

Appendix Q
Chronology of
Activities – Sawatsky



MURRAY SAWATSKY CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DOCID
September 16, 1992	Hersh Wolch writes a letter to Kim Campbell requesting an inquiry based on evidence received from a former filing clerk employed by the Saskatchewan Attorney General's Office.	004064
September 19, 1992	David Milgaard, Joyce Milgaard and Hersh Wolch hold a press conference. At the press conference, Joyce Milgaard publicizes the details of the allegations put forth by Michael Breckenridge and alleges a cover-up by the Department of the Attorney General's Office in the prosecution of her son.	219290 218852 334827
September 21, 1992	Chief Superintendent D.H. Egan, Officer in Charge of Criminal Operations, writes a letter to Richard Quinney, Acting Director, Public Prosecutions (Saskatchewan Justice) enclosing the statements of Patricia Styles and David Wollbaum taken by Sgt. Rick Pearson.	154207
September 28, 1992	Inspector R.W. Wass, Assistant Officer in charge of Criminal Operations, "F" Division, writes to Richard Quinney indicating that the RCMP will conduct further interviews in an assistance role to the Federal Department of Justice.	117987 (of 117985)
October 1, 1992	Insp. Wass authors a memorandum to the RCMP Commissioner in Ottawa advising that he has been contacted by Richard Quinney who requested that Insp. Wass communicate with Neil McCrank (Deputy Minister, Alberta Attorney General's Department) to establish a neutral contact in case legal advice is necessary during the investigation into Mrs. Milgaard's allegations. Insp. Wass indicates that Sgt. Pearson continues to investigate the circumstances surrounding the allegations. The memorandum also indicates that Insp. Wass and Mr. McCrank discussed the necessity and appropriateness of a meeting prior to further interviews.	060882
October 6, 1992	C/Supt. Egan writes to the Commissioner of the RCMP in Ottawa advising that a meeting regarding Mrs. Milgaard's allegations of obstruction has been scheduled for October 8, 1992. Expected attendees are Neil McCrank, Bruce Fraser, an additional Crown Prosecutor, C/Supt. Egan, Superintendent M.J. Johnson, Officer in charge of Regina Sub-Division, Insp. Wass, Insp. M. Sawatsky, Assistant Officer in charge of Regina Sub-Division and Sgt. R. Pearson, Saskatoon Sub-Division GIS. C/Supt. Egan indicates that the purpose of the meeting will be to determine the appropriate course of action and develop an additional plan to deal with the investigation. He also indicates that a criminal investigation may be required in light of the allegations of obstruction.	060087
October 8, 1992	A meeting is held regarding Mrs. Milgaard's allegations of obstruction of justice. Neil McCrank, Bruce Fraser, C/Supt. D.H. Egan, Supt. M.J. Johnson, Insp. Wass, Insp. M. Sawatsky, Sgt. Williams and Sgt. R. Pearson are in	060842, 003998

338552

Appendix Q Chronology of Activities – Sawatsky

2

	attendance. Brent Cotter, Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General (Saskatchewan), also attends. Insp. Sawatsky's notes indicate that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Milgaard and Fisher Files and to determine the protocol for the investigation.	
October 9, 1992	Brent Cotter writes to Neil McCrank confirming Alberta Justice's acceptance of Saskatchewan Justice's referral to render charging decisions in relation to the allegations arising from David Milgaard's case. Mr. Cotter also advises that the RCMP is investigating Mrs. Milgaard's allegations and will seek legal advice from Alberta Justice if necessary.	060891
October 13, 1992	C/Supt. Egan writes to Supt. M.J. Johnson advising that Sgt. Pearson is to be relieved of any responsibility for further inquiries on the Milgaard matter. He also assigns the conduct of the investigation concerning Mrs. Milgaard's latest allegations to Insp. Sawatsky and Sgt. Williams of the Regina Sub-Division.	060893 060907 060919 004001
October 21, 1992	Insp. Sawatsky receives a call from Bruce Fraser. They discuss issues respecting the scope of the investigation.	060844 to 060846 (of 060842)
October 22, 1992	Insp. Sawatsky receives a call from Bruce Fraser. They discuss issues respecting the scope of the investigation.	060847 and 060848 (of 060842)
October 27, 1992	C/Supt. Egan sends correspondence to the RCMP Commissioner in Ottawa regarding "Project Flicker" and advising of the present standing and "action plan" regarding the file. Insp. Sawatsky is sent a copy of the correspondence.	060907
October 28, 1990	Hersh Wolch receives a letter from Kim Campbell responding to his letter dated September 16, 1992. Ms. Campbell's letter advises that the matter will be referred to the Attorney General of Saskatchewan for his consideration.	060916 060917
October 30, 1992	Saskatchewan Justice notifies Mr. Wolch that Mrs. Milgaard's allegations of wrongdoing have been referred to the RCMP and Alberta Justice. He also receives notice that the RCMP will be contacting him for further information regarding the matter.	061701
November 2, 1992	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Mr. Wolch advising that the RCMP is conducting a criminal investigation to determine if there was wrongdoing during the handling of the Milgaard file. He also advises Mr. Wolch that he will be contacting him in the future to arrange a meeting.	060901 060903 060914
November 6, 1992	Mr. Wolch writes a letter to Insp. Sawatsky advising that he will cooperate with the RCMP. He also requests that the investigation include inquiries into breaches of provincial statutes (such as the <i>Law Society Act</i>) and ethical duties that must be observed by Crown counsel.	060915
November 9,	Insp. Sawatsky has a discussion with Bruce Fraser	060853 (of

