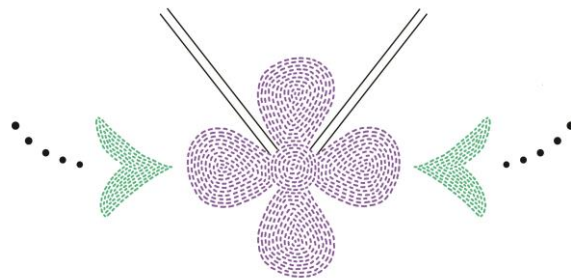


National Inquiry into
Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls



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 I Statement Gathering
Sheraton Four Points
Moncton, New Brunswick**



PUBLIC

Wednesday February 14, 2018

Statement - Volume 255

Chelsea Jadis

Statement gathered by Daria Boyarchuk

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February 14, 2018

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Documents submitted with testimony: None

Chelsea Jadis

1 Moncton, New Brunswick

2 --- Upon commencing on Wednesday, February 14, 2018

3 at 9:54 a.m.

4 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Hi, my name is Daria
5 Boyarchuk, and I'm the statement taker for the National
6 Inquiry. It is February 14th, 2018. We're in Moncton, New
7 Brunswick. It is 9:54 a.m., and we're about to begin our
8 testimony with Chelsea Jadis, who will share the story of
9 how MMIWG has impacted her, the story of her life. And
10 also present here in the room is:

11 MS. ALMA MCDUGALL: Alma McDougall,
12 resolution health support worker, Mi'kmaq Confederacy of
13 PEI.

14 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Thank you.

15 MS. GERALDINE JADIS: Geraldine Jadis,
16 Chelsea's mom.

17 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Thank you. Chelsea,
18 please, what would you like to share with us today?

19 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: I wasn't really
20 prepared to share anything today. I thought I would just
21 do my testimony.

22 MS. ALMA MCDUGALL: Well, that's what she
23 means.

24 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Yes.

25 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Okay, well, I'm from

Chelsea Jadis

1 Abegweit First Nations.

2 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: How old are you?

3 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: I'm 26 years old, and
4 I'm here because I'm a survivor of a rape victim. I heard
5 of MMIWG from my aunt, Judy Clark. She asked me to do a
6 statement, and when she asked me, I was in tears because I
7 didn't think that there was anything out there.

8 You know, I thought my case would be done,
9 put away, you know, and that was it. And it took, like,
10 two years for my case to be done. They kept pushing my
11 case aside, aside, and aside for a couple years, and it
12 really damaged me because I thought I'd be done on this
13 day. And I prepare myself and we open the wounds again,
14 and then they say, "no, you don't have to go," because he's
15 adjourning it, kept adjourning, adjourning, adjourning, so
16 I had to close my wounds back up and carry on. I have two
17 kids, so, you know, I don't have time to have a breakdown
18 and be in bed all day, you know.

19 So when the day came, I went up there and
20 I saw him for the first time after what he did to me. You
21 know, it was really hard and just seeing him, like, walking
22 and knowing that he was there when he tried to kill me.
23 You know, being around that kind of person was really hard,
24 and I had a lot of support there like my mom and victim
25 services people there, but still, I still didn't feel safe

Chelsea Jadis

1 because he took something from me, and, you know, he took a
2 lot from me, so.

3 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Are you comfortable
4 sharing the circumstances under which it happened or
5 anything?

6 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Yup. I just want him
7 to know that he's not getting away with it, and I want that
8 story out there because I know there's a lot of people --
9 blame me, you know. Thinks that I wanted it or, you know,
10 when it first happened to me, I was hurt and I got whoa,
11 whoa, you know. I probably -- people probably think I
12 wanted it, you know what I mean, or it was my fault. I
13 shouldn't have been around him or something like that, you
14 know what I mean.

15 But he put his hands on me, and when I
16 said no, no means no, right? So, he didn't take no for an
17 answer. That night, that day, that morning, he took
18 something from me. So I couldn't work after that. I was
19 working in the woods and I kept looking over my shoulder
20 all the time, thinking he was going to be there because
21 when he raped me and tried to murder me afterwards, it
22 happened in the woods in that field.

