

Press Release

To the victims of sexual abuse in the Diocese of Moncton

The Archbishop of Moncton, Most Reverend André Richard, has published an open letter to the members of the Church in his Diocese announcing that he had asked the Honourable Michel Bastarache to accept the role of independent conciliator in order to design and direct a process to identify victims of sexual abuse by Camille Léger, a former priest of the parish of Cap-Pelé, provide them an official apology, and offer them fair compensation for the affront to their dignity and their suffering. Should there be victims of abuse by another priest of the Diocese of Moncton, their claims will also be accepted.

This process is meant to be non-confrontational, and as simple and expeditious as possible. The Conciliator will be acting independently and is not the agent, lawyer or consultant of the Diocese of Moncton or Reverend André Richard. He will deal directly with the victims who choose to participate in the conciliation process and will not deal with any lawyers that could represent them. Bernard Richard has offered to give advice and support to victim seeking assistance free of charge. He will also act independently from the Diocese of Moncton.

The Conciliator would like to obtain the names and addresses of all individuals who have been a victim of sexual abuse attributable to Camille Léger order to contact them in order to explain the process that he intends to follow to arrive at a resolution of this unfortunate situation. The Conciliator is thus requesting that victims wishing to present a claim to contact him before June 30, 2012.

The Conciliator can be reached by telephone at 1-855-752-0172 or by e-mail at mbastarache@conciliationmoncton.ca.

The Conciliator can also be reached by mail:

Michel Bastarache
Independent Conciliator
55 Metcalfe Street, Suite 300
Ottawa, ON K1P 6L5

Victims are free to communicate with the Conciliator in either French or English and to participate in the conciliation process in the language of their choice.

**Michel Bastarache C.C.
Independent Conciliator**