

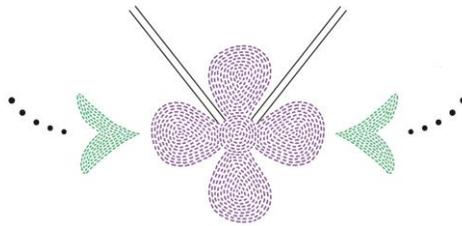
National Inquiry into
Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls



Enquête nationale
sur les femmes et les filles
autochtones disparues et assassinées

**National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls
Truth-Gathering Process – Part 1 Public Hearings
Siniktarvik Hotel and Conference Centre - Salon A/B**

Rankin Inlet, Nunavut



PUBLIC

Wednesday February 21, 2018

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**Emilia Angalik & Arsene Angalik,
In relation to Edith Angalik**

Heard by Commissioner Qajaq Robinson

Commission Counsel: Lillian Lundrigan

INTERNATIONAL REPORTING INC.

II

APPEARANCES

Assembly of First Nations	Non-appearance
Government of Canada	Donna Keats (Legal Counsel)
Government of Canada	Anne McConville (Legal Counsel)
Government of Canada	Jennifer Clarke (Legal Counsel)
Government of Nunavut	Alexandre Blondin (Legal Counsel)
Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada, Saturviit Inuit Women's Association of Nunavik, AnânuKatiget Tumingit Regional Inuit Women's Association Inc., Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre, Manitoba Inuit Association	Beth Symes (Legal Counsel)
Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada	Rebecca Kudloo (Representative)

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Court Reporter: Trudy McKinnon	
Registrar: Bryan Zandberg	

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1 Rankin Inlet, Nunavut

2 --- Upon commencing on Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 1:55
3 p.m.

4 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:**
5 (*Speaking in Inuktitut*). Thank you for being here this
6 afternoon. We're going to start again. Before we start,
7 Emilia and Arsene will be sworn in before we start.

8 **REGISTRAR:** Good afternoon. Emilia and
9 Arsene? Okay good, we'll start with Arsene.

10 **ARSENE ANGALIK, Sworn:**

11 **REGISTRAR:** And Emilia?

12 **EMILIA ANGALIK, Sworn:**

13 **REGISTRAR:** Thank you.

14 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:**
15 Commissioner Robinson, the people that are here to testify
16 to you, Emilia and Arsene, to talk about their daughter
17 Edith. I'm going to ask her, Emilia, whether you can speak
18 first about your daughter?

19 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. EMILIA ANGALIK:**
20 (*Speaking in Inuktitut*). Yeah, I will talk about her.
21 Emily Edith Koumanau (ph) Angalik was her name. June 27th,
22 1989 she was born in Winnipeg. She was our youngest
23 daughter, my husband and myself. And when she was growing
24 up she was a very nice person, very nice child. She would
25 never act out, ...

1 **MS. EMILIA ANGALIK:**... she would always try
2 to see the beauty in everything, in every person, a humble
3 person.

4 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:**
5 Arsene, would you like to speak about your daughter? You
6 told me she always liked to hunt a lot.

7 **INTERPRETER FOR MR. ARSENE ANGALIK:** She
8 used to want to be out on the land a lot. She really
9 enjoyed being on the land and ...

10 **MR. ARSENE ANGALIK:** ...she used to joke
11 around a lot. Be funny to anybody who she's friend, she
12 was -- she was a good daughter to me when we see the
13 pictures.

14 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:**
15 Emilia, can you tell your story, what happened?

16 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. EMILIA ANGALIK:** When
17 she had a boyfriend they had two children, and he left her
18 and her children. The younger child was six months and the
19 older one was two years old, and she was left by her
20 boyfriend. And he started drinking, and then she started
21 drinking and wouldn't come home.

22 And she was with that person who is in jail
23 now. She started going with him on the sly, we didn't find
24 out for a long time that she was going out with this guy.
25 And she fell in love with him and wanted to stay with him.

1 And we tried to get her away from that person but we
2 couldn't do it. She started drinking pretty much every day
3 and she would hardly come home to our place. Even when she
4 came home just for about an hour, she would be at home, at
5 our place, and then she would get a call, then she would
6 leave.

7 I felt very much that she couldn't stay home
8 anymore, even though I felt -- I know that she was being
9 controlled. And then when they started arguing and she
10 would get beat up, and she told her dad that she thought
11 she was going to be killed. It took -- my husband didn't
12 tell me very -- for a while. When he finally told me what
13 my daughter said, he just said she's thinking she's going
14 to get killed.

15 I wrote a statement to the R.C.M.P. to get
16 help to see what's happening, whether there's an abuse in,
17 in the place where she was. And the R.C.M.P. went there to
18 go see them and they said they -- they were fine.

