

Exhibit: National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Location/Phase: Part III: Quebec

Witness: Corey O'Soup

Submitted by: Christa Big Canoe

Add'l info: Commission Counsel

Date: MAY 16 2018 P03P02P0301

COREY O'SOUP

Saskatoon, SK. |

Intials

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Entered

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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

**Saskatchewan Advocate for Children & Youth
Legislated Assembly-Government of Saskatchewan**

November 2016-Present

The Advocate for Children and Youth is an independent officer of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan and acts pursuant to *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act*.

Lead a team of professionals in the following areas:

- *Advocacy* on behalf of children and youth receiving services from a provincial ministry, direct or delegated agency or publicly funded health entity;
- *Investigations* into any matter concerning or services provided to children and youth by a provincial ministry, direct or delegated agency or publicly funded health entity;
- *Public Education* to raise awareness of the rights, interests and well-being of children and youth; and,
- *Research* on issues affecting children and youth; and we can *advise* any minister responsible on any matter relating to the rights, interests and well-being of children and youth.

**Incident Commander La Loche Recovery Effort
Government of Saskatchewan**

January 2016-October 2016

Leading the recovery and response effort for the Government of Saskatchewan which includes managing an inter-ministry team to ensure the needs of the children, youth and community are being met following the crisis. Working directly with community leadership - mayor and town council, Chief and Council, local health region and school division leadership and other community organizations in order to effectively negotiate and problem solve. I advocate and liaise with and for the children, youth and community with varying levels and ministries of government. I continue to work with the community and all of our ministries helping to create and coordinate short, mid and long-term plans.

**First Nations and Métis Student First Advisor
Ministry of Education – Government of Saskatchewan**

January 2014-Present

Roles and Responsibilities:

Sector Planning and Reporting

Providing advice and guidance to the Provincial Leadership Team on First Nations and Métis participation and representation in the development and implementation of the Education Sector

Strategic Plan and related priorities. This includes a number of areas including assessment, increased First Nations and Métis engagement and achievement, early years, and stakeholder engagement.

Policy Development

Providing leadership and advice on the creation, renewal and implementation of a number of Ministry and sector policies such as: *Inspiring Success*; the *Ministry of Education Policy and Protocols to Engage First Nations and Métis Elders, Traditional Knowledge Keepers and Elders' Helpers*; and, the *First Nations and Métis Engagement Plan*.

Leadership and Partnership Development

Providing leadership and partnership development on a number of Ministry initiatives such as, the Ministry of Education's ongoing response to the Joint Task Force on Improving Educational and Employment Outcomes:

- **Invitational Shared Services Initiative** – lead role in the creation of the inter-jurisdictional partnerships, including liaising with elected leaders in both the provincial and First Nations governance system. This includes the ongoing involvement in 16 partnerships, with a budget of 2.4 million per year.
- **Following Their Voices** – lead role in the creation of the of the inter-jurisdictional partnerships, and one of the priorities of the ESSP, which focuses on training teachers on building relationships and engaging FNM students in 17 schools – 5 First Nations and 12 provincial schools.
- **First Nation Summer Literacy Camps**
Coordination and liaising with Frontier College and First Nations and Métis educational leaders to co-construct the camps and have their meaningful participation in the plan moving forward. Successful in the consultation and negotiation of agreements and held five camps on First Nations in 2015.
- **Truth and Reconciliation Response**
Providing leadership and advice on the Ministry of Education's role to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission response at the inter-jurisdictional, inter-ministerial and internal level. Including actions such as: Student Leadership Camps; First Nations and Métis Education Stakeholder Symposium, and a First Nations and Métis Languages Strategy.
- **First Nations, Métis and Elder Engagement and Consultation**
Providing education, coordination, and guidance to Ministry of Education senior officials and staff on the engagement First Nations and Métis leadership; Tribal Councils; individual First Nations; educational authorities; and, Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers while respecting protocol and governance structures. This also includes a lead role on the Elder's Advisory Group for the Following Their Voices initiative.

- **Student First Provincial Consultation**
Provided support to the consultation process to ensure student voice is included within current and future Ministry of Education initiatives.
- **Inter-Jurisdictional Liaison, Consultation and Representation**
 - Advising the Minister of Education, Deputy Minister's Office and Ministry staff on First Nations and Métis political and educational policy directives.
 - Providing leadership and coordination for various agreements between the Federal, Provincial and First Nations on MOU's and agreements.
 - Represent the Ministry of Education on the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC) Aboriginal Education Portfolio which includes work related to First Nations and Métis teacher recruitment and retention; teacher education; and online resources.
- **Human Resources**
Advisor for the Ministry of Education's First Nations and Métis Recruitment and Retention Strategy, including engagement with Elders, First Nations and Métis Staff, the Public Service Commission, and Senior Leaders during development and deployment.

Senior Education Manager
First Nations, Metis, Inuit Services Branch
Alberta Education

August 2013-January 2014

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Lead a team that liaised with provincial school divisions to help support the creation and implementation of their First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) plans.
- Provided support in the areas of: curriculum; assessment; and, data management.
- Implementation of provincial FNMI program "Collaborative Framework".
- Fostered relationship and partnership building between provincial school divisions and their surrounding First Nations.
- Internal support and expert advice to senior officials and leaders regarding FNMI education in the areas of: policy writing and development; relationships with First Nation educational stakeholders; curriculum development; and, FNMI programs.
- Represented the government of Alberta as the FNMI on various committee

Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN)
Executive Director (Education/Post-Secondary Education & Training)

February 2013 – August 2013

Roles and Responsibilities:

Planning/Reporting

Designing structures, systems and processes to identify opportunities and problems, specify objectives, define activities, and evaluate results.

