

Nova Scotia Court of Appeal

WEBCAST OF APPEAL HEARING

Monday, February 12, 2024

Members of the media and the public are advised that the following proceeding before the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal will be livestreamed on the Courts of Nova Scotia website on Tuesday, February 13, 2024:

CAC-521672 - Harry Arthur Cope v. His Majesty the King (Respondent) and Aboriginal Legal Services (Intervenor)

On April 25, 2022, the Appellant, Harry Arthur Cope, pleaded guilty in Provincial Court to one count of aggravated assault and three counts of breaching a release order. He was sentenced to a period of five years and eight months in custody.

Mr. Cope is appealing his sentence, arguing that the trial judge erred:

- by failing to apply Gladue principles in a meaningful way;
- by placing minimal weight on the Indigenous Sentencing Circle and subsequent sentencing recommendations;
- by overemphasizing denunciation; and
- by placing minimal weight on the state of the offender's mental health at the time of the offences.

Should the appeal be granted, Mr. Cope is requesting his sentence be reduced to time served plus probation.

Aboriginal Legal Services has been granted Intervenor status in this appeal.

This appeal hearing is scheduled for a full day, starting at 10 a.m. AST on Tuesday, February 13, 2024. This matter will be heard by a three-member panel comprised of Justice Cindy Bourgeois, Justice Edward (Ted) Scanlan, and Justice Anne Derrick.

The public can watch the livestream on the Courts of Nova Scotia website here.

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