

# Politician guilty of fraud and breach of trust hopes to keep job

## COURT

**An Independent politician** in the Nova Scotia legislature pleaded guilty Monday to fraud and breach of trust, but said outside court he would like to keep his job. Trevor Zinck became the last of four politicians to plead guilty to offences stemming from the province's spending scandal that erupted two years ago. Prosecutors said a charge of theft over \$5,000 was stayed. The former NDP MLA ad-

mits he made errors with his expenses, but wants to remain a member of the legislature for Dartmouth North. "There's no question I made some mistakes, but it doesn't take away from all the good I was able to do," he said. Last week, Zinck confirmed in court he was given more than

\$10,000 from the Speaker's Office to cover constituency expenses in 2008 and 2009, even though he didn't pay those owed money, except for a partial amount to one group. *The Canadian Press*



# Beloved injured whale missing, rescue bid continues

## 'CAPTAIN HOOK'

By KATRINA CLARKE

A beloved female fin whale entangled in a crab trap has gone missing, frustrating a bid to rescue her, say Parks Canada officials.

Efforts have been underway since the whale was first reported to be in distress on June 6 in Quebec's Saguenay-St Lawrence Marine Park. Park officials say she has cuts on her mouth and an injured tail.

"The last time the whale was seen, she was leaving the marine park. This was last Thursday," said Nadia Ménard, a biologist with Parks Canada. "She was heading east."

The injured whale is well known in the area, and has returned each year since 1994. Tour boat captains call her Capitaine Crochet, or Captain Hook, because of her distinctly hook-shaped dorsal fin.

Despite the whale's departure, rescue efforts continue. "On the contrary," said Ms. Ménard. "The Department of Fisheries and Oceans has sent reinforcements."

The DFO has sent a local patrol boat, as well as flown in a specialist from Vancouver. The department also organized an aerial patrol of the St. Lawrence Sunday and another patrol will take place Tuesday, said Ms. Ménard.

Ms. Ménard said spotting the whale is difficult because she only comes up to the surface for a few breaths every 15 minutes. She could also be a long way away.

"The whale could be quite far in the St. Lawrence, away from the marine park," she said. "She could easily travel, in that period of time, hundreds of kilometres ... It could be weeks before we spot her again."

Ms. Ménard said the whale might have left in search of the small fish and krill that are her diet. The three other fin whales she was last seen with also left the park, she said.

While it is possible Capitaine Crochet has headed out to the ocean, never to return, Ms. Ménard doesn't see this being likely.

"We're confident she will show up again," she said.

# Having an open wound ... is definitely not good for the animal

Experts told Ms. Ménard that a free-swimming whale tangled in fishing gear can survive for six months on average. But she still has concerns, especially because this whale is already injured.

"Having an open wound, especially around the mouth during feeding season, is definitely not good for the animal," she said.

Experts also said the cage will eventually kill the whale if it remains on her head.

If the whale is found, the rescue plan remains the same. A rescue team on a boat will throw a hook attached to a line of buoys and a transmitter onto the fishing gear. This will help track the whale and may even release the gear without further intervention.

National Post



GREMM

A fin whale, known to researchers since 1994, is entangled in fishing gear and has disappeared, says a Parks Canada spokesman.



SIR WILLIAM BEECHEY / NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

Prince Edward, fourth son of King George III and father of Queen Victoria, helped all residents of British North America feel Canadian. He also had a decades-long affair with a French-Canadian woman.

# Canadians owe debt to Victoria's dad

By RANDY BOSWELL

A new biography of Queen Victoria's father argues that Prince Edward, Duke of Kent — who died in 1820, when his daughter was just nine months old — should occupy a much larger place in Canada's history as an early shaper of the nation's constitutional monarchy and coiner of an expanded sense of the term "Canadian."

Chiefly remembered for fathering the Victorian era's namesake monarch — no minor feat since King George III's three older sons failed to produce a legitimate, surviving heir — Prince Edward spent nearly 10 years as a military commander in colonial Canada, giving his own name to Prince Edward Island.

Nathan Tidridge argues in his new book, *Prince Edward, Duke of Kent: Father of the Canadian Crown*, that Edward's greatly underappreciated legacies include pioneering the royal tour as a nation-building exercise as well as use of the word "Canadian" in a way that encompassed both the French- and English-speaking inhabitants of British North America.

Until 1792, "Canadian" was understood strictly as the English translation of *canadien* — a reference to the people of New France, whose colony was absorbed into the British Empire after the Seven Years' War ended in 1763. The French term had previously been applied to the aboriginal inhabitants of the land that Jacques Cartier reached in the 1530s and called "Canada" after the Iroquoian word for village, *kanata*.

It wasn't until the passage of the Constitutional Act of 1791 that the word Canada gained formal status with the division of the former province of Quebec into eastern and western regions: Upper Canada and Lower Canada, then populated by French-speaking *canadiens*, Loyalist refugees from the newly independent United States and indigenous people, among others.

But in June 1792, Prince Edward personally quelled an election riot at Charlesbourg, near Quebec City,

where French and English voters clashed over when the polls should close and the contest officially declared over.

"I urge you to unanimity and concord," the prince is said to have shouted above the unruly crowd. "Let me hear no more of the odious distinctions of French and English. You are all his Britannic Majesty's Canadian subjects."

