

IN THE COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH FOR SASKATCHEWAN
JUDICIAL CENTRE OF SASKATOON

BETWEEN:

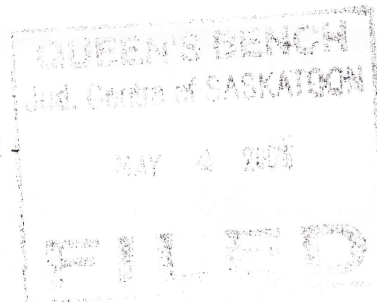
MAURICE VELLACOTT,

PLAINTIFF

- and -

GEORGE LALIBERTE,

DEFENDANT



STATEMENT OF DEFENCE

1. The Defendant, George Laliberte, objects pursuant to Queen's Bench Rule 479(1) to this action proceeding under the Simplified Procedure set out in Part 40 of the Queen's Bench Rules, as the Plaintiff's claim is not exclusively for an amount of \$50,000 or less.

2. The Defendant denies each and every allegation contained in the Plaintiff's Statement of Claim except as expressly admitted herein.

3. The Defendant admits paragraph 1 of the Statement of Claim.

4. The Defendant admits that he resides in the City of Saskatoon, in the Province of Saskatchewan.

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5. The Defendant admits that on the evening of January 17, 2006 that he placed a telephone call to a call-in television program which was being broadcast live on Saskatoon's

Shaw Cable and on which the Plaintiff, Maurice Vellacott, was appearing. The Defendant further admits asking the Plaintiff the question set out in paragraph 3 of the Statement of Claim.

6. The Defendant denies that posing the said question constituted defamation of the Plaintiff. The Defendant further denies that he acted maliciously in posing the said question to the Plaintiff.

7. In the event the said question was defamatory of the Plaintiff as alleged, which is not admitted, the Defendant denies that:

- (i) the Plaintiff has suffered damage to his reputation as a Member of Parliament; and
- (ii) the Plaintiff has been brought into public scandal, ridicule and/or contempt.

8. The Defendant denies that the Plaintiff has suffered injury or damage as alleged in the Statement of Claim, or at all, and puts the Plaintiff to the strict proof thereof.

9. The Defendant therefore requests:

- (i) That the Plaintiff's Statement of Claim be dismissed; and
- (ii) The costs of this action.

DATED at the City of Saskatoon, in the Province of Saskatchewan, this 4th day of May, A.D. 2006.

McKERCHER McKERCHER & WHITMORE LLP

Per: _____

Solicitors for the Defendant,
George Laliberte

This Statement of Defence was delivered by:

McKercher McKercher & Whitmore LLP
Barristers & Solicitors
374 - 3rd Avenue South
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7K 1M5

and the address for service is the same as above.

Lawyer in charge of file: Joel A. Hesje, Q.C.
Telephone: 306-653-2000
File No.: 31833.001