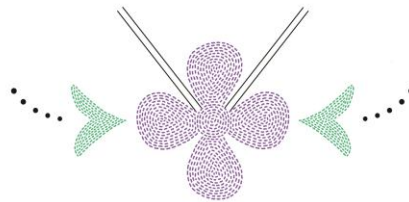


National Inquiry into  
Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls



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

**National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls  
Truth Gathering Process  
Part I Statement Gathering  
Northwest Community College  
Smithers, British Columbia**



**PUBLIC**

**Wednesday September 27, 2017**

**Statement - Volume 15**

**Freda Huson**

**Statement gathered by Kerrie Reay**

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### **III**

#### **NOTE**

Redactions to this public transcript have been made pursuant to Rule 55 of the Commission's Legal Path: Rules of Respectful Practice, which provides for "the discretion to redact private information of a sensitive nature where it is not material to the evidence to be given before distributing the information to the Parties. The National Inquiry will consider the public interest in releasing this type of information against the potential harmful impact on the individual whose personal information is at issue."

1 Smithers, British Columbia

2 --- Upon commencing on Thursday, September 28, 2017

3 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So welcome. This is  
4 Kerrie Reay with the National Inquiry for Missing and  
5 Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

6 Speaking on the record, with Freda Huson of  
7 the Wet'suwet'en Nation and resides at Wa Dzun Kwuh in the  
8 territory of the Wet'suwet'en.

9 We are here today in Smithers, B.C. on  
10 September the 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

11 And just want to confirm, Freda, you are  
12 voluntarily here today to give this statement in the matter  
13 of -- you're here really to share stories of the women that  
14 have come to you to confide and to share their stories with  
15 you.

16 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Right.

17 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And so we want to thank  
18 you because many of those women have walked along the  
19 Highway of Tears or lived close to the Highway of Tears.

20 And also present in this room is Summer Rain  
21 Bentham (phonetic) with Health Support.

22 And just to confirm, Freda, that you are  
23 aware that we are both audio recording and video recording  
24 today, and that you are voluntarily here.

25 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yes.

1                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Thank you very much.

2                   So Freda, the floor is yours. The National  
3 Inquiry is interested to hear what you have to say.

4                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** So let me start off that  
5 for some strange reason I always have women come to me and  
6 share their stories of what they went through, and I'll  
7 start off with my sister's story.

8                   She went to Burns Lake for a ball tournament  
9 and she had to get back to work for Monday, so she started  
10 hitchhiking home on Sunday. And she got into a vehicle to  
11 catch a ride and the vehicle started to leave and as he was  
12 driving he undid his buckle on his pants and asked her if  
13 she wanted to have a good time and she said stop the car.

14                   And he refused to stop the car so she opened  
15 the door while it was moving and did a roll while she was  
16 falling out of the vehicle and started running back to  
17 Burns Lake, and she made it back to Burns Lake safely.

18                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Safely. Can you tell me  
19 roughly what year that was?

20                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Probably in the eighties.

21                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

22                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And after she shared her  
23 story, then more women started to share their story. And  
24 she described the vehicle as a white, long vehicle, and had  
25 I.D.'d the vehicle later.

1                   She said she was sure that the vehicle  
2                   belonged to a guy by the name -- they call [Man1]. And  
3                   when we inquired around -- and he's from Hazelton.

4                   And she said she did report that to the  
5                   police and the police at that time when she reported it  
6                   right away because she was in so much fear, the dispatch  
7                   told her because she wasn't harmed they couldn't really do  
8                   anything, even though she gave the description of the  
9                   vehicle and the description of the man that tried to do  
10                  that.

11                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So she actually got  
12                  stopped even before getting to a police officer. You said  
13                  because dispatch stopped that?

14                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I'm not sure if she just -  
15                  - I'd have to confirm with her.

16                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

17                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** She just said she reported  
18                  and all the police said was they couldn't do anything  
19                  because he didn't harm her.

20                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

21                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** So that's as far as it  
22                  could be taken is just her statement.

23                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. So ---

24                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** So then ---

25                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Sorry. Is -- do -- did

1 she give a statement then to the police? Did a police  
2 officer attempt?

3 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I don't think they really  
4 even took the statement. They just said no harm happened  
5 to you.

6 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

7 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** So she was blown away that  
8 that's all the response she got.

9 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

10 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** So -- and then after she -  
11 - it seemed to be a pattern because after she shared that  
12 story with me, more girls gave the same report, the same  
13 car.

14 Another girl from my community said she was  
15 -- only 9 years old and walking up Gaiter Road in our home  
16 community, and that same white vehicle stopped and grabbed  
17 and tried to pull her into the car, but she was able to  
18 punch up his hand and was able to get away from him. And  
19 she said it was the same individual, a white car. And said  
20 everybody calls him [Man1].

21 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And again, you referred to  
22 your home community.

23 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Moricetown.

24 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Is this Moricetown?

25 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Moricetown.

1                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And do you have any  
2                   recollection or sense of when that was? I'm looking for a  
3                   timeline so we can see, you know, where these stories  
4                   taking place?

5                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** So she's probably in her  
6                   late thirties and she says she was nine. So (inaudible).

7                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. About 30 years ago?

8                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

9                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So that would be the  
10                  eighties again?

11                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

12                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. Late eighties.

