



MINISTER OF JUSTICE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Room 114
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

Apology

To: Thomas Sophonow

On the 12th of March 1982 you were arrested and charged with the murder of Barbara Gayle Stoppel in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Subsequent legal proceedings led to your imprisonment for almost four years, although the court system ultimately acquitted you of the offence. A recent police investigation has demonstrated that you were in no way involved in this crime, and a review of that police investigation by my Department supports that conclusion.

You were arrested, charged and imprisoned for a crime that you had not committed. I cannot begin to even understand the anguish that you must have felt as you were going through this process. I wish, therefore, to extend to you, on behalf of the Province of Manitoba, my full and unqualified apology for your imprisonment under these circumstances, as well as the lengthy struggle you subsequently endured to clear your name.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gord Mackintosh".

Gord Mackintosh
Attorney General

Dated at Winnipeg, in the Province of Manitoba, this 8th day of June 2000.