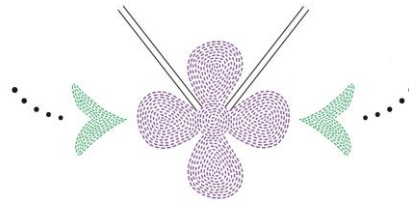


National Inquiry into
Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls



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

**National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls
Truth-Gathering Process - Part 1
Public Hearings
Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Hall
Smithers, British Columbia**



PUBLIC

Wednesday September 27, 2017

Public Volume VI:

Marlene Jack & Pius Jack, In relation to the Jack family;

**'Na Aksa Gyilak'yoo School (Kitsumkalum First Nation)
& Mob Bounce;**

**Claudia Williams & Garry Kerr,
In relation to Alberta Williams;**

Ted Morris & Laura Morris, In relation to Pauline Morris

INTERNATIONAL REPORTING INC.

II

APPEARANCES

Assembly of First Nations	Julie McGregor (Legal counsel)
Government of British Columbia	Jean Walters (Legal counsel)
Government of Canada	Anne McConville (Legal counsel)
Heiltsuk First Nation	No Appearance
Northwest Indigenous Council Society	No Appearance
Our Place - Ray Cam Co- operative Centre	No Appearance
Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada	No Appearance
Vancouver Sex Workers' Rights Collective	No Appearance
Women of Metis Nation/ Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak	No Appearance

Note: For the purpose of establishing this record of attendance, counsel are considered present whether they attended one or all of the public hearings held over the course of the day at the Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Hall (Public #1).

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1 Smithers, British Columbia
2 --- Upon commencing on Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at 9:06
3 a.m.

4 --- **OPENING CEREMONIES**

5 **MS. TERRELLYN FEARN:** Good morning,
6 everyone; could I ask everyone to come in and have a seat.

7 And maybe we could close the back doors and
8 the side doors as well. Thank you, Molly.

9 If there's anyone that finds it cold in
10 here, any of our elders or anyone, we do have a few
11 blankets so please ensure that you let one of the health
12 support workers know in the purple shirts or with the
13 purple lanyards. We'd be happy to give you a blanket.

14 I want to say good morning. (Speaking in
15 native language) Thank you, Doris. That is good morning --
16 my attempt at good morning in Wet'suwet'en.

17 I'm very grateful to the Wet'suwet'en elders
18 that are here and their patience in teaching me their
19 language, and I ask them to be gentle with me and I will
20 share. There's always room for correction. So thank you
21 for your nurturance, and kindness, and understanding, and
22 sharing with me.

23 My name is Terrellyn Fearn and I'm the
24 Director of Health and Community relations. I'm a visitor
25 to this territory. I am from Glooscap First Nation in

1 Migma'gia (phonetic), which is Nova Scotia, and I shared
2 yesterday, it's the other side of this beautiful Turtle
3 Island. So I'm happy and honoured to be here on this
4 territory to support families and survivors in this hard
5 work.

6 For the opening this morning I would like to
7 call upon Mel Basel, who's from the Gitxsan Wet'suwet'en
8 territory to do some welcoming words and provide us with a
9 song.

10 As well, I would like to ask Freda Huson to
11 come up, who's the appointed spokesperson by the clan
12 chiefs from the Unist'ot'en Nation and a water protector.

13 So I'm going to hand it over to them to open
14 and welcome us and ground us in a good way today.

15 **MR. MEL BASEL:** (Speaking in native
16 language). Good morning. Elders, families, delegates, the
17 staff of the MMIWG, all the supporting communities, I'd
18 really like to thank you all for being here together with
19 our families and our people.

20 I'd like to personally thank my family for
21 loaning me to the sacred fire outside for this week. My
22 beautiful wife and two children Melanie, Sabia (phonetic),
23 and Asias (phonetic), have allowed me to stay here
24 throughout the week to not only serve the sacred fire but
25 also your families.

1 I'd also like to thank the Dze L K'Ant
2 Friendship Centre Society and the Houston Society and other
3 staff from NSDP, Northern Society for Domestic Peace, and
4 other communities that are trained in the aboriginal
5 focussing orientation technique who are all working
6 together to provide healing while this process is ongoing.
7 You can see them. You've probably been working with them.
8 They're in the purple shirts. Thank you very much for the
9 love you're providing us all.

10 I thank the Creator for bringing us together
11 safely, the safe travels of everybody, all the five clans
12 in the Wet'suwet'en Nation. I thank the Office of the
13 Wet'suwet'en as well for closing their Chiefs office
14 meetings this week to come and support the families. It's
15 honourable of you to do so.

16 We'd like to welcome the community to Dze L
17 K'Ant territory. Dze L K'Ant territory is the foot of this
18 mountain here in the Yunkatni (phonetic) territory and
19 Gitdumden clan territory. It belongs to the cas yikh, and
20 the cas yikh is the bear house.

21 As I mentioned, I'm serving the sacred fire
22 this week along with Freda and Smogelkem (phonetic) and
23 numbers of folks who are also coming to surround the fire
24 with love, and honour, and respect. Thank you so much for
25 keeping it a warm space along with us. You are warming us

1 up and keeping us going. Thank you for coming and taking
2 part.

3 We'd also like to invite you to come out and
4 if you're looking to leave the territories within the next
5 two days please come in and accept a gift of some of the
6 sacred fire ashes. We're cooling some as it goes. It's
7 very difficult to take out some ashes. So piecemeal we are
8 taking out enough for you to take home with you to add to
9 your home fires. Please come in and welcome yourselves to
10 come and take this. And if you're going camping add it to
11 your fire hearth. Build a fire, when it goes out keep the
12 ashes. Let's keep this love that the five clans have set
13 out to provide us with the sacred fire. The five clan
14 mothers of the five clans of our nation had lit the fire on
15 Monday.

16 For those of you still joining us, that's
17 the wall tent outside that you see. There is smudge and
18 prayer. Tonight we will be adding tables outside of the
19 wall tent and the tables you can place pictures of your
20 loved ones alongside the table and you can place candles on
21 top. If you do not participate in smudge and the same kind
22 of prayers that we do, if you want to offer your own
23 prayers to the sacred fire and your own piece to the sacred
24 fire with the candles we will have that provided for you
25 before dark tonight after dinner.

1 I thank the organizers for providing such
2 good food with the local caterers. They have really,
3 really nurtured us for this week.

4 I would like to, before providing the
5 official welcome, while we're explaining some of the
6 operations that we're providing with the healing and the
7 land, and the water, I would like to hand the microphone
8 over to Freda Huson.

9 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I'm just happy to be able
10 to participate in this. And I just wanted to talk a little
11 bit about the water. I was requested to bring water from
12 the Wetsinqua, which I've been living there for the past
13 six years and was asked to bring some water here. And the
14 water we actually still can drink and it's clean year
15 round. Even in the spring it still flows clean. You could
16 see it here. It's in that green container on the bench
17 outside. And this water's still alive. All the minerals
18 are still intact. We don't have to use chlorine to purify
19 it. It's already pure.

20 And this is where our salmon spawn as well.
21 They come all the way up the Wetsinqua, which they call now
22 the Buckley, and -- the Skeena Buckley and back into the
23 Morice River with the -- and they spawn and then they swim
24 all the way back down to Lelu Island and they go into the
25 ocean and then they come back in a four year cycle.

1 So this water my family has been protecting
2 that watershed from industry destruction. So that is the
3 reason why I'm out there and wanted to share this water
4 when the water is healing. Because I shared with people
5 when I have pain in my back and it's unbearable I go put on
6 my swimsuit and go into that water and when I come out
7 again my back's not sore anymore. So that's healing water.

8 So I brought some of the healing water here
9 for people to drink, and you could even splash yourself
10 with it. So I'm happy to share that water with you, and
11 thank everybody here that's here to support the families,
12 because it was a tough day yesterday and offering up a lot
13 of prayers that will have resolve for these families and
14 have a system in place that's actually going to help our
15 people, not ignore us. Thank you.

16 **MR. MEL BASEL:** (Speaking in native
17 language).

18 I am Mel Basel. I'm born both Gitxsan and
19 Wet'suwet'en. And it is my honour on behalf of the
20 Gitdumden clan, who have welcomed you officially yesterday
21 and will officially close with you on Thursday, but I was
22 asked to come and provide an additional welcome to those
23 still joining us today.

24 Welcome to Wet'suwet'en territory, to Dze L
25 K'Ant territory. The Yinta is beautiful. The land

1 provides healing. The practitioners here can example that
2 to you that the land is very healing. It will help us deal
3 with these traumas.

4 So I invite you if you haven't -- if you're
5 one of the families, I invite you to come out to the sacred
6 fire. There are still some stones that can yet be smudged
7 and added to the sacred fire as a circle. So if you're one
8 of the families still joining us, please come out to the
9 sacred fire and add a stone to the circle and to complete
10 it and to strengthen the circle.

11 Again, please continue to provide your own
12 healing along with you, understand where healing practices
13 are in your own communities where you're living, because I
14 understand a lot of us have left our community here. So
15 going back to your home bring home fire with you please.

16 So welcome. I will provide a song. This is
17 the Gitdumden welcome song.

18 --- **OPENING SONG**

19 **MR. MEL BASEL:** (Speaking in native
20 language). Thank you for your warm hearts that you're
21 bringing to us all. That's what's going to help us do this
22 work. We're all in this together. For those of us here to
23 listen, and believe, and hear the truths, we're helping
24 absorb the traumas, and thank you for doing so.

25 Let's get back out on the land. In the

1 determinants of health land-based initiatives don't get
2 included. Landlessness is not included. It's not included
3 in the discussions of reconciliation. We need to add
4 these. Our people need healthy land and water to heal our
5 hearts and our women and children and men.

6 As was exemplified to us by the walkers from
7 Tamara's Walk there's beautiful men and women respecting
8 each other on the highway to cleanse and provide healing
9 and examples of how we should be living in our homes.

10 So bring some ashes to your homes and
11 provide healing for your children yet to come. (Speaking
12 in native language).

13 **MS. TERRELLYN FEARN:** May I ask you to just
14 stand. I'm going to ask Chief Commissioner Buller and
15 Commissioner Audette to provide a gift acknowledgement.

16 So, Freda, and Mel, may I ask you just to
17 accept that gift.

18 **(SHORT PAUSE)**

19 **MS. TERRELLYN FEARN:** So I'm also going to
20 ask at this time for Barb Sevienier, who is one of my
21 wonderful health managers on our health and community
22 relations team, to come up and do an opening welcome and a
23 prayer on behalf of the Inuit people in Inuktitut.

24 **MS. BARB SEVIGNY:** (Speaking in native
25 language). Good morning. Welcome. (Speaking in native

1 language).

2 We apologize for not having our traditional
3 oil lamp we call qu'lik. As it was mentioned yesterday,
4 our Commissioner Robinson Qajaq had lost a loved one so she
5 has the qu'lik and was not able to make it with the qu'lik.
6 So we'll improvise and I will share some opening remarks
7 and a short prayer.

8 And again thank you for welcoming us into
9 your beautiful community in Smithers; wonderful people.

10 And I'd like to say for those sharing their
11 stories throughout the day today and tomorrow that you are
12 not alone. We are all here to support you with pink
13 lanyards or pink T-shirts -- purple rather -- sorry -- I
14 like pink -- and a wonderful team.

15 And thank you to all staff of the National
16 Inquiry to help support the family members and survivors.

17 (Speaking in native language).

18 I will say a short prayer now in Inuktitut
19 if you could all please stand.

20 --- OPENING PRAYER

21 **MS. TERRELLYN FEARN:** Thank you, Barb.

22 I just have a couple of announcements before
23 we ask Chief Commissioner to come to the opening.

24 Everyone -- we are trying to provide a
25 comfortable and safe space for everyone. May I put an

1 announcement out there to ask all media that are present
2 that after the families and survivors share their story
3 that we respect their space and we respect them in their
4 space? And so when they leave this room, if they head out
5 to the fire, if they head out to the family room to sit
6 with health supports, or their family, or their other loved
7 ones, please do not follow them. Respect their space
8 please. It's in honouring of their story, their own
9 personal story, the story of their lost loved ones. Okay.
10 So may I ask that?

11 Also I want to announce that yesterday in
12 the room there was a uniformed police officer from the
13 RCMP, and we wanted to just acknowledge that he was a
14 member -- one of the Indigenous liaisons from one of the
15 local communities. And it was very nice to see the RCMP,
16 the local liaison of Smithers, leading the walkers into
17 Smithers on the first day on Monday as well as joining in
18 ceremony.

19 So I just want to acknowledge that they
20 wanted to share that they are here. Their purpose is to
21 show support for the families in what is happening.

22 We spoke to them and we all agreed that
23 sometimes it can be a little concerning to see uniformed
24 police officers in the room so we wanted to acknowledge
25 this. And we are going to be speaking with every family

1 that's going to be providing testimony and asking them if
2 they're okay with having a uniformed officer in the room
3 and it will be the family's choice to do so.

4 So I just wanted to acknowledge that so
5 everyone is aware of that.

6 At this time I'm going to call upon Chief
7 Commissioner.

8 First I want to acknowledge -- I know that
9 Mel acknowledged the local Hereditary Chiefs, and I just
10 want to send an acknowledgement on behalf of the inquiry
11 that their willingness and support to support the families
12 in their local territories is beautiful to see, and the
13 fact that they rearranged a very important chiefs meeting
14 this week to postpone it till next week to continue that
15 good work is an indication and example of leadership
16 support that is needed in the work that we do.

17 So to the local Hereditary Chiefs from the
18 different nations I want to acknowledge you and thank you
19 for that on behalf of the inquiry.

20 At this time I'm going to ask Chief
21 Commissioner Buller to provide her opening remarks.

22 **--- OPENING REMARKS BY CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER**

23 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** I'm going
24 to stand back here so I don't trip on all the beautiful
25 artifacts we have here.

1 Bonjour. Je me présente, Marion Buller, et
2 je suis la Commissaire en chef. Je vous présente avec
3 plaisir ma chère amie, la commissaire Michèle Audette.

4 Hello; I'm Marion Buller and I'm the Chief
5 Commissioner of the National Inquiry. With pleasure I
6 introduce my friend Commissioner Michèle Audette.

7 I acknowledge the spirits of the missing and
8 murdered Indigenous women and girls. I also acknowledge
9 the courage of the families and survivors and the LGBTQ2S
10 people who are with us this week. Thank you very much.

11 I also acknowledge the unceded traditional
12 and ancestral lands territories of the Wet'suwet'en people.
13 We're very happy to be here on your beautiful territory.

14 Welcome to our Smithers hearings. Bienvenue
15 à nos audiences à Smithers.

16 From Commissioner Qajaq Robinson I send a
17 message in her words, speak up and speak out.

18 Commissioner Brian Eyolfson sends his warm
19 regards and his wishes for healing and strength and courage
20 for everyone.

21 Thank you, Mel, and Freda, for starting us
22 off in a really good way this morning, and, Mel, thank you
23 and your family for the sacred fire.

24 Elders, thank you for being in the rooms
25 with us today and keeping us on the straight and narrow

1 going the right path as always.

2 This is our second day in Smithers, and
3 thank you to the City of Smithers and our MP in the area
4 Nathan Cullen for welcoming us yesterday.

5 Yesterday we heard of tremendous losses of
6 aunties, sisters and nieces, mothers and grandmothers. We
7 also heard about the invisible yet very real damage caused
8 by verbal abuse. The pain still exists here. But we also
9 heard wonderful stories of resilience and compassion and we
10 were reminded very clearly that we should never lose
11 compassion.

12 We also heard great recommendations for safe
13 transportation up here in this part of British Columbia,
14 for safe housing, and also for transition houses for women
15 and children. We also heard about the need for responsive
16 policing and we heard recommendations about the need for
17 responsive policing. We also heard recommendations for
18 improved counselling and support services for families who
19 have lost loved ones.

20 I truly hope, as does Commissioner Audette,
21 that the families and survivors who spoke to us yesterday,
22 who will speak to us today and tomorrow, find some comfort
23 in providing their stories to us, and I hope, as does
24 Commissioner Audette, they find some healing, because we're
25 very grateful for their courage, we're very grateful for

1 their sacred gifts of their stories, and we're also very
2 grateful for their clear and strong recommendations for
3 change.

4 Today we will hear of more pain, and grief,
5 and sorrow, and loss, however, those same stories of grief,
6 and sorrow, and loss, and of pain will provide us with a
7 clear path for our work, and that's to make the lives of
8 Indigenous women and girls across Canada safe.

9 Thank you all very much.

10 **MS. TERRELLYN FEARN:** Many thanks, Chief
11 Commissioner.

12 Before we proceed, I just want to welcome
13 those that are new joining us today, the families, the
14 survivors, and those that have travelled.

15 I just want to remind you that the health
16 supports are available to you in the purple shirts. Also
17 they have purple lanyards as well. And we do have our
18 elders' room. We have the sacred fire. We have our
19 private healing space as well, so if you'd like to spend
20 some time one-on-one with a therapist, a counsellor, you
21 can go to the registration table and book that time. It is
22 open and accessible to everyone.

23 I also just want to acknowledge for those of
24 you that may be watching from home, we do have our toll
25 free support line, which is 1-844-413-6649.

1 And thank you to the media outlets and the
2 reporters and journalists that have been retweeting that
3 support line information as we do all have responsibility
4 to ensure that everyone is taken care of. So please spread
5 that number far and wide. Counsellors are available 24/7
6 to receive your calls in English, French, Cree, Ojibwe and
7 Inuktitut.

8 I just want to hand the mic over quickly to
9 Elder Doris Rosso, who's going to provide some of my
10 updated information in Wet'suwet'en.

11 A reminder to the families that lunch and
12 dinner is provided to you, the families and survivors and
13 their supports over in the college in the family room.
14 Other members of the public lunch will be provided here.

15 Every night -- we heard Mel speak about the
16 feast last night. Every night there is a dinner with the
17 Commissioners and the families and survivors and their
18 supports at 6:00 p.m. over in the family room at the
19 college and beautiful traditional foods are being served,
20 and I hear tonight is moose. So I look forward to seeing
21 you all there.

22 Now, Elder Doris Rosso, so I'll hand it
23 over.

24 Oh, one other thing as well, there is a
25 public hearing -- another public hearing that's happening

1 on site over at the college in Room 122. So it is being
2 broadcast. And if anyone else would like to go and sit in
3 that public venue it's open and welcome to the public and
4 anyone as well.

5 **ELDER DORIS ROSSO:** (Speaking in native
6 language).

7 **MS. TERRELLYN FEARN:** Thank you.

8 At this time, before we start into our
9 proceedings, I would like to invite the Director of
10 Research Aimee Craft up to explain some of our sacred items
11 and our medicines that are here to support the families and
12 survivors.

13 **MS. AIMEE CRAFT:** Thank you.

14 (Speaking in native language).

15 I did this yesterday so those who are in the
16 room hearing it again you can correct me if I forget
17 anything please. That's why we're here to help each other,
18 right.

19 So there are four things that I'd like to
20 share this morning. One of them is about the blankets that
21 you see here and in some of the other rooms. These squares
22 were done by families, survivors, community members, as
23 well as women in institutions through a partnership with
24 Elizabeth Fry Society. A lot of them were done in
25 Saskatchewan. Some of them were done also in the

1 Whitehorse community hearings.

2 You can be part of making more blankets. We
3 have squares that are in the family room just across in the
4 college with everything that you need to provide your
5 message, and we encourage each of you to go and put your
6 hands on a square and help create these blankets that are
7 going to travel with the National Inquiry every place that
8 it goes in every community hearing.

9 So thank you to those who have already done
10 their blankets and we'll look forward to having many more
11 squares.

12 To speak to some of the items here, we have
13 representation of the Inuit qu'lik through images here on
14 these blankets.

15 And we have a basket here. It's called a
16 miskawaabimaag basket. It's a red willow basket. Red
17 willow is very healing. And it's from Manito Ahbee, a
18 sacred site in Manitoba. And that basket represents truth
19 gathering, the many truths, all of the work that this
20 National Inquiry is going to be doing throughout the
21 country and gathering these truths and bringing them
22 together in the work of the National Inquiry, those truths
23 that families and survivors are going to be sharing, and
24 that red cloth that lines it is to make sure that that is
25 kept safe, that those words are part of that medicine that

1 comes into that gathering process.

2 And sitting with it there are some feathers
3 that were gathered by women from Haida Gwaii who are --
4 that are to share with the families, an acknowledgement of
5 what it is that you're sharing.

6 And there's the water that sits beside that,
7 and we heard this morning about the importance of that
8 water, and other sacred items that support.

9 So if you want to know more about the basket
10 there's a banner there that describes the making of the
11 basket. And you can see the women's hands in the photo
12 making that basket. And that was a donated gift to the
13 National Inquiry.