338553

Appendix Q Chronology of Activities – Sawatsky

3

1992	regarding the conduct of the investigation.	060842)
November 9, 1992	Insp. Sawatsky has a discussion with Hersh Wolch regarding the investigation and an upcoming meeting.	060853 (of 060842)
November 19, 1992	Saskatchewan News Media is informed that the RCMP is investigating the allegations of wrongdoing arising from the David Milgaard case. Saskatchewan News Media is also informed that Insp. Sawatsky and Sgt. Williams have been assigned to conduct the investigation.	004001
November 20, 1992	Hersh Wolch and Insp. Sawatsky arrange to meet in Winnipeg on November 26, 1992.	060922 060926 060298 060930
November 26, 1992	Insp. Sawatsky and Sgt. Williams meet with Hersh Wolch, Greg Rodin and Bob Bruce in Winnipeg. Mr. Wolch discusses various issues and makes various allegations against certain individuals and institutions.	060856 023046
November 30, 1992	Insp. Sawatsky has a discussion with Richard Quinney regarding Saskatchewan Justice files on the Milgaard and Fisher matters.	060857 (of 060842)
December 1, 1992	Insp. Sawatsky has discussions with Bruce Fraser regarding the scope of Project Flicker and the next meeting with Alberta Justice officials.	060858 (of 060842)
December 3, 1992	Hersh Wolch writes a letter to Insp. Sawatsky and provides him with the name and address of the ex-file clerk (Michael Breckenridge) and information regarding, among other things, the Milgaard's internal source at the Saskatoon City Police and [redacted]	060934
December 9, 1992	Insp. Sawatsky prepares a brief regarding his November 26, 1992 interview with Hersh Wolch and the allegations Mr. Wolch put forth during that interview.	067343
December 14, 1992	A meeting regarding Project Flicker is held at the Criminal Operations Boardroom in Regina. Neil McCrank, Bruce Fraser, C/Supt. Egan, Insp. Wass, Insp. Sawatsky and Sgt. Williams are all in attendance. During the meeting, Insp. Sawatsky highlights the concerns expressed and allegations put forth by Hersh Wolch. Brent Cotter also attends the meeting.	038264 060941
December 15, 1992	Insp. Sawatsky writes to Chief Maguire of the Saskatoon City Police indicating that the RCMP is investigating allegations of criminal wrongdoing on the part of Saskatchewan Justice and the police. He also indicates that the RCMP intends to interview serving and retired members of the Saskatoon City Police. A contact person is requested.	060939
December 21, 1992	Neil McCrank writes a letter to Brent Cotter and updates him on the status of the investigation. He advises that allegations of 'cover-up' have been made against the Saskatoon Police Department, Saskatoon Crown Counsel's office and the Saskatchewan Department of Justice. Mr. McCrank also advises that the RCMP investigators have	060941

