

**Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada  
Media Clips**



**Résolution des questions des pensionnats indiens Canada  
Actualité**

**Friday, August 25, 2006 ♦ vendredi, 25 août 2006**

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## Articles Related to IRS History and Legacy

August 25, 2006

The StarPhoenix (Saskatoon)

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(See also: Regina Leader Post)

### **Conditional sentence in stabbing - Case believed to be first use of sentencing circle in a homicide**

Betty Ann Adam, The StarPhoenix

A Saskatoon woman who stabbed her male partner to death was spared a prison sentence Thursday when a provincial court judge considered Valerie Kahpeaysewat's tragic history and battered spouse syndrome.

"The tragedy reminds us of the need to intervene early in cases of domestic violence and provide support and resources to the victim, as well as the perpetrator," Judge Bria Huculak stated.

Kahpeaysewat, 44, was given a conditional sentence of two years less one day to be served in the community after pleading guilty to manslaughter in the July 22, 2004, killing of 37-yearold Frank Nadary.

"It's good. Either way, it was acceptable.

**I'm looking forward to the healing process. . . . I'm still seeking counseling," Kahpeaysewat said with obvious relief as she left the courthouse.**

She said she hopes to find an intensive, **traditional healing program.**

Kahpeaysewat stabbed Nadary around 4 a.m. after an evening of drinking. Court heard that Kahpeaysewat had tried to get Nadary to leave because she wanted to sleep but he wouldn't go and tried to get her to have sex with him.

Kahpeaysewat had opened the door and ordered Nadary to leave. After he grabbed her and pulled her hair, she threw cups at him and eventually grabbed a knife and swung it at him, striking him in the chest. He died later in hospital from punctures in his heart.

Police had responded to 12 prior incidents involving the pair in the four years since they met, Huculak heard during a May, 2006, sentencing circle, where the victim's friends, along with police, lawyers, Kahpeaysewat and female members of her family talked about the relationship and the crime.

**It is believed to be the first time a sentencing circle, introduced as a restorative justice measure in 1992, has been utilized in a homicide case.**

Police and a friend of the victim said such an outcome was predictable and that the death could have gone either way.

"This is a chilling statement," Huculak said.

"It was predictable and therefore, preventable," she said.

**Kahpeaysewat and Nadary's lives both began with difficult childhoods in families marred by violence and abuse.**

Both lived for periods in foster care and **each suffered sexual abuse in childhood.**

**Both abused alcohol as adults.**

**In 1995, Kahpeaysewat's daughter was murdered by her babysitter, just months after her mother died in violent circumstances.**

**Before meeting Nadary, she had been in four abusive relationships and twice had attempted suicide.**

Nadary, a tall, slim man born in Fort Smith, N.W.T., had described his own family as dysfunctional. By age 18, he had committed a crime that severed him from the community. He longed to return to his family there but always believed he had been banned from the community because of his crime, court heard.

By the time of the fatal altercation, Nadary had been under repeated court orders to stay away from Kahpeaysewat and had served an 18-month jail term for assault causing bodily harm on her. He had threatened to kill her and claimed she was his property, according to a psychiatric report prepared for the court.

**Psychiatrist Dr. Robin Menzies diagnosed Kahpeaysewat with posttraumatic stress disorder and battered spouse syndrome.**

**"I find that Valerie Kahpeaysewat's stabbing of Frank Nadary was a derivative crime borne of the unresolved effects of past conditions of abuse, indignities and profound grief," Huculak said.**

Kahpeaysewat will have a curfew, must do 240 hours of community service and attend alcohol and grief counselling. The conditional sentence will be followed by two years on probation.

**Huculak said the sentence does not mean Nadary's life had no value. Nor should the sentence, which considered the societal effects of Kahpeaysewat's experience as an aboriginal person, be considered lenient, Huculak said.**

"The public nature of the sentence in this community is a constant reminder of the offender's conduct and the consequences of such conduct, and in my opinion, is a more effective deterrent than a prison sentence served in some distant community.

"A person who serves a sentence in the community still carries a social stigma of being a convicted offender serving a criminal sentence," she said.

August 25, 2006  
The Windsor Star  
Page: A3 (News)

### **Priest's sex abuse experience gives him compassion**

Marty Gervais, Windsor Star

How do you forgive someone who has sexually abused children?

What justification do you have?

Maybe none.

But what if you are a priest who was abused as a child, but never perpetuated this vile act upon anyone as an adult?

What if you are a priest whose life was fraught with advances upon his sexuality by other priests, seminarians, mentors, even "confessors?"

What if the thing you felt in each of these instances was nothing but revulsion?

The other day, I met an Anglican priest who told me that in a small way -- and he can't comprehend why -- he feels "sadness" for clergy members being tried for multiple abuses against children.

