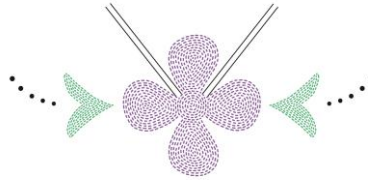


National Inquiry into  
Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls



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

**National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls  
Truth-gathering process – Part I Public Hearings  
Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel  
Elmbridge Room  
Metro Vancouver, British Columbia**



***Public***

**Saturday April 7, 2018**

**Public Volume 105:  
Angela Lavallee  
In relation to Zaylyn Lavallee**

**Heard by Chief Commissioner Marion Buller  
Commission Counsel: Christa Big Canoe**

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## II

### APPEARANCES

Assembly of First Nations	Julie McGregor (Legal counsel)
Government of Canada	Anne McConville (Legal counsel)
Government of British Columbia	Leah Greathead (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
Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak/Women of the Métis Nation	No Appearance

III

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
<b>Public Volume 105: Angela Lavallee In relation to Zaylyn Lavallee</b>	<b>1</b>
Heard by Chief Commissioner Marion Buller	
Commission Counsel: Christa Big Canoe	
Grandmothers, Elders and Knowledge-keepers: Kathy Louis	
Clerk: Bryana Bouchir	
Registrar: Bryan Zandberg	

IV

LIST OF EXHIBITS

NO.	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
<b>Witness: Angela Lavallee</b>		
<b>Exhibits (code: P01P15P0404)</b>		
1	Order of Guardianship made by the Queen's Bench (Manitoba) granting guardianship of the Child born on December 5, 2012 to Angela Lavallee, File No. CP 15-01-15163.	60
2	Autopsy report of Zaylynn Lavallee, Hospital Autopsy No. 15M314, with attached Toxicology Report as well as two letters of John K. Younes Acting Chief Medical Examiner, to Angela Lavallee, the first letter dated May 13, 2016 and the second June 21, 2016.	61
3	Folder containing three digital images and one Powerpoint presentation displayed during the public testimony of Angela Lavallee.	61

1 Metro Vancouver, British Columbia

2 --- Upon commencing on Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 09:14

3 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Good morning, Chief  
4 Commissioner. I'd like to introduce you Angela Lavallee.  
5 Angela actually has supports with her that she just wants  
6 to introduce before we begin, please.

7 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Hi, I'm going to pass  
8 the microphone to them, because these Ikway women have  
9 their own voices and are very strong.

10 **MS. KATHERINE POMPANA:** Hi, I'm Katherine  
11 Pompana. I'm Angela's adopted sister. I adopted her  
12 through ceremony five years ago now, so she's my sister.  
13 So I'm here to support her, and I was also there -- not  
14 there, but I was with her when the events occurred. So I'm  
15 here for her and I'll always be there for her.

16 **MS. ANGIE HUTCHINSON:** Good morning. I'm  
17 Angie Hutchinson and Angela is my spirit sister, and I'm  
18 here to support her.

19 **MS. HILDA ANDERSON-PYRZ:** Good morning. My  
20 name is Hilda Anderson-Pyrz. Angela is my sister as well,  
21 and I'm here to support her both in my role as a sister and  
22 as the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls  
23 liaison from the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak.

24 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Before Angela begins  
25 to share her story, I would ask that she's promised in on

1 an eagle feather, please.

2 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** Angela,  
3 do you promise to give your evidence today in a good way?

4 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** (inaudible)

5 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** Was that  
6 recorded? No, okay. I'm sorry. We'll have to do it  
7 again.

8 Angela, do you promise to give your evidence  
9 today in a good way?

10 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yes.

11 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** Thank  
12 you.

13 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** So Angela will be  
14 sharing her own story of surviving violence, as well as the  
15 story of her granddaughter, Zaylyn. But before we actually  
16 do that, I want to give you the opportunity to introduce  
17 yourself as well, because I understand you have a strong  
18 voice too.

19 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** I wanted to ask if my  
20 sister can open up with a prayer first, if that's all  
21 right? Okay. Thank you.

22 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** (Speaking in  
23 Indigenous language)

24 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Hi. My name is Angela  
25 Dina (phonetic) Lavallee. One of my spirit names that I

1 bring here today are four grandmothers woman. I am a  
2 single mother of four children, for -- their ages are 23,  
3 21, 19, 9. And I'm raising my granddaughter who is five  
4 years old. I'm originally from Cormack, Manitoba, that's  
5 where I have -- I grew up. I am Tataskweyak Cree Nation  
6 Treaty.

7 I resigned from a position with  
8 māmawêyatitân Center to go back to university and I'm doing  
9 a double major in conflict resolution and criminal justice.  
10 My plan is to apply at the University of Victoria or the  
11 University of Manitoba into their law program. The death  
12 of my granddaughter guides that path and the results  
13 surrounding the issues with -- on the violence on our women  
14 and girls are what take me there.

15 I'm also a focus-oriented therapist. So I  
16 do a lot of work -- I don't call it work because I  
17 volunteer my time -- to help others who are experiencing  
18 family violence. So that would be women that were sexually  
19 assaulted, or women that are fleeing violent relationships,  
20 as well as little girls. And I'm a sister, grandma,  
21 auntie.

22 Most importantly, I think a part of me is  
23 acknowledging who I am and that outside all of those roles,  
24 I'm somebody who tries to just get on through the day and  
25 plow through these systems and carry a little bit of weight

1 on my shoulders. But as you can see, I have a circle of  
2 supports and it's a lot larger than this, but we are in  
3 B.C. and I originate in Manitoba and a lot of the supports  
4 could not fly out here. Thanks.

5 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Now, Angela, I  
6 understand that you yourself have experienced some  
7 violence. So with whatever level you're comfortable  
8 sharing with us, I'm going ask if you can talk a little bit  
9 about that before we turn to Zaylyn.

10 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** As my first experience  
11 that I did not ask for with violence happened when I was  
12 three years old. I was sexually abused by a man that was a  
13 friend of the family and he used me and abused me until I  
14 was age 12, or no I was age -- yeah, about age 12. And it  
15 was done fairly -- very sneaky and very cruel, and the  
16 sexual abuse was done when family wasn't around.

17 I come from a very woman dominated family, a  
18 trusting family. My grandmother actually raised me. My  
19 mum -- my grandmothers older daughter -- oldest daughter,  
20 and she took me in as her own daughter and she took me away  
21 from that bad lifestyle. However, he found his way back  
22 into my life and it continued on until I was 12. And then  
23 I went to school and -- so he couldn't follow me to school  
24 because I went to Frontier Collegiate, and that's where I  
25 met the father of my children.



1                   And without getting into too much detail  
2                   with that story, because he is an indigenous man who has  
3                   experienced his own way of childhood stuff, and it never  
4                   should have happened to him. So we were the shadows of his  
5                   abuse. But the abuse with him was 10 years and every time  
6                   it was very physical, a lot of emotional. So my three  
7                   older kids were exposed to a lot of that violence.

8                   I had to get some face surgeries because my  
9                   nose was fractured, took three -- three surgeries. The  
10                  doctors wanted to do more, but I'd had enough being prodded  
11                  at. I left him when I was 26 and it took some time. I  
12                  think the longest was -- to heal from -- was the emotional  
13                  abuse and the understanding of that, and why it happened,  
14                  and try not to hate myself because of what had happened to  
15                  me, and learning that it was not my fault, and knowing  
16                  where to go for help and support. And also reconnecting  
17                  with him, without trusting him again and hearing his story.  
18                  I think there was a lot of restorative justice between us  
19                  in that. So yeah, that's ---

20                  **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** And I think it's  
21                  fair to say you introduced yourself with all of the work  
22                  you do, the volunteer work you do. I'm assuming a lot of  
23                  that is also driven by your life experience and ---

24                  **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah.

25                  **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** --- learning to heal

1 and come to terms with that type of reconciliation.

2 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah.

3 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Those are tools, I'm  
4 guessing, you use every day in your work with others?

5 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah.

6 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Can we talk about  
7 how having experienced that violence also gives you an  
8 ability to recognize when violence is occurring, even if  
9 people can't say it or talk about it themselves?

10 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** I think there's a lot  
11 of signs that lived experience opens up for you. I can go  
12 to school for five, 10 years, and sit there and learn about  
13 what violence really is. But if I don't have the  
14 experience of what it knows -- what it feels like to be  
15 hit, what it feels like to be raped of your money, what it  
16 feels like to be raped, what it feels like to be sexually  
17 violated, I think I would have a really hard time  
18 resonating with people that come in and see me.

19 I think I'm -- there's going to be a lens  
20 that I'm going to carry into the support, and I think an  
21 education is valued more in our society if you have a  
22 diploma. However, there's so many indigenous people out  
23 there that have overcome violence, that overcome  
24 residential school, that overcome colonization, however  
25 we're not acknowledged and we're not valued because we

1 don't carry a colonial -- that colonial certificate to say  
2 I've done it, and I can do it, and I can help you, let  
3 alone help myself.

4 So I think we're not valued in that way and  
5 it needs to be -- so our voices are smothered. They're not  
6 acknowledged. As a kokum trying to protect her  
7 grandbabies, I was pushed back. So -- by the systems that  
8 were there to protect them, and that didn't happen, and it  
9 needs to stop. Yeah.