Developing Partnerships/Presentations

Establishing and maintaining on-going relations with all levels of First Nations/Non First Nations levels of governments/agencies and promoting partnerships with private sector on First Nation initiatives.

Policy Development

- Policy development and leadership responsibility for research issues including creation of special Task Forces/Committees to address specific areas.
- Conducting the inquiries and formulating options of First Nations public policy for the consideration of and selection by the Commission and/or Executive.
- Responsible for the overall implementation of policy decisions of the Commission

Legislation Development/Writing

Directing and coordinating the drafting of legislation (laws, regulations, guidelines) and the design of programs and projects, along with the formulation of strategies.

Financial Resource Management

- Determine financial resource requirements, and identify potential funding sources, performing primary management functions over these resources, i.e., planning, organizing, integrating, evaluating
- Monitoring and ensuring compliance to: budgets and policies, consultants and contractors, and adherence to financial policies and procedures.

Human Resource Management

Determining human resource needs; planning, monitoring and appraising job results; and, coaching and disciplining employees.

Decision Making

Overall responsibility and authority for all decisions within the Secretariat.

Accountability

Accountable to the Executive Member and Commission for the Secretariat activities and to the Chief of Staff on policies and procedural operations.

Senior Policy Analyst/Research**2011- 2013****(Education, Post-Secondary Education and Training)****Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN)*****Roles and Responsibilities:***

- Liaison and effectively communicated with all levels of First Nations governments, as well as federal and provincial governments.
- Conduct, compile and analyze research, to make informed decisions on policies and procedures.
- Assist in the development of policies and procedures for FSIN and/or the Education & Training Secretariat.

- Provide consultative advice to Education & Training staff and to all levels of First Nations government.
- Analyze and develop briefings, terms of reference and guiding documentation as required
- Provide analysis on new and/or revisions to current legislation and policies that relate to the promotion, enhancement and implementation of Treaty Rights and/or First Nations education and training.
- Chair of the Shared Standards and Capacity Building Council (SSCBC), oversee and analyze research activities in cooperation and consultation with the sub committees, oversee and ensure the coordination and organization for all necessary community activities/protocols (ceremonies) as required.
- Knowledge and understanding of First Nations customs, culture and history.

Superintendent of Education

First Nations and Metis Education Branch

Ministry of Education – Government of Saskatchewan

2009-2011

Roles and Responsibilities:

Cross Jurisdictional Agreements - assisted in negotiation of tuition agreements between First Nations, school divisions and the federal government.

Document Creation - briefing notes, memos, and other correspondence for Senior Officials and stakeholders.

- Promising Practices Symposium (Lead);
- First Nations Government and Elder Engagement; and,
- Work with publishers reviewing textbooks to ensure authentic inclusion of First Nations and Metis content.

Committee Work - First Nations Provincial Advisory Committee (FNMEPAC), First Nations Métis Achievement Fund Committee, Pre-k -12 Strategic Framework Committee, Curriculum Renewal Committees.

Policy Work and Implementation - *Inspiring Success* policy document (Lead) including professional development to school divisions; Provincial First Nation Language Strategy (Lead); Western Northern Canadian Protocol (WNCP) Charter 2 (Lead); and, the Continuous Improvement Accountability Framework (CIF) including working with school divisions on incorporating First Nations and Métis outcomes.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

City Park Collegiate, Saskatoon, SK.

High School Teacher

Math, English, History, Wellness

2007-2010

King George Elementary School, Saskatoon, SK.
Teacher 2006-2007
English, Social Studies, Health, Wellness

Princess Alexandra Community School, Saskatoon, SK.
Teacher 2006-2007
Physical Education

EDUCATION

Master's in Education Ongoing
Aboriginal Higher Education (Ed Foundations and Curriculum)
University of Saskatchewan

Bachelor of Education 2006
With Distinction
University of Saskatchewan

Bachelor of Arts 2004
History
University of Saskatchewan

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS (AS ADVOCATE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH)

Saskatoon, SK 2017
Saskatchewan Prevention Institute Conference
Keynote Speaker

Saskatoon, SK 2017
Agency Chiefs Tribal Council; Annual Education Conference
Keynote Speaker

Ottawa, ON 2018
ISC Emergency Meeting on First Nation, Inuit and Metis, Nation Child and Family Services
Participant

Saskatoon, SK 2018
McDowell Foundation Learning from Practice Conference
Keynote Speaker

Bogota, CO 2018
Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) Hearing Sessions
Presenter and Participant

Ottawa, ON 2018
Wabano Symposium: Health Equity for Indigenous Children, Youth and Families

Workshop Presenter

Ottawa, ON

2018

Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology Hearings on Bill C-45

Panel Witness

AWARDS & CERTIFICATES

Premier's Award for Excellence in the Public Services

2016

Valedictorian, University of Saskatchewan, Education (ITEP)

Professional "A" Teaching Certificate Saskatchewan

VOLUNTEER BOARDS

Core Neighborhood Youth Co-Op (Saskatoon)

Board Member

2004-2006

Quint Development Corporation (Saskatoon)

Vice Chair/Board Member

2006-2008

Station 20 West Board of Directors (Saskatoon)

Co-Chairman

2007-2009