**Their loathsome and heinous acts, and the harm they've wreaked upon the lives of these kids, are immeasurable. There's no escaping what they did.**

**Yet in a small way, maybe there's forgiveness, this priest says.**

Or maybe that's not what it's called.

"I don't know why I feel this, but I do," said this priest, who prefers to remain anonymous.

**As he looks back at a step-uncle who abused him when he was five years old, there are moments when he reels from the memory of "those slobbery lips ... I can still taste it. ... I want to vomit."**

That experience has never left him.

**Yet, in a small way, this priest has room for a measure of forgiveness.**

**Maybe he is fortunate. Maybe he survived it in a way that other victims have not. That may be.**

"I don't know," he says, telling me that it all started in the most innocent way when he was five. It started when his uncle took him for rides in his milk truck. It started when this parental figure plied him with ice cream and candies.

**Life couldn't be sweeter.**

**Then the abuse started.**

Bit by bit, the boy stuttered out excuses to his mother about not visiting his uncle anymore. In time, he buried this secret in his heart. **It emerged years later -- well into his marriage. His wife had known nothing about this childhood abuse.**

**But when he told her, he piled up a series of other incidents that might have dramatically redefined his life had he not been strong.**

It seemed this man who would eventually become a priest became a constant target of sexual predators.

In every case, he "repelled" them, but throughout his adolescence he wondered if he was gay.

As a youth, he was **approached by a university professor** who supposedly came to his rescue when he lost his money at Toronto's Union Station. This man wound up propositioning him, showing him pornographic pictures.

"I ran out of there."

Another time, **at the seminary, he was approached by a teacher** in the common room. "He had been drinking, and he pulled me to him, and I said, 'Father, I'm not interested in this. Let me go.'"

"Years later, when I was ordained, he sent me a present."

**The worst was his own "confessor," or the priest to whom he would go for confession.**

**"This is someone I admired. He was a mentor, and, as my confessor, he knew all my weaknesses and strengths, everything about me."**

The two had arranged for what appeared to be an innocent meeting in Toronto.

"It was a seedy hotel and I wondered about it, and when I walked into his room, he was sitting on the bed in his underwear, and he said something that repulsed me.

"When he saw how I felt, he said, 'Isn't this why you came here?'"

"I felt nauseous and told him I felt sorry for him.... Here was a priest who was married and had kids."

**Throughout his life, this cleric was plagued with "guilt" about his past, wondering if it was somehow his fault.**

Not until he was in the seminary did he meet a priest who assured him he had done nothing wrong.

**"I felt dirty, and that somehow I had caused these people to do this."**

"To this day, I don't trust men. If you were to touch my arm in the middle of an innocent conversation, I'd cringe."

**But forgiveness for such odious people?**

"My wife wonders how I can think this. ...

"I can't tell you. I don't know.

**"Priests are lonely, isolated people who live lives of having to be perfect all the time.**

**"All I know is I want to meet with them and have them repent."**



## Ukrainian-Canadians

August 25, 2006

National Post

Page: A12 (Editorials)

### Ukrainians still waiting for justice

Lubomyr Luciuk, National Post

I sort through what politicians have said about Ukrainian-Canadians, hoping to conjure up truths about why our people came here and how they have been treated.

Our predecessors were admitted because, as Clifford Sifton, Wilfrid Laurier's Minister of the Interior, confirmed: "I think a stalwart peasant in a sheep-skin coat, born on the soil, whose forefathers have been farmers for ten generations, with a stout wife and a half-dozen children, is good quality."

Promises of free land and freedom lured 171,000 before the First World War. But not everyone welcomed "Sifton's pets." Sir Mackenzie Bowell, our fifth prime minister, editorialized: "The Galicians, they of the sheepskin coats, the filth and the vermin, do not make splendid material for the building of a great nation. One look at the disgusting creatures after they pass through over the CPR on their way West has caused many to marvel that beings bearing the human form could have sunk to such a bestial level."

During Canada's first national internment operations, **thousands were branded "enemy aliens" -- then herded into concentration camps**, forced into heavy labour for the profit of their jailers. Their **wealth was confiscated, they were disenfranchised and they were subjected to other state-sanctioned indignities -- all because of where they had come from, not anything they had done.**

Two politicians' words expose the temperament of those times. In July, 1919, Sir Hugh Macdonald, son of our first prime minister, wrote to Arthur Meighen: "Fear is the only agency that can be successfully employed to keep them within the law and I have no doubt that if the Dominion Government persists in the course that it is now adopting the foreign element here will soon be as gentle and as easily controlled as a lot of sheep." In 1924, Herbert Clements, MP, declared: "I say unhesitatingly that every enemy alien ... interned during the war is today just as much an enemy ... I demand ... that each and every alien in this dominion should be deported at the earliest opportunity ... Cattle ships are good enough for them."