338554

Appendix Q Chronology of Activities – Sawatsky

	been instructed to further their criminal investigation in all respects on each and every allegation that has been made and to take such steps as are deemed necessary to complete the investigation. He indicates that in view of the number and complexity of the allegations it will be some months until the matter is finalized.	
December 21, 1992	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Richard Quinney formally requesting access to Saskatchewan Justice's files relating to David Milgaard and Larry Fisher. Mr. Quinney responds by advising that Saskatchewan Justice is prepared to provide the RCMP with access to those files.	060945 004436
December 22, 1992	Chief Maguire of the Saskatoon City Police writes to C/Supt. Egan and advises that Inspector John Quinn has been tasked with providing assistance to RCMP investigators working on Project Flicker.	060947
January 22, 1993	Members of the Project Flicker Task Force hold a meeting to discuss the objectives, protocol, conduct of the investigation, including the duties and responsibilities assigned to individual members of the Task Force. Insp. Sawatsky attends the meeting.	238548
January 22, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to C/Supt. Egan requesting advice as to whether the RCMP should make a public statement regarding the investigation.	036699
February 5, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky speaks with Deputy Chief Montague of the Saskatoon City Police to discuss various matters respecting the investigation of Saskatoon City Police members.	060956
February 11, 1993	File protocol respecting Project Flicker is reviewed and a document outlining the procedures respecting the handling of files and investigation reports is submitted by Sgt. Dosenberger and approved by S/Sgt. Tost.	038450
February 15, 1993	Various points respecting the collection of file materials are discussed. The discussion includes Insp. Sawatsky.	038268
February 25 and 26, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky, Sgt. Williams and Cst. Jorgenson interview Mrs. Milgaard. During the interview, Mrs. Milgaard discusses various issues and makes various allegations against certain individuals and institutions.	331214 038239
March 9, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky prepares an investigation report.	036667
March 11, 1993	All Project Flicker members attend a meeting. The members discuss the issues and allegations raised during Mrs. Milgaard's interview.	038281
March 17, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky writes to Cathy MacMillan (CDL, Biology Section) requesting information regarding the blood types and secretor status of David Milgaard and Larry Fisher.	041913 (of 041911)
March 19, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky prepares an investigation report.	036814
March 22, 1993	Cathy MacMillan writes to Insp. Sawatsky and informs him that David Milgaard and Larry Fisher are both secretors. She also provides Insp. Sawatsky with the other information he requested on March 17, 1993.	041914 (of 041911)
March 22, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky prepares a memorandum for C/Supt Egan.	061057

338555

Appendix Q Chronology of Activities – Sawatsky

	The memorandum indicates that he will be meeting with Neil McCrank and Bruce Fraser on March 30 and 31, 1993.	
March 29, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Hersh Wolch regarding Justice Tallis, the Centurion Ministries Report and David Milgaard.	036841
March 30 & 31, 1993	All Project Flicker members meet with Neil McCrank and Bruce Fraser in Regina. They discuss various issues respecting the investigation.	061057 038270
March 31, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky and another Project Flicker member discuss PCR – DNA testing with Supt. Johnson.	035048 and 035049 (of 035047)
March 31, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky speaks with Chief Maguire, Saskatoon City Police. They discuss the civil action commenced by David Milgaard and access to Saskatoon City Police files.	061061
April 13, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Hersh Wolch indicating that he has received correspondence from David Asper regarding the Saskatoon City Police 'source'. Insp. Sawatsky advises Mr. Wolch that Mr. Asper has placed the onus of disclosure of the 'source' squarely on Mr. Wolch's shoulders.	061078
April 24, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky speaks with Dr. Richardson CDL, Ottawa. Dr. Richardson indicates that technology surrounding DNA testing is still 6 to 12 months away from being able to provide a conclusive opinion respecting bodily fluids found at the scene of the crime.	041987
April 30, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky prepares an investigation report.	061105
May 3, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Dr. Ferris informing him of the RCMP's investigation. In the letter, Insp. Sawatsky expresses his feeling that Dr. Ferris was given some incorrect information at the time he was writing his report. The letter attaches reports indicating that David Milgaard is a secretor.	041911
May 6, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky, Neil McCrank, Bruce Fraser, Brian Richardson, Barry Godette and Ron Forney participate in a conference call and discuss DNA testing issues.	041876 037980
May 7, 1993	Hersh Wolch writes a letter to Insp. Sawatsky, but subsequent correspondence indicates that the letter is not actually sent to Insp. Sawatsky on this date. In the letter, Mr. Wolch notes that he does not know the identity of Saskatoon City Police 'source'. He also notes that he has asked Mrs. Milgaard to contact the 'source' and indicates that a guarantee of confidentiality to the 'source' by the RCMP would be helpful.	061258 061256
May 31, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky, S/Sgt. Tost, Sgt. Dosenberger, Sgt. Dressler, Cpl. Templeton, Cpl. Gagne, Cst. Cunningham, Cst. Dyck and Cst. Homeniuk meet with Neil McCrank and Bruce Fraser. Various issues are discussed and the Project Flicker investigative team received some instructions.	061243
June 3, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Hersh Wolch regarding	061249