14 We also have another banner that describes
15 the gifts of reciprocity, and this is a gift that you will
16 receive when you come and share with the National Inquiry,
17 and it's to acknowledge that gift of what it is that you're
18 sharing and to create relationship, so those seeds that are
19 here that will be part of the gift that will be shared to
20 create that relationship. And we'd love to have photos or
21 hear your stories as you work with these seeds and the life
22 that comes from working with the earth and planting those
23 seeds and to continue that relationship, because it's not
24 about sitting together for one day but creating a
25 relationship that honours women and their loved ones.

1 And we have some wild strawberries, and
2 fireweed, and things that are from each region that we
3 visit, because we don't want to introduce things that are
4 not from the regions, right. We want to honour every place
5 that we go in the way that it is and has been.

6 So those are the three things. The fourth
7 thing is artistic expression. And it's very important to
8 understand the healing power of art. That's something that
9 the National Inquiry will be talking about throughout. But
10 we have an opportunity at every hearing for people to
11 express in the form of art their story. There's a room set
12 aside for people that want to make donations. We have
13 Petra, who is our senior archivist, who is responsible for
14 artistic expressions. If you have something that you want
15 to gift, a song, a dance, a poem, whatever it is, you can
16 share that with the inquiry and we have ways of doing that.

17 Because we know that not everyone is able to
18 or wants to tell their story or is ready to tell their
19 story in the way that some of the people that have come
20 forward are able to so we want to make sure that all of
21 those ways are honoured. So if you have an artistic
22 expression you can find me, or Petra, who's sitting back
23 there -- wave, Petra -- or register at the table, we would
24 really like to hear from everyone about their way of
25 expressing their thought and story and honouring their

1 loved one.

2 And more information is on the website and,
3 as I said, on these banners. These are the seven seeds of
4 reciprocity that are described here. And we're always
5 happy to share more information about any of that.

6 So thank you for allowing me the time to
7 share a little bit about this. Miigwetch.

8 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** We'll
9 just take a short break for a few minutes to get organized
10 for our first hearing.

11 --- Upon recessing 9:42 a.m.

12 --- Upon resuming at 10:10 a.m.

13 **Hearing # 1**

14 **Witness: Marlene Jack and Pius Jack**

15 **In relation to the Jack family**

16 **Heard by Commissioner Michèle Audette**

17 **Commission Counsel: Breen Ouellette**

18 **Registrar: Bryan Zandberg**

19 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Madam Commissioner,
20 we're ready to proceed.

21 My name is Wendy van Tongeren, and I am
22 Commission counsel, one of many, and my last name is
23 spelled V-A-N, T-O-N-G-E-R-E-N.

24 And I have the privilege of being with
25 members of the Jack family and their supporters.

1 And so I would actually like to start, if it
2 is okay with the Commissioner, that everybody who is
3 present here with us I'll pass around the microphone and
4 I'll ask them to introduce themselves, including spelling
5 their names, unless it's something like Joe Smith and we
6 can all figure that out, but if it's something other than
7 that then it needs to be spelled so that we can record this
8 properly. And I'll start with Marlene Jack.

9 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Marlene Jack, M-A-R-L-E-
10 N-E. I'm ---

11 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** J-A-C-K.

12 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** J-A-C-K, yes.

13 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Perfect. Thank
14 you.

15 **CHIEF CORRINA LEWEEN:** Chief Corrina Leween
16 from the Cheslatta Carrier Nation, C-O-R-R-I-N-A, L-E-W-E-
17 E-N.

18 **MS. MAVIS BENSON:** Mavis Benson, M-A-V-I-S,
19 B-E-N-S-O-N.

20 **MS. PENNY KERRIGAN:** Penny Kerrigan, P-E-N-
21 N-Y, K-E-R-R-I-G-A-N.

22 **MS. JOCELYN KOLLER:** Jocelyn Koller, J-O-C-
23 E-L-Y-N, K-O-L-L-E-R.

24 **MR. PIUS JACK:** Pius Jack, P-I-U-S, J-A-C-K.

25 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And, Audrey, did

1 you want to introduce yourself?

2 **MS. AUDREY:** Audrey Siegl, A-U-D-R-E-Y, S-I-
3 E-G-L.

4 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Thank you.

5 **MS. AUDREY SIEGL:** Thank you.

6 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And so both Marlene
7 and Pius are the people that we anticipate speaking, at
8 least from our preparation, and so I'm asking that they be
9 affirmed. They agreed to that process. So if the
10 registrar would assist us with that we would be grateful.

11 **MARLENE JACK, AFFIRMED**

12 **PIUS JACK, AFFIRMED**

13 **MS. GLADYS RADEK:** Gladys Radek, G-L-A-D-Y-
14 S, R-A-D-E-K, support for Marlene.

15 **QUESTIONS BY MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN**

16 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And that was going
17 to be my first question. If you could just go around to
18 everyone who is here and tell us is it a family member,
19 support, or -- just so that we know why people are here,
20 because you've invited them all.

21 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes. To my right is
22 Chief Corrina Leween. She's our cousin. Mavis Benson is
23 also our cousin on both sides. Uncle Pius is my dad's
24 brother. Jocelyn is my half-sister. We both have the same
25 mom, different dads. Penny, missing and murdered inquiry.

1 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Oh, she looks
2 familiar.

3 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** And Gladys -- Gladys
4 Radek has been a strong speaker for myself and our families
5 with the missing and murdered inquiry. She's been very
6 strong for me.

7 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Yeah, for me too I
8 think, yeah.

9 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes. And Audrey I know
10 her from Vancouver, a huge support and very strong speaker.

11 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. Excellent.
12 Thank you. Good job.

13 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Did I miss anybody? No.

14 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. Well thank
15 you for being here. And you actually came from Vancouver
16 ---

17 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

18 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** --- to speak today.

19 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

20 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So where do we
21 begin? There's so much to tell, isn't there. Where would
22 you like to begin?

23 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I'll start from when
24 Doreen and I were growing up.

25 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. Great. And

1 I'm just going to say something just to put things in
2 context.

3 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

4 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Believe it or not I
5 found this on the blanket.

6 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah. I have -- yeah.

7 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** I think maybe a
8 benevolent guardian put it there for us to use.

9 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

10 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So it's a Crime
11 Stopper announcement about members of your family who went
12 missing in 1989.

13 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

14 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And it was actually
15 on August 2, 1989.

16 So I'm just going to read one paragraph that
17 gives a little bit of the background.

18 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Okay.

19 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And then we'll
20 start with your birth and your life with Doreen when you
21 were little girls, and then teenagers, and then later.

22 Because Doreen went missing, didn't she,
23 when she was 26 years old.

24 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

25 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** She was still very

1 young.

2 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yep.

3 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Ronnie Jack was her
4 common law or ---

5 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yes, common law.

6 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: And he was 26 when
7 he went missing?

8 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yes.

9 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: "Ronnie Jack met an
10 unknown male subject in the First..."

11 MS. MARLENE JACK: First Litre Pub.

12 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: "...First Litre Pub
13 on August 1st, 1989 who offered him and
14 his wife Doreen jobs at a logging camp
15 five miles past Bednesti in the Cluculz
16 Lake area. Mention was also made of a
17 daycare facility being available at the
18 logging camp site which could take
19 their two children while they worked
20 their respective jobs. Ronnie Jack was
21 offered a job bucking logs and Doreen
22 Jack as a cook's helper in the camp
23 kitchen. The four Jack family members
24 left their residence with this unknown
25 male in his vehicle..."

1 No description available of the vehicle.

2 "...at approximately 1:30 a.m. on
3 August 2nd, 1989, and were never heard
4 from or seen again. The Jacks did not
5 own their own vehicle. It appears that
6 the Jacks had every intention of
7 returning to their residence, which was
8 at 2116 Strathcona Avenue in Prince
9 George."

10 And so the poster goes on. They're seeking
11 assistance from the public if they know anything at all
12 about this, any circumstances at all that could assist the
13 police and the family to find these members of the family.

14 And so there's actually photos on this Crime
15 Stoppers poster and the pictures include Ronald Paul Jack
16 on the far left -- my left. And then that's your sister
17 Doreen Anne Jack?

18 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

19 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And she was older
20 than you were?

21 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

22 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** About three years
23 or so, was it?

24 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

25 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** You were born in

1 '66 and she was born in '63?

2 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yes.

3 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Okay. And Ryan
4 Jack, that was her son?

5 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yes.

6 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: And he was four
7 when he went missing?

8 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yes.

9 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: And then there's
10 Russell Jack, and he was nine when he went missing?

11 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

12 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Okay. So in order
13 to give credit and for people to understand the
14 comprehensive nature of this you're going to start telling
15 the whole story from the time that you were a little girl
16 with Doreen. Is that right?

17 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yes.

18 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Okay. Now, when we
19 -- we met a few times to try and figure this out, right, on
20 how to best -- so that you felt comfortable, and you were
21 assisted by me when you spoke?

22 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yes.

23 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: And so we made up
24 kind of a calendar of the years, because you were born in
25 1966, and we put some important events that you told me

1 about on that. So I'm just going to have it in front of me
2 just to be of an aid to you and to me as we do this to make
3 sure that we get it as accurate as possible.

4 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** M'hm.

5 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So I've got it
6 here.

7 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Okay.

8 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. So go ahead.
9 And if you want me to ask questions, I will, otherwise just
10 proceed, and I'll listen.

11 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Where do I start?

12 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Well, you could
13 start ---

14 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Okay.

15 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** How about -- you
16 know, if you look on here we've actually got a notation
17 from 1969 about what you called the first traumatic event
18 that you had in your family.

19 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Oh, yes, yeah. That was
20 -- we had a house (inaudible), eight kilometre mark. I was
21 small. We were all -- I remember us being at home.
22 There's Loreen, and myself, Doreen and our mom. It was
23 quiet and all of a sudden we hear these loud banging. We
24 had no idea what it was. And our mom got scared and told
25 us to hide. So us being so small we could hide in the

1 smallest areas where adults don't get into. The loud
2 noises scared me so bad that I could remember that night
3 how dark it was in the place cause we had those -- what do
4 you call those lamps that ---

5 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Kerosene?

6 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah, kerosene. They
7 burn the plastic, or the bag. Yeah, one of those. I can
8 still remember how dark it was in the place.

9 And I was hiding under the stairs. And then
10 all of a sudden the door swung open and I can hear
11 screaming, yelling, banging, and then I can hear the voices
12 leaving our place going down the road.

13 And then a half hour later maybe -- maybe
14 shorter -- I'm not sure -- somebody came back in and then
15 it was our dad. He said "I'm your dad. Come out and come
16 to your dad. Everything's okay." And I told -- I came
17 out. We were all crying, all of us kids. And I told dad
18 "Somebody's fighting mom you should go help mom."

19 After that I don't remember. Just that
20 night I remember.

21 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And you've
22 described that you were afraid so that's why you called it
23 the first traumatic event that you recall.

24 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** The first, yes.

25 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. So I'm just

1 not sure about this. Had you met your dad before that
2 night?

3 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** See, I don't remember
4 that.

5 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** I see.

6 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah, I don't remember
7 that. I just remember that night when I -- all that
8 happened. I don't know. I know I was there with my mom.
9 I guess -- I don't know. I don't remember anything before
10 and I don't remember anything after up until we went to
11 Lejac Residential School.

12 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. And that
13 started the next year in 1970?

14 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

15 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Now, did your mom
16 and dad stay together?

17 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** No.

18 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Tell us about that.

19 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I'm guessing that was my
20 mom and dad fighting that night and mom left. She went
21 back to Quesnel I'm thinking two weeks after. I'm not
22 sure. But I know we didn't have contact with her after.
23 Yeah, I don't remember her growing up with us.

24 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Did you stay in the
25 same place though, that place with the stairs where you

1 hid?

2 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yep.

3 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: And who looked
4 after you?

5 MS. MARLENE JACK: My dad.

6 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Okay. And tell us
7 about that, your dad looking after you. How did that go?

8 MS. MARLENE JACK: We had our up and downs.
9 Our dad he used to drink. I know he left us a lot of times
10 with babysitters or sometimes by ourselves. Sometimes the
11 parties they go all night and then he'd come home all
12 angry, really drunk. He used to beat on us. A lot of
13 stuff. A lot of stuff.

14 I remember the one time he shot at us, me
15 and Doreen. Loreen was hiding on top. He was drinking.

16 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: In here you said
17 that happened about 1974. Is that what you remember?

18 MS. MARLENE JACK: Somewhere around there,
19 yeah, when we were out of Lejac. Like the residential
20 school sometimes they sent you home or sometimes they kept
21 you there. And that summer they sent us and we were
22 staying in Fraser Lake just not too far from Lejac.

23 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Okay. And this
24 chart's kind of handy because I know that your sister
25 Doreen she was born three years before you.

1 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

2 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. So on this
3 chart it's handy, because I know your birthday is February
4 3rd, so that means every year you become a year older, like
5 all of us, so I look at 1974 for example, so you were eight
6 in January until you turned nine. And you had a younger
7 sister. Her name was Loreen.

8 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

9 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And she was born
10 about nine months after you.

11 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes. The same year; nine
12 months.

13 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. So she was
14 close to the same age when your dad did the shooting thing.

15 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

16 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And then Doreen
17 would have been three years older than that.

18 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

19 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Probably around 12
20 or so.

21 So how did the shooting thing come about?

22 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I don't know. He just
23 came home really angry. He started swearing at us and
24 getting all angry and kind of telling us how we were a
25 burden. I guess he saw how scared we were. We were not

1 answering him. We didn't want to listen but we had to.
2 And he got the gun and he says "Do you want me to shoot
3 you" and he had it pointing down and then he fired a shot
4 down first when he was standing there. And that's where
5 Doreen and I got scared and we started running out the back
6 door. Doreen was swinging the door open, and just as we
7 were going out the back door the bullet hit next to the
8 door frame. A bullet hit there. And I don't think we even
9 tried to walk down the stairs we just dove out. And we
10 ended up sleeping outside until our dad would allow us back
11 in or he calmed down. That was for probably the whole day
12 that day. We didn't have our shoes or jackets on. No
13 time. Just run.

14 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So what do you
15 remember about waiting outside?

16 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Cold.

17 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** It was cold, eh?

18 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Slugs.

19 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. So -- and
20 your dad's name was Charlie Edmond Jack?

21 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** M'hm. Yeah.

22 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** That's like E-D-M-
23 O-N-D, Edmond?

24 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

25 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Charlie, C-H-A-R-L-

1 I-E?

2 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yes.

3 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Great. Thanks.

4 Okay. There's something else here. Like
5 Doreen was three years older than you were. And there was
6 something about other men coming in the house.

7 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

8 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Tell us about that.

9 MS. MARLENE JACK: Well, our dad would be
10 partying or away 1:00 o'clock, 2:00 o'clock in the morning.
11 We'd have men come down and they want to have sex. They
12 tried with me and Doreen wouldn't allow it. She said "I'm
13 older you can try with me." She was too young too, and
14 they said "Is there anybody else here that I can do this
15 with" they asked. I don't even know who these guys were.

16 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Had you seen them
17 before then?

18 MS. MARLENE JACK: No.

19 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: And how often did
20 that happen?

21 MS. MARLENE JACK: Quite a bit. A lot.

22 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: And where was your
23 dad?

24 MS. MARLENE JACK: He'd be occupied
25 somewhere else. Yeah, he would be busy doing other things.

1 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And what do you
2 know about whether or not any of them actually did have sex
3 with Doreen?

4 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I don't know. I know I
5 was trying to fight them off. Like I'm small, I tried to
6 hit them, bit them, whatever I could to get them off, and
7 they just shoved me across the room. They'd give up
8 because they can't get anywhere, too small.

9 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Where were you
10 living at that time?

11 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** If I remember I think it
12 was in Fraser Lake.

13 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And were there
14 other houses around?

15 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes, there was, yeah.

16 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And do you know
17 where those guys came from?

18 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** No, I never knew any of
19 them. I don't even know what their name was.

20 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So when we spoke
21 before you put this in 1970 with the men that would come
22 and that Doreen tried to save you. And so in 1970 you were
23 four and then you turned five. And I'm just wondering how
24 long that type of behaviour lasted where you were subjected
25 to that.

1 Maybe let's go to the residential school
2 part and then that might sort of place things in your
3 memory. It might help. You started residential school in
4 1970, right?

5 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

6 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And did you leave
7 residential school because it actually was closed?

8 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah, in '76.

9 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** In '76. And you've
10 already told us that the shooting incident happened in '74.

11 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

12 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So does that help
13 at all in terms of when these events were happening with
14 the men who had been drinking coming and demanding sex?

15 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** What do you mean?

16 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Did it happen when
17 you were seven, or eight, or nine, or 10, or 11?

18 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Oh, it went on the whole
19 time.

20 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Until when?

21 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah, until after
22 residential school closed from Lejac we didn't go home we
23 went to -- Doreen went to Prince George College and Loreen
24 and I went to a group home in Prince George that was funded
25 by the federal government.

1 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. That was
2 after residential school?

3 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

4 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And so at the group
5 home you went to school did you? You went to school on a
6 daily basis?

7 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

8 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. So, you
9 know, I'm doing what they call leading, so if I -- make
10 sure if I get it wrong you correct me, okay.

11 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

12 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Like I'm just
13 trying to help, but I really do want to help, I don't want
14 you to say things or agree to things that I don't say --
15 that I say and you don't agree with.

16 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Okay.

17 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Now, Doreen left
18 school early?

19 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

20 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And why was that?

21 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** When she was in Prince
22 George College she had gotten pregnant. I believe -- I was
23 there at the time too. But when she got pregnant I didn't
24 know. I found out from one of the ladies that was -- one
25 of the supervisors that was there at the -- I forget what

1 they call them. And our dad didn't want us home because
2 Doreen was pregnant, but he did take us back after a while.

3 So during that time I asked Doreen, I said
4 "What did you do? How did you get pregnant? Why?" and she
5 said that it wasn't consensually, he pushed his way on her.
6 So, to me, I would call that rape.

7 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** You would call that
8 what?

9 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Rape.

10 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** R-A-P-E?

11 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** It was not consensual.

12 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Right.

13 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** She didn't want to do it
14 but he insisted and was persistent. And for that Russel is
15 the result.

16 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Did she tell you
17 who persisted? Who the father of the baby was?

18 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** No. No, she did say a
19 name. For her mentioning that name she got beat up for
20 that. And they said it wasn't true.

21 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. So Russell
22 was born in 1980, and that's one of the little boys that
23 went missing ---

24 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

25 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** --- in 1989 when he

1 was nine years old. He was born the same month as you, on
2 February 28th, right?

3 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

4 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. So there's
5 something else on here about the downtown eastside.

6 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah, I ended up in
7 Vancouver. After our dad passed away in 1982 Doreen and I
8 we hitchhiked to Quesnel to visit our mom and maybe like
9 she'd let us stay with her. And she was staying up in a
10 motel somewhere. We came in and me and Doreen knocked on
11 the door. We found her eventually. And then a couple
12 hours after we arrived she looked at us and kind of swore
13 at us and told us that she gave us up a long time ago and
14 she doesn't want nothing to do with us now so why did we
15 come over there and see her. She basically called us --
16 excuse me for swearing, but she called us "fucking
17 bitches", Doreen and I.

18 Doreen was devastated that our mom talked to
19 us like that and she ended up hitchhiking back to Burns
20 Lake with Russell because Russell was with us. I stayed in
21 Quesnel and I think I stayed there for five months, six
22 months, and then I ended up somehow downtown eastside
23 Vancouver and on the streets there for two years.

24 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** I just want to ask
25 you what your mom's name is just so we know.

1 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Katie Paul.

2 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Katie Paul. So K-
3 A-T-I-E?

4 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

5 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** P-A-U-L ---

6 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

7 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** --- was her last
8 name?

9 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** M'hm.

10 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. Thank you.

11 Okay. So one of the questions I asked you
12 when we were talking before is what things in your life
13 have occurred that have contributed to any vulnerabilities
14 that you might feel; in other words, that make you feel
15 that you can't always achieve what you want to achieve, you
16 can't reach your fullest potential, it feels like there's
17 obstacles in your way, and what are those things?

18 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Like I said, we were in
19 the residential school, and the way the nuns, the
20 supervisors, were treating us they always -- I don't
21 understand how they can do that. Like we were forced to go
22 to church every Sunday and we had to pray, and love thy
23 neighbours, and love whatever, but then as soon as you
24 leave the church they tell you how you should be ashamed of
25 yourself your mom gave birth to you. They would talk to us

1 like that. And always telling us how we're going to be so
2 useless. And for seven years every day I hear that. And
3 I'm guessing, I don't know, maybe I still haven't gotten
4 over those -- yeah.

