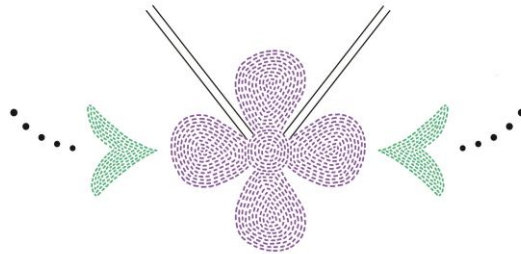


National Inquiry into
Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls



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 Statement Gathering
Best Western Plus Norwester Hotel
Thunder Bay, Ontario**



PUBLIC

Monday December 4, 2017

Statement - Volume 160

**Ina Commanda & Margaret Beardy Angecone,
In relation to Viola Panacheese & Marilyn Munroe**

Statement gathered by Jayme Menzies

INTERNATIONAL REPORTING INC.
41-5450 Canotek Road, Ottawa, Ontario, K1J 9G2
E-mail: info@irri.net – Phone: 613-748-6043 – Fax: 613-748-8246

II

NOTE

The use of square brackets [] in this transcript indicates that amendments have been made to the certified transcript in order to replace information deemed inaudible or indecipherable by the original transcriptionist. Amendments were completed by listening to the source audio recording of the proceeding; amendments to this official transcript were made by Maryiam Khoury, Public Inquiry Clerk with the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQ, August 10th, 2018 at Ottawa, Ontario.

III

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Statement - Volume 160	
December 4, 2017	Page
Witnesses: Ina Commanda & Margaret Beardy Angecone	
Statement gatherer: Jayme Menzies	
Testimony of Ina Commanda & Margaret Beardy Angecone . . .	1
Reporter's certification	65

Documents submitted with testimony:

1. Photocopy of "Family Violence hurts everyone" brochure (1 page)
2. Photocopy of brochure to promote MMIW walk (1 page)
3. Photocopies of 2 commemorative posters (2 pages)
4. Photocopy of Winnipeg Free Press newspaper article dated February 24, 2016 (1 page)
5. Photocopy of Winnipeg Free Press newspaper article dated February 26, 2016 (2 page)
6. Photocopy of unidentified newspaper article by Alexandra Paul (2 pages)
7. Photocopy of unidentified newspaper article by Sioux Lookout staff (1 page)

Statement - Public
Commanda & Beardy Angeconeb
(Panacheese & Munroe)

1

Thunder Bay, Ontario

1

2 --- Upon commencing on Monday, December 4, 2017 at 2:25

3 p.m.

4

MS. JAYME MENZIES: Starting now. This is

5 starting now. I'll introduce myself. My name is Jayme.

6 I'm from Winnipeg ~~Crown~~ [currently]. My Metis family is

7 from the Red River area, and I grew up in Dauphin. And -

8 [I'm grateful that you're with us here today. Thanks for

9 joining us and] ~~great, so I'll let you -- (indiscernible)~~

10 ~~with today and (indiscernible)~~ sharing your story. The

11 date is December 4th and it's 2:25. So if you don't mind

12 also introducing yourself?

13 **MS. MARIANNA DUNKIN:** My name is Mariana

14 Beardy Dunkin (ph). I'm from Vasilin Lake (ph). And my

15 family comes from all the Treaty 9 and I'm here for health

16 support for any family members that are sharing their

17 stories this week.

18 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** My name is

19 Margaret Beardy Angeconeb and I'm here to support Ina.

20 She's my cousin, and originally I'm from (~~indiscernible~~)

21 [Sachigo] Lake. And (~~indiscernible~~) [I'm just glad to be

22 here].

23 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** My name is Ina Commanda.

24 My last name used to be Munroe, and I'm from Sachigo Lake,

25 but I live here in Thunder Bay. And I'm going to tell

Statement - Public
Commanda & Beardy Angecone
(Panacheese & Munroe)

2

1 about my sister, Viola, and my niece, Mary.

2 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay. And where would
3 you like to begin? Start as young as you'd like.

4 MS. INA COMMANDA: Well, first of all, I'd
5 like to tell you about my sister, Viola. She went to
6 residential school also in Kenora and in Pelican. And --
7 but we grew up in Central Pat, Ontario, which is like a
8 lake. My dad was a miner there, and anyways, she had
9 her -- she got married. Had her family. She -- she has
10 seven children. Five girls and two boys. And she was
11 living in Sioux Lookout there, but she was visiting her
12 daughter in Sioux Lookout when she went missing in August
13 of 1991.

14 My dad phoned me from Sachigo two days after
15 she went missing, and he told me that she -- she was
16 missing. And -- and her and I were so close all the time.
17 Like, every time she'd get sick she'd come to me. And
18 she'd say to me, "I just want you to hold me. I feel
19 better when you hold me," she says. So that's what I would
20 do. I would rub her back and just look after her.

21 And her and I were so close that I knew when
22 she needed me or vice versa, eh? And there's many, many
23 times that I heard her calling me before she disappeared.
24 And I'd go -- go to where she was. And one time she says,
25 "What took you so long? I've been calling you for a long

Statement - Public
Commanda & Beardy Angecone
(Panacheese & Munroe)

3

1 time," she says. That's how close we were. And when --
2 when days went by, nobody heard anything, my parents left
3 Sachigo Lake and went to Sioux Lookout.

4 And I was working here in town that time.
5 And I've got time off from work to go get my parents in
6 Sioux Lookout, but they didn't want to stay there and my
7 dad was determined to go look in the bushes in Sioux
8 Lookout. So this would be then when we went and looked,
9 but you know, that -- at that time, already I knew that she
10 was gone.

11 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

12 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And you know, I'd never
13 find her alive again. So I had that feeling that she was
14 totally not here on Earth anymore.

15 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

16 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And, but my mother -- my
17 mother was a strong Christian, but she -- she believed that
18 she was taken by rapture. And I'll try and explain rapture
19 to you if you don't know what it is. It means when -- when
20 -- when somebody's suffering so much, God takes them away.

21 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

22 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** You know? And that's
23 what my mother believed, 'cause my sister was also
24 suffering from cancer that time.

25 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

Statement - Public
Commanda & Beardy Angecone
(Panacheese & Munroe)

4

1 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** She had -- you know, it
2 was called myeloma. It's like a -- it's in the blood, eh?
3 They can't do nothing for it.

4 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

5 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** But anyway, that's what
6 my mother -- she died believing that --

7 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** -- that God already had
9 her. But you know, her disappearance did such an impact
10 on -- especially her family. Her -- her children, you
11 know, they turned to booze and whatever, or to forget I
12 guess, eh?

13 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

14 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And, but me, myself, I
15 knew that she was gone. Although I did have hope that she
16 would -- that we would find -- find her, so we can have a
17 burial for her. And my -- her oldest daughter was
18 having -- she was -- she still lives in Sioux Lookout, and
19 one of her daughters still has all of her things.

20 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

21 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** All of her medication.

22 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

23 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And -- and she was
24 getting her cancer pills or whatever she was taking from --
25 she had a doctor in Winnipeg, and I spoke to that doctor,

Statement - Public
Commanda & Beardy Angecone
(Panacheese & Munroe)

5

1 and he says, "I'll let you know if anybody ever comes in
2 for a refill."

