

28. On September 14, 2000, the Plaintiffs gave written notice to NBCI of the defamatory content of the first website by way of a written Notice of Libel and Slander pursuant to Section 5 of the *Libel and Slander Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. L-12.

## **THE WANDERER**

29. On August 11, 2000, Matt, Likoudis and Wanderer Company falsely and maliciously wrote, authored and caused to be published an article entitled, "Storm-Tossed House ... Pending Arrest of Pedophiles Expected to Implicate Bishop" in Volume 133, No. 33, of the August 17, 2000 edition of the Wanderer commencing at page 1 and following at page 10 (hereinafter referred to as "the Article") which contained the following defamatory words of and concerning the Plaintiffs.

[...] **The Wanderer** [...]

[...]

**Storm-Tossed House...**

**PENDING ARREST OF PEDOPHILES EXPECTED TO IMPLICATE  
BISHOP**

By Paul Likoudis

[...]

CORNWALL, Ont. – The pending arrest (slated for August as this article was written) of former Justice of the Peace Keith Jodoin by officers of the Project Truth team of the Ontario Provincial Police on charges of pedophilia – he was informed he would be charged last week – is expected to trigger an explosion of sexual abuse revelations involving some of the most prominent public figures in the community, including Bishop Eugene LaRocque of the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall.

For seven years, LaRocque, originally a priest of the Diocese of London (Ontario) has fought with every legal tool available to him to keep his name out of lawsuits filed against diocesan priests, even as a building

stream of depositions name him as a frequent participant in sexual rituals involving young boys and girls, some of which were satanic.

At one point in her gruesome statement, Shelley McDonald testified: "...We were in a church, I saw a cross. A few people were around my brother Robbie, they were doing something. I was saying, 'what are they doing to my brother,' it was traumatic, only men were there. I knew what they had done to Rob was wrong. The priest came and kissed me on the cheek, he was the one in the picture. He wore a large solid gold ring with some engraving on it. He had other jewelry, an expensive cross on a necklace. When he came into the room people went 'oooh' they revered him like a God. The priest was Bishop LaRocque"

Later, McDonald testified that LaRocque had forcible intercourse with her during another satanic ritual, assisted by Dr. Arthur Peachy, who committed suicide before his trial after being charged with sex crimes.

The expected exposure of LaRocque will undoubtedly draw more attention to the Diocese of London and priests ordained at roughly the same time as LaRocque [...]

[...] In a signed affidavit dated May 13, 1996, he named fifteen men whom he alleged are part of a pedophile "clan" operating in the Cornwall area.

[...]

All of the depositions filed by the sexual abuse victims appeared on an Internet site, projecttruth.com, in late June, which was suddenly shut down two weeks later because the sex abuse victims were suffering harassment, but which will be resuscitated by Cornwall resident Richard Nadeau on a new website, which he expects to have up and running by the time this article is published.

[...]

(Much of the information in this article was provided by Mr. Nadeau, who told *The Wanderer* he has known many of the perpetrators "all his life," and has personally spoken with many of the priests named below, and with some 60 of their victims, obtaining written statements from about half.)

The remaining twelve names are clergy, four of whom are now deceased:

4. Bishop Eugene LaRocque (DOB March 27, 1927; ordained June 7, 1952 in the Diocese of London, Ontario, named Bishop of Alexandria June 24, 1974);

[...]

7. Fr. Bernard Cameron (DOB April 15, 1933; ordained May 30, 1958);
8. Fr. Gary Ostler (DOB April 5, 1946; ordained September 9, 1972);
9. Fr. Kevin Maloney (DOB June 22, 1946; ordained February 11, 1972);

[...]

11. Fr. Ranald (Rory) MacDonald (DOB August 24, 1960; ordained May 16, 1992);

[...]

With the exception of Bishop LaRoceque, the clergy all spent time at St. Columban's Church in Cornwall, either as pastor or associate pastor, i.e., Donald McDougald was pastor at St. Columban's 1968-1979; Bernard Cameron was pastor 1979-1983; Gary Ostler was pastor 1983-1993; Kevin Maloney was named pastor in 1993.