19 She didn't open up to me very easily, but my
20 husband used to tell me what she would say. She would tell
21 me her nose was broken, her wrist was broken, and she would
22 hide her bruises to me. But whenever she was abused she
23 would only tell her father.

24 When I started calling to the Social
25 Services I wanted support for my daughter because I thought

1 she was in danger. And I was told by Social Services she's
2 an adult now, she can do things on her own. I asked for
3 help again, and I wanted to find out where I could turn to.
4 They said you have to go through R.C.M.P. before you get
5 help. I tried to tell the R.C.M.P. and they -- the
6 R.C.M.P. said they can't help her.

7 And then Social Services said she's an adult
8 now, she has to come here and ask for her help herself.
9 And I didn't know what else to do from there, nowhere to
10 turn. My husband could probably expound on this, where she
11 would be abused if he wants to.

12 **INTERPRETER FOR MR. ARSENE ANGALIK:** My
13 daughter, I was outside with her, having a smoke outside.
14 She told me the story -- she told me the story, what was
15 happening to her, where she was hurting. She said she had
16 sore legs and she would tell me where her pains were. She
17 would whisper to me even though she didn't want to say, but
18 she felt she had to say it to somebody so she told me.

19 Because we are here in a small community,
20 we're not living in the city -- my wife used to ask for
21 help, but there's too many red tape. They're using --
22 we're using the same rules and laws as down south, it
23 shouldn't be like that.

24 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:**
25 Thank you Arsene, Emilia. I know her words to us were --

1 are helpful. Let me ask a question. As you just said,
2 even though you were asking for help, and there was no help
3 because they said she had to ask for help herself to the
4 R.C.M.P. for example. If she went there and asked for help
5 herself, and is that what they said to you?

6 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. EMILIA ANGALIK:** Yes,
7 she had to go ask for help for herself as they said she was
8 an adult now. But she was afraid and I -- she mentioned
9 one time that if she tells on him, that he would come after
10 us too, us family. So because she was afraid, then she
11 couldn't speak out. Yes, that's how it was. She was being
12 controlled and she was fearful. And we could have helped
13 her, like we could have sent her away to her sister or
14 something, but she was trapped.

15 **INTERPRETER FOR MR. ARSENE ANGALIK:** My
16 youngest daughter, she would speak -- tell me what was
17 happening to her because she was scared of her mom. They
18 probably would have been able to help and we probably
19 wouldn't have gone through this. They already knew, the
20 R.C.M.P., what was happening. But because of the laws and
21 they're using the laws, they couldn't do anything.

22 Maybe if they were separated and dealt with
23 it, it would have been alright. But because there are
24 rules and regulations -- they probably knew what was
25 happening in that situation. And I feel like because we're

1 from the north, this needs to be -- we're not white people,
2 we're a small community and we know pretty much everybody
3 in the community and what's happening around town. Because
4 of the rules and the laws there's too much red tape.

5 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:**

6 Emilia, can you tell us after she had passed did you get
7 the support you needed?

8 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. EMILIA ANGALIK:** The

9 R.C.M.P. started coming to our place. The one R.C.M.P.
10 officer called me and probably came to visit us, but
11 myself, I didn't want to see them anymore. Even though
12 there was one that was trying to help us, but I didn't -- I
13 didn't want -- but I was too angry. They were -- it was
14 too late.

15 We didn't want the R.C.M.P. to come around
16 anymore because when we asked for their help they never
17 came. But he would come to my office to give me support
18 and find out how I was doing. And myself, ...

19 **MS. EMILIA ANGALIK** ...I accepted just to let
20 him go, like so he can go faster away from me. Because the
21 more he stayed around would make me more angry. Like where
22 was the help when I needed it? Why wait so late -- like so
23 late for it after?

24 And -- because if I tried to accept him,
25 like his friendship, his support, and that would have made

1 me really angry towards other people too. Because I know
2 this one time, one person tried to come up to me and give
3 me, you know, their sympathy, and I was cold-hearted. I
4 pushed that person away. Like not really pushed him
5 physically, but with words and I said, "It's over, it's
6 done, I don't need this anymore". That is what I said
7 before. (*Speaks in Inuktitut*).

8 After the court hearing and that, then it
9 went -- we promised each other that we'll support each
10 other as a family. And the later, you know, the risk that
11 there are people after, can come after. Like will start
12 being more open to them and that. But right now we're
13 still going through that healing, like as a family.

14 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:**

15 Your daughter Edith had children?

16 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. EMILIA ANGALIK:** They
17 had -- she had three, three children. She had -- she had
18 kept two but the oldest one we adopted. And the two
19 younger children, we have custody of them right now, but
20 the middle child still remembers her, the mother, and
21 always ask how the mother died. And I don't know what to
22 say to my grandchild when they're so small...