23 So, I was working in the woods in the
24 fields after this, and it was just me and another person,
25 and I still didn't feel safe with another person there

Chelsea Jadis

1 working with me, but -- and with the chain saw going, you
2 know, I'm busy, whatever, I still couldn't get it off my
3 mind and working in the woods, you know, kept thinking he
4 was going to come for me or, you know what I mean, finish
5 me off or so. I couldn't work no more. Then I went to
6 drugs and started IV using, and lost my kids, and so.

7 I started my healing process now, so.
8 This guy took a lot from me. And I couldn't work anymore,
9 like, I got fired; I lost a good-paying job; I lost my
10 kids. I'm just finally getting this stuff back together
11 now. It took me years. Took me a year to get my kids
12 back. Finally, I straighten up and stop -- put the needle
13 down, and got my kids back together. And that's why I'm
14 here today. Let him know that I'm healing and I'm so much
15 better today. What he did wasn't right. And I think the
16 sentencing part, I was happy, but I wasn't. He got two
17 years' house arrest.

18 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Two years of house
19 arrest. Okay.

20 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: He still has his
21 freedom. He took my freedom; you know what I mean.

22 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: When did this happen
23 to you?

24 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: It happened two years
25 ago. It happened in September, Labor Day weekend. It

Chelsea Jadis

1 happened at six o'clock in the morning.

2 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: You said you were
3 working in the woods there or --

4 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: No, no, no, no. What
5 happened was: I went out with my boyfriend's sister. He
6 was dating my boyfriend's sister at that time, and we went
7 out and I went up for a pow-wow in [Community 1, New
8 Brunswick] at this time.

9 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Sorry, you were
10 there with his sister, correct?

11 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: No, no, his
12 girlfriend. His girlfriend is my boyfriend's sister. So
13 he was in a relationship with this girl. So, we went out
14 and I went to go join them, and then after, we went home
15 and I went to pass out at her house, so she said, "You'll
16 be all right. You can pass out to the couch. No one will
17 bother you," so I said, "All right."

18 He kept coming on and saying, "Oh, she's
19 almost sleeping," and, you know, I was like "No, we can't
20 do that, you know what I mean, that's not right. She's my
21 sister, you know, you shouldn't be doing that. Let's go
22 pass out, whatever." And I told him no and then after a
23 while she had some out and got mad at me. "I knew you
24 wanted him," and started blaming me and started fighting
25 me, so we got into a scrap -- into a fight, and then after

Chelsea Jadis

1 that fight I had walked out and started walking home.

2 A couple minutes later, he came, jumped in
3 the car and picked me up, and I said thank God because she
4 lived far away, like across the bridge, away from -- not
5 even [Community 1], so -- and he said he'll drive me home.

6 So on the way home, he stopped in the
7 woods in the field and he opened my door, took me out, you
8 know, he started trying to get with me, and I said, "No,
9 just take me home. I need to go home. Please take me
10 home," and he just punched me, put me on the floor and
11 ripped my clothes off and got his way.

12 He had a strap-on, but he didn't get his
13 way with the strap-on, so he took the strap-on off and had
14 intercourse with me. While he was having intercourse, he
15 was punching my face and choking me. So after, I was
16 trying to fight but I couldn't fight anymore because he
17 just kept -- he was bigger than me, so I just gave up and
18 let him have his way.

19 And odd reason was -- when he was done, I
20 got up and I got dressed of what little clothes I had, and
21 I sat back in that car, and he got in and he drove away
22 into a bridge, took me out of the car again and tried to
23 stab my neck. And then when I got away, I ran away and I
24 found this fence and it had a hole in it, and it was small
25 and, like, I'm a big girl and I fit through that hole. A

Chelsea Jadis

1 tiny little hole. I mean, I don't know how I did it, and I
2 had my phone in my purse with me. So it happens I had all
3 this stuff on me, and I -- you know, you wouldn't think I
4 would because everything getting teared off my body.