#### **IN THE NEST**

According to Lereux, this "clan" met on a regular basis in various locations in the Cornwall area and in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

In Cornwall, the group met at Cameron's Point, Ken Seguin's home in Summerstown; Malcolm MacDonald's summer residence on Stanley Island and at St. Andrews Parish house. In Fort Lauderdale, they met in areas frequented by young male prostitutes, such as Birch Avenue "a pick-up point for minors, who were prostitutes" and the Marlin Beach Hotel which "was also a well known haven for male prostitutes, mostly minors." He states that the clan called this "Gaff."

Leroux claimed he "witnessed sexual improprieties, molestations, fondling, oral sex, intercourse (anal) between the above-named 'clan' members and minors through the period of 1957 or 1958 to 1993" which occurred at the clan's regular meeting spots and at Malcolm MacDonald's law office.

He also declared that Malcolm MacDonald had a stash of pornographic pictures in his office drawer, most of which were Polaroids he had taken himself. He also had another stash of "kiddy porn" tapes, magazines and sex tapes which he kept at his home and his summer residence on Stanley

Island. He talks about a raft of pornographic tapes belonging to Ken Seguin which were seized by the Police. (The tapes seem to have disappeared since their seizure.)

Leroux lists the names of those present at parties held at Ken Seguin's house, Malcolm MacDonald's summer residence and St. Andrew's Parish house. The names include those of "male prostitutes, both adults and juveniles, altar boys," several young boys, including four brothers, and the following:

\* Bishop Eugene LaRocque,

[...]

\* Fr. Gary Ostler,

\* Fr. Kevin Maloney,

[...]

\* Fr. Rory MacDonald,

[...]

"I also observed Bishop LaRocque in the late 1950's or early 1960's, as a Father, performing inappropriate, illegal, and perverse sexual acts with minors, altar boys, at Cameron's Point. In fact, Eugene Larocque committed illegal, inappropriate and perverse sexual acts against myself while I was a minor. I specifically remember Bishop Larocque (who was then a priest), Fr. Cameron and Fr. McDougald molesting and fondling these Altar Boys. In fact, all of the aforementioned priests also committed illegal, inappropriate and perverse sexual acts against myself as a minor. The place, Cameron's point, was occupied by a priest that drowned in his boathouse in the mid-1960's. This ritual went on on a weekly basis."

Leroux alleged that he personally witnessed both Claude Shaver (Chief of Police in Cornwall) and Bishop Eugene LaRocque, who was then a priest, talking to young male prostitutes between the ages of 13 and 15 in Fort Lauderdale. [...]

[...]

### **INSIGHT INTO THE COVER-UP**

In his affidavit, Leroux describes a plot to squelch the investigation by murdering officer Dunlop.

[...] Malcolm stated that he had the connections to take care of the allegations and that he was the person to do it. He also stated that he was going back to talk to the Chief and would settle things. He told Ken to stop being so paranoid about things.

[...]

"On or about a Friday evening in late August, 1993 - early September, 1993, I was told by Ken Seguin that there is going to be a gathering at Malcolm's summer home on Sunday. He stated that Bishop LaRocque, [...], Malcolm, Father Charlie, and others would be in attendance. He said they were having a get together on the Island.

"On the Sunday morning at approximately 8:30 a.m., myself and Ken are having a coffee in Ken's backyard. Malcolm arrives and states that he has steaks, beer and booze for an army. Malcolm states that a lot of important people are showing up for dinner today. Malcolm stated that [...], Bishop LaRocque, [...] a Judge from his drinking days, and [...] would be in attendance. Leroux then describes in detail the comings and goings of the meeting's participants, and then the anguish suffered by Ken Seguin once the plot to kill Dunlop was set. [...]

[...]

"Approximately two weeks before Ken's death, Ken advises me on a planned hit against Dunlop and family. I would go over to his house daily during this two (2) week period. Ken would violently throw-up, was losing weight and was extremely sick. Ken was in this state of mental disarray because a family (Dunlop's family) was going to be killed. In fact, I was present at a meeting between Malcolm, Ken and Father Charlie, for a brief period, where they openly discussed the killing of Dunlop the Cop and his family. Father Charlie was the most vocal and enraged, stating that he hated Perry Dunlop, and that Dunlop and family will be disposed of. [...]

### **THE UNRAVELING**

When Ron Leroux signed the affidavit on 13 November 1996, Father Charles MacDonald was the only member of the clan charged. [...]