3 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

4 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And he never did. But
5 her oldest daughter's -- you know, one of her daughter's
6 still has her clothes and her medication. And you know,
7 there's a -- we try and have hope that at least to find --
8 find her so we can bury her, but it hasn't happened yet.
9 It's going on 26 years. You know, it's 26 years now. She
10 -- but she's -- I still talk about her. I still have
11 conversation with her in my head, you know?

12 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

13 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And you talk about her,
14 eh?

15 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

16 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** About school, when we --
17 when she -- when she was more closer to her age, eh?

18 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

19 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. They sang together
20 in choirs and you know like stuff like that, yeah. I -- I
21 sincerely hope, I pray that we can find her. At least
22 something.

23 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm. Yeah.

24 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Because, people say that
25 when you can't have a burial, their spirit doesn't leave --

1 leave the Earth.

2 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

3 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** You know, it stays in
4 between there. And that's my -- my -- and I have so much
5 respect for her children. You know, they -- they -- they
6 try and do things to -- to find their mother, eh?

7 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And it's -- it's so
9 hurting to see that. It's really, really -- it just leaves
10 a big hole.

11 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

12 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And my parents, oh. She
13 -- basically if you would have seen my parents -- my dad
14 when we were -- we -- I usually tramp all over the bushes
15 in Sioux Lookout. Every road that I can turn my truck into
16 I'd go there.

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

18 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And he wouldn't give up
19 until it was dark. And the police lost -- lost her files,
20 so there's no police files on her as of today.

21 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

22 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** That -- that -- that's my
23 understanding anyway. And her daughter will know more
24 about it. Different -- like, even the pictures that we
25 gave them --

Statement - Public
Commanda & Beardy Angeconeb
(Panacheese & Munroe)

7

1 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

2 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- they're all gone.

3 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

4 MS. INA COMMANDA: Apparently there was a
5 flood, so they say. I don't know this.

6 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

7 MS. INA COMMANDA: They didn't tell me --
8 like, when we went to Sioux Lookout with my parents, we
9 just went and told them we were her family. That we were
10 here to help in the search. And they didn't search very
11 long either.

12 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

13 MS. INA COMMANDA: You know, they didn't --
14 'cause she was reported being seen in different places.
15 And you know, I -- and that's about Viola. I could tell
16 you lots of stories about Viola, but --

17 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Can I ask you some
18 questions --

19 MS. INA COMMANDA: M'hm.

20 MS. JAYME MENZIES: -- about Viola?

21 MS. INA COMMANDA: Pardon?

22 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Can I ask you some
23 questions about Viola?

24 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yes.

25 MS. JAYME MENZIES: I'm a little bit curious

1 about the police investigation. So they didn't search very
2 long. Do you remember how long they searched for her
3 approximately?

4 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Let me see. I can't --
5 'cause she -- I think she went missing on the Sunday. I
6 think it was a Sunday. Like, that (indiscernible) [my dad
7 phoned me --] must have been (indiscernible) [Tuesday]
8 because he said, "It's going on two days now since she's
9 been gone."

10 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

11 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And I had to leave the
12 range myself -- my -- for my job, to leave.

13 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

14 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** I -- you know,
15 everything's so hazy, yeah.

16 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm. M'hm.

17 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And it must have -- I
18 don't think they searched very long.

19 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Couple weeks, maybe a
20 month kind of thing?

21 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Not even.

22 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Might have been that
23 long?

24 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** I would say maybe a week.
25 And from my understanding, they didn't even use dogs.

Statement - Public
Commanda & Beardy Angeconeb
(Panacheese & Munroe)

9

1 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

2 MS. INA COMMANDA: Although, somebody said
3 that they used a helicopter.

4 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

5 MS. INA COMMANDA: You know, one of those --
6 that lights.

7 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

8 MS. INA COMMANDA: You know the heating --
9 heating thing that -- except that --

10 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Oh, okay, ~~but~~
11 (~~indiscernible~~) [body heat]?

12 MS. INA COMMANDA: But did -- yeah, but
13 doesn't that work only if they're alive?

14 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm. That makes sense
15 to me?

16 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah. And you know what?
17 Like I said, I was so close to my sister, Viola.

18 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

19 MS. INA COMMANDA: She -- I dreamt about her
20 three times.

21 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

22 MS. INA COMMANDA: The same dream.

23 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

24 MS. INA COMMANDA: And I dreamt that her and
25 I were walking, and we came upon this clearing. We're

1 trying to get to Winnipeg, her and I.

2 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

3 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And we came on this
4 clearing. And there was like, makeshift tents and stuff
5 like that around I think that clearing. And she says, "I
6 know who will help us." So she got this guy and he took us
7 by boat to Winnipeg. I don't know where we were, but we
8 were in the bush. And when we came to Winnipeg, there's a
9 dock there. Big, long dock and you could see lots of
10 people standing there. And everybody's looking into the
11 water. Then when we came closer, we looked in the water
12 too, and there's a white guy tied up to one of those poles.
13 And somebody tied him there.

14 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

15 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And that's where my dream
16 would end.

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

18 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And I had that dream
19 three times, and I spoke to an elderly woman here in
20 Thunder Bay. I can't even remember her name. And she was
21 telling me, "She's trying to tell you where she is.
22 Concentrate." But you know, you don't plan your dreams or
23 anything.

24 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** No.

25 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** They just come to you,

1 eh? And -- but the more I thought about it, the more
2 fuzzier it got. I -- she says, "Try and recognize the
3 trees."

4 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

5 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** You know, she's trying to
6 tell you where she is.

7 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Hmmm, that's hard.

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. I -- I couldn't do
9 it.

10 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

11 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** But my nieces have gone
12 to medicine men to -- to try and find it. I -- I even went
13 to a medicine man, and he told me that she was buried under
14 leaves.

15 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Hmmm.

16 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** But -- and then he told
17 me, "I can't take you to her. You have to find somebody
18 with those kind of powers to lead you to..."

19 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

20 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** But my parents didn't
21 believe in that. My parents believed in the Creator which
22 is God, eh? And my dad says, told me, "Don't go there."

23 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

24 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** So I never, talked to my
25 person again.

1 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm. Okay.

2 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. There's a --
3 there's even my niece told me she -- she was walking in the
4 mall, and she seen this sign that said mystic or something.
5 And she -- she says, "I feel like somebody pulled me in
6 there." And all of a sudden, she finds herself in there,
7 and this woman is telling her about her mom. And oh, she
8 was really, really upset.

9 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

10 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** They told her that she
11 was in the cabin somewhere, that she was alive. She didn't
12 know where she was. She didn't -- but she -- she kept
13 seeing the word, Munroe, the name Munroe in her --

14 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

15 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** -- whatever her dream or
16 I guess, I don't know what -- what they do.

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

18 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah.

19 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

20 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** See a lot of people too
21 give you a false hope, eh? They say they seen her and all
22 that. I'm sorry, but you were asking me?

23 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** No. You -- you've
24 answered the questions, and this is all good. I'm glad
25 you're sharing this.

1 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah.

