National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
Truth-Gathering Process
Part 1 Statement Gathering
Membertou First Nation
Unama’ki (Cape Breton Island), Nova Scotia

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Statement - Volume 65
Linda Maloney & Catherine Anne Martin,
In relation to Nora Bernard
& Annie Mae Pictou Aquash

Statement gathered by Debbie Bodkin

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Witnesses: Linda Maloney & Catherine Anne Martin
Statement Gatherer: Debbie Bodkin

Testimony of Linda Maloney & Catherine Anne Martin . . . . . . . 1

Reporter’s Certification . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 98

Documents submitted with testimony:

1. Seven copies of photographs (7 pages)
The use of square brackets [ ] in this transcript indicates that amendments have been made to the certified transcript in order to replace information deemed inaudible or indecipherable by the original transcriptionist. Amendments were completed by listening to the source audio recording of the proceeding and were made by Maryiam Khoury, Public Inquiry Clerk with the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQ, August 20th, 2018 at Ottawa, Ontario.
Statement — Public 1
Maloney & Martin
(Bernard & Pictou Aquash)

Membertou, Nova Scotia

--- Upon commencing on Monday, October 30, 2017 at 4:35 p.m.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay. So it is now 4:35. And again, my name is Debbie, Debbie Bodkin. And I was hired as a statement gatherer for the Commission.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And my goal being here is to listen to the stories of people like yourself and try and gather the truth, and --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- and forward whatever -- ever information you want to provide to go to the commissioners.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: So it is October 30th, 2017. We’re in Membertou. And as I mentioned my name already, if you wouldn’t mind saying your name for me.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Linda Maloney.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Maloney.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: I was a Bernard. Linda Bernard.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay. And where do you live, Linda?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: I live in Millbrook.
Well, actually I don’t live in Millbrook, I live in Hilden. That -- which is about a couple miles from Millbrook. And I’ve been there for 33 years --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- in Hilden. And -- but I was going to say, I was living in Millbrook. I lived in Millbrook, but only came home in the summertime.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: I went to residential school for ten years.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay. Before you continue --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Okay.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Sorry, to interrupt you.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: I’m just going to get Cathy to --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Okay.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- introduce yourself to the crowd --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yes.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- too, please.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Okay. My name’s Cathy Anne Martin, and I’m a member of the Millbrook Mi’kmaq community as well as Linda. And I don’t live in

(LAUGHTER)

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: I am a member of the Millbrook community. My mom and dad are from there.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: All right. And you’re here to support Linda on this and --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: I’m here to support.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Wonderful.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Cookie --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Cookie.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- I know her as.


MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: But I’ll try to say Linda.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: You know it’s Cookie or Linda.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yes. Yes.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And we’ll try and let Linda do all the talking --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm.
MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- unless she needs your support. And so I’m the same --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- I will try not to interrupt you.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Okay.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And as we -- I mentioned to you about the video tape. And you preferred not to be on video tape.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yes.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: So I do have it running just for the back-up audio.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Okay.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And I have the audio recorder run -- running as well.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And I just want to confirm that you’re here voluntarily --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yes.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- to give your statement.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And your statement will be recorded, it -- but it will be kept with the Commission.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.
MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: So it is with the Commission.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Any other questions before I let you, sort of, take the floor? Do you have any questions you have of me --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- about the whole process or anything?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No, I’m pretty well --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Know.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- versed on that.

And --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- and I did write my --

did those statement back in, I don’t know, how many years ago, but what is it that you would like me to -- how do you want me to start? When I -- when I was young? And you want to --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: If that -- that usually makes it --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Okay.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- the easiest.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yes.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: So tell me, yeah. A
little bit about your background --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Okay.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- your family --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- and then move right up to wherever.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Okay.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: All right. Well, my mom married a man from Eel Ground, New Brunswick. So we, technically, were Eel Ground band members.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: But when my dad left my mom I was 2 years-old. So at that point, my mom was the sole provider, and she used to go up to town and scrub house -- scrub floors, and things like that. And then she -- it got too hard for her, so she put the older people -- older siblings into the residential school. And when I -- when it was my turn, I was five. So she took me there. And -- and then she signed papers thinking that they were -- she would be able to take the children out, but she signed them -- all of them, for us to stay until we were 16.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And how many were -- how many --
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Six.
MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Six.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.
MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Two boys, and four girls. I almost missed out on that part. And so when I went, my grandfather took me -- took us there. And I thought I was just visiting. I did this at the first time. And -- and they were really nice, but there was no children there at the time. Just a few of them that were playing in the recreation room. And they gave me ice cream, and they were nice, and things like that. So I thought, "Oh, boy," in this big, big school that I was going to go to. And so finally, when I -- when did -- when she did take me back, along with the rest of my siblings, I didn’t -- I thought, "Well, I was just visiting." And so when she -- when she took us down at the recreation room, there were -- more kids were there, and I said, "Oh." I had all this children to play with, and I was so happy.

So then, all of a sudden, I was looking around and my mom wasn’t there. And I looked, and I’m, like -- and then I seen her walking by the window. And I’m, like, looking out and watching her. So I jumped out -- jumped off of the chair, and I ran out the door. I -- I seen kids going in and out of this door, so I
followed her. “Mom. Mom. Giju’. Giju’.” That’s -- and
I said, “Wait for me. You forgot me.” And she kept going.
And so I kept going. And the nun came after me, and she
just grabbed me by the collar, and -- and I just kept
hollering, “I -- they forgot me. You forgot me.” Then
Nora, she’s the oldest girl --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- hollered for the nun,
“Leave her alone. I’ll look after her. You just stay --
stay away from her.” And so anyway, she took me in.
And -- and so that night, Nora cuddled me and things like
that. But then it was time to go to bed. And they gave us
our little pyjamas and the little night dresses, or
whatever. And I remember that night so vividly because we
had to walk up four flights of stairs. And a 5 year-old
that has never been used to walking, only a few steps,
like, maybe ten steps up to our little loft at home. And
so I kept looking out at the bar, the little spindles, they
were -- they were steel, and I kept looking down trying to
see Nora. And -- and I couldn’t see her, but I was crying
and then crying and -- and then trying to keep up, you
know, trying to climb those four flights of stairs.