[...] When news of the gag order broke out, it was initially denied by Bishop LaRocque and Jacques Leduc.

[...]

[...] They had personally talked to numerous men who alleged they had been sexually molested by individuals who were members of ring. They

passed documentation of the allegations on to the Cornwall Police, the Ontario Provincial Police, the Solicitor General and the Attorney General. That information in turn was passed on to the Project Truth team. Despite this information, no charges were laid against a number of those who figured prominently in "clan."

During its short run on the Internet, projecttruth.com posted a number of newspaper clippings on the investigation, Ron Leroux' affidavit and six signed depositions, with the names of the sex abuse victims deleted.

Statement #1 recounts how one man, as a nine-year-old boy, had gone to confession to Father Bernard Cameron:

"I began to tell my confession and when I finished he said: 'is that all?' I said: 'What do you mean is that all?' He said: 'you don't play with yourself?' He then reached over grabbed me by the shoulder and then he grabbed me by the bag and said: 'play with yourself.'"

The statement also makes reference to similar incidents with Father Donald MacDougald, with the exception that MacDougald 'would grab you by the penis.'

According to Statement #1, signed December 4, 1996, the individual went to retreat at Cameron's Point. He recalls that Bishop LaRocque, then a priest, was there, as was Father Donihee, Father McDougald, Father Cameron and several others. He continues: 'The Bishop (Eugene LaRocque) was sitting on the back deck with a boy on his lap. I could see that he was fondling this young boy and taking his bathing suit off' and then recounts how LaRocque had called him over, undid his pants etc. At the same gathering he witnessed Father Donihee sexually assaulting another young boy. He also recalls that Fathers Cameron and McDougald told them that if they told anyone they, the boys, would be the ones to get into the trouble and that father Cameron challenged them to tell their parents assuring them that it would get back to them in confession.

In Statement #1 Jacques Leduc is identified as being at a VIP meeting at Malcolm's cottage. The trips to Fort Lauderdale are verified and LaRocque, Shaver, Ken Seguin, Charlie MacDonald and Ron Wilson are named as individuals who frequented Birch Avenue, the area known for its male prostitutes.

In addition, according to this statement, Malcolm MacDonald brought male prostitutes and young boys to his cottage on the island. On those occasions, other visitors would include: [...] Eugene LaRocque, [...] Gary Ostler [...]

## **In Public View**

During its short run on the internet, projecttruth.com posted a number of newspaper clippings on the investigation, Ron Leroux's affidavit and six signed depositions, with the names of the sex abuse victims deleted. The depositions describe in graphic detail the abuse suffered by the victims of the "clan" (These depositions will be back on the internet by this publication date.)

## **OTHER INDICTMENTS**

In addition to the affidavit and the six statements, the site also featured an article recounting a man's experiences at the Classical College in Cornwall which was run by the Clercs St. Viateur. The College initially catered to students from the Cornwall area who attended as day students. The brightest students from the local elementary schools were selected, tested, and those who passed were admitted.

In 1955, the College relocated to Windmill Point in the city's East End. In a very short time, the student body grew from its count of 80 in 1953, to 400, with some 200 of those students boarding at college. The boarders came from across Ontario. The majority of teachers were clergy who said Masses at parishes throughout the diocese. Most graduates of the college became teachers or priests. A smaller number became doctors or lawyers.

The author notes a strong connection between the College and the large ring of pedophiles in Cornwall. He alleges that many boys who were boarding were molested in the dorms and priest's rooms and elsewhere while at the College. [...] He also claims that there are witness statements against 44 men who were either priests at the College, associates or graduates (i.e., [...]) Gary Ostler are all graduates of the College). Many of the names have already been mentioned. In addition there are:

## **THE DIOCESE TODAY**

According to the latest diocesan directory, for 2000, some of those publicly named as pedophiles continue in positions of responsibility:

- \* Fr. Kevin Maloney: Diaconate Formation (English Sector); Cursillo; spiritual animator for the Joy of the Lord Prayer Group; Chaplain to KOC Council
- \* Fr. Bernard Cameron, 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly KOC

- \* Fr. Gary Ostler, Vocations; Chaplain for the Cornwall County Jail; Episcopal Vicar (English Sector); Clergy Education (English Sector); SD&G Highlanders; Chaplain to KOC Council;

[...]

