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Suspect threatens detective

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Just moments after he was committed to trial for the murder of parish priest Roger Rinfret, a 20-year-old Hull man threatened to kill the police investigator who headed the case.

"You'll die you dirty dog," Alain

You're a dirty dog," Alan McMurtie said to Gatineau investigator Patrick Burns who sat near the prisoner's dock in the courtroom. "You're dirty . . . dirty, and you'll die."

Really stoned

Staggering and wobbling in the prisoner's box, McMurtie repeatedly stuck his tongue out at the policeman. Handcuffed at the wrists and chained at the ankles, McMurtie appeared pale and his eyes were almost closed.

Sources very close to the accused murderer said McMurtie was heavily drugged during this court appearance. "He's really stoned, right out of it," said the source who added he believed a friend or family member brought McMurtie some chemical drugs during a court visit yesterday morning.

Sufficient proof

McMurtie will face trial before judge and jury on a charge of first-degree murder in connection with the brutal March stabbing of Rinfret, parish priest in Angers, about 20

parish priest in Angers, about 30 kilometres from Hull.

Judge Avila Labelle said there was "sufficient proof" presented against McMurtie in the last week's two-day preliminary hearing to send the case to trial. The key witness was a Gatineau teenager who said he witnessed McMurtie kill the 48-year-old priest.

A trial date will be set in September when the fall assizes open in Hull.