5 My phone was completely dead, and I was
6 knocking on everyone's door on that street. Nobody would
7 answer, and I could hear him running up the roads, up and
8 down, "I'm going to fucking find you and I'm going to
9 fucking finish you off," and blah, blah, blah. Nobody
10 would answer their doors or their windows or nothing. And
11 I found out an outlet, plugged my phone, and then called
12 for help and they came. And this officer came.

13 [Constable 1]. I can never forget him
14 that day. He was so nice, and he stood with me all day,
15 like, didn't leave my sight until I was done with
16 everything, and he was so nice. Best cop, I think he was,
17 like, oh, my God. He came to the case there the other
18 month, and I was so happy to see him, you know, and I felt
19 safe with him.

20 But this guy took a lot from me. I just
21 want my story out there, let people know that -- what he
22 did. He's not a good guy. So, even his stepmother or --
23 no, his baby mama got ahold of me and she's going to court
24 with him, too, now.

25 And she's asking for my help and I'm like

Chelsea Jadis

1 -- I kept getting weird dreams because she kept talking to
2 me, talking to me, trying to get me to talk to her, and
3 when I kept -- like, even I have bad dreams still to this
4 day of him and, you know, weird dreams. And I need to stop
5 talking to that woman. Because I kept getting bad dreams
6 and bad vibes and anxiety and she's just opening my wounds
7 again when I'm trying to heal.

8 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Does he still live
9 in your community?

10 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: No. He's from
11 [Community 1] and I'm from PEI. So, when I went up there -
12 - but still, that's where my kids are from, from [Community
13 1], and I still can't go up there. I'm scared to walk into
14 a store to buy a pop in [Community 1] because I'm scared
15 his family is going to be there and go after me and -- you
16 know what I mean, but that's where most of my family is
17 from. That's where my boyfriend's from.

18 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So, do you ever
19 visit your family there? No?

20 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: I go there, but I go
21 with her and it's only for, like, a night or not even. And
22 we're gone.

23 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Did you receive any
24 victim support? I know that the counsel --

25 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: I met up with [S.M.].

Chelsea Jadis

1 She's been a good -- she's really good with me. She calls
2 me and gets me prepared for things, so it's pretty good. I
3 never really have talked to any professionals or anything
4 like that. It was always more into, like, just tuck it
5 away, put it away, or -- you know what I mean, it happened,
6 it's done, that's it. Keep it down there, in there and
7 down, and keep it in lockbox, you know what I mean.

8 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Do you think today
9 when you came to share this story, do you think it helped
10 you in a way to get it out of your chest and not keep the
11 lock up in the box?

12 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: I was excited, really
13 excited to come to something like this, but I was so
14 nervous and scared. I was mixed emotions about this, but I
15 kind of feel better. Really, I do feel better sharing my
16 story. I just feel like I'm not alone. I know I'm not
17 alone, but, like, there's something for Aboriginal women.

18 When my Aunt Judy, Judy Clark, came to me
19 and asked me to be part of this, I had happy tears and I
20 said, "Oh, my God. I didn't think that --" you know, I
21 thought my case would be done. They'd do it and that's it,
22 like, I didn't think that -- you know. She said, "You're a
23 survivor. You need to tell your story," and, you know. I
24 was like, "All right." She said, "You know, you didn't
25 have it easy. You went through a rough life. You got

Chelsea Jadis

1 stabbed when you were 18 years old, and you almost lost
2 your life there, and you went through a rape, you know.
3 You're a survivor. You survived through addictions --"

4 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: What was the
5 stabbing incident? Do you want to talk about it?

6 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: That was back in 2012?

7 MS. GERALDINE JADIS: I think so.

8 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: That was back in 2012.
9 I had my friend -- it was a stupid fight. It was over a
10 boy. So I went to her house and she came out, and then as
11 soon as I got out of my car, she had two parry knives and
12 she just stabbed my chest. And one more minute -- one more
13 -- yeah, one more minute, I would have been dead if I
14 didn't get to the hospital right away. And I was almost
15 dying and she was in the hospital almost dead, too.

