Donald Best – Background for NCI

- Personal Background
    - Former Toronto Police Sergeant Detective (1975-1990)
    - Now independent journalist with emphasis on integrity issues in law enforcement, the legal community, and the justice system.
    - 45+ years experience in law enforcement, complex investigations, undercover investigations, intelligence work, and investigations management in both the public and private sectors.
    - Extensive experience in anti-corruption investigations / arrests of corrupt police officers and public officials. (Investigated 100+ individuals over the years)
    - Extensive experience investigating Organized Crime, including long term deep-cover investigations into the relationships between Organized Crime, law enforcement, the legal community, and governments.
    - From 1996 through 2020, most of Mr. Best's investigations were international in scope - requiring extensive travel in North America, Caribbean, Asia, and Europe.
    - While a Toronto Police officer, assigned as the staff investigator for the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police. Traveled extensively throughout Canada and the US speaking with Chiefs of Police and command officers. Researching policing policies, operations etc.
    - Personally developed and / or participated in the early development of operational technologies in law enforcement such as the first court video-remand system in Ontario (1988) and the first use of a portable computer and database to log evidence at crime scenes (Ontario 1982). Continues to develop and use technologies to handle complex cases with hundreds of thousands or millions of pages of exhibits.
    - Several awards for outstanding investigative work in police service including the Merit Mark (at the time second only to the Medal of Honour.)
    - Accepted as an Expert Witness by several courts in the areas of Organized Crime (Triads) and Fraud.
    - Accredited as a Certified Fraud Examiner (now lapsed since retirement)
    - Active in Access to Justice issues - presentations and articles. Invited to present at various law schools in British Columbia and Ontario, and at the Law Society of Ontario.
    - Sole Recipient - 2018 Ontario Civil Liberties Association Award. The award reads in part:
        - *"In his ongoing legal cases and public advocacy, Mr. Best has exposed corruption in the Canadian legal profession including secret orders and investigations by judges, the submission of false*

evidence in court by lawyers, and the failure of disciplinary bodies such as the Law Society of Ontario and the Canadian Judicial Council to investigate complaints against judges and lawyers.

- *Mr. Best's tireless efforts to create integrity and accountability in the Canadian legal system make him an exemplary leader in the fight for equality before and under the law of all Canadians, including self-represented litigants."*

Detective Grus Case

- Donald Best has been closely following and reporting on the case of Ottawa Police Detective Helen Grus since March of 2022.
  - Attended personally or virtually the majority of hearing days so far.
  - Authored over 30 articles on the case and presented many hours of video reports on independent media shows.
  - Interviewed about the case several dozen times by both legacy and independent news media in Canada, the USA, and the UK.
  - Investigated and secretly recorded phone calls with Public Health Agency of Canada personnel that show PHAC personnel interfered with and influenced the Ottawa Police response and investigation into Detective Grus - even continuing after she was charged and appearing before the Tribunal.