2 MS. JAYME MENZIES: You can finish your
3 thought if you'd like about -- about visions, or false
4 hope, or how people have helped you along the way or like,
5 I guess --

6 MS. INA COMMANDA: But you know, like --
7 like, it seems to me like the police don't really do
8 anything. Especially when it become -- it comes to
9 Aboriginal people.

10 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

11 MS. INA COMMANDA: You know? I -- I've seen
12 that.

13 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

14 MS. INA COMMANDA: They -- like, even the -
15 I have my -- I'm looking after my great-grandchildren right
16 now and two of them are girls. And one didn't come home
17 one time.

18 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

19 MS. INA COMMANDA: And they just said,
20 "Well, you know, 12 hours, 12 -- if they're missing more
21 than 12 hours that's when you have to put out a report."
22 But you know, anything can happen in those 12 hours and
23 she's only 14, you know? So I'm always checking out her
24 shoes and every time I get up to go to the bathroom I look
25 for her shoes just to see (~~indiscernible~~) [that she didn't

1 sneak out]. (Indiscernible) [There's a lot of things, a
2 lot of evil] people.

3 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah. The police force
4 who are in charge of the search, did they -- the local
5 Sioux Lookout Police? Is that what --

6 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah.

7 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah? And during that
8 period of time, were there any supports offered to your
9 family or to her children for example? Or the Victim
10 Services or?

11 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** No.

12 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Nothing like that?

13 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** No, nothing. They never
14 told my mom and dad nothing.

15 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** No?

16 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** No.

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** And it wasn't after they
18 stopped looking? Is there a report offered to you guys or
19 any kind of summary or anything like that?

20 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Well, like I say, her --
21 her oldest daughter, Vivian (ph) is her name --

22 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Okay.

23 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** -- she kept going over
24 there to find out if any --

25 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Oh, okay.

1 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- anything new --

2 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

3 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- like, they can tell
4 her. And then all of a sudden, they tell her that her -
5 her file is gone.

6 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

7 MS. INA COMMANDA: It's missing.

8 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay.

9 MS. INA COMMANDA: So I don't know if she's
10 -- if she's going to pursue it --

11 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Right.

12 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- that way, eh?

13 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

14 MS. INA COMMANDA: Like, why -- why is it
15 gone?

16 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

17 MS. INA COMMANDA: I don't know. But she's
18 -- but she's supposed to be here today.

19 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

20 MS. INA COMMANDA: But it's weathered out,
21 eh? She's going to try and drive in though.

22 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay. So her children
23 might be speaking in another statement --

24 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah.

25 MS. JAYME MENZIES: -- or with other

1 commissioners?

2 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah.

3 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay.

4 MS. INA COMMANDA: She's at commission,
5 yeah.

6 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay.

7 MS. INA COMMANDA: And her name is Lily
8 Southwind (ph).

9 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay.

10 MS. INA COMMANDA: So if (~~indiscernible~~)
11 [you run across her, that's her] ~~so~~

12 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay.

13 MS. INA COMMANDA: And now about my niece,
14 Marilyn.

15 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

16 MS. INA COMMANDA: You know, this is so --
17 something. We went to a Missing and Murdered Women's thing
18 in Winnipeg last February.

19 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

20 MS. INA COMMANDA: Well, no. It's going to
21 be two years she's been gone. Two years ago.

22 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

23 MS. INA COMMANDA: And it -- it was at the
24 Lombard Hotel.

25 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

1 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** In -- in the corner
2 there.

3 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

4 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** My brother James, was
5 there. And -- and his daughter, Marilyn lived in Winnipeg.

6 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

7 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And we were there, and he
8 kept saying, "I wonder why Marilyn hasn't called."

9 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Hmmm.

10 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And he says, "She knows
11 it's my payday too. She's always phoning me on payday,"
12 she -- he has, eh too? "She never called."

13 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

14 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** So shortly after we got
15 home, I forget when -- anyway, I forget what date that was
16 when -- what -- when they had that meeting in Winnipeg. So
17 anyway, all of a sudden on Facebook this guy she used to
18 live with, he puts out something on Facebook and says, "Has
19 anybody seen Marilyn? And we -- and her family's concerned
20 about her." That's what he put on that Facebook. And the
21 -- later on that day, that's when they found -- found her
22 body in that house that they -- they were renting. But she
23 -- but according to the coroner, she -- she's been gone for
24 a long time.

25 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

1 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. Cause it was a
2 closed casket.

3 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Okay.

4 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And they never even --
5 even the police never told us how she died.

6 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** No?

7 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** No. And when we -- I
8 asked at the funeral home how -- how it was going to be and
9 that's what that guy -- funeral director said. He said
10 that it had to be closed. He says, "I want the family to
11 remember her as she looked. She was mummified," he said.
12 So she -- she had been gone for a long time. Not just
13 recently, eh? From the -- from the time they found her.

14 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Hmm.

15 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And they found her --
16 I -- I hear that she was all tied up in a chair. But I
17 don't know if that's true. And that -- and police don't
18 say anything. And their reason is because he says, "If I
19 told you how she died, you would tell somebody, but it
20 wouldn't be the same as -- when -- that same way as I told
21 you, because," he says, "we have to keep it quiet for now,"
22 he said.

23 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

24 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** "Because of the
25 investigation."

1 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

2 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm.

3 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** So did they ever lay
4 charges on anyone?

5 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** No.

6 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** And is the investigation
7 still open? Or was it closed?

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Last year it was, 'cause
9 when we had that memorial for her --

10 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

11 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** -- I -- I spoke --

12 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** They were still
13 investigating?

14 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And there's only one
15 person they'll speak to, which is my niece, and she lives
16 in Big Trout Lake.

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Hmmm.

18 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** She's a spokesperson for
19 the whole family.

20 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Okay.

21 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** But I -- I talk about
22 like, my niece told me what he said to her. And I was so
23 upset too, you know? So I called him. I got his name and
24 number off of my niece, Joelly (ph). And I said, "There's
25 something that's really bothering me about something you

1 said." And I -- I talked to him on the phone. And he
2 said, "What is that?" And he said, I -- I said, "You told
3 Joelly that it was her lifestyle," and -- and I said, "What
4 does that have to do with what happened to her? Or you --
5 the way you guys are investigating?" And he was all -- you
6 know, he was all apologies and stuff.

7 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And he says, "I'm sorry
9 that you got it the wrong way," he said. He says, "I
10 didn't mean it the way it sounds." So I don't know.
11 She -- yeah, and really you know what he meant by that, you
12 know? Like, I tried to ask him.

13 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

14 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And he says, "I'm the
15 voice that speaks for this woman," he says. He says,
16 "Don't," you know, he says, "don't feel like I did anything
17 wrong," he said.

18 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

19 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** He -- and he did
20 apologize -- apologize for that.

21 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

22 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah, he -- nothing he
23 hasn't heard anything.

24 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Okay. And when has your
25 niece heard from them most recently? Or have they kind of

1 stopped talking?

2 MS. INA COMMANDA: I think they -- she
3 hasn't said anything.

4 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay.

5 MS. INA COMMANDA: I used to phone her all
6 the time to find out eh -- last year was the last time I
7 spoke to that detective.