16 So at that same time, they couldn't tell
17 her -- where her daughter -- and what happened to her
18 because she was going through surgery that night as I was
19 getting stabbed. An inch away from my main artery on my
20 chest. One more minute if I didn't get to the hospital
21 that time, I would have been dead. And they were supposed
22 to tell her because she just got out of surgery. But they
23 did tell you, right?

24 MS. GERALDINE JADIS: Yeah. The surgeon,
25 same surgeon that operated on me, he operated on my

Chelsea Jadis

1 daughter, Chelsea, and he says, "I know recent
2 confidentiality here, but I feel like I have to tell you
3 anyway that I just operated on your daughter."

4 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: So, you know, after
5 that, I was -- I got into drugs, too, then, but I wasn't IV
6 using at that time. And I had no kids at that time either.
7 So it was, like, 2010 or something like that because 2012
8 is - [Daughter 1]. And I had [Daughter 1], so it was way
9 before then, like, 2008, 2009. Sorry.

10 MS. GERALDINE JADIS: Eight years.

11 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: So, yeah. I got into
12 drugs after that, you know. That was an eye-opener but
13 still got into drugs, whatever, because of that boy, but --
14 you know. And then I got pregnant, and I had my kids, and
15 then I was sober again, and then after being, you know,
16 raped and almost murdered and stuff, I got back into drugs
17 and lost my kids and, you know. So that's why I'm here
18 today.

19 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Thank you.

20 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Because my Auntie Judy
21 says, "You need to tell your story." I feel like I should
22 have a book. I should publish a book, but I don't think I
23 could do that. I won't even know where to start. That's
24 all I have to say, I guess.

25 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay. Is there

Chelsea Jadis

1 anything else maybe you would like to share or maybe you,
2 Chelsea, would like to, if you're comfortable, of course,
3 to share maybe, like, how this has impacted you as a woman
4 but also other women because it happens to a lot of women
5 and a lot of Aboriginal women.

6 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: And that's the reason
7 why I wanted to tell my story because there's a lot of them
8 out there that's happening to and nothing's really getting
9 done. Because even when I got stabbed, that girl who
10 stabbed me, she only got six months. She almost took my
11 life and that person only got six months. And she was out
12 in four months. So, you know, something needs to be done.
13 It's just sad that the justice is not right, you know what
14 I mean.

15 MS. ALMA MCDOUGALL: You have to deal with
16 this every day of your life. Keep a balance.

17 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Exactly.

18 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: One thing I noticed
19 in your story, after your stabbing incident, you have a lot
20 of strength and determination.

21 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: It's because of my
22 family.

23 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Because of your
24 family, because of the support, and then you have again --

25 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Tough love, that's why

Chelsea Jadis

1 I hate it.

2 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- you go sober but
3 something terrible -- that incident happens to you again.

4 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: It just breaks me
5 down.

6 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Yes, but you have so
7 much strength to pull yourself up, you know, and you look
8 fine. You're here today and you're amazing, and I think
9 this is like I'm hearing a story. There is a lotto. I can
10 see a lot of courage in you because it takes a lot of guts
11 to share your story with strangers, you know. Not a lot of
12 us -- and I admit, myself, personally, I'm not as strong as
13 you are to have come here and share this.

14 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Well, when I heard of
15 this, I wanted to jump on it right away and get in, you
16 know, share my story and whatever. I wanted to be so a
17 part of this after when Auntie Judy told me about it and
18 everything, and I was like this is so awesome. Something
19 that -- you know, maybe I can help somebody or somebody
20 come out with their story or get people --

21 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Encourage other
22 people. I hope there will be other women in the audience
23 today when you -- women who will hear your story, women who
24 are a little bit hesitating to share their stories, women
25 who will -- may not necessarily be here, present at the

Chelsea Jadis

1 hearing, but who listen to your story and Facebook and the
2 media. And they'll be more open because they will see the
3 strength that you carry, and they will come forward and
4 share their story as well.

5 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Yeah. And I had girls
6 messaging me, too, from where that guy was from, and they
7 had come out to me and said, you know, he did the same to
8 me and I never did anything about it or -- you know what I
9 mean.