10 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** And if you could,  
11 because you have -- you've told us about your own -- your  
12 own children, some of the strengths and stuff that you're  
13 able to instill in them based on that experience. What do  
14 those type of things include?

15 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** I think empathy is a  
16 huge one. To understand that hurt comes from a place of  
17 hurt and you can't hurt others in order to get justice.  
18 You need to walk with -- you need to lead with love.  
19 Sometimes it's really hard. People are not always going to  
20 love you back, including your own family members.

21 It's really, really hard and challenging,  
22 sometimes for myself to acknowledge the exposure that I put  
23 my own kids in. That's what they knew, was domestic  
24 violence. That's what we lived in for 10 years. So my  
25 daughter carried that into her relationships and that is

1 really challenging to get over. That intergenerational  
2 stuff that bleeds in the everyday practices.

3 It's really hard to break when you go to  
4 some of these places that are supposed to be supportive to  
5 you and they're judging you. Because then you're just back  
6 into that life that you were raised in. When you go and  
7 you're asking support from workers or policing agencies and  
8 they look at you like you're scum, or they're like, "What  
9 did you do? Why did you do that? Why would you even go  
10 back to him?"

11 So trying to learn from that and, you know,  
12 understand that we have a whole community of Elders, a  
13 whole community of families that are rebuilding, and we're  
14 rebuilding that circle, we're rebuilding that connection  
15 and we don't need to rely on places that are not validating  
16 that pain.

17 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** So and you touched  
18 on sort of living with the fact that your children were  
19 exposed to that domestic violence and sometimes there's a  
20 perceived shame that comes with that.

21 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** M'hm.

22 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** But can you tell me  
23 the strength it took you to move past the relationship and  
24 what made you decide that you had to end the relationship?

25 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** I walked into a place

1       within myself and met up with somebody that had said I  
2       wouldn't have long to live if I continued to live the way I  
3       was. And I was able to recognize that I was circling down  
4       into a place and around me there were families being lost,  
5       there were families being put into the system and I didn't  
6       want my kids there.

7                   So I phoned their kokum and she picked them  
8       up and she took them away until I was better, and I went  
9       back home to be close to my family. And that helped a lot  
10      and I was able to do that because I had nothing holding me  
11      back. I had no worker to tell me that, "Oh no, you have to  
12      stay here." I just left because I was able to.

13                   So I barely just skimmed past that system  
14      and got myself out of Winnipeg and I went back home, and  
15      where my aunties and my grandma were, and my mum actually  
16      moved back there too and stayed close. And my kids went  
17      with their grandma until they were -- for about two to  
18      three months, and picked myself up and left with only the -  
19      - only my bags on my back and my kids, and we came --  
20      actually came back to Winnipeg with, I don't know, a big  
21      truck full of stuff. So rebuilding my life, not only here,  
22      but that physical piece, like those materialistic items,  
23      and I also came back with another child. So -- yeah.

24                   **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Now, if we can talk  
25      about Zaylyn, but I know that you want to tell us about

1 Zaylyn, you want to share her strengths with us.

2 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah.

3 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Zaylyn was born on -  
4 - she was born on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014, and my daughter phoned  
5 me, she went into labour. We sat at the women's hospital  
6 and my daughter is a very gentle woman. Her spirit name is  
7 Water Lilly. Gentle too, but tough at the bottom.

8 So she went into labour and Zaylyn has an  
9 older sister of course, and when she was born she was  
10 quiet. She'd come out, she was quiet, but the happiest  
11 baby. I think she came out smiling and my daughter was  
12 very quiet during her labour. Like, I remember when I was  
13 in labour and being there with some women that are in  
14 labour and they're screaming and they're like, ahh. My  
15 daughter is like, "Oh, I think she's coming out." And I'm  
16 like, oh my goodness.

17 And then she wasn't loud enough so the  
18 nurses used that as a message. They said "No, something's  
19 -- she's coming." "I just checked, her, she's five." I  
20 said, "No, something -- she's --" And she checked, "She's  
21 10, oh my goodness." And they're running around, and you  
22 have to listen to the kokum's voices. So it was that whole  
23 energy of being there and watching her be born and it was  
24 so amazing. And she was so loved.

25 She would come to māmawêyatitân Centre where

1 I worked, and people would hold her, and her eyes -- like,  
2 her eyes were -- they were old. You'd look at her and she  
3 was -- she had these amazing eyes and my daughter would  
4 tell me stories. She'd take her on the bus, "Oh this  
5 little old lady came up to her and started talking about  
6 her eyes and squeezing her cheeks." And my daughter is  
7 like, "She shouldn't be squeezing her cheeks."

8 So she was really loved, very loved. And  
9 she spent a lot of time -- I acknowledged how she travelled  
10 in our family. Like, she -- it's almost like she touched  
11 so many lives in her nine months of living. She was 10  
12 pounds heavier than her older sister. So that was really  
13 amazing, like, she was a big girl and she loved cheezies.

14 And I loved sleepovers with her. We would  
15 spend -- I remember this one morning we spent. She got up  
16 about 8:30 and we spent in bed just laying there, changed  
17 her diaper, just rolling. She's sucking on her toes and  
18 she's playing with my face, and she just laid there. We  
19 laid there for about two and a half hours. And just  
20 different things. And this little thing, like, she used to  
21 love this and she'd play with it, with the ears, and she  
22 left it in my van.

23 And she was also an auntie's girl and a  
24 mommy's girl. So she was all over. I had a hard time  
25 having Zaylyn sleepover because she was always attached to

1 her mum's hip. And then it was really challenging, I  
2 remember though something that just sticks with me.

3 This one night when she slept over she came  
4 and she laid, and I was bathing her and putting on her  
5 little sleeper, and she was playing. And we -- I remember  
6 the light, I had a lamp right here, and then this feeling  
7 just came over me, just like this feeling that she wasn't  
8 going to be here long. And then I was just like, no, and I  
9 felt it. And as quick as it came, is as quick as it went  
10 away. But it was months later, a couple months later, she  
11 was gone.

12 And it was about a month and a half where  
13 she was there, but she was sleeping in the auntie's room  
14 and I woke up about 1:30 in the morning and I just felt  
15 that feeling again. But it was just like a feeling of  
16 death and fear, and I knew I had no control over it, but I  
17 wasn't sure who it was going to be. And as quick as it  
18 came, is as quick as it left. So she was the joy. That  
19 little bundle of -- we called her fatty poof and she was so  
20 cute. Yeah.

21 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Can you -- can you  
22 please tell the Commissioner a little bit about your  
23 daughter and her partner's relationship at the time?

24 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Her partner, who is  
25 not the father of the girls, came into her life October.



1 Prior to that my daughter was getting back on her feet.

2 Dad of the girls is an indigenous young man  
3 who grew up in the system, so walking up against the wind  
4 and, you know, he had everything against him bad and he's  
5 actually sitting in jail right now for some stuff he never  
6 should have done. But he's walked against that wind and he  
7 doesn't know anything else, and so he is in -- he went to  
8 jail. There were some warrants out for his arrest and then  
9 my daughter ended up meeting somebody.

10 She was going to school at the time at APC  
11 with the girls and she was pregnant with Zaylyn when she  
12 met him, and then she had Zaylyn in August and then by  
13 October we started noticing things. She was not answering  
14 phone calls as much. I would get phone calls and they  
15 would hang up. He -- we know when somebody is not being  
16 treated well, our mums know, my mum knew, my grandma knew.  
17 I knew my daughter wasn't in a healthy relationship and she  
18 challenged that with me.

19 So our focus was to try to make sure the  
20 girls were safe and to make sure she was safe. But she was  
21 in the denial and she lived him, and that cycle that we all  
22 are familiar with, but we're not familiar with when we're  
23 in it. And he started answering the door and then we  
24 started noticing she was running out of food. We started  
25 noticing the girls were not kept the way they should have

1           been.

2                           I'll call her J, my older granddaughter. I  
3           can't discuss some of the stuff related around her case  
4           just because it's still in the courts, and I don't want to  
5           talk about some of that stuff right now with her. So she  
6           was starting to spend a lot of time at my place and then  
7           when I would take her home her body language would read  
8           something was going on. She would scream as soon as we'd  
9           start going around the corner. And I asked my daughter  
10          what that was about, and she told me the stories and the  
11          suspicion.

12                           So we hovered closer and she pushed us back,  
13          and then she went -- I can't talk about that particular  
14          piece, but there's piece that are intertwined with Zaylyn's  
15          case that I'm trying my hardest not to talk about. It's  
16          just part of that being held by those slow justice systems  
17          and policies. So I'll try my best.

18                           So the relationship with her were -- and it  
19          even starts by hickies. That control, that knowing, broken  
20          phones, broken doors, holes in the wall, no makeup, all her  
21          nice stuff that I was giving her gone. So we knew  
22          something was up and she was becoming distant. She would  
23          come to me like, even a broken stroller. I had -- we had  
24          got the girls a double stroller, so that was missing.