So when we get to the top, we either went to
the left or to the right. The right was the big dorm --
big girls dormitory. The one on the left was a little
girls dormitory. So we were assigned a bed, and -- and I
still didn’t see any of my siblings. They were all in
the -- in the big dormitory. And so I noticed what
everybody else was doing so I did everything that everybody
else did. And then it was time to crawl into bed. And
Nora -- I remember Nora coming to the door, and I could see
her -- I could see her reflection there. And then the nun
must have ordered her back into the big dormitory. And so
I just -- I thought, “Oh, my God.” Well, that was the
longest night that I had ever spent away from my mom.

And it was terrible because I’m -- and I’m
looking, and there was big presses where they’d put the
clothes, and the -- not the coats, the blankets and things
like that, and -- and sheets and things. And -- but you
could open them. And I noticed somebody opened one and
took a blanket out. And I’m just looking -- looking and I’m
just wondering what -- what’s going on here. What -- am --
am I going to -- no one’s going to come in pretty soon,
maybe, after a while. And that’s how I lost the rest of
the night. I had my head covered, and I was all rolled up
into a ball. And --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: What year was that,
Linda? You said (indiscernible) [it was --].

MS. LINDA MALONEY: 1948.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Thank you.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: And I find that’s my worst time of the day, night time. I, to this day, I can’t -- I don’t sleep at night. I might get two or three hours. And -- but it just, sort of, stuck with me. And you’d think of, you know, when you’re young you hear sg’te’gmuj and kjimntu; that’s ghost and the devil, and things like that. So -- and I -- I would just keep my head covered, but I would open it up a little bit.

And I used to pray that my mother would come after me. And -- but at night when -- when I -- I slept with my mom, and this one night -- every night, if my mom turned her back to me, I would say, “Giju’, (speaking in Mi’kmaq),” I learned how to say that when we were having the classes downstairs at the -- at -- at the hall. When you see the bus getting them, and they were there. Anyway, and I asked somebody to teach me just those, Giju’ (speaking in Mi'kmaq), about five words. And I said, “And I will -- I will never, ever -- if I don’t learn Mi’kmaq, I’ll be happy when I learn how to say those two words.” And so I do. Everybody said, “Yes, you can -- you’re great. You know Mi’kmaq. And I said, “No. I never knew how to say that.” Now, I say it. I tell my kids, that’s what I used to say to my mom.

So anyway, that went on for years. And -- and like I said, night time was my worst. And Nora -- but
I was able to -- able to survive, somewhat. And was able to play with Nora and [M.] looking after me on the playground and things like that. And Nora was a -- a -- someone -- people knew -- the girls knew that you -- you can’t fool around with Nora’s sisters. So we were -- we -- we survived, you know. But -- and I was just telling Cathy that I went to church every day for ten years, three times a day. And I just -- this -- this year, I took a break. And I haven’t been going to church. Well, maybe, three times, four times a year. That --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Christmas, Easter, I -- I do.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: (Indiscernible) [M’hm].

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Good Friday, I’ll do that. And -- but with the -- I ran away from residential school, and that was with Gloria. And Gloria was -- that’s my cousin.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And that’s Cheryl. Do you know Cheryl Maloney?

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: No.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Okay. Well, Cheryl Maloney is the president of the Provincial --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: (Indiscernible)
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Provincial Native Women.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Oh, okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah. So anyway, her mother, so --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And how old were you’s?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Thirteen and she was fifteen. And so she said, “I’m running away tonight, and you’re coming with me.” And I said, “Okay.” And she said, “Yes. Because your -- when they’ll -- I -- I can’t leave you here because you’ll tell on me -- where I’m going. So -- and plus, you’re going to get in trouble, so you have to come with me.” So we went. But we were -- we were in -- caught and taken back. And the Mounties took her back, and then they -- and the Indian Agent, Mr. Whalen (ph), from -- from New Brunswick, took me and another girl back. So -- and we stayed on for another two years after that.

And I just feel that somehow we were so brainwashed that we just said, “Okay, we have to go back.” And so we went back every year when it was time to go back. Now, mind you, fall is not my favourite time of the year. And there’s still that -- that thinking, “I have to be somewhere. I got to go somewhere.”

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: And -- and I think one of the things that really saved me was Nora, when she — [M.] and Nora and [L.], they went back. And it was easier with me to go back with them. And -- and Nora -- see if Nora, or [M.], or anybody came to my bed, they would get punished, but I would get punished. So in -- to spare me, they wouldn’t -- they wouldn’t come. They’d -- but they’d use the bathroom and -- through the night, and maybe come in. And -- and just pat me on the head and -- and leave. So this went on, like, well, they were with me for about five or six years, and then I stayed the rest of the time by myself.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Oh.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: By that time, I was well adjusted to the place. And -- but I lost my culture, lost my tradition, and -- and you know, I never recovered that. I tried lots of times to go -- and to the pow wows and -- but it’s something that they took. And I can’t get it back. I’ve been living off the reserve for over 50 years. And, mind you, I’m -- I’m more Native, I think, than anybody else around.

