would you prefer to take an early lunch?

16 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Just a few more minutes.
17 Yes, it would be a little bit better.

18 THE COMMISSIONER: So you want to take lunch
19 now and we'll come back at 1:30?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Get myself back together,
21 yes.

22 THE COMMISSIONER: All right. Good. Thank
23 you very much.

24 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I appreciate that.

25 THE REGISTRAR: Order; all rise. À l'ordre;

1 veuillez vous lever.

2 The hearing will resume at 1:30.

3 --- Upon recessing at 11:58 a.m./

4 L'audience est suspendue à 11h58

5 --- Upon resuming at 1:33 p.m./

6 L'audience est reprise à 13h33

7 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
8 veuillez vous lever.

9 This hearing of the Cornwall Public Inquiry
10 is now in session. Please be seated. Veuillez vous
11 asseoir.

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

13 We're at the point of cross-examination.
14 Mr. Wardle.

15 **ROBERTA ARCHAMBAULT, Resumed/Sous affirmation solennelle:**

16 --- **CROSS-EXAMINATION BY/CONTRE-INTERROGATOIRE PAR MR.**

17 **WARDLE:**

18 **MR. WARDLE:** Roberta, my name is Peter
19 Wardle. I'm here for Citizens for Community Renewal and I
20 just have a few questions for you mainly relating to what
21 you've told us about your discussions with Mr. Keough.

22 And just to take you back, I understand this
23 is just in the period before you leave the Huberts and you
24 go on to the Lapensee home; correct?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

1 **MR. WARDLE:** And you were at high school,
2 and the name of the high school was?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** It was called Iroquois
4 High School.

5 **MR. WARDLE:** It's the Iroquois High School?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** The high school, yes.

7 **MR. WARDLE:** The public high school?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

9 **MR. WARDLE:** And as I understand it, he came
10 to see you at the school?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

12 **MR. WARDLE:** And you would have meetings
13 with him in his car?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** In the parking lot, yes.

15 **MR. WARDLE:** In the parking lot.

16 And this went on for two or three months?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

18 **MR. WARDLE:** And how often did you meet with
19 him? Was it every day, once a week? Do you remember?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Once to twice a week.

21 **MR. WARDLE:** Okay. And when you met with
22 him, do you know if he was taking notes of what you were
23 telling him?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** It looked like he was. He
25 was constantly writing in his books and flipping pages, so

1 I figured he was taking notes.

2 MR. WARDLE: Did he -- and you've already
3 told us this morning that you told Mr. Keough that there
4 had been bad things happening at the home of the Huberts
5 involving you; correct?

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

7 MR. WARDLE: Including physical and verbal
8 abuse, but you didn't mention anything about sexual abuse?

9 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: That's right.

10 MR. WARDLE: Okay. And do you remember if
11 he wrote any of those things down?

12 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I didn't see what he was
13 writing down. He had the book turned away from me and just
14 kept writing every time I talked.

15 MR. WARDLE: Did he make any promises to you
16 about what he would do with this information?

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: He told me he would get me
18 out of that home. He just kept promising me he would get me
19 out.

20 MR. WARDLE: And did you assume from that
21 that he would talk to other people at the Children's Aid
22 about what you had told him?

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I did.

24 MR. WARDLE: Did he ever say to you that he
25 would discuss your case with, you know, his superior or

1 whoever he reported to?

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I don't remember. I don't
3 remember. I just remember having to call him over and over
4 again.

5 **MR. WARDLE:** All right.

6 I don't know if you've had a look at any of
7 the documents that have been produced, but it appears there
8 are records -- and I'm not going to show you those records
9 -- indicating that the relationship between the Huberts and
10 the CAS ended for other reasons.

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I ---

12 **MR. WARDLE:** You're aware of that?

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I'm aware of that.

14 **MR. WARDLE:** And I take it that that's
15 something that surprises you?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I think it's a joke.

17 **MR. WARDLE:** Okay. Let me just ask you
18 briefly about one other area. When you were describing to
19 us earlier this morning about really the end of your
20 relationship with CAS when you were 19 ---

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

22 **MR. WARDLE:** --- you at that point had been
23 in care for 14 years?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Just about 15 years, yes.

25 **MR. WARDLE:** Because you were 19 years old?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Nineteen (19) years old,
2 yes.

3 **MR. WARDLE:** And you had been first with the
4 Huberts, then at the Lapensee home and then finally with
5 the DeRondes, as I understand it?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

7 **MR. WARDLE:** Is it fair to say that what you
8 told us this morning, that you were -- you felt you were
9 unready to go from there into the outside world?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. I wasn't prepared.

11 **MR. WARDLE:** And did you get any assistance
12 from the Agency in terms of how to prepare yourself, how to
13 deal with being out on your own in terms of, you know,
14 banking, sort of day-to-day ---

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Nothing. I didn't even
16 know how to do groceries. I had never been taken grocery
17 shopping. I was never shown how to pay a phone bill, never
18 shown anything.

19 **MR. WARDLE:** And is that something that, if
20 it had been offered to you, you would have made use of?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. I think every child
22 who leaves the system should be well educated as to how to
23 budget, how to afford to live, how to grocery shop, pay
24 bills, everything, anything you do for your own child.

25 **MR. WARDLE:** Thank you very much, Roberta.

1 I have no further questions for you.

2 Thank you, Mr. Commissioner.

3 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

4 I take it, Mr. Chisholm, you're going to be
5 going last?

6 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Yes, please, Mr.
7 Commissioner.

8 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

9 So then we would go to Mr. Rose.

10 **MR. ROSE:** No questions.

11 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

12 Mr. Kloeze?

13 **MR. KLOEZE:** Mr. Commissioner, counsel for
14 the OPP has just spoken to me, indicating that she might be
15 raising an issue regarding Crown involvement. I prefer to
16 go after her, if that's possible?

17 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. Thank you.

18 Ms. Lalji.

19 **MS. LALJI:** I have no questions.

20 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

21 Ms. Lahaie.

22 **MS. LAHAIE:** Good afternoon, Mr.

23 Commissioner.

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Good afternoon.

25 --- CROSS-EXAMINATION BY/CONTRE-INTERROGATOIRE PAR MS.

1 **LAHAIE:**

2 **MS. LAHAIE:** Good afternoon, Ms.
3 Archambault. My name is Diane Lahaie and I am counsel for
4 the OPP at this Inquiry.

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Pardon?

6 **MS. LAHAIE:** My name is Diane Lahaie and I'm
7 counsel for the Ontario Provincial Police at this Cornwall
8 Public Inquiry.

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Okay.

10 **MS. LAHAIE:** I want to tell you how sorry I
11 am for your troubles, Ma'am, and what you've been through
12 in your lifetime.

13 I just have a few questions for you this
14 afternoon.

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Okay.

16 **MS. LAHAIE:** You indicated in your
17 examination in-chief, your questions from Mr. Engelmann,
18 that you were under the impression that the OPP were
19 investigating the allegations that you made. Is that
20 correct?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

22 **MS. LAHAIE:** And so I wish to refer you to
23 some documents and ask you some questions around those
24 documents in order to assist you and to assist Mr.
25 Commissioner to realize that the Ontario Provincial Police

1 were never contacted with respect to this investigation.

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I realize that now.

3 **MS. LAHAIE:** You realize that now?

4 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I realize they were never
5 contacted.

6 **MS. LAHAIE:** And how did you come to that
7 realization, Ma'am?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Just from different things
9 that I've looked over, different paperwork.

10 **MS. LAHAIE:** So I take it that ---

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Different people I've
12 talked to, that I've been in care with, the ones that were
13 left behind before -- I was taken out first of the Lapensee
14 home.

15 **MS. LAHAIE:** Yes.

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** And I talked to some of
17 the girls that were left behind and they said there were
18 never any OPP there. I talked to them recently like in the
19 last month.

20 **MS. LAHAIE:** And I take it that you,
21 yourself, never contacted the Ontario Provincial Police to
22 file any complaint. Is that correct?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Not at that time because I
24 thought it had already been done for me.

25 **MS. LAHAIE:** And you were under that

1 impression because you learned of that information from a
2 case worker or ---

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Mary Miller.

4 **MS. LAHAIE:** Okay.

5 Perhaps we'll just go through that brief
6 exercise. There are just a few documents which might shed
7 some light on that and might assist you as well in seeing
8 what occurred actually with respect to your case.

9 Without putting the occurrence report to you
10 because there are names of four other women who made
11 allegations about the Lapensee home. If I could suggest to
12 you that there was what's called a Serious Occurrence
13 Report that was prepared by a Mr. Ian MacLean, the group
14 home supervisor of the CAS, on December 1st, 1982. Do you
15 remember an investigation surrounding allegations that
16 other girls at the Lapensee Group Home would have made
17 regarding Brian Lapensee?

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

19 **MS. LAHAIE:** Okay. And if I suggest to you
20 that there was a report prepared by Mr. MacLean in relation
21 to that. Do you remember being questioned during the
22 preparation of that report? Is that the point in time when
23 you indicated that you had denied that he had approached
24 you?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I don't remember talking

1 to a police officer at any point in the time that I was in
2 care.

3 **MS. LAHAIE:** Oh, I am sorry, I used the word
4 investigation, I meant an investigation by members of the
5 Children's Aid Society.

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Oh, I don't understand the
7 question.

8 **MS. LAHAIE:** Okay. At a point in time this
9 morning, you indicated that you had originally denied that
10 Brian Lapensee had assaulted you. Do you remember that?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

12 **MS. LAHAIE:** Okay and was that in response
13 to being questioned by people at the Children's Aid
14 Society?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** By Mary Miller.

16 **MS. LAHAIE:** Okay. And would that have been
17 around the end of 1982? Around December of 1982?

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I can't tell you years.

19 **MS. LAHAIE:** Okay.

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I would assume.

21 **MS. LAHAIE:** I'm going to refer you, Ms.
22 Archambault, to a letter dated December 2nd, 1982. Mr.
23 Commissioner, this is Document Number 738539 and I've
24 reproduced the Bates page numbers. They are 7170834 to
25 7170835.

1 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

2 **THE REGISTRAR:** Exhibit 129.

3 Exhibit 129. Thank you.

4 **---EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO P-129:**

5 Letter from Thomas J. O'Brien to Mr. Robert
6 Nadon -December 2, 1982 [7170834]

7 **MS. LAHAIE:** Now I'll be asking that be
8 marked as the next exhibit Mr. Commissioner.

9 **THE COMMISSIONER:** It's been done. Thank
10 you.

11 **MS. LAHAIE:** Thank you.

12 This is a letter written by Thomas J.
13 O'Brien, Executive Director of the Children's Aid Society,
14 to Mr. Robert Nadon, the Program Supervisor of the
15 Children's Aid Society on December 2nd, 1982. Do you have a
16 copy of that with you now?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

18 **MS. LAHAIE:** And this is in response to the
19 Serious Occurrence Report that was prepared on December 1st,
20 1982 by the CAS in response to allegations made by four
21 young ladies at the Lapensee Group Home; that Brian
22 Lapensee would have been touching them inappropriately.

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Okay.

24 **MS. LAHAIE:** If we look at the first
25 paragraph of that letter it says:

1 "Dear Mr. Nadon, Further to my
2 telephone conversation of this morning,
3 I am enclosing a copy of the Serious
4 Occurrence Report pertaining to an
5 occurrence in one of our group homes.
6 In addition to keeping a copy of this
7 report on file, we are also sending a
8 copy to the group home parents. I am
9 satisfied the action taken thus far has
10 been appropriate and in line with the
11 handling of the serious occurrence."

12 And if we move on to the fourth paragraph:

13 "While I do not expect any action on
14 the part of the Crown attorney or the
15 police, I have decided to discuss the
16 whole matter with the Crown attorney
17 and have made an appointment with him."

18 And so you see from this letter, would you
19 agree that the course of action that was selected by the
20 Children's Aid Society was to contact the Crown attorney
21 and not the police?