338556

Appendix Q Chronology of Activities – Sawatsky

	various issues, including Sidney Wilson, the Saskatoon City Police 'source', access to psychiatric reports and the Centurion Ministries Report and audio tapes.	
June 4, 1993	Dr. Ferris writes a letter to Insp. Sawatsky. The letter discusses serological issues and David Milgaard's secretor status.	041916
June 10, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky and Cst. Jorgenson interview Serge Kujawa.	022706
June 15, 1993	Hersh Wolch writes a letter to Insp. Sawatsky. The letter he intended to send on May 7, 1993 is attached to this letter. The current letter responds to the issues raised in Insp. Sawatsky's letter of June 3, 1993.	061256 061258
June 18, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky prepares a memorandum for C/Supt. Egan regarding the identity of Sidney Wilson. He indicates that Bruce Lafreniere was the source of the Larry Fisher information provided to Hersh Wolch in 1990.	061262
June 20, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky prepares an investigation report.	033942
June 24, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky writes to Hersh Wolch regarding [redacted] statement and Claire Hoffer.	049165
July 5, 1993	Hersh Wolch replies to Insp. Sawatsky's June 24, 1993 letter.	049210
July 13, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Paul Henderson. The letter explains the mandate of the RCMP investigation and requests Mr. Henderson's response to a series of questions. Insp. Sawatsky also requests any video/audio tapes, notes, statements and documentation in Mr. Henderson's possession.	049879
July 8, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Jim McCloskey. The letter explains the mandate of the RCMP investigation and requests Mr. McCloskey's response to a series of questions.	044764 (of 044763)
July 21, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky and Sgt. Dressler interview T.D.R. Caldwell.	022161
July 27, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky and Cst. Dyck interview Roy Romanow.	022852
July 30, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky prepares an investigation report.	061302
August 9, 1993	C/Supt. R.K. Leatherdale forwards the current investigation reports regarding this matter to Neil McCrank.	061296
September 2, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky speaks with David Milgaard.	047786
September 9, 1993	Murray Brown writes a letter to Insp. Sawatsky advising that another portion of Saskatchewan Justice's file in this matter (the 'missing head office file') has recently been found.	061373
September 13 and 14, 1993	Meetings regarding Project Flicker are held in Regina.	061382
September 20, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky forwards copies of statements taken during Project Flicker to Bruce Fraser.	061382
September 27, 1993	C/Supt. Leatherdale forwards a briefing note to the RCMP Commissioner in Ottawa. The briefing note was prepared by Insp. Sawatsky and relates to the Saskatchewan Justice head office file forwarded to the RCMP by Murray Brown on September 9, 1993.	061486 061389
October 13,	Neil McCrank meets with Brian Richardson and Barry	041900

338557

Appendix Q Chronology of Activities – Sawatsky

1993	Gaudette in Ottawa regarding DNA testing issues.	
November 9, 1993	Neil McCrank writes a letter to Barry Gaudette regarding DNA testing issues.	041900
November 15, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Hersh Wolch requesting clarification of various issues, including the "C-File", disclosure of the identity of two witnesses during David Milgaard's trial and allegations of evidence that was withheld.	061402
November 19, 1993	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Joyce Milgaard requesting clarification on certain issues relating to Michael Breckenridge.	218218
December 20, 1993	Joyce Milgaard responds to Insp. Sawatsky's letter dated November 19, 1993.	054603
January 12, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky is quoted in a Saskatoon Star Phoenix article. Among other things, the article indicates that Insp. Sawatsky said the 14 officers working on the case have "finished the legwork".	328973
January 13, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky forwards copies of the draft final investigation report and synopsis of interviews to Neil McCrank.	061445
January 17, 1994	Neil McCrank sends a facsimile to Insp. Sawatsky referencing an upcoming meeting on January 27, 1994 in Regina and enclosing a copy of a letter from Brent Cotter dated January 6, 1994 and Mr. McCrank's response to that letter. The letters discuss the issue of disclosure of the DNA testing process and the timing of disclosure.	061419
January 17, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky forwards Mr. Cotter's letter dated January 6, 1994 to C/Supt. Leatherdale and indicates that he intends to send Mr. McCrank a letter confirming that DNA testing results can be released after the testing process has been validated.	061450
January 19, 1994	Inspector Sawatsky prepares a briefing note respecting the status of "Project Flicker". The briefing note indicates that the RCMP is still awaiting determination of a possible DNA analysis by the RCMP Forensic Laboratory in Ottawa with respect to an item of clothing. The Briefing Note also indicates that the RCMP has found no evidence of wrongdoing by either the police or the Crown Prosecutors involved in the case. The briefing note is forwarded to Headquarters in Ottawa.	061455 061454
January 21, 1994	Hersh Wolch writes a letter to Insp. Sawatsky requesting a meeting prior to the release of the RCMP's final investigation report.	061704
January 26, 1994	C/Supt. Leatherdale writes to Neil McCrank to confirm that the results of the DNA analysis of Gail Miller's undergarments can be disclosed to the Attorney General for Saskatchewan once the RCMP Forensic Laboratory is satisfied the testing process has been properly validated.	061430