8 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm. And -- and now,
9 this happened a bit more recently --

10 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah.

11 MS. JAYME MENZIES: -- than the other
12 situation? Were there moral supports put in place for your
13 niece's family? I mean, during the process of this
14 investigation, were there anything -- were there Victim
15 Services offered to your family or maybe a counsellor or a
16 therapist or cultural, traditional, spiritual healing? You
17 know, like, was --

18 MS. INA COMMANDA: No.

19 MS. JAYME MENZIES: -- any of this stuff
20 offered? No? Nothing?

21 MS. INA COMMANDA: No. See she -- she left
22 two little kids behind in Winnipeg, yeah?

23 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay.

24 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah, and the father
25 looks after them, but I -- I talked to him, when was that?

1 This past summer, anyway, I -- I talked to him. And -- and
2 he says -- I said, "Does anybody ever call you?" And he
3 said, "No."

4 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

5 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** You know, like, for his
6 kids.

7 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. And that's why my
9 brother has to be here.

10 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

11 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** He needs somebody.

12 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

13 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Like, when he -- when he
14 -- when this was being arranged, I guess he was talking to
15 maybe Barbara or somebody. I don't know if you know
16 Barbara?

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** I don't, no.

18 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** But he -- I was telling
19 Barbara that you know how men are? They don't share their
20 feelings, really.

21 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

22 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** You know? They -- they
23 sit there and -- but he needs somebody. My parents are
24 gone.

25 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

1 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And he says to me, "But I
2 want you to sit beside me, wherever I'm going to be I want
3 you there," he said to me. I said, "Yeah, I can do that."

4 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

5 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** I said, "I'm trying so
6 hard for him to come here." He needs -- he needs somebody.

7 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah.

9 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** How old are the -- the
10 children? The two children?

11 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Her children?

12 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

13 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** My -- [Marilyn's Son] I
14 think is 15, and [Marilyn's Daughter] must be about 12.

15 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Okay.

16 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** They're -- they're still
17 young.

18 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** And do you know,
19 maybe -- maybe you're not the best -- maybe I should be
20 asking someone else this question, but do you know if there
21 has been any sort of impact on them or were they too young
22 to remember all that? Or, you know, have they sought out
23 help or support ~~for (indiscernible)~~ [at all]?

24 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** I -- I -- maybe -- maybe
25 [H.] is taking them.

1 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

2 MS. INA COMMANDA: Like I say, I haven't
3 talked to her boy since --

4 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

5 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- this past summer. And
6 with the -- I know the little girl is really -- you know,
7 she wanted to be by the coffin all the time.

8 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

9 MS. INA COMMANDA: We had the service in
10 Winnipeg, and then we had the service in (indiscernible).
11 I just --

12 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay.

13 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- by the
14 (indiscernible).

15 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

16 MS. INA COMMANDA: And she stood right there
17 until the last bit of drape --

18 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

19 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- covered that coffin.

20 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

21 MS. INA COMMANDA: And she was only, what?
22 She must be about 12. Maybe about ten.

23 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

24 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah.

25 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Hmmm.

1 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm. Yeah, and --

2 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** And there was -- you --
3 you mentioned earlier that they didn't want to tell you at
4 the time the causes of death, but has there been any update
5 or report on that since? No?

6 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** No. I don't know, maybe
7 they'll be able to talk about it.

8 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** You know what? If you
9 want to encourage him to open up about it, he's welcome to
10 speak to us and just share the positive memories he has
11 about his daughter. He doesn't actually have to speak
12 about the negative incidents or since then at all. He can
13 just speak about his memories of her childhood, and you
14 know, the good times he shared and what kind of person she
15 was, and what the family loved about her, and things like
16 that. So if that's more what he wants to share, that's
17 also an option. And for that matter, if -- if you two want
18 to talk about -- if you want to talk about your niece, or
19 if you two want to talk about Viola, and just share your
20 positive memories about them, that's part of what we want
21 to hear too.

22 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm.

23 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** 'Cause that's important
24 too. So if you might have an easier time talking about
25 that stuff then that's okay.

Statement - Public
Commanda & Beardy Angeconeb
(Panacheese & Munroe)

26

1 MS. INA COMMANDA: You can tell her what you
2 know about Viola.

3 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Yeah, maybe.

4 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Do you mind if? Okay.
5 Are you comfortable with that? Yeah.

6 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Yeah,
7 Viola -- when we grew up that was at the residential
8 school.

9 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay.

10 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Yeah. But I
11 -- I knew her too when she was married and with all her
12 kids in (~~indiscernible~~) town [Balmertown].

13 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

14 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: And I lived
15 in Red Lake.

16 MS. JAYME MENZIES: I see.

17 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Yeah. And
18 so I mostly -- I grew up was in Red Lake. And then I went
19 to Kenora when I was six to the residential school. I went
20 to a high school from there too.

21 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

22 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: But then she
23 was always -- like, we always hanged around together, the
24 four or five of us. And -- and the things that I remember
25 about her was her stories, and she was funny. And -- and

1 she liked to dance.

2 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

3 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Yeah. We
4 shared the same music.

5 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

6 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Yeah. And
7 then when she got sick that -- I remember my brother
8 telling me that -- that she had cancer and all that. And I
9 was living here in Thunder Bay. And my father had stayed
10 with you. Did he stay with you?

11 MS. INA COMMANDA: (Indiscernible)?

12 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Yeah.

13 MS. INA COMMANDA: No, he stayed with Paige
14 (ph).

15 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Paige, yeah
16 with our daughter. Yeah. That's where he was staying, and
17 he was telling me about Viola.

18 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

19 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: How he was -
20 - how she was. And said that I -- I feel sorry for her,
21 'cause she can't -- 'cause sometimes she can't remember
22 what -- where she was.

23 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

24 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: She would
25 lose her sense of something, but then she was

1 ~~(indiscernible)~~ [doing]. He was telling me that about her.

2 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm. Was that related
3 to the cancer? Is that what?

4 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** I think so.
5 I --

6 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** I -- I think he was on so
7 much pills, eh?

8 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Oh.

9 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** ~~(Indiscernible)~~ [Like --]
10 and --

11 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** Yeah.

12 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** 'Cause she basically go
13 ~~to -- like,~~ her ~~(indiscernible)~~ [would break out too, on
14 her face].

15 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

16 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** One of those --

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Just 'cause side effects
18 and stuff like that.

19 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah.

20 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** She was --

21 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm.

22 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** Yeah.
23 That's what he was telling me about her anyways. And we
24 kind of felt for her.

25 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

1 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** But she was
2 going through. But when I heard that she went missing,
3 (indiscernible) [That --] that took a lot of toll.

4 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

5 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** Yeah. But
6 every time when -- when we go for a ride --

7 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

8 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** -- in the
9 bush, I always think, "Oh, Viola, where are you?"

10 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm. Yeah.

11 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** M'hm.

12 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** This would kind of just
13 always be on the back of your mind?

14 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** Yeah. And
15 that's about all but we had good times.

16 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

17 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** Yeah.

18 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** (Indiscernible) [Nothing
19 like music and dancing --] ~~dance and~~

20 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** M'hm.

21 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** -- (indiscernible) [to
22 bring people together, that's good].