25                           He was gang affiliated, I suspected, just by

1 the colours he was wearing and I'm not ignorant to that  
2 kind of stuff. And then there was bruises that were  
3 questionable and injuries that I had come across, and then  
4 she had fed me lies about how she'd already seen the doctor  
5 and -- so I can't get into that. I'm going back into that  
6 one. And then there were Facebook messages, there were her  
7 friends who were concerned. So the whole history of  
8 knowing that she was in an abusive relationship.

9 She actually kicked me out of her house a  
10 couple times, and I didn't want to break bad with her, so I  
11 made sure that I did not become a person that was too  
12 invasive, but that was there. Because I was -- I wanted to  
13 be there for here and I needed to be in the home and make  
14 sure I go in there and look for certain things. And then  
15 he was started to -- he was not allowed around my house,  
16 but when she did come to my house there were the, when are  
17 you coming back?

18 So I actually had my son go and stay there.  
19 My son was dealing with some stuff, to kind of monitor  
20 things. He ended up getting kicked out. He deals with  
21 other stuff so that's his story to tell, I can't talk about  
22 that. That's his story.

23 My daughter and I started to see messages  
24 when he would come in the room she would just hover and go  
25 into our arms and she spent a lot of time with us. And

1       there was other things that were told to us, but not until  
2       after Zaylyn died. Not until after we started asking more  
3       questions and he was really -- when we would go and visit  
4       he'd go and run up the stairs. So there was those signs  
5       that sit here that I know exist and make me that expert,  
6       and when you live it you see it. So ---

7                   **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** So I understand that  
8       you actually, being the advocate in navigating through  
9       those systems, actually took the time to contact the Chief  
10      Examiner's Office and ask if you could receive a copy of  
11      the comprehensive autopsy report.

12                   **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** M'hm.

13                   **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** And then you'll  
14      recall we actually subpoenaed you to get a copy of that so  
15      ---

16                   **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah.

17                   **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** --- because it was  
18      confidential in nature, and so we subpoenaed you so that we  
19      could then have the record.

20                   **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** M'hm.

21                   **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** I'm going to pass it  
22      up, just to the Chief Commissioner. And that's -- I'm just  
23      going to start with a couple questions about it. There is  
24      a letter from the Chief Medical Examiner's office just --  
25      the first page is just here's what you've requested and

1 it's enclosed.

2 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah.

3 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** But there's a second  
4 letter that indicates -- it indicates that the  
5 comprehensive autopsy report was recently amended and the  
6 amendment was to note that the father listed in the actual  
7 document has been changed to stepfather, and this speaks to  
8 the fact that your daughter's -- the father of your  
9 grandchildren is not the same person they're talking about  
10 in the report.

11 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah.

12 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Normally, I actually  
13 request that these documents be sealed for the integrity  
14 and for -- to respect and honour the deceased. Although it  
15 is what it is, which is a very clinical look at a death,  
16 this one is not as graphic and so I'm not going to seek an  
17 order in this particular circumstance. She is deceased.  
18 I'll give that to you. I don't necessarily need to have  
19 it, because you're familiar with it.

20 But if you could -- you don't have to start  
21 with -- you don't have to start with the autopsy report.

22 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** No.

23 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** You can start with  
24 what you know of Zaylyn's death, please?

25 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** The night that she

1 died I was actually at a meeting and I was -- went for a  
2 run, and I was supposed to pick up the girls, and my  
3 daughter had plans to go out that night. And the meeting  
4 went later so I ended up not getting the girls.

5 So that is something that I have had to  
6 overcome, that regret on how we live with what we could  
7 have done differently. If they were with me they would --  
8 so I've -- I can say that now without crying.

9 So one of the things that -- so that night -  
10 - I usually sleep with my phone on silent and I rolled over  
11 and then the phone was ringing. And then it was my  
12 daughter, Season (phonetic). I'm like, oh no. Is she  
13 phoning to argue? Because she was kind of upset with me  
14 that night and -- that I couldn't keep the girls, and then  
15 she was going on. And she phoned.

16 So I picked it up and she was hysterical,  
17 and she's like "Zaylyn is gone, she's gone." And my first  
18 thought was CFS, because they were already aware of some  
19 issues that were going on and they were supposed to be  
20 keeping an eye on the girls. And then I said, "Well, where  
21 is Jeneva? Where's -- did they take Jeneva too?" "Mum,  
22 she's dead." And then I really don't recall -- I think my  
23 cousin or sisters came to pick me up, and we got to the  
24 hospital and then just the busyness and the realities.

25 They wouldn't let me see her. They said it

1 -- there was two cops standing there and that really  
2 bothered me. Because I said, well if they're -- "Why can't  
3 I see her?" And they wouldn't let me see her at all. They  
4 just had -- it felt so, I don't know, un-indigenous, I  
5 guess. The best I can say it regardless of -- from what I  
6 understand, the way, when are people died, regardless of  
7 how they died, we get that time with them. And but at the  
8 same time I was respecting their -- like, if something did  
9 happen to her, they needed to have that place confined.

10 And so then family was there. A lot of that  
11 stuff comes in pieces, because I was in a place where it  
12 took a while to remember some of the stuff around when she  
13 died. And then I remember he was sitting there and I  
14 didn't -- I just had a feeling. And then the cops had  
15 taken him and my daughter and I didn't want to leave the  
16 hospital because I wanted to see her. So I had some  
17 supports come in and I just wanted to like, touch her and  
18 see her, but they wouldn't let me see her and I ended up  
19 going not seeing her. That really bothered me a lot.

20 And from what I understand, from what I  
21 remember it was 45 minutes that the police had taken my  
22 daughter and him and then interviewed them. Then by -- I  
23 remember being in touch with my daughter's neighbour, her  
24 friend, and the corners office and them, they were all  
25 cleared out by, I think, 7:00. So they were there just

1 doing what they needed to do.

2 And I had asked what happened. And she said  
3 that they both went upstairs and found her, and she wasn't  
4 breathing and I was like, "Okay. Well, they'll find out  
5 what happened." I had that hope that, you know, you still  
6 carry on to the hope that things will be found. And so we  
7 went around just doing the -- doing all that we needed to  
8 do to ensure she was buried, to make sure all of the stuff  
9 -- and even during her service and the wake he was there.

10 He was always there and some of my aunties  
11 just had that sense about him, and I didn't trust him  
12 already. I didn't even want him there, but my daughter, I  
13 needed her there and didn't want her -- she was supposed to  
14 be staying at my house during that time. She didn't want  
15 to go back to the house, but he wasn't allowed in my house,  
16 so she had to -- she stayed in the house with him, but I  
17 didn't let Jeneva go back. Oh, J.

18 And then -- so then dealing with the grief  
19 and the family, and all of the stuff, but not really asking  
20 the questions yet. But it sat there. And then I remember  
21 sitting at her -- at her coffin wondering what happened,  
22 but not being in that place of being able to even ask what  
23 happened, because we can't even believe it's actually  
24 happened.

25 And then he was walking by with her, my



1 other granddaughter and he -- because we were at  
2 Thunderbird House in Winnipeg, honouring her. And he was  
3 going to sleep where my daughter was in the room with her,  
4 and I had all my sisters and we were all out there, and I  
5 was sitting with Zaylyn, just talking to her.

6 And I turned around and I'd seen her face,  
7 Zaylyn's sister, and she was just looking at me and I said,  
8 "Hey, bring her here." And then he's -- I said, "You're  
9 not to touch her again." And he just looked "What, what?"  
10 And then my daughter, of course he went and said -- and I  
11 just had to say it. I was trying to be non -- not create  
12 an awkward place for my daughter as well in her time of  
13 grief. But I just didn't want him near her.

14 And told my daughter, "She's not going with  
15 you. She's going to stay with me. You need to spend some  
16 time with yourself and she shouldn't be in the home where  
17 her sister was found -- found in that way." And she's  
18 like, "Okay." And then so we got through the services and  
19 then Manitoba Housing had actually called me and then I had  
20 told -- they said, "What's going on? There's a coroner,  
21 blah, blah, blah --" And I said, "Well, my granddaughter  
22 died."

23 And I said, "And I know this place is  
24 infested with mice." I said, "There's an actual --  
25 supposed to be a drafted-up letter by Manitoba Hydro to get

1       these girls out of your place." I said, "Because you  
2       shouldn't be telling my daughter to clean up mice." And I  
3       just -- that just came out during my time of grief. I took  
4       it -- since they called me I took the opportunity and  
5       utilized it the best that I can. And then -- "Well, we'll  
6       get her suite", they said. I said, "I don't want her to go  
7       back there."

8                       So they moved her to another apartment,  
9       another place. And then I had my -- one of my cousins who  
10      lived closer keep an eye on Jeneva, because the workers  
11      were not going. They were scheduling visits and when I had  
12      talked to the workers and I had said, "This is what's going  
13      on, related to Jeneva" -- oh.

14                      **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** It's okay.

15                      **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** That "You need to keep  
16      an eye on her. You need to watch her, and you know, she's  
17      already been -- she was already in the hospital when Zaylyn  
18      was still alive, and you need to watch her." And they  
19      said, "Well we scheduled a visit." I said, "You don't  
20      schedule a visit. These are the families that you need to  
21      be invasive with." I said, "If you would give me some  
22      authority I can go in when I want, and if she doesn't  
23      listen, they you'd be my back up." Like, trying to work  
24      with them.

