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BOLAND, Andrew, C/Supt.	P	
BOUCHER, Byron	P	
STUBBS, Eric	P	

From:

Andrew Boland

To:

Boucher, Byron; Stubbs, Eric

CC:

Hardy, Tracy

Date:

2015/04/23 17:18

Byron and Eric,

The following is for your situational awareness.

This afternoon in our provincial legislature the issue of who has the authority to bring in an external police service to investigate a police shooting came up. The debate in the legislature was intense.

As you know we have an active investigation of a police shooting death by the RNC which occurred when a lone officer was making enquiries in a home in our jurisdiction.

The below noted media article is a good reflection of the issue. The provincial government is confident in our investigation. Frankly, while the death is tragic, the circumstances of the incident are not complex.

"Government maintains it has no authority to step into the RCMP investigation into the shooting death of Don Dunphy. Despite claims by the Liberals, the Justice Minister says only the head of the RCMP can request another force to investigate. The circumstances that led to the death of the 59-year-old on Easter Sunday dominated Question Period for a second consecutive day. VOCM's Danielle Barron reports.

Clarifying remarks made yesterday Premier Paul Davis says he did not order the police investigation. When asked if he was under investigation as a result of the death, Davis said he didn't know. Dunphy was shot dead by a member of the Protective Services Unit - a joint RNC/RCMP police unit that provides security detail to government members. At the time of the shooting in Mitchells Brook, an RNC officer was investigating a perceived threat made online.

Liberal Critic Andrew Parsons accused government of not following recommendations of past inquiries. Parsons quoting recommendation 26 of the Luther Inquiry, claims an outside force should be called in to investigate police shootings. He says the Dunphy family wants an outside police force involved.

The NDP looked for details about the operation and mandate of the Protective Services Unit. Premier Davis says he's not opposed to an inquiry, he just believes the RCMP first needs to complete its investigation.

Davis says, like the public, government wants to know what happened.

Minister King says if there's outstanding questions following the RCMP investigation and a lack of public confidence in the process then government will consider an inquiry.

King says he doesn't believe for one minute that residents of the province want government to be dictating what police should be investigating and what the shouldn't be."

http://www.vocm.com/newsarticle.asp?mn=2&id=54214&latest=1

At the onset of the investigation we engaged an independent observer, a highly respected retired justice of the provincial appeal court, who has unfettered access to the file and will be providing a report at the end of our investigation.

We anticipate this will continue to garner considerable media interest. We have provided BNs with all the latest information.

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Page 3

I will keep you posted on the issues at hand.

Andrew