23 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** Oh, we were
24 having fun too.

25 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

1 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: As her kids.

2 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

3 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: And she
4 talked a lot about her kids. And even to the principal
5 that we had when we were in residential school.

6 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

7 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: She used to
8 phone -- phone them up. They would tell her, "Viola,
9 you're going to have a high telephone bill." She said,
10 "Oh, that's all right. My husband's working." But I
11 remember our principal telling -- telling me that 'cause I
12 used to go and visit them too.

13 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay.

14 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Yeah.
15 Especially their daughter. The principal's daughter.

16 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Did -- sorry, did those
17 kids go to the residential school?

18 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: No.

19 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay. She just was
20 touching base? Okay.

21 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: M'hm. She
22 used to tell them about her life and her kids.

23 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

24 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: That's what
25 they told me.

1 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah. How many kids did
2 Viola have?

3 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Seven.

4 MS. INA COMMANDA: Seven.

5 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Seven? Wow.

6 MS. INA COMMANDA: They're all grown up now.
7 Beautiful.

8 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah. Yeah?

9 MS. INA COMMANDA: M'hm.

10 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: So that's my
11 -- some of my memories of her that I can --

12 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

13 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: -- that
14 stood out with me about her.

15 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

16 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Yeah.

17 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Do you have anything
18 else you can share about any (~~indiscernible~~) [Viola? Maybe]
19 when you guys were growing up or?

20 MS. INA COMMANDA: Well, you know I -- I'm
21 going to residential school two year apart. Like --

22 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

23 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- and -- but when -- in
24 the summer time, we used to all go home. And I'd be
25 working, because you know, my dad would be in the hospital

1 with -- in the sanitorium with TB or my mom. There's
2 always one parent missing.

3 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

4 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And I'm the second oldest
5 in my family. And I used to do house work, so I could feed
6 my little brothers and sisters. And I used to work for
7 food.

8 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Okay.

9 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Doing housework. And
10 they'd wait for me. And I -- like, and then later on, when
11 we didn't have to go to -- to residential school, I -- I
12 never went back after 1958. And we'd go in the bush and
13 cut wood.

14 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

15 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And then haul it back
16 home. All of us and it used to be fun doing that, you
17 know? And we didn't use a power saw or anything. We used
18 a hacksaw, or you have to --

19 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

20 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** -- move your arms, eh?
21 And you know, nowadays my grandchildren, I ask them to do
22 something and they're barely moving their arms. So
23 (~~indiscernible~~) [slow motion]. Yeah, but the -- I -- I
24 remember working really hard just to put heat in --

25 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** M'hm.

1 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

2 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- put food on the table
3 little bit.

4 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

5 MS. INA COMMANDA: You know, 'cause there
6 was no welfare in those days. You had to do or starve, you
7 know?

8 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

9 MS. INA COMMANDA: And she'd be right there
10 behind me helping me doing everything I wanted to do and
11 you know, like that. Even when we were -- already had our
12 own families, she lived in -- like, in Balmertown and a few
13 miles down the road there's Ear Falls (ph) and that's where
14 I lived with my own little family.

15 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

16 MS. INA COMMANDA: And she'd come over
17 there, bring all of her laundry to my house, and she'd take
18 a cab and that's about -- ~~where the hell~~ (indiscernible) [I
19 wonder how many miles that was?]

20 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: That is --

21 MS. INA COMMANDA: Quite a ways. Maybe from
22 -- maybe Thunder Bay to where -- maybe --

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Past Nipigon.

24 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- Nipigon? Anyway, it
25 was quite a long trip --

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

2 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- and she'd take, like,
3 bring a cab over there with he laundry just so --

4 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

5 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- we could spend time.

6 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Do a long weekend?

7 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah. So one time, you
8 know, I bought a wig, and the next time I seen her she had
9 a wig. And I said, "How come you -- you bought a wig?"
10 And she says, "Well, you did." She'd want to do everything
11 I wanted to do. And then she ended up having more children
12 than me. Yeah. She had seven kids.

13 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay.

14 MS. INA COMMANDA: So you know? And her
15 best friend -- Viola had five girls and two boys. And the
16 -- her best friend had five boys and two girls. The -- and
17 there's another one that she was really close to. She
18 wanted -- everything had to be the same, you know? I -- I
19 have a lot of good memories with her. That's where the --
20 when I -- when I say my prayers, I -- I thank God for --
21 for giving me the ability to laugh, you know?

22 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

23 MS. INA COMMANDA: 'Cause so many days I
24 don't feel like laughing.

25 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: M'hm.

Statement - Public
Commanda & Beardy Angeconeb
(Panacheese & Munroe)

35

1 MS. INA COMMANDA: And I have a lot of good
2 memories of her.

3 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: M'hm.

4 MS. INA COMMANDA: I just hope that she's --

5 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

6 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- warm.

7 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

8 MS. INA COMMANDA: You know?

9 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: M'hm.

10 MS. INA COMMANDA: 'Cause when she was
11 small, I always made sure that she was warm.

12 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

13 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: M'hm.

14 MS. JAYME MENZIES: ~~So~~ she (indiscernible)
15 missed? [Is she one of the youngest]?

16 MS. INA COMMANDA: Oh yeah. Oh yeah, she's
17 -- like I said, she's --

18 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay.

19 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- (indiscernible) [She's
20 closer] to her [age] and --

21 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: M'hm.

22 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- I'm 72. She would
23 have been 68 --

24 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: 69, 68.

25 MS. INA COMMANDA: 68 -- 68. 'Cause there's

1 me, and then Henry, and then her.

2 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

3 MS. INA COMMANDA: But yeah, I have a lot of
4 good memories of her.

5 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

6 MS. INA COMMANDA: And you know one other
7 thing? You know how siblings squabble?

8 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

9 MS. INA COMMANDA: Well, we didn't do that.
10 We had a few disagreements, but nothing earth shattering,
11 you know?

12 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

13 MS. INA COMMANDA: (Indiscernible) [It's
14 really --]

15 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: I don't even
16 think she ever argued or talked back. When we were growing
17 up, she was just always ~~fighting in the~~ (indiscernible)
18 [bubbly and laughing] and teasing and --

19 MS. INA COMMANDA: M'hm.

20 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Yeah.
21 That's the way she was.

22 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

23 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: And I never
24 heard her to complain about anything really. Yeah.

25 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

1 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** Yeah. You
2 would have liked her too.

3 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

4 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** Yeah.

5 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm.

6 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** If she was anything like
7 you two, seems pretty fun.

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm.

9 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Well, one thing that
10 could be helpful for the commissioners is just to properly
11 commemorate Viola's memory, is if you guys have any
12 specific recommendations for them -- because hopefully, at
13 the end of this Inquiry, we can, you know, create some real
14 change in the systems, right? So if -- if there are any
15 ways that you think maybe the police investigations should
16 change or the justice system should change, or you know,
17 maybe you -- the way that your family was or wasn't
18 supported during that process. If there's any
19 recommendations that you have that you hope future families
20 will have a better you know, a better time with, this would
21 be a good time to kind of share those ideas if you have
22 them.