25                      We can all sit at the same table and we can

1 ask the questions. We shouldn't be doing it in pieces and  
2 trying to bring all the papers together. This is circle,  
3 and in that way, when they tell us the story, we all get  
4 the story. But I'm hearing five different stories. And  
5 then she said, "Oh, you're just being a paranoid Kokum."  
6 And I'm -- no. I said, "You need to go in."

7 So I pulled in the aunties and my -- one of  
8 my cousins, and then -- who she's really close with around  
9 -- and this is after my granddaughter died. So there is  
10 some stuff going on that I keep accidentally talking about  
11 that I know I can't talk about, but it's tied to Zaylyn's  
12 story. And then he had -- still had access to her and he  
13 was -- like, there's ---

14 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Can I request just a  
15 short break, if possible please? Thank you. If we could  
16 have five minutes that would be great.

17 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** Yeah.

18 --- Upon recessing 9:49 a.m.

19 --- Upon resuming 9:55 a.m.

20 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Thank you. If we  
21 can carry on, Angela, talking about Zaylyn's death and what  
22 you know about it?

23 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** So after Zaylyn died I  
24 knew immediately that I needed to find out how and why, and  
25 I had some familiar, I guess experiences, to -- I knew I

1 needed to get in touch with the Chief Medical -- like, the  
2 officers, the police. The police did not take my call  
3 because I was not the guardian to her, or the parent. And  
4 I actually -- they were really surprised I got the autopsy  
5 report, but I advocated for that.

6 And I said, as somebody who is the  
7 matriarch, like in my daughter's life, and she's vulnerable  
8 at the moment. She's grieving, she'd getting through a  
9 violent relationship, so I am that person, and they managed  
10 to send it to me a year later. They did not complete it  
11 the year later. How I managed to get it so -- when I did,  
12 was I had become fed up. I'm a very patient person and I  
13 had told them if the media had a whisper of what was going  
14 on with my granddaughters and they had had this highlighted  
15 all over Manitoba, or in Winnipeg, you know that a young  
16 baby dies, and would you be moving any faster on that  
17 autopsy report? And I got it within a few weeks later.

18 So when I did get it, they made it very  
19 clear to me that I'm not to show that to anybody, that  
20 there would be -- I would be reprimanded if the autopsy  
21 report was shown. I said, "I won't show it to anybody."  
22 But I did share it with my voice and interpreted it the way  
23 that it needed to be interpreted.

24 And that caused -- when I got the autopsy  
25 report, at that time I was already questioning -- I was

1 phoning the children's advocate in Manitoba. I wanted to  
2 know -- because I knew there should be a death review  
3 committee that would meet, because Jeneva -- Zaylyn, the  
4 girls were involved in the system. They were not  
5 apprehended by the system, but they were involved in the  
6 system and they should have been overseen and it was within  
7 that timeframe.

8 So after a few calls with the Children's  
9 Advocate, with a call with the Chief Medical Officer, with  
10 all the other stuff related to her sister and all -- trying  
11 to connect everything, I felt like a ping pong ball. Oh  
12 no, you have to phone there, you have to phone there. This  
13 is who you phone. So getting bounced back and forth and  
14 then I had just said, I said, "Why are these people not  
15 meeting around the table? And I want to be at that table."  
16 They said, "Oh no, the worker will be there. It'll be  
17 fine." I said, "Are you talking to -- about the worker  
18 that should have been protecting my granddaughters?  
19 Because I don't want anybody speaking who is not there for  
20 them." I could bring the voice for the girls to this death  
21 review committee.

22 And then I got another call -- actually, I  
23 never got no calls, I called and inquired again, "Did you  
24 get the autopsy report completed? Did you get a copy of  
25 the autopsy report?" I phoned Children's Advocate and then

1 they said they were meeting that Friday and everybody was  
2 coming together. And I said, "Good. Will I be there as,  
3 you know, any family members?" And they said, "Oh no,  
4 we'll get back to you." I phoned again, the Chief Medical  
5 Officer and he said, "No, we still did not get the autopsy  
6 report done." I said, "Well, how does the death review  
7 committee meet without an autopsy report?"

8 Oh well -- so I was getting kind of played  
9 around is how I felt, like a ping pong ball. So some  
10 frustration. Then when I did get the autopsy report and  
11 read it and then he said, "Well, you're not going to know  
12 what is being said. You don't understand the terminology  
13 about it." And I said, "Well, I could read, and I can  
14 understand, and I can summarize, and I know how to do  
15 research, and maybe I know somebody who could read it with  
16 me." And that's when he had said, "Well, you're not  
17 allowed to show it."

18 And so when I did get the autopsy report,  
19 that's when I requested -- the first thing was he's not  
20 their father. For me that was an insult. So I said, this  
21 did not happen, this did not happen. Like, who did the  
22 investigation? I said, because the police are telling me  
23 they were waiting for this and then to determine, and now  
24 the death is deemed undetermined. What does that mean?  
25 And then they said, "Well, it just means it's -- we don't

1 know what happened. We're not ruling out an unsafe  
2 sleeping environment." I said, "Well, he was the unsafe  
3 sleeping environment." I said, "When you -- if --" And he  
4 said, "Well, that's not our job." And I said, "Well, is it  
5 not the job to collaborate with the Winnipeg Police?"  
6 Like, who do I talk to?

7 And then so when I got in touch with the  
8 Winnipeg Police investigators, prior to even getting the  
9 autopsy report, that was their excuse. "Well, we're  
10 waiting for the autopsy report." I said, "Well do you not  
11 investigate even before, if there's a suspicion?" Like, a  
12 healthy baby dies, she's found, and why would you wait for  
13 an autopsy report? It's months.

14 I said, "You need to talk to my daughter.  
15 She needs to talk to you." She's -- because she had left  
16 the relationship and her fear was not -- her voice was not  
17 being led by him any longer. So you need to --- "Well,  
18 give her our number." I said, "Well, this is the address  
19 where you'll find her and, you know, and this is who else  
20 you talk to and you -- there were people there that night.  
21 There's four versions of what happened to her that night.  
22 You have the version my daughter gave you because it was  
23 guided by him. You have the version of a lady that was  
24 there that will tell you that he brought her body down and  
25 was poking at her and asking what he should do. You would

1       hear that from her."

2                   I said, "There is also the neighbour when  
3       allegedly he was supposed to be doing CPR on her, he was  
4       looking out the window. So if there's something that needs  
5       to be done --" I said, "-- nobody investigated." And then  
6       they had said, "Well, tell them to call us and we'll go see  
7       them." And I said, "Okay, well, I hope you do." But  
8       nothing was ever done.

9                   Then when I did phone and I found out that  
10       they closed her file and I found that really -- how do you  
11       close a file? It's what you call something half fast, you  
12       know? You don't just close a file. It's like making a  
13       sandwich and not completing it. You know, there's more to  
14       that, you know, there's more to that. There's more that  
15       needs to be filled.

16                   I said, "When you read the autopsy report in  
17       the bruising, they talk about birth bruising. There were  
18       never bruises on her like that. She should have had those  
19       bruises through her whole little life. You know, you're  
20       drafting up an autopsy report and allegedly, could be,  
21       could be, could be, when you don't know what was there  
22       before because you don't ask the questions."

23                   I had to share with my daughter a version of  
24       what I had heard that she didn't know because she wasn't in  
25       a place to protect her girls. She was vulnerable herself.



1 She takes accountability, she carries her own regret. She  
2 carries that a lot. She numbs herself with -- she learned  
3 how to numb herself with drugs. She learned how to inject  
4 that into her body to be happy. It's so easy for them to  
5 just inject that.

6 When she was ready to talk to the police,  
7 they dismissed her and then they just said, "Well, why  
8 didn't you tell us before?" So to acknowledge that when  
9 women are in an -- in violent relationships that they're  
10 not empowered, they're not inspired to speak, and you know,  
11 we need to remember that. That what they may say in that  
12 time is not going to be the truth.

13 And when the truth does come out you  
14 validate that, because that's their time, they're ready and  
15 they're being full again, and they're being honoured.  
16 They're flowing through that healing process and when you  
17 dismiss it like that and you say that there's something --  
18 it's all lies, it's not. And you connected -- so when I  
19 did my -- because as kokums and as family members, we  
20 become the experts. We become really good at investigative  
21 work. We learn how to get through the loopholes. We learn  
22 how to network. We learn how to build the relationships.

23 We don't need a file in front of us to refer  
24 to because they file is in us. These women and these girls  
25 are more than just numbers. They're more than 1,200 plus.

1 And we don't need anymore of them to die. We don't need  
2 that anymore. We don't need anymore little Zaylyns  
3 wandering around, like what happened.

4 Her pediatrician had said he would be really  
5 surprised if they don't have a committee to come together  
6 to find out what happened to her. And a part of me feels  
7 like I should have been surprised too, but I think I'm not  
8 surprised because I see how inconsistent everybody is  
9 treated. You walk into an place and there's no equality.  
10 If she was a little girl that died in Charleswood area in  
11 Winnipeg, they wouldn't -- it wouldn't have been this way.  
12 If I had maybe the ties and the pulls to some political  
13 people, maybe they would have looked harder. But I  
14 shouldn't have to have that. I'm busy trying to raise my  
15 family and live. I don't want to go sit at a table and  
16 pretend who I'm not.

