





1 THE COURT: In considering the circumstances  
2 that related to the conviction that has been entered  
3 against Mr. Poitras, the Court is of the view that,  
4 certainly, this is not one of the minor common assaults  
5 that the Court hears. There could have been some  
6 drastic devastating consequences from this particular  
7 incident which mirrors a family in conflict caused,  
8 substantially, by alcohol and drugs; and unless the  
9 message is clear to the participants that they are  
10 going to destroy their own lives, and whether there is  
11 a program to help and assist people who are looking for  
12 that help in this community or in Fort Resolution, it  
13 is time that Mr. Poitras examined what is available to  
14 him to try and turn his lifestyle around. From  
15 examination of his criminal record, he is headed for  
16 great difficulty in our society if he considers that  
17 his life pattern is not going to change after today. I  
18 would hope that he takes advantage of whatever services  
19 are available to him either from his elders in the  
20 community or from the councilors that are there.

21 The Court understands that the Criminal Code has  
22 recently been amended respecting sentence and that new  
23 provisions have been put in the Code under Section 718;  
24 and that the Court has to be mindful of the principles  
25 enunciated there; that a sentence must be proportionate  
26 to the gravity of the offence and the degree of  
27 responsibility of the offender; and that when a Court

1 imposes a sentence, shall take into consideration the  
2 following principles: that the sentence will be  
3 increased or reduced to account for any relevant,  
4 aggravating, or mitigating circumstances relating to  
5 the offence of the offender. We have 18 previous  
6 convictions and we have an assault that has taken place  
7 against his natural sister. The Court understands and  
8 is aware that the shunning that has taken place from  
9 his home community is a natural reaction to the acts of  
10 the accused. That the accused is currently serving a  
11 prison term for breach of his recognizance and  
12 undertakings and failing to appear, that was his  
13 choice, no one else's.

14 The Court imposes, in this case, a sentence of 60  
15 days imprisonment which will be served consecutively to  
16 the existing imprisonment sentence that the accused is  
17 currently serving. Under the circumstances, the Court  
18 will waive any victim impact fine.

19 Anything further?

20 MR. COUPER: My Lord, I wonder if we can obtain  
21 an order with respect to disposition of exhibits after  
22 the appeal period.

23 THE COURT: The exhibits can be disposed of as  
24 soon as the appeal period has expired.

25 MR. COUPER: Thank you, My Lord.

26 THE COURT: Anything further?

27 MR. COUPER: No, sir, not from the Crown.

1 (AT WHICH TIME THESE REASONS FOR SENTENCE WERE CONCLUDED)

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Certified Pursuant to Practice Direction #20  
dated December 28, 1987.

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Jane Romanowich  
Court Reporter

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