338558

Appendix Q Chronology of Activities – Sawatsky

January 27, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky meets with Neil McCrank and Bruce Fraser.	
January 28, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky speaks with David Milgaard.	047783
January, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky prepares a final investigation report into the RCMP investigation into allegations of wrongdoing by the Saskatoon City Police and the Saskatchewan Department of the Attorney General in the investigation and prosecution of David Milgaard (the "Final Investigation Report").	052660 023167
February 4, 1994	Richard Quinney writes a memorandum to Brent Cotter regarding a call he received from Neil McCrank on February 1, 1994. The memorandum discusses issues relating to Hersh Wolch's request to be briefed on the results of the RCMP investigation.	032942
February 11, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky and Neil McCrank discuss the contents of a letter that Insp. Sawatsky plans to send to Hersh Wolch regarding his request for a meeting. Insp. Sawatsky sends the letter to Hersh Wolch by fax later that day.	061435
February 23, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky prepares a memorandum for C/Supt. Leatherdale regarding Project Flicker. He indicates that the investigation is essentially complete, but that the RCMP is pursuing several aspects of the case which are of particular interest to Mr. Wolch, namely DNA testing and a criminal profiling analysis.	061489
February 23, 1994	Larry Proke, Assistant Commissioner, Commanding Officer "F" Division, writes a letter to Neil McCrank indicating that the investigation is complete. He also encloses a copy of Insp. Sawatsky's Final Investigation Report.	061490
March 3, 1994	Neil McCrank writes a letter to Ron Fainstein confirming an upcoming meeting in Ottawa on March 22, 1994. Mr. McCrank forwards a copy of his letter to Mr. Fainstein to Insp. Sawatsky and requests his attendance at the meeting. Issues to be discussed at the meeting include the possibility of further DNA tests and a general review of the file.	061443 061442
March 25, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky has a conversation with Bruce Fraser regarding various issues, including Sharon Williams, Ron Wilson and DNA testing.	
March 28, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky authors a continuation report referencing a conversation he had with Bruce Fraser on March 25, 1994. The continuation report sets out Insp. Sawatsky's views on some of the issues he discussed with Bruce Fraser.	061458
March 31, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky writes an email to C/Supt. Leatherdale indicating that he believes the RCMP should perform DNA testing on Gail Miller's undergarments. He also indicates his view that Neil McCrank and Bruce Fraser are somewhat hesitant on performing any DNA tests unless Hersh Wolch asks that the test be performed. The email requests that C/Supt Leatherdale make the decision respecting the issue of testing because the decision could be questioned at a	061461