17 So I tried to do it on my own with the  
18 people in my life and I read her report and to say that she  
19 had broken ribs due to an alleged person whose inexperience  
20 at giving her CPR, I think there's more to that.  
21 Especially when you know there -- that he may not have been  
22 doing CPR, but nobody asks but me.

23 The bruising to her body, and then her body  
24 was so -- when -- before we buried her my sisters, two of  
25 my sisters did the cedar bath on her and it's important for

1 us to do that. And the funeral home director told us that  
2 we shouldn't be part of that cedar bath because he -- it  
3 was the worst he's ever seen of anybody getting an autopsy.  
4 So the digging around that they have done to her, the  
5 cutting up and the tissues, and he said it was too much.  
6 And then -- but they still -- they did it and they had the  
7 strength to do it. And she's a mum, like she shouldn't  
8 have to see that, so she carried that strength in there for  
9 my family, for our family.

10 So there was just that knowing. Like,  
11 there's the knowing that when I read that autopsy report,  
12 there's just too many questions. I may not be a medical  
13 person, but I know damn well that my Zaylyn didn't have  
14 bruising to her body, and I know that he wasn't doing CPR.  
15 I know there was something that had happened, that he was  
16 the one that was last with her in that room. And when he  
17 was in that room is when she stopped crying and then she  
18 was gone. And he brought her down to the living room.

19 I had to tell me sister -- my daughter this  
20 and she only found that version out two weeks ago because I  
21 was protecting her from it. She didn't know that he  
22 brought her body down before he went -- he went and got her  
23 and said she wasn't breathing. Her first story changed,  
24 but I got that story from a kokum that was there that  
25 night. And she said he -- she was crying and he kept going

1       upstairs, and the he -- the last time she cried he went up  
2       and then he brought her down limp.

3               So he brought her down limp and then he  
4       said, "She's not breathing, what do I do?" And she said,  
5       "You have to phone 9-1-1." And he started poking at her,  
6       according to her story, and she puked and all I can think  
7       of after reading the report was she was probably puking  
8       from pain because her ribs were already broken.

9               Then he took her back up and apparently went  
10       down and then that's when that lady said, "Your daughter's  
11       not breathing." And so it's all -- whatever happened. So  
12       they need to find out what had happened. I could only do  
13       so much and try to keep those stories. And when you wait,  
14       and you do an autopsy report and you wait a year for that,  
15       the date of the autopsy report to the date she died, like  
16       the people don't remember the way some of us do. Some  
17       people forget. It's not a big highlight for some of them  
18       like it is for me, because it lives here, and we have to be  
19       led by suspicion too.

20               And then -- and then that's when -- why I  
21       question what had happened. And having to tell me daughter  
22       that, over Facetime, because she works up away from -- I do  
23       try to get her away from the city because she's injecting  
24       and stuff. So she's safer up north. And telling her that  
25       and she just -- watching your baby almost die over her

1 baby, and getting her through that and allowing her to  
2 understand, you know, there is a part of violence that we  
3 carry as women and it weakens our intuition and our  
4 motherhood, and sometimes we can't take care of our kids  
5 because we're too battered, but then we become bigger than  
6 that.

7           Especially when systems don't use that a  
8 their authority to remove our children, when they bring in  
9 the aunties, and if we don't have aunties, then we have  
10 people who are like aunties. We have people who laugh with  
11 us like aunties. If we don't have mums, then we have other  
12 women in the community who step into that role. If we  
13 don't have dads. But we don't need wired workers. We  
14 don't need somebody who knows half the story based on a  
15 file that sits collecting dust in their cabinet, directed  
16 by greenies, and authorities, and -- we need the voices  
17 back.

18           So Zaylyn was -- something happened, and we  
19 know, and there's special ways that I was told. I know  
20 what happened. I was shared by a vision what happened, and  
21 if the truth is never found here, if it's never  
22 acknowledged here, then he has bigger entities to answer  
23 to. But I don't want to have anybody else go through that.

24           I remember sitting at her coffin and I was  
25 just sitting there, and that feeling. And there was a

1 moment where it was just us, and then I felt really happy.  
2 I just felt like, oh, and it was just like a really  
3 overwhelming feeling and then it was almost like I heard  
4 it. I said, it was just like I felt, someday this is going  
5 to make sense, and someday it's going to help somebody  
6 else, if it's shared. Someday it's going to make sense  
7 mama. And then as quick as that -- that feeling, it just  
8 left, and I wanted it back so bad.

9 But I know I had to grieve, and I know it's  
10 making a difference in some way. If it's not at the policy  
11 and legislation, it's -- we have moccasin telegraph and  
12 that moves really fast, and it's done honourably. And I  
13 know my sisters, indigenous Ikway sisters and non-  
14 indigenous Ikway sisters that work in these systems that I  
15 had to opportunity to share this piece with, with the  
16 girls, that they take that with them to work. That  
17 sometimes those questions need to be asked, that  
18 invasiveness.

19 And that family group conferencing like,  
20 māmawēyatitân centre has and exist that keeps that care  
21 within the families, it's so important. And I'm familiar.  
22 Like, I took myself back to school to learn why the justice  
23 system works the way it does, and I'm learning a lot, and  
24 it doesn't mean that I have to accept it. But it's  
25 allowing me to learn how to help others to get through it.

1                   If I can't change it then at least learn it  
2                   so we can teach others, because I know now about blue wall.  
3                   I'm familiar with blue wall. I'm familiar with policing  
4                   and the culture. And I know it's -- it's a hard one. Some  
5                   people don't go in it, they learn it while they are in  
6                   policing. I know about the jurisdictions. I know why the  
7                   RCMP can't go and arrest him where he's hiding, because  
8                   it's a Winnipeg Police issues, and those things need to  
9                   stop. And it's not fair and these people shouldn't have  
10                  access to children until they find themselves. And some of  
11                  these people are fathers, and are uncles, are mothers that  
12                  are hurting others, and it comes from -- comes from a place  
13                  that we don't know.

14                 And I don't sit here and claim that I've  
15                 never done anything wrong. I acknowledge my wrong and I  
16                 make right from it. I'm not any better than anybody else,  
17                 but I don't want to accept an undetermined death, because  
18                 that whole autopsy report, the way they even handled all of  
19                 that, like, it's unacceptable. Even for somebody to tell  
20                 me weeks before -- when I first started calling the medical  
21                 examiner's office and just that whole energy. Like, you  
22                 don't know me but you're talking to me like I'm an idiot.

23                 Sometimes the answers are in the best  
24                 questions and when you ask them the right way, then they  
25                 come. And some people don't like that because you know

1       you're putting the fire under their butt to get them on  
2       their job, and they have a choice to say, "I'll just deal  
3       with her later", or no. But the minute CTV or CKY call and  
4       say, "Hey, what's going on with this? We heard this."  
5       They move fast. And they shouldn't need that to move fast.  
6       They shouldn't need media or highlights of -- you know, I  
7       don't want to be a highlight. I don't want to be sitting  
8       here.

9                   Before I even -- before Zaylyn even died I  
10       was sitting in places like that advocating and  
11       understanding the issues around Murdered and Missing  
12       Indigenous Women and Girls and our two-spirited. I never  
13       wanted to be here, and I know no family wants to be here.  
14       There's nothing glamorous or pretty about being here. We  
15       want our loved ones back. We want something, and we  
16       shouldn't really have to have another person dying.

17                   Our babies -- I remember when Zaylyn died  
18       and about the same time, that news thing came out about the  
19       woman that got arrested because a baby died. And she was -  
20       - she told me about it and her heart just dropped because  
21       she thought oh, it's -- you know, something's going on.  
22       Something's moving. Somebody's listening. But it was  
23       actually a totally different story, and family, and -- but  
24       then we chose not to, like, I didn't want that for my  
25       daughter. I didn't want her going through that. She needs



1 to be protected too.

2 But then at the same time, my granddaughters  
3 need a voice, because it's hard when all you can do it cry  
4 and tell, you know? But we need to listen to body  
5 language. If you don't understand Cree, if you don't  
6 understand Ojibway, or a certain language and you're  
7 working with the family like that, then listen to the body.  
8 It tells you a lot of stuff, and people don't do that.  
9 They're -- because they don't look up from the file.

10 So when you're fully engaged and you look up  
11 from your book and your cell phone and you connect with  
12 that family and you read the body, you learn a lot from  
13 that. So they need to do that.

14 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** So your -- you  
15 explained to the Commissioner that your daughter is now  
16 working and living north, but that you -- you still have  
17 your other granddaughter.

18 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah.

19 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** I'm just going to  
20 share with the Commissioner, it's already redacted in terms  
21 of names of the parents or of the -- of her granddaughter,  
22 but it's an Order of Guardianship. So without getting into  
23 a huge amount of details, can you tell us why you decided  
24 to actually formalize, and why you had to get this in place  
25 so that you can keep your granddaughter?

