

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

Location/Phase: Part 2 Regina

Witness: Alana Morrison

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Add'l info: P02 P02 P0301

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Initials

I/D

Entered

53

91

# SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE SUPPORT PROGRAM

## S.A.S.P

### FOR THE COMMUNITIES OF:

Sandy Lake First Nation

Mishkeegogamang First Nation

Attawapiskat First Nation

Moose Factory First Nation

### S.A.S.P MANDATE:

- To make IMMEDIATE contact with any victim/survivor of a sexual/domestic assault and provide information on their case, provide IMMEDIATE referrals as needed, and to check the overall well-being of the complainant
  - Care for the Vulnerable
  - Care for persons "New" to the Justice System
- Provide on-going Care / Support for Survivors before, during AND after a Trial
  - Provide Education to specified Communities
  - Partner with current Victim Service Agencies



### ***SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE SUPPORT PROGRAM***

- The Survivor Assistance Support Program “S.A.S.P” was developed in 2017 by both Detective Alana MORRISON and Deputy Chief Roland MORRISON
- The concept started as a vision that Detective MORRISON had during her 16 year career in First Nation policing. She had observed a few gaps within the service delivery of care for Victims / Survivors in the Northwest Region.
- The main gap identified was the fact that officers in the busier communities lacked the time and ability to address the unique issues of our indigenous female victim (survivors) SPECIFICALLY in the Northern Communities. It was identified that once a female reports an incident it can take up to a few weeks before a referral is received and acknowledged by Victim Services (this is due to workers travelling to other communities for court and other day to day activities that cannot be helped). This process can be especially longer if a victim has no direct phone for contact, she is sent a letter for her to call a specified number. In her experience Detective MORRISON observed that once a victim was assaulted and endured a police investigation that this was the time that was more crucial for victims for obvious reasons such as confusion, not being supported by family, and being in a small community. The other gap identified was EDUCATION relating to a survivors rights and education on the law around Domestic and Sexual Assaults. Knowing that education is key, the goal here was to make sure different age groups have the basic knowledge with respect to reporting and knowing exactly what is illegal.
- The vision to address these issues was developed initially through a business proposal which then led to Alana MORRISON applying for a grant from the Ministry of Attorney General with the assistance of Deputy Chief Roland MORRISON.
- The proposal was accepted and NAPS was allotted enough funds to hire two females to pioneer this one year pilot project.
- At first, the pilot project consisted of choosing 4 out of the 34 communities that NAPS polices. Any more than that it was thought, would be too cumbersome. The four communities identified were:

**Mishkeegogamang FN**

**Sandy Lake FN**

**Moose Factory FN**

**Attawapiskat FN**

- The idea behind these four communities was to address the high volume of calls for domestics and sexual assaults and have STATS maintained to see if there is a connection between police providing added care and attention to victims right from the “get go” all the way to a (hopefully) a successful court process. STATS today indicate without victim support most

times we lose the victim and their drive to continue with their case due to long wait times for court appearances. This happens for many different reasons however, it is NAPS goal and the goal of the SASP to see if there is a direct correlation between the two.

- The program was also designed to work alongside current victim services such as NAN LEGAL and VWAP so as to enhance the court experience for the victim, be it, court prep or added police services as a case heads to trial.
- The program entails educational resources to the four communities as well. Topics for presentations include Sexual Assault, Domestic Assault, Child Abuse, Elder Abuse, Trafficking information and Healthy Relationships were the main choices for education within all four communities.
- Once all the details were figured out, two NAPS female officers were hired to roll out this program that are Supervised by its creator Detective MORRISON. Cst. Sylvia DUNN is responsible for providing the added and enhanced care for both Mishkeegomang and Sandy Lake First Nation. And Cst. Tammy GREGOIRE is responsible for both Moose Factory and Attawapiskat First Nations.
- Referrals go directly to Cst. DUNN / Cst. GREGOIRE when a victim is identified both would make immediate contact with the survivor and assesses what types of services they require. Officers are also responsible for monitoring their progress as their case travels along the court process.
- To start, this is a one year project for now, Detective MORRISON and Deputy Chief MORRISON have submitted a “concept” to the Federal Government to hopefully extend this program AND hire another officer to oversee added communities. We have yet to hear the results on that request.

What does this mean for the four (4) Communities?

- Victims / Survivors have access to a female officer that is going to provide direct education to this community to address and educate members about certain topics that are dealt with by the Detachment. The idea behind the education portion of this program is to partner with different agencies to provide this outreach.
- Victim / Survivors have added court support before and after court dates.
- Victims / Survivors have a female officer that is specifically trained in taking video / audio statements with children and young vulnerable survivors.
- Victims / Survivors have a dedicated officer to contact to provide assistance with many different resources around the topic of domestic and sexual assaults.
- And finally each of the four (4) Detachments have their own Officer dedicated to providing strong ADVOCACY within the realm of victim services.