13                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And I think around that --  
14                  probably the same period my friend and a friend she was  
15                  with were hitchhiking back from Hazelton to Moricetown, and  
16                  said they got picked up by that same white vehicle. Like  
17                  all of them weren't aware that was a bad vehicle to get  
18                  into.

19                                And they said the same thing. That he  
20                  locked the doors and they were -- it took them a long time  
21                  to get out of the vehicle, but they were able to get out of  
22                  the vehicle, and they said they were just terrified.

23                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Did they share with you  
24                  anything that happened in the vehicle?

25                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** No. They just said that



1 he locked him in the vehicle and -- it was one of the --  
2 there was small little locks. Once you lock it you can't  
3 unlock it.

4 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

5 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And then he had one of  
6 those safety features.

7 But I think that -- I think she said that  
8 they started to fight with him when he unlocked the door  
9 and they jumped out. Like they started hitting him to tell  
10 him to let them out.

11 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. Okay. It must have  
12 been very scary for them. They were young.

13 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah. They were  
14 terrified, they said, and they never said anything to  
15 anybody because they were -- they weren't supposed to be  
16 there and they shouldn't have been hitchhiking. So they  
17 were afraid to tell their parents that that happened  
18 because they wouldn't have let them go anywhere anymore.

19 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right. Right. And -- so  
20 that says that these two didn't report it to the police  
21 either.

22 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I don't think they did.

23 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** They didn't talk to the  
24 parents. They more than likely maybe did not make a report  
25 to the police?

1 MS. FREDA HUSON: I don't think they did.

2 MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay. And what about your  
3 friend that was nine?

4 MS. FREDA HUSON: She said she was too young  
5 to understand what just about happened.

6 MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

7 MS. FREDA HUSON: And she just thought it  
8 was just normal because she's gone through a lot of trauma  
9 in her own community. So she didn't think that was out of  
10 the ordinary at all.

11 Other women started talking about it, then  
12 they all started sharing their story about that white car  
13 (inaudible) other young girls don't get in that car.

14 MS. KERRIE REAY: And so that was four that  
15 all spoke too at once; right? But three incidents is where  
16 ---

17 MS. FREDA HUSON: Yeah.

18 MS. KERRIE REAY: --- this individual was  
19 driving a vehicle, a white vehicle that was trying to keep  
20 them in it.

21 MS. FREDA HUSON: Yeah.

22 MS. KERRIE REAY: And were you aware of any  
23 other stories of the same car?

24 MS. FREDA HUSON: The reason why I'm  
25 speaking about this because we're concerned about it

1           because, I mean, we brought up this vehicle and people  
2           started identifying that this [Man1] or [Man1] is his name  
3           ---

4                           **MS. KERRIE REAY:**   M'hm.

5                           **MS. FREDA HUSON:**   --- he apparently was just  
6           released out of prison for killing and raping a young girl  
7           from Hazelton.  And that's why we're surprised that there  
8           was no response and he had a history of already doing that.

9                           **MS. KERRIE REAY:**   M'hm.

10                          So when you say that, you say he's just  
11           released from prison.  Are you talking like in 2016-2017?

12                          **MS. FREDA HUSON:**   It was probably prior to  
13           that -- these incidents that he just got out of prison for.

14                          **MS. KERRIE REAY:**   Okay.  So mid-eighties  
15           maybe?

16                          **MS. FREDA HUSON:**   I'm not sure when that  
17           might have happened.  I'd have to research that, but from -  
18           - just hearing from people that live in Hazelton when we  
19           asked -- inquired about him ---

20                          **MS. KERRIE REAY:**   Okay.

21                          **MS. FREDA HUSON:**   --- they (inaudible) he  
22           just got out of jail for killing and raping a young girl  
23           from here.

24                          **MS. KERRIE REAY:**   So are you aware of the  
25           family that [Man1] comes from?  I'm just trying to try to

1 sort of connect who might also be related so that if the  
2 Inquiry wants somebody to ---

3 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** All I know is he's from  
4 [community name redacted].

5 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** [Community name redacted]?

6 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** He lived in a white home  
7 that was close to Old Hazelton, because somebody pointed it  
8 out and it's all boarded up and padlocked.

9 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And was it -- is that home  
10 still there boarded up and ---?

11 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I haven't been that way  
12 for a while.

13 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Oh, okay.

14 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** So, no.

15 But the reason why I was concerned because I  
16 see him, he now has a new vehicle. It's a black [vehicle],  
17 and ---

18 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Oh, so you know who he is?

19 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yes.

20 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. Sorry. Okay.

21 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** He's got like long curly  
22 hair and glass -- he wears shades and his hair is long and  
23 curly, shoulder length. And the [vehicle] that he has now  
24 has the windows tinted up.

25 And a few occasions where I went out of

1 town, and for some reason or other, I think it was we were  
2 coming back from a concert and we had to work the next day.

3 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

4 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And we were coming back  
5 2:00 in the morning and I saw his vehicle parked at the  
6 Viewpoint in our home community. And I knew the vehicle,  
7 so I drove and faced my vehicle right towards the driver's  
8 seat and put my high beam on and stayed there until he  
9 left.

10 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** The Viewpoint. Is that  
11 the Viewpoint that overlooks the ---

12 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** The canyon.

13 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- the canyon ---

14 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

15 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- and where they  
16 (inaudible) the fish?