338559

Appendix Q Chronology of Activities – Sawatsky

	later date.	
March 31, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky meets with C/Supt. Leatherdale regarding DNA testing issues. Also, Insp. Sawatsky authors a continuation report indicating that C/Supt. Leatherdale instructed Insp. Sawatsky to proceed with DNA testing.	061460 053115
April 7, 1994	Neil McCrank writes a letter to Brian Richardson and advises him not to conduct any further DNA or scientific tests respecting the David Milgaard matter. He also outlines Alberta Justice's plans to advise Hersh Wolch that short tandem repeat DNA tests could possibly be conducted on certain conditions. Mr. McCrank requests that Mr. Richardson confirm that there are sufficient samples available to perform the short tandem repeat DNA tests.	061463
April 7, 1994	Neil McCrank writes a letter to Insp. Sawatsky and encloses his April 7, 1994 letter to Brian Richardson. He also asks Insp. Sawatsky to correspond with Hersh Wolch.	061462
April 13, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky writes to Dr. Ferris regarding the disposition of the portion of Gail Miller's panties used in his analysis.	049619
April 13, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky writes to Bruce Fraser clarifying certain points raised in their telephone conversation on March 25, 1994.	061464
May 13, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky authors a memorandum to file regarding blood analysis of DNA. The memorandum generally outlines his views on the issue of DNA testing and the reasons why he has changed his opinion on the necessity of performing DNA testing as part of the RCMP investigation.	238788
June 13, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky writes to the Commanding Officer in Charge of "E" Division requesting assistance in contacting Dr. Ferris.	049618
July 18, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky sends a facsimile to Neil McCrank enclosing a copy of a report regarding RCMP contact with Dr. Ferris. The report indicates, among other things, that the portion of Gail Miller's panties tested by Dr. Ferris was consumed during Dr. Ferris' examination.	061498 061499
July 21, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky forwards a Supplementary Report to Neil McCrank.	061567 033694
August 2, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky meets with Neil McCrank and Bruce Fraser in Edmonton. Various issues are discussed during the meeting.	061568 247848 061569 061616
August 5, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Neil McCrank citing examples of his concerns regarding interviews conducted by Paul Henderson and Joyce Milgaard.	247848
August 15, 1994	Neil McCrank writes a letter to Brent Cotter indicating that Alberta Justice's assessment of the RCMP investigation into the allegations of criminal wrongdoing is now complete. The letter attaches three copies of Alberta Justice's Report and Insp. Sawatsky's Final Investigation Report. Mr. McCrank's letter lists five conclusions resulting from Alberta Justice's review of the matter.	032797 032805

338560

Appendix Q Chronology of Activities – Sawatsky

10

August 16, 1994	Brent Cotter makes a public statement respecting Alberta Justice's Report into allegations of criminal offences arising from the David Milgaard case and he publicizes Alberta Justice's conclusions and findings with respect to the investigation.	032799
August 17, 1994	Hersh Wolch writes a letter to Insp. Sawatsky and indicates that he is dismayed that he was not contacted prior to the release of Insp. Sawatsky's Final Investigation report. Mr. Wolch requests a full copy of the Final Investigation Report; he also requests the opportunity to review the RCMPs investigative file.	061669
August 17, 1994	The Regina Leader Post quotes Joyce Milgaard as saying that the RCMP and Alberta Justice Department had to ignore "hard facts" in order to reach their conclusion and that "The RCMP were going out trying to justify the conviction. They were not going out trying to find the truth." In the same article, Hersh Wolch is quoted as saying, "We had no input, we weren't there, we don't even know who they talked to, what was said and there was nobody there to argue our case."	147963 (of 147961)
August 17, 1994	An article entitled, "RCMP report called whitewash by Milgaard" appears in the Globe and Mail. David Milgaard is quoted as saying, "Everybody is being cleaned up and white-washed by the RCMP of Canada."	217219
August 18, 1994	Saskatchewan Justice issues a news release regarding the RCMP investigation into the allegations of wrongdoing.	105100
August 18, 1994	C/Supt. Leatherdale writes a memorandum to Supt. Murray Johnson. The memorandum discusses issues surrounding Hersh Wolch's request for disclosure of the results prior to the release of the RCMPs report.	061667
August 18, 1994	C/Supt. Leatherdale authors a briefing note regarding Mr. Wolch's comments in the press that he had no input into and was not consulted regarding the findings of the RCMPs investigation.	061616
August 19, 1994	C/Supt. Leatherdale writes a letter responding to Hersh Wolch's letter to Insp. Sawatsky dated August 17, 1994. He refers Mr. Wolch's August 17, 1994 letter and his requests to Brent Cotter.	061624
August 24, 1994	Sgt. Dosenberger authors a draft briefing note respecting the release of the Final Investigation Report.	061708
September 1, 1994	A meeting takes place between Brent Cotter, Doug Moen, C/Supt. Leatherdale, Insp. Sawatsky and Sgt. Dosenberger. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss issues concerning disclosure of the Final Investigation Report.	061631
September, 1994 (between September 1 and September 9, 1994)	C/Supt. Leatherdale authors a briefing note regarding disclosure of the Final Investigation Report. The briefing note indicates that a decision has been made to meet with Mr. Wolch and inform him about the results of the investigation.	061633

