

### **CONSECUTIVE DIALOGUE - EXERCISE 3**

Q. Mr. Vernon, I understand that you are a band councillor here in Bear Lake, Ontario. Is that correct?

A. Yeah.

Q. How long have you been a band councillor?

A. About eight years altogether.

Q. And you were a band councillor on August 31st, a year ago?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. And I understand that you know Jim Douglas fairly well.

A. Yes.

Q. And you have a good relationship with him.

A. Yes.

Q. Did you know also know John Maclean?

A. Yes.

Q. And how long had you known John Maclean?

A. All of my life.

Q. Okay. And what about Jim Douglas; how long had you known him?

A. Since he moved here from Aylen Lake. I can't recall exactly how many years. It's been quite a while.

Q. Okay. Now I understand that you received some bad news at your house in the early morning of August 31st of 2009. Is that right?

A. Yeah, that's right.

Q. Can you tell me what happened?

A. Well I was asleep early Sunday morning, about four o'clock. Steve Wilson came and knocked on my door. And he told me there's been a bad accident. And he said Jim wanted to see me and was outside my house in his truck. So I put my shoes on and I went outside and I saw Jim.

Q. Hmmm-hmmm. Jim Douglas?

A. Yeah.

Q. And where was he when you saw him?

A. He was sitting in the passenger seat in the front of the truck...

Q. Okay.

A. ...and he was very upset, and sitting there like this.

Q. Okay, you're indicating he's bent over his stomach... with his hands clasped in front of him.

A. Yeah. Hmmm-hmmm.

Q. Okay. And what happened then?

A. Well I, I don't know. I'm not sure if I talked to Jim about anything. I know I held him and comforted him... And after that I told Steve that I'd go get dressed and go with them to the nursing station.

Q. Okay.

A. At that time I was not sure what was really happening. All I knew was there was a bad accident.

Q. And then did you go to the nursing station?

A. Yeah, I went with them to the nursing station.

Q. And what was happening at the nursing station?

A. Well Nurse was waiting for us inside and we went inside with Jim.

Q. Okay. And who went inside with Jim?

A. All I remember is Steve did, Steve and me.

Q. Okay.

A. And I, I can't recall if there was somebody else there.

Q. Okay. And can you describe Jim's physical condition for me; what you noticed?

A. He was very tired. Very upset. Very tired. Because he didn't sleep all night and he had to come back to Bear Lake. Where that accident happened was quite a ways from here.

Q. Hmmm-hmmm.

A. And he managed to walk back to a camping area, where somebody else was camping that night.

Q. Hmmm-hmmm.

A. And I guess those guys helped Jim to come back to Bear Lake.

Q. Okay. But what I need to know is how do you know that?

A. Well later on I heard about it.

Q. Who did you hear about it from?

A. Later on that day is when I heard. And I guess I heard it from Eddie Bunting. That's the guy who was camping over there with his wife.

Q. Did Jim himself tell you anything about what happened?

A. No, not much, because Jim was upset; he didn't talk very much.

Q. Okay. You said he didn't tell you much. Did he tell you anything?

A. Not much. Not much.

Q. Well, tell me what he did tell you.

A. Well I asked Jim if he'd had an accident and all he'd do was nod his head.

Q. Hmmm-hmmm.

A. And when I was at the nursing station people started phoning me and they wanted to know what's going on. And I wanted to tell them the truth, what had really happened. I know I went to Jim and asked, "Where is John? John's not with us anymore?", I asked Jim and he nodded his head.

Q. Okay. And you're indicating nodding your head up and down?

A. Yeah.

Q. Okay. Did he say anything about when the accident happened?

A. No.

Q. Okay. Now did you notice anything about Jim's clothes?

A. They were wet.

Q. Okay. So what happened with the wet clothes?

A. I don't know. I can't recall what happened with the clothes. The nurse at the nursing station would probably know.

Q. Okay. Fair enough. Now I understand that you had some discussion later in the day with Jim about his hunting trip?

A. No.

Q. Okay. I'm going to have to show Mr. Vernon his statement. Now this is the typed version. It says, "Later in the day Jim Douglas told me him and John were hunting in the evening. They were walking to their camp. Jim was walking in

front. He assumed that John was behind him and saw something in front of him. He thought it was a moose and shot at it. That's all he said to me." Does that refresh your memory at all? Does that help you remember or no?

A. No.

Q. Okay. Fair enough. But I just want to know what you remember about what he said to you, okay? Because it's important that we get to the truth. That we don't talk about what other people might have said might have happened.

A. Hmmm-hmmm.

Q. So we just want to know what he actually said, and if you don't remember it that's fine.

A. Hmmm-hmmm.

Q. Okay.

A. But I remember that's the story I heard.

Q. Right. But I want to know who told you that story. Do you remember?

A. To be honest with you I can't recall.

Q. That's okay. One last question: why did Jim Douglas come to your house after the accident, rather than go directly to the nursing station or to the police?

A. Well, he didn't tell me why. But I guess it was because I'm his friend. He was very upset and was not thinking clearly that day. But he probably realized he was in trouble and might have felt that, as band councillor, I could help him.

Q. Thank you. Those are all the questions that I'm going to ask you.

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