

July 25, 2008

BY FAX AND REGULAR MAIL

1751-JULY 25/08

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Deborah Newman
Deputy Minister of Community Safety
Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services
25 Grosvenor Street, 11th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6
tel: 416.326.5060
fax: 416.327.0469

Re: Your letter of July 18/08

Dear Ms. Newman:

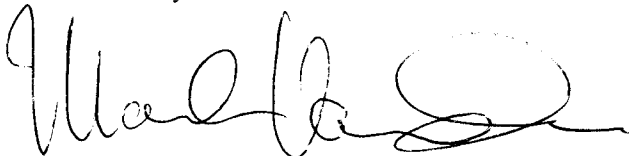
Thank you for informing me of the Ministry's decision not to take action with respect to the alleged obstruction of justice and attempts to influence municipal officials by Commissioner Fantino as contained in my May 30/08 complaint.

Your letter did not, however, make any reference to the allegations in Part 3 of the complaint, namely that the Commissioner committed a breach of trust by using his position to damage the reputations of Mr. McHale and myself with false allegations in an attempt to oppress our lawful opposition to OPP and government policies as he did, for example, on April 23/08 on a Toronto radio show when he accused us of being 'involved' in violence and having a violent agenda.

Given the recent media attention on Mr. Fantino's threat to destroy the reputation of native protester Shawn Brant, I find the omission to be significant. It is possible, however, that your failure to address these allegations in your response was an oversight therefore, I would like very much to clarify the Minister's position before we take further action:

1. Is the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services refusing to investigate allegations that the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police committed a breach of trust when he conducted a campaign of defamation – up to and including April 23/08 – during which he made false allegations that Mr. McHale and I were guilty of committing or encouraging acts of violence?
2. Is it the Minister's position that the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police is permitted to use the media or any other means to falsely accuse citizens of committing crimes they have not committed?

Yours truly,



Mark Vandermaas
Director of Research
CANACE (Canadian Advocates for Charter Equality)
371 Vesta Place
London, ON N5Y 1G4
519.457.0709

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