



August 10, 2015

Ms. Erin Breen
Simmonds + Partners Defence
Suite 300
233 Duckworth Street
St. John's, NL A1C 1G8

Dear Ms. Breen:

Re: RCMP Investigation into the Death of Donald Dunphy

I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 17, 2015 in which you expressed concern with the RCMP investigation into the death of Donald Dunphy and offered the opinion that the RCMP should step away from the investigation and that an out of province force take over.

I can assure you that the Provincial Government takes the administration of justice in Newfoundland and Labrador very seriously and acknowledge the importance of public confidence in all aspects of the justice system, including policing. That said, it is not appropriate for me to become directly involved in or interfere with an ongoing police investigation. It is well established that the police must be given the authority to operate free from the control of the executive branch of government in conducting a criminal investigation.

I have every confidence in the RCMP's ability to conduct a thorough and objective investigation into this matter and would encourage you to maintain an open dialogue with them and retired Justice Riche to ensure that your client's concerns are brought to their attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Davis".

PAUL DAVIS
Premier

c. Minister of Justice and Public Safety
Assistant Commissioner Tracy Hardy