The mob, apparently impressed with Prince Edward's speech or simply dumbstruck that the son of King

er who has also served as education director of the Monarchist League of Canada. "Coming from the King's own son, the new sense of the word carried authority."

Mr. Tidridge said Prince Edward "would use that term to mean everyone" — and that he was "definitely conscious" of trying to encourage a sense of unity among residents of the Canadas.

"It was a real pivotal point" in the evolving relationship between French and English Canadians, added Mr. Tidridge, "and he would echo that his entire time on the continent."

The author said he's not the first historian to highlight the prince's redefinition of the word as a "significant development in the creation of modern Canadian identity." But his book also details a host of other actions by Prince Edward that left a lasting imprint on the British colonies that would become Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, P.E.I. and Newfoundland.

Significantly, said Mr. Tidridge, Prince Edward personally befriended French Canadians such as Charles-Michel de Salaberry — a future War of 1812 hero — and pointedly referred to Canada's aboriginal peoples as "nations," helping to cement a bond between indigenous inhabitants and the royal family that endures to the present day.

Furthermore, the author argues, Prince Edward's 1792 tour of Upper Canada helped "crystallize" governor John Graves Simcoe's vision of a "British nation at the heart of North America" and "established a template that still exists today" for royal figures as symbolic unifiers — through diplomatically planned tours and other ceremonial appearances — of Canada's disparate regions and peoples.

"The modern idea of the Canadian constitutional monarchy — the Crown as an umbrella under which diverse provinces can be united and yet still interact as equals — is emphasized in the speeches given by the Duke during his time in the country," Mr. Tidridge writes, "as well as members of the royal family and their Canadian representatives today."

Prince Edward is known to have maintained a decades-long relationship with his French mistress, Julie de St-Laurent, and to have had other affairs while in Canada. In fact, previous historians have speculated on the possibility that St-Laurent or the other women bore illegitimate children who could have claimed Edward as their father.

But Mr. Tidridge said his research points to no such Canadian-born descendants with royal blood. "From what I gathered — no, I don't think he did" have Canadian children. "But I encountered a lot of people who claimed descent."

Postmedia News

# Let me hear no more of the odious distinctions of French and English

George had come to town and intervened in their dispute, dispersed in peace.

"Prince Edward's use of 'Canadian' was a huge step in the establishment of the country's national identity" as a bilingual — and eventually multicultural — state, writes Mr. Tidridge, an Ontario high school history teacher.



WIKIMEDIA

Queen Victoria's father personally quelled an election riot near Quebec City in 1792.

# RCMP boss 'sorry' for making sound, gesture

## Clip taken as slight against people with mental-health issues

By DOUGLAS QUAN

The RCMP commissioner says he is "truly sorry" for making a sound and gesture during a town hall earlier this year that some have interpreted as a slight against people suffering from mental-health issues.

A six-minute audio clip of Bob Paulson's remarks — delivered to K Division members in Alberta in April — was recently posted on an RCMP watchdog website.

In the clip, Commissioner Paulson tells members that if they get sick or injured on the job, the force will do everything it can to help them so they can return to work.

"I want people to hear it from me that if you get hurt on the job, and that includes (the commissioner makes a whistling sound) we're going to look after you," he says.

"But there's an onus on you, though, to come back to work because that's the objective. The objective is not to get a regimental number and then cha-ching, cha-ching, we're looking after you for the rest of your life into your grave. No, no."

The website that posted the audio clip, re-sergeance.net, suggested that as Commissioner Paulson whistled, he also twirled his finger by the side of his head.

In an internal video message sent to all members on June 7, Commissioner Paulson acknowledged that he "made a sound and gesture that some have interpreted to mean that I was making light of psychological-related issues."

"Nothing could be further from the truth," he said. "I know full-well the impact that work-related stress can have on an individual and their family."

"I want to apologize to anyone who was in that audience — or who has since listened to that recording — and was offended. I'm truly sorry."

RCMP spokesman Cpl. David Falls said Monday that Commissioner Paulson's apology "extends to all Canadians."

Commissioner Paulson went on to say that post-traumatic stress disorder and other work-related injuries must be taken seriously and that the force is working to strengthen its support to affected employees so they can return to work. "It's in no one's interest to have members on protracted medical leave," he said.

"Similarly we cannot have members using our generous medical leave provisions for reasons other than getting better and getting back to work."

He recently got flak for public remarks he made before the Senate Committee on National Defence and Security, which has been studying harassment issues within the force.

The commissioner said on June 3 that while there are legitimate harassment complaints within the force, he couldn't keep on defending "outlandish" allegations, noting that the most vocal critics are "not always the most meritorious of claimants."

In a surprising move, the commissioner called out by name three individuals who have recently gone public with allegations against the force, including B.C. Cpl. Roland Beaulieu, who has been on stress leave for two years due to conflicts with management.

Commissioner Paulson pointed out that while Cpl. Beaulieu has been off work he has had no problems helping out an upstart union effort in B.C. The commissioner also noted that Cpl. Beaulieu had sent him an email in which he asked for money in order to leave the force.

In an interview last week, Liberal Senator Grant Mitchell said Commissioner Paulson should apologize for those remarks, too.

"Great leadership doesn't single out subordinates" in a public forum, Mr. Mitchell said.

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