1                   **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:**       I had to do that  
2                   because I didn't want an authority having guardianship of  
3                   any of my family members. There's a lot of boundaries that  
4                   -- like, I could foster her, and I fostered her once we got  
5                   her safe. She was with me the whole time. And then they  
6                   were amazing to work with, so I went full circle with being  
7                   involved, working within the agency, being involved within  
8                   the agency. And then going full circle and having an  
9                   agency strongly advocate with me, and I think they -- I  
10                  think the worker really appreciated that I knew what I was  
11                  doing and knew how to flow through the system.

12                  But one of the things that I did not like  
13                  was I told her that, "You know, you could die tomorrow."  
14                  And it's a reality. I said, "And I'm just a case on your  
15                  desk for the next person who fills your seat." I said,  
16                  "And I don't want to have to rebuild another relationship  
17                  with another worker."

18                  I said, "So I'm going to go for guardianship  
19                  of my granddaughter. That way the aunties and everybody  
20                  that I trust with my granddaughter doesn't need to go  
21                  through a CFS check." Everybody doesn't have to go for a  
22                  child abuse registry check. I said, "That within itself is  
23                  a colonial practice." I said, "Because you have children  
24                  who are in care, I was sexually abused. So if somebody is  
25                  sexually abused at age five, they carry that. It's not

1       like a youth charge where if you commit a crime when you're  
2       10 years, 12 years old, it wipes away when you're 18. But  
3       that CFS thing, it doesn't wipe away.

4               So a lot of people carry that. So when you  
5       go and apply for a job, so when Jeneva goes and works when  
6       she's older, she'll -- "Oh, you come up in CFS." So I have  
7       to prepare that conversation with her, why. I have to  
8       prepare that conversation and it shouldn't be that way. So  
9       I found it was really important for me to have guardianship  
10      of her until my daughter is better.

11              So aunties are involved and they all don't  
12      have to go for checks, I don't have to -- I could apply for  
13      her birth certificate, if I choose to travel with her I  
14      could. Then I can take care of her when I could advocate  
15      for her for the doctor, and it was really important for me  
16      to connect with the pediatrician that the girls were  
17      involved with. So I wanted to advocate for her on that  
18      behalf.

19              They are just overloaded with cases, so I  
20      wanted to connect with Victim Services to see where her --  
21      where her case was in the justice system. Because as a  
22      foster parent, even though I was her grandmother, I didn't  
23      have any authority to talk and I had to wait for the worker  
24      who was too busy doing -- she was really good, I have to  
25      say that though. But the reality, they are busy, and just

1       like I said I am -- she's more than just a file and I  
2       didn't want her to be that file on somebody's desk, because  
3       my daughter has a lot of work to do and I didn't want to be  
4       within that system and be involved.

5                   And they said, "Well, are you able  
6       financially do it? You're a student." Well, I'm not a  
7       math person, but doing the simple basic math I said, "You  
8       give me a basic amount that I can get child tax for, so  
9       that's it, and I will find a way." So and then I was  
10      granted guardianship on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, and last year. So  
11      she's with -- been with family and she's circled in safety  
12      again, and I don't have to wait for a worker to -- like,  
13      for school, daycare, it's just -- it's independent,  
14      independency.

15                   **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** And it's fair to say  
16      you're obviously a powerful advocate and you kept having to  
17      push back.

18                   **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah.

19                   **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Some people don't  
20      have that ability. One of the things you were talking  
21      about when you were even advocating to find out more  
22      information about Zaylyn's death was the fact that you were  
23      getting that push back because you didn't have the right  
24      sort of connection. But another point you touched on is,  
25      you know, why wasn't -- if there was already intervention

1           happening, why wasn't there more checks done?

2                       **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:**   M'hm.

3                       **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:**   Can you tell us a  
4           little bit more about that?  Like, hindsight being such,  
5           what should have been happening in the home?

6                       **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:**   One of the things that  
7           I recommended was I have the girls removed from the home  
8           because I suspected domestic violence, until that was  
9           undetermined, or until it was proven it was not happening.  
10          This was when Jeneva -- when she was in a hospital the  
11          first time.  That they come home with me, we had a safety  
12          plan.  They were going to come home with me.

13                      He was not allowed at the home, I said.  So  
14          at least if she wanted to be with him then the agency could  
15          say "No, you have to be there, if not then they'll be  
16          there.  But the girls are not allowed to go home."  And  
17          this was while she was in the hospital.  So the -- I think  
18          there was a week in turnover and we had the safety plan  
19          done by that Friday.  If she was going to get let out of  
20          the hospital Monday, they were going to come to my place.

21                      So what had happened was they discharged her  
22          Sunday, the hospital -- between the hospital and on-call  
23          there was no note.  They did not -- they did not leave  
24          she's only allowed to leave under these conditions.  She  
25          went home in a cab with him and the girls and phoned me

1 from home. And I said, "What are you doing there?" "Well,  
2 nobody told me and you can't just, blah, blah, blah." I  
3 said, "But it was for your safety." Well, they have to  
4 prove and -- so my daughter just being that own.

5 So I get a call on Monday at work from the  
6 incur (phonetic) worker and she was like, "Angela, what had  
7 happened? I thought we had a plan." Yes, I thought we  
8 did. I said, "So somebody over there needs to get their  
9 shit together." And that's what I said. I'm not going to  
10 pretty pink it or nothing. And it -- she said, "What do  
11 you mean?" I said, "Well, they let her go." I said, "I  
12 don't know how the hospital and you coordinate your  
13 communication." I said, "But you just did some -- like,  
14 anything can happen now." "Okay, well -- okay, well you  
15 know, things are going to be okay. I'll go there and  
16 check."

17 And I just -- it just -- I was infuriated by  
18 that and then, from what I understand, I think there were  
19 maybe two home checks done that were planned. And I had  
20 communicated that the best thing to do with this family,  
21 with my daughter, was to show up. Because he is going to -  
22 - he's going to swoon her and he -- because when we walked  
23 through the door, when we show up, you'll see something  
24 different. Because when we just show up we see the fear,  
25 we see the body language, and he goes upstairs so he

1 doesn't have to interact with her.

2 I said, "But if you're going to tell her  
3 you're going there at 10:00, he has an hour to give her  
4 treats and be like, oh, play with her nice." I know how  
5 abuse works. I said, "I know how they prey on the young  
6 and how they do that for show." And then it never  
7 happened, and then -- yeah, I just -- she ended up dying  
8 and there was other stuff happening between that and just  
9 too many questions still existing.

10 And it's things that still keep us up at  
11 night. And then when we see those other cases, such like  
12 that, I -- it leaves me wondering. I'm more curious now  
13 about how the medical examiner's officers work. You know,  
14 to determine undetermined, I know they do it because they  
15 don't know how, and why don't you know how? Like, when --  
16 how do you determine an undetermined death without the full  
17 story? Without asking questions? And how do you just --  
18 it could be from this, "Oh well, I could be home tomorrow  
19 or I could be not." So make your own tea. Like, it  
20 doesn't make sense.

21 I just -- it should make sense for the  
22 amount of monies that go into the programs, that go into  
23 these type of places. It -- there shouldn't be so many  
24 questions. And these holes need to be cemented, and they  
25 need to be cemented, and it needs to be included. We need

1 to be included. When you talk about experts too, what does  
2 that mean? Does that mean it's somebody who went to  
3 university for seven years, and they sit on five councils,  
4 and they have a job, a blue -- white collar job and they're  
5 sitting in their office, and they hold a key to all of our  
6 files, but not the truth of our stories? We need to  
7 connect those somehow, but how? You know?

8 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** So at the beginning  
9 you told us the reason why you find yourself back in  
10 school, in the program you're taking and the reasons you  
11 want to learn more. It's continuing that advocacy and not  
12 just for Zaylyn, but for others. I also did want to give  
13 you a chance to talk about the shirts you're all wearing.

14 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** I -- before Zaylyn  
15 died, before all of this, I was -- I loved running.  
16 Running was my form of therapy. I took care of myself  
17 running. I cry when I run, I laugh. I think a lot when I  
18 run and it's time for myself, plus I had like four little  
19 kids and they couldn't come with me. So it was my time  
20 alone. Actually, my daughter runs with -- started running  
21 with me. She's -- when she was five, and my granddaughter  
22 is now running with me.

23 And before all of this with my own family, I  
24 was -- I walked a walk with Sandra Delaronde and she  
25 brought it to The Pas. I was living in The Pas, in



1 Manitoba, at the time. And it was in honour of our -- of  
2 Helen Betty Osborne. So Helen Betty Osborne grew up in the  
3 Pas area and her story is close to my heart, and it lives  
4 there like that experience of racism and injustice.

5 So I know what the Pas is about and there's  
6 some beautifulness in the Pas, but I'm not going to not say  
7 the ugliness. It lives. So Sandra brought a walk and we  
8 walked from the -- from the pumphouse around the time that  
9 Helen would have died, and this was in 2011. And then we  
10 walked to the Pas, and during the walk I remember thinking,  
11 this would be so beautiful if we had something for the  
12 families of the murdered and missing. If we can have our  
13 own marathon.

14 So we tried to set up a committee together  
15 and we bought the name. We come up with Soles on Fire, and  
16 we really wanted this to lift off. And I started a running  
17 group, little girls, Soles on Fire. I had 10 little girls  
18 and we ran the woman -- Love For Woman, Shoppers Drug Mart  
19 run, and it was so much fun. I loved it so much, and the  
20 girls.