23 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Well, you know, on the
24 police part --

25 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

1 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** -- like, I really think
2 they should try and -- how would I say that? Like, work on
3 to one on that person, you know? It could be a parent or a
4 sibling or --

5 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

6 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** -- you know?

7 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** M'hm.

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** 'Cause they leave
9 everything hanging.

10 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm. Have a
11 relationship with the family a little bit more?

12 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. 'Cause I found
13 that out through my sister, Viola, and now my niece.

14 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

15 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** They're not saying
16 nothing.

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

18 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** They always say, "We
19 can't say anything because of our investigation." I
20 respect that. But what about us?

21 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

22 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** You know? At least they
23 could say, "Well, we're going to do it -- we're going to do
24 it this way," or whatever. Whatever happens. How would I
25 know? 'Cause nobody says anything.

1 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

2 MS. INA COMMANDA: You know, I don't know
3 how they go about --

4 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

5 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- investigating
6 anything. You know, they don't say anything. They -- they
7 don't even say anything to my brother James.

8 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yes.

9 MS. INA COMMANDA: And they certainly never
10 said anything to my parents when they were alive. And I
11 don't know if they say anything to -- to my sister's oldest
12 daughter.

13 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

14 MS. INA COMMANDA: But according to Lillian
15 (ph) and you know, they can't really go anywhere because of
16 that lost report. It would be nice. Like, most -- most
17 police men are you know, they're -- they're good, but you
18 know, there's some of them that --

19 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: That speak
20 (indiscernible) [negative --].

21 MS. INA COMMANDA: -- you're feeling you're
22 bothering them.

23 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

24 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: They speak
25 negatively about them -- woman.

1 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah.

2 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: That's the
3 way I find it.

4 MS. INA COMMANDA: You know, like, don't
5 bother me, I'm doing something else, you know? Like,
6 that's -- like, that kind of attitude.

7 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

8 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: To have
9 support for families and --

10 MS. INA COMMANDA: M'hm.

11 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Would it have helped
12 your family, your families do you think, if there were you
13 know, Aboriginal Elders there throughout the process for
14 you? Or culturally relevant therapy? Things like that.
15 Would that have -- do you think if that were available in
16 the justice system, that people would benefit from that?

17 MS. INA COMMANDA: I think so.

18 MS. JAYME MENZIES: You think?

19 MS. INA COMMANDA: 'Cause a lot of people
20 that lost their loved ones through murder and all that,
21 it's really frustrating for them. And they really want to
22 find out more about them, you know, what they're doing.

23 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

24 MS. INA COMMANDA: The police or you know?

25 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

1 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Inspection -- inspecting
2 everything, that they really want to know so for that you
3 know, a little bit closure maybe at least --

4 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

5 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** -- they'll have that.

6 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

7 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. You know, until I
8 had a dream, and I dreamt that my mother was coming to get
9 me. My mother had already passed on. And I dreamt she
10 came to me and she says, "I know where Viola is," she says.
11 "But I want you to go get her," she says to me. So I went.
12 We had to climb this big hill. And then in the valley
13 there were so many people and I could see her in the
14 valley, my sister. And my mother kept telling me, "Go get
15 her. Go get her." So I went down and -- but you know, the
16 -- I'd almost touch her.

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

18 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** But the cloud would be
19 pushing me.

20 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

21 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And oh, that was so
22 weird.

23 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

24 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And I could hear somebody
25 knocking and knocking. And I thought -- but I -- I was

1 still dreaming. That was -- living in Winnipeg that time.

2 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

3 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And that was my sister,
4 Liz (ph) she's knocking on my door, and I'm just crying in
5 my sleep 'cause I was getting so frustrated to I -- I could
6 almost touch her, but I -- I couldn't.

7 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And anyway, I went -- I
9 was sleeping on the couch and I got up and answered the
10 phone and that -- the door, 'cause I heard her banging on
11 there. And she says, "What's the matter?" And I says, "I
12 can't find Viola." I think she -- I think Liz thought I
13 was -- I had lost it. Anyway, I was telling her about my
14 dream. And she says, "It's a good thing you didn't touch
15 her." She says, "You -- maybe you would have died in your
16 sleep."

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

18 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** M'hm.

19 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** That's what she told me.
20 Yeah. And you know, even -- even like you say to yourself
21 like, you know I can -- I can go through this. I've --
22 I've been -- I've gone through a lot, through lots.

23 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

24 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And each time I think,
25 "I'm not going to survive this one. I'm not." But you do,

1 you know? And I think that's what she was afraid of.

2 Yeah. There's so -- you know, I -- and I also lost a
3 grandson here in Thunder Bay.

4 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Who?

5 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And there's nothing on --
6 you know, even men get abused.

7 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** But nobody's saying
9 anything about that.

10 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** No.

11 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** His girlfriend stabbed him
12 three times in the heart. That's what I mean. You know,
13 each time I think I'm not going to survive it, but you do.

14 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

15 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And all you're left with
16 is memories. Even though some of them -- some of them are
17 really good. So that's what keeps me -- all these
18 memories.

19 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm. Do you have any
20 about your niece that you'd like to share?

21 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** About who?

22 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Memories about your
23 niece that you'd like to share?

24 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Marilyn?

25 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

1 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Oh yeah. She was -- she
2 was great (indiscernible) [crazy]. But you know what? My
3 dad was -- my dad was [-- he was always joking around, eh?]
4 ~~kind of, "You're always looking around, eh?"~~

5 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** M'hm.

6 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. And I -- he gave
7 all of his grandchildren nicknames. All of our kids have
8 nicknames. But anyway, I think that he taught -- he taught
9 us how to be happy.

10 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

11 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** My -- my father, eh? And
12 he looked after his grandchildren all like, my niece and
13 her brother. He raised them up. My parents raised those
14 kids up. And they're -- and they're always joking around,
15 you know? Laughing and --

16 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

17 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** -- yeah, she was -- she
18 was -- she was a beautiful girl. Yeah. And my brother,
19 he's gone too. He -- he named her Marilyn. And everybody
20 was saying, "Why'd you do that?" "There's only one Marilyn
21 Munroe ever in this world." Yeah, she used to get joked
22 around about that, eh? But she didn't mind. She says,
23 "I'm beautiful anyway." Yeah. Yeah. And her name was
24 Marilyn Rose.

25 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

1 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** She had four kids. Her
2 oldest boy, my sister raised. And there -- he's in
3 Constance Lake, and her daughter is here -- had a baby. I,
4 we should have brought her.

5 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** Yeah.

6 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** She's welcome to come.

7 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Oh yeah.

8 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** If your other family
9 members --

10 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** That -- that's her
11 mother.

12 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah?

13 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. She's got -- she's
14 severely -- I think she's scared. But you know, talking
15 about supports. You know, like, you know, my brother's the
16 type not to ask for anything.

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

18 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** That's what I mean.
19 Like, he's hurting so -- so bad. And then he's not asking
20 for it. I don't -- I don't know if he prays. He -- he
21 must pray, because we were taught as kids to pray, eh? So
22 -- but he, even sometimes, not very often he'll talk to me
23 about Marilyn.

24 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

25 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** You know, he always says,

1 "Are you going to be there when I find her?"