17 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yes. It's -- so that's  
18 where he would have parked and waiting ---

19 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** At 2:00 in the morning?

20 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** --- at 2:00 in the  
21 morning.

22 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And how long ago would  
23 that have been?

24 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Probably in 2000.

25 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. Okay.

1 Is he still in the community; do you know?

2 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I just saw him a second  
3 occasion at a mailbox across Campbell Road, it's called  
4 Station Road, not too far from my home. He was parked  
5 there again.

6 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And that's in Moricetown?

7 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yes.

8 And I did the same thing. Parked right  
9 there and shined my high beam on him until he left.

10 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And so that was the early  
11 2000's?

12 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah. It was around the  
13 same ---

14 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Around the same ---

15 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Within that same year but  
16 (inaudible) same time.

17 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

18 Have you seen him since in your community?

19 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I haven't been out that  
20 early in the morning.

21 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Oh. Okay.

22 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And the gas station  
23 employees -- because I used to manage there -- said that he  
24 had come into the store a few times. They didn't know who  
25 he -- they didn't know all this information.

1 MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

2 MS. FREDA HUSON: And they just said there's  
3 this person that comes in with a black [vehicle]. He  
4 creeps the hell out of us, they said. We don't want to  
5 serve him, he just gives us the creeps because of the way  
6 he looks at us.

7 MS. KERRIE REAY: And they're all young  
8 women?

9 MS. FREDA HUSON: Yeah. So I told them  
10 that's a dangerous vehicle. If he's hanging around, make  
11 sure you call me. I know who that person is, he's not a  
12 safe person to be around.

13 MS. KERRIE REAY: Now, when you saw him, and  
14 knowing some of the comments that your sister had with the  
15 dispatch, with the RCMP, did you consider calling the RCMP  
16 about him?

17 MS. FREDA HUSON: I don't trust so I don't  
18 believe in the RCMP.

19 MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

20 MS. FREDA HUSON: That's why I was doing  
21 what I was doing, because I believe even if I called them  
22 they probably wouldn't have come for two, three hours and -  
23 --

24 MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

25 MS. FREDA HUSON: --- and I was just

1 concerned for our young women, so that's why I took it into  
2 my own hands to park there because I know what he's capable  
3 of that.

4 And I've heard from other people saying when  
5 I -- and are sitting around (inaudible) talking to other  
6 women and I just forewarn a lot of women about him so that  
7 they don't get in that vehicle and watch out for that  
8 vehicle, warn your daughters about that vehicle.

9 And then a lot of them said, oh, my, I've  
10 seen that vehicle a lot of times. When we go out dancing  
11 at the Twin Valley it's parked in the parking lot. And  
12 they said they're pretty sure he's waiting for somebody to  
13 go walking, like a young girl to try and go walk home.

14 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So back in about 2000 when  
15 you saw him with that [vehicle], just -- I'm just trying to  
16 put a bit of an age to him. What -- how old do you think  
17 he might have been in 2000? Was he in his thirties or  
18 forties? Do you think he was a little older?

19 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I think he might have been  
20 late forties or fifties. At least ---

21 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

22 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I know he's older than me.

23 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

24 So you know he's older than you. I don't  
25 want to ask how old you are ---



1                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I'm 53.

2                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. So do you think he  
3 would be sort of mid to late fifties then?

4                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** He probably is in his late  
5 fifties now.

6                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. Okay.

7                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And the reason why -- the  
8 reason why I'm concerned for my work. About five, six  
9 years ago when I'm travelling, I used to have meetings in  
10 Prince Rupert and I'd see him in Prince Rupert. And when I  
11 had meetings in Prince George I'd see him driving the  
12 highways in Prince George too. So I know he drives, and I  
13 don't know what his purpose would be.

14                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

15                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And right away I'm just  
16 thinking he's combing the highways. I've seen him between  
17 ---

18                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right. That's quite a  
19 distance, so ---

20                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** --- for him to be out of  
21 his way.

22                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Yeah. So from Prince  
23 Rupert to Prince George, you're probably looking at -- you  
24 know, that driving distance is probably eight, eight-  
25 and-a-half hours from -- and I'm recognizing that, you

1 know, that that's not meaning that he's going from Prince  
2 George to Prince Rupert, but when you think about the  
3 distance that is, it's about 800 kilometers. That's a real  
4 span of time if you are driving back and forth or, you  
5 know, cruising those highways.

6 So when -- have you had any complaints about  
7 somebody looking similar to him or in your conversations in  
8 the last number of years has anybody suggested that [Man1]  
9 might be back in town?

10 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** No.

11 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And so -- and you don't  
12 know where he is today?

13 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** No, I don't.

14 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. And this wasn't  
15 something you felt comfortable, as you said, going to the  
16 RCMP?

17 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** No.

18 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. Is there anything  
19 else in terms of -- that you'd like to share that you would  
20 like to make sure we're on the -- you're on the record for  
21 saying in terms of these women?

22 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** The reason why I wanted to  
23 share it because how do we know there is more women out  
24 there that have similar stories and weren't being heard and  
25 probably already heard that my sister reported and nothing

1           happened so (inaudible) well nothing's going to happen. So  
2           (inaudible) reporting.

3                         And they know very well about all the  
4           missing women along the highway and we feel nothing's being  
5           done. So everybody's like -- the people are saying what's  
6           the point, if you're not there to protect us.