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I see that now, yes.

23 **MS. LAHAIE:** Okay. If I can next turn your
24 attention to the same document Bates number 7170836.

25 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Exhibit 130?

1 ---EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO P-130:

2 Letter from Thomas J. O'Brien to Mr. Robert
3 Nadon - December 6, 1982 [7170836]

4 **MS. LAHAIE:** This is a letter dated December
5 6th, 1982, four days later by Thomas O'Brien to Mr. Robert
6 Nadon. It's in reference to the same Serious Occurrence
7 Report. We look at the first paragraph:

8 "As stated to you in my letter of
9 December 2nd, 1982, Mr. Ian MacLean and
10 I had a meeting with the Crown attorney
11 on Monday, December 6th, 1982 at 3:00
12 pm. After a brief discussion and
13 perusal of the report, it was felt that
14 no further legal action would be
15 taken."

16 And so you see from the first occurrence --
17 as a result of speaking with the Crown attorney, there's a
18 decision that's made that no legal action will be taken
19 against Brian Lapensee in response to the allegations of
20 the first four women who made a complaint about him, about
21 Brian Lapensee, and again, no police involvement. Would
22 you agree with that?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** You want me to agree that
24 that's what this paper says?

25 **MS. LAHAIE:** Well, that as a result of a

1 brief discussion and perusal of the report it was felt that
2 no further legal action would be taken. And so following a
3 meeting with members of the Children's Aid Society and the
4 Crown attorney, without consultation with the police,
5 there's a decision made that there's no further legal
6 action that's going to be taken.

7 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Well, just a minute now.
8 Mr. Kloeze is standing.

9 **MR. KLOEZE:** Mr. Commissioner, I have no
10 problem with Ms. Lahaie putting these documents to the
11 witness, but obviously they can't -- this witness is in no
12 position to confirm whether or not they stand for what they
13 say. I'm not sure that this evidence is very useful at
14 this point.

15 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Ms. Lahaie, how can that
16 be?

17 **MS. LAHAIE:** Well, it is what it is at this
18 point, Mr. Commissioner. It's a paper trail of the actions
19 that were taken by the various institutions in response to
20 allegations that had been made.

21 **THE COMMISSIONER:** No, but you're asking the
22 witness to interpret this whereas you know, last I checked,
23 I could read.

24 **MS. LAHAIE:** I understand the challenges
25 proceeding in this fashion. If I may just continue to

1 proceed and ask, Mr. Commissioner, to give it the weight
2 that you deem appropriate in the circumstances.

3 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

4 **MS. LAHAIE:** Thank you.

5 Do you recall an incident which occurred at
6 the Lapensee Group Home, Ms. Archambault, at Easter of '93
7 with ---

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

9 **MS. LAHAIE:** Pardon?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I do.

11 **MS. LAHAIE:** Okay. And these were the
12 events that resulted in you no longer residing at that
13 group home; is that correct?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

15 **MS. LAHAIE:** And this was, I think you'll
16 agree, the first time you revealed to Mary Miller that you
17 were touched inappropriately ---

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

19 **MS. LAHAIE:** --- in a sexual manner by Brian
20 Lapensee; is that correct?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

22 **MS. LAHAIE:** And if I could refer you to
23 Document number 738539 -- the same document, Mr.
24 Commissioner -- Bates numbers 7170817 to 7170821.

25 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Exhibit 131.

1 ---EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO P-131

2 Serious Occurrence Report re: Carenick
3 Group Home - April 5, 1983 7170817]

4 **MS. LAHAIE:** Thank you.

5 Ms. Archambault, this is a Serious
6 Occurrence Report like the first, which was created as a
7 result of the claims that you were making. You were the
8 primary focus of this particular report, this Serious
9 Occurrence Report, because you have revealed to the
10 Children's Aid Society that you were touched
11 inappropriately by Mr. Lapensee. And I want to direct your
12 attention please to the fifth page of that report.

13 This report was drafted by Mr. Ian MacLean
14 on April 11th, 1983 and he indicates at the top of that
15 page:

16 "Discussed our concerns and plan re
17 closing of Carenick Group Home ..."

18 That's with the Lapensee home was referred
19 to as.

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I know.

21 **MS. LAHAIE:** Yes.

22 "... and Mr. Robert Nadon, area
23 supervisor, he recommended we again
24 discuss the last events with the Crown
25 attorney or police."

1 You see that?

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I do.

3 **MS. LAHAIE:** Okay. And part of the
4 recommendations which flow from this report, at number two
5 below:

6 "The police or Crown attorney will
7 again be consulted on recommendation of
8 Mr. Robert Nadon re Brian Lapensee."

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I lost where you were.

10 **MS. LAHAIE:** I am sorry, Recommendations, on
11 that page.

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

13 **MS. LAHAIE:** The second recommendation.
14 They're numbered.

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

16 **MS. LAHAIE:**

17 "The police or Crown attorney will
18 again be consulted on recommendations
19 of Mr. Robert Nadon re Brian Lapensee."

20 And so ---

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Which means what?

22 **MS. LAHAIE:** Which means that either the
23 police or the Crown attorney would be consulted with
24 respect to your abuse at that location by Mr. Lapensee.

25 **THE COMMISSIONER:** That's your

1 interpretation of the letter as a document.

2 **MS. LAHAIE:** Well, Mr. Commissioner, those
3 are the printed words that that was the recommendation.

4 Would you agree that that was the
5 recommendation that was made by Mr. MacLean? It's a
6 printed recommendation on a report.

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Obviously he didn't know
8 what he was doing, did he? I don't mean to sound hostile
9 but you're sitting here telling me that there is all these
10 recommendations. Why didn't anyone arrest the -- arrest
11 him? Why didn't they look into it? Can you answer me
12 that?

13 **MS. LAHAIE:** I understand your frustration
14 Ma'am. I do.

15 If I could then just direct your attention -
16 - Mr. Commissioner, I haven't asked as we've proceeded
17 along but each of these documents, I would ask that they be
18 marked consecutively as exhibits in these proceedings.

19 **THE COMMISSIONER:** They have been.

20 **MS. LAHAIE:** Thank you.

21 The next is same document, Bates number
22 7170837.

23 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Exhibit number 132.

24 ---EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO P-132

25 Letter from Robert Nadon to Mr. T.J. O'Brien

1 - April 19, 1983 [7170837]

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Who are you representing
3 again, may I ask?

4 **MS. LAHAIE:** The Ontario Provincial Police.
5 You'll remember, at the beginning when I
6 started my questions what I wanted to satisfy you of, Ma'am
7 and Mr. Commissioner, is that there was no OPP
8 investigation with respect to the abuse that occurred.

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** So why are we doing all
10 this? I know, you know, you's were never involved, you's
11 were never asked.

12 **MS. LAHAIE:** I just ask for your patience
13 for just two more minutes. I'm almost finished.

14 The letter dated the 19th of April 1983 from
15 Robert Nadon to Mr. O'Brien. At this point in time, the
16 CAS is looking to close that group home and he begins with:

17 "Thank you for your letter and report
18 of April 12th, 1983 regarding the
19 closure of the Carenick Group Home."

20 And there's some discussion there with respect to Mr.
21 MacLean.

22 And then the final paragraph indicates:

23 "Furthermore, I understand that you
24 will be consulting with the Crown
25 attorney in relation to the latest

1 reported incident."

2 So you would agree, I take it, that the
3 letter indicates that they're going to be consulting with
4 the Crown. They're going ---

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. They're not going to
6 involve the OPP.

7 **MS. LAHAIE:** Pardon?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That they aren't going to
9 involve any police force whatsoever.

10 **MS. LAHAIE:** Exactly.

11 **THE COMMISSIONER:** That's exhibit 132 Madam
12 Clerk?

13 **THE REGISTRAR:** One-thirty-two (132).

14 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

15 **MS. LAHAIE:** The next is the same document
16 number Bates 7170909.

17 **---EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO P-133**

18 Letter from Thomas J. O'Brien to Alan Ain -
19 April 22, 1983 [7170909]

20 **MS. LAHAIE:** This is a letter dated April
21 22nd, 1983 again from Mr. Thomas O'Brien to Mr. Alan Ain,
22 Assistant Crown Attorney at the Cornwall address. And in
23 this letter, Mr. O'Brien of the CAS provides his
24 recommendations to Mr. Ain with respect to whether criminal
25 charges should be laid. I just direct your attention to

1 the third paragraph:

2 "While it is your decision as to
3 whether charges should be laid, I would
4 like to take the liberty of giving you
5 my opinion which is that there will not
6 be a necessity to pursue charges."

7 And so you'll agree that the letter would
8 seem to indicate that the CAS was not recommending that
9 charges be laid and provides three reasons for that.

10 You would agree that that's what the letter
11 states, Ms. Archambault?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Can I have a second
13 please?

14 **(SHORT PAUSE/COURTE PAUSE)**

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

16 **THE COMMISSIONER:** I understand, Ms.
17 Archambault, that -- Roberta, that this is upsetting to you
18 and we just have to go through a little bit of it so that
19 later on when the Children's Aid Society comes to explain
20 what the rationale was so that we understand where we're
21 going with it. So if you could be patient with us a little
22 more.

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I am trying to.

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** I know, I know.

25 **MS. LAHAIE:** Just two more.

1 On the same date, April 22nd, 1983, Bates
2 number 7170833.

3 **THE COMMISSIONER:** So the letter was 133.
4 This one is 134. Yes. Thank you. That's the letter dated
5 April 22nd, 1983.

6 **--- EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO P-134:**

7 Letter from Mr. Thomas J. O'Brien to
8 Mr. Robert Nadon - April 22, 1983
9 (7170833)

10 **MS. LAHAIE:** It's 7170833, a letter from Mr.
11 Thomas O'Brien to Mr. Robert Nadon, the Program Supervisor
12 at the Children's Aid Society, April 22nd, the same date.

13 "Dear Mr. Nadon. On Wednesday, April
14 20th, 1983, I discussed with the
15 Assistant Crown Attorney, Mr. Alain
16 Ain, the matter of the serious
17 occurrence in the Carenick Lapensee
18 group home. It was the opinion of the
19 Assistant Crown attorney that there
20 would not be a point in pursuing
21 charges against Brian Lapensee at this
22 time. I am writing this letter to you
23 so that you will know we did have a
24 contact with the Crown attorney and
25 further to this matter, I will be

1 sending to the Assistant Crown attorney
2 a copy of our serious occurrence
3 report. Should the Assistant Crown
4 attorney advise us that upon reviewing
5 the typed report, he does feel that
6 more action should be taken, we will
7 keep your office updated."

8 So this confirms, you will agree, that the
9 Crown attorney was consulted and that there would be no
10 criminal charges without further investigation unless the
11 Crown attorney directed.

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Can I ask a question?

13 **MS. LAHAIE:** Yes.

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** You just read to me, it
15 says, before "he does feel that more action should be
16 taken".

17 **MS. LAHAIE:** "Should the Assistant Crown
18 attorney advise us that upon reviewing the typed report, he
19 does feel that more..." -- so if the Crown attorney feels
20 that there would be reason that more action should be
21 taken, that the office would be updated.

22 And finally, the final document I wish to
23 refer you to is the final page of the report of Mr. MacLean
24 dated January 7, 1985, Bates 7170904.

25 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Exhibit 135.

1 **--- EXHIBIT NO./PIÈCE NO P-135:**

2 Excerpt from Social History of Lapensee
3 Foster Home (7170904)

4 **MS. LAHAIE:** I will direct you to the third
5 paragraph:

6 "In reference to the serious occurrence
7 reports..."

8 There are now two serious occurrence
9 reports.

10 "... both reports are on file and have
11 been reviewed by Mr. O'Brien, Director,
12 Mr. Robert Nadon, Program Supervisor,
13 with Ministry of Community and Social
14 Services and the Crown attorney. No
15 charges were laid on Brian."

16 You will agree that there is no mention of
17 police involvement.

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Did you have these all
19 this time?