2 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

3 MS. INA COMMANDA: He always wants me there.
4 I hope I can be there for him.

5 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Oh yes.

6 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah, she was really --
7 she was like, a -- she didn't want lots of things, you
8 know? If she had a -- if she had a mattress, didn't matter
9 if she didn't have a box spring. You know, that kind of
10 person? That's how she was.

11 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

12 MS. INA COMMANDA: She didn't -- she didn't
13 really -- she -- she wanted love.

14 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

15 MS. INA COMMANDA: And she -- I think she
16 ended up with the wrong guy. I truly believe that -- well,
17 maybe I shouldn't say this, but I think he had something to
18 do with it. How can a person hide something like that too,
19 you know? He came to her funeral. We had a service in
20 Winnipeg.

21 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

22 MS. INA COMMANDA: Then we took her home to
23 [Osnaburgh].

24 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Did they investigate him
25 as a suspect? I guess --

1 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. He was in there
2 for a long time. Because it's so weird, you know? She --
3 he had that on Facebook, what I was telling you about her
4 missing. And then in a few hours they're taking her out on
5 a stretcher.

6 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

7 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** But she had been dead
8 already for a long time. Because I have to ask what
9 mummified meant. I don't know what it meant.

10 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

11 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** That means she already
12 turned all darker. Like wax. It's a such an awful word.
13 You know, you picture her and her looking like that. It's
14 not right.

15 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

16 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** So many ways I could tell
17 you that it is (indiscernible). And she was such a happy
18 person out there. And trusting.

19 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

20 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Totally, totally
21 trusting. You know? I -- I know -- I know a little about
22 -- a little bit about FAS.

23 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

24 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And she was FAS.

25 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

1 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** You know how those kids
2 are so trusting of people?

3 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yes.

4 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** They just want to hug and
5 love you?

6 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

7 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** That's how she was.

8 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

9 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** She didn't have no
10 like -- say money, like if she had 20 bucks, if you wanted
11 20 bucks she'd give it to you right away. She wouldn't
12 say, "Well, I want some change back," or anything, you
13 know?

14 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

15 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** She -- if she wanted to,
16 she'd give it to you.

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

18 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** You know? That's how she
19 was. Yeah. So sometimes it's hard to believe that they're
20 gone. You turn around, you want to ask like, I say, "Oh,
21 Marilyn," you know? And then I realize she's not even
22 here. But you know what I thank God for? For the people
23 who are willing to help. It's such an awful thing. I
24 can't imagine hurting another person like that, you know?
25 I -- I can't. I had to give a testimony to -- when my

1 grandson got killed, the -- the trial was here.

2 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

3 MS. INA COMMANDA: We had to make impact
4 statements.

5 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

6 MS. INA COMMANDA: And one of the things I
7 struggled with was forgiveness. I had a hard time with
8 that. And I -- and I was more -- her name was [P.].
9 Anyway, and I -- I -- I thought to myself, if I ever seen
10 her laying on the side of the road hurt, would I stop and
11 help her? And you know what? I couldn't answer it. And
12 my friend told me, "Yes, you would." I said, "How do you
13 know? I don't even know myself if I would." And she says,
14 "I know you."

15 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

16 MS. INA COMMANDA: "You would." Yeah.

17 MS. JAYME MENZIES: I think I already know
18 that about you.

19 MS. INA COMMANDA: But it's a good thing
20 that there's good people. I -- you know, and we
21 (~~indiscernible~~) [have to keep believing that there are good
22 people]. And our justice system too. I have a hard time
23 knowing that, but I -- you guys, it's -- that's really
24 something. It means a lot.

25 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

1 MS. INA COMMANDA: You know? That you can
2 feel our pain.

3 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

4 MS. INA COMMANDA: And my cousins, and my
5 grandson.

6 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: Yeah.

7 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

8 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah. (Indiscernible)?

9 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

10 MS. INA COMMANDA: And then when we go home
11 they'll say, "Oh, I want you --,"

12 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Oh yeah, you know what?
13 If you go home and you think of something or you dream
14 about something you know, and you want to come back
15 tomorrow and add anything at all, even if it's just ten
16 minutes; I forgot to say this, you can do that.

17 MS. INA COMMANDA: Okay.

18 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Okay? So while we're
19 here all week, you come back tomorrow and say I will make
20 sure to add on testimony if you want.

21 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah.

22 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

23 MS. INA COMMANDA: That's good.

24 MS. JAYME MENZIES: So don't stress too much
25 about that if you feel like -- if you think of something

1 else.

2 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Well, can -- can I ask a
3 question?

4 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Absolutely.

5 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Can you explain, after
6 all this is over, how -- how the most families -- how is it
7 going to help?

8 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** That's a very good
9 question. So we're speaking to a lot of families across
10 the country. And there are so many different issues, but
11 people ask, and they want different things. And some
12 families are asking for change in how police investigations
13 are being handled. Some people are asking for education
14 about -- more education available about residential schools
15 and foster care systems and all of those systems that are
16 you know, treat Aboriginal people so negatively, so poorly.
17 And so some people want that education to be in schools and
18 universities and things like that.

19 Some people want the justice system to be --
20 to have different sentencing or maybe to have more
21 rehabilitation. Or you know, certain laws changed. Some
22 people are asking for more -- more cultural supports in --
23 in ever town or community. So for example, more money for
24 therapists, or counsellors or outings for youth in the
25 bush. You know, like, things like that.

1 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm.

2 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** So it's kind -- kind of
3 like a really broad range of requests and recommendations.
4 And the -- the commissioners will be listening to every
5 single testimony we take. So they'll watch this as well.
6 And then they'll kind of create different topics. And then
7 they will write a big report and we will say -- they will
8 give it to the government, and they'll say, "This is what
9 our families told us and so this is what we think you
10 should do. This is what the families and us think that you
11 should change or think you should give money to," or things
12 like that.

13 And so there will be a lot of
14 recommendations for the education system, justice system.
15 Even health care, and you know, things like that.

16 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Housing.

17 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Sorry?

18 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Housing.

19 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Housing, yeah, yeah.

20 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** M'hm.

21 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Mental health. Like,
22 there's going to be recommendations for all of those -- all
23 of those systems.

24 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm.

25 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** And we hope that the

1 federal government actually makes some real change about
2 it. The other part of it; so there's the recommendation
3 part -- the other part of this Inquiry is to commemorate
4 and to honour the victims and the families. So there will
5 be one part it, of this that ends up being recommendations.
6 The other part we're hoping to create a way to remember our
7 lost loved ones.

8 So whether it's monuments across the country
9 or -- or songs, or you know, a chain of powwows. You know,
10 we're trying to think of the ways where we can properly,
11 maybe a day of the year or something (~~indiscernible~~) to [--
12 a way that we can] honour all of our lost loved ones and
13 the family.

14 So there's kind of those two things that are
15 hopefully going to come out of the Inquiry. Recommendations
16 for change, and a commemoration.

17 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Okay.

18 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** So that's the hope. You
19 know. So even if you go home tonight and you think, "You
20 know what? I think Thunder Bay needs a -- a bush school
21 where kids learn how to hunt." Whatever that you can --
22 your imagination, right?

23 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm.

