CR 03669, CR 03670 and CR 03671

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES IN THE MATTER OF:

CR 03669

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

- and -

THERESA ARCHAMBAULT

- and -

CR 03670

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

- and -

DAVE PAUL

- and -

CR 03671

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

- and -

PETER BOUTEILLER



Transcript of a Decision delivered by The Honourable Justice J.E. Richard, sitting at Yellowknife, in the Northwest Territories, on Thursday, February 18, A.D. 1999.

APPEARANCES:

Ms. D. Sylvain:

On behalf of the Crown

Mr. D. Paul:

On behalf of himself and Theresa Archambault

(Charge under s. 5(7) of the N.W.T. Fisheries Regulations)

THE COURT: On each of the Archambault and Paul matters before the Court, the summary conviction court below received a guilty plea on behalf of the person charged with an offence under the federal Fisheries Regulations. After hearing the circumstances alleged by the Crown in support of a conviction and certain submissions on behalf of the two offenders in mitigation of the offences, the summary conviction court directed that the Information or charge be "withdrawn". Indeed, the record shows that each Information is marked as having been "withdrawn".

A summary conviction court does not have jurisdiction to withdraw an Information. It is for the Crown to withdraw a charge when warranted, and not the Court. Accordingly, the order of the summary conviction court withdrawing the Information or directing that it be withdrawn is invalid.

On the third file, Bouteiller, the summary conviction court was merely told that the circumstances were the same as on Archambault and Paul, and without calling upon the accused person to plead to the charge in the Information, the summary conviction court directed that the Information be "withdrawn". For the reasons already mentioned, that order or direction was invalid.

On each file, then, the Crown's appeal is allowed and each matter is remitted back for trial before a

1	summary conviction court other than the summary
2	conviction court that first dealt with the matter.
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5	Certified pursuant to Practice Direction #20 dated December 28, 1987
6	Direction #20 dated becember 28, 1987
7	Jape Romanowich
8	Court Reporter
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