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Commemoration to mark murder of Pat Finucane

Andersonstown News

Evan Short

02/08/2007

The relaunch of a mural on the Falls Road at the weekend is to form the central part of commemorations marking the 18th anniversary of the murder of Belfast solicitor Pat Finucane.

Ahead of the unveiling, the brother of the murdered human rights lawyer has spoken of the family's intention to put renewed pressure on the British government by taking their campaign to Washington on St Patrick's Day. Séamus Finucane said the family would continue to press the British government to carry out the inquiry into the murder recommended by the Cory Report.

"We have held some meetings with the SDLP, Sinn Féin and the Ulster Unionists and we will be meeting the Irish government and are going to America for St Patrick's Day to try and break the logjam in this inquiry," he said.

Asked whether the latest Ombudsman's Report on collusion would help the family's case, Séamus said it was up to the British government to meet the demands of the family.

"It has been a lonely battle for a lot of families. You have to give credit to Raymond McCord, who is from the unionist community and who faced resistance from within when he started his campaign.

"These revelations give an impetus to the demand for all victims' groups that the issue of collusion is top priority for both governments. A government summit should be held and anyone affected by collusion should be awarded the full co-operation of the government in an effort to reach the truth.

"All barriers should be lifted so we can get to the truth," he said.

The unveiling of the mural will take place at Beechmount Drive at 2pm on Sunday. Clara Reilly from Relatives for Justice will speak along with Kevin Madden from Madden and Finucane solicitors.

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