(LAUGHTER)

MS. LINDA MALONEY: But I just -- and I envy them. I envy Cathy. I always want to do drumming. But I just can’t. There’s something there, and I don’t know if
I’ll ever get it back.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: I did my story, and -- and when they were asking me the questions, I -- we took a little break, and they -- one of them said, “I don’t think that lawyer believes you.” I said, “Why not?” She said, “No.” I said, “Oh.” And -- and with that -- when they did that, there’s so many things that they are -- they put a -- what do you call that? A ten -- a ten, one -- to -- that it wasn’t that --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- scale. Yeah. So and mine was at the lower scale because they didn’t believe me.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And sorry, tell me, who was it -- taking your (indiscernible) [-- you gave a] statement?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Well, it was my lawyer.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: It was my lawyer. Then, you know what? There was an -- an Elder there too. I can’t even -- I can’t even hardly remember that.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: That’s okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Because I told them about somebody coming to my bed, and -- and -- but I was so tucked in -- I tucked everything in, I was so scared. And
so -- but he would -- and they said -- so when we took the break, she said -- she -- “That lawyer doesn’t believe you.” And I thought, “Oh, my God.” I always wanted to say this too. I always wanted to say when I did that, told my story, that why would they have a lawyer there not believing you? I’m not -- I’m not saying that they should believe, they were working for the government, so you know --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- they’re going to question you. So this fellow came -- started from my feet, all the way up. Went up like this, and I was just suffering. And I’m like, “Oh, my God. Is this -- who is this person?” And from then on, it was even worse. Like, I would always think that somebody was going to come into the bedroom. And I don’t know how he ever got in. I have no idea because the door was locked. The top of the -- I -- I have no idea how he ever got in.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And can you remember how old you were when you -- when that happened?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Probably about 14.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And any idea who “he” was?
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. I know who.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah. And -- but, you know, even talking about it, I didn’t even really -- I didn’t dislike him because I know, after thinking about it, I dislike that lawyer more because she didn’t believe me. You tell your story and, you know --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Anyway. So I don’t even know who she was. I probably can find out, and one of these days I probably will tell her, you know. That you -- you just -- how is everybody -- anybody going to trust telling their story and nobody believes them?

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm. When did that happen? Like, how did that come about telling --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: I don’t know. I just --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Speaking with a lawyer and --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Oh, that?

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- that.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. I -- they wanted to know if I wanted to tell my story and then when they --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: They, who? Sorry.

Who’s -- who’s “they”?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: The -- the lawyers.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Which lawyers?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: McKiggan. McKiggan

and -- oh, who was that -- was in -- with McKiggan?

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah. For the truth and reconciliation?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yes. Yes.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay. So it was with truth and reconciliation?


Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Thank you.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And -- and so -- and I -- when I ran away, I was strapped by a -- a priest. And so they wanted in depth --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: You know? And I’m, like, I know you can’t give anybody compensation unless you -- I thought it was so vile that they wanted to know --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Details.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. I just -- I said, “Ahh, nah. I’m not going through this shit.” So that’s where I left with that. And then -- then after that, I never trusted anybody. I only trusted myself, and my immediate family because throughout the years, things have happened. But I was such a strong person, and I -- I have
to give Nora credit for that because she was there. I know
I could play in the ground -- in the playground and nothing
ever happened in the playground. Nobody bullied me or
anything like that. And I -- and I think I -- I became a
strong person. But in the back of your mind, you were
brainwashed.

And you were nervous and scared, but then,
like, through the night, I’d be like that. And the next
day, I would be a woman -- a different person that
transformed into a different person in the day. But night
time, I never -- I never liked night time. I would -- and
when my husband used go away, I’d have all the lights on in
the house. And then I had to start turning them off
because -- “Mom, you left the lights on. We couldn’t
sleep.” And I’m, like, “Oh, good.”

And I tried to -- I tried to get over that
fear. And it’s still -- I’m -- I’m 74 years-old. I can’t
seem to shake that. And -- and I read a lot at night time.
Anyway, I left there and then I -- but I didn’t -- I wasn’t
really happy in Millbrook. I felt like an outsider in
Millbrook. And then I ran away from Millbrook. Then I
came back, and -- but I want to talk a little bit more
about -- I want to talk about Nora.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay. I’ll just ask you
a couple more questions.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Just about that part.

So when you left, did you go home to your parents?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: My mother --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: When you were out of the school?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: My mother.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: To your mom. Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. My father left when I was two.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Oh, sorry. Yes, that’s right, you told me that.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And he classified himself as single. He was in the army. Isn’t that crazy? He never supported us.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Oh, boy.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: My mother went and supported us. And I always -- I don’t hate him. I don’t -- I never hated him because my mother never spoke ill of him.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Obviously, a strong woman.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. She never said
anything about him. We just knew that his name was Mike (ph) Bernard. And -- yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: So he came back to Millbrook. And he died, and then they buried him almost next to her. So anyway.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And just one more question again.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: I -- I know you don’t want to speak on that anymore, but would you like to put the person’s name, the man, that you spoke of to the truth and reconciliation -- just put it on record here so that we have the name as well? You don’t have to tell me more details, if you’re not comfortable.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: About the one that came to me?