7                         **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And that's frustrating.

8                         **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah. And a lot of times  
9           the police can't be trusted, because we've heard many  
10          stories from others about the police picking up -- the  
11          police and the judge are actually ones that were raping  
12          young girls in Prince George.

13                        And my niece was -- my stepdaughter was  
14          walking home at 11:00 at night in Prince George from her  
15          friend's place back home and a police patrol car started  
16          following her and then rolled down his -- or he told her  
17          she had to get in the car because she fit the description  
18          of somebody that committed a crime that night.

19                        And we had already forewarned her that that  
20          was happening in Prince George, so she, even though her  
21          phone was dead, pretended to dial home and said, mom, the  
22          police is following me; he's trying to make me get in his  
23          car ---

24                        **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

25                        **MS. FREDA HUSON:** --- saying I fit the

1 description of someone that committed the crime that night.

2 And -- so she kept talking on the phone and  
3 wouldn't get into the car and so the police officer finally  
4 just left her alone.

5 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And timeframe again in  
6 terms of ---?

7 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** That would have been  
8 within the last ten years, because (inaudible) probably  
9 about that time period.

10 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

11 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And she called us right  
12 away the next day, and first she didn't want to because she  
13 we would lecture her for her being out that late by  
14 herself, but she did tell us.

15 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And -- so there's a bit of  
16 a theme there because you talked about your sister and the  
17 -- about your sister's story, the young friend that was 9  
18 years who didn't want to tell her parents because she --  
19 and then the two girls were doing something they shouldn't  
20 have been doing, and now -- so there's this theme about not  
21 wanting to say that they're doing something because they're  
22 scared they're going to get in trouble.

23 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

24 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And it puts them in some  
25 very difficult situations if they're travelling or ---

1                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

2                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- hitchhiking.

3                   So when you talk with the women, are you  
4 finding that women are still hitchhiking?

5                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I pick up a lot of women  
6 hitchhiking along that stretch.

7                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And so the Highway of  
8 Tears amongst your community is well known. Some insight  
9 as to the choice these young women are making to hitchhike.  
10 What's lacking? What -- why is there a need for them to  
11 hitchhike?

12                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I think a lot of them  
13 don't have a driver's license. A lot live in poverty so  
14 they can't buy a vehicle, they can't hire anybody to drive  
15 them, because most people would require gas money if they  
16 were going to take you somewhere.

17                   And I think inwardly, because I've  
18 hitchhiked myself in my younger years, and I had no fear.  
19 I always had the belief that I could protect myself, and I  
20 think inwardly, after taking years of counselling, I  
21 realized that I was putting myself in unsafe situations  
22 because as a form of suicide but you don't realize you're  
23 doing it.

24                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

25                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Because you've gone

1 through so much trauma and so you think what worse could  
2 happen to me. If I die, I die. Who cares?

3 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

4 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** So I believe that's ---

5 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** That's -- that takes a lot  
6 of courage to say, to share that, the trauma there, and how  
7 that left you feeling as a young woman. And yet you still  
8 hitchhiked.

9 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

10 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And so the women that  
11 you're picking up today, and one of the things -- and  
12 correct me if I'm wrong. But to put in the context, the  
13 bus service between the communities is pretty limited to  
14 Greyhound. And then they were putting in -- they were  
15 going to try a two-year service to try and move people  
16 between Burns Lake and Terrace, or was it just to  
17 (inaudible)?

18 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I think it's supposed to  
19 go all the way to Terrace to Prince George.

20 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

21 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** But one of them said the  
22 schedule doesn't fit. When they would get to town, and a  
23 lot of them were hitchhiking in the evenings when they  
24 wanted to go socialize in the nightclubs, everybody is in  
25 town, the nightlife.

1                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So are you finding the  
2                   young women that are hitchhiking, and I'm making an  
3                   assumption they're young, so are they trying to get from  
4                   like Old Hazelton or Hazelton ---

5                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** A lot of them are ---

6                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- or Moricetown to ---

7                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** --- Moricetown to  
8                   Smithers.

9                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Moricetown to Smithers.  
10                  Okay.

11                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And I try talking to them  
12                  and they say as soon as they get in the car and they see  
13                  me, they say, I know, I know, I know.

14                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** I shouldn't, I shouldn't,  
15                  I shouldn't.

16                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

17                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So the need to get here  
18                  outweighs because what that tells me is that they know that  
19                  there is a risk and ---

20                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I think a lot of them, I  
21                  see them, are still in their trauma.

22                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. Could you speak  
23                  more about that?

24                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Because the reason why I  
25                  see they're still in their trauma because they're still

1 using.

2 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

3 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Substance abuse and  
4 they're the ones I'm picking up.

5 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

6 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** So you know, I was there  
7 before and I didn't deal with my trauma so ---

8 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Can you share some of that  
9 for the Commission? The -- when you speak that they're  
10 still dealing with their trauma, they're using, what do you  
11 see? It's 2017. If they're -- they're younger people and  
12 so are we seeing 9 and 10-year old's hitchhiking,  
13 teenagers?

14 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** It's adults and some  
15 teenagers.

16 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. And so it's the  
17 adults that are sort of coming here for the nightlife?

18 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** M'hm.

19 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So -- twenties, thirties?

20 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Probably twenties,  
21 thirties; yeah.

