



Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly

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Member

September 18, 2007

Hon. Frank Quennell, Q.C.  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General  
Rm. 355 Legislative Building, 2405 Legislative Drive  
Regina, SK S4S 0B3

Minister,

As you may be aware, the RCMP Commercial Crime investigation into allegations of fraud involving former NDP Caucus employee Anne Lord may soon be reaching a conclusion. In a recent interview, RCMP spokesperson Heather Russell indicated that the usual course of action in cases with "political overtones" is to refer the matter to an out-of-province prosecutor.

This case in fact does have significant political implications, given the April 28<sup>th</sup> resignation of Mr. Jim Fodey, former Chief of Staff in the New Democratic Party Caucus Office, and the May 16<sup>th</sup> resignation of NDP MLA Glenn Hagel from cabinet.

Questions relating to how these two officials handled this alleged case of fraud involving public funds prompted the Premier to ask Saskatchewan's Conflict of Interest Commissioner to investigate the situation. Mr. Gerrand was tasked with reviewing the circumstances of the case, to determine whether the police were misled about the original circumstances of the alleged fraud, and whether the public had been misled about how the fraud allegations were handled by public officials. With the commencement of the RCMP investigation, the Conflict of Interest Commissioner's inquiry has been suspended.

Given the inherent political nature of this case, and given the public's right to know that justice is seen to be done, I am writing to request that the findings of the RCMP investigation be reviewed by an out-of-province prosecutor.



There is certainly historical precedent for such a decision. When then Justice Minister Bob Mitchell inadvertently identified a young offender during a media interview, the matter was referred out of province to determine if charges should be laid.

I think a similar decision in this case is the prudent thing to do.

I look forward to your response on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Morgan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Don Morgan, Justice Critic, Saskatchewan Party  
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Regina, SK. S4S 0B3