5 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** The words?

6 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

7 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** The negative
8 messages to you?

9 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** You know, I feel ashamed
10 of my life.

11 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Now, there's
12 another thing that you mentioned to me that you feel
13 contributed to any feeling of vulnerability which had to do
14 with the way that men treated you. Can you tell us about
15 that?

16 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** For the way we grew up,
17 like what the men did when our dad wasn't there, it made me
18 really upset that I wasn't able to defend myself. I find
19 men disgusting and pigs because they only think about
20 themselves. That's the way I thought when I was a kid. I
21 still do. Sometimes I feel that way if I find the way men
22 whistle at women and degrade them in ways I get really
23 angry at them. Because these men would actually think that
24 a six year old can actually have intercourse, pedophiles
25 that's all they are.

1 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And did that
2 experience with men or anything like it continue when you
3 were in the downtown eastside?

4 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I would say I was raped
5 three sometimes four times a week.

6 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Tell us about that.
7 You know what, there's people who hear that
8 these things go on but they don't really know how it
9 happens. Can you give us some true insight about how that
10 happens? How can a woman like you, who deserves fairness,
11 and equality, and good treatment, be raped three times a
12 week? How did that happen?

13 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I don't know. You'd have
14 to ask the men that did the raping. I was just trying to
15 survive. I was drinking a lot to not have the pain. I was
16 always drunk. I drank pop to kill the pain of hunger. I'd
17 steal. Go in the liquor store and steal bottles of booze.
18 I'd be drunk and then I ended up with these men. They
19 figured oh yeah we're going to have a party and then end up
20 being raped. How many parks I had to crawl out of. I was
21 always alone.

22 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So it was -- when
23 you think about it, I don't think people normally sort of
24 say -- or always say "Do you want to have sex" and then
25 hear a yes. There's something else that happens sometimes.

1 So how did this happen?

2 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** They pretend to be --
3 these people that had raped me they pretended to be my
4 fiend. They said "We can just sit and talk." Because I
5 was homeless they decided that they would take advantage of
6 the situation. Sometimes I'm drunk I don't remember, but I
7 do know -- I don't know. Like I said, being in residential
8 school what they tell you every day that you'll amount to
9 nothing sort of sticks with you and then you just don't
10 care about yourself the way you should.

11 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And when you say
12 "rape" like rape is -- I'm a lawyer so I kind of know what
13 rape is from what used to be in the Criminal Code ---

14 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

15 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** --- because it was
16 -- and it's no longer in the Criminal Code. It came out in
17 1982. Now it's called sexual assault. But what rape said
18 was that every -- no male person shall basically penetrate
19 his penis in a female person who is not his wife. So rape
20 was actually legal in Canada until 1982. Now it's very
21 different. It's called sexual assault.

22 So when you used the word "rape" is that
23 what you were talking about is penetration of a penis in a
24 ---

25 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Well, that and the beat

1 ups too.

2 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Beat ups too?

3 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

4 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Tell us about that.

5 MS. MARLENE JACK: If I didn't say it was
6 okay that we would have sex and I say no and I try to leave
7 I would get beat up.

8 I know I ended up one time in a park and
9 this guy he was -- he had some alcohol. We were sitting
10 there talking. And then I said "We should get back into
11 town, downtown" and he said "No, no, no, stay here and
12 maybe we can have sex" and I said "No, I don't want to." I
13 was already drunk. And he decided that the sex was going
14 to happen so he started severely beating me. He ran over
15 me with his car. After he finished he just kicked me out
16 and reversed his car up and I was run over from the front
17 tire.

18 I think a day later from me lying there I
19 was finally able to have enough courage to get back into
20 town. I didn't seek no -- I didn't report to the police
21 because I know they're not going to do nothing and they're
22 going ask me who is this guy, do you know who he was or
23 where he is, I'm going to -- I don't remember him, I was
24 drunk too. I know the car he was driving. So I can't
25 remember his name.

1 That's what I'm saying is I don't remember a
2 lot of names. I don't -- because in residential school you
3 were not allowed to talk back to your -- yeah. So from
4 them -- me learning that I just never bothered with names
5 or anything. Faces, you were not allowed to look at them.

6 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So I understand
7 that you actually found a guy who wasn't quite so
8 disgusting that he ended up helping you quite a bit.

9 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah. I met an older guy
10 downtown on Hastings. My cousin Annette Morris introduced
11 me to him. He was -- I think he was 20 years older than
12 me. He didn't drink. I think I knew him for a year before
13 he finally let me move in with him and stay with him. And
14 he was the one that helped me get my life back on track to
15 try and make a better life for myself.

16 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And was that about
17 1985 when you were 19, 20?

18 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

19 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** You're sure? I'm
20 reading because you told me but...

21 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

22 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay.

23 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah, because I was 19
24 when I had just gotten all my I.D. back and I did a
25 driver's test and passed that year.

1 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Yeah, that's
2 fantastic.

3 And you actually had contact with Doreen at
4 this time, didn't you?

5 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

6 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Because she was
7 living nearby I think.

8 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** No. No, she was ---

9 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Or in Maple Ridge.

10 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** --- living in Prince
11 George.

12 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Oh, in Prince
13 George.

14 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

15 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Oh, I'm sorry.

16 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** And I was living in Maple
17 Ridge.

18 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Oh, that's it. I
19 thought she was in Maple Ridge. Okay.

20 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** No, I was.

21 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** You were in Maple
22 Ridge and she was in Prince George?

23 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yep.

24 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So you had occasion
25 to talk to her?

1 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

2 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: And how was your
3 relationship at that point?

4 MS. MARLENE JACK: It was good.

5 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Okay.

6 MS. MARLENE JACK: We talked sometimes two
7 hours maybe, sometimes half an hour. We always had
8 something to talk about. She'd tell me what she'd be
9 doing. Most of the time she was happy. She says "Oh, I'm
10 having my friends come over" and she'd always invite Leah
11 there. She'd talk about Leah. She'd talk about uncle and
12 aunty. She told me one time ---

13 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Uncle Pius here?

14 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yes.

15 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: M'hm.

16 MS. MARLENE JACK: She told me one time how
17 her and Pius they used to race from Burns Lake to Prince
18 George and Uncle Pius got a speeding ticket.

19 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Okay. The truth is
20 out, Uncle Pius.

21 MS. MARLENE JACK: Because Pius was ahead of
22 Doreen and yeah he got a speeding ticket and she blew the
23 horn when she drove past.

24 (LAUGHTER)

25 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: I also understand

1 that was the year that Doreen's second child Ryan was born.

2 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah, I've never met Ryan
3 myself.

4 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay.

5 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I have spoke to him on
6 the phone. He used to always call me aunty; Russell too.

7 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Now, it looks like
8 things starting looking better for you because you took a
9 number of courses.

10 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

11 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So tell us about
12 that.

13 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Okay. When I was staying
14 in Maple Ridge I took a super host bartending course. That
15 one I passed. That's the only one I passed. And that's
16 where I learned how to be -- do waitressing, or hosting, or
17 bartending.

18 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And that was in
19 '87?

20 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

21 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Well, those are
22 handy things to know even if you never go in a bar.

23 And then you took a massage course.

24 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah, I was taking -- I
25 was going to start taking a massage course. I think I did

1 five months before things started getting out of hand again
2 and never finished.

3 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Who was helping you
4 get these courses?

5 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Ron was a big contributor
6 to some of those, but -- yeah he kept on saying "you should
7 do something. You should do this. Now you have your
8 licence you can do a lot more." And that's when I started.
9 And then when I did the massage course I think I started
10 losing interest. I started drinking again.

11 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** I hope that didn't
12 have anything to do with taking the massage course. What
13 was going on that made you unhappy again?

14 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I'm thinking it was
15 because massage you have to touch other people and I don't
16 like -- like just flashbacks I guess.

17 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** I see.

18 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** That's why I never
19 finished. Just -- yeah.

20 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Were you getting
21 any counselling at that time?

22 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** No.

23 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Had you ever
24 received any counselling up to that time?

25 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** No.

1 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And so we're in
2 1988 when you -- it looks like -- it sounds like you were
3 triggered by taking this massage course and touching
4 people.

5 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** M'hm.

6 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And it was the next
7 year in August that Doreen, and Ronny, and Russel and Ryan
8 disappeared.

9 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

10 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. Now, you
11 have a daughter and her name is Brigitte.

12 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes, Brigitte.

13 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** She's got kind of a
14 Hollywood name, doesn't she?

15 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes. Brigitte A Costa
16 Lopez. I want to change it and take that A Costa off so
17 she just keeps Lopez. And when people meet Brigitte I
18 always tell them she's Jennifer Lopez's cousin.

19 **(LAUGHTER)**

20 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Between Brigitte
21 Bardot and Jennifer Lopez she's got ---

22 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah, she's famous.

23 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And I understand
24 you've had a number of health problems that have been
25 diagnosed -- inappropriately diagnosed -- mistakenly

1 diagnosed as something else.

2 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

3 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: But more recently
4 it's been properly diagnosed so you're getting proper care.
5 Is that right?

6 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

7 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Okay. And in 2007
8 you took a course for looking after elders, giving you ---

9 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

10 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: --- some ideas
11 about how to properly look after elders.

12 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yep. I didn't finish
13 that course. That -- it was homecare ---

14 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: M'hm.

15 MS. MARLENE JACK: --- and I guess -- I
16 don't know -- I had gallstones. I didn't finish the last
17 month of that course. I ended up in the hospital. That
18 was 2007 Mother's Day I was in the hospital.

19 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: You probably get a
20 decent meal there, did you, for Mother's Day?

21 MS. MARLENE JACK: No.

22 (LAUGHTER)

23 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: That's too bad.

24 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah. No, I think I got
25 gooey fries from that restaurant in the mall.

1 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Oh, I see.

2 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

3 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: So you're 52 today?

4 MS. MARLENE JACK: No.

5 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: How old are you?

6 MS. MARLENE JACK: Experienced.

7 (LAUGHTER)

8 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Sorry, I should
9 have kept that for the in-camera hearing.

10 Any other things that you'd like to -- like
11 I've got some other note of things here but I don't know if
12 they're relevant or if you want to talk about it.

13 MS. MARLENE JACK: I was -- in 1986 I was
14 staying in Maple Ridge and I had a lot of pain in my
15 joints. The doctor diagnosed me with having rheumatoid
16 arthritis, so all those years I was treating rheumatoid
17 arthritis. In 2012 when I was in a course, a culinary arts
18 program in Vancouver, I kept on going to the doctor and
19 tell her because I had so much pain, and I said "You need
20 to give me something stronger" and she got tired of me
21 asking her too many times so she sent me to a specialist,
22 because I told her I had rheumatoid arthritis, and it
23 turned out that that was not the case, I never had
24 rheumatoid arthritis, it was SLE. In short it's lupus that
25 I had and I was treating rheumatoid arthritis, so during

1 the years I guess treating the wrong disease it just -- too
2 late to fix the wrongs. And that's where I ended up in the
3 hospital when I had those gallstones.

4 So 2012 I found out that I had lupus I had
5 to go to Quesnel for my mom's funeral.

6 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And your dad is
7 also diseased?

8 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

9 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. So you've
10 told us some things that contributed to any feelings of
11 vulnerability that you have. And what -- did you ever talk
12 to Doreen about how she felt about life, and what was going
13 on for her, and what are some of the things that
14 contributed to her being happy or contributed to her being
15 vulnerable? What do you know about that from talking to
16 her and making observation?

17 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** It's the stuff that
18 Doreen and I went through when we were small growing up. I
19 know that bothered her a lot. She did tell me a few times
20 that -- how all of our lives we were F'd up. Like I can't
21 -- she felt pretty much the same way I did. She just never
22 showed it. She hid hers really well.

23 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. And what
24 about -- what can you say about her relationship with
25 Ronny? How was that going?

1 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I know -- Doreen has told
2 me a couple of times, and I have experienced it myself,
3 that she was abused in her relationship.

4 That one time Doreen and I were talking, we
5 were drinking at a rodeo grounds just outside of Burns
6 Lake, and me and Doreen were sitting there talking, bonding
7 as sisters, and we were laughing away, and then all of a
8 sudden I got punched across the -- like just punched out.
9 I couldn't -- I didn't even feel the punch I was that
10 drunk. Anyway, I looked up and then I saw Ronnie beating
11 up on Doreen. And then Doreen she wasn't even crying, or
12 screaming, or nothing, she just was protecting herself.

13 And the Bert (phonetic) boys were there,
14 like Robert, and Ken, and Jack Bert were there. Dad was --
15 yeah, so anyway, the Bert boys stopped Ronnie from beating
16 up Doreen and I guess the Bert boys beat Ronnie up and told
17 him that he can't be touching women.

18 While they were fighting, Doreen and I ran
19 away, and it shocked me because she just started laughing
20 and she goes "I wonder got into Ronnie, why he did that"
21 and I said "Why did he punch me? What did I do?" and we
22 didn't understand. That's the first time I know Ronnie was
23 beating up on Doreen if she did something wrong.

24 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And was it the
25 first and only time, or what do you know about that?

1 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I know I have -- because
2 I left -- after dad had passed away I left and the only
3 contact I had was with Doreen over the phone. I was never
4 there. I was always talking to her on the phone, and she
5 told me that he would beat her up if she said or did
6 something wrong. So she was really careful on what she
7 did.

8 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And there was some
9 information you received about the managing of the finances
10 in the home. Do you remember that that you told me about?

11 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah, they didn't have a
12 lot of money. I'm guessing they were on social assistance.
13 So one of my cousin's Karina told me Doreen was stealing
14 medicine for her boys because they had a cold and she saw
15 her doing that. So Doreen didn't have any money with her
16 all the time. It was financed -- I guess Ronnie took care
17 of everything.

18 So I know -- we grew up, so we done it long
19 before. Our dad, uncle, never knew about it. We used to
20 steal all the time. Yeah, not the first time.

21 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Was Doreen working
22 outside the home at any time to have her own income?

23 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** No, I don't think, no.

24 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. Was she
25 getting any allowance from anywhere?

1 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** She was on social
2 assistance I believe.

3 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And Ronnie?

4 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I'm not sure.

5 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay.

6 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** She -- yeah.

7 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Can you look
8 between -- look over the head of the women in the red
9 sweater?

10 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

11 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** And what do you
12 see?

13 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I see a picture of the
14 Jack family. Doreen is on the left; Ryan is the baby in
15 the middle; Russell is on the bottom front and Ronald Jack
16 on the right.

17 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Can you recognize,
18 from what you see there, approximately when that would have
19 been taken as a photo?

20 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** To me, right there looks
21 like -- cause Ryan looks only one or two, eh -- one year
22 old. He was born -- that would be in '86 probably.

23 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Good. Okay. And
24 then we've got some other pictures. And I'm just going to
25 give one copy to the Commissioner. So I'm afraid our

1 version is black and white but I think it does the trick.
2 Okay. So there's four pictures. And this looks like the
3 same one, right?

4 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yes.

5 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Okay. Actually
6 they are the same I believe.

7 I think we have all four of these up here
8 but I don't know technically whether they can be shown.

9 MS. MARLENE JACK: That one is ---

10 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Oh, there you go.

11 So here's the little guy.

12 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

13 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Do you know which
14 one this is?

15 MS. MARLENE JACK: This one is Ryan.

16 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Ryan. Okay. Born
17 in '85. So he looks probably again just a toddler at that
18 point.

19 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

20 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: So it's probably
21 around '86 or so.

22 MS. MARLENE JACK: M'hm.

23 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: And this is

24 Russell, the next picture?

25 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yes, Russell.

1 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah. That was --
2 actually, that was us at the residential school.

3 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Oh, was it?

4 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah. Doreen is the one
5 in the arm brace; Loreen, my younger sister, is in the
6 front, and me trying to hide behind her.

7 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. So why
8 didn't you want that shown?

9 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** That shocked me. I
10 didn't ---

11 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Oh, I see. But you
12 sent it to me.

13 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I was looking at this and
14 I saw that is why.

15 **(LAUGHTER)**

16 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** That was at Lejac
17 Residential School. That year Doreen she was in the Lejac
18 band, she was playing the clarinet, or whatever that thing,
19 and they left Lejac to go play somewhere and she fell off
20 the top bunk and broke her collarbone. That was when that
21 photo was.

22 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So I'm expecting
23 that there's this picture on there too but maybe we
24 shouldn't take a risk.

25 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

1 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Who knows what we
2 might find.

3 (LAUGHTER)

4 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: But I have a
5 picture here of Doreen.

6 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

7 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: And she doesn't
8 look that great there.

9 MS. MARLENE JACK: No.

10 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: And, you know, who
11 knows, there are days we don't feel great.

12 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

13 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: But when -- can you
14 recognize, in terms of like her hairstyle and glasses, when
15 that might have been?

16 MS. MARLENE JACK: I don't.

17 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Okay. And then
18 there's the poster.

19 MS. MARLENE JACK: Yeah.

20 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: I'll give you that.

21 MS. MARLENE JACK: This -- yeah.

22 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: And so I've just
23 given Madam Commissioner a copy of that.

24 And so similarly that's just pictures of the
25 family again.

1 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah. This is a photo I
2 received from -- I had a meeting with E-PANA yesterday and
3 he had this photo and I asked him if I can have a copy and
4 it's a photo of Ronnie, Doreen, Ryan and Russell.

5 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay.

6 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I should have got it in
7 colour, to be honest. It doesn't cost that much for
8 colour.

9 So I never had photos of Doreen while we
10 were growing up. Anything we had got lost after our dad
11 passed away. So I never had any.

12 And I would like to thank Mabel Jack for
13 producing all these photos that the police have. Mabel
14 Jack is Ronnie's mom. Thank you for her to submit these
15 photos. I wouldn't have a copy if it wasn't for her.

16 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. Thank you
17 for thanking her.

18 I know that there's volunteer work that you
19 do. Do you still do that? Are you still doing it in
20 recent years?

21 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes.

22 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** In Vancouver?

23 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

24 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So what type of
25 volunteer work is that?

1 downtown eastside because I was down there a lot of years
2 so I knew a lot of people. I asked around, watch for them.
3 I phoned the police to try and get information. They
4 didn't give me that much then so I left it.

5 A few years later I phoned back again and I
6 said "Doreen is my sister. I need to know what's going
7 on." So he did give me some information but also told me
8 that if in any way with the information that they have
9 provided me talk to the media about that they will cut me
10 off of all information that they have about Doreen's case
11 and will only be talking with Mabel Jack about Doreen's
12 case.

13 I got afraid then and I didn't -- like I had
14 media trying to ask me for an interview and I was afraid to
15 talk because I needed to stay in touch with Doreen's case.
16 For the longest time I was like that. And I kept phoning
17 and they did give me some information.

18 So it was up until I met Gladys -- Gladys
19 Radek and Bernie -- they were very strong -- and Gladys
20 told me I should speak for Doreen and tell what's going on,
21 and I said "No, no, no, I can't talk" and she said "Why?"
22 So I told her what the officer had told me and Gladys said
23 "No, you need to talk. You cannot hide. They can't get
24 away with what they're doing. So what if they cut you off;
25 there's other ways you can find out." Gladys helped me a

1 lot with keeping me speaking about Doreen and need to know
2 about her.

3 They tell me the same thing every year,
4 they're still investigating her case they're still looking
5 at tips that were phoned in, the same thing.

6 I just recently phoned them and they had
7 lost my contact information so I have to redo everything
8 all over.

9 Allison, another officer I met when they had
10 the B.C. gathering in Prince George, she told me a lot more
11 than what I have been getting on the phone.

12 And this is like really hard because I was
13 not there -- I was not living in my community -- to be my
14 sister's -- my family's side.

15 We were in residential school and we were
16 not allowed to bond as family members. I'd be sitting in
17 the same room and if we talked to each other in our -- if
18 we're in the same room and we're talking to each other and
19 bonding as family the nuns would grab us by our ear or
20 something and pull us apart and tell us that's not
21 permitted, really scold us and tell that you're not allowed
22 to do that here. So for us sisters knowing this we were
23 not close.

24 I don't talk to my sister Loreen anymore.
25 We never did since we left residential school. Doreen we

1 talked on the phone, but being in the same room we remember
2 when we were in -- well you're not allowed to bond. I
3 guess we talked better on the phone then we did when we saw
4 each other.

5 Those things they would say were the main
6 contributing factors for us girls growing up the way we
7 did.

8 Our dad he was a good guy. He wasn't
9 drinking all the time. But when he did it was never good.
10 He was very strict and very mean. But us being kids at the
11 time we never understood. Now that I'm older and I think
12 about the things -- the reasons why he did and I could say
13 I pretty much could understand where he was coming from
14 looking after his daughters. Like he could have given us
15 away to somebody else when our mom left but he kept us. He
16 did show us love in his way, what he knew. I know -- I'm
17 pretty sure he was at Lejac school too.