338561

Appendix Q Chronology of Activities – Sawatsky

September 13, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky has a conversation with Hersh Wolch. During the conversation, Mr. Wolch indicates that September 27, 1994 would be a suitable date to meet with the RCMP to discuss the results of their investigation.	061664
September 14, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky writes to Hersh Wolch confirming their September 13, 1994 discussion.	061664
September 15, 1994	RCMP officials meet with Brent Cotter to discuss disclosure issues regarding the Final Investigation Report and upcoming communications with Hersh Wolch.	061635
September 19, 1994	C/Supt. Leatherdale authors a briefing note regarding disclosure of the Final Investigation Report. The briefing note provides a summary of some of the issues that were discussed at the September 15, 1994. The briefing note also summarizes RCMP "F" Division position on the issue of disclosure.	061640
October 12, 1994	Hersh Wolch corresponds with Insp. Sawatsky to schedule a meeting regarding the RCMP Investigation into Wrongdoing.	061772
November 4, 1994	Insp. Sawatsky corresponds with Hersh Wolch and indicates that he has been unable to arrange a suitable meeting date with Brent Cotter. Insp. Sawatsky advises that he will continue his efforts to determine Mr. Cotter's availability.	061773
February 15, 1995	Insp. Sawatsky authors a memorandum to file regarding DNA exhibit testing. The memorandum outlines various reasons for not conducting DNA tests prior to the termination of Project Flicker. The memorandum also indicates that Insp. Sawatsky spoke with Barry Gaudette at the RCMP lab who advised that a DNA test could be done as early as late March 1995, but that Mr. Gaudette would prefer to wait until at least summer. Insp. Sawatsky indicates that Mr. McCrank are of the view that DNA testing should proceed once the RCMP Lab is in a position to perform the tests. The memorandum also indicates that Insp. Sawatsky and others plan to meet with Hersh Wolch shortly.	238801
April 21, 1995	Insp. Sawatsky receives a facsimile from Ron Fainstein. The facsimile references a discussion between Mr. Fainstein and Insp. Sawatsky and encloses a letter from Ron Fourny (RCMP Central Forensic Laboratory) to Mr. Fainstein dated March 16, 1995. The letter from Mr. Fourny to Mr. Fainstein recommends that, given the very little biological exhibit material that remains from the Miller exhibits, PCR-based short tandem repeat analysis should be used on the remaining exhibits in this case.	061810
April 21, 1995	Insp. Sawatsky authors a memorandum to file regarding DNA testing issues. The memorandum indicates that Insp. Sawatsky contacted Barry Gaudette who suggested that Insp. Sawatsky call Ron Fainstein for an update on the file. The memorandum outlines Insp. Sawatsky's discussion with Mr. Fainstein and generally indicates that David Milgaard's legal counsel have raised an issue over the type of DNA test	061809

338562

	that should be performed on the remaining samples (i.e., DQ Alpha testing vs. PCR-based short tandem repeat testing).	
April 27, 1995	Hersh Wolch writes a letter to Ned Shillington, Minister of Justice and Attorney General for Saskatchewan. The letter references Hersh Wolch's discussions with Insp. Sawatsky with respect to arranging a meeting to discuss the RCMP's investigation and report.	033291
May 8, 1995	Brent Cotter writes a letter to Insp. Sawatsky and Neil McCrank respecting disclosure of the RCMP report. The letter reference concerns regarding disclosure of personal information indicates that Saskatchewan Justice obtained a legal opinion from an outside law firm respecting their ability to legally disclose that personal information.	061813
June 20, 1995	Sgt. Dosenberger authors a memorandum to file regarding attempts to arrange a meeting with Hersh Wolch prior to the release of the RCMP report to the public.	061937
July 4, 1995	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Hersh Wolch. The letter indicates that the RCMP is prepared to follow through on its commitment to meet with Mr. Wolch for the purpose of outlining its findings into the allegations of wrongdoing. The letter seeks direction from Mr. Wolch with respect to when the meeting can be held.	061884
July 7, 1995	Hersh Wolch writes a letter to Insp. Sawatsky dated July 6, 1995. The letter is sent to Insp. Sawatsky via facsimile on July 7, 1995. The letter outlines the various attempts to arrange a meeting to discuss the RCMP's findings and references Mr. Wolch's frustrations with that process.	061885 061886
July 12, 1995	C/Supt. Leatherdale, Insp. Sawatsky, Sgt. Dosenberger and Cpl. Hoefft have a discussion regarding the release of the Final Investigation Report to the public and their approach to dealing with the media and possible allegations that may arise from the Final Investigation Report.	061941
July 12, 1995	Insp. Sawatsky receives a facsimile from Saskatchewan Justice attaching a copy of a July 12, 1995 news release from the Government of Saskatchewan and a copy of Brent Cotter's statement regarding the release of Insp. Sawatsky's Final Investigation Report.	061929
July 17, 1995	A newspaper article regarding DNA testing in the Milgaard case appears in the Regina Leader-Post. The article quotes Insp. Sawatsky as saying, "We're dealing with such a minute quantity, we only have one shot at it (DNA tests)."	147956
February 27, 1996	Insp. Sawatsky receives a telephone call from Ron Fainstein regarding DNA testing on Gail Miller's panties. Insp. Sawatsky advises Mr. Fainstein that the RCMP are "still of the view that their investigation was a 'search for the truth' and that testing should be done if possible." Among other things, the memorandum indicates that Mr. Fainstein suggested testing Dennis Elliott's DNA for elimination purposes.	061944 of 061941