**Perhaps because Ukrainian Canadians have never demanded an apology for what they endured -- calling only for recognition and a restitution of the contemporary value of the confiscated wealth -- they have garnered sympathetic words from politicians, of all persuasions.**

Kingston's Peter Milliken, now Speaker of the House of Commons, was first to champion redress, in September, 1991. In Winnipeg, in October, 1992, prime minister Brian Mulroney promised a settlement. And Jean Chretien wrote, on **June 8, 1993**: **"The Liberal Party ... supports your efforts to secure the redress of Ukrainian-Canadian claims arising from their internment and loss of freedoms during the First World War and interwar period ... be assured that we will ... seek to ensure that the government honours its promise."** Once elected, Mr Chretien spent the next decade forgetting his.

**Matters improved when prime minister Paul Martin approved an Agreement in Principle on Aug. 24, 2005, budgeting \$2.5-million for commemorative projects and an additional \$10-million for longer-term educational programming. Not a nickel was ever delivered, however, for a new government was elected.** Still, we remained optimistic. Inky Mark, a Chinese Canadian Conservative MP, representing a Manitoba riding with a large Canadian Ukrainian constituency, has long been an advocate of righting this historical injustice. **And the Honourable Steven Harper publicly supported Bill C 331 -- the Ukrainian Canadian Restitution Act:** "I rise today to address an important and unfortunate chapter in Canadian history. I am pleased to give my support ... to Bill C-331. The last remaining survivor of these internment operations, Mary Haskett, is still alive. She will be turning 97 this summer. I sincerely hope that she will live to see an official reconciliation of this past injustice."

That was March 24, 2005. Mr Mark's Bill C 331 received Royal Assent on Nov. 24, 2005.

Mary was six when interned at Spirit Lake, Quebec. Her younger sister, Nellie, died there. Mary never forgot. While able to, in March, 1993, she climbed Parliament Hill. She did not go seeking compensation. She asked only that what happened be remembered.

Mary celebrated her 98th birthday recently. Why our Prime Minister did not mark that occasion with the gift of an honourable reconciliation I cannot divine. So I'm writing to ask.

- Lubomyr Luciuk is author of *Without Just Cause: Canada's First National Internment Operations and the Ukrainian Canadians, 1914-1920* (Kingston: Kashtan Press, 2006).

## Agent Orange Coverage

August 25, 2006

The Chronicle-Herald

Page: B3 (Nova Scotia)

### Ontario man ponders an Agent Orange link

Bill Power Staff Reporter

Pieces of a puzzle relating to a series of family deaths and illnesses fell into place for Art Connolly as he sat at his father's deathbed more than a year ago.

As heart disease claimed the life of 73-year-old Owen Francis Connolly, a former member of the Black Watch who served at CFB Gagetown in the 1960s, a television in the background in the hospital room flickered and caught the younger man's attention. It featured a report about the increasing controversy over the repercussions of the use of potentially-dangerous chemicals like Agent Orange at the base over the decades. "I started thinking about my seven-year-old brother dying of Reye's syndrome and about my 28-year-old sister dying in pregnancy of a pulmonary embolism, of my mother's battle with stomach cancer and of my father's fight against heart disease and a host of other medical problems," the London, Ont., resident said in an interview Thursday.

"I started looking for some answers to questions about possible links between these and other health problems and spraying of chemicals at the base and things just kept getting more and more complicated," Mr. Connolly said.

A frustrated search for information evolved into the start of an information website, and eventually The Agent Orange Association of Canada. Agent Orange is the same controversial chemical defoliant, allegedly linked to human health problems, the U.S. military used during the Vietnam War.

**"It affects the many people who went through Gagetown over the decades and also their families and future generations," he said of the wave of interest in the issue generated by the association.**

Now about a dozen members of the group from locations around the country are coming to the Dartmouth Sportsplex on Saturday, between 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., as part of an effort to meet with people who might have stories to share about the exposure of family members to toxic chemicals, such as Agent Orange, at the New Brunswick army base.

Many troops who trained at Gagetown were from Nova Scotia and members of the association are looking for assistance mapping out a strategy to persuade the government to open the books and come clean about any health risks associated with the spraying, most of which was conducted to clear foliage to allow for training.

"The **government is stonewalling**. They're trying to mystify, bewilder and confuse people, thinking that if they do that enough people will get fed up and stop asking questions," Mr. Connolly said.

Mr. Connolly said the association is looking for information that might be useful for people possibly facing health complications relating to the spraying. He said not all of the association's members are part of a class-action lawsuit launched last year **seeking compensation from the federal government**.

**Veterans Affairs Minister Greg Thompson has indicated a compensation recommendation relating to spraying at the base should be moving forward in several months.**

**However, the association wants to generate as much publicity about the issue as possible and is especially concerned with a report earlier this year suggesting there were no long-term health problems associated with a one-week U.S. military test of sprays, Agent Orange included, that occurred in the mid-60s.**