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yes. That came in your room.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: It’s okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No. I think he suffered enough.
MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Because I think there was -- of -- you know, there was other people that came forward.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And -- no, I don’t want to.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: That’s fine.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Because a lot of people suffered there.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: My brother suffered. They wouldn’t give him a blanket or sheets. He was -- maybe a sheet, and rubber on his bed. And he suffered, so he was my -- I think the men, kind of, got it a little bit more.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. And I remember my brother in the refectory, where we ate, girls on one side, boys -- and he was wearing sheets on his head. They put sheets on his head because he wet -- he wet the bed. And he remembers that too. He used to remember that.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: His pride.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: He was a piss
parade.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And I -- I know everyone looked at -- “What’s [Brother 1] doing? What’s [Brother 1] doing standing there?” And they’d say, “Shh. Shh.” And one -- you’re not allowed to talk. But anyway, so they took my brothers out after a couple of years, but that really --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Was --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: [Brother 1] became so -- such a bitter -- not -- no, not bitter, but just, sort of, troubled. And if anybody even looked at him after that, and -- and if they called him nothing but a F’ing Indian, well, he was out to do that. But he -- and -- and he was a gentle person, but nobody dared say anything to him.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Because he just -- he just didn’t want to take it anymore because he took it --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- all that time. And my oldest brother, [Brother 2], he went there for a year, year and a half, so they said that -- my grandfather said, “Well, you’re going to be cleaning out barns and things like that.” He was 15, he may as well -- no, 13, and we may as well -- “You may as well come work with us in drywalling,” is what he said. At the drywall with all the
Martins (ph) I think.

And so they suffered, and my sister next to me, [R.], suffered. And my siblings all became alcoholics. And I -- I was spared from alcohol, or drug, or whatever, anything. And I -- I -- my siblings, they’re the ones that saved me. But there’s nothing that they could do for me at night. But -- but Nora -- Nora used to steal food and take it -- try to sneak it over to my brothers, and then bring some off of -- to us. And -- because when she worked in the kitchen, she could put some in her bloomers.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: We used to wear bloomers.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Right here -- you used to -- they were all like that.

(LAUGHTER)

MS. LINDA MALONEY: So Nora had an awful life too. She had children and -- and most love was her children. Tried to -- she was a taxi driver, she was an alcohol and drug worker, and --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: (Speaking in Native language).

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Huh?

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: (Speaking in
Native language).

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** (Speaking in Native language), yes. And what a strong person she was. And I owe it to her --

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** And -- and she even tried to help me even when I was out working and things like that. “You -- do you need help?” You know, I said, “No.” “I’m -- I’m asking you, do you want any help?” “No.” I said, “No.” “You tell me.” And I tried to pay her back whatever she did for me. And the rest, I just go -- if I had it, I would give her heat, I would give her food, whatever I could give her.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** If it wasn’t for her, I would not be here, but -- and --

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** How much older is Nora than you?

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** Huh? Eight. Eight years older.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Eight years older.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** Yeah. Just -- but the oldest, [Brother 2], is ten years. There’s all two years -- we were all two years apart.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Oh, okay.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. And -- but Nora was -- she was like my mother there, you know.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Tell them who Nora is.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Anyway --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And you tell her we know our aunts and identify her.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm. Nora is my oldest sister, Nora Bernard. And Nora was killed by her grandson. And --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: (Indiscernible).

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Nora had a heart problem. And so the night that I heard of Nora, I thought she just died of a heart attack. And so they wouldn’t let us in -- in her house. I -- and -- and in the Indian community, when a person passes on, they allow the family to come in and say their good-byes.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: They wouldn’t let us in. And I said, “Well -- well, why aren’t they letting us in? My God.” I said, “We just wanted, you know, see her and hold her, and touch her.” And they said, “No. No. You can’t come in.” And -- and see Nora where -- lived off the reserve.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: That’s right next to --
right -- 37 feet from where she was born. And so -- and it
was the town of Truro. She lived in the town of Truro.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And then next was
Millbrook. And so I thought, “Oh, it must be something to
do with the town. They don’t allow people, you know, it’s
not on the reserve. So they -- they don’t practice things
like that.”

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And then after about
two, three hours, they came over and told us that there’s
something -- something going -- that went on in there, and
they can’t tell us.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: (Indiscernible).

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And I’m, like -- like,
“Okay. What’s going on?” Then they had the forensic
(indiscernible) [thing going] in, then they had all them
beam lights.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: (Indiscernible).

MS. LINDA MALONEY: My God, well, that’s the
only thing that -- she -- she must of -- somebody must have
killed her, or something.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And who are “they” that
you’re talking about?
MS. LINDA MALONEY: They -- whoever was --
whoever go -- got into her house. I don’t know who killed
her.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: No, but “they” who were
telling you --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Oh.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- that there’s going --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Oh. The -- the police.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And do you know what
police service it was?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: A tam (ph) because it
happened --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Truro.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Truro police.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Truro police. Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. And then my -- my
nephew, who was a Mountie, was there. And he was -- he
wasn’t -- he couldn’t tell us anything. He come to the --
he said, “It doesn’t look good.” “Well, what?” “I can’t
tell you. I can’t tell you.” Because, you know, they
don’t like saying anything. And I said, “Sonny (ph).” I
said, “I don’t know what’s going on.” “Geez, can you maybe
go walk around and see?” He said, “They’re not going to
let me know.” I said, “Well, okay.” And everybody kept
walking from -- all the cars were lined up in -- down the
road there. Nobody would say anything.

And then they took her son into -- into the jail. And -- and I -- and I jumped in the car, and I said, “Jason (ph), what are doing?” “They want -- they -- they’re taking me to jail. They’re taking me.” I said, “What for? What for?” “I can’t say. And, you know, I can’t.” And he had witnessed -- that was her son. He had witnessed what she was like. And --

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Oh, okay.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** So he’s the one that found her. And -- and he was -- he had blood on him and everything. And I never even thought. I just thought, “Okay, she just fell, or hit -- hit her head.” And I never even thought that she was murdered. Then about, I don’t know, the next morning -- early, this was all through the night. We were there until 2 or 3, 4 o’clock.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** And when was this, date-wise?