20 **MS. LAHAIE:** I'm unaware how long the
21 various parties have had them. We received them
22 approximately a week ago, but you would agree that there's
23 no mention of police involvement?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** None.

25 **MS. LAHAIE:** Thank you for your time, Ms.

1 Archambault. Those are all my questions. Good luck to
2 you, Ma'am.

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Thank you.

4 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right. Thank you.
5 Mr. Carroll?

6 **MR. CARROLL:** Nothing, thank you.

7 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

8 All right. So then we go to Mr. Kloeze for
9 the Attorney General.

10 **MR. KLOEZE:** Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. I
11 have no questions.

12 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

13 Mr. Chisholm.

14 Oh, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, here we go. For
15 the school board, Ms. Tymochenko. I have you as not here.
16 Isn't that amazing. It's an old one. Okay. You're right,
17 it's right here. I'm sorry.

18 **--- CROSS-EXAMINATION BY/CONTRE-INTERROGATOIRE PAR MS.**

19 **TYMOCHENKO:**

20 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** Thank you. I don't intend
21 to be very long.

22 **THE COMMISSIONER:** That's fine.

23 **MS. TYMOCHENKO:** My name is Nadya
24 Tymochenko. I am counsel for the Upper Canada District
25 School Board.

1 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

2 MS. TYMOCHENKO: I appreciate that this
3 disclosure is very difficult for you and particularly in
4 this forum. I just have a few questions of clarification
5 that I wanted to ask you.

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Okay.

7 MS. TYMOCHENKO: When you were speaking
8 earlier, you described an assault that took place at school
9 when you were in Grade 10, and I believe you said that you
10 were assaulted by another female student of the school?

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

12 MS. TYMOCHENKO: And I understand that you
13 were a regular day school student.

14 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Every day.

15 MS. TYMOCHENKO: So you weren't in a special
16 education class or ---

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No.

18 MS. TYMOCHENKO: I understand that your
19 teacher made a comment about you not sustaining a bruise as
20 a result of this assault from this other student.

21 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: That's right.

22 MS. TYMOCHENKO: And you responded that you
23 don't bruise easily because you've been hit so many times.

24 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: That's right.

25 MS. TYMOCHENKO: Do you think it is possible

1 that in the circumstances, the teacher thought you were
2 speaking about assaults by other students?

3 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No, because mostly I kept
4 to myself. MS. TYMOCHENKO: Okay. So ---

5 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I got along with my
6 teachers fantastically. Like they -- like I never had
7 really left to go anywhere. I mean, the main place I went
8 was right in front of the teachers -- well, the teachers'
9 lounge was right in front of the school and that's where I
10 stayed.

11 MS. TYMOCHENKO: So it was an unusual
12 occurrence to have an assault take place?

13 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Why they didn't do
14 anything back then or even just, like, even with that girl.
15 Nothing was ever done. I mean, like in this day and age,
16 you see someone punch someone in the face, something's
17 going to be done. Right?

18 MS. TYMOCHENKO: M'hm

19 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Nothing was done back
20 then.

21 MS. TYMOCHENKO: Okay. Thank you.
22 Those are all my questions.

23 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

24 Mr. Chisholm?

25 --- CROSS-EXAMINATION BY/CONTRE-INTERROGATOIRE PAR MR.

1 CHISHOLM:

2 MR. CHISHOLM: Good afternoon, Mr.
3 Commissioner.

4 THE COMMISSIONER: Good afternoon.

5 MR. CHISHOLM: Good afternoon, Ms.
6 Archambault. My name is Peter Chisholm. I'm counsel for
7 the Children's Aid Society of the united counties of
8 Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry. I have a few questions for
9 you today, please.

10 First off, I would like to thank you very
11 much for the recommendations that you provided to the
12 Commission. My client will certainly listen to those and
13 act accordingly. I understand that some of your
14 recommendations that you made reference to are, in fact,
15 already implemented.

16 Is that your understanding?

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No.

18 MR. CHISHOLM: You don't have an
19 understanding?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I don't think any of them
21 are in effect; are they?

22 MR. CHISHOLM: Well, I'm interested in your
23 understanding. You have no understanding of that?

24 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Of what? What is the
25 question?

1 **MR. CHISHOLM:** The recommendations that you
2 made reference to this morning.

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** What I recommended?

4 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Yes, you told Mr. Engelmann
5 about some recommendations.

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. What I'd like to see
7 happen?

8 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Yes.

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Okay.

10 **MR. CHISHOLM:** In terms of your
11 understanding, your understanding is that none of those
12 recommendations have been implemented. Is that your
13 understanding?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That's right.

15 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Okay. If I could take you
16 back to your evidence of this morning. You spoke of you
17 being picked up and taken away in a white vehicle without
18 any knowledge of the fact that you were being taken into
19 care. Do you recall telling Mr. Engelmann about that
20 today?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I do.

22 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And I realize you were quite
23 young then, but do I take it from your evidence that you
24 have no recollection of being told in advance by your
25 mother or a worker from the CAS that you were going to be

1 taken into care?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No.

3 MR. CHISHOLM: You have no recollection of
4 that?

5 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: None. I remember a woman
6 taking care of us while my mother was being operated on.

7 MR. CHISHOLM: Yes, that was a homemaker
8 that came into your home. Is that right?

9 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: That's all I knew about
10 until they took us.

11 MR. CHISHOLM: And you have no recollection
12 of any discussions ---

13 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No.

14 MR. CHISHOLM: --- about you going into
15 care.

16 Now, in your evidence in-chief today, you
17 told us that about two or two and a half months ago, you
18 figured out what was happening. Do you recall telling Mr.
19 Engelmann that?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I do.

21 MR. CHISHOLM: Now, am I correct in
22 understanding that you were making a reference to what you
23 told us about what happened in the Hubert home with respect
24 to sexual abuse?

25 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

1 **MR. CHISHOLM:** That's what you were speaking
2 of?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** The sexual abuse in the
4 Hubert home I had a breakthrough. That's what they called
5 it, yes.

6 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Am I correct that it was only
7 two or two and a half months ago that you had that
8 revelation?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** It's not a revelation,
10 it's a breakthrough.

11 **MR. CHISHOLM:** A breakthrough. Am I correct
12 that it was only two or two and a half months ago that you
13 had that breakthrough?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

15 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And prior to that, you had no
16 understanding of being sexually abused in that home. Is
17 that right?

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** All I knew there was
19 something about his hand that I could not forget.

20 **MR. CHISHOLM:** But until two or two and a
21 half months ago, you didn't have that breakthrough?

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That's right.

23 **MR. CHISHOLM:** If I could take you back to
24 what you described as the first suicide attempt.

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

1 **MR. CHISHOLM:** That was when you were I
2 understand your evidence to be 11 years old, about 11?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Eleven (11) years old,
4 yes.

5 **MR. CHISHOLM:** What school would you have
6 been attending at that time?

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Riverside Heights Public
8 School.

9 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Riverside.
10 And am I correct that you were admitted into
11 the Winchester Memorial Hospital?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

13 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Right?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

15 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And in terms of the events,
16 from the time that you had passed out in the Hubert home,
17 am I correct in understanding that Huberts had taken you to
18 the hospital straight away?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Not until they cleaned me
20 up first.

21 **MR. CHISHOLM:** How long would that have
22 taken?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** How long does it take to
24 bathe someone from head to toe while they're unconscious
25 and redress them?

1 **MR. CHISHOLM:** So you have no memory ---

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I remember that happening.

3 I was laying in the chair, in the lazyboy chair in the
4 living room while they did this.

5 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Unconscious?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, semi-conscious.

7 **MR. CHISHOLM:** You were semi -- and you ---

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I remember being put into
9 the car, and that's the last thing I remember until I woke
10 up in the hospital.

11 **MR. CHISHOLM:** So you remember being ---

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I remember being bathed
13 down. I remember the conversation going on around me.

14 **MR. CHISHOLM:** But you can't tell us how
15 long it would have taken for that to have taken place.

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** How long does it take you
17 to get dressed?

18 **THE COMMISSIONER:** No, no.

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Ten (10), 15 minutes, 15,
20 20 minutes.

21 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Roberta?

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** What? I don't understand
23 the question.

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Well, no, the question
25 was, do you remember how long it took them to do that?

1 And so ---

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: If I wasn't coherent, no.

3 THE COMMISSIONER: Well ---

4 MR. CHISHOLM: That's fair. Thank you.

5 Now, in terms of your recollection of how
6 long you stayed in the hospital, can you tell us how long
7 you were there for?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: A couple of days.

9 MR. CHISHOLM: You believe it to be two
10 days?

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Two or three days, yes.

12 MR. CHISHOLM: Is it possible you were there
13 only overnight?

14 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Could have been. I don't
15 know.

16 MR. CHISHOLM: But that's possible?

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I don't know.

18 MR. CHISHOLM: In terms of the date of this
19 incident, if I told you it was October 6th, 1976, when you
20 were admitted to the hospital, would you agree that that
21 would be about correct in terms of the timing?

22 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I'm no good at dates.

23 MR. CHISHOLM: That's fair.

24 Would you agree with me that you were
25 examined by medical professionals at that hospital. Is

1 that right?

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I don't know. I was
3 unconscious.

4 **MR. CHISHOLM:** The entire time you were
5 there?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Until when I came to. I
7 remember being looked at, like, pulse checked and stuff
8 like that. That was about it.

9 **MR. CHISHOLM:** By doctors or nurses?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They talked to the
11 Huberts.

12 **MR. CHISHOLM:** But in terms of who was it
13 that was checking your pulse?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I know, I remember a
15 doctor, I remember a nurse, but ---

16 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And you don't recall any
17 other examinations that would have been conducted on you by
18 the medical people?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No.

20 **MR. CHISHOLM:** In terms of a -- you would
21 agree with me that whatever examination that was conducted
22 by the medical staff was an unplanned medical examination
23 as opposed to one where you were told you have a doctor's
24 appointment next week, Ms. Archambault?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

1 **MR. CHISHOLM:** You'd agree that was
2 unplanned?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** It was unplanned, yes.

4 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Do you have any knowledge as
5 to whether or not the doctors and nurses made any
6 observations with respect to bruises or other physical
7 indications of abuse?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No.

9 **MR. CHISHOLM:** You have no knowledge of
10 that?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No.

12 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Can you tell us whether or
13 not the doctors and the nurses made any inquiries of you as
14 to what would have caused this incident to happen, the
15 incident of you passing out?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Nobody asked me.

17 **MR. CHISHOLM:** You are quite certain of
18 that?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I'm positive, because I
20 would have told them.

21 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And no one asked you whether
22 you had ingested any substances in the ---

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No.

24 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Prior to you coming to the
25 hospital?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, because I would have
2 told them.

3 **MR. CHISHOLM:** You told us about -- this
4 morning you told Mr. Engelmann about you attending at your
5 friend's house, and I believe you said the friend's name is
6 Robin Seymore. Did I understand that to be the case?

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

8 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Is Robin a boy or a girl, at
9 the time?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Robin is female.

11 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Female.

12 And where did Robin live.

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Robin lived three or four
14 miles away.

15 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Four miles away from?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Three to four miles away
17 from where I was.

18 **MR. CHISHOLM:** From the Hubert home?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Well, at least it seemed
20 to me as a child that's how far she lived.

21 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And that's fair.

22 And Robin Seymore's mother's name -- do you
23 know what Robin Seymore's mother's name was?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I don't remember.

25 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Do you keep in touch with

1 Robin Seymore?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I haven't seen her since
3 high school, when I left Seaway District High.

4 MR. CHISHOLM: And if I understand your
5 evidence that you gave to Mr. Engelmann this morning, you
6 gave a detailed account of the abuse that you were
7 suffering ---

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I did.

9 MR. CHISHOLM: --- at the Hubert home. Is
10 that right?

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I did.

12 MR. CHISHOLM: You told us this morning
13 about you being involved in a -- or being punched
14 repeatedly by another student at the school. Is that
15 right?