22 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. And so can you  
23 share what you think some of those traumas are?

24 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** A lot of them stem from --  
25 I see a lot of them have gone through residential school



1 and a lot of them share their stories of sexual abuse,  
2 physical abuse. And even though the community tries to  
3 hold services and programs, a lot of these people that need  
4 it don't show up because they don't feel comfortable  
5 exposing what they've gone through in a public setting. So  
6 (inaudible) workshops, a lot of these people that need it  
7 won't come.

8 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

9 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I know a lot of them said  
10 they don't feel comfortable.

11 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And that's good to know  
12 because that becomes a barrier.

13 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

14 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right? Even within their  
15 own community, when they know they're not the only one,  
16 it's still that they can't take that step to get that help.

17 And so the younger girls that are teenagers  
18 and in their twenties, would you say that the ones that you  
19 see are their parents from residential school? Is that  
20 part of that systemic ---

21 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Parents and grandparents,  
22 some of them are a part of the residential schools.

23 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

24 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** There were no programs or  
25 services. They're all a short-term fix and a lot of people

1 I found said it was too short term. By the time they got  
2 comfortable with the counsellor the counsellor left. Then  
3 they'd bring in a new counsellor. They'd get comfortable  
4 with that counsellor. That counsellor left.

5 Because there was never enough funding and a  
6 lot of the counsellors are underpaid and they don't stick  
7 around and they all say it's interim so they move on to  
8 more permanent jobs.

9 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. So -- so when you  
10 say, "the jobs", so are these sort of what we used to call  
11 alcohol and drug counsellors?

12 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I think originally when  
13 they had the residential school funding ---

14 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

15 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** --- through the foundation  
16 they headed.

17 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

18 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** They gave us temporary  
19 money and that money ran out and so there was no money to  
20 keep those residential school counsellors on.

21 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So they -- the bands were  
22 given money?

23 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yes.

24 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And then they in turn  
25 hired somebody to come in. So it wasn't like somebody was

1 a service out of Smithers where they sent a counsellor.  
2 You know, two weeks -- two days a week they would work in  
3 Moricetown, they'd be -- they might work in Hazelton or Wa  
4 Dzun Kwuh, they ---

5 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** They were in the  
6 community.

7 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** They were in your  
8 community?

9 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

10 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Were they your community  
11 members that were doing it?

12 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** No.

13 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

14 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** We applied for funding and  
15 we hired a professional counsellor to come into the  
16 community.

17 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So one of the things that  
18 that says to me is, is that there is a incredible turnover  
19 in the people, and relationship building is built on trust  
20 and trust takes time. And so what I'm hearing is, is that  
21 by the time they're getting to a point to trust they're  
22 either just starting to share their story and people are  
23 going or they're into their story and they're not finished  
24 and people are going. Does that -- is that what you were  
25 saying?

1                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah. I've spoken to a  
2                   few that said they have gotten comfortable with a  
3                   counsellor and then a new one came in. They got  
4                   comfortable with that one, and then that counsellor left.  
5                   And by the time a third counsellor came in they said, no, I  
6                   don't want to do this anymore.

7                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right.

8                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** They said it's too much.  
9                   I have to tell my story over and over again. I don't get  
10                  beyond that because I keep having to get new counsellors.  
11                  So now I don't even trust that system.

12                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right. And is that  
13                  something that sounds familiar over time in your community  
14                  with that constant turnover and support services?

15                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** It has been like that I  
16                  know for the last 20 years that the turnover in counsellors  
17                  has been high.

18                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And so do you think that  
19                  that plays a role, then, in creating more of a barrier when  
20                  people do come in that people say why bother?

21                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

22                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So they've been there and  
23                  tried that. Not for me because of that expectation that  
24                  they won't stay?

25                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah. A lot of them say,

1 I've tried it; it doesn't work.

2 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right. And I think that's  
3 really important for understanding just how short of the  
4 services are in the Northwest of British Columbia. You  
5 know, at one time, you know, if you lived in Prince George,  
6 you said there was no services north of Hope in B.C. And  
7 then when you lived here in the Northwest, you said, well,  
8 there's some funding and some services north of Hope but it  
9 doesn't come this way from Prince George because it's  
10 temporary and it's not long term.

11 Has that been the experience that you've had  
12 in your community?

13 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Well, I've worked with --  
14 in my band for probably 14 years, and I've identified over  
15 that time period that I was there the first programs that  
16 tend to get cut from the federal government is all the  
17 social programs. So -- and that's where it's most needed.

18 But we noticed all our funding always gets  
19 cut there. So the funding we do get, they say, well, we  
20 can't afford to pay a full-on psychologist because they  
21 need this X amount of dollars, and nobody's going to come  
22 to work with us with the little funding we get.

23 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Has there been -- and the  
24 reason I'm asking is because we spoke about the systemic  
25 issues from residential school. And is there or has there

1           been opportunities to share services in Smithers? I mean,  
2           then it begs how the people from Moricetown and Hazelton  
3           get to Smithers; right? If you don't have a vehicle and  
4           you don't have transportation. So it really needs to be in  
5           the community.

6                       **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I know people will go if  
7           it's in the community and it's not a community member  
8           that's providing that service.

9                       **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. So that's good to  
10          know.