18 I'm trying. I have my daughter. Like I
19 didn't want her to grow up the way I did. We were
20 homeless. People called us hobos all the time because we
21 never had a place. My daughter I don't want her to grow up
22 the way I did.

23 And I know I am racist in some ways. This
24 is what I learned. And she's a constant reminder to me
25 that she's --- like if I get out of hand she stops me and

1 tell me "Mom, that's racist." She'll always, always be a
2 constant reminder. I can say like -- I don't know. I know
3 what I know. What they taught me doesn't go away. I try
4 hard. I haven't drank for a year and a half.

5 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Do you think we
6 should give Uncle Pius a chance?

7 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah, uncle needs to
8 talk.

9 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So, Pius, there
10 were some things that you specifically wanted to tell the
11 Commissioners about the situation with the missing
12 relatives.

13 **MR. PIUS JACK:** Yeah, I have three comments
14 to make regarding the missing family.

15 First of all, I read in the newspaper back
16 in 1989 a police officer or an investigator went to look
17 for the Jack family. I don't know how long it took before
18 he came back and made a report and sent it to the Prince
19 George Citizen or at that time The Free Press. What I'd
20 like to know is what he said they were found and they found
21 a job and they didn't want to be found. I'd like to know
22 why he said that, they didn't want to be found. I'm not
23 saying that he is involved in it but it's just a comment
24 that I'm making, why did he say that. And to this day I
25 still never get that answer.

1 And the second comment I'm going to make is
2 just the other night I got a phone call from my daughter
3 into the disappearance. I guess they phoned the Vanderhoof
4 Police Department or the investigator. They said the
5 family is buried between Vanderhoof and Stoney Creek.
6 There's a farm between there and a lone house or a barn.
7 Now, the investigators or the RCMP went to that location
8 and they searched. It was the right location but they
9 looked in the wrong area. From what my daughter told me,
10 they said they're buried along the fence line not around
11 the building. Now, I'm hoping if the word gets back out to
12 the investigators go back and search the area along the
13 fence line and then I'm hoping that they'll be found.

14 And my third comment, back in June or July I
15 received a letter in my mailbox to one of the oldest boys
16 Russell, Russel Fabian Jack. It was from the health
17 department to renew his health insurance. Why did they
18 send it to me in my mailbox? Because I don't give out my
19 mailbox number or my address to anyone except when I'm
20 filling out the government papers.

21 And I told my niece here Marlene about it.
22 And my oldest daughter scanned the paper and sent it to her
23 -- Marlene. And she made a few phone calls down to the
24 lower mainland to the health department, and what they told
25 her, and she told me, they made a mistake. Why you make a

1 mistake if they send me a letter to Russell in my mailbox?

2 All those questions I need it to be
3 answered.

4 That's all.

5 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Pius, thank you
6 very much for being here today.

7 Madam Commissioner, those are all the
8 questions that I have, and you may have questions.

9 **QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:**

10 **LE COMMISSAIRE MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci
11 beaucoup, Maître Wendy.

12 I'll start by saying thank you. I have to
13 keep my emotion. I have to breath. Because it was -- I
14 thought I knew you but there's a new woman sitting in front
15 of me. So next time that I'll see your text messaging or
16 when I'll see you in Vancouver I'll be very honoured. I am
17 honoured to be in the same room with you right now at this
18 moment.

19 I have a question; E-PANA -- is that what we
20 say in English, E-PANA? Did you -- how come they just --
21 when did the first time approach you about your family?

22 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** I think they approached -
23 - Freda asked me -- Freda Ens, the victim service worker.
24 The first time I was aware of E-PANA was when they did the
25 press release out in Surrey. Mavis and I went to that one.

1 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** In 2012 ---

2 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

3 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** --- 2013?

4 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah. And then that's
5 when I asked them about the Jack family because of Bobby
6 Jack Fowler. So that was the first time I met them. And I
7 believe it was yesterday Freda asked me if I wanted to meet
8 with E-PANA to go over the case of what they have. And I
9 was interested. I wanted my whole family there. It turned
10 out just Mavis and I met with them yesterday. And they
11 told me pretty much all yeah the same.

12 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** I'll try to
13 make sure I understand. The first time you heard about and
14 met with them it was around 2013?

15 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** They did -- yeah, the
16 first time when they did the press release about Bobby Jack
17 Fowler, they found DNA evidence that ---

18 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** M'hm.

19 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** --- he was -- that was
20 the first time they did that press release in Surrey.

21 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** That was
22 around there. And it's in 2017 that the first official
23 contact was made?

24 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yesterday.

25 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Yesterday.

1 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

2 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** I hope -- I'm
3 sure they're listening. I hope this is not the end, that
4 the communication will stay ---

5 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yeah.

6 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** --- with you
7 and your family. I strongly hope.

8 And what would they say -- what did they say
9 yesterday when they met with you?

10 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** What did they say?

11 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** To you.

12 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Freda asked if I could
13 meet with them. What they -- they talked about the case
14 and pretty much did the highlights of the case where I
15 think it was all the information I had pretty much. There
16 were a couple of new names in there. And with all the
17 interviews and stuff they have done in regards to Doreen's
18 case a lot of them were -- how is it -- they said they were
19 ruled out, yeah.

20 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** What is ruled
21 out?

22 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** It means after their
23 interrogation and their lie detector tests and all that
24 they passed and they were ruled out, yeah.

25 **LE COMMISSAIRE MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci

1 beaucoup.

2 And before -- my last question is I know you
3 and your uncle I'm sure -- I don't want to put words in
4 your mouth, but the three questions that your uncle raised
5 or shared to us do you feel the same that -- do you have
6 the same questions that he does?

7 **MS. MARLENE JACK:** Yes. Yeah, I did see the
8 newspaper clipping where they said that Jack family was
9 found and they didn't want to be found or something. I did
10 see that.

11 E-PANA touched on that a bit yesterday and
12 they said it was miscommunication on the RCMP's behalf
13 because the location of one witness was not there to
14 confirm the information so they just went ahead and put
15 that through.

16 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** For your
17 uncle, I'm sure the RCMP heard your question. We're in a
18 public hearing. And I'm sure there is big oreille we say
19 in French who are listening. And you deserve those
20 answers. And of course among the Commission counsel and
21 the Commissioners we'll have a discussion and -- because
22 it's in my book because I'll bring this book to have those
23 what do we do on our end.

24 And for Canada, who is listening right now,
25 and I'm sure around the world, because Gladys made that

1 sure with the walk, and you, Bernie, but also for the
2 Indigenous women across Canada who is listening, this
3 inquiry we have the name National Inquiry for the Missing
4 and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, yes, it's
5 something you push for many years but it's also about the
6 systemic cause, the violence, and violence is huge, huge.

7 You know, your message, your truth, your
8 testimony, is showing that the moment that you were born
9 until today that system failed you, or the family, or
10 residential school, colonisation we say in French -- in
11 English I don't know how we say that -- colonization.

12 So when I say I thought I knew you, I know
13 you're strong but now it's -- if I feel weak I know who to
14 call. I know who to call because you have a strength that
15 many of us is still searching. And I hope that you're
16 opening doors for other women across Canada to say if
17 Marlene was able to do it I want to do it, in a private
18 healing circle, or public. But there's an inquiry and
19 you're making history today with us. I'm honoured. Merci
20 beaucoup. Very honoured.

21 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** If that is the end
22 of the communication part then another form of
23 communication in terms of gifts.

24 **LE COMMISSAIRE MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Oui.

25 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Thank you.

1 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** So I want to
2 ask -- I'm blessed again. I have beautiful elders with me.
3 Alors Madam Rosso et Bernie. We have a grandmother. She's
4 still young that's why. She's not old yet. She's missing
5 some wisdom maybe. She's got lots. Okay. You know
6 English sometimes and French.

7 **(LAUGHTER)**

8 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Thank you so
9 much all of you for being there, and we stay in touch.

10 **(SHORT PAUSE)**

11 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** While we're
12 doing this -- this is not my territory, as you know. First
13 my accent, you can tell. I'm from the Eno territory. And
14 a year ago I was introduced to Marlene and her daughter and
15 of course on behalf of the National Inquiry. So a few
16 months ago she asked me to come in Vancouver. So I went.
17 And she said "I have a special gift for you". And it's
18 this that she made, first hat.

19 **(SHORT PAUSE)**

20 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** I'm looking at the
21 schedule and I actually need to be at another location.
22 And there is a family that is scheduled to be here at 11:00
23 o'clock in this room. We'll proceed. Thank you.

24 There will be a fifteen minute break so that
25 the parties can get to the appropriate rooms that they need

1 to be. Thank you. So that means about 10 to 12:00 we'll
2 reconvene.

3 --- Exhibits (code: P1P020201)

4 **Exhibit 1:** Digital colour photo depicting the missing
5 Jack family (Ronald, Doreen, Ryan and
6 Russell Jack).

7 **Exhibit 2:** Digital colour photo of Prince George
8 Crimestoppers poster of missing Jack family
9 announcing \$2000 reward for information.

10 **Exhibit 3:** Digital copy of photo of young woman with
11 dark hair, glasses, white sweatshirt and
12 eyes half open.

13 **Exhibit 4:** Digital copy of photo of smiling baby in a
14 bathtub.

15 **Exhibit 5:** Digital copy of photo of male child in what
16 appears to be a leather jacket.

17 **Exhibit 6:** Digital copy of photo of three young
18 children standing in a field.

19 **Exhibit 7:** Digital copy of photo of young man in white
20 t-shirt and brown-and-black Browning ball
21 cap.

22 --- Upon recessing at 11:41 a.m.

23 **Hearing # 2 (Artistic Expression Panel)**

24 **'Na Aksa Gyilak'yoo School (Kitsumkalum First Nation) & Mob**

25 **Bounce**

1 **Heard by: Commissioner Michèle Audette**

2 **Organized by: Aimée Craft (Director of Research)**

3 **Registrar: Bryan Zandberg**

4 --- Upon resuming at 1:33 p.m.

5 **MS. TERRELLYN FEARN:** Good afternoon,
6 everyone.

7 Could I get the doors -- the side doors and
8 the back door closed. We're going to get started.

9 So please come in and find a seat. Just a
10 reminder to everyone that cellphones -- please put your
11 cellphones on vibrate or silent.

12 Could I ask one of the health supports to
13 close the door in the back please? Thank you.

14 I'll ask everyone to have a seat if you want
15 to be more comfortable.

16 At this time I'm going to introduce our
17 Director of Research Aimee Craft. We're very excited to
18 have an opportunity to have an artistic expression. And
19 I'm going to hand it over to Aimee Craft to explain what's
20 going to be happening over the next little while.

21 **MS. AIMEE CRAFT:** Thank you, Terrellyn.

22 I am so excited. We're so thankful to have
23 these young people here today that are going to I think
24 inspire you, because they inspired me. I shared with them
25 earlier that they were a huge inspiration when I joined the

1 National Inquiry, and I thanked them, I raised my hands to
2 them for the work that they do. And they're going to share
3 a little bit with you about what it is that they have put
4 together, but they're going to show you, which is just
5 really beautiful.

6 So these are youth from Kitsumkalum, and the
7 school -- and their principal Colleen Austin is here and is
8 going to introduce each of these students, but they're
9 going to start with a prayer song today. No need to stop
10 recording. You can continue recording. And we'll hear
11 from them. And I'm just so excited. Have I said that
12 already? Yes. Okay. So thank you. Miigwetch.

13 --- **ARTISTIC EXPRESSION PRESENTATION**

14 **MS. BIILTS'IK COLLEEN AUSTIN:** (Introduces
15 children)

16 I'm the principal of 'Na Aksa Gyilak'yoo
17 School in Kitsumkalum. And I, a few years ago, completed
18 my Masters of Education in Indigenous Language
19 Revitalization at the University of Victoria, and during my
20 research for my thesis this song, this prayer song, came to
21 me in a dream. And it is a law -- the law -- number one
22 law of the Tsimshian territory, the law of respect, the law
23 of klomps (phonetic). And in the song "The Highway", which
24 the students here wrote, they included some of the klomps,
25 some of the iyow (phonetic) in that.

1 their inspiration is for the video, and they're each take
2 an opportunity to share a few words.

3 **MS. BIILTS'IK COLLEEN AUSTIN:** It is an
4 honour to be here with you this afternoon. We travelled
5 from Terrace this morning. We left the clouds behind. And
6 we're here in this beautiful sunshine in Smithers among
7 people who we know love us, as I hope that you will know we
8 love you too.

9 The youth who are here in front of you today
10 are, in my opinion, extraordinary. I'm sure their parents
11 and grandparents will agree. They have worked very hard to
12 bring a message to the world with their song, one that was
13 started with many of you here today and people who are not
14 here with us today who started the journey -- this journey
15 of understanding and of hope for all of the men, women,
16 boys and girls who have gone missing or have been murdered.

17 We are a small school but our message is
18 very strong. The youth have stepped forward. They have
19 all taken time out of their school day today to be here. I
20 know many of them are nervous to speak. But in preparation
21 for today they took some time with -- apart from all their
22 homework that they had to do to write a few words about the
23 song phrases that they wrote and they have also decided to
24 share with you some of the way that they feel about this.

25 I'm going to pass the microphone down the

1 line. So there will be some students who might not feel
2 comfortable to speak immediately but we'd like to be able
3 to give them an opportunity once their colleagues have sort
4 of filled the air and the energy in here with their youth
5 and with their words, because they might feel more inspired
6 and less nervous. So I'd like to give them a chance to
7 give the mic back to them.

8 And then we'll close off with Melynee
9 McDames, who is going to -- who's our grade 12 student.
10 She's going to be graduating this year. And she will have
11 a little more insight about her experience and what this
12 all means to her.

13 But we are deeply honoured to be invited
14 here today and to be among you.

15 I wanted to mention that we have our
16 cultural advisor from the school (speaking in native
17 language) Larry Derrick, and he has travelled with us today
18 as well as some chaperones and our bus driver who we're
19 very grateful for getting us here safely today.

20 So I'll pass the mic onto Annalee first.
21 And they will introduce themselves. (Speaking in native
22 language).

23 **MISS ANNALEE PARKER:** (Speaking in native
24 language). I am a grade 10 student at 'Na Aksa Gyilak'yoo
25 School in Kitsumkalum near Terrace B.C. (Speaking in

1 native language). My name is Annalee Parker. My crest is
2 the killer whale. I'm from Kitsumkalum and I live in
3 Kitsumkalum. I'm happy to see you all today.

4 **MISS MADISON SEYMOUR:** (Speaking in native
5 language). Good day everyone. My name is Madison Seymour.
6 I belong to the killer whale clan. I am originally from
7 Prince George, British Columbia, but I now live in Terrace,
8 British Columbia. Thank you.

9 **MISS MEGAN CHRISTIANSEN:** (Speaking in
10 native language). I am a grade 10 student at 'N Aksa
11 Gyilak'yoo School in Kitsumkalum near Terrace, B.C.
12 (Speaking in native language). My name is Megan
13 Christianson. My crest is raven. I am from Kitsumkalum
14 and I live in Kitsumkalum.

15 **MR. ELIJAH STEPHENS:** (Speaking in native
16 language). Good day, everyone. My name is Elijah
17 Stephens. I am a grade 11 student at 'N Aksa Gyilak'yoo
18 School in Kitsumkalum near Terrace, B.C. My traditional
19 name is grey eyed raven. My crest is a frog. I am from
20 Greenville, the Nisga'a Nation. I live in Terrace, B.C.
21 I'm happy to see you all here today.

22 **MISS ALYSON GUNO:** Alyson Guno. I am a
23 grade eight student at 'Na Aksa Gyilak'yoo in Kitsumkalum
24 near Terrace, B.C. Mehi Duwayu (phonetic), my traditional
25 name. (Speaking in native language). I live in

1 Annalee to speak to the Commissioner and to the
2 grandmothers about what they've written. Thank you.

3 **MISS ANNALEE PARKER:** The message I'm trying
4 to send through my work is that it's never safe to
5 hitchhike and that hitchhiking is definitely not worth
6 anything in this whole wide universe. Hitchhiking is super
7 dangerous and I really want to keep as many people safe as
8 possible.

9 I also wanted to attempt to bring as much
10 support and comfort to the families who have lost loved
11 ones to this highway. I may never understand how painful
12 it is but I want to extend my hand to those who need extra
13 support.

14 This is important because this issue needs a
15 lot of awareness brought to it so that we can stop it from
16 happening more than it is. We have to use our voices and
17 sing as loud as we can so that we are heard and so that we
18 can fight this problem.

19 **MISS MADISON SEYMOUR:** Good evening,
20 everyone. My name is Madison Seymour. I live in Terrace.
21 And I'm here today to talk about the highway, more
22 specifically my part and how we use the internet to get the
23 word out on hitchhiking and the dangers.

24 Today was my last performance with the group
25 because I'm in a different school now and I have a very

1 tight schedule. I'm going to miss all of the lessons we
2 got at NAGK, especially about respect.

3 My part is specifically about respect.
4 Growing up I never really got to see my biological mother,
5 but my grandmother, my mom -- sorry -- taught me and had
6 very high standards on respect. She often told me that you
7 have to have respect for yourself before you can expect
8 others to show respect for you. This is also what 'Na Aksa
9 Gyilak'yoo is built on, respect.

10 As for the healing tribe lyrics in my part,
11 that means that we will fight together and against not only
12 the Highway of Tears but drugs and alcohol. Drugs and
13 alcohol is something that is very common nowadays and that
14 can tear a family apart. I use the healing tribe to
15 describe this because we are a strong nation and we can
16 fight through anything, whether that's fighting against
17 pipelines, fighting to keep our culture, or fighting
18 against stereotyping of First Nations people. It may seem
19 hard but we will stand tall and together to stay strong in
20 our culture.

21 (Speaking in native language). Thank you
22 for listening to what I have to say. (Speaking in native
23 language).

24 **MR. ELIJAH STEPHENS:** I had wrote my part of
25 the song "The Highway" because I was told about the project

1 from my principal and was offered a role to play in it.
2 Although that may be a very bland and dull reason I still
3 wrote my verse with heart and meaning not just the first
4 thing that rhymed in my head.

5 My verse starts a bit off topic from the
6 song. It starts with a personal problem I have and tells
7 about how bad it was in the past. These are issues with my
8 anger management.

9 The second sentence is a reference of how
10 First Nations people were treated by the Europeans and how
11 bad it was.

12 The next sentence talks about the hard time
13 I had, specifically before I got to 'Na Aksa Gyilak'yoo but
14 after I moved to Terrace. At that time there wasn't any
15 exploration of my culture in the schools that were in town.
16 Whereas with 'Na Aksa Gyilak'yoo they are very amazing and
17 revitalizing the culture that was almost lost.

18 Finally, the last sentence refers to how
19 little to nothing has been done about the Highway of Tears
20 regarding the government. Nothing has been done to solve
21 the cases of missing and murdered men and women along
22 Highway 16 and nothing has been done to help families
23 affected by these missing and murdered people.

24 My hopes for the song is that it and the
25 problem it represents will rise to a national level and

1 problems dealt with.

2 (Speaking in native language). See you all
3 later. Thank you, everyone.

4 **MISS ALYSON GUNO:** Good afternoon. My name
5 is Alyson Guno. I am on the youth council. I am here
6 today to explain why we made "The Highway", to raise
7 awareness for those who have gone missing and murdered.

8 Along the Highway of Tears there is a lot of
9 Aboriginal women out there that experience violence every
10 day and that are missing from along Highway 16. This 720
11 kilometre stretch runs from Prince George to Prince Rupert.
12 These women have gone missing since 1969. And about 19
13 women have disappeared over five decades. The exact number
14 of women who have disappeared or have murdered along
15 Highway 16 is disputed. And I feel that it's important
16 that the families are not forgotten and feel that they need
17 justice and closure. Thank you.

18 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** The message that we
19 are trying to send in our video "The Highway" is about
20 murdered and missing women who walked on this one certain
21 highway called Highway 16. Women and men have gone missing
22 when walking on this highway. I think this is important
23 because I have family members, Lana Derrick and Rebecca
24 Guno have gone missing. Lana went missing on Highway 16.
25 My mother Caroline had her friend Tamara went missing.