16 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

17 MR. CHISHOLM: And you were attending the
18 school in Iroquois at that time. Is that right?

19 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: M'hm.

20 MR. CHISHOLM: And that was a high school.
21 Is that right?

22 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, it was.

23 MR. CHISHOLM: Is that Seaway District High
24 School?

25 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: District High, yes.

1 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Did you take gym class when
2 you were attending high school?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I took the one that you
4 had to get to get your credit. That was in grade 9.

5 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Grade 9.

6 You told us -- did I understand your
7 evidence to be this morning, you said you were quite
8 athletic?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Beforehand, yes.

10 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Before?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Before I entered high
12 school I was into a lot of gymnastics. I was into
13 cheerleading. I was into track and field.

14 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And your cheerleading and
15 gymnastics and track and field took place prior to you
16 attending Seaway District High School. Is that right?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

18 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Okay. So prior to grade 9;
19 is that right?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Prior to grade nine, yes.

21 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Okay. And you did tell us
22 about you taking the compulsory gym class to get your grade
23 12 credit. Is that right?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

25 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And is that a grade 9 gym

1 class?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, it is.

3 MR. CHISHOLM: And in terms of gym attire
4 during that course, what would the students typically wear?

5 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: You had a choice between
6 track pants or shorts and a shirt, a T-shirt.

7 MR. CHISHOLM: And what, in fact -- do you
8 have a recollection of what you would wear?

9 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Never shorts.

10 MR. CHISHOLM: A pair of shorts?

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Never.

12 MR. CHISHOLM: Never shorts?

13 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Never shorts. The only
14 time I wore shorts was when I was at the house.

15 MR. CHISHOLM: Have you ever ---

16 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Any time I left the house
17 I never was in shorts.

18 MR. CHISHOLM: Have you ---

19 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: If it was in a public
20 place I never wore shorts.

21 THE COMMISSIONER: And why is that?

22 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Because my legs were
23 readily banged up. I had scars on my legs.

24 MR. CHISHOLM: And in terms of the shirt you
25 would wear, what type of -- do you recall what type of

1 shirt you would wear to gym class?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: It depended. A sweater
3 over top of a T-shirt. I always hid underneath layers of
4 clothes.

5 MR. CHISHOLM: And in terms of prior to and
6 after gym class, would you change at the school?

7 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Not in front of anyone.
8 I'd go in a bathroom stall.

9 MR. CHISHOLM: You'd change in a bathroom
10 stall. Is that right?

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

12 MR. CHISHOLM: You told us this morning
13 about the Huberts' son who -- I believe, if I understand
14 your evidence correctly, you indicated you were expecting
15 him to come and rescue you. Do you recall that?

16 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

17 MR. CHISHOLM: And that person's name would
18 be? Do you recall his name?

19 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Raymond.

20 MR. CHISHOLM: Raymond?

21 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Raymond Hubert.

22 MR. CHISHOLM: Raymond Hubert. And he was
23 married?

24 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

25 MR. CHISHOLM: And his wife's name?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Susan.

2 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And you indicated you had an
3 expectation that you were going to be rescued by Raymond?

4 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** It was wishful thinking,
5 yes.

6 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And you had an understanding
7 that the falling out that Raymond had with his parents was
8 over the treatment you were receiving at the home. Is that
9 ---

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That's what I overheard.

11 **MR. CHISHOLM:** You overheard that from whom?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I overheard the
13 conversation between him and his parents.

14 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Okay. And that had taken
15 place at the Hubert home, I take it? Is that right?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

17 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And do you recall what was
18 said in that conversation?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Just that they just wanted
20 to take me away for -- show me -- like for a weekend, just
21 to, you know, show me -- actually they were actually -- the
22 conversation was basically like they would -- I was under
23 the understanding basically as a child, from what I
24 remember of the conversation, they were thinking of taking
25 me.

1 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Raymond and his wife?

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Raymond and his wife.

3 Because the Huberts didn't want me.

4 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Did you hear Raymond ---

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Raymond wanted to take me
6 for the weekend to see how I liked it at his place for the
7 weekend.

8 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Did you hear Raymond tell his
9 parents that he did not approve of the way that you were
10 being treated?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. There was a big
12 argument about it previously.

13 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And in terms of the
14 chronology, he wanted to take you away that weekend but --
15 -

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** With the understanding
17 that nothing was said outside of the family.

18 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And when was the argument in
19 relation to the conversation about you being taken away for
20 the weekend?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They made a decision a
22 couple of weeks beforehand that I would go for the weekend,
23 in three weeks, three to six weeks or something like that -
24 - no, it was five weeks. It was five weeks. That's what
25 it was. It was five weeks. They decided in five weeks if

1 I could behave well enough they'd let him take me for the
2 weekend.

3 MR. CHISHOLM: And in terms of -- I
4 understand you overheard at least two conversations between
5 Raymond and his parents?

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

7 MR. CHISHOLM: One about you being taken
8 away for a period of time?

9 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: M'hm.

10 MR. CHISHOLM: And prior to that you
11 overheard an argument wherein Raymond indicated that he did
12 not approve of the treatment you were receiving in that
13 home. Is that right?

14 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: That's right.

15 MR. CHISHOLM: How much -- what period of
16 time was there between those two conversations?

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Actually between the time
18 he had the first argument with his parents there was about
19 a two to three year-gap between their talking to each
20 other.

21 MR. CHISHOLM: So ---

22 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: They only talked on the
23 phone once every so often after that.

24 MR. CHISHOLM: And that argument had to deal
25 with your treatment?

1 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: That's right.

2 MR. CHISHOLM: And you overheard that
3 argument?

4 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, I did.

5 MR. CHISHOLM: And the next -- am I right
6 that the next time that you would have been privy to a
7 conversation would have been two or three years later?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

9 MR. CHISHOLM: And that was when Raymond was
10 asking if you could go to his home?

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, he made nice with his
12 parents and made an arrangement for me to go spend the
13 weekend, and I was told if I could behave for five weeks,
14 and I counted the days off, that I would be allowed to go
15 on the weekend. I was supposed to go Friday after school.

16 MR. CHISHOLM: You told us today about, if I
17 understand your evidence correctly, you placed a call to
18 Bryan Keough while you were at Seaway District High School.
19 Is that right?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: That's right.

21 MR. CHISHOLM: And that same day -- if I
22 understand your evidence correctly, that same day Mr.
23 Keough attended at the school. Is that right?

24 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: It could have been a day
25 or two, but no more than a day or two that he came and met

1 me at the school.

2 MR. CHISHOLM: And do I understand that to
3 be the first meeting of the series of meetings ---

4 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

5 MR. CHISHOLM: --- that you described that
6 lasted some two or three months that were on a frequency of
7 one to two times a week?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Once, sometimes two times
9 a week, yes.

10 MR. CHISHOLM: But that was the first
11 meeting? You instigated that first meeting?

12 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I instigated the first
13 meeting.

14 MR. CHISHOLM: And within a day or two Mr.
15 Keough attended at the high school?

16 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes. I told him I wanted
17 to meet him outside the home.

18 MR. CHISHOLM: And you told us during your
19 evidence in-chief this morning that Mr. Keough would sign
20 you in and out of the school?

21 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes. I remember him going
22 in and talking at the office saying he was going to -- at
23 one or two points going into the office and saying that I
24 was going to be with him, that I wasn't skipping. But
25 whether he did that every time or not or whether or not I

1 told them that I was meeting him ---

2 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Is it fair to say ---

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** --- there were different
4 times that I'd tell them and different times he'd tell
5 them.

6 **MR. CHISHOLM:** So is it fair to say that
7 every time that you met with Mr. Keough, either he would
8 tell the school officials or you would tell one of the
9 school officials?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes. Yes.

11 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And with respect to your
12 recollection of the time, we know at least once Mr. Keough
13 told the school officials that he was going to meet with
14 you and that you were not skipping class. You overheard
15 that conversation with Mr. Keough and ---

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Actually, I met him in the
17 office. That's how I knew he was there.

18 **MR. CHISHOLM:** In the principal's office?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** In the main office.

20 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Main office.

21 And during this period of time, I take it,
22 you were -- the situation in the Hubert home as you
23 described had not changed. You were still being -- your
24 evidence would be that you were being abused at that home.
25 Is that right?

1 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

2 MR. CHISHOLM: Physically abused,
3 emotionally abused, right?

4 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

5 MR. CHISHOLM: And am I correct in
6 understanding that you did not disclose any sexual abuse to
7 Mr. Keough?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Like I said, at the time I
9 had blocked it from myself even.

10 MR. CHISHOLM: You did not?

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: So I did not, no.

12 MR. CHISHOLM: Did you ever -- I take it all
13 of those meetings with Mr. Keough that you described took
14 place in his vehicle. Is that right?

15 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

16 MR. CHISHOLM: And were there any other
17 persons present during ---

18 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No.

19 MR. CHISHOLM: --- during those meetings?
20 No.

21 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Just him and I.

22 MR. CHISHOLM: And in terms of you
23 discussing the physical abuse, did you tell him about the
24 marks and bruises that you had on your body?

25 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I told him about it. I

1 showed him the scars.

2 MR. CHISHOLM: So you showed him the ---

3 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: They faded. They have
4 faded over the last 40 years.

5 MR. CHISHOLM: Over the last ---

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: There are scars. There
7 are two that are still visible.

8 MR. CHISHOLM: And ---

9 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: And I also told him of the
10 shotgun being put to my head.

11 MR. CHISHOLM: The scars faded over the last
12 how many years? I'm sorry, I didn't hear your answer.

13 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: The last 40 years. I'm 41
14 years old. Scars fade.

15 MR. CHISHOLM: And you have two scars still
16 today that are ---

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I've got a knife mark
18 across the bridge of my nose that is still visible.

19 MR. CHISHOLM: A knife mark across the
20 bridge of your nose.

21 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: For bending down to untie
22 my shoe and him pulling his knife up holding it by pulling
23 it up because he was angry with me for something.

24 They were vindictive people.

25 MR. CHISHOLM: In terms of the scars on your

1 legs, you have two scars that are still present there?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No, just one. One on my
3 nose. I said I had two visible scars still, one on my nose
4 and one on my leg.

5 MR. CHISHOLM: Right around ---

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: It runs along the right
7 leg below the knee.

8 MR. CHISHOLM: Below the knee.

9 And in terms of the -- you describe a
10 shotgun being put to your head. Do I understand your
11 evidence correctly?

12 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

13 MR. CHISHOLM: And you're telling us that
14 was by Mr. Hubert?

15 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

16 MR. CHISHOLM: And you're telling us you
17 disclosed that to Bryan Keough?

18 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

19 MR. CHISHOLM: And that meeting took place
20 in his vehicle at the Seaway high school?

21 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

22 MR. CHISHOLM: What was Mr. Keough's
23 reaction when you told him about this incident involving
24 the shotgun being placed to your head?

25 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: He said he would find out

1 whether or not there was one in the house. I told him
2 exactly where it was kept even.

3 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Was there any other reaction
4 on the part of Mr. Keough after you told him about the
5 shotgun being placed to your head?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** There was never any more
7 mention about it. He said he'd investigate. Everything I
8 ever told him he told me he'd investigate. "I'm going to
9 look into it. I'll look into it."

10 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And you told us that Mr.
11 Keough was recording -- was writing something down whenever
12 he would meet with you during those meetings, right?

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

14 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And you don't know what it
15 was that he was writing down, right?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That's right.

17 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Am I correct that you assumed
18 that he was writing down what you told him?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

20 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Did Mr. Keough ever offer to
21 have you examined by a doctor?

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No.

23 **MR. CHISHOLM:** In terms of the incident
24 involving the knife across your nose, can you give us a
25 timeframe as to when that incident took place?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Not really. The abuse was
2 basically so much that I couldn't give you a timeline. I
3 was a child.

4 **MR. CHISHOLM:** In terms of medical
5 attention, I take it you had no medical attention with
6 respect to that injury?