11                      **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I just noticed that the  
12          province always fills the positions with local community  
13          members and people don't feel comfortable coming in to talk  
14          to those people because they know them.

15                      **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And I think that's an  
16          important thing, an important comment, because it gives a  
17          bit of insight to what you were saying earlier. That even  
18          within the community people don't want to share amongst  
19          their community members. There's no anonymity ---

20                      **MS. FREDA HUSON:** No.

21                      **MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- from what seems to be  
22          needed from what you're saying.

23                      Is there anything else that you think that  
24          the Commission -- would be helpful to the Commission in  
25          terms of services for women and girls in the communities

1 that we haven't spoken about? Like in terms of vision,  
2 what needs to be in place here in Wet'suwet'en territory?

3 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Well, when I was speaking  
4 to a lot of the support people here, because I'm helping  
5 with the fire keeping.

6 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

7 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I said the system that is  
8 in place is not working. We know it's not working.

9 And through our culture and through our  
10 ancestry we always had warriors trained up and their job  
11 was to protect the community, protect the women, protect  
12 the children. I said we need to get back to that.

13 And whenever we try to bring in training to  
14 do that we already get ridiculed from the federal  
15 government or everyone else. "Oh, they're trying to be  
16 violent or they're" -- and that's not what warriorism (sic)  
17 is.

18 We're -- through our system, warriorism  
19 (sic) is where you treat -- teach the men respect, number  
20 one, to respect the women, to respect the children, to  
21 respect the elders, and you take all your direction from  
22 your elders.

23 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

24 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** The elders say you do  
25 this, you do it. I tell you don't do that, you don't do

1       it. So that's partly why we need somebody to talk our men  
2       from a small age.

3               And our medicine people are the ones who  
4       identified what the gifting of these children's (sic) were  
5       and they tell the parents this is this child's gift and  
6       then you train that child up, whether you're going to be a  
7       medicine person, whether you're going to be a warrior. And  
8       we are saying we need to bring that back.

9               And that is what we were hoping to -- we  
10       constructed a healing centre on our traditional territory  
11       where I'm living and it was all on donated money; it didn't  
12       come from the government. We decided we didn't want any of  
13       the government's money; we wanted to do this all on our  
14       own.

15               So, so far we've spent over 100,000 building  
16       this building and it all came from, we call it, grassroots  
17       initiative where every day people are giving funds to give  
18       back to the Indigenous folks for us to provide a safe place  
19       where we can begin to heal our people.

20               And we said because the land is suffering  
21       and our motto has been if we heal the people we're going to  
22       heal the land.

23               **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

24               **MS. FRED A HUSON:** And so that's what we've  
25       been focusing on, working on. And we wanted to cover it



1       spiritually, mentally, physically, and make it well rounded  
2       so that individuals are fully whole, healing before they go  
3       back in the community and it's not just going to be a six-  
4       week program like the treatment programs where they go into  
5       for drugs or alcohol. They go for six weeks and they're  
6       back in our community and back into unhealthy environments.

7                So we said that it'll be open year around.  
8       If they feel like they're not ready to go back after six  
9       weeks they're welcome to stay and come back.

10               **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So in terms -- do think  
11       that because it'll be a wellness place that people will  
12       shift in their feeling about sharing? Because you were  
13       saying earlier that one of the barriers to people --  
14       people's healing is they don't want to start sharing within  
15       their own community, within those groups. But you think  
16       having a place of healing, a wellness centre, do you think  
17       that that would shift the dynamic enough that people would  
18       use it?

19               **MS. FREDA HUSON:** It's already working now -  
20       --

21               **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

22               **MS. FREDA HUSON:** --- because we've already  
23       had ---

24               **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Awesome.

25               **MS. FREDA HUSON:** --- facilities there.

1 Even though we don't have, like trained counsellors or  
2 stuff, people have been -- I've had my cousin, who came up  
3 for actually a whole month. He was forced to go up by his  
4 sisters because they were worried they were going to lose  
5 him to his drug and alcohol addiction.

6 So they forced him to come up to reconnect  
7 with the land, because his sister came for a visit with her  
8 university -- her college from Terrace for the group of  
9 students to come and visit to see what we were doing up  
10 there. And she said she just felt something when she came  
11 and it just grounded her. So she said my brother needs to  
12 come here. So she forced him to come.

13 And he came and detoxed himself in three  
14 days by throwing a lot of wood in the woodstove. He said  
15 it was like a sauna in there, and just curled up on the bed  
16 and slept for three days.

17 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And it was safe.

18 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And then after three days,  
19 he said, okay, I'm ready. What do you want me to do? And  
20 then started working and being part of the camp and doing  
21 whatever tasks we gave him. And by the end of the four  
22 weeks he said I think I'm ready to go back out.

23 And then he came back just about a couple of  
24 months ago, stood on the bridge and took a selfie and said  
25 one year sober.

1                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Oh, isn't that awesome;  
2                   eh?

3                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** He said ---

4                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Whoa, that's a ---

5                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** He said this is where it  
6                   all started and now I'm a year sober.

7                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Oh, wow. What an  
8                   accomplishment.

9                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

10                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** When you think all of the  
11                  time of the abuse, and you know, sort of that internal  
12                  struggle that is there all the time. To be able to have  
13                  that courage to take it on and the strength it takes to be  
14                  able to stay sober one year is incredible.