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** It was December 26th.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** In what year?

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** In 2007.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** And they didn’t pronounce her dead though, until the 27th because we were there all that night. And so when they announced that she
was dead, it was on the 27th. But she died around 10
o’clock, December 26th.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** And that’s when we
celebrated. I know it’s nothing to celebrate, but we do
the walk, or whatever. So anyway, then we discovered that
it was her grandson. And she just doted on her grandson.
Oh, my God, he was everything. And -- and then he
confessed. And he just confessed and said, “Yeah, I did
it.” He took all the blame. I’m not really sure the real
story, but he just took the blame. And -- and he’s in
prison. He’s still in prison. And -- and every Christmas,
he puts himself in the hole -- what they call a hole.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** So he wouldn’t have to --
- he wouldn’t have to face whatever he did. He said, “I
won’t have” -- he said, “I’ll have to look at her face for
the rest of my life.” And -- and it’s an awful thing to
have somebody knowing that he could never, ever -- I’m --
and I’m afraid that maybe one of these days, he probably
will just -- they’re -- they’re -- his -- I don’t know if
he’s on, you know what, suicide watch.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Of course.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** I’m not sure if they do
that. I imagine they would. But I ran for council one
year, and I sent him a flyer. And that’s the first time that I ever, you know, sent him anything. So he wrote me right back, and he’s -- said, “Oh, good. You’re going to be running.” He said -- he said, “If I -- when -- if you ever decide to come and visit me, I’ll tell you everything about it.” And I just wasn’t ready to hear that. So I said -- I wrote back to him and I said, “James,” I said, “No,” I said, “That will be for another time.” And I said -- I said, “James, I don’t hate you. I never hated you.”

He was troubled, he was on drugs. And -- but I know -- I know he’s suffers. I know he suffers. But nobody wants -- nobody -- all the family’s against him. And I don’t know where he’ll ever stay, if he comes back.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** The community doesn’t want him.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** How old was he when he -- when it happened?

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** Twenty.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** Twenty-something.

Twenty -- twenty-six, twenty-seven.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** Maybe --

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** Yeah.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** -- there about.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Can you tell her who -- what Nora did before she died. What -- why she’s so well known.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Nora had a -- started on suing the -- the government for the residential school survivor -- survivors. And she worked on it from ’80 -- ’86.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: M’hm. In (indiscernible) [the late] ‘80s.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah. And worked on it. Travelled all over the place.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Wow.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. And she did it on her own dime. And they pass a hat around, and they would, you know, gave her a phone, or whatever she needed, food and stuff. And she got all the stories, and -- and this lady too. Yeah. And right up and across Westagosh (ph), she went to Maine because there was people that -- Massachusetts, that’s where all the survivors -- they just went all over the country. And so anyway, she worked on it -- what, about -- what, eight years, or --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: (Indiscernible) [Yeah].

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: What did they call themselves? Indian --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Indian residential school survivors

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- society, or something?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No. Just Indian survivors. And the residential school, I’m not sure if you ever seen any pictures of the residential school. Yeah, it was on a hill. And --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Which one?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Shubenacadie. Yeah. Yeah. And so this started off with just three or four people around the -- the table. She said, “We got to -- I’ve got to do something about this. This is not right.” You know, people were -- when they ran away, they had their hair shaved. And the girls had their hair cut up short and -- and then the boys were shaved with that. And then they got strappings. And they have to bend over on their beds and -- and get slashings with the -- and I had that when I ran away. And so -- and some would just -- would be thrown in this cupboard, like, near a refectory. And you could almost see them, but there was a little alcove, or something like that. And -- and so she just wanted to bring the government to task --
MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- for all of that. And she got all the stories. And then she got her lawyer to come with her. And she said, “Now John.” She said, “You speak in layman’s terms. Don’t speak your high falutin words.” And she said, “You -- you be down to earth because they -- they don’t -- they’ve had enough of that.”

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And so -- and, yeah, he stuck with her, and he didn’t -- he -- what -- he didn’t charge her. But what is that -- took about on, what?

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Pro bono?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Pro bono, right?

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: So, yeah. And -- and I, yeah, and I didn’t go to any of her meetings for a long, long time. And then I thought, “Oh, I got to -- I have to go.” So I went, and I’m like, “Oh, my God.” I was so proud of her. And she said, “Yeah.” She said, “We’re going to get somewhere with this.” And I’m, like, year after year, and I’m like, “Oh, my God.”

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: “Why are they going to listen to her?” And they did. And it was a -- like, a multi-million dollar lawsuit, hey? Yeah.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And she travelled across the country and met the other two groups --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- and they became -- and tell them that.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: She sounds like an amazing woman.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Oh, she was. She was.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: When she joined with the other two it --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- her -- it became, because of her joining the other two organizations, the largest class-action suit in -- ever --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Wow.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- in Canada. The residential school survivor’s lawsuit.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And it was like I never thought --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: I’m just going to help her with some of the details because she --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Because I really know her -- I was busy trying to make a living myself.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And so I saw [M.], and I said, “Well, let’s -- let’s go and -- and see what Nora’s doing.” And then we went, and I’m like, “Oh, my God.” I didn’t really know what the extent of it. And then I’m like, “Oh, my God. Look at her. She just” -- but she was always like that. At -- at the -- she just -- no nonsense Nora --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- you know?