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** To any injury I obtained
8 there I never got medical attention.

9 **MR. CHISHOLM:** In terms of any reaction from
10 people who would have observed you shortly after the knife
11 incident, was there anyone who had a reaction?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Nobody saw me during that
13 time because it was during the summertime.

14 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And how long did it take to
15 heal from that incident?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I don't remember.

17 **MR. CHISHOLM:** In terms of the incident
18 involving the shotgun, can you tell us when that would have
19 taken place?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Every Sunday morning while
21 dusting the bedroom, their bedroom.

22 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Mr. Hubert would put a
23 shotgun to your head every Sunday morning?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I never understood why
25 while I was dusting the room he'd have to be there cleaning

1 that shotgun and have the shells out and put it to my head
2 and tell me that he could shoot me, bury me in the
3 backyard. I was already a problem child, possible runaway.
4 Nobody would believe or even bother to look for me if he
5 killed me and put me in the backyard and buried me.

6 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And in terms of the frequency
7 of those incidents where he would point the shotgun to your
8 head, do I take it to be that it was generally every Sunday
9 while you were dusting?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Which was up until I
11 contacted Bryan Keough, and then it stopped. A lot of
12 things stopped at that point when they found out I was --
13 when they got their first call about me from the Children's
14 Aid that I was meeting with Bryan Keough, which was
15 supposed to be a secret, everything stopped. All the abuse
16 stopped.

17 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And how is it that you became
18 aware of a call from the CAS to the ---

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They told me.

20 **MR. CHISHOLM:** The Huberts told you?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They unpacked me and told
22 me I wasn't going anywhere.

23 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Is that Mr. or Mrs. who told
24 you that?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Mrs. Hubert unpacked me

1 and told me I wasn't going anywhere.

2 MR. CHISHOLM: And what did they say about
3 the call that they received from the CAS? What did she
4 say?

5 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: "They're not going to
6 believe you. You're a liar. You're a thief."

7 MR. CHISHOLM: And in terms of disclosing
8 the shotgun incident to Mr. Keough, did you ever advise
9 anyone else at any point in your life of the fact that Mr.
10 Hubert would put a shotgun to your head every Sunday
11 morning?

12 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: The Lapensees knew about
13 it.

14 MR. CHISHOLM: You told the Lapensees?

15 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: The Lapensees knew about
16 it. Mary Miller knew about it.

17 MR. CHISHOLM: Okay. Let's just go through.
18 Is it your evidence that you told Mr. Lapensee that?

19 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: At first I trusted them
20 and I told them everything.

21 MR. CHISHOLM: So you told Mr. Lapensee?

22 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: They asked me why I moved
23 out of there. I told them.

24 MR. CHISHOLM: You told Mr. Lapensee?

25 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I was under the impression

1 I left there. I was taken out of there because of the way
2 they were.

3 MR. CHISHOLM: I just want to make sure that
4 I understand your evidence, Ms. Archambault. You told Mr.
5 Lapensee that on a regular basis Mr. Hubert would put a
6 shotgun to your head; is that right?

7 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: On top of other things,
8 yes.

9 MR. CHISHOLM: And you told that to Mrs.
10 Lapensee; is that right?

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

12 MR. CHISHOLM: And you told both of them
13 that upon first arriving at the Lapensee home; is that
14 right?

15 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I told them about the
16 third-degree burns to my hands that were never treated. I
17 told them about everything.

18 MR. CHISHOLM: So you told them about the
19 shotgun incidents. You told them about third-degree burns
20 to your hands.

21 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: That were never treated,
22 yes.

23 MR. CHISHOLM: I don't believe I heard
24 anything of that this morning.

25 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: No, you wouldn't have.

1 It's not something I talk about. I try not to relive the
2 pain of being labeled a liar.

3 **MR. CHISHOLM:** In terms of the third-degree
4 burns to your hands, your evidence is, I take it, that they
5 were inflicted while you were at that first foster home?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I burned them on doing a
7 fire I had built on the beach with stones, and when I
8 showed them my hands, I was made to wait in the car. He
9 unpacked his fishing gear and went back fishing for an hour
10 and then took me home and said, "For being so stupid you
11 will be punished." And to pay for my stupidity I was made
12 to chop wood and stack it. I don't remember for how long.
13 My sister might remember.

14 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Was anyone -- did anyone
15 witness the incidents involving the shotgun being placed to
16 your head at the Hubert home?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No.

18 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Your sister never saw that?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, my sister never saw
20 that.

21 **MR. CHISHOLM:** In terms of the disclosure to
22 Mr. and Mrs. Lapensee, you told us today that you told them
23 about the shotgun incidents, burns to your hands. The
24 knife incident -- the knife injury to your nose, did you
25 tell them about that?

1 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

2 MR. CHISHOLM: And you told us that you told
3 Mary Miller about the incident involving a shotgun. Do I
4 understand that to be your evidence?

5 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

6 MR. CHISHOLM: And when was it that you told
7 Mary Miller that?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: When I first, first got to
9 know her, the first few visits. She seemed so nice, a
10 female, that she'd understand. I thought that's why I was
11 out of there, because Bryan believed me and I told him all
12 of this evidence beforehand. So there was no stopping
13 telling her, was there?

14 MR. CHISHOLM: And the first few visits that
15 you had with Ms. Miller at the Lapensee Group Home; is that
16 right?

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

18 MR. CHISHOLM: And over how many visits with
19 Ms. Miller did you make these disclosures to her?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I don't know how long it
21 took me to realize that she was just as trustworthy as any
22 other adult I had never met in my life. It didn't take
23 long.

24 MR. CHISHOLM: Would the discussions with
25 respect to the shotgun incidents take place on one day or

1 more than one day?

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Pardon?

3 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Your discussions with Ms.
4 Miller about the shotgun being placed to your head every
5 Sunday ---

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I must have mentioned it a
7 couple of times.

8 **MR. CHISHOLM:** A couple of times to Ms.
9 Miller.

10 You've told us about disclosing this to Mr.
11 Keough, Mr. Lapensee, Mrs. Lapensee, Ms. Miller. Were
12 there any other individuals that you disclosed these
13 incidents to?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I'm just trying to think
15 here who else I could have told. I had one friend -- well,
16 two friends. One was Donna and the other one was -- Donna
17 was the one when I was still living at the Huberts, she
18 knew what was going on, but unfortunately she is dead at
19 this time.

20 **MR. CHISHOLM:** She is dead?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** She died in a car
22 accident.

23 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And ---

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** And the only other person
25 that knows all about this is my sister, who I have

1 repeatedly and up until just recently have tried to speak
2 to about it over and over again, to no avail.

3 **MR. CHISHOLM:** I'm sorry?

4 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** To no avail. She doesn't
5 want to hear about it.

6 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Your sister is Jennifer; is
7 that right?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That's right.

9 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And am I correct in
10 understanding your evidence that you told Jennifer that you
11 had a shotgun pointed at your head most Sunday mornings by
12 Mr. Hubert?

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

14 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And when would that
15 discussion with your sister have taken place?

16 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** From the time we left
17 there. I left there first and I would go visit her.

18 **MR. CHISHOLM:** She was married by that
19 point; is that right?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** By the time she went, she
21 first got married, yes. Actually, no, it was before she
22 got married she was living with the couple that she was
23 living with. I would see her there some weekends. We
24 would actually be able to talk for the first time in 10
25 years.

1 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And what was your sister's
2 reaction to the fact that when you told her about being
3 assaulted by the end of a shotgun?

4 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Forget about it.

5 **MR. CHISHOLM:** She told you to forget about
6 it?

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** "Forget about it. Get on
8 with your life."

9 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Do you recall Mr. Keough --
10 before ---

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Keough.

12 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Before we leave this subject,
13 Donna's last name ---

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Swordfigure (phonetic).

15 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Do you know how to spell
16 that?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, I don't.

18 **MR. CHISHOLM:** She ---

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Her parents are still
20 alive. They still live in Riverside Heights. They still
21 live in side-by-side trailers.

22 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And she died in a motor
23 vehicle accident; is that right?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, she did.

25 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And do you recall what year

1 she died?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: She died the year -- she
3 died while I was up trying to make a life with my mother.
4 My mother found me on the street and told me that she had
5 gotten a call that she was dead.

6 MR. CHISHOLM: That's when you were at -- is
7 it Crystal Beach?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

9 MR. CHISHOLM: Crystal Beach, that's in
10 Ontario?

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, by Fort Erie.

12 MR. CHISHOLM: And that, you told -- sorry,
13 she died when you were at Crystal Beach?

14 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I was up in Fort Erie, in
15 Crystal Beach, yes.

16 MR. CHISHOLM: Do you recall Bryan Keough in
17 April of 1980 giving you three options with respect to the
18 Huberts home, being that you could stay there until the end
19 of July; move immediately, or that if you ran away, that
20 the OPP would be called?

21 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I remember being offered -
22 - I don't know anything about the OPP, but I remember being
23 offered the opportunity to move immediately.

24 MR. CHISHOLM: Yes.

25 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: And to stay until the end

1 of the school year and I told him, "I want out now. I've
2 been asking for three months. I want out now."

3 **MR. CHISHOLM:** So you recall Mr. Keough
4 giving you the option of leaving immediately?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

6 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Leaving that foster home
7 immediately. And you told Mr. Keough that you wanted out
8 immediately?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That was the whole point
10 of calling him the first day.

11 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Pardon me?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That was the point of
13 calling him right away. I wanted out. I wanted out now.

14 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Now, the discussions that you
15 had with Mary Miller, you recall Mary Miller asking you
16 about Brian Lapensee; is that right?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I do.

18 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And if I understand your
19 evidence from this morning, you initially denied to her
20 that there were any difficulties with Mr. Lapensee; is that
21 right?

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I lied to her.

23 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Were you aware of any
24 conditions imposed by the Children's Aid Society on the
25 Lapensees with respect to where Brian was permitted to be

1 in relation to ---

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: He was not supposed to be
3 anywhere near us.

4 MR. CHISHOLM: So you were made aware of
5 those conditions?

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Mary told us.

7 MR. CHISHOLM: I'm sorry; who told you?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Mary Miller told us.

9 MR. CHISHOLM: With respect to the last
10 incident, the suicide attempt you described to us, the
11 second one, you described taking a couple of bottles of
12 pills the night before. Do I understand your evidence
13 correctly?

14 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

15 MR. CHISHOLM: And hoping you weren't going
16 to wake up; is that right?

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: That's right.

18 MR. CHISHOLM: You woke up the next day and
19 you went to school; is that right?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

21 MR. CHISHOLM: Is that Charl-Lan District
22 High School you were attending then?

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes, it was.

24 MR. CHISHOLM: And while you were at Charl-
25 Lan, it was one of your friends who indicated to you that -

1 - observed that you were staggering and that your eyes
2 weren't in a normal fashion?

3 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: That's right.

4 MR. CHISHOLM: And your friend's name was?

5 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Andrew Brodeur.

6 MR. CHISHOLM: And at that point someone
7 called Mary Miller; is that right?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: He took me to the office.
9 They put me in the nurse's room and they told me they were
10 going to contact Mary Miller and he stayed with me until
11 she got there.

12 MR. CHISHOLM: Mary Miller arrived in short
13 order; is that fair to say?

14 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I don't know.

15 MR. CHISHOLM: That same day, is it fair to
16 say?

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: She was there before the
18 school day was out.

19 MR. CHISHOLM: What hospital did you attend?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I'm pretty sure it was the
21 General Hospital.

22 MR. CHISHOLM: In Cornwall; is that right?

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

24 MR. CHISHOLM: And it was Mrs. Miller that
25 took you there -- Ms. Miller?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Ms. Miller, yes.

2 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And am I correct in
3 understanding your evidence that after that incident you
4 never returned to the Lapensee home?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, I never did.

6 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Did you understand that the
7 Lapensee Group Home license was revoked after that
8 incident?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I was told they were
10 closed.