15                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And a lot of it wasn't  
16                  sitting in a room like this (inaudible). They were out  
17                  making (inaudible), and they were out -- and he went with  
18                  another male figure that was the role model to him that  
19                  they went out hunting, they did stuff together, and then  
20                  that's where he shared his story with another male that was  
21                  at the camp.

22                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And so part of being with  
23                  the land, like you said ---

24                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

25                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- if you heal the people

1           you take care of the land, but the land also is a place to  
2           heal.

3                       **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

4                       **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right. Okay. Okay.

5                       And so just -- we were talking too about the  
6           amount of trauma, and you spoke about your own trauma.  
7           Without going into that, because you said that that wasn't  
8           something you wanted to do, what do you think you could  
9           offer the Commission that's lacking for women and girls in  
10          terms of dealing with trauma and the ongoing systemic  
11          issues?

12                      **MS. FREDA HUSON:** For me, I believe there  
13          needs to be more education right across the board because  
14          women don't only have the stigma of being Indigenous and  
15          we're treated as lower class citizens in Canada, no matter  
16          where you go.

17                      I grew up with racism my whole life and  
18          didn't value my culture or who I was until my late  
19          twenties. So from kindergarten all the way through the  
20          school system, I ended up dropping out in Grade 10 because  
21          I was one of those rebellious kids that fought against  
22          these systems, and finally by Grade 10, I couldn't take it  
23          anymore and I just swore and threw the books down and said  
24          I have enough, I'm not coming back to this no more, and  
25          just walked out.

1                   Because the teachers were racist and were  
2                   giving non-Indigenous students opportunity to finish their  
3                   work and writing big "F's" on my papers and throwing it on  
4                   my desk and embarrassing me in front of all the white  
5                   students. So I couldn't take it anymore and just said, no,  
6                   I don't need to take this and I just walked out in Grade 10  
7                   and ended up going back to adult education and going  
8                   through a system that treats Indigenous people like they're  
9                   dumb. So that's why our kids struggle through the school  
10                  system because the teachers treat them like they're  
11                  incapable, and yet they're very capable.

12                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right. Yeah. And so do  
13                  you think that part of that education sits with the school  
14                  districts -- and I'll speak to the Province of British  
15                  Columbia because that's where we are -- or is there  
16                  something in terms of educating people? How would you see  
17                  that happening?

18                  **MS. FREDa HUSON:** I see traditional cultural  
19                  school systems separate from the public school system that  
20                  they have.

21                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

22                  **MS. FREDa HUSON:** Because right now, that --  
23                  I found because I grew up traditional and cultural very  
24                  young -- I'm fortunate that my parents and my grandparents  
25                  were in my life to teach me my culture. So I felt like I

1 didn't fit in to that public school system because it was  
2 teaching me a foreign way of saying that I had to be part  
3 of that system in order to fit into this.

4 And I did all that. I graduated and I went  
5 on to post secondary. I worked a job for 14 years and I  
6 still felt like my spirit was dead.

7 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

8 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** So when I went back to the  
9 territories and started hiking the mountains again, with  
10 (inaudible) again, I felt like a spark was still there but  
11 it got inflamed. I said wow, this is what was missing in  
12 my life.

13 I did everything what the world standards  
14 that was success. I did all that, got an education, had a  
15 good paying job, paid off five cars, paid off my home, and  
16 I still was not happy. And when I went back to the land  
17 that's what was the missing component.

18 And I walked away from that pay cheque and  
19 said, it doesn't make me happy.

20 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And you're good with that.

21 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah. I'm good with that.

22 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And that takes a lot of  
23 strength ---

24 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

25 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- to give up sort of,

1           you know ---

2                           **MS. FREDA HUSON:** The white standards?

3                           **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Yes. Yes. Yes.

4                           And so the young girls today, you know, the  
5           girls that are getting close to finishing high school or  
6           those that are -- you know, sort of on that edge of staying  
7           in and staying out, or quitting school, it sounds like that  
8           there may be other opportunities to supplement while  
9           they're in the public school system.

10                           I hear what you're saying about the  
11           traditional separate system, but at this time, and you  
12           know, I'm not so sure that could happen by 2018, you know.

13                           So I'm just trying to think how do you  
14           transition to that way of education? What could -- what  
15           would you say that young girls could use today to help deal  
16           with the racism? Because it's -- it is still very apparent  
17           that it exists, and how do we give them some skills to  
18           cope?

19                           **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Think life skills and  
20           probably workshops to boost their self-esteem. Because if  
21           your self-esteem is way up here, no matter -- like I said,  
22           in my younger years I didn't have no self-esteem, and  
23           everything I internalized. When people treated me badly I  
24           blamed myself. I felt I wasn't good enough.

25                           **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right.

1                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** That I was a bad person  
2 while all this was happening.

3                   But after I took leadership skills, life  
4 skills and communication skills and learned how to  
5 communicate, then my confidence went up here and when a  
6 racist person came up against me it didn't even bother me.

7                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right.

8                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I knew who I was. I was  
9 proud of being Indigenous and I just responded back to them  
10 and didn't let them bring me down and I put a stop to it  
11 right away.

12                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And the reason I'm asking  
13 those questions is because it comes back to your comments  
14 about the young women that continued to hitchhike along  
15 Highway 16. And to find the skills so that they feel more  
16 empowered, but then it comes to money; right?