(LAUGHTER)

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No. You know, you better do right, or else you’re going to -- you’re going to hear it from me.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Wow.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: So anyway, she -- and she lived a -- a modest life. She never -- she treasured anything that somebody gave her, and she could add to it, or -- the little table here, little -- it’s all antiques. And they could be broken, she’d fix it, you know. And --
but she -- she was my saviour.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Sounds like it.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah, she was. I wouldn’t have been able to do the things that I did if it wasn’t for her. She gave me that strength. And she’d say, “You can do this.” And I’d say, “Yeah, okay. I can do it.”

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And I see -- I think I have a copy of pictures, which you have there too.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Can you just tell me a little bit about them?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Well, that was in her home. That was in her home, this one here.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Doesn’t she have beautiful hair? Nice and silver hair. I don’t -- I won’t let mine go.

(LAUGHTER)

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And this was -- this is where she was live -- 37 feet from where she was born. She wasn’t born in this house here.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: But it was all over this way further. And she was born in my grandmother’s house.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Wow.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And -- but -- and this, she had -- never was admitted to the reserve, until what? Nine months before she got killed.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: That’s an important part of her -- the violence against her.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah. So tell me --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: You need to tell about --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- all of what she lived.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. And she --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Because of the Bill C-31. You need to --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: She -- yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- talk about that.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: So she was always an advocate for women, and anyone that was always -- when anyone came, they’d knock on her door. They’ve even left their children with her to look after.
MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And then they -- they would move on. And one just kept staying there forever. And she’s still there. And -- and -- but she -- she was like a crusader, right?

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Sounds like it.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: She just helped people. And -- and if you wanted to come in and eat, she’d just whip something up. And -- and she -- she had six kids of her own.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Wow.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: So and she said, “Well, one more mouth to feed, I don’t mind.”

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And she lost her status.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. She lost her status. When she -- when she got married, and -- to a non-Native, and her -- her husband and her broke up and he left her to manage the kids. And he left without taking -- he was in the army. So he must have been -- what was it the army people used to do, take-off on their women.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Disappear.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Disappear. So -- so she -- then she became a Bill C-31, she marrying a non-Native. So she was ousted from the reserve. And so when
she got reinstated in 1985, she couldn’t go back to
Millbrook. She wasn’t a band member of Millbrook anyway --

 MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

 MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- but even though she
was born --

 MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

 MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- right on the reserve, 
which, you know, they should of at least, where she had an 
inherent right to be living --

 MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

 MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- on that land. So she 
got reinstated in 1985. And she was an advocate for that.
And then she got a lot of women together, and they made 
some big improvements on getting them back. But they 
didn’t -- some of her children were -- she was reinstated, 
but I don’t think her kids were reinstated for years.
Like --

 MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Yeah.

 MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- for years. Yeah.
And they can’t pass their children’s -- that they don’t 
have a -- a status card. They couldn’t pass that on.

 MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Right.

 MS. LINDA MALONEY: Right? But --

 MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: With -- well, 
that’s change in time, in my opinion.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Do you think?

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: I think so,
but -- but I guess her fight to get back on her reserve,
that reserve, is important to notice -- to note.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah. So --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: A single mom.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Very poor.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And then trying
to get the band that -- get back on the band.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. And she went
around, and she would have to go to every house and ask,
“Will you vote for me? Will you vote for me when the
referendum comes?” And -- and finally, nine months -- she
got on for nine months, and then she was killed in -- in

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: It took her all that
time to try to get back on the reserve.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So the
referendum, in our band, if someone wants to join our band,
it has to be by a referendum. And the community has to say
it. So she had tried several referendums --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- over the years.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And so finally, she did. But -- but the reason she wasn’t getting put back on is -- there seemed to be a lot of dissention, or resistance from our government --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- our band.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah. It was easier if you wanted to adopt a non-Native person, and made -- and you could give them a band number. And they were then considered as Mi’kmaq. But they didn’t have any blood --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- Mi’kmaq blood in them.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: So anyway, this -- and that’s, like, she lived on this part. And that’s the house next to -- that’s the band manager’s house.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: House in the background?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: House. Yes, that’s my
cousin. He’s the band manager. And there’s --

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** (Indiscernible)

[She] was a strong woman --

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** Oh, yes.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Obviously.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** Yeah.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** You’d think --

we always -- it -- what should be noted, and not putting words in your mouth, is strong women in our band are not -- are not supported.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** No. No.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** Women with voice. Anyone trying to --

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** Yeah.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** -- do the change --

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Change -- change.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** -- and --

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** Yeah. Yeah. They -- they just -- oh, yeah. There she goes. Oh, yeah. What’s she up to now? Type of thing.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** And do you feel -- like, given -- given that circumstance, did her death come from some of that going on in the community? Like --

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** No. At that --
MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- within your family
too, or --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: We received our
settlement from the residential school at that point. And
then, I think, that they were saying that James, that did
that to her, had wanted some of that money.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Oh.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And so I’m not really
sure if he got anything, or whatever. And -- but there was
other people involved. I think it -- it was a -- a band,
and there was some people in there and they were parked,
like, up the -- they could -- she could see the street
right up across from her house, and she knew there was a
car parked over there. And -- and she was -- she was going
to go out and -- go to Leanne’s (ph) place, wasn’t she?