10 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: They never came
11 forward?

12 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: They never came
13 forward and I never thought to be, like -- I should have --
14 you know, I try to re-message them again, but I don't know
15 what happened to the messages. They were gone, so, you
16 know, I wish I could have told them at that time, "Let's do
17 something," you know what I mean. I wasn't thinking at
18 that time to get them to do something about it.

19 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

20 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: I just feel so
21 terrible and I hope those girls do with the courage to come
22 out and tell their story because -- you know.

23 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: The story needs to
24 be told, right?

25 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Yeah. They have a

Chelsea Jadis

1 story and it should be how --

2 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Thank you. Thank
3 you very much.

4 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Thank you.

5 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: One thing I wanted
6 to ask you since this statement was either recorded. Do
7 you voluntarily agree that it's recorded, video and audio?

8 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Yes.

9 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Thank you.

10 MS. GERALDINE JADIS: Is there anything
11 else you wanted to say.

12 MS. ALMA MCDOUGALL: I don't think it was
13 right for that guy to get two years' house arrest, that's
14 for sure.

15 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: The good thing is,
16 when they told me when it was going -- what the sentencing
17 was, they just took me in the room and told me -- they
18 wouldn't allow me to have her come in and help me agree on
19 -- "This should be all right," like, you know what I mean?
20 Like, they just took me in the room and said, "This is what
21 he's getting. You should agree on it." You know what I
22 mean.

23 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: How old were you at
24 that time?

25 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: I was -- this was last

Chelsea Jadis

1 month or a month ago, whenever I agreed that sentence, and
2 they took me in a room, and [Constable 1] and his lawyer
3 was in there and said, "This is what we think that he
4 should get and you agree on it." And this is it. So
5 you're now -- like, I felt like if I had my mom there, she
6 would have been like "This wasn't right. This is not
7 right." I came out and told her, and that was it, you
8 know.

9 MS. GERALDINE JADIS: Yeah. This is not
10 right.

11 MS. ALMA MCDOUGALL: But he's still not
12 fully sentenced yet, right?

13 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: No, he's still not
14 fully sentenced and it's been like what, two years. And
15 why is this case taking forever, you know what I mean.
16 They have all the evidence and, you know, the rape kit,
17 they found his semen in me, you know what I mean. They
18 found everything they needed, like, why isn't it done, over
19 with?

20 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So the case is still
21 pending, right?

22 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Yeah. Well, they
23 sentenced him and everything, but he goes out for a
24 sentence in next week -- next month -- March 23rd, but it's
25 done. They told me it's done; this is what he's going to

Chelsea Jadis

1 get, and they told me that day what he's going to get, but
2 I guess it's fully -- whatever, March 23rd.

3 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

4 MS. ALMA MCDOUGALL: If it's not done,
5 then it's still not done. They can ask for their
6 recommendation. That doesn't mean that's what he's going
7 to get. It's up to the judge.

8 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Well, that's what they
9 told me that they -- that's what he's going to get and
10 that's it.

11 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So, the trial, as I
12 understand, is not completed yet.

13 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: The trial is done. I
14 went there that day, and this is --

15 MS. GERALDINE JADIS: It's just his
16 sentencing.

17 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: He needs to get his
18 sentence.

19 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: His sentencing.
20 Okay. So they will call him up and -- okay.

21 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: Complete through it, I
22 guess. I guess he didn't do it that day or something, but
23 I don't know. So that's it.

24 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay. Is there
25 anything else?

Chelsea Jadis

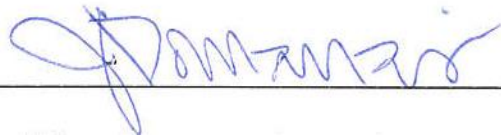
1 MS. CHELSEA JADIS: No.

2 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay. It is 10:20

3 a.m. and we're about to complete this statement.

4 --- Whereupon the interview concluded at 10:20 a.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I have, to the best
of my skill and ability,
accurately transcribed from a pre-existing recording
the foregoing proceeding.



Jovelle Domanais, Court Reporter