11 **MR. CHISHOLM:** You understand that to be the
12 case?

13 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

14 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And after leaving the
15 Lapensee home, you spent a short time in a third home; is
16 that right?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I did.

18 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And from there you went to
19 the deRonde home; is that right?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

21 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And if I understand your
22 evidence correctly, the deRondes were welcoming to you in
23 terms of trying to make you fit in with the family; is that
24 right?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

1 **MR. CHISHOLM:** You indicated in your
2 evidence today that you feel that you were cast out upon
3 you attaining the age of 18 ---

4 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Nineteen (19).

5 **MR. CHISHOLM:** --- 19, to fend for yourself?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

7 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Do you have any knowledge of
8 the Children's Aid Society making an application to extend
9 the time for ---

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Me to finish high school.
11 That was it.

12 **MR. CHISHOLM:** The time that you would be in
13 care.

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They told me I would be in
15 care until I finished high school. It was all right. I
16 had three months after that, after finishing high school,
17 that I no longer had a home. I was to find a place of my
18 own.

19 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And, in fact, was it not the
20 deRondes who helped you find an apartment after?

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

22 **MR. CHISHOLM:** They were quite a lot of
23 assistance to you; is that fair to say?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They helped me find a
25 home, yes.

1 **MR. CHISHOLM:** They got you settled into it;
2 is that right?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** They drove me there, yes.

4 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And do I understand the
5 situation to be that they helped you get enrolled in St.
6 Lawrence College?

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Filling out paperwork.
8 That was done before I even left high school.

9 **MR. CHISHOLM:** You spent some time at St.
10 Lawrence College; is that right?

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I know, but I filled
12 out those forms before I left to go -- left high school,
13 before I graduated.

14 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Was that the Cornwall Campus?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, it was.

16 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And I understand that you
17 obtained a student loan?

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I did.

19 **MR. CHISHOLM:** And a bursary.

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** A \$50 bursary from the
21 Children's Aid Society? Is that what you're talking about?

22 **MR. CHISHOLM:** I'm not sure of the amount.
23 Did you receive a bursary from the Children's Aid Society?

24 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** A \$50 bursary.

25 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Am I correct that you kept in

1 touch with the deRondes after leaving their home?

2 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: For a bit. Not very long.

3 MR. CHISHOLM: And in terms of the last
4 contact you had with Mrs. deRonde, when would that have
5 been?

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: I don't know how long it's
7 been since Fred deRonde passed away, but ---

8 MR. CHISHOLM: The last ---

9 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: A few years before he
10 passed away, I realized that he was just trying to comfort
11 me when he put his hand on my shoulder or tried to hold me
12 when I was shaking, the way I am right now, when something
13 was really hurting, that that was not abuse. So I went and
14 I talked to him and I made amends with him and his wife,
15 and we ended up -- he got to know my kids and so did she,
16 and I found out that she had no knowledge as to what I had
17 been through.

18 MR. CHISHOLM: In your previous homes?

19 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: That's right.

20 MR. CHISHOLM: You expressed in your
21 evidence in-chief today some concern over the amount of
22 information that the Children's Aid Society was able to
23 share with you with respect to the file -- the CAS files
24 dealing with your younger years.

25 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

1 **MR. CHISHOLM:** You understand -- do you
2 understand that there are privacy issues that have to be
3 dealt with by the CAS ---

4 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I ---

5 **MR. CHISHOLM:** --- in terms of third
6 parties?

7 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I've seen what third-
8 parties arrangements look like, yes.

9 **MR. CHISHOLM:** So you understand ---

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** It was just a piece of
11 paper with a date on it, your name, and everything else is
12 blacked out.

13 **MR. CHISHOLM:** You understand the reasons
14 why the CAS cannot share entire files with people?

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Why? They raised me.

16 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Do you understand why?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, I don't.

18 **MR. CHISHOLM:** You don't understand that?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, I don't.

20 **MR. CHISHOLM:** In terms of privacy and
21 confidentiality provisions?

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Whose privacy is it
23 protecting?

24 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Well, third-party concerns.
25 Maybe you have no understanding of that.

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Third parties and second
2 parties would be the people that took care of me and the
3 people that were responsible for me. Is that who you are
4 referring to?

5 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Well, any third party
6 referred to in the file.

7 Do you understand the privacy concerns that
8 are raised whenever you ask for a CAS file containing the
9 name of third parties?

10 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I guess I understand it.
11 I just don't think it's right.

12 **MR. CHISHOLM:** Thank you, Ms. Archambault.
13 Those are my questions. Good luck to you.

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Thank you.

15 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

16 Mr. Lee.

17 --- **CROSS-EXAMINATION BY/CONTRE-INTERROGATOIRE PAR MR. LEE:**

18 **MR. LEE:** Good afternoon, Roberta.

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Hello.

20 **MR. LEE:** I just have one area that I want
21 to get to just to clarify something that Mr. Chisholm just
22 discussed with you.

23 If we can bring up Document Number 738529,
24 and I have the specific Bates page, 7170632. And this is
25 part of the CAS file relating to you ---

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** My screen is blank.

2 **MR. LEE:** Yes, she'll get it to you. I'm
3 just going to tell you what's coming. It's part of the CAS
4 file relating to you as a child as opposed to the CAS file
5 for you as a parent.

6 **THE REGISTRAR:** It's entered.

7 **MR. LEE:** Is it already entered? Okay.

8 **THE COMMISSIONER:** And is it a public
9 document?

10 **MR. LEE:** I believe it is a public document.

11 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Is it an exhibit?

12 **THE REGISTRAR:** No.

13 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Well, we should make it
14 an exhibit then.

15 Is it an exhibit that we filed this morning?

16 **MR. LEE:** I don't believe it is. I'm only
17 interested in this one page. I know at some point you've
18 been entering specific pages as exhibits and in some cases
19 you've been entering entire documents.

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** This is from one of the
21 summaries that you have been given.

22 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Is it?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, it is.

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Okay.

25 **MR. LEE:** I'm not sure it's part of a

1 summary. This is part of -- I don't know exactly what we
2 would call this document. It's part of a running
3 chronology relating to Roberta Judd at the time. It begins
4 ---

5 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Well, I know, but I don't
6 have a hard copy of this, I don't think, and it should be -
7 - something has got to be made an exhibit. So do you want
8 the page as an exhibit or ---

9 **THE REGISTRAR:** We have been entering the
10 pages.

11 **THE COMMISSIONER:** We have been entering the
12 pages. All right.

13 **MR. LEE:** I only need this page and the next
14 page.

15 **THE COMMISSIONER:** So ---

16 **MR. LEE:** This was a document that was
17 supplied by Commission counsel. I'm advised that this
18 document was called a Childcare Recording. I see no reason
19 for the two pages that I'm interested in not to be made
20 public.

21 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Mr. Engelmann.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** This is part of the other
23 documents. This is not a document that the Commission was
24 putting through this witness. So the unfortunate thing is
25 that, as with Ms. Lahaie, when she did it, no one met our

1 48-hour rule. So people were told they had to bring copies
2 if they didn't. So it's unfortunate. We don't have copies
3 of these pages. So they will have to be made after the
4 fact.

5 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Mr. Lee.

6 **MR. LEE:** This is not a document that -- I
7 apologize; I thought it was a document that Commission
8 counsel intended -- this was not a document I intended to
9 bring the witness to.

10 Just to explain, Mr. Chisholm, a minute ago,
11 asked the witness about a point where Bryan Keough gave her
12 three options about what she could do about the Hubert
13 home. I was confused about the time period of that, and I
14 think the witness may have been confused, and I want to put
15 the document to her that shows exactly what the options
16 given to her, the timeline and the way it's worded here and
17 simply ask her a couple of questions on that. I can
18 probably do it -- well, no, I can't do it without the
19 document, sir.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** If I could just have a
21 minute again, sir? There may be a privacy concern.

22 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Why don't we take a
23 break? I think we'll take until three o'clock.

24 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
25 veuillez vous lever.

1 The hearing will resume at 3:00 p.m.

2 --- Upon recessing at 2:48 p.m./

3 L'audience est suspendue à 14h48

4 --- Upon resuming at 3:03 p.m./

5 L'audience est reprise à 15h03

6 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
7 veuillez vous lever.

8 This hearing of the Cornwall Public Inquiry
9 is now in session. Please be seated. Veuillez vous
10 asseoir.

11 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

12 So where are we?

13 **MR. LEE:** I'm going to try to do this
14 without the document, which means we won't have to make it
15 an exhibit and deal with some of the related issues.

16 **THE COMMISSIONER:** All right.

17 **ROBERTA ARCHAMBAULT, Resumed/Sous affirmation solennelle:**

18 --- **CROSS-EXAMINATION BY/CONTRE-INTERROGATOIRE PAR MR. LEE**
19 **(cont'd/suite):**

20 **MR. LEE:** Roberta, you told Mr. Engelmann
21 earlier today that you left the Hubert home in December of
22 1980; is that correct?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Like I said, I'm not sure
24 of dates, but it sounds about right.

25 **MR. LEE:** And you began speaking with Bryan

1 Keough privately in his car at the school two or three
2 months earlier before that?

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

4 **MR. LEE:** So would you agree with me that
5 that would put it roughly in the fall of 1980?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, it would.

7 **MR. LEE:** And you were born in 1965, so that
8 would make you 15 years old at that time?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, it would.

10 **MR. LEE:** Do you know what grade you would
11 have been in when you were 15 years old at that time?

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I would have been in grade
13 10.

14 **MR. LEE:** In grade 10?

15 Now, Peter Chisholm, the lawyer for the
16 Children's Aid Society, asked you a moment ago about a
17 conversation you had with Bryan Keough in which he gave you
18 three options about leaving the Huberts' home. Do you
19 recall that?

20 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I recall the conversation
21 earlier, yes.

22 **MR. LEE:** And he told you that the three
23 options were you could stay at the Hubert home to finish
24 your school year?

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

1 **MR. LEE:** You could be removed immediately?

2 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** M'hm.

3 **MR. LEE:** And the third was that you could
4 run away and have to deal with the OPP?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I remember him saying
6 that, yes.

7 **MR. LEE:** Do you recall that conversation
8 with Bryan Keough?

9 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I don't recall much of it
10 other than asking him to get me out of there. Quite
11 frankly, I don't remember being given a choice other than
12 he was going to get me out of there. Like I said, he took
13 notes.

14 **MR. LEE:** Do you recall ever being told by
15 Bryan Keough -- asked by Bryan Keough whether or not you
16 wanted to leave immediately or finish the school year?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I think he might have
18 mentioned something about it, about finishing the school
19 year, and I said no. I said, "Get me out of here."

20 **MR. LEE:** When do you recall that
21 conversation being; do you remember?

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That was the last time I
23 saw him.

24 **MR. LEE:** The very last time that you saw
25 him?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** The very last time I saw
2 him.

3 **MR. LEE:** Do you ever remember a
4 conversation with Bryan Keough about that anytime earlier?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No.

6 **MR. LEE:** You don't ever remember him asking
7 about finishing a school year before?

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No.

9 **MR. LEE:** Those are all my questions.

10 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

11 Mr. Engelmann?

12 --- RE-EXAMINATION BY/RÉ-INTERROGATOIRE PAR **MR. ENGELMANN:**

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Roberta, I unfortunately do
14 have a couple of questions.

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** That's all right.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. Thank you.

17 I would like you to take a look at a
18 document that was put in by counsel for the OPP and it was
19 marked as Exhibit 131, and it's labeled "Serious Occurrence
20 Report".

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I can't find it.

22 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you have that?

23 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I can't find it.

24 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Madam Clerk, could you
25 assist?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** "Serious Occurrence
2 Report", is this the one?

3 **THE REGISTRAR:** Which page?

4 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Just the document itself.
5 Do you have that handy?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I do.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

8 You may recall, Roberta, you were asked
9 about follow-up on two serious occurrence reports. This is
10 the only one that's in evidence, but there was one that was
11 done in about December of 1982 because some of the other
12 girls in the Lapensee home complained about Brian and
13 sexual assault or sexual abuse?