338563

Appendix Q Chronology of Activities – Sawatsky

February 29, 1996	Insp. Sawatsky authors a memorandum to Cpl. Templeton regarding Project Flicker and DNA testing. The memorandum references Insp. Sawatsky's February 27, 1996 discussion with Ron Fainstein and requests Cpl. Templeton and Cst. Dyck to travel to Saskatoon to Speak with Mr. Elliott to determine whether he will provide a sample.	061944 to 061948 (of 061941)
April 25, 1996	Insp. Sawatsky writes a letter to Ron Fainstein indicating that RCMP investigators obtained a blood sample from Dennis Elliott. The letter also indicates that the sample of blood was forwarded to Patricia Alain at the RCMP Lab in Ottawa.	061949 (of 061950) 231467
June 3, 1997	Insp. Sawatsky authors a memorandum to C/Supt. Leatherdale and a briefing note regarding the possible outcome of DNA analysis taking place in England. In the briefing note, Insp. Sawatsky outlines four possibilities regarding the origin of the stain on Gail Miller's panties. The briefing note also outlines three findings that could result from the examination of the panties.	036217
June 4, 1997	Insp. Sawatsky sends a copy of the June 3, 1997 briefing note to Deputy Chief Norm Doell (Saskatoon City Police) and Murray Brown via facsimile. The facsimile cover sheet indicates that Insp. Sawatsky remains of the view that it is not the RCMP's role to deal with the media with respect to the results of the DNA testing, but that he is prepared to assist anyway he can.	036212
July 3, 1997	Insp. Sawatsky receives a facsimile from RCMP "A" Division. The facsimile attaches a draft search and seizure warrant and indicates that Robert Frater, Department of Justice Canada, has requested the RCMP's assistance in executing the warrant to obtain Larry Fisher's biological samples from the RCMP Forensic Lab in Ottawa.	068588
July 4, 1997	Ron Fainstein swears an affidavit in support of the issuance of a search warrant to seize biological samples that were given by Larry Fisher in March, 1992 for DNA analysis in connection with the murder of Gail Miller.	263417
July 4, 1997	Insp. Sawatsky replies to an email from RCMP Headquarters regarding the Federal Department of Justice's request to seize Larry Fisher's biological samples from the RCMP's Lab in Ottawa. The email discusses a number of issues and generally outlines Insp. Sawatsky's view on the necessity for and implications of seizing and testing Mr. Fisher's biological samples from the lab in Ottawa.	061913
July 4, 1997	Insp. Sawatsky authors a briefing note regarding the Federal Department of Justice's request to seize Larry Fisher's biological samples from the RCMP's Lab in Ottawa. The briefing note generally outlines Insp. Sawatsky's view on the necessity for and propriety of seizing and testing Mr. Fisher's biological samples from the lab in Ottawa: Insp.	061912

338564

	Sawatsky takes objection to portions of the affidavit sworn by Ron Fainstein on July 4, 1994 and indicates that the RCMP have no reason to suspect that Larry Fisher is involved in Gail Miller's murder and that Mr. Fisher's rights are being violated.	
July 18, 1997	Insp. Sawatsky forwards a copy of the July 4, 1997 briefing note to Deputy Chief Norm Doell (Saskatoon City Police).	300056
July 28, 1997	Insp. Sawatsky authors a briefing note indicating that DNA tests confirm that Larry Fisher is the donor of seminal fluid stains found on the Gail Miller's clothing. The briefing note also indicates that Saskatchewan Justice has recommended charges of first degree murder and rape against Larry Fisher and that no comments should be made which would tend to prejudice Mr. Fisher's opportunity for a fair trial.	078259
1999	Insp. Sawatsky testifies at <i>voir dire</i> s 1, 2 and 3 at Larry Fisher's trial.	253854 254025 254465

338565