24 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** You can come tomorrow,
25 and you can say, "Commissioners I think that Thunder Bay

1 needs a bush school [for kids to learn how to hunt],” and
2 (indiscernible). Maybe that will be something that they’ll
3 consider. So we’ve had all sorts of really unique ideas
4 and really powerful recommendations. Now we’re just really
5 hoping that we can put together a really strong product and
6 that our government will act on it. Does that kind of
7 answer your question?

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M’hm. Yeah. But there’s
9 such a broad --

10 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** It is.

11 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** You know, I don’t know
12 about you, but with me, like, you got to focus on one
13 thing. You know? That’s how I am.

14 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M’hm.

15 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** I can’t all over the
16 place trying to fix this and that and that, you know what I
17 mean?

18 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** I do.

19 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** It’s -- it’s got to be
20 one -- and then you know, once you have that, then you can
21 move on to the next one.

22 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M’hm. Yeah, it’s a
23 little overwhelming isn’t it?

24 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. M’hm. But you
25 know what? Personally, myself, I don’t think it’s going to

1 change very much because of a -- about our police forces
2 do, and their feelings towards Native people. I -- I
3 notice that you know? Like --

4 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Racism?

5 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. And Thunder Bay is
6 one of the worst places --

7 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm. Yeah.

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** -- I hear.

9 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** I hear the same thing.

10 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** M'hm.

11 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** You know? Although I got
12 a real good landlady. Really good to me, but yeah. I
13 don't know. It's -- it's too bad. You know, it's like a --
14 but you know, it's got to change here with you.

15 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah. Exactly.

16 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Not that officer or that
17 office, you know?

18 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

19 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** M'hm.

20 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** It's got to start at
21 home.

22 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

23 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Because you know, even
24 when my great-grandson, my great-grandson I'm raising
25 before we went to West Gate, and he's -- and my grandson

1 [O.] is very fair. He's about as -- maybe fairer than her,
2 eh? He's got grey eyes or blue eyes, whatever. But his
3 best friend is dark.

4 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

5 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** White and like, you know,
6 he's just (~~indiscernible~~) [doesn't go to school there
7 anymore]. But that's the reason why he didn't like it.

8 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Why?

9 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** You know what they used
10 to call him? Salt and Pepper.

11 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Wow.

12 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** And he just hates that.

13 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

14 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** He even hates being
15 called a white boy because of his colouring.

16 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

17 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** He says, "I'm not white.
18 I'm a Native person." They don't -- see what I mean? And
19 I spoke to the principal about that, and I told -- told the
20 principal, "That's why he doesn't like to come to school
21 because of what the -- what they're saying." And he says,
22 "Well, we -- we don't practice that here." I said, "But it
23 starts at home."

24 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

25 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** But you can't tell all of

1 Canada that.

2 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** How to raise their kids?

3 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. You know, if
4 there's enough people --

5 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

6 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** -- always telling you how
7 to raise kids.

8 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah. I -- I -- I do
9 really agree with you and -- and that's what keeps me up at
10 night sometimes, but --

11 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah.

12 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** -- there's definitely
13 what happens at home, but I guess it would be a start
14 anyway --

15 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah.

16 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** -- if it changed
17 institutionally, right?

18 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah.

19 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** M'hm.

20 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Because Canada --
21 Canada's institutions have been working against First
22 Nations people for way too long, so at least if we can
23 change some of that, maybe it will trickle down. Maybe the
24 attitude will trickle down.

25 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm.

1 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** You're right; there's a
2 way -- there are a lot of broad problems to deal with.

3 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm.

4 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** But you know, we just
5 need to take the steps that we can.

6 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

7 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah.

8 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Even some Native people
9 are prejudice against their own people, right?

10 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah, I know. We've
11 dealt --

12 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** They -- they've been
13 treated -- that's why.

14 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah. Yeah. When
15 you're told something about yourself for so long, and you
16 start to believe it, right?

17 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm. Yeah. You know,
18 my grandmother was raised by my grandmother? And she never
19 seen a white man --

20 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** M'hm.

21 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** -- 'til the first pilot
22 landed in Red Sucker Lake, Manitoba.

23 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Oh yeah. Yeah. She was
24 (indiscernible) up there.

25 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** She's trying to feel her

1 skin, and then looking at his skin, and she's
2 (indiscernible). Yeah. She never -- she never had apple
3 or sugar or --

4 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

5 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah.

6 MS. JAYME MENZIES: A little bit different.

7 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah. It was so -- so
8 nice. I -- I really enjoyed living with my grandma.

9 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

10 MS. INA COMMANDA: I was never cold. I was
11 never warm -- I mean, I was never cold or hungry.

12 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

13 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: M'hm.

14 MS. INA COMMANDA: And we always lived in
15 the bush. Even in the winter time we lived in a tent.
16 Isn't that something?

17 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Yeah.

18 MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB: M'hm.

19 MS. INA COMMANDA: Until I was about five.

20 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

21 MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah. But I have a lot
22 of memories.

23 MS. JAYME MENZIES: But anyway --

24 MS. INA COMMANDA: That's (~~indiscernible~~)

25 [good that you listened to me].

1 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Oh yeah, thank you for
2 sharing.

3 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm.

4 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** I know that you made
5 that look easy, but I know it's really difficult to open up
6 about those hard --

7 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** M'hm.

8 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** -- memories. So I
9 really, really appreciate you be willing to share them.
10 And I hope that your family members will feel comfortable
11 enough to share what they need to share too.

12 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** I (~~indiscernible~~) [know
13 it's hard].

14 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** Yeah. I don't have any
15 other questions for you guys, but if you have any last
16 comments?

17 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** (Indiscernible)?

18 **MS. MARGARET BEARDY ANGECONEB:** Yeah. Yeah.
19 That's -- that's (~~indiscernible~~) [pretty much it for
20 today].

21 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Any way, right?

22 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** That's -- that's it?

23 **MS. INA COMMANDA:** Do you want me to speak
24 any?

25 **MS. JAYME MENZIES:** My grandmother -- my

1 Metis family, my grandmother spoke (~~indiscernible~~) [Michif].

2 MS. INA COMMANDA: Oh yeah.

3 MS. JAYME MENZIES: But then when she was a
4 teenager, she got such -- so much bad treatment about it,
5 she stopped speaking it 'cause it was just --

6 MS. INA COMMANDA: Hmmmm.

7 MS. JAYME MENZIES: -- not accepted in her
8 area (~~indiscernible~~) [of the Province], right?

9 MS. INA COMMANDA: You know, I took the --
10 the -- there was the course in Winnipeg. Native language
11 course.

12 MS. JAYME MENZIES: M'hm.

13 MS. INA COMMANDA: I took a two-year course
14 there.

15 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Oh yeah?

16 MS. INA COMMANDA: Because I was always
17 interpreting.

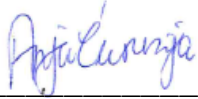
18 MS. JAYME MENZIES: Oh, okay.

19 MS. INA COMMANDA: And I was too scared to
20 go in to the justice --

21 --- Upon adjourning at 4:00 p.m.

LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

I, Anja Curuvija, 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.



Anja Curuvija

March 8, 2018