14 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

15 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And then just after Easter,
16 you complained and then there was a second Serious
17 Occurrence Report, and that's the one we're looking at.
18 Okay?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Okay.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And you were taken through a
21 number of letters suggesting that the Children's Aid
22 Society was going to be following up either with the Crown
23 prosecutor or with the police about the incidents that were
24 described in these two occurrence reports. Do you remember
25 being asked some questions about that?

1 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

2 MR. ENGELMANN: Just with that context --
3 and I realize you don't know what they did with the
4 information that was given to them and you're just finding
5 some of this out today.

6 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

7 MR. ENGELMANN: This particular document,
8 Exhibit 131, refers to Mary Miller visiting you at the
9 school, and I think you described that for us earlier today
10 in your evidence.

11 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: M'hm.

12 MR. ENGELMANN: And this was after you had
13 taken some pills?

14 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

15 MR. ENGELMANN: And this was just after the
16 Easter weekend ---

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

18 MR. ENGELMANN: --- with the Lapensee
19 family?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

21 MR. ENGELMANN: And if you could just turn
22 to the second page, at the top of the page?

23 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: There's a sentence there.
25 It says:

1 "Roberta attended the interview while
2 still on intravenous. She appeared
3 pale, slightly unsteady and had
4 difficulty hearing out of one ear
5 because of a perforated eardrum which
6 she had had for some time, which is
7 being treated."

8 I'm just trying to get a sense, Roberta, if
9 you know what is being -- which interview with Mary Miller
10 is being described here, that you attended the interview
11 while still on intravenous. You were pale, et cetera.

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** The only one I can think
13 of is the one where I overdosed.

14 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. I guess what I'm
15 asking is do you know if this was an interview that was
16 done with you while you were in the hospital?

17 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** If she did an interview
18 with me in the hospital, I don't remember much about it. I
19 don't even recall her being there, basically.

20 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

21 Well, in this document, what is described of
22 a sexual nature with Brian, if you just go down the page a
23 bit further, paragraph 2, "Confrontation with Brian", and
24 it talks about:

25 "He approached her with his one hand

1 down inside his pants. The other hand
2 was rubbing her shoulder. He gave some
3 gesture of sexual advances."

4 Do you see that?

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I do.

6 **MR. ENGELMANN:** And then there's something
7 in paragraph 5.

8 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Just a second.

9 **MR. ENGELMANN:** That he pulled your hair and
10 you accused him of more sexual advances.

11 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Just a second. Yes.

12 **MR. ENGELMANN:** I just want to get a sense
13 from you, Roberta, when you finally told Mary Miller that
14 Brian had done things of a sexual nature ---

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yeah.

16 **MR. ENGELMANN:** --- would you have done that
17 only once or more than once, or do you remember how many
18 times you might have talked to her about that?

19 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Once I was put in the
20 other foster home, it was never brought up again.

21 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay.

22 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Nobody ever spoke to me
23 about it.

24 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Do you know whether you told
25 her about him touching you in a sexual way?

1 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** I remember telling her
2 blankly about it all.

3 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Okay. And I don't want to
4 get into all the details, but did you describe sexual acts
5 that he performed or that you performed?

6 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes, I did.

7 **MR. ENGELMANN:** All right.

8 I am just looking at the third page of this
9 same exhibit, Roberta, for a minute. It is the third full
10 paragraph. It's the one that starts with "Roberta reviewed
11 with us her relationships".

12 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Yes.

13 **MR. ENGELMANN:** In the middle of that
14 paragraph, it says:

15 "Roberta acknowledged that the
16 accusations made by various other girls
17 in late November '82 against Brian were
18 true and denied by her because she'd
19 always been able to handle Brian and
20 his advances to her and she did not
21 want to hurt Ed and Alice by telling
22 them the truth. Also, her desires to
23 have them as her family were
24 overwhelmingly strong."

25 I just want you to think back, Roberta, to

1 some of those allegations that were made by the other girls
2 when you were denying things. This is from the first
3 occurrence report back in December of '82.

4 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

5 MR. ENGELMANN: Would that have included
6 sexual acts performed by Brian against other girls,
7 possibly yourself?

8 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Yes.

9 MR. ENGELMANN: And so you were telling them
10 at this time that he did perform sexual acts against some
11 of these other girls?

12 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: Just a second here. I
13 remember telling them that I knew about the other girls and
14 I knew about the abortions. I remember ---

15 MR. ENGELMANN: So some of those sexual acts
16 were ---

17 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: And I know ---

18 MR. ENGELMANN: --- sexual assault and
19 intercourse and things of that nature?

20 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: For them?

21 MR. ENGELMANN: Yes.

22 MS. ARCHAMBAULT: It was intercourse. Some
23 of them resulted in pregnancies.

24 MR. ENGELMANN: Thank you very much.

25 Those are all my questions.

1 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you very much.

2 And so it ends.

3 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Can I ask one question?

4 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Sure can.

5 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** It's just my curiosity
6 because I really don't understand. I really don't
7 understand who is the Crown, whatever they -- when the
8 police officer or representative was talking to me, she
9 kept referring to this when they were talking about the --
10 I can't find the paper. I was just wondering, the court
11 attorney -- the Crown attorney, why would anyone -- can
12 anyone answer me? Why would anyone turn a blind eye to it?
13 Why wouldn't they do something?

14 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Well ---

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Like I mean, is that an
16 answer I'll find out at a later date or ---

17 **THE COMMISSIONER:** We might.

18 Mr. Engelmann?

19 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Roberta, we will be looking
20 into that.

21 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** No, it's hard to see it
22 all swept under the rug like that.

23 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Yes, all right. Let me
24 explain it to you this way.

25 What we are doing now is we are listening to

1 the evidence of victims and alleged victims and at some
2 point in time, after we have gone through that, we are
3 going to let alleged perpetrators, if they wish, come and
4 talk to us about how they feel, if they wish, if the system
5 has let them down. And then we are going to go and talk
6 about institutional response. So at that point, we will
7 look at the Attorney General's response to all of these
8 things.

9 So it is coming further down, and we can't
10 deal with everything all at once, so we have decided --
11 counsel has decided to go through it that way. If you are
12 patient -- be patient with us -- we will come to that
13 eventually.

14 All right? Thank you.

15 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Thank you, sir.

16 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you very much for
17 coming. Good luck to you.

18 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Thank you.

19 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

20 Now, ladies and gentlemen, we are going to
21 take another break. My intention is to release the
22 judgment or my ruling on all of the documents to which
23 confidentiality was discussed, and hopefully we can start
24 at 3:30 p.m. How's that? Thank you very much.

25 **MS. ARCHAMBAULT:** Thank you.

1 **MR. ENGELMANN:** Thank you.

2 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
3 veuillez vous lever.

4 --- Upon recessing at 3:16 p.m./

5 L'audience est suspendue à 15h16

6 --- Upon resuming at 4:03 p.m./

7 L'audience est reprise à 16h03

8 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
9 veuillez vous lever.

10 This hearing of the Cornwall Public Inquiry
11 is now in session.

12 Please be seated. Veuillez vous asseoir.

13 --- **RULING ON MOTION BY/DÉCISION SUR REQUÊTE PAR JUSTICE**
14 **NORMAND GLAUDE:**

15 **THE COMMISSIONER:** Thank you.

16 I am now in a position to provide you with
17 my ruling on confidentiality measures for exhibits marked
18 as "C" on an interim basis.

19 By way of background, this Inquiry is
20 somewhat unique in the sense that we are dealing with a
21 great volume of documents and issues of confidentiality
22 have arisen in which case I have decided, at the early
23 stage of this Inquiry, to put them all in one basket for
24 the time being and come up with some directions that I
25 provided earlier and also to give us a chance to get a feel

1 for what type of confidentiality issues we would be dealing
2 with.

3 This has resulted in pushing back this
4 ruling because at one point the CBC wished to intervene and
5 then the lawyers wanted to reply, and I am grateful for all
6 of their comments. I am also thankful to the media for not
7 jumping to conclusions and rushing to make comments that
8 were adverse to the Inquiry.

9 In any event, I will have some comments to
10 make at the end of the ruling. It is also a difficult
11 ruling in the sense that I want to make it as public as
12 possible and, therefore, the ruling that I will give will
13 not deal with specifics, as it cannot, but what we will
14 have at the end of this session is the full order with all
15 the names and the details available for counsel and to the
16 media. The media will be asked to sign the confidentiality
17 documentation so that we can provide them with the most
18 detail that is possible for them so that they can be
19 apprised of what is and what is not banned.

20 In any event, this is the background. On
21 October 31st, 2006, I issued my directions on process
22 regarding requests for confidentiality of victims' or
23 alleged victims' identities.

24 Following the issuance of those directions,
25 I heard submissions in the public hearings and in camera on

1 November 2nd, 8th, 9th of 2006 with respect to specific
2 confidentiality requests in relation to exhibits marked as
3 "C" on an interim basis throughout the evidentiary phase of
4 the Inquiry.

5 The exhibits in question are 71-A, 71-B, 71-
6 C, 72, 76, 84, 90, 93, 94, 95, 96, 98, 99, 102, 104, 105,
7 108, 110, 115, 120, 121, 124, and 125.

8 Commission counsel also pointed out that
9 Exhibit 87 was mistakenly introduced as a "P" exhibit and
10 should be considered in this ruling.

11 On November 7th, 2006, I heard submissions
12 from counsel for the CBC and Radio-Canada with respect to
13 the confidentiality requests.

14 On November 15th, 2006, I heard replies from
15 counsel for parties with standing before this Commission to
16 the submissions made by counsel for the CBC and Radio-
17 Canada.

18 All confidentiality requests until now were
19 grouped until a process was developed to deal with them.
20 Future confidentiality requests will hopefully be addressed
21 prior to witnesses testifying.

22 For ease of understanding, I have grouped
23 the exhibits into categories based on the grounds for which
24 confidentiality measures have been requested.

25 The first one is the Child Abuse Register.

1 Counsel for the Children's Aid Society of the United
2 Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry argued that
3 portions of Exhibits 99 and 105 should never have been
4 disclosed and should at a minimum be subject to a
5 publication ban because the information pertains to the
6 Child Abuse Register. Counsel relied on paragraph 75(6) of
7 the *Child and Family Services Act*, which provides as
8 follows:

9 "Despite any other Act, no person shall
10 inspect, remove, alter or permit the
11 inspection, removal or alteration of
12 information maintained in the Register
13 or disclose or permit the disclosure of
14 the information that the person
15 obtained from the Register, except as
16 this section authorizes."

17 Counsel argued that although the information
18 did not come from the Register it was information that his
19 client provided to the Register, which would then be
20 covered by paragraph 75(6) of the *Child and Family Services*
21 *Act*.

22 As I understand it, the Child Abuse Register
23 contains information verified by the Children's Aid Society
24 that a child is suffering, may be suffering or may have
25 suffered abuse, which was reported by the Society to the

1 Director in charge of the Child Abuse Register.

2 The information reported to the Director is
3 organized in a specific way under the regulations adopted
4 under the *Child and Family Services Act* and the recording
5 of information in the Register has specified legal
6 consequences. Information which may appear in the Register
7 but that is maintained outside the Register does not
8 attract the same consequences.

9 I believe that the purposes of paragraph
10 75(6) of the *Child and Family Services Act* is to preserve
11 the integrity and confidentiality of the information
12 maintained or kept in the Child Abuse Register. The
13 information in question does not come from the Register,
14 and its release would not affect the Register. Those
15 documents were correctly provided to the Commission, and I
16 see no reason not to make them public.

