

## Victim sues Williams, OPP for millions

By Ashliegh Gehl

An Ontario woman, sexually assaulted by former CFB Trenton base commander Russell Williams, filed a lawsuit Friday, Sept. 23, claiming police failed to protect her from a potential predator in her neighbourhood.

Laurie Massicotte, 49, of Hastings County, issued a statement of claim to the Supreme Court of Justice, suing Williams, his wife, Mary-Elizabeth Harriman, and the Ontario Provincial Police for \$7 million.

The OPP say they're not in a position to

comment on Massicotte's claim as it would be inappropriate since the matter is before the court. Massicotte's claims are allegations and have not been proven in a court of law.

Massicotte is one of two sexual assaults Williams pleaded guilty to on Oct. 18, 2010, along with the first-degree murders of Jessica Lloyd of Tweed and Cpl. Marie-France Comeau of Brighton. Williams was found guilty of 82 counts of break and enter. He was sentenced to life in prison without parole for at least 25 years and is confined at Kingston Penitentiary.

In September 2009, Williams broke into

Massicotte's home in Tweed when she was asleep. Massicotte says she was attacked, bound and sexually assaulted by Williams, who took naked photographs of her.

The statement of claim identifies Williams' actions as inflicting mental suffering, causing Massicotte to fear for her children, exhibit suicidal behaviour, build substance dependencies and suffer from bouts of depression. As a result, Massicotte says she is unable to function normally in society.

She also says OPP officers from the Central Hastings Detachment left her bound, blindfolded and partially naked on the couch

as police teams investigated the scene.

Massicotte says an officer accused her of faking the attack, calling her "crazy" when speaking with dispatch personnel.

The statement of claim acknowledges a police apology to Massicotte for failing to give warning about a potential predator in the area. This alludes to a similar incident that happened to a "Jane Doe" on Massicotte's street 12 days before her assault.

Massicotte says Williams committed 55 break and enters prior to her assault. She feels police had ample opportunity to warn the community considering the suspicious peak

in break and enters in her neighbourhood.

Massicotte also says her three daughters were severely disrupted due to the impact Williams had on their lives. Massicotte accuses a constable for disseminating details of the assault to his daughter, who attended the same high school as Massicotte's daughter. In the claim she cites the treatment two of her daughters received in high school, suggesting they were ridiculed.

The statement of claim suggests Massicotte's family relations are fragmented, her daughters have low self-esteem and are humiliated by their mother's assault.



Sherry Tompkins

**Rugby Lancers fall** — Alicia Wynter of the Loyalist Lancers makes a charge for the end zone at the season opener at St. Lawrence College on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2011, where she is pursued by a boat load of St. Lawrence Vikings. Although unsuccessful in catching Wynter, the Vikings did bring home the win, 20-12.

## Quinte West program fills doctor quota

By Jennifer Bowman

Quinte West has reached its goal for the doctor recruitment program, but that doesn't mean waiting lists are a thing of the past.

Dr. Glenn Griffin has been practising at the Quinte West Medical Centre for the last five years.

Griffin said he is taking on new patients, but he can still only accept five or six new patients a week. Most people are now facing waiting times of about six months to get a family doctor, he said.

That's a marked decrease from five years ago, when he began his practice at the clinic.

"I had patients who came in to see me who said, 'I've been waiting six years to get a doctor,'" he said.

He said the doctor recruitment program has played a significant role in bringing down the waiting lists.

"Other than through this program, I don't know of any other new doctors that have come to the Trenton area since I came," said Griffin.

The doctor recruitment program began in Quinte West about three years ago. It has now reached its goal to fill the medical centre with doctors. The final recruit, Nicholas Martin, is doing his residency at Queen's University, so it will be another two years before he sets up his practice at the clinic.

Griffin said they would need more doctors by then.

"Within the next two or three years we'll need another two or three doctors, depending on how big a practice they're willing to take on, just because of retirements," said Griffin.

Quinte West Mayor John Williams said council is planning for that. He said the recruitment fund is depleted right now because of the new recruits, but they will continue to build it so they can recruit more doctors in the future, as they're needed.

"For our support, they have to become part of the Family Health Team, and they have to operate out of that centre," said Williams.

Griffin said even though the health centre is full, new doctors would be encouraged to become part of the team. Even from a different location in Quinte West, the team would give them access to a network of services such as social workers and dietitians.



Jennifer Bowman

**Dr. Glenn Griffin has been practicing as a doctor at the Brighton Quinte West Family Health Centre for five years. He said wait times have been reduced significantly, but are not yet a thing of the past.**

Griffin said one of the difficulties is some of the doctors filling the spots at the centre are not working there full time.