- \* Fr. McDougald Vicar General; Director of the Maison Shalom House, a retreat centre; Chaplain to KOC Council

- \* Fr. Rejean Lebrun, Ecumenism; Clergy Education (French Sector); Chaplain to KOC Council

[...]

- \* Bishop Eugene LaRocque, Jews and Christians; Diocesan Chaplain KOC;

[...]

Over the years, most of those clergy charged or named have been active in the diocese, variously charged with Cursillo, youth groups, Marriage Encounter, Engaged Encounter, vocations, scouts, guides, catechesis and liturgy. Many are appointed or elected to the diocesan Council of Priests. Some have served as Chancellor [...], Vice-Chancellor (i.e., Lebrun), and on the Health Care Ethics Committee (i.e., Gary Ostler). Some have been responsible for diocesan Public Relations and Communications [...]. A number have been active with the Knights of Columbus.

30. The words contained in the Article were, in their natural and ordinary meaning and having regard to their entire tone and context, defamatory of the Plaintiffs. The words were meant and understood to have the meanings attributed to them in paragraph 18 of this Statement of Claim and also that:

- (a) Bishop LaRocque was facing pending arrest for a sexual assault;
- (b) Bishop LaRocque sexually assaulted, raped or otherwise had forceable sexual contact with a minor girl; and

- (c) Bishop LaRocque was frequently involved in satanic sexual rituals involving young boys or girls.

31. The Plaintiffs plead and rely upon the entire content of the Article for its tone and context, which when read as a whole, gives, contributes to, or exacerbates the defamatory meanings of the words complained of in the Article. A copy of the full Article is attached to this Statement of Claim as Schedule "B".

32. The Plaintiffs rely not only on the malice implied from the publication of the Article, but expressly plead that the Defendants, Matt, Likoudis and the Wanderer Company were actuated by malice having regard to the following:

- (a) Notwithstanding the gravity of the allegations on the first website, neither Matt, Likoudis nor the Wanderer Company contacted, or even attempted to contact the Plaintiffs to obtain their views or position in reaction to the allegations;
- (b) Matt, Likoudis and the Wanderer Company simply made no investigation at all of the credibility or truthfulness of the allegations, but rather acted with reckless disregard concerning the truth of the allegations in the words complained of, or the impact that the publication of them might have on the Plaintiffs;
- (c) Matt, Likoudis or the Wanderer Company expressly authorized the re-publication of the Article on the second website thereby ensuring the most heightened impact of the Article through the re-publication of it to the world at large on the internet;
- (d) Matt, Likoudis or the Wanderer Company encouraged their readers to visit the second website; and

- (e) Matt, Likoudis and the Wanderer Company authorized the re-publication of the Article on the second website as a means of advertising the Wanderer in order to further their own commercial interests.

33. The Plaintiffs state that the Wanderer Company distributes, sells and accepts subscriptions for the sale and delivery of the Wanderer within the Province of Ontario. Therefore, the Wanderer Company publishes the Wanderer in the Province of Ontario, and it published the Article in the Province of Ontario.

34. The Plaintiffs also state that Matt, Likoudis and the Wanderer Company re-published the Article in Ontario by expressly authorizing its re-publication on the second website which they knew, or ought to have known, was specifically aimed at communicating and does in fact communicate with people in the Province of Ontario.

#### **THE SECOND WEBSITE**

35. On or about August 15, 2000 and following, the Defendant, Dick Nadeau (hereinafter referred to as "Nadeau") wrote, authored and recklessly caused to be published on the Internet a website described as [www.projecttruth2.com](http://www.projecttruth2.com) (hereinafter referred to as "the second website"). The Plaintiffs state that Nadeau falsely and maliciously wrote and caused to be published the following defamatory words on the second website of and concerning the Plaintiffs:

##### **New Information to September 12, 2000**

##### **Almost Sued**

This morning, September 14<sup>th</sup>, the Wanderer and I were both served with a Notice of Libel by the firm of Borden, Ladner and Gervais. The letter to which is attached the full contents of the website, (I didn't realize it would be so thick. Some two inches thick. It sure looks impressive as an Appendix A attachment) is addressed to me and has been delivered "by hand".