17 Medical records. Part of Exhibit 95
18 contains psychiatric and psychological reports pertaining
19 to Mr. André Lavoie who testified before the Inquiry.
20 These documents contain very intimate and personal matters
21 pertaining to the condition of Mr. Lavoie. They were used
22 in cross-examination for limited purposes. No one has
23 supported the view that this information is otherwise
24 relevant and that it should be made public. The salutary
25 effect of a confidentiality order is to protect the privacy

1 and interests of Mr. Lavoie would clearly outweigh any
2 deleterious effects.

3 Counsel for the CBC and Radio-Canada argued
4 that relevance was not part of the test for openness.
5 However, he subsequently clarified that relevance may be
6 taken into account in the analysis on the second branch of
7 the *Dagenais/Mentuck* test. I agree with this latest
8 submission. If information is not relevant or is only
9 marginally relevant to the mandate of the Inquiry, the
10 deleterious effects of a confidentiality measure applicable
11 to such information should be limited.

12 In my view, the open court principle should
13 apply to information that is relevant to the proceedings of
14 that court.

15 As such, the portion of the Exhibit
16 pertaining to these reports will be subject to a
17 publication ban and will remain confidential.

18 It should also be noted that on October 17th,
19 2006, I found that Exhibit C-90, the psychiatric records of
20 Mr. Alain Seguin, were to remain confidential for the same
21 reasons.

22 Specific requests for confidentiality
23 measures. Counsel for the Victims Group has identified two
24 exhibits that contain information of a sensitive nature.
25 As such, counsel requested the issuance of a publication

1 ban on the information identified in Exhibit 104 and
2 Exhibit 110, and the editing of certain information for the
3 purpose of public consultation. I believe that some of the
4 information in these documents is intimate and personal and
5 that the public disclosure of such information would
6 seriously jeopardize the privacy interests of the
7 individuals involved. The salutary effect of
8 confidentiality orders in this instance outweighs any media
9 or public interest in the publicity of such information.
10 The details of the abuse suffered by victims or alleged
11 victims may be relevant to my mandate if they inform the
12 response of public institutions.

13 I am not otherwise interested in the graphic
14 description of the abuse and this should be of limited
15 public interest. As requested, I will therefore issue a
16 publication ban on this information in both cases. I will
17 also order the editing of specific reference made in camera
18 for Exhibits 104 and 110.

19 Victims or alleged victims who have
20 communicated their desire for confidentiality measures to
21 be adopted. Counsel for the Ministry of Community Safety
22 and Correctional Services made representations with respect
23 to Exhibit 71-A. Counsel was approached by an individual,
24 a victim of Mr. Gilles Deslauriers, whose name appears in
25 that document. Counsel indicated that this person did not

1 want his name in public at the Inquiry or to have any
2 documents that could identify him made available to the
3 public through the Inquiry.

4 Further, the Honourable Justice Paris issued
5 a publication ban on September 15th, 1986, on information
6 identifying the complainants in the case of *Regina v.*
7 *Deslauriers*. This publication ban is still in force.

8 Counsel for the Ministry also made
9 representations with respect to Exhibits 72 and 76 in
10 relation to the name of this person and identifiers.

11 Counsel for the Ministry sought the issuance
12 of a publication ban to protect the identity of those
13 individuals and identifiers and that the portions of the
14 exhibits that may tend to identify those individuals be
15 edited for the purposes of public access.

16 Being identified as a victim, alleged victim
17 or potential victim of sexual abuse is a highly intimate
18 and personal matter, particularly when such information was
19 never made public. I have no doubt that the release of
20 information that could identify this person as a victim of
21 sexual abuse would pose serious risks to his privacy
22 interests. As it stands, this person will not be a witness
23 before the Inquiry. In the circumstances, the disclosure
24 of his identity would cause more prejudice to him than any
25 good to the public.

1 Counsel for the CBC and Radio Canada argued
2 that the identities of victims or alleged victims will
3 always be relevant and should be made public. I disagree.
4 This particular person's situation is not at issue before
5 this Inquiry at this point and the information concerning
6 him is only marginally relevant or of a limited public
7 interest.

8 No other counsel, including counsel for the
9 CBC and Radio Canada, made specific objections with respect
10 to the identifying information. However, counsel for the
11 CBC and Radio Canada, as a matter of principle, proposed
12 the test for the protection of identifying information.
13 They indicated the ban should be limited to prohibiting
14 publication of information from the Inquiry that would
15 enable a reasonable member of the public, unacquainted with
16 the victim or alleged victim to identify him or her as a
17 victim or alleged victim of sexual abuse.

18 I gather from the submissions of counsel for
19 the CBC and Radio Canada that the reasonable member of the
20 public should not be a member of the Cornwall community but
21 a member of the public at large.

22 I agree with Mr. Wong that the test should
23 be an objective one. A publication ban or confidentiality
24 measure is not directed at close family members or work
25 colleagues. It is directed at the public in the broader

1 sense. Therefore, the protection should be directed at
2 information that could enable a reasonable member of the
3 public to identify the victim or alleged victim. However,
4 I believe I have to take into consideration the particular
5 context in which this Inquiry is proceeding.

6 The events under scrutiny occurred mostly in
7 Cornwall. Most of the actors have been, at one point or
8 another, living and/or working in Cornwall. The media
9 coverage, until now, has been primarily focused in the
10 Cornwall area. As stated in *Regina v. Mentuck* at page 442,
11 at page 36, the issuance of a publication ban, and I quote:

12 "...requires the judge not only to
13 consider whether reasonable
14 alternatives are available but also to
15 restrict the order as far as possible
16 without sacrificing the prevention of
17 the risk."

18 In other words, while I agree that a
19 confidentiality order should be carefully
20 tailored, this should not be done in such a way
21 that would render the protection inefficient or
22 meaningless. I have to take into consideration
23 the potential effect of the publicity. In this
24 context, geographical and local considerations
25 have to be weighed and taken into account in

1 determining which identifying information should
2 be protected.

3 Counsel for the Diocese made reference to
4 the case of *Regina v. Binns* at page 197, I believe, in
5 support of the proposition that the public in a specified
6 area may be able to identify victims if the scope of a
7 publication ban is too narrow. I accept those submissions.

8 The identifying information concerning this
9 particular person identified by Mr. Rose should be subject
10 to a publication ban, which should be limited to
11 information that could reasonably identify this person in
12 the Cornwall area.

13 As to counsel's further request to edit
14 these exhibits for the purpose of public consultation, I am
15 prepared to grant it. I will also issue a publication ban
16 on this information. I take into consideration the fact
17 that the name of this person was never made public before
18 the Inquiry; the limited relevance of the information to
19 the Inquiry, and the specific situation of this person.

20 With respect to victims or alleged victims
21 who have not communicated with Commission counsel or other
22 counsel their desire for confidentiality measures. Again,
23 with respect to Exhibits 71-A, 71-B and C, 72, 76, 84, 87,
24 93, 94, 96, 98, 102, 108, 115, 120, 121, 124 and 125,
25 representations were made for the issuance of publication

1 bans on names of victims and alleged victims and
2 identifiers. These individuals have not been in contact
3 with Commission counsel or counsel for the parties and have
4 not sought the issuance of confidentiality measures for one
5 reason or another.

6 It should be noted that in the case of
7 Exhibits 71-A, 71-B, 71-C, 76 and 94, there are outstanding
8 publication bans issued in criminal proceedings applicable
9 to the identities of some of the victims and alleged
10 victims that are still in force.

11 Commission counsel took the view that a
12 publication ban would be sufficient to ensure protection.
13 Other counsel for parties took the view that in addition to
14 a publication ban, an order should be issued to edit the
15 information for the purposes of public consultation.

16 As I indicated in my directions on process,
17 the victims or alleged victims who have not come forward
18 should not be on a different footing than the others. It
19 has been established before the Inquiry that the revelation
20 of child abuse after years of silence may have devastating
21 consequences, let alone the public revelation of such
22 abuse. I have a duty to ensure the protection of these
23 individuals. As it stands, those individuals are not
24 expected to be the focus of this Inquiry. Their names and
25 identifiers are marginally relevant to my mandate at best.

1 Therefore, the names of the victims and alleged victims and
2 identifiers will be subject to a publication ban, which
3 should be sufficient to ensure the protection of that
4 information.

5 On the issue of waiver, counsel for the CBC
6 and Radio Canada argued that individuals subject to
7 confidentiality orders should be able to waive this
8 protection without the need for a further order. I gather
9 from the submissions of counsel that this should be
10 possible whether a person spoke to the media before or
11 after the order.

12 Counsel indicated that the *Youth Criminal*
13 *Justice Act* contained a regime under which a child or a
14 young person who is a victim or a witness may render an
15 automatic publication ban on the person's name and
16 identifications inapplicable if the person publishes or
17 causes the publication of the information after he or she
18 reaches the age of 18.

19 By contrast, under Section 486(4) of the
20 Criminal Code, in criminal proceedings dealing with sexual
21 offences, publication bans on information that could
22 identify the complainant or a witness may be issued and
23 shall be issued in certain circumstances upon request.
24 Such bans may only be lifted upon further requests to the
25 court with the consent of both the Crown and the accused.

1 While the protections in those two regimes
2 apparently have similar purposes, the legislative schemes
3 are quite different. I'm not here to conduct a policy
4 analysis or to legislate. Suffice it to say that I do not
5 believe that the issuance of waivable confidentiality
6 orders will be in the interest of victims or alleged
7 victims, media and the public. Certainty and clarity are
8 required. The protections afforded to victims and alleged
9 victims may be of critical importance to their well being.
10 If one wishes a confidentiality order to be lifted, a
11 proper request should be made either by the person or
12 through counsel and a material change in circumstances must
13 be argued.

14 In conclusion, I wish to thank counsel for
15 their helpful submissions. As officers of the court,
16 counsel for the parties have come together in a concerted
17 effort to identify the issues necessary to protect victims
18 and alleged victims who may not have had a voice in these
19 proceedings.

20 I will issue a confidential ruling and order
21 addressing the details of the confidentiality request. The
22 portions of the order dealing with the issuance of
23 publication bans take effect immediately. All exhibits
24 which were marked as interim "C" exhibits before the
25 issuance of the order will remain so until Friday November

1 17th at 5:00 p.m., at which time the order will take its
2 full effect.

3 To the media and anyone publishing or
4 broadcasting information related to the work of this
5 Commission, I wish to say that you have a duty to ensure
6 that proper verifications are made to ensure that
7 information to be published or broadcast is not subject to
8 confidentiality orders. Commission staff will be available
9 to assist you in that regard if required.

10 Accordingly, a copy of the complete order
11 naming the names that were dealt with in an in camera
12 hearing will be available to counsel very shortly at the
13 counter, and to the media.

14 What I want to advise you is that we are
15 inventing the wheel here and that I would appreciate
16 patience and cooperation from counsel. Obviously, counsel
17 for -- Mr. Rose and Mr. Lee, where certain editing has been
18 granted, you will want to review that editing and you will
19 have that 24-hours to do so and to take whatever actions
20 you feel are necessary, if they are necessary.

21 Subject to any comments or questions, that
22 is my order.

23 Are there any questions at this time?

24 Thank you. So we will then be breaking
25 until tomorrow at 9:30. I understand that we will have

1 evidence from Mr. Roy and Mrs. Roy, and that should take a
2 good portion of the day.

3 My plane out of Ottawa will be a little
4 later, but I don't think that we will be sitting much later
5 than three o'clock tomorrow.

6 Thank you very much.

7 **THE REGISTRAR:** Order; all rise. À l'ordre;
8 veuillez vous lever.

9 The hearing is now adjourned. L'audience
10 est ajournée.

11 --- Upon adjourning at 4:24 p.m./

12 L'audience est ajournée à 16h24

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Sean Prouse a certified court reporter in the Province of Ontario, hereby certify the foregoing pages to be an accurate transcription of my notes/records to the best of my skill and ability, and I so swear.

Je, Sean Prouse, un sténographe officiel dans la province de l'Ontario, certifie que les pages ci-hauts sont une transcription conforme de mes notes/enregistrements au meilleur de mes capacités, et je le jure.



Sean Prouse, CVR-CM