1 Tamara Chipman went missing on Highway 16. I would not
2 like to hear more people go missing on Highway 16.

3 See you all later. Thank you, everyone.

4 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** When I wrote my part
5 on "The Highway" song I was a new student at 'Na Aksa
6 Gyilak'yoo School. In my part, as seen on the video, it
7 showed in the background a school. That school was my old
8 school where it all started. I thought I really never had
9 a choice on who I was going to be and what I was going to
10 do in the public schools and I was always in situations
11 that I couldn't get out of. This is really difficult for
12 me to write down and put my lyrics into the song. I wasn't
13 so happy when I went back to do my part there but I felt
14 like I should do it there to show where it all started.

15 When they told us about the theme of the
16 song I really didn't know how to relate to them, to the
17 highway, till I started thinking on what was going through
18 my mind during this situation, what was going through my
19 mind when this was happening. That's when I started
20 relating myself to the highway and to the song.

21 After I put all my feelings down on paper
22 and we finished the song we all ended up breaking down and
23 crying because we're putting our voices out there, we're
24 standing up for what we are trying to show, trying to raise
25 awareness to the situation.

1 (Speaking in native language).

2 **MR. LARRY DERRICK:** (Speaking in native
3 language). Ladies and gentlemen, I am proud to be with
4 these children. As you all heard, our foundation is
5 respect and it's a constant reminder to all of them that
6 their footstep -- every footstep that they put forward is
7 of respect, being able to respect themselves.

8 That highway teaches us something. We can't
9 close our eyes to what has happened.

10 I remember in my youth when I was getting
11 ready to go to residential school I listened to my uncles
12 and my aunties and the message they gave me was don't go,
13 don't go. So they turned to my great-grandmother, who was
14 living in Prince Rupert and they told her the same thing.
15 My great-grandmother was under the same feeling that I
16 shouldn't go.

17 And in the line just like I'm standing here
18 with my suitcase down by my foot I see a taxi pull in, and
19 my cousin was behind me. She called me forward. I thought
20 she was just going to talk to me. She said "Grab your
21 suitcase you're coming with me." So I grabbed my suitcase.
22 I thought we were just going to have something to eat and
23 come back. Well I didn't come back to the lineup. She made
24 me go to school in Prince Rupert.

25 So I never got to experience the residential

1 but I knew all about it. In that lineup my heart was
2 pounding through my nose. It was pounding through my nose.
3 I could not hear anybody, but when I seen my grandmother
4 pull in there in a taxi it was joy to me.

5 So as a result of that I hung on to my
6 culture and my language.

7 So as an advisor to these students, I gave
8 them what my grandmothers, my grandfathers, and my
9 ancestors been handing down to you and I all along.

10 And so I thank these students for having to
11 get up on their feet and rise to help those that have gone
12 beyond. They know that their friends, their family, who
13 could have been our ancestors, have gone before us, you
14 don't know where they went, they just simply disappeared.
15 And I say you'll hear them, you'll feel them.

16 Ladies and gentlemen, I want to tell you,
17 when we entered this arena here we felt you. We felt them.

18 So the family that prays together stays
19 together. (Speaking in native language).

20 **MS. BIILTS'IK COLLEEN AUSTIN:** I would like
21 to pass the mic on to Melynee McDames, but I'd just, first
22 of all, like to say something about her.

23 A few years ago Melynee came to our school
24 and she I think at the time had planned on only staying one
25 year and then going back to public school but now she's

1 graduating with us this year.

2 And I've seen Melynee grow so much in this
3 short period of time, both as a young woman and a young
4 Indigenous woman. She's very strong and she has taken on
5 the role -- the leadership role in our school of providing
6 most of the media contact for "The Highway" song and with
7 some of the other work that we're doing at the school.

8 Melynee was also involved, along with some
9 of the other high school students, to decorate Gladys' car.
10 And they did a good job, hey, Gladys. And they really took
11 a lot of care and attention. Of course Gladys had very
12 high standards, which is exactly what we expect at our
13 school too. We know that the students can rise up to those
14 high standards that we set for them as long as they have
15 the support that they need.

16 So I'm going to pass the mic on to Melynee.

17 The reason why I'm sitting beside Melynee is
18 because we have developed over the years a very close
19 connection in body, mind, and soul, and I'm very, very
20 proud of her.

21 And thank you for giving Melynee the
22 opportunity to give you a little bit more of -- a bit more
23 information today. Thank you. (Speaking in native
24 language).

25 **MISS MELYNÉE McDAMES:** (Speaking in native

1 language). My name is Melynee McDames. I am from the wolf
2 crest. I was born in Kispiox, B.C. and I currently live in
3 Terrace, B.C.

4 Sorry -- my name is Melynee. I'm from
5 Kispiox and I current live on the east end of Terrace on a
6 reserve called Kitselas.

7 I want to speak as a student, as an
8 individual, and as a young Indigenous woman about an
9 ongoing problem for many people in B.C.

10 In our song and video our goal was to spread
11 attention to the Highway of Tears. We are very proud of
12 what we have accomplished and what we are yet to
13 accomplish.

14 When we had our opportunity to write our
15 song we all had to agree on what we wanted to write about.
16 It didn't take much time for all of us to agree on what we
17 wanted to write about so we chose to write about something
18 everyone here knows, the Highway of Tears. We wanted to
19 spread word of something that is very dear to all of us
20 because we've all -- we all know someone who is affected by
21 this highway. And we are also very tired of our women and
22 our men going missing and murdered along this highway.

23 In our culture we were raised to know that
24 all life is precious. We are tired of our women going
25 missing and murdered. Women are the givers of life. In

1 our culture we are taught to respect everyone because we
2 know that all life is sacred.

3 We decided to spread this message, with a
4 huge help from N'we Jinan in the music and on social media.
5 We chose those two because social media is something
6 everyone is on and the music everyone likes music, everyone
7 likes a certain genre. And social media is an easy way to
8 spread a message and get attention to such a touchy subject
9 like this and music is universal.

10 We are happy to have spread some awareness
11 to the Highway of Tears. And as young Indigenous peoples
12 we are trying to stand together to bring awareness to this
13 ongoing issue that we care about very much. Like I said,
14 our women are sacred and all life is precious.

15 The Highway of Tears is a highway that
16 stretches from almost one end of B.C. to the other. The
17 highway has been a huge problem for many communities since
18 1969. The cases that have been reported have been mainly
19 Indigenous women and girls. The fact that it is mainly
20 Indigenous women is quite scary since my own community and
21 the school sits directly on this highway.

22 I bet you're wondering why, right. Well, my
23 friends here Annalee Parker, Megan Christianson, Alyson
24 Guno, they all walk home, and they walk a short distance
25 along this highway, and it doesn't take much -- it doesn't

1 take long for something nasty to happen. And fear often
2 creeps onto my mind about how, to this day, there's still
3 violence against Indigenous women and how so many lives
4 have been taken on this single highway. It needs to end.

5 The Highway of Tears is an ongoing problem
6 for many families and we have been sick of it for a long
7 time now. We need to come together to end this and the
8 only way to do that is to continue what we are doing here
9 now. We need to stand strong together and raise our
10 voices.

11 We have great love for our women who have
12 gone missing and murdered and this highway has broke many
13 families. Families grieve and mourn about their missing
14 family members and friends to this day.

15 Speaking of breaking families, I've lost
16 many family members due to this -- I've lost a few family
17 members to this highway. Their names are Lana Derrick and
18 Rebecca Guno. I've lost both before I even got to know
19 them and to hear this is heartbreaking. To know that I've
20 lost family and my family is still grieving truly does
21 break my heart. No one should ever have to leave this
22 world like this.

23 This highway is a main transportation for
24 many people and we need to find solutions for
25 transportation from town to town. Our government has been

1 talking about getting transportation along this Highway of
2 Tears for years now and it has still not happened. A
3 simple bus going from a town to the next can easily help
4 this issue and maybe some of our women will hop onto the
5 bus instead of a stranger's car.

6 Like I said, hitchhiking is the main
7 transportation for some people. My older sisters used to
8 hitchhike from Kispiox where my family lives to Terrace
9 where we also have family. Knowing that you have a loved
10 one being transported by a stranger on a highway, let alone
11 the Highway of Tears is quite scary.

12 As an Indigenous woman I think that we need
13 to stand strong together for what we believe in. And we
14 believe that one day we will get the attention and the
15 support we need to decrease the amount of our women and
16 sisters going missing and murdered. The Highway of Tears
17 is a major problem here in B.C. and it needs to end now.

18 We have in hopes that our song and the
19 message behind it reaches the national level. Our
20 accomplishments include being on CBC, CBC Daybreak Radio,
21 Open Connections, and on CFTK, Journeys on CFNR and the
22 First Nations School Association Conference. We are all
23 honoured that we could be a part of this and try to make a
24 difference.

25 Thank you for letting me speak here today.

1 **MS. AIMEE CRAFT:** Thank you so much,
2 Melanie.

3 And to each of you, is there anything that
4 anyone wants to add? I want to make sure everyone has the
5 opportunity.

6 Thank you, and thank you for your courage,
7 because we see young leaders in front of us. This is
8 really a beautiful gift that you're sharing.

9 I'm going to turn the mic over to
10 Commissioner Audette.

11 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci,
12 Aimee.

13 (Speaking in native language). Alors merci
14 beaucoup. Thank you. Thank you so much. Even if it's --
15 when I was in your territory Friday you showed us this
16 amazing clip video and we had emotion, and still today I
17 had emotion, and -- but everybody was there. It was very
18 impressive, very powerful.

19 And your moms, your grandmothers, your
20 aunties demanded this inquiry, and many women across
21 Canada, family members, even fathers, grandfathers, and men
22 demanded this inquiry 40 years ago. I was young. You were
23 still in the sky when that happened. And we have it today.
24 We have it. And I always say it's not our inquiry it's our
25 inquiry. It belongs to all of us, human beings, elders,

1 you know, all of us, youth, and it's your inquiry.

2 And this inquiry what the hope -- I'm a
3 mother too. I have five beautiful children. Well, we wish
4 that the women, the girls, the people that come here speak
5 out, speak up, tell the truth, because we have that mandate
6 to gather, to collect that truth. This is an important
7 mandate that we have. We have to listen to families and
8 survivors. We have to listen to people who became like a
9 family member or people who went to school, school of life
10 or at the university, who became an expert in this issue.
11 We have to collect that truth, ask them, collecting and
12 gathering.

13 But also what makes us special with this
14 inquiry we have a special power that we never had before in
15 other inquiries, telling the government, the institution,
16 we need answers. We have that power. And yes we will use
17 it. We will use it, and for us and for you. We made a
18 commitment, the four of us, with our beautiful staff and
19 team, amazing women and men coming from all over Canada
20 that policing, child welfare, human trafficking, and the
21 impact of colonization is our top priority. Why are our
22 women missing and girls? Why are we still facing so much
23 violence today in Canada?

24 And one of our beautiful mandate it's also
25 what you just did, what you just did that for me as a mom,

1 like I said earlier, you're hope, you're representing hope.
2 And I don't know where you got that strength but it's
3 telling me that it's possible, and it's there, and it's so
4 alive, that you're keeping our laws alive for today and
5 tomorrow.

6 My question -- I have a few questions. The
7 first one, I listened carefully your voices when you
8 introduced yourself and you made some comments. If we
9 could have your presentation, or your piece of paper, if we
10 could take a picture to make sure that it's a part of this
11 process. And it would be so beautiful to see your message
12 in that report, because this report will go to the federal
13 government, all government across Canada, and our
14 governments, First Nation, Metis and Inuit, that hey our
15 youth are talking to us, your youth, our children. So if
16 we could have that. That's my first question.

17 And also, Melynee, you mentioned several
18 recommendations about transportation, but do you have other
19 recommendations, because this is unique? We will have
20 through Amy and the other people who work with us and for
21 us they'll give us that tool that we'll present to Ottawa
22 and across Canada those recommendations. So if you have an
23 idea, use us. We're a tool. What would you recommend? So
24 that was two questions.

25 We'll start with this. Can we have a

1 picture of your statement, all of you, or a few of you?
2 And the other one, if you had the opportunity right now,
3 this is what we want, I would like to hear.

4 And if you agree to share your statement, we
5 have this beautiful basket that will take care of your
6 statement. You can put it here.

7 (SHORT PAUSE)

8 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE: Merci.

9 We've heard a lot about transportation,
10 believe me, and also other family members when they had the
11 symposium it was one of the recommendations a few years
12 ago. And do you have other recommendations or other ideas
13 that how can we make sure that our women and girls are
14 safe, that our families are safe today and for the next
15 generation? I have Facebook if you want to write it later.
16 Don't be shy.

17 My last question or favour, would you do us
18 the honour that each time -- each time that we do a hearing
19 across Canada with the families and survivors, or with the
20 institutions -- institutions, it's government across Canada
21 -- we will have quite a few of them -- and also with the
22 expert panel that we call, and so we'll find another name
23 for that probably. So we will meet a lot of people. Can
24 we start our meetings, and events, and gathering, with your
25 video?

1 **MR. LARRY DERRICK:** Yes.

2 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci.

3 **MR. LARRY DERRICK:** You asked for a
4 statement, and a statement I'd like to offer is to -- it
5 was the way it started. It started leaking out in our
6 homes. That's where it really started. And I remember my
7 uncles and my aunties telling me about this highway a long
8 time ago. So, to me, if it leaked out in our homes how can
9 we get it back into our homes to work from there again?
10 Our hearts and souls are from our homes, our Nations, and
11 we can address them to help us. Maybe it's a direction.
12 So it's just a thought.

13 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci.

14 (Speaking in native language).

15 **MS. BIILTS'IK COLLEEN AUSTIN:** May I as
16 well?

17 I would like to reiterate a little bit about
18 what Melynee said with regards to the recommendations apart
19 from the transportation. Because she made reference to how
20 important -- actually she and Elijah both made reference to
21 how important it is to educate around these important
22 issues, these truths that are happening to our families, in
23 our families.

24 We have curricula around the residential
25 schools. A large part of that was developed in B.C. by our

1 First Nations Schools Association of First Nations
2 Education Steering Committee. I'm the president of First
3 Nations Schools Association for B.C. so I'm responsible for
4 138 First Nation schools ultimately. And I would really
5 like to see more awareness around the inquiry -- the
6 National Inquiry in our schools.

7 And there are first places that you can go
8 to to do that. By picking up the phone and talking to me,
9 for example, I can reach 138 schools and 10,000 students in
10 no time. And I think that -- and this is just a drop in
11 the bucket compared to the public schools, for example.
12 There's tens of thousands of First Nations students, for
13 example, in our public schools in B.C.

14 So I would just really like to say that
15 education plays a huge part, but I would like to caution
16 that the education can be so impactful -- so much more
17 impactful when it's done with artistic expression. And so
18 that's what really brought us here today to be with you,
19 because you -- we could see that you believe in artistic
20 expression as well, as do we.

21 So if we can try to focus the
22 recommendations on education and artistic expression we
23 would be very grateful, because, as you can see, this is
24 how our youth learn, and know, and understand so well, and
25 this is how they get the confidence to be here today.

1 They're not at home. They're not hanging out on the
2 streets. These fine youth are here today at the National
3 Inquiry because you have reached out and given them that
4 invitation to share with you their artistic expression
5 around this very important issue, so if we could please
6 remember that and how impactful that is. Thank you.

7 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci.
8 Merci beaucoup.

9 And yes, it is, and we have wonderful women,
10 I would say warrior women within the inquiry making sure
11 that it's alive at every step of this inquiry. And I'm not
12 ashamed, I'll point her. So we should tick, tick to her.

13 Bravo Aimee, bravo.

14 So I will finish with this; if you had
15 something to say to a friend or a woman -- a young woman
16 who is listening to you right now, because we're either
17 webcast or there's some TV that is showing this across
18 Canada, and probably news will take your message, what hope
19 -- what message of hope would you give to a person who is
20 struggling right now, or a family; what would you say to
21 them or to her?

22 **MISS MELYNÉE McDAMES:** I know that everyone
23 has a struggle. Everyone is going through something.
24 Everyone has something that will bring them down. I know
25 this sounds corny but life does get better. Life will get

1 better. And if you hit rock bottom the only way you can go
2 from there is up. And I also want them to know that you're
3 never alone and if you reach out for help, help will come
4 to you.

5 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci.

6 **MR. CHRISTOPHER SPENCER:** Like Melynee said,
7 never give up. Everyone's here for each other. Our school
8 I have to say it's nice and that people help. And I would
9 say everyone is nice in their own way.

10 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Kind of doing what
11 Chris kind of said already, that the good thing about
12 having a small community or having a small school is that
13 you always have people to connect you, you have people to
14 talk to. Even if you can't talk to family, talk to
15 friends, talk to a teacher. Like everyone's going to be
16 there to support you no matter what your decision is.
17 There is always going to be someone who's going to stand
18 with you.

19 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** As I was always been
20 told when I'm down and they always notice -- like my
21 principal Colleen and (inaudible) they always tell me don't
22 let people bring you down because we're young leaders,
23 we're the new generation. And that's all really I have to
24 say. Just don't let anyone bring you down. You're going
25 to be a young leader. You're going to lead. Build

1 yourself up not down.

2 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Does my elder
3 or grandmother wish to say something?

4 **ELDER BERNIE POITRAS WILLIAMS:** I just want
5 to say howa (phonetic) to you and thank you for showing and
6 teaching what respect is really about. It's right here.
7 Howa to you.

8 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci
9 beaucoup. (Speaking in native language). Thank you so
10 much.

11 **MS. AIMEE CRAFT:** So the gifts that are
12 going to be handed to you are seeds that grow in this area.
13 So there's fireweed and wild strawberry. Beautiful
14 strawberry medicine. And these you can plant in this area.
15 They'll grow in your area.

16 And if you want to send us pictures of how
17 they grow, or your experience planting them, or a story
18 about what you did with them, if they're planted to honour
19 someone in your family or a friend, we'd be happy to hear
20 about that and to continue that relationship that you have
21 started by coming here today and gifting us with your
22 voices.

23 **(SHORT PAUSE)**

24 **MS. TERRELLYN FEARN:** Hi everyone. There is
25 a final part to this artistic expression session. We're

1 going to take a 10-minute break. So we'll reconvene at
2 2:45 for the final part of this.

3 --- Upon recessing at 2:43 p.m.

4 --- Upon resuming at 3:04 p.m.

5 **MS. TERRELLYN FEARN:** Okay, everyone. One
6 minute. May I ask Commissioner Audette, who recently
7 became a grandma, and now has a baby in her arms, may I ask
8 her to return the wonderful baby and make her way up to the
9 front here please, and anyone else who is going to be
10 presenting.

11 Okay. Thank you, everyone. May I ask for
12 the back door to be closed? Thank you.

13 We're going to get started on the third part
14 of this artistic expression submission. I'm going to hand
15 it over to Aimee Craft, our Director of Research, to lead
16 us through this piece.

17 **MS. AIMEE CRAFT:** Thank you, Terrellyn.

18 Commissioner Audette and grandmothers, I
19 have with me today -- I was going to say young man. Do you
20 still consider yourself a young man? This is Travis Hebert
21 from Mob Bounce. And he's going to share with us today
22 about the importance of artistic expression, how to work
23 with youth, including in workshops, to bring youth voice
24 out and the importance of youth voice. But I'd like to ask
25 him to introduce himself.

1 **MR. TRAVIS HEBERT:** Hi. My name is Travis
2 Hebert. I am Cree Métis. My mother is originally from
3 Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan, Waterhen First Nation. My
4 father is from Slave Lake, Alberta, Sawridge Nation. I was
5 born on Kletle (phonetic) Dene territory and raised up on
6 Wet'suwet'en territory. I sit with Salteaux clan at
7 feasts.

8 And my alias in our hip hop group is Heebz
9 The Earthchild. And, yeah, I do music professionally but
10 also facilitate workshops, get to travel all across Canada
11 to connect with lots of youth in rural and urban
12 communities. We've been able to go to Haida Gwaii and all
13 the way into Ottawa, and we look to go further, you know,
14 the other side of the coast.

15 Yeah, for myself I was a youth and music,
16 creativity, art, being able to express myself has been
17 important in my development as a man today. Yesterday I
18 turned 30 so yes I'm officially a man.

19 **(LAUGHTER)**

20 **MS. AIMEE CRAFT:** Happy birthday.

21 So you have seen like all of us in the room,
22 and many that are watching, the performance by the youth of
23 "The Highway" -- the song and video that they produced, and
24 that's through N'we Jinan, which you are associated with
25 now in your group and in doing youth workshops.

1 So, you know, the first thing I would like
2 you to share is your reflections on what it is that you saw
3 both in the video and in the performance today.

4 **MR. TRAVIS HEBERT:** What I got to see
5 translating from the music but also getting to see the
6 young people and the community that made the video and made
7 the song is the importance of having that space held for
8 the young people to express such issues, whether it is a
9 good or bad thing -- or not good or bad, I'd say more or
10 less the light and dark aspects of some of the issues that
11 exist in our communities and abroad.