17                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

18                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So it becomes difficult.  
19 It's not an easy thing.

20                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Yeah, that's what we keep  
21 saying. They shouldn't say we need money to help our  
22 people. We've got to start training up our own people so  
23 that we get away from saying, oh, we don't have enough  
24 money to run this workshop. I don't believe we should  
25 depend on money. We should try internally to see how we



1 can help our young people and go back to our traditional  
2 ways.

3 If we were fully in our traditional ways, we  
4 would be training our young women right from 7 years old  
5 (inaudible) to 13 they're fully woman and fully confident  
6 in who they are.

7 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right. Which goes a long  
8 way to moving forward in the world as you finish your  
9 education as you make life decisions, whether you want to  
10 continue with your schooling or whether you'd like to raise  
11 a family. Whatever that would be for each individual young  
12 girl and young woman.

13 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Yes that's exactly right.  
14 We learn through our tradition. I have a few nieces that  
15 have parents that are struggling with substance abuse, that  
16 these kids are struggling with depression and ---

17 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right.

18 **MS. FREDa HUSON:** --- suicides. I have two  
19 [family members] just in the past year struggling with  
20 depression and suicide that ---

21 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Oh, dear.

22 **MS. FREDa HUSON:** --- we as family came  
23 together and didn't depend on anybody outside but sat down  
24 and had a circle with them and provided support for them  
25 letting them know we're here. Anything you need, you need

1 somebody to talk to, phone me anytime. So ---

2 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** So for your family, you're  
3 finding ways to keep your people safe, your family safe and  
4 protected?

5 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Yeah.

6 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Is there anything else  
7 that you'd like the Commission to know about your  
8 experience living here and safety or, you know, because  
9 we're talking primarily about young women and young girls.  
10 So is there anything else you'd like to share with the  
11 Commission?

12 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** That if there to have any  
13 kind of control with government they need to start  
14 controlling the media and information that movies and media  
15 give out. A lot of these programs disrespect women. So if  
16 people are watching that then of course women are going to  
17 be disrespected.

18 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Can you give me an  
19 example?

20 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** There is too many movies  
21 that show women getting raped.

22 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

23 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Too many things exposing  
24 women's body.

25 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

1                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And -- so for our culture,  
2                   you cover your body, you don't disrespect it.

3                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

4                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** So through media they're  
5                   promoting a certain type of clothing and to me I don't  
6                   agree with that for them to make women objects.

7                   **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

8                   **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Like if they're exposing  
9                   that and promoting that then our young people are learning  
10                  it in these public systems and through TV and ---

11                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Yeah. Right.

12                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** --- they blame it on that  
13                  and they shouldn't blame it on that.

14                                 Because a lot of times girls get  
15                                 re-victimized. Well, if you weren't wearing that short  
16                                 skirt this wouldn't have happened to you.

17                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right. Right.

18                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And if you weren't wearing  
19                  that top this wouldn't happen to you.

20                                 And so we need systems in place where they  
21                                 quit blaming the victim, and probably the same young women  
22                                 I shared the story with. Well, if you weren't hitchhiking  
23                                 this wouldn't happen to you.

24                  **MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

25                  **MS. FREDA HUSON:** Instead of focusing on the

1 men that are corrupt in their mind and are doing these  
2 things. How come the focus is not on them? Where did it  
3 go wrong for them? Like it's not the women's fault that  
4 this happened and it's the individual that's portraying  
5 this on them.

6 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And so that takes me to  
7 the next piece to see if you have any final comments about  
8 policing in the Wet'suwet'en Territory?

9 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I want a Aboriginal  
10 policing ---

11 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

12 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** --- program where we  
13 police our own highways and police our own young people and  
14 even self defense courses for the young girls how to defend  
15 themselves if they ever found themselves in a situation  
16 where they're about to be abducted.

17 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. Any final comments  
18 about the RCMP?

19 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I'm hoping that this  
20 Inquiry is not just for the sake of telling some people  
21 that yeah, we did an inquiry.

22 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

23 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I want to hear about the  
24 results and outcome that came from this Inquiry and what  
25 kind of changes is Canada going to make and what kind of

1 changes is B.C. going to make ---

2 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

3 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** --- to ensure that  
4 Indigenous women feel safe. Because we should feel safe.  
5 This is our homeland. This is our country, and if we don't  
6 feel safe there's something wrong with that big picture.

7 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right. Right.

8 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** And until these things  
9 change we don't trust the government, we don't trust the  
10 police. Your actions got to speak louder than your words.

11 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right.

12 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** No more empty promises.  
13 You steal all our resources. You send  
14 resource money to give back to make our people equal to  
15 everybody else.

16 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Thank you. And with that,  
17 I just want to ask one more time, anything else you'd like  
18 to share?

19 **MS. FREDA HUSON:** I think that's  
20 (inaudible).

21 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. You did well.  
22 Thank you very much, Freda, and I'm just going to turn this  
23 off.

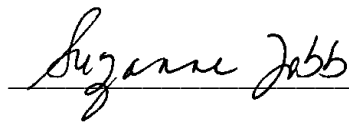
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25 --- Upon adjourning

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Suzanne Jobb, Court Transcriber, hereby certify that I have transcribed the foregoing and it is a true and accurate transcript of the digital audio provided in this matter.

  
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Suzanne Jobb

October 16, 2017