21 And before that we talked about empowerment  
22 and for me the piece of trying to like, talk about  
23 empowering your body and yourself, and to be able to honour  
24 even your own sexuality. Because abuse comes in all forms,  
25 so you need to empower all forms and that includes

1       sexuality, and to honour your own sexuality so nobody else  
2       can come and try to teach you what that's about.

3               So I had that and then Zaylyn died so things  
4       just kind of went down a little bit. And I've just started  
5       running again and I'm going to be running, hopefully if --  
6       I haven't been running and training the way I should have,  
7       but the Winnipeg Police Marathon. And this is for her and  
8       for the women, and I have the questions in the back for the  
9       Winnipeg Police so they'll have something they can read.  
10       Are the people involved?

11               And just hoping, that is actually just like  
12       the template. See it's not the right one, like that is --  
13       because undetermined -- yeah. This is the actual -- actual  
14       one right here. So these are like the different questions  
15       that I found were really important. That's hopefully  
16       somebody will read and find, just connecting, like  
17       reopening her case, communicate with her family, do a  
18       thorough investigation, compare statements with her autopsy  
19       report, and -- statement it should say, because I have  
20       heard other stories around that night. Not to be blinded  
21       by her death being deemed undetermined, be more curious,  
22       let the questions lead them to suspicions and connect  
23       Zaylyn's case with her sister's.

24               So that was really -- that's what it is, and  
25       I found it really healing too. Because I want to run,

1 because when I stopped running and just not connecting with  
2 it, it was hard. Because it was my way of grieving and I  
3 wasn't ready, or I just disconnected. So I just got back  
4 into it again and these are the shirts I run in. And in  
5 summer I pray, so hopefully I'll be able to do that half  
6 marathon, and I love marathons and I'm starting the little  
7 girls' running group again in May. So -- yeah.

8 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** I want to make sure  
9 just in case we've forgotten to talk about anything, or if  
10 there's anything else you wanted to tell the Commissioner,  
11 that you have that opportunity to do that before we turn to  
12 the recommendations. Have we overlooked or forgotten  
13 anything you wanted to share about Zaylyn?

14 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** She's loved. Like,  
15 she's more than just a number. She's more than just all of  
16 this. And she's really, really missed a lot. I just don't  
17 think it's fair. So sometimes I ask for -- for forgiveness  
18 when we talk about murdered and missing indigenous women  
19 and they forget to say girls. Or when I look at certain  
20 initiatives and stuff and I acknowledge the  
21 intersectionality of the little girls like Phoenix and  
22 Zaylyn, that we can't forget that they didn't have a chance  
23 to grow the way they should have.

24 But the healing piece to that, I know she's  
25 guided me to a lot of special places. There's things that

1 never really should have worked out for me that did, and I  
2 acknowledge, I think that's her little spirit just all over  
3 the place. Her sister misses her, and her sister talks  
4 about what's happened to her. Her sister has her own  
5 voice. She talks about what has happened. We know they  
6 were abused. She knows she was abused and she's alive, she  
7 has her voice, and they need to hear her.

8           They shouldn't have to wait until -- we  
9 shouldn't have to wait until somebody has been cremated, or  
10 six feet under, until we want to hear what it's all about.  
11 They should be asking her now, she's still here, her sister  
12 is still here and she's grieving. And she asked me a  
13 couple -- I think it was about a week ago, "Mama, I know  
14 sister died. But how did she die? What happened to her?"  
15 And then I told her, I said, "We don't know yet my baby."  
16 I said, "But grandma is trying to find out. Hopefully some  
17 day we'll know."

18           But even if we don't then we know what she's  
19 about then. And I know that friends and -- close friends  
20 of mine that are in systems are working with -- gems like  
21 them are taking it seriously and are not dismissive. So --  
22 but she's gone, and she shouldn't be. She should still be  
23 here. When I see two little girls that are sisters around  
24 the same age, I find that I compare that time, like it  
25 seems like such a -- like yesterday she died, but it seems

1       like such a long time ago when I held her. So it's amazing  
2       how time sits with us. It feels like yesterday she died.  
3       The pain is still there, but like yesterday. But it feels  
4       like forever since I last hold her -- held her, and then I  
5       look how she would have been this age.

6                   It's coming up on April 24<sup>th</sup>, it'll be three  
7       years and we already have -- I had my auntie come and bake  
8       pies because I'm a bad cook. She came and baked pies and I  
9       froze them for her, and my cousin brought moose meat, so we  
10      honour her that way. We honour her through things like  
11      this. We honour her just by being supportive where we can  
12      with other families, like, going to marches, and just being  
13      there.

14                   And I had a really hard time going into  
15      little girls' stores, like little sections, baby sections.  
16      I would like, find myself having anxiety attacks. But I  
17      found a way to deal with that and -- because I love -- I  
18      would love to buy my grandbabies things. It would just be  
19      like, oh, just buy little dresses and whatever I can  
20      afford.

21                   So I found a way to heal through that and I  
22      have, like, my charm bracelet and I go into like Pandora  
23      and I'll see a charm and then I'll remember her that way.  
24      So I'll save money. I'll be like, oh, I would have bought  
25      her this, so I'll put that \$20 away. Oh, I would have

1 bought her this. So I'll put that \$10 away, and then I'll  
2 have enough for a charm. So I accumulated and it started  
3 by one -- by one of my friends buying me a charm with her  
4 name, with her face on it. I lost it once, that's why the  
5 tape's on there.

6 But we have our ways of getting through it  
7 and I think going to school -- like, I'm doing very well.  
8 I'm bright, like I'm in all As, so doing very well in my  
9 classes, and she -- that's what pushes me and I'm very  
10 curious and I ask the questions. And her death led me  
11 there and if I could have it back, I'd rather have her, on  
12 that other path, wherever that's supposed to be. But  
13 that's not the case, so this is where we find ourselves  
14 today.

15 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** You've actually  
16 already raised a bunch of recommendations in explaining the  
17 way you believe things should be. But I also just want to  
18 check with you if you have particular recommendations you  
19 wanted to share?

20 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** I think inclusive with  
21 kokums and aunties, and allowing the to be part of that  
22 process, that healing process. I think we need to step  
23 back a little bit and then -- and I know we need to honour  
24 our people that are educated and, you know, we work hard to  
25 go to school and carry that, you know, we learn a lot of

1 things there. But we can't devalue life experience. We  
2 can't just shove them in the corner and say, you don't  
3 know.

4 We need to take those calls seriously. I  
5 know there's a lot of lateral valence when it comes to  
6 people calling CFS on each other, but there's cases where  
7 there's reasons behind it and, you know, we need to -- we  
8 need to walk on eggshells if we choose to be a social  
9 worker, or a police officer, whatever, and be there to  
10 protect. We need to do that and look up from those filing  
11 systems and connect and not label every individual that you  
12 come across, based on a legislative document or a law.

13 Especially with the front-line workers. Be  
14 inclusive with everybody that carries gifts and honour our  
15 aunties and our kokums and our mooshums (phonetic), and  
16 know that grandmothers that were in these cycles of  
17 violence, we carry certain intuitions that nobody else  
18 does. We don't want to carry it. I would wish I lived a  
19 life where I didn't have to, but if that means helping  
20 others then that's how we help.

21 So be mindful of that and -- because we get  
22 too stuck up in, "Oh, you don't have a degree and this. So  
23 oh no, you can't be part of that." We need to be part of  
24 that. We need to look at that things that were taken away  
25 from us, even that restorative justice approach.

1                   When I think about him and what he's done,  
2                   what I know he's done, the truth that I carry based on my  
3                   expert opinion on what he's done, he may never admit it.  
4                   But when I think about justice do I see him in a cell  
5                   withering into a raisin of nothing? I think I see -- I  
6                   think I would see him wanting to give back in a way that  
7                   he's going to feel it. He's going to feel that. He's  
8                   going to have to interact with hard places. He's going to  
9                   have to jump through hoops. He's not just going to sit  
10                  still. Like, he needs to move, and I know the restorative  
11                  justice approach is instilled in there somewhere in that --  
12                  in the way that our people used to do it.

13                  Because the way -- when I look at it, we  
14                  should have been able to take my daughter and her babies  
15                  with no law. Like, I should have been able to phone the  
16                  hospital and say "My daughter is telling me this and I have  
17                  a concern. Can you confirm that she was at this hospital  
18                  at this time?" They should allow a little leeway, because  
19                  if it was my grandma and she needed to phone me about an  
20                  auntie, I'd be like, okay, yes.

21                  So there's ways of honouring that protection  
22                  piece that we try to do that is broken because of the  
23                  freedom and information, like all of these different  
24                  things. Like, I don't know how to do that, but it's  
25                  stepping back a little bit. It's really going back into



1 time and allowing that way to lift again.

2 Because we're burdened down, we're muffled,  
3 and we're devalued, and we're considered paranoid. We're  
4 not paranoid. We know. We have gifts too that no  
5 scientist will ever acknowledge, and we know. I've been  
6 told what happened to her by somebody who's gifted, and she  
7 knew things that she never should have known and we're okay  
8 with that. We've talked about it and she was right on  
9 without knowing the story. So we know.