12 So what I get to see is a lot of the
13 vulnerability and the strength that exists in the young
14 people to stand up and talk in front of cameras, lights,
15 and people, that's quite a process that you've got to go
16 through and I respect that a lot. Because as a performer
17 I'd say the best and stronger aspects of myself are when
18 I'm performing and when I have prepared myself. And
19 there's a vulnerability with speaking and having something
20 come up.

21 And during that -- just during -- witnessing
22 that, my heartbeat started to pump, and that's like a --
23 it's more of an excitement. I'd say nervousness and
24 excitement is like your spirit readying and preparing
25 itself. And so when I started to feel my heartbeat pump

1 like that it's a reminder for me to just breath, breath
2 into that. And in the video I get to see the strength, you
3 know, the ultimate strength in each one of the lyrics they
4 wrote.

5 So that's what I do, I go into those spaces,
6 those vulnerable spaces, and I write and then I ready
7 myself to perform it. So in the work that I do that's
8 exactly what my job is to see young people raising their
9 voices and being the leaders that they are. Because when I
10 was that age I wasn't there. So to see that process
11 speeding up and to see it reaching, you know, younger
12 people is important. And so we're in a time where, you
13 know, one day I'll be able to sit back and enjoy that
14 process and let the young people, you know, be the leaders
15 that they are.

16 **MS. AIMEE CRAFT:** Can you tell us a bit
17 about the process that Mob Bounce uses in the workshop with
18 youth to bring out that youth voice.

19 **MR. TRAVIS HEBERT:** A lot of it relates to
20 being able to connect with inner space and sacred space.
21 And when we go through experiences in our lives, whether
22 they're trauma or memories that are difficult, you know,
23 even good ones, there's this inner space that's tampered
24 with that creates walls and blockages. And when we go into
25 communities, you know, you can see through the body

1 language, you know, where the eyes are -- you know, some
2 youth tend to go into this space and look down. It's
3 because they're protecting themselves. There's a very
4 vulnerable space within.

5 And, you know, I know this through my own
6 experience. There were certain defences I had. And
7 sometimes it's about being tough -- having a tough
8 exterior, and, you know, that's more likely to scare people
9 away or something like that.

10 And so through the process of lyric writing
11 we invite kids in to be vulnerable, to open up some of
12 those spaces. And, you know, when we're sitting with, say,
13 about 20 you might have five who open up and write
14 something, but they get to be the seeds that are planted
15 within their own communities as we get to travel.

16 Yeah, there's just -- there's so much -- so
17 much there in those spaces. And each community is
18 different. Each youth that we get to meet is different in
19 their way. And so it's just about coming in and holding
20 space for them and knowing that we can be there with them.
21 You know, we're not going to stand up over top of them and
22 say we have all the answers and that we know everything,
23 you know, we want to sit with them, next to them, be with
24 them, and hold space so that they feel safe in sharing
25 those stories, whether it's personal or collective.

1 Yeah, it goes back to my personal
2 experience. For Craig and I and Mob Bounce, you know, we -
3 - we're both sensitive people and art and music has been
4 able to help us, you know, take some of that energy.

5 And so in these workshops it's -- you know,
6 that energy could be floating around. It could feel like
7 it's over here, down here, there, over. And so when you
8 hold space for a young person to write it's like being able
9 to pull that energy in, take it, and then bring it outside
10 of itself so that you can reveal it to yourself so that
11 it's not jumbling around in the air and that you don't know
12 what it is.

13 Because some of it is ancestral, it comes
14 from a deeper rooted place through either colonization --
15 so it could be intergenerational trauma or
16 intergenerational knowing. It could be the personal
17 experience from your womb -- or from being in the womb, to
18 being a youth, you know, to being a young adult. There's a
19 lot of energy all over.

20 So creativity I'd say is the spirit coming
21 outside and revealing itself, and so that's an act of
22 Creator, the Creator within you.

23 **MS. AIMEE CRAFT:** So N'we Jinan and Mob
24 Bounce are working with Indigenous youth. What is it in
25 particular that is happening in an Indigenous context when

1 you're talking about that space, and bringing those things
2 out, and creating music and art in that Indigenous space?

3 **MR. TRAVIS HEBERT:** I could say that I
4 didn't grow up with my culture. It wasn't something that
5 was, you know, there and was being taught to me as much.
6 So what music did was it helped me take that journey into
7 reconnecting with my culture and finding myself in that
8 space.

9 So with what we do now is we talk about, you
10 know, the drum vibration, your voice. You know, hip hop
11 music has so many parallels to our traditions and our
12 culture. You know, the way that we live is through art,
13 whether it's carving, painting, dancing, singing, drumming,
14 all of it is there. It's like the foundation of who we
15 are. And so that needs to be fostered a lot more in
16 education. You know, like creativity should be, you know,
17 at the centre of education, because that's who we are.

18 So we've been able to take what we've
19 learned and what has, you know, been taught to us and share
20 it. But when we go to different communities there is
21 different -- you know, there is different Nations with
22 different aspects and their culture, and so we're going
23 into all these different spaces and learning the parallels
24 but also the differences and how we can respect those as
25 well. And so that takes a lot of learning and it's just

1 back and forth and in between.

2 **MS. AIMEE CRAFT:** And what, in your view, is
3 the importance of artistic expression for something like
4 the National Inquiry and what we're doing, and, you know,
5 what's the importance of hearing from young people and
6 others that are expressing themselves in an artistic way
7 when the role of the inquiry is to come up with some
8 recommendations and to investigate systemic violence?

9 **MR. TRAVIS HEBERT:** It's everything. You
10 know, to watch that video it definitely inspires me in the
11 work that I do, you know, to see the young people
12 expressing themselves, and it's a conversation that needs
13 to happen between youth a lot more.

14 I feel, you know, in the society we live
15 today technology is raising our children and raising our
16 youth, you know, parents are busy at work and they're
17 trying to navigate as well, and we have a younger
18 generation and the internet has so much stuff in it,
19 there's a lot of content, a lot of media, and, you know,
20 there's a large amount of anxiety in our young people today
21 because of that. The world is just oversaturated with way
22 too much. And, you know, with watching a video like that
23 there's not actually that much content on the internet that
24 is like that, and so it also gives other youth from other
25 communities and spaces to watch a video like that and be

1 inspired and to know that those types of things are in the
2 air and that they're happening.

3 And so a lot of it is around the celebration
4 of what we're doing too. You know, there's a big healing
5 process. There's a lot of pain being lifted out. But
6 there's that celebration that comes with it, and I think
7 that has a lot to do with just the space that's being held
8 today for us to be able to do that, such as the National
9 Inquiry of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. You
10 know, to have this space is very important, as much as it
11 is important for the young people to express themselves and
12 to -- yeah, to have that space to dream and have goals if
13 they wanted to be a musician or just be leaders of their
14 community.

15 **MS. AIMEE CRAFT:** The National Inquiry has
16 put a call out for artistic expressions to receive them as
17 part of the submissions to assist the Commissioners in the
18 work that they're doing to inquire but also to make
19 recommendations.

20 I know some people will probably think I'm
21 not an artist. Do you have a message about how people can
22 start to think about artistic expression as a way to
23 contribute?

24 **MR. TRAVIS HEBERT:** It's understanding that
25 we're all artists. We all have those gifts within us. I

1 think it has a lot to do with, you know, that inner space,
2 and the external space, and how a lot of things are pushed
3 on us, and it creates a limiting pathway for us in some
4 ways. So, you know, to open up that space and to allow for
5 that creative expression there's more healing, or the
6 healing is more exposed so that others can connect to that.

7 I have this one lyric where I say "I don't
8 want your sympathy I want your empathy because your apathy
9 is getting to me." And so the more that we reveal
10 ourselves the more that others can perhaps feel that
11 empathy and connect with it and heal together a lot of what
12 has happened and is happening currently. So the more we
13 expose it the more -- I feel the more that, you know,
14 people are -- what's the term -- being held accountable,
15 you know, to do that work, and to heal, and to -- you know,
16 to encourage just people to be strong and allow for that
17 stuff to come out, to not suppress it.

18 **MS. AIMEE CRAFT:** Everything you shared is a
19 big gift today. Is there anything else that you want to
20 add into this bundle, into this truth gathering process,
21 share with the Commissioners and grandmothers?

22 **MR. TRAVIS HEBERT:** We do have a song that
23 we did. But I also would like to share some of my lyrics
24 and maybe it would inspire the young people who shared
25 today, because I was definitely inspired. So I'll share

1 two pieces. And this is where I feel I shine best. When
2 I'm talking it does come from the heart so when the heart
3 starts to pump I need to breathe a little bit. And I'm
4 also quite flighty sometimes too, so I can be up here over
5 here and I need to like do the same thing, you know, bring
6 some of that energy in. So I'll share this.

7 This is from our song "Walk with our
8 Sisters" and it has a lot to do with, you know, an
9 Indigenous man standing and walking with our grandmothers,
10 and our aunties, and our mothers, and our sisters, and our
11 cousins.

12 (TRAVIS HEBERT SINGS)

13 MR. TRAVIS HEBERT: I wanted to do the other
14 one again because I lost a piece of it so I'm going to do
15 it one more time.

16 (TRAVIS HEBERT SINGS)

17 MR. TRAVIS HEBERT: And so those are some of
18 those vulnerable spaces. And I know some of that connects
19 to my mother's experience, my sister's experience, the
20 collective experience. I have a lot of friends -- you
21 know, a lot of female women that I look up to in my life
22 there's a lot of strength and resilience and it's powerful.
23 And women are important to me, you know, and they're
24 important to this world. They're life givers. They're
25 sacred just like Mother Earth.

1 mandate.

2 So I'm very honoured that you accepted to be
3 part of this process -- important process, and healing and
4 awareness, but you have also the magic today right now to
5 tell us what should we put in that report, what
6 recommendation you would give us or share to us.

7 **MR. TRAVIS HEBERT:** Most importantly, just
8 having done so much work with youth and being able to be
9 there for so many is -- you know, to have more of those --
10 those testimonies and the voice of the youth and their --
11 to even have their perspective in there is so important.

12 Because I know it's -- you know, we don't
13 have the answers to everything. The young people are the
14 seeds and they're learning and growing. So yeah, to just -
15 - to have more of that artistic expression being -- you
16 know, being fostered, and carried, and supported. That
17 space just needs to be held a little bit more for young
18 people to express themselves.

19 Because, you know, even I see some of the,
20 you know, the strongest young people coming up and they
21 still have things that they hold deep inside that are hard
22 to share. And I know that because, you know, I'm there
23 personally. I'm at 30 years old and I'm still doing the
24 work, you know, the inner work, and then just sharing as
25 much of it as I can, you know, with other people in my

1 community, and abroad, and further.

2 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci
3 beaucoup.

4 Two things I would like to say to you; I
5 have high respect for we say artists today, but I think we
6 are keeper of the knowledge, making sure that we're keeping
7 our past, present, and future very alive through our songs,
8 through our beating, and what we do best to keep this
9 alive. So I'm very honoured to be with you in this room at
10 this moment that you're doing this. And women are giving
11 birth and we are also giving birth to men, to boys and
12 becoming men. We need allies. We need men walking with
13 us, not for us but with us, and I see that you're doing
14 this. So it's always good to hear that we have men that
15 are part of the solution. Merci beaucoup. Thank you very
16 much.

17 **MS. TERRELLYN FEARN:** Okay. Thank you,
18 everyone.

19 A lot of inspiration today from our families
20 that spoke and from our young people.

21 We have about 10 minutes to break and we'll
22 come back for the next family to share.

23 --- Upon recessing at 3:30 p.m.

24 **Hearing # 3**

25 **Witnesses: Claudia Williams and Garry Kerr**

1 In relation to Alberta Williams

2 Heard by: Commissioner Michèle Audette

3 Commission Counsel: Wendy van Tongeren

4 Registrar: Bryan Zandberg

5 --- Upon resuming at 3:49 p.m.

6 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Madam Commissioner,
7 Wendy van Tongeren, for the records, V-A-N, T-O-N-G-E-R-E-
8 N. And I have an insight. I realize that my watch and
9 that clock don't tell the same time. So it actually --
10 according to my watch it's 10 minutes to 4:00.

11 In any event, no matter what time it is,
12 it's time to start. And the next family is represented by
13 Claudia Williams, and then there are members of her family
14 who will be introduced as well as a friend. So I would
15 like to start by actually sharing the microphone and asking
16 each person to identify themselves with their first name,
17 last name, spelling the names if they think that we're
18 going to make a mistake in the spelling. And we'll start
19 with you, Claudia.

20 MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS: I'm Claudia Williams,
21 Alberta Williams' older sister, C-L-A-U-D-I-A, W-I-L-L-I-A-
22 M-S.

23 MR. GARRY KERR: My name is Gary Kerr, and
24 Garry has two R's in it and Kerr is K-E-R-R, and I am with
25 today to support Claudia.

1 MR. LES WILLIAMS: my name is Les Williams,
2 and it's spelled L-E-S, W-I-L-L-I-A-M-S. I'm here to
3 support my mother and representing Alberta Williams.

4 MS. KARLA WILLIAMS: My name is Karla
5 Williams, K-A-R-L-A. I'm here to support my mother-in-law
6 and my husband.

7 MS. LAVITA TRIMBLE: My name is Lavita
8 Trimble, L-A-V-I-T-A, T-R-I-M-B-L-E. I'm here to support
9 my sister's family, Claudia, and her son Les. And Claudia
10 and Alberta were my neighbours in 1989,

11 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Thank you very much
12 all of you and for being here today.

13 And, Claudia, this is your mic. It's
14 already activated so you don't have to do anything.

15 So I'm going to start with giving something
16 to the Commissioner and to the registrar, which I
17 distributed. This is exceedingly important not only to
18 this presentation but is an example of the type of thing
19 that we all hope will contribute to solving some of these
20 unsolved homicides that exist in the context of missing and
21 murdered Indigenous women and girls.

22 So you all see it's Alberta Gail Williams,
23 age 24, murdered. Alberta was last seen August 25th, 1989
24 in Prince Rupert, B.C. around Popeyes or Bogey's. Her body
25 was found September 25th, 1989 west of Prince Rupert at the

1 Tyee Overpass. And this is Crime Stoppers asking for
2 information.

3 And this is a day, August 25th, 1989 when
4 your life changed when you started your search for your
5 sister, and you're here to tell us about that today. Go
6 ahead.

7 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** My sister Alberta was
8 -- on August 25th, 1989 my sister Alberta Gail Williams went
9 missing and was found a month later murdered. I'll start
10 by explaining a little bit about her, her history.

11 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Claudia, I have to
12 start because I -- there's something that Mr. Registrar
13 reminded me of ---

14 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** Okay.

15 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** --- which is in
16 terms of options you opted to swear on the bible, did you?

17 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** Yes.

18 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** So we just need to
19 do -- go through that process first and then you can start.

20 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** Okay.

21 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** I apologize.

22 **CLAUDIA WILLIAMS, SWORN**

23 **--- STATEMENT BY MS CLAUDIA WILLIAMS**

24 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** On August 25th, 1989
25 my sister Alberta Williams, she was 24 years old, went

1 missing and about a month later she was found on Highway
2 16. Her body was discovered outside of Prince Rupert.

3 I'll explain a little bit about Alberta.
4 Alberta -- my sister Alberta came from a very large family
5 and she was the daughter of Lawrence and Rena Williams.
6 They've both passed away now not knowing who murdered their
7 daughter. Alberta had five sisters, Kathy, Pam -- Pamela
8 is predeceased -- Martha, Karen. I also have three
9 brothers, Herman, Francis and Kevin. Alberta was one of
10 the granddaughters of The Honourable Dr. Peter Williams.
11 He's now deceased. Our grandfather was also the president
12 of Gitanyow, also known as Kitwancool, who worked for land
13 claims through most of his life. We are from the Gitxsan
14 Nation and lived in Gitanyow, B.C.

15 Our family travelled to Prince Rupert during
16 spring break and summer for seasonal work. Our father
17 Lawrence was a gill net fisherman, marine mechanic, airport
18 bus driver, owned his own trucking company, L. Williams and
19 Sons Trucking Limited. He taught his sons Herman, Francis
20 and Kevin to drive trucks and work in the company. Our
21 mother Rena worked in the cannery and was self-taught in so
22 many ways. She learned how to knit, crochet, sew, bake,
23 and much more, which she taught all her daughters. She
24 taught her daughters the importance of how to become
25 respectable women through love, patience, forgiveness and

1 honesty.

2 Our parents ensured that all the children
3 grew up with instilled values, respect, honesty, compassion
4 towards others. If we did not obey our parents discipline
5 was practiced; as our father would say, "If I don't
6 discipline you my father the Creator would discipline me";
7 his way of explaining why the discipline. I respect my
8 parents very much. I would not be the person I am today
9 without their remarkable parenting.

10 As you can see, my sister Alberta came from
11 an exceptional family. It's very difficult to understand
12 why someone would take her life. Alberta was only a petite
13 5 foot 1", 105 to 110 pound lady. She was kind, loving,
14 and a gentle person.

15 During the summer of 1989 Alberta and I went
16 to Prince Rupert from Vancouver to make some quick money
17 working in a cannery, long hours, plenty of overtime.
18 Alberta stayed with my parents. I stayed with my brother
19 Francis and his family.

20 On August 25th Alberta decided to go out and
21 celebrate her last payday and last night in Prince Rupert
22 before we returned to Vancouver. I wasn't sure if I wanted
23 to go out but then I decided I would go meet her. I got
24 ready and I went downtown to find Alberta. She was in
25 Bogey's Cabaret with people, two tables pulled together.

1 Alberta was sitting at the end of the table, Jack Little to
2 her right, and others that I recall were Kevin Kitchen,
3 Carol Russell, Gordon McLean, Phoebe Russell, Alfonso
4 Little. I did not sit with them because there was no room
5 and I wasn't too comfortable with that particular group of
6 friends. So I decided to mingle around, listen to music,
7 say hi to people I knew, but I kept going back to the table
8 to see how Alberta and everyone was doing. There wasn't
9 anything peculiar about that night. But now I recall
10 Alberta never got up once to come and see me nor did she
11 leave the table.

12 At closing time Alberta was standing next to
13 the right of Jack Little and a group of friends outside of
14 Bogey's. This is when Alberta finally talked to me from a
15 distance. I was about three feet away from her standing to
16 her right. Jack was to the left of Alberta. Alberta
17 called my name "Claudia, come to a party. We're going to
18 Jack's place." To my right Wayne Benson called me
19 "Claudia, I need to talk to you." I turned to Alberta,
20 asked her to wait. Again Wayne "Claudia, I need to talk to
21 you." I turned to Alberta. She was gone. So were all the
22 friends. They left very quickly. I was shocked because
23 Alberta would never leave me in this way. I turned to my
24 right. Wayne Benson was gone too.

25 I quickly ran around the corner to the

1 ladies washroom hoping Alberta may have gone there. I
2 hollered underneath all of the stalls. There was no
3 answer. I went back to the corner of Bogey's where I lost
4 Alberta. I waited for at least an hour and a half. She
5 did not return. Here was the very last time I seen
6 Alberta. Her body was found on the outskirts of Prince
7 Rupert.

8 My sister Alberta's murder changed my life
9 completely. I search for answers. I think of her each and
10 every day. I know she would do the same for me. The loss
11 of my sister has affected my health physically and
12 emotionally, in and out of the hospital. It took 28 years
13 to start grief counselling.

14 To lose a member or a friend due to sickness
15 or an accident is hard enough, but to lose a sister,
16 Alberta, through murder, is tragic. Her life was taken
17 from her. She did not deserve this. She had her whole
18 life ahead of her, and a fiancé waiting for her in
19 Vancouver. He came to the funeral.

20 Many times I wish I didn't turn my head and
21 get distracted. My sister Alberta would be alive today. I
22 know I can't change the situation but I can hope and pray
23 for justice.

24 Our family has placed a headstone for
25 Alberta in Gitanyow to allow Alberta proper rest. This is

1 the beginning of closure as we continue to search for
2 answers on who killed Alberta.

3 It's a very hard situation to lose my
4 sister, and I know I'm not alone with this. I have a huge
5 family, brothers and sisters. I never thought that I'd
6 gain so much help in the investigation. I'd like to
7 express thanks to Ray Michalko, CEO at Valley Pacific
8 Investigations. There's not enough words to say thank you
9 for your time and effort in trying to solve my sister's
10 murder, along with other unsolved cases of missing and
11 murdered Indigenous women. Ray Michalko was an amazing
12 friend, private investigator, who gave everything and asked
13 for nothing in return. Ray dedicated 10 years to trying to
14 solve British Columbia's infamous Highway of Tears cases.
15 Unfortunately Ray passed away March 2017 but not without
16 coming to say goodbye and have a coffee and a big hug.
17 Rest in peace, Ray; you are dearly missed.