"It's partly the younger generation of doctors; they're not prepared to work as hard as us old guys," said Griffin, laughing.

Williams said the doctor recruitment program in Quinte West began partly through peer pressure.

"We got into it because Belleville had gotten into it in a big way, so we had to get into the game. So we offered somewhat the same program," said Williams.

Quinte West offers \$100,000 over five years to new doctors, as well as a facility to begin their practice in.

They offer less money than Belleville, but Williams said what makes Quinte West unique is the medical centre it offers. There are still operating costs, but doctors don't have to find an office or staff. It's also

conveniently placed right beside the hospital. By the time you find all that it would probably make the difference in what the municipality pays them, he said.

Despite the competition, doctors help each other out on both sides.

Nicholas Martin is the fifth recruit through the program. He said one of Belleville's recruits was a drawing force for him.

He came here under the guidance of Dr. Jonathan Kerr, said Martin. He's known Kerr for years and heard Kerr talk about the program a lot.

Williams said Kerr has been a big help to both Belleville's and Quinte West's recruitment program.

"He was very instrumental in the beginning to bring a lot of the recruits, because a lot of the people that were in his class that graduated actually followed him," he said.

Some went to Belleville, while others, like Martin, moved to Quinte West. Williams said the two areas worked together.

They were both doing it together, and they're both filled up, said Williams.

"Both have been very successful," he said.

For a number of recruits, such as Martin, they're coming back home.

"Growing up in Belleville, I know a lot about the city of Quinte West, and there's many opportunities here, not only professionally, but personally as well," he said.

Martin is moving here with his wife, Shannon, and his son, Jax. For Martin, setting up a practice here is a long-term commitment.

"With this commitment I've agreed to a five year return of service and after that I look forward to completing my practice here in Quinte West," said Martin.

## Quinte West rural residents might have new addresses

Residents of towns will not be affected, but those with rural addresses will have a more accurate designation

By Jennifer Bowman

Quinte West residents may be looking at new addresses when they open their mailboxes in the future.

Canada Post presented Quinte West council Monday night with the opportunity to change all rural route addresses in the area to Quinte West addresses.

Councillor Terry Cassidy said it's a change they've been wanting for a long time.

"I'm happy that this is catching up to where we want to be," said Cassidy.

But Canada Post delivery planner Bob Lachance expects a lot of opposition.

People don't like change, said Lachance.

The change would affect those in the country, he said. Small towns would keep their addresses, but anyone with a rural route address would become a Quinte West address.

It wouldn't affect where people pick up their mail, whether it's a mailbox or at the post office. Canada Post would redirect mail for free for a year, as well as supply change of address forms. That would give people a chance to change their licenses and other important documents.

Mayor Williams said that change isn't going to happen quite yet. First they're going to get some feedback from residents, which will give council a chance to understand the issue better.

"We'll probably bring it back in the next couple of months and take another look at it," said Williams.

Canada Post has done postal amalgamations throughout Ontario in areas such as Haliburton, Renfrew and Arnprior.

Lachance said technology has changed so their equipment can handle the kind of changes Quinte West had been looking for.

"The only issue we have here, and this is why we brought it to Quinte West's attention, is that a lot of small hamlets and municipalities — little guys — they want to keep their identity," said Lachance.

Council is working to create an identity for Quinte West.

Councillor Leslie Roseblade said an address change might help their quest.

"I'm sure it's going to cause some confusion, but I think at the end of the day if everyone's address is their 911 number with Quinte West, we would maybe finally have an identity after 11 years of amalgamation," said Roseblade.

Lachance said it's possible for everyone to keep their identity. Small towns and hamlets won't be affected, he said, only those who live outside of the town line.

The address change would clear up confusion on where town lines are, such as the line between Quinte West and Belleville.

Councillor Paul Kyte said the whole thing is a teaching opportunity.

"This is really just an educational process in teaching people to change from Belleville to Quinte West," said Kyte.

Kyte explained residents won't have to change the deeds of their homes, as it's an identification process.

"A few weeks ago I sent in a form somewhere with Quinte West, Ontario on it. I got a phone call back from the organization, wanting to know what I was doing," said Kyte.

Councillor Cassidy said he's received phone calls from people who've looked up his address in the phone book, which doesn't reflect where he lives.

"People call you and tell you that you live in Stirling. And it's very interesting when you try to tell them that you don't, and they don't believe you," said Cassidy.

Councillor Ron Hamilton was concerned about people who have already been through multiple address changes, but he's willing to look at the issue.

"I had a chap in this afternoon that's lived at the same address all his life and he had his postal address changed five times. And a little more change doesn't go over well with some of these people when they've lived there all their life," said Hamilton.

Hamilton, along with many councillors, said he would be willing to look at a change.