

Date: Thursday, September 28, 2000
Subject: Fw: Support Letter from Janine Morin

Re: Burnt Church

I am horrified to think that my tax dollars pay to employ people to be hooligans for the DFO. I am appalled that I had to explain to my child why the Canadian government allows violent force to be used against Natives in Burnt Church. I am outraged to think that Native children in this country have to grow up with the grim reality that we shoot Indians here. For shame Canada! The world watches as our government contravenes all human rights accords and attacks Native fishers with what only can be termed excessive brutality. The Supreme Court of Canada has ruled that Natives can earn a moderate living fishing off the coast. The key word here is moderate. I submit that the vast majority of Canadians cannot even fathom the poverty which most Natives must endure. These people are trying to feed their families and we condemn them? Nay, attack them? Will Native traps empty the sea of lobster? No, the foreign trawlers that our government permits to vacuum the ocean floor are the real threat. Let us all remember, they are doing nothing illegal, they are exercising their treaty rights. I point to the tragically high rate of suicide amongst the young in the community of Burnt Church. Suicide comes from despair, despair for the future. Laws are for rulers, but morals apply to all. Look into the eyes of those children Canada! Who amongst us will allow laws to be passed that mean will any child will grow up hungry and in despair?

Janine Morin