18 I'd like to thank also Garry Kerr for
19 sending an email to CBC, which prompted the podcast by
20 Connie Walker and Marnie Luke. It's "Who Killed Alberta
21 Williams". It's an eight part podcast. I have in this
22 podcast there's a lot of really fresh memories, putting
23 faces together in the hopes that the public will recall the
24 night Alberta was last seen.

25 Many people who were not willing to come

1 forward to the police have come forward and were a part of
2 the podcast. Thank you.

3 If you haven't watched the podcast produced
4 by CBC, Connie Walker and Marnie Luke, please watch it.
5 You may have the answers in solving Alberta's murder. Who
6 killed Alberta Williams? Thank you.

7 --- **QUESTIONS BY MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN**

8 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Claudia, we spoke
9 several times in preparation of you coming here today, by
10 phone mostly, and one time in person. And you wrote out
11 this in preparation for speaking. Is that right?

12 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** Yes, I did.

13 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. So that
14 becomes your testimony. You've prepared it, you've read
15 it, and you adopt it. Is that right?

16 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** Yes.

17 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. Thank you.

18 And is the situation here that there is an
19 ongoing investigation and so there's some sensitivity about
20 what you say publicly?

21 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** Yes.

22 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Okay. Thank you so
23 much. Those are the questions. Thank you.

24 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci
25 beaucoup. Thank you, Alberta. Thank you, all of you, to

1 be there for your mom, your friend, your sister.

2 --- QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:

3 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE: You mentioned
4 about Wayne -- I didn't get his last name.

5 MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS: Benson.

6 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE: Benson. He
7 used to be an investigator -- he was an investigator on
8 this case?

9 MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS: No, he was a person
10 that was outside of Bogey's that night who distracted me
11 while Alberta was trying to talk to me. So I looked away
12 from Alberta once, back to Alberta, then I looked again,
13 back to Alberta again, and then Alberta was gone. So no,
14 he wasn't a private investigator.

15 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE: Okay. Ray --
16 - I want to get the name ---

17 MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS: Ray Michalko ---

18 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE: Okay.

19 MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS: --- was the private
20 investigator.

21 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: Madam Commissioner,
22 I could go through this and ---

23 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE: Please.

24 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: --- reiterate the
25 names and spell them, if that would help.

1 So I'll go to that portion. So it starts on
2 August 25th, 1989. And Alberta was at Bogey's Cabaret and
3 there were a number of people that were seated and Alberta
4 was sitting at the end of the table and Jack Little, J-A-C-
5 K, L-I-T-T-L-E, was to her right. And others that she
6 recalls were Kevin Kitchen, K-E-V-I-N, K-I-T-C-H-E-N, Carol
7 Russel, C-A-R-O-L, R-U-S-S-E-L-L, Gordon McLean, G-O-R-D-O-
8 N, M-C-L-E-A-N, Phoebe Russell, F-O -- that might not be
9 not pronounced correctly, but F-H -- sorry -- P-H-O-E-B-E,
10 R-U-S-S-E-L-L, Alfonso Little, A-L-P-H-O-N-S-O, L-I-T-T-L-
11 E.

12 On the next page, when Claudia is describing
13 this effort to speak to Alberta, "Alberta called my name.
14 Claudia, come to a party. We're going to Jack's place.
15 And then to my right Wayne Benson" -- W-A-Y-N-E, B-E-N-S-O-
16 N -- "called me Claudia, I need to talk to you."

17 The people to whom -- or for whom Claudia
18 has expressed gratitude is Ray Michalko, R-A-Y, M-I-C-H-A-
19 L-K-O, at Valley Pacific Investigations, Connie Walker, C-
20 O-N-N-I-E, W-A-L-K-E-R, and Marnie Luke, M-A-R-N-I-E, L-U-
21 K-E at CBC.

22 And I think there might have been a
23 reference to Garry Kerr, G-A-R-R-Y, K-E-R-R, who was one of
24 the original investigators.

25 And there are family members, the

1 granddaughters of The Honourable Dr. Peter Williams, P-E-T-
2 E-R, Williams, and grandfather, President of Gitanyow, G-I-
3 T-A-N-Y-O-W, also known as Kitwancool, K-I-T-W-A-N-C-O-O-L,
4 Gitxsan Nation, G-I-T-X-S-A-N. And the rest are family
5 members.

6 Any other questions?

7 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci
8 beaucoup pour la clarification.

9 The investigator that you mentioned, he's
10 the one who passed away, this guy Ray?

11 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Yes.

12 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Were you able
13 to see all the information that he collected or got?

14 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** I kept in touch with
15 Ray Michalko. Like Ray left his phone number like for any
16 time for me to call. Right up until March 13th when I met
17 him in person he would update me, you know, how the
18 investigation is going, whether he needed phone numbers,
19 people he wanted to speak to.

20 And, as far as I know, the information that
21 Ray Michalko has I have no idea where that information
22 went. All I know is that there was going to be a ceremony
23 for Ray that I was going to attend but I never heard
24 anything from that.

25 Now, that's a very good question, because I

1 would really like to know where the information is, you
2 know, on the investigation on Alberta and so many of the
3 other women.

4 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** So thank you
5 very much for clarifying this. I want to make sure that we
6 all understand that Madam Williams wishes to know where all
7 the information went, and if it's something we can discuss,
8 Commission counsel.

9 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Thank you.

10 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci.

11 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Thank you,
12 Commissioner.

13 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** Yeah, I think that's
14 really important that we find out where that information
15 went, because Ray had interviewed some people that the RCMP
16 were not able to interview or were not willing to cooperate
17 with the RCMP.

18 Just as the podcast Connie Walker and Marnie
19 Luke they got people to -- they got to interview people who
20 were not willing to talk to the police as well.

21 So I think this combined effort I think we'd
22 be able to find some answers providing we get all the
23 information together.

24 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** And if I
25 understood well, this same person worked on different

1 missing persons in this region. Is that what I understood
2 in your testimony that Ray ---

3 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** Ray?

4 **MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN:** Ray has different
5 clients.

6 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Clients we
7 say.

8 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** Yes, he did. Ray was
9 actually working with a number of different families, a
10 number of different missing and murdered women cases.

11 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Okay. Merci
12 beaucoup. Merci beaucoup.

13 And, Madam Williams, if you had other
14 recommendations to -- what do we say -- ask us to put
15 forward what would be?

16 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** I would have to say
17 that, you know, in the past I've heard of recommendations
18 and where it's a big pile of recommendations, and, you
19 know, a smaller level would be better.

20 And I think for -- each case is different.
21 Each case is different. I would say okay, look at what's
22 the possibility of solving this case to put it higher on a
23 priority list. Where my sister is in with all the other
24 missing and murdered women, time is very important right
25 now, because since 1989 this happened, time is very

1 important, are we ever going to get an answer if anything
2 happens to any of the suspects.

3 And I think, you know, we should move on
4 this, because, you know, I'm sitting here, and so is
5 everybody else, and what are we going to do, we're going to
6 still carry this on after, you know, we collect all the
7 information, and everybody has information, and then the
8 suspect or suspects, you know, aren't there, where do we go
9 from there.

10 I think Alberta's case is a very strong case
11 and I think it should put forefront, not to disrespect any
12 of the other missing and murdered women.

13 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci
14 beaucoup.

15 And today do you have any -- a specific
16 person from the RCMP or police force in touch with you or
17 keeping you informed?

18 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** Right now I have
19 Wayne Clary (phonetic).

20 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Parfait.

21 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** Wayne Clary I talk to
22 him -- I try to keep in touch with him, say, on a monthly
23 basis. I try to phone him, you know, every week, every two
24 weeks. I know that, you know, they have a lot of work to
25 do.

1 Again, Alberta is again with a bunch of
2 other cases. I understand that they're all important, but,
3 you know, what, to me, again, I'm not going to say it any
4 more clearer than I am now, the time is so important right
5 now. It is so important. I mean, I know -- you know, I
6 know the suspects in Alberta's case and I know exactly, you
7 know, when you have it in your gut feeling that, you know,
8 okay, where are we going to end with this. I mean, all
9 you've got to do is speak your heart and speak for what you
10 want.

11 And, you know, I don't want to -- I mean,
12 I've been working on this for such a long time. You know,
13 it would be such a relief for everybody in the family, for
14 myself for being with her that night, it's -- you know,
15 everybody -- I'm not going to say like everybody -- my
16 family would have been here, but everybody handles it in
17 different ways.

18 My brother put up a cross at Highway 16 in
19 between Prince Rupert and Terrace. He was working with me
20 and he was really hoping to get answers. And, you know, I
21 imagine he took a break from it and hopefully I'll get a
22 call from him again.

23 But, you know, I'll say it again, time is so
24 important. I know it would be different if we didn't find
25 Alberta but Alberta is found. There is her body and there

1 is suspects in this case. You know, I mean, I just think
2 that there should be more effort into finding out. Go out
3 -- it shouldn't have taken a podcast for people to come
4 forward. It shouldn't have taken a podcast at all. I wish
5 we'd have gotten answers before that.

6 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci
7 beaucoup. I know it might contradict what you're saying,
8 that it shouldn't take a podcast, but, if I may, I would
9 like to invite anybody across Canada to go visit that and
10 watch that podcast -- I know I took note of it -- and if
11 there is any information.

12 **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS:** I think Connie Walker
13 and Marnie Luke did an exceptional job on the podcast.
14 But, you know, my point was, you know, that they
15 interviewed a lot of people that the police weren't able to
16 interview was my point. So now, you know, you've got the
17 podcast, you've got -- hopefully we can find out where Ray
18 has his information, plus Wayne Clary, you know, I think we
19 have more than enough information there. Again, time is
20 very important; 1989 that's a long time.

21 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci
22 beaucoup. And for sure we'll have strong discussion, good
23 discussion with this wonderful Commission counsel Madam
24 Wendy, and I'll continue asking questions, and we always
25 stay in touch. So merci beaucoup.

1 MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS: I'm just glad that
2 Garry Kerr is here. He was -- he's a retired RCMP now. He
3 was there when my sister Alberta ---

4 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE: From the
5 RCMP?

6 MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS: Yes.

7 MR. GARRY KERR: I guess I would just like
8 to say thank you to the Commission for not only listening
9 to what Claudia said, but from all the other family members
10 from all of the other missing and murdered. No one is more
11 important than the other. They're all obviously very
12 important.

13 One thing -- and this is just from myself
14 personally, obviously having a number of discussions with
15 Claudia. I spent about 32 and a half years in the RCMP and
16 worked homicide for more years than I would care to even
17 remember all through British Columbia. Having been through
18 obviously many investigations and seeing a number of
19 inquiries that have come and gone over the years for
20 various other issues, the one thing I really and truly do
21 hope if there is one thing I can leave with the Commission
22 is once you've heard everything that everybody has said --
23 and a lot of it is -- it is what it is. It's a very harsh
24 reality. And I hope the Commission, obviously yourself and
25 the other Commissioners, do take the time obviously to

1 listen but I also really do hope you take the time to ask
2 the hard questions.

3 The Commission's been a long time coming.
4 It's obviously in progress right now. And I guess with
5 everything in life there's always been a few bumps in the
6 road, but again, I think if you listen, ask the hard
7 questions. And in the end, once your work is complete,
8 obviously there will be a report that will be available,
9 whenever that might be. I guess the most important thing I
10 would ask of the Commission is I would really hate to see
11 the Commission come out with 100 recommendations, or 50
12 recommendations. I've seen, as we all have, in the past,
13 the recommendations that do come out have to be workable
14 and they have to be realistic. And that's a pretty tall
15 order but I would much rather see the Commission come out
16 with even two, three, maybe a maximum of five
17 recommendations that are truly realistic and workable to
18 put in place.

19 And again, with everything that has gone on
20 in terms of obviously the work that's gone into bringing us
21 here to where we are today, I think if the Commission in
22 its work I think if the Commission fails to come out with
23 some truly realistic and workable recommendations this will
24 be an opportunity that is lost and I don't think any of us
25 will see it again.

1 But, just in closing, again I would like to
2 thank the Commission yourself. For myself, it's an honour
3 and a privilege -- now I'm getting emotional -- to be with
4 Claudia. I was one of the original investigators in
5 Alberta's homicide. I dealt with the family. I was there
6 -- well not there -- when her body was found. I was there
7 at the scene. Again I seen that investigation for many,
8 many months. And again I hope that there is closure not
9 only in that investigation but again also for all the other
10 families that have spoken to you and will speak to you on
11 the days, weeks, and months to come. So again thank you
12 for your time and -- thank you.

13 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Merci
14 beaucoup.

15 I didn't you were a former RCMP police.
16 Alors the hard question we want to ask those and we will.
17 And the reason why we have and we will do it it's we won't
18 have another inquiry so we have to do it right. I
19 committed for that along with my other colleagues, the
20 other Commissioners, and Chief Commissioner, and
21 grandmothers and people that are following or making sure
22 that we're on the right track.

23 In order to ask the hard questions the
24 process for me will be very important that people like you,
25 and there's others across Canada who got involved in cases,

1 retired today, and so on, that has that expertise, the eyes
2 that we don't, I don't. So in order to build that and have
3 those good hard questions for the moment when those
4 questions will be asked I will commute to stay close to us.

5 **MR. GARRY KERR:** Thank you for your
6 comments.

7 Can I add one other minor thing?

8 **COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE:** Sure.

9 **MR. GARRY KERR:** Throughout the
10 investigation that I was involved with in Alberta's
11 homicide, and here we are looking back almost 30 years
12 later, it truly feels like yesterday when Alberta went
13 missing and, you know, thank God she was found, but the one
14 thing that I've had many, many discussions with Claudia
15 over if I could turn the clocks back as a police officer at
16 the time and an investigator, an investigator in obviously
17 a very serious offence, the one thing that is absolutely
18 crucial, and I hope the Commission will take forward, I
19 don't know if it's workable, I don't know, but it simply
20 boils down to one word and that's "trust".

21 And what I mean when I say that, when
22 Alberta went missing she was reported missing by her mom
23 and at first it was dealt with as a missing person's case
24 and Alberta was found and obviously it was turned into a
25 homicide case, but I can't even find the words to explain

1 how much or how important trust is. And when I say
2 "trust", that's trust on the part of, in this case,
3 Alberta's family entrusting the police but also that role
4 is also reversed, we have to have trust in them they have
5 to have trust in us.

6 And the reason I bring that up is over the
7 last couple of years in my many conversations with Claudia,
8 and throughout the podcast series that I truly hope
9 everybody does listen to, is it's absolutely crystal clear
10 now as I'm sitting here speaking to you that there were
11 many, many things that took place, or people had certain
12 information that we didn't get as the police at the time.
13 And again there's probably many reasons for it. Maybe
14 mistrust I would say was the biggest factor.

15 I truly think that Alberta's parents went to
16 their grave thinking that the police didn't do everything
17 they could to solve their daughter's disappearance and
18 murder. But I truly think if we had had more trust in
19 place, and that is with Claudia's parents, Claudia, the
20 rest of the family, some of the information that I've
21 learned just in the last year or two, I think would have
22 truly made a difference during the initial or first few
23 months of the investigation.

24 And I'm not sitting before you today saying
25 that that would have resulted in somebody being charged --

1 I want to make that absolutely clear -- but it certainly
2 would have put a lot more emphasis on certain avenues of
3 investigation. And again, it's awesome to get that
4 information some 30 years later but 30 years is an awful
5 long time.

6 So I guess the point I am trying to get
7 across is for a serious investigation the police have to
8 make that extra effort. I don't care whether a person is
9 First Nations, Asian, blue, pink, I don't care. Some
10 people do, and I mean we've probably all seen it. But
11 trust in any truly serious investigation -- and nothing is
12 more serious than a homicide, especially of a young truly
13 innocent victim, as Alberta and many of the others are --
14 again, that mistrust has to be put aside.

15 Because there are people out there that do
16 have the answers, or the keys, or that key piece of
17 information to truly move these investigations forward. I
18 mean, to me, that's nothing more than common sense. And
19 I've seen that happen in the recent months and I wish we
20 would have had that information many, many years ago.

21 So I just want to make that point as to that
22 initial contact that the police have with family members is
23 -- I mean, to say it's crucial doesn't even sort of get at
24 it. You have to own it.

25 And again, I thank you for your time and

1 thank you for listening to me.

2 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE: Well -- do
3 you want to add something?

4 MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMS: No, thank you.

5 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE AUDETTE: Okay. Well,
6 I think it's more us to say thank you. Thank you so much
7 to have the courage. And for all of you, and for the two
8 of you who spoke, spoke the truth, and I have to say I have
9 high respect.

10 And the workable and realistic
11 recommendation it's the wish that many of us have and it's
12 something that will come through this -- every hearing that
13 we have and the meeting that we have also with the families
14 and so on. So thanks for reminding us or putting this as a
15 recommendation I would say so everybody can understand the
16 importance of something workable and realistic.

17 So yes I believe and I hope that we stay in
18 touch, the inquiry, through our amazing staff, amazing
19 colleague.

20 Encore, again, merci. Merci for all of you.
21 The beautiful wife. And of course, Gladys, amazing to see
22 you supporting every family, I commend you. Thank you.
23 And you too.

24 (SHORT PAUSE)

25 MS. WENDY VAN TONGEREN: This is the end of

1 this particular session. And I suggest that we take a
2 break because there is another session, so perhaps 15
3 minutes.

4 **Exhibits (code: P1P020203)**

5 **Exhibit 1:** One-page information sheet about Alberta
6 Gail Williams, including contact info for
7 Wayne Clary and Connie Walker.

8 **Exhibit 2:** Laminated colour photograph of Alberta
9 Williams, about 8.5 x 11 inches.

10 --- Upon recessing at 4:34 p.m.

11 --- Upon resuming at 5:05 p.m.

12 **Hearing # 4**

13 **Witnesses: Ted Morris and Laura Morris**

14 **In relation to Pauline Morris**

15 **Heard by Chief Commissioner Marion Buller**

16 **Commission Counsel: Breen Ouellette**

17 **Registrar: Bryan Zandberg**

18 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Thank you, Chief
19 Commissioner.

20 For the record, my name is Breen Ouellette,
21 and I am a lawyer with the National Inquiry.

22 It is my honour to introduce Ted Morris,
23 sitting beside me, and Laura Morris, sitting three chairs
24 beside me. Laura and Ted are brother and sister. Ted has
25 travelled here from Sigos (phonetic) reserve and Laura has

1 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Was Pauline missing
2 for a time before it was discovered that she was murdered?

3 MR. TED MORRIS: Yes.

4 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Do you remember
5 approximately how long it was before she was discovered?

6 MR. TED MORRIS: Four months.

7 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Do you remember the
8 date that Pauline went missing?

9 MR. TED MORRIS: As far as I remember it was
10 March 14th, 1978.

11 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Laura, can you tell us
12 the circumstances of the day that Pauline went missing?

13 MS. LAURA MORRIS: She was in school at the
14 time and the teachers told my mom that she was sick -- well
15 they didn't tell her they just took her to town, went to
16 see the doctor. And they took her to town and they brought
17 her back far Northside but nothing was heard ever since.
18 They said she had an earache, or a toothache, or -- they
19 didn't tell us why they took her to town but they said she
20 was sick.

21 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: And for the people
22 that haven't had the pleasure to visit Southside. When you
23 say they brought her back to Northside are you referring to
24 the ferry location?

25 MS. LAURA MORRIS: Yes, the Francois Lake

1 Ferry.

2 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** So the teachers
3 brought her back to the ferry and then left her there to
4 catch the ferry by herself to go back home?

5 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** I don't know if the
6 teacher lived in Burns Lake or she -- they lived in
7 Southside, I'm not sure, because I wasn't in school at the
8 time.

9 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** When did the teachers
10 come to tell you about that?

11 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** My mom had to go to
12 Grassy Plains School to find out where did Pauline go and
13 that's when they told her that she was -- they brought her
14 to town for an illness and they brought her back to
15 Northside but they didn't bring her all the way home.

16 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Do you remember how
17 long it took for your mother to learn that from the
18 teachers?

19 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** I think it was right the
20 next day, cause Pauline usually comes home from school and
21 she never did show up. That's how my mom got worried. She
22 walked to Grassy Plains School to find out what happened to
23 her, why didn't she come home.

24 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** And, Ted, do you
25 remember the date that Pauline's body was found?

1 **MR. TED MORRIS:** Well, I know it was in
2 July, because I had Indian Day all by myself at the camp,
3 and then my late cousin Dick Tom told me that they found
4 Pauline, that they know that she was passed on, or
5 whatever. I said "Good they found her." That's all I
6 remember saying.

