

## Ipperwash Inquiry Recommendations re 'Peacekeeping' Policy

**Source:** Ipperwash Inquiry: Recommendations from Volume 2 - Policy Analysis (see # #38, 45, 47, 49 re 'peacekeeping' policies)

[http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/inquiries/ipperwash/report/vol\\_4/pdf/E\\_Vol\\_4\\_B\\_Policy.pdf](http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/inquiries/ipperwash/report/vol_4/pdf/E_Vol_4_B_Policy.pdf)

Caledonia Victims Project download:

<http://caledoniavictimsproject.files.wordpress.com/2010/03/vol-4-recommendations-from-vol-2.pdf>

(Emphasis added)

### Recommendation 38

Police services in Ontario should promote **peacekeeping** by adopting the following objectives when policing Aboriginal occupations and protests:

- a. minimize the risk of violence at occupations and protests.
- b. preserve and restore public order.
- c. facilitate the exercise of constitutionally protected rights.
- d. remain neutral as to the underlying grievance.
- e. facilitate the building of trusting relationships that will assist the parties to resolve the dispute constructively.

### Recommendation 45

The provincial government should develop a **provincial peacekeeping policy** to govern its response to Aboriginal occupations and protests. The policy should publicly confirm the provincial government is committed to peacekeeping, and it should promote consistency and coordination between the provincial government and police services in Ontario. This policy should include:

- a. a ministerial directive from the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services to the OPP confirming **peacekeeping as the provincial government policy** during an Aboriginal occupation or protest. The directive should acknowledge and support the general purposes and practices of the OPP Framework for Police Preparedness for Aboriginal Critical Incidents; and,
- b. a ministerial guideline from the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services to other police services in Ontario, functionally equivalent to the OPP directive but allowing for adaptation to local circumstances.

The **provincial peacekeeping policy** should state that it is applicable to the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, the OPP, the Ministry of Natural

Resources, and any other ministries or agencies which may be involved in an Aboriginal occupation or protest.

The **provincial peacekeeping policy** should be promulgated as soon as practical. The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services should then initiate a consultation process with First Nations, the OPP, other police services, and local communities as appropriate regarding the scope and content of a longer-term policy.

#### **Recommendation 47**

The provincial government should develop a policy governing the use of injunctions at Aboriginal occupations and protests. **The policy should state that its purpose is to promote peacekeeping** in Aboriginal occupations and protests. The policy should acknowledge the unique role of the Attorney General in injunction proceedings and commit the province to participating in proceedings where private landowners seek an injunction and treaty and Aboriginal rights may be affected.

#### **Recommendation 49**

Interministerial "blockade" committees should be organized carefully to ensure that they respect ministerial accountability. These committees should be briefed on the following matters:

- a. appropriate roles and responsibilities of police and government;
- b. **existing provincial government and police peacekeeping policies**;
- c. general aspects of police strategy and objectives when policing Aboriginal occupations and protests;
- d. the unique constitutional status of Aboriginal rights and claims, and the constitutional right of peaceable assembly; and,
- e. the history, issues, and claims that may be in dispute.

Relevant ministers, ministerial staff, and other senior provincial officials should also be briefed on these issues.