23 **MS. EMILIA ANGALIK** ... He's still seven. How
24 do I make him understand that his mother was murdered?
25 That runs through my head all the time. When he asks again

1 how am I going to tell him? And I just tell him that he --
2 she died from, you know, a pop. And he thinks that all
3 pops are bad now, meaning alcohol, you know.

4 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:** Do
5 you have any recommendations to the inquiry?

6 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. EMILIA ANGALIK:** There
7 are -- I'm sure there are a lot of people going to go
8 through the same thing in Nunavut. Even female and males,
9 they will be abused. It's involved -- it's even harder to
10 handle them, because that person who is drunk doesn't know
11 what he or she is doing. And with kids around it's harder
12 because they witness it, and they go through that anger,
13 and they start a cycle again of wanting to drink when
14 they're older. How can we stop it, I do not know. But we
15 can get our elders involved with it.

16 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:**
17 What about you Arsene, what would -- are your -- your
18 recommendations would be? Would you like to add onto what
19 your wife said?

20 **INTERPRETER FOR MR. ARSENE ANGALIK:** My
21 daughter and her boyfriend, when they would come over
22 feeling high, they'd go to their room and you could hear
23 them fighting in the room. Then my wife would call the
24 R.C.M.P., they'd come over. Many, many times they've heard
25 what they're doing in our community. They knew exactly

1 what type of person they were, but they didn't know what
2 else to do because my daughter didn't ask for help because
3 she was afraid for her parents' life.

4 So I know it's something that needs to be
5 dealt with, even though they knew that there was domestic
6 abuse. But only when it was too late they started trying
7 to help. This needs to be dealt with in my opinion.

8 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:**

9 And thank you Arsene. Would you like to add on? I'm going
10 to ask the Commissioner Robinson if she has any questions.

11 **INTERPRETER FOR COMMISSIONER QAJAQ ROBINSON:**

12 I have a few questions. I know how hard it is, I know how
13 hard it is for you so I won't ask that many questions.
14 When they were going through court, would you like to talk
15 about that time, when they were -- when you were in court?

16 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. EMILIA ANGALIK:** Myself,
17 I didn't listen, I really didn't want to listen in the
18 courtroom but my husband was there.

19 **INTERPRETER FOR MR. ARSENE ANGALIK:** Yeah,
20 when they were in court I was trying to be here. They had
21 lawyers and I listened to what was happening. I understood
22 exactly what happened.

23 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:** The
24 documents that you have are from the court system, so we'll
25 be able to read that. I just wanted to hear from you and

1 how you felt. I would like to say thank you to you.

2 **INTERPRETER FOR COMMISSIONER QAJAQ ROBINSON:**

3 I know -- can you, can you explain about the pictures
4 before we finish?

5 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. EMILIA ANGALIK:** That
6 was a picture taken here with her older, older sister. She
7 was her best friend. And she always like to wear blue.
8 Here she is smiling with her older sister.

9 **MS. EMILIA ANGALIK:** But no matter how much
10 she was in pain she was always happy. Not really, you
11 know, happy as she used to be, but she still tried to be
12 there for me. And she didn't want to show her, her pain,
13 her fears to me. She didn't really talk to them about me.

14 **INTERPRETER FOR INTERPRETER FOR MR. ARSENE**
15 **ANGALIK:** She used to like fishing a lot and that was a
16 picture of her on the land. But I just remember that about
17 her, she really liked fishing and being out on the land.

18 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:** Do
19 you have any other questions?

20 **INTERPRETER FOR COMMISSIONER QAJAQ ROBINSON:**
21 No, no more questions.

22 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:** We
23 can finish this session and if you don't have anything else
24 to say? Would you like to add onto it?

25 **INTERPRETER FOR MR. ARSENE ANGALIK:** I'm --

1 the things that we're talking about, or the recommendations
2 that we want to see, we need to see more. We have to let
3 it out and we're going -- we want this to end and we want
4 it to stop.

5 **INTERPRETER FOR MS. LILLIAN LUNDRIGAN:**

6 Thank you Arsene. We could end this portion, thank you.

7 **--- Exhibits (code: P01P11P0202)**

8 **Exhibit 1:** Folder of three digital images displayed
9 during the public testimony of the
10 witnesses.

11 --- Upon adjourning at 2:19 p.m.

LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

I, Sherry Hobe, Court Transcriber, hereby certify that I have transcribed the foregoing and it is a true and accurate transcript of the digital audio provided in this matter.



Sherry Hobe

May 8, 2018