7 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** And so July of 1978?

8 **MR. TED MORRIS:** Yep.

9 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Laura, do you remember
10 the circumstances of how Pauline was found?

11 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** Well, at -- there's an
12 old wharf that's always been there throughout the winter.
13 One day a ferry crew they were moving that wharf. They
14 were going to move it somewhere else or pull it out. At
15 the time then my sister's body came floating up from under.

16 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** And, Ted, do you want
17 to just clarify what the wharf is?

18 **MR. TED MORRIS:** As far as I know it's not a
19 wharf. A wharf is stuck to the shore. What I think she's
20 referring to is a barge.

21 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Laura, can you tell us
22 where you were when Pauline's body was being transported to
23 the hospital?

24 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** We were going to Burns
25 Lake. We were in the ferry lineup and we seen a commotion

1 over there and we didn't know what was going on. We sat in
2 the car. And then they parked us right behind the truck
3 that had my sister's body in the back wrapped up in a tarp.
4 They didn't tell us who it was. We just later found out
5 when we got to Burns Lake.

6 Then my older sister Julia had to go and
7 identify her body at the time at the hospital, and all she
8 could remember was her red runners she was wearing. And
9 the other parts of her body were unrecognizable from being
10 under the water for so long.

11 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Do you remember if
12 anybody else was called to the hospital to identify
13 Pauline?

14 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** Well, after my sister
15 went up to -- she had an appointment at the hospital.
16 That's why she was up there. And they knew who she was so
17 she had to identify. And then later when she came back
18 downtown she told my mom and asked about. Then we all went
19 up there and we had to identify her body, and it was her.

20 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Laura, how long did
21 your mother grieve for your sister?

22 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** She grieved for a very
23 long time because Pauline was our younger -- youngest of
24 our family.

25 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** And, Ted, did the

1 police fully investigate the murder?

2 **MR. TED MORRIS:** As far as I know they
3 didn't even investigate anything.

4 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Laura, do you remember
5 the police speaking to your mother about investigating and
6 what she told them?

7 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** When they did speak with
8 her she just -- she's a strong believer in the Catholic
9 religion, and she just told them "Leave it up to the Lord.
10 The Lord will take care of whoever did this to her." So I
11 don't even know if they did any investigation after she
12 told them that.

13 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Do you think that the
14 police should have stopped investigating just because your
15 grieving mother said that?

16 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** I'm not sure, cause she -
17 - I don't know if they continued investigating after that.

18 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Ted, do you believe
19 that that would have been justification for the police to
20 stop investigating if your mother told them to leave it up
21 to the Lord?

22 **MR. TED MORRIS:** No, I don't.

23 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Ted, could you
24 describe how you learned the names of the men involved in
25 the murder of your sister?

1 **MR. TED MORRIS:** Well, I was told by my
2 cousins, Ken Burt, and -- when we were at his place. And
3 the person who told him was his ex-brother-in-law. So then
4 that's how he told me. And he told Laura. And they didn't
5 want to do anything.

6 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Do you also remember a
7 Ron Venzetta Sr. (phonetic) telling you about it as well
8 what he heard?

9 **MR. TED MORRIS:** He didn't tell me. He told
10 Kenny Burt. That's his brother-in-law.

11 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** And where was this
12 heard?

13 **MR. TED MORRIS:** Well, I -- Ron told Kenny
14 that the guys were in Alaska Way Cabaret and they were
15 bragging about it.

16 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** And when you say they
17 were bragging about "it" what was it that they were
18 bragging about?

19 **MR. TED MORRIS:** The rape and murder of my
20 sister.

21 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** And were you told the
22 names of these men?

23 **MR. TED MORRIS:** That would be second hand
24 information.

25 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Does that mean you

1 would prefer not to say the names at this time?

2 MR. TED MORRIS: That's correct.

3 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: You have provided the
4 names to me in the past. Can I provide them to the
5 Commissioner if the Commissioner agrees to an anonymity
6 order for the purposes of looking into it?

7 MR. TED MORRIS: Yes.

8 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Chief Commissioner,
9 will you agree to that anonymity order?

10 CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER: Yes,
11 certainly I'll make that order.

12 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: I'll provide those
13 names to you after the hearing.

14 CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER: Thank
15 you.

16 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Ted, I understand that
17 you have spoken with a gentleman, whose name you provided
18 to me, in the last few years about your sister's murder.
19 Could you tell us what happened and what that person told
20 you?

21 MR. TED MORRIS: Well, it only come about
22 after I submitted a letter to the Lakes District News. And
23 every newspaper should have a history, whatever, of
24 everything they publish, so it's pretty well there. When I
25 put the letter to the editor saying my sister got murdered

1 and there was no investigation at all, just another dead
2 Indian, and that's when one of the parties asked me to come
3 -- get a ride into town with them and he told me he didn't
4 have anything to do with it.

5 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** What did he say about
6 the other people that he spoke about?

7 **MR. TED MORRIS:** He told me he left right
8 away and went home because he was scared of them.

9 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Did you believe him?

10 **MR. TED MORRIS:** No.

11 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Why is that?

12 **MR. TED MORRIS:** Well, I just saw -- what do
13 you call one bunch of people who live in the same area and
14 they'd stick up for each other.

15 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Were the men that you
16 became aware of, this group, were they a group of
17 Indigenous men or a group of non-Indigenous men?

18 **MR. TED MORRIS:** They're all Caucasian.

19 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Ted, I also understand
20 that within the last year you have been given information
21 about these same men by your cousin Wilma Morris. Can you
22 tell us about that conversation?

23 **MR. TED MORRIS:** Well, our cousin got her
24 residential settlement, and she come up from Vancouver, and
25 driving her truck up Murray Road and then passed going

1 through this one field to the right and there's a lake
2 there, and then she was telling me that these people raped
3 her and her sister down in that cabin.

4 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Laura, I understand
5 that you also have been told about the men who killed
6 Pauline. Without talking about their names, just the men,
7 can you tell the Commissioner who told you, and what they
8 told you, and when they told you it happened?

9 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** Well, there's -- both
10 girls are my cousins and they live up towards left and
11 going up the ferry there's a reserve probably about 14
12 kilometres up. They live there. And I was partying with
13 them and, you know, when they get drunk they start talking,
14 and that's what they told me they got raped by these men
15 that lived down at Southbank. There were just two of them.
16 They didn't want to come forward because these guys we all
17 go to school with them. They were bullies from what I
18 know. I remember them. And after I quit going to school
19 and they were telling me that they got raped by these men.
20 They were bullied into having sexual contact with them.

21 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** And you knew these men
22 to see them? You'd interacted with them before?

23 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** Yes, because I went to
24 school with them.

25 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** And what would they

1 call you at school?

2 MS. LAURA MORRIS: Well, they used to call
3 me squaw, and you stink, get away from me your bugs might
4 jump on me, and stuff like that. They were always bullying
5 us native girls at school because we all hung out together.
6 Sometimes when they're walking by they push you and you
7 fall to the ground. It's been ongoing throughout my school
8 years. That's the whole reason why I quit going to school.
9 I got tired of getting bullied by these guys.

10 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: I also understand that
11 you spoke with a man, whose name we're not going to mention
12 today. It was a few years ago. Can you tell me the
13 circumstances and what this man told you?

14 MS. LAURA MORRIS: This was in -- another
15 time there was a dance at Grassy Plain Hall and the after
16 party was supposed to be at this guy and his wife's place.
17 And then we were told to go down to their place, and then
18 the other couples were following us from behind. And while
19 we're waiting for them to get to the house that's when this
20 guy started telling us about -- he said "I'm very sorry
21 Pauline passed away. I'm very sorry she's gone." And he
22 was kind of crying -- crying about it when he was talking
23 to my husband and I at the time. And then he said he was
24 just a witness there.

25 But he was very afraid of us, but we

1 reassured him that we weren't going to harm him or do
2 anything with him, because we grew up together in school.
3 And he ---

4 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** So you -- sorry.

5 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** He was by himself and his
6 wife was in the next room when he was telling us this.

7 But after that everything was forgotten when
8 these other two couples showed up.

9 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** So did he tell you
10 that he witnessed Pauline's murder?

11 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** Yes, he did.

12 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Did he tell you how it
13 happened?

14 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** Well, in -- he said he
15 was getting bullied by these guys. Like how he put it, if
16 he tattletailed they were going to beat him up. So he was
17 afraid to come forward all these years. That's why he
18 never came forward, because I think -- I am not sure, I'm
19 just guessing right now, that there's a couple that are
20 still living and he's still afraid of them.

21 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** So did he tell you
22 exactly how Pauline died?

23 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** Well, he said after they
24 finished with her she was trying to get away from them, she
25 only had the red runners on, and around that wharf, or that

1 barge, whatever, there was ice on the edge, because the
2 lake was freezing, then there's ice around it and she was
3 trying to go around it slowly but then she fell when they
4 kept trying to harass her.

5 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: And so she fell in the
6 water?

7 MS. LAURA MORRIS: Yeah.

8 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: And did they tell you
9 anything else?

10 MS. LAURA MORRIS: No.

11 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: And so, Laura, none of
12 these men have been punished by the justice system as far
13 as you know?

14 MS. LAURA MORRIS: No, they're all -- five
15 of them all died a violent death. Nowadays I guess you
16 would call it karma got them back.

17 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: And, Ted, do you know
18 if any of these men may still be alive?

19 MR. TED MORRIS: There's a couple, but I
20 don't know, maybe three.

21 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Okay. And can each of
22 you tell me about -- actually, I have another question.
23 Ted, have you learned anything recently about the police
24 investigation?

25 MR. TED MORRIS: Well, there was no

1 investigation far as I know, and it was news to me this
2 morning about the coroner's report, because even if it were
3 true she never did drink alcohol because she was only 14,
4 so how could she have a blood alcohol level of whatever
5 they said she had in her.

6 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: So how did you get
7 access to the coroner's report?

8 MR. TED MORRIS: I didn't. They told us
9 this morning that they got a text message or something on
10 their phone, email, whatever, saying exactly that's how she
11 supposedly died.

12 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Who are "they"?

13 MR. TED MORRIS: The RCMP or the coroner.

14 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: So you were speaking
15 with the RCMP today?

16 MR. TED MORRIS: Yes. I didn't know I was
17 going to.

18 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Did you ask to speak
19 to the RCMP?

20 MR. TED MORRIS: No.

21 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Who approached you
22 about speaking about the RCMP?

23 MR. TED MORRIS: Nobody told me it was RCMP.
24 I just heard it was investigators. But my cousin Marlene
25 Jack told me that there was a meeting at 8:15 and when we

1 got into town here it was 3:00 a.m., I didn't even have
2 more than three hours sleep, and then -- so therefore it
3 was just news to me.

4 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Do you know who
5 organized this meeting?

6 **MR. TED MORRIS:** No.

7 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Do you know who was at
8 the meeting?

9 **MR. TED MORRIS:** I do.

10 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Do you know their
11 names and can you tell me?

12 **MR. TED MORRIS:** There was my sister Laura,
13 my brother-in-law Pius, Pius Jack, and Ruby Prince, Brenda
14 Wilson. And two RCMP members, and I forgot their names --
15 gave me a card but -- S-E-M Ron Paulta (phonetic) is one of
16 them. Gave me a card.

17 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Okay.

18 **MR. TED MORRIS:** But the thing is it wasn't
19 about my sister.

20 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** What was it about?

21 **MR. TED MORRIS:** The Jack family who went
22 missing. And then they didn't even bring up my sister's
23 name I don't think until Laura was saying that they came up
24 to this meeting to discuss my sister's case not the Jack
25 family's case.

1 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Okay. So was there
2 any discussion of Pauline's case?

3 MR. TED MORRIS: They had a little bit after
4 a while.

5 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: So they got the
6 information somehow?

7 MR. TED MORRIS: I'm pretty sure, because
8 one guy is reading off his phone and reading the coroner's
9 report. And I just found it strange that she'd even have
10 alcohol in her system, because the only way she'd have it
11 if they forced her to. That's what I figured.

12 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: So you knew your
13 sister well and you never knew her to drink alcohol?

14 MR. TED MORRIS: No, never. She was my
15 oldest sister's pet more or less, like her -- the one that
16 hangs around with her all the time and treat her like her
17 own kid.

18 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: So the coroner's
19 report was on the phone. Did you get to look at it?

20 MR. TED MORRIS: No, I didn't.

21 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Was anything else
22 discussed during this meeting?

23 MR. TED MORRIS: Well, they more or less
24 didn't really get into it, because I only had the
25 information I had, and like the parts where they following

1 the body into town without realizing, that I didn't have no
2 idea about that at all. All I knew is what was told to me
3 when I was in camp.

4 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** How did you feel being
5 taken to this meeting today before your testimony?

6 **MR. TED MORRIS:** Well, I thought it was with
7 you, but it wasn't.

8 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** You thought you were
9 coming to meet me?

10 **MR. TED MORRIS:** That's right.

11 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** And so when you found
12 out it wasn't me and the subject matter of the meeting, how
13 did that make you feel?

14 **MR. TED MORRIS:** Well, I just figured that I
15 was done with the Jack family case a long time ago and
16 after they told me more or less that they had to go through
17 the process of elimination but that process of elimination
18 to me was harassment. And then it wasn't until Laura
19 brought it up that we thought we were going to discuss
20 Pauline Morris, my sister's case, eh, not the Jack family.

21 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Is there anything else
22 you want to say about that meeting before I move back to my
23 regular questions?

24 **MR. TED MORRIS:** Well, I just told them, I
25 said I was done with the Jack file, and it's done and over

1 with, no more discussion about it. So they have their own
2 investigation, and I don't know where that went after I
3 decided not to be part of it.

4 But this morning it's like they said they
5 swept it under the rug about my sister Pauline, like it
6 wasn't -- they say in every death they have to have a
7 thorough investigation, but if that was the case they would
8 have went after more. How can they just stop one
9 investigation and one death? So it's not right as far as I
10 am concerned.

11 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Did they tell you what
12 the finding of the coroner's report was?

13 **MR. TED MORRIS:** Well, they said that it was
14 an accidental drowning -- that's what I remember -- and had
15 a blood alcohol of 0.11 or something.

16 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Laura, did you also
17 know Pauline not to drink?

18 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** Far as I know, most of
19 her life she never did drink. She never did smoke
20 cigarettes, or she didn't at the time. There's a bunch of
21 kids her age they used to chew snuff but she never did chew
22 snuff. And I don't believe she had any alcohol. But this
23 morning from what we were told I was kind of shocked
24 myself.

25 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** How old was she when

1 she died?

2 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** She was 14. It's
3 supposed to be a week before her 14th birthday.

4 **MR. TED MORRIS:** A month.

5 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** Or a month before her
6 birthday.

7 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** So, Laura, can you
8 tell me about the gifts and strengths that Pauline had?

9 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** She was a very outgoing
10 person. She was always happy. She never -- I never did
11 not see her sad or crying. She was always playing and she
12 was always outgoing. Just the other testimonies this
13 morning, she likes to tell jokes and make people laugh all
14 the time. And she's very friendly with everybody else. I
15 don't think she ever had enemies.

16 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** And so you would say
17 she was just a normal 14-year old girl?

18 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** Yep.

19 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** I want to ask both of
20 you this question. I'll start with Laura. What do you
21 think could have prevented this tragedy?

22 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** What could have prevented
23 it was if the teachers brought her home and my mom would
24 bring her to the doctor herself instead of them taking her
25 right from school to town and not bringing her home. That

1 could have prevented her from where she is today.

2 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: You also spoke about
3 bullying. Do you think that something should have been
4 done with the bullying?

5 MS. LAURA MORRIS: The bullying at Grassy
6 Plains School was always -- they were always picking on us
7 native people. They were always bullying not only the
8 natives but the people they don't like. They're always
9 being bullied by these high school boys we call them.

10 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Ted, what do you think
11 could have prevented this tragedy?

12 MR. TED MORRIS: Well, I have no idea.
13 Normally the parents would be contacted if a child is sick.
14 And they need to have the parent's consent to have any
15 treatment. So that was the reason she was in town. I have
16 no idea. But that's not right as far as I'm concerned. If
17 it was a Caucasian person they'd call them or get them to
18 pick up their kid. And how she got to town is beyond me.
19 But that's how I know just -- and it's many years ago, you
20 forget a lot of things except for the main points that you
21 need to remember.

22 MR. BREEN OUELLETTE: Ted, what do you hope
23 the outcome will be as a result of your testimony today?

24 MR. TED MORRIS: I don't know. But if there
25 was a real investigation and those people are still around,

1 as they say, they come back home to roost and if they're
2 found guilty they should pay the penalty otherwise other
3 people still take native women and girls and continue
4 abusing and killing them. If it was any other race they
5 would have continued investigating that, not stop.

6 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** And, Laura, what do
7 you hope the outcome will be as a result of your testimony
8 today?

9 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** If there was further
10 investigation it could have put our family's mind at ease
11 and our heart at ease. This we don't have to think that
12 the case was just dropped. I just hope to see justice
13 happen even if these men are gone.

14 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Do you think that more
15 should be done to prevent bullying?

16 **MS. LAURA MORRIS:** Yes. Even my great
17 grandson going to school at Grassy Plain he gets bullied.
18 Even with the little boys that are going to school with him
19 they're starting to bully at a young age. Their parents
20 just got to learn how to raise their kids properly and
21 teach them not to be bullies in school.

22 I don't think the bullying has ever stopped
23 at Grassy Plain School. It's still ongoing.

24 Even on the bus -- my great grandson takes
25 the bus, and he says their names are on the seat. They

1 have to sit on that seat. They can't sit anywhere else.
2 If they sit anywhere else then they get in trouble.

3 And they're kind of like -- I myself I have
4 never been to a residential school, but for me that's how
5 they're treating my great grandson and the other kids.
6 They're putting their names on a seat and they have to stay
7 on that seat on the school bus.

8 Then at one point my youngest great grandson
9 was going to school -- he was staying with us -- and he was
10 supposed to start preschool but they put him in
11 kindergarten. And then he was going to school for
12 kindergarten then he got kicked off the bus just because he
13 wet himself and then he peed on the seat -- on the bus
14 seat, and that's the whole reason why he wasn't allowed to
15 go on the bus anymore. For me I think that was being
16 prejudice.

17 So I don't think the bullying will ever
18 stop. It will be ongoing throughout the years.

19 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Okay. Thank you.

20 I will now ask the Chief Commissioner if she
21 has any questions for Laura and Ted.

22 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** No, I
23 don't. Thank you.

24 **MR. BREEN OUELLETTE:** Is there anything else
25 either of you would like to say to the Chief Commissioner?

1 MR. TED MORRIS: I would like to thank you
2 for taking your time to come into the Bear territory, and
3 hopefully whenever you go across Canada that you find
4 justice for other murdered and missing women.

5 CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER: Thank
6 you. It's been my honour to hear your story today. Thank
7 you.

8 MS. LAURA MORRIS: I'd also like to thank
9 you for being here with us, listening to our case, and you
10 came such a long way just to be with us here. Thank you.

11 CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER: My
12 pleasure to be here. Thank you.

13 We have some gifts for you, because we're
14 very grateful that you shared your story with us about
15 Pauline, and we take that as a sacred gift.

16 Some of the matriarchs on Haida Gwaii found
17 out about our hearings and wanted to make sure that the
18 families and survivors were well protected and so they
19 asked that there be some eagle feathers harvested, and
20 that's what happened.

21 The eagle feathers are from Haida Gwaii at
22 the request of the matriarchs there to lift you up, to
23 honour you and show respect for you and your stories, and
24 Pauline. So please accept our gifts.

25 And also, Breen, I'm going to fall over

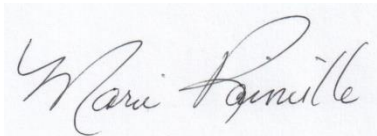
1 this, so I'm going to ask you to pass the seeds. Again,
2 because you shared with us we want to share with you, and
3 we do that by giving families seeds. And in this territory
4 they're fireweed seeds. We don't bring foreign seeds in of
5 course. We know how resilient fireweed plants are and how
6 beautiful they are. So we hope that you plant the seeds
7 and please let us know what happens, what grows.

8 So I'm truly honoured to have had the
9 opportunity to meet with you and hear your story about
10 Pauline and about the bullying at Grassy Plain School.
11 It's made a big difference. Thank you very much.

12 --- Upon adjourning at 5:55 p.m.

13 LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

14
15 I, Marie Rainville, Court Transcriber, hereby certify that
16 I have transcribed the foregoing and it is a true and
17 accurate transcript of the digital audio provided in this
18 matter.

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20 
21

22 Marie Rainville

23 October 3, 2017
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