10 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** When you were  
11 sharing earlier and you were talking about the possibility  
12 of a death review, or importance, and someone had said to  
13 you, "Well, you can't come to the meeting because you don't  
14 -- you won't be able to understand us."

15 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** M'hm.

16 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** It kind of struck me  
17 as this is maybe a recommendation that needs to be  
18 explored. Maybe it's not that it's the person coming to  
19 the table that needs to understand their language, maybe  
20 the language needs to change ---

21 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yes.

22 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** --- so it's  
23 understandable to all families.

24 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah.

25 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** And do you have

1 anything you want to talk about with that?

2 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** That is really, really  
3 important too. Because even when you say that, there can't  
4 be any template in how you do a death review agenda,  
5 because each family is different, even within cultures.  
6 But the systems have their own things in place. So you can  
7 have that implemented in there.

8 But then when you're bringing in families,  
9 then you recreate in a way that's fluid for them and the  
10 lens is for them, so they understand. And then you do it  
11 in a way where there -- they don't leave. Because  
12 sometimes I find that it's communicated, but then we leave  
13 and then you -- oh, it makes sense after. So the questions  
14 won't come until after. So when it's all over and done  
15 with and then they already closed their door.

16 So the door needs to be remained open as  
17 well, and it needs to be talked about in a way where we  
18 understand. It doesn't have to be so complex.

19 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** And you've navigated  
20 through all of these processes and systems, because that's  
21 exactly what it sounds like you've done. Do you think it  
22 would have been helpful if you had somebody, or there was  
23 better ways to explain these processes? Like, your  
24 tenacity, your sheer tenacity and never giving up, it seems  
25 like has worked to your advantage.

1                   But what about people who aren't able to do  
2                   that? What do they need to make sure they understand these  
3                   processes better so that they can actually do things like  
4                   apply for guardianship, or talk to a coroner's office, or  
5                   know about a death review? What do we need to start doing  
6                   to make these processes easier for people to access?

7                   **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** I think it needs to be  
8                   outside of those walls. I think we need to have a  
9                   community driven hub for these types of supports. That  
10                  we're not running all over the place, because sometimes  
11                  even in that grief I didn't want to go run to that other  
12                  office and phone that other number. I want to phone one  
13                  number. I want to go to one place and these are where the  
14                  people are going to be.

15                  It's not -- it can't be 9:00 to 5:00 because  
16                  sometimes when, you know, we're sitting up at 3:00 a.m.,  
17                  you know, it's almost like you have -- when -- like for  
18                  example for AA, you get matched up with somebody and you  
19                  have that person when you need somebody at 4:00 a.m. you  
20                  call your -- you call that person. That's what we need.  
21                  The numbers -- and it's somebody that you connect with,  
22                  it's not, "Oh, it's her shift today." You know, it can't  
23                  be that way.

24                  It has to be a relationship and it has to be  
25                  community driven, it can't be within those walls. It has

1 to be with our organizations. It has to be indigenized.  
2 It needs to be understood. Because even when you talk  
3 about PODs, you know, the Protection Order Designate, there  
4 -- that's even a lot of stuff. Like, okay there are --  
5 there's this you need to flow through, but when you phone  
6 Victims' services are they going to tell you that? Like,  
7 you need to go to one place and then it's almost like you  
8 need to be screened and matched for your needs. You --  
9 they have everything, you go this -- here for this one  
10 need, then you go here for this one need. That's -- that  
11 is so much. That's so much.

12 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** And the connectivity  
13 between the incident you shared where there was a plan in  
14 place, but it wasn't seen through. The communication  
15 that's needed between the different agencies.

16 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** The different  
17 agencies, because they have no clue. There -- we're just a  
18 number. We're just a file. We're tucked in in different -  
19 - different pieces. So the medical piece is here, and then  
20 the CFS piece is here, and the ongoing criminal piece is  
21 here, and then -- but it's all related to one person. So  
22 how do you bring those all together?

23 So this person is meeting here, but then  
24 this piece is missing, so okay, no, I have to get -- sign a  
25 form of documentation authorization from this doctor. So

1 then we can attach it here, but then this -- it's too much.

2 Like, that's how I felt, like, I felt like a  
3 ping pong ball and I'm so blessed that I had people to  
4 connect with and, you know, get me going. Because there  
5 was times where it was just too much and I acknowledge  
6 people that, you know, when you have language barriers. I  
7 am fortunate that -- I wish I had my language because I'm  
8 not unfortunate, actually, I wish I spoke Cree, but I  
9 don't. That's one of my bucket list, the hell with that,  
10 I'm taking that back. And but to be able to call and talk  
11 to them in a way where I know what they're saying, but not  
12 everybody says that, because English is not their first  
13 language. Yeah.

14 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** Do you have any more  
15 recommendations?

16 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** No. I can't think of  
17 any at the moment.

18 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** And if you can't  
19 think of any at the moment, don't worry. We can touch base  
20 and ---

21 **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah.

22 **MS. CHRISTA BIG CANOE:** --- I know the  
23 Commissioner would welcome many more if you wanted to put  
24 them in a submission. Chief Commissioner, do you have any  
25 questions or comments?

1                   **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** I do have  
2 one question. And I'm not too sure if I heard this  
3 correctly, but your daughter and her children were living -  
4 - I think you said were living in an apartment while under  
5 the supervision of CFS.

6                   **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** M'hm.

7                   **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** And there  
8 were mice in the apartment?

9                   **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah. And because  
10 that was one of the concerns that I had too. I had  
11 requested that they also check for a mice -- I can't  
12 believe I can't even remember what it's called. They do a  
13 test to see, because mice have really toxic -- their poop.  
14 My daughter is sending me pictures, they're running around  
15 and my nine-year-old went to visit at the home and she was  
16 sick within probably seven hours. So yeah, there was mice  
17 in them. Yeah, yeah.

18                   And then would -- so I told my daughter to  
19 get in touch with her worker because CFS would have the  
20 authority to request a transfer and it was a health matter.  
21 And I was told that a letter was drafted, not from the  
22 worker -- this is what my daughter told her -- that a  
23 letter was drafted, but that housing had told her to just  
24 clean up the mess herself, like, the mice poop, and to get  
25 traps. And I said, "Ah, no, no. Like, no, you can't be

1       doing that." Yeah. Okay.

2                   **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** Angela,  
3       thank you very much. What you've said this morning is very  
4       important to our work and very helpful as well. I so  
5       admire you for your strength and courage and tenacity. And  
6       for you family who surround each other in love ---

7                   **MS. ANGELA LAVALLEE:** Yeah.

8                   **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** --- and  
9       protection. I want to personally thank you for coming  
10      forward, because I'm always so concerned about children and  
11      I'm glad I'm not alone. So I thank you for that.

12                   When people share their truths with us, they  
13      give us what we consider to be a sacred gift. We certainly  
14      understand how difficult this is for everyone. So if  
15      you'll accept them, we have gifts for you as a way -- our  
16      way of thanking you for today. One is an eagle feather,  
17      and that's to lift you up and hold you up. Especially as  
18      you move forward with some very big challenges ahead of  
19      you.

20                   Also, when the Commissioners and I started  
21      this process, we wanted there to be healing and out of  
22      healing comes new growth. So we thought, you know, what's  
23      the best way of new -- of looking at new growth or  
24      encouraging new growth? And that's seeds. So we have some  
25      seeds for you. I hope you have better luck than I did in

1 my garden. I hope they grow for you and as a way of  
2 signifying new growth for you and your family.

3 If something does grow would you please take  
4 a picture and send the picture to us for our legacy  
5 archive, so we can keep track.

6 But I do thank you for what you've done  
7 today. Zaylyn lives on. She won't be forgotten and in her  
8 own way, she's making the world better. So thank you very  
9 much. And thank you to your support people who are here.  
10 We can't -- we can't do it without our circle of support  
11 and I know that it's been hard for you today too. So all  
12 three of you, thank you so much for being here, for  
13 speaking for Zaylyn, for supporting all of us in the room  
14 today. We couldn't do it without you, so thank you. Thank  
15 you all very much.

16 (Short pause)

17 We are adjourned, and we will take a short  
18 break.

19

20 --- Exhibits (code: P01P15P0404)

21 **Exhibit 1:** Order of Guardianship made by the Queen's  
22 Bench (Manitoba) granting guardianship of the  
23 Child born on December 5, 2012 to Angela  
24 Lavallee, File No. CP 15-01-15163. [Note:  
25 redactions made by Christa Big Canoe].



1       **Exhibit 2:**       Autopsy report of Zaylynn Lavallee, Hospital  
2                            Autopsy No. 15M314, with attached Toxicology  
3                            Report as well as two letters of John K.  
4                            Younes Acting Chief Medical Examiner, to  
5                            Angela Lavallee, the first letter dated May  
6                            13, 2016 and the second June 21, 2016.

7       **Exhibit 3:**       Folder containing three digital images and  
8                            one Powerpoint presentation displayed during  
9                            the public testimony of Angela Lavallee.

10

11       --- Upon adjourning at 10:58

12

13

14

LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

15

16       I, Nancy Ewing, Court Transcriber, hereby certify that I  
17       have transcribed the foregoing and it is a true and  
18       accurate transcript of the digital audio provided in this  
19       matter.

20

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Ewing  
April 13, 2018

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