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: M’hm.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: This -- the night of her
death?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Just -- yeah, she
said, she was going to go out and then -- I don’t know why
she didn’t go out.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: But she had told someone
about this car --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- parked up the street?
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah. And -- but she said, “No, I’ll stay. I’ll stay home.” And you can’t say that, you know, oh, maybe if she hadn’t gone --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- it’s just --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Well, earlier that night, she’d -- remember she won some money. Her and [M.] were out?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And so when -- a little bit --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And they knew that, someone knew -- everybody knew she won the --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Oh.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. And --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: It wasn’t much.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: It was, what?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: I don’t know.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Hundred and forty --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- or something.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. And --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: In (indiscernible)? I don’t know.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Just not a whole lot, but --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: When you have desperate people then --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Money’s a little bit --

it’s a lot.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: That’s right. Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And were other -- besides James, were there other people charged in her death then too?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No. No. No, he took the -- he took the --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: But you suspect there were others?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Is that what you figured?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah. And they’re still living on the reserve.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Oh.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: But there -- there’s nothing you can do because it’s not -- I guess they’re not -- they don’t want to be -- we used to say squealers, back in residential --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Yeah.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- school. But what are they called now?

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Well --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Rats?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Rats. Rats, yeah. Rats. Thank you. But we used to call it squealers.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yes.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: A lot of them, “You squealed on me.”

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And then -- but, yeah. Then that -- and I don’t know, maybe, you -- you watch movies and when --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- there are rats, they would do something to them. So I don’t know. Maybe -- I -- we won’t know the truth.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: I -- I think he’ll
probably take it to his grave.

    MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah. So do you feel, like, that the investigation was done properly and everything, into her death? But some of it.

    MS. LINDA MALONEY: No, because I think once he made a confession, they didn’t go any --

    MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Any further.

    MS. LINDA MALONEY: Any further.

    MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

    MS. LINDA MALONEY: And I think they should have because I think that if they had, and the people that he was out hanging around with that night, they should have been brought in.

    MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

    MS. LINDA MALONEY: You know, and they might of broke -- they might have broke down. But he -- but he wasn’t going to say anything.

    MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

    MS. LINDA MALONEY: I got to go to the bathroom.

    [Registrar’s note: five lines redacted - off the record informal discussion].

    MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: So it’s 5:35, we’ll just take a little break, and then --

    (SHORT PAUSE)
MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: ... recorder back on.
Let’s make sure it’s recording. Here we go. Recorder’s back on at 5:38 p.m.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: So before I ask you a few more questions, are there any -- is there anything more specific you want to tell me about Nora, about her death? Is -- is there anything that you feel that her death is in relation to residential schools, and what happened to her, and all the work she was doing?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Pardon?

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: I say, do -- do you feel that her death -- there was anything -- that it came about, or circumstances were in relation to what she suffered in residential school? What her family maybe went through afterwards? If there was any correlation --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- between the two, or no?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No. The --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: She was -- it’s about in -- what -- it’s about also, you know, the -- the violence that she may have --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Oh, yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Yeah, abuse.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah. Because even though Nora was a -- a very strong person with -- violence was always around -- around her, whether it was relationships, whether it was trying to fight for people’s rights. But it always seemed to follow her wherever she -- whatever project she was on, it always ended up that it was for the rights of the women. And the -- and then she was an alcohol and drug worker, and so she encountered a lot of things like that because the women would have to -- they would come to her and they, you know, ask for her help.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And she -- and she was vocal. And -- and that’s why, I think, a lot of the people didn’t really like that.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: I just found that in the -- in our community, like you say, if a woman was strong-willed or, you know, and spoke her mind, because a lot of people would just say -- they wouldn’t say anything.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: They would just, sort of, take it, but she wouldn’t. She would just say, “Listen, you know, I’m not going to stand for this.” So and she’d fight for people’s rights. And -- but she’d get the backlash from -- and -- and the -- and people have even
been very vocal, “No, we’re not going to -- one, we’re not
going to sign your petition.” One was -- the one guy told
her, “Don’t be passing me -- passing me these things.
Don’t come -- ever come near this house again.” So it was
in -- they -- not too many would be very vocal --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- about it, but they
would whisper and say, “Oh, here we go again.” But she was
persistent.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And she would just --
she won’t -- she wouldn’t stop until she -- (indiscernible)
[achieved her goal or --], oh. There’s [M.].

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: What? Can you
turn that on for a second? Do you want to take it here?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No, that’s all right.
I’ll call her back.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Are you sure?
You’s probably seen that -- probably calling you for a
reason.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: All right. Okay.

Well --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Just that,
right?

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah. We’ll take
another break at 5:40.

MS. LINDA MALONEY:  At --

(SHORT PAUSE)

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:  You’re doing

good. You’re doing good.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:  So we’re turned back on

at 5:45.  5:45 and that’s recording again.  So -- oops.

Besides Nora, is there anyone else that you feel you want
to talk about, or tell me about in regards to -- that you
want the commissioners to hear about?

MS. LINDA MALONEY:  Yeah. There’s

probably --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:  Annie Mae?

MS. LINDA MALONEY:  What?

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:  Annie Mae.

MS. LINDA MALONEY:  Yeah. We have -- I had

a very good friend, Annie Mae. And, you know, Denise (ph)?

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:  M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY:  That was her mom. And I

first met Annie Mae -- I was 15, and she was 13 or 14. And

I -- she -- her mother was visiting neighbours, the Brooks’

(ph), and so I seen this girl. And I was on my way up to

my grandparents’ house. And I said, “Oh, hi. How are

you?” “Good,” this is Annie Mae. And I said, “Where are

you from?” “Pictou.” I said, “Oh. Who are you visiting?”
“Oh, my -- my relatives.” I said, “Okay.” So and I was -- kept walking and talking to her. And she looked like she didn’t want -- she wanted to, you know, continue with the conversation. So and I -- and I thought, “Well, I’m going to stop and talk to her.” And I found out so much about her in about 20 minutes to a half an hour. We just talked. I felt like -- I, you know, when they say a soul mate, it doesn’t really have to be your husband, or whatever, right?

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Right.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** And I -- I just felt drawn to her. So and she taught me more about the Native way of living than I have ever learned. She lived in a tipi. And they lived in -- next to farmers and things like that. And she used to -- they used to have to walk through the field and go to school. And, I guess, they had horses there. And so she’d get on the horse there, and there’s cows there. She would jump on a cow to go to get -- anyway, so I’m like, “Oh, my God. This woman, she -- this girl, she just knows everything.” And she -- I thought -- I felt she was, like, an old soul. I just -- she knew more about life than I did.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** And I was a little older. And so after a while, I never see her -- never seen her again until I was 16 and -- no, 17. No, 17. She was
younger and I met her in May, and then we’d hooked up, talked and talked and talking. And then she started going with Jake (ph), and that’s my husband’s brother.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Oh, okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And so -- oh, we used to go to Boston all the time. Just like over the weekend, we’d go up there and -- and I was so drawn in -- drawn to her. And she -- she was so smart. She’d lived off the land. And -- and I’m like, “Oh, my God. I lived in a big, brick building.” And -- and -- but she was free. So then her and my brother-in-law, Jake, broke up. And I used to just miss her so much. Now, when they broke up, she came and lived with me in Millbrook. And she stayed with me for three months. And my God, what an intelligent person she was.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: She knew everything. And -- and we -- my husband and I used to say -- we’d never go to bed without each other. Like, we’d -- we’d put the kids to bed for good. Then I used to come down in -- after everybody fell asleep, and we’d be sitting on the kitchen table and talk, talk, talk, talk, talk. And we would finally crawl in bed about 5 o’clock. Then we’d sleep a little while, then we’d get up. And she’d come to work with me. I had a hair salon that time. And we’d take the
kids to daycare. And she’d help me sweep the floor, do
her -- do my towels, and -- and then we’d talk some more.

And then all of a sudden, she said, “I’ve
got to go back. I’ve got to go back and try to work things
out.” I said, “Okay. All right. Well, you know you’re
more than welcome to come back.” She said, “I know.” Then
they didn’t get back together. And then she -- I think
she, kind of, reminded me of Nora. And Nora was always
done -- Nora was always onto the next project.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** And -- and Annie Mae

was, “Oh, I’m going to -- I’m going to be a teacher.” And
I’d say -- and I’d be talking to her on the phone, and I’d
say -- “Oh, yeah. We’re -- well, I have a chance to go to
Maine.” I said, “Oh, my God. Then we can come there and
see you.” “Yeah, all right.” So she did. She became a
teacher. She opened up a little school in Maine. And then
she got into the -- the American AIM, American Indian
Movement. And -- and so we still -- she’d call me,
different parts of the country, whether it was in Dakota,
or in St. Paul, Minneapolis, she’d be calling me. And
she’d start -- tried to speak Mi’kmaq to me. And I didn’t
really understand, but she would say, “suliewei,” which is
money. (Speaking in Native language), and I would say --
and I knew that. (Speaking in Native language) because she
-- her phones were always tapped.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Oh.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And so anyway, I said -- I was -- I had a hair salon on -- I moved up to the -- one -- the engine room. I used to have a hair salon next -- there, and I was pregnant. And I -- and I was listening to her. I said -- I told her -- I told the -- going to my house, I tried to say -- how do you say that? (speaking in Native language) --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: (Speaking in Native language).

MS. LINDA MALONEY: (Speaking in Native language). No (speaking in Native language), no. (Speaking in Native language). Like, house. I’m going to my house, so she could call me there. And -- oh, before that, she -- she came down to see her kids. And so she came and would pick them up and we took them over to my house in Hilden. And so I said, “Are you going to stay?” She said, “No, I got to go back.” She said, “The people” -- -- she said, “The -- they’re thinking that I’m a traitor. That I’m an informant.” I said, “Oh.” I said, “Don’t bother. Just don’t bother going back. Just get a job down here.” “No,” she said, “I got to clear my name.” I said, “Oh, my God. I don’t think you should because they’ll, you know, they’ll probably do something to you.” “No. I can
handle myself.” I said, “All right.”

So we went to -- we went to my house and we stayed there over the weekend, three or four days. And then she had to go back. And so on our way to the airport, oh, the kids were so -- Denise and Debbie (ph), were so happy to see her. And so we’re driving to the airport, and she said -- and Denise said, “You know what, Ma? We’ll never forget you.” Oh, and they used to be cuddly and everything. “No. Because all we have to do is look at Cookie and we’ll think about you.” And I -- I thought, “Oh, my God. Okay.” And they -- and they were. They were really close. And -- and I would try to tell them as much as I could about them, without, you know, offending everybody.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** And so she -- she went back. And then that’s when she really got into heavier, heavier in. But there was people that thought that she was an informer. And, I think, the FBI had -- did they start that? Did they -- I don’t know if they started --

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** Yeah.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** -- that rumour, or whatever.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** Well, they were -- they -- they were good at setting it up --
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- to make people think things, right?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. But there was an informer -- and FBI in there, in their midst. So I’m thinking that maybe --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Yeah.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: So anyway --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Who didn’t like --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: No.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. So anyway, and that day that she called me, I was in my salon, and -- and I couldn’t hardly -- I just wished I -- she was fluent in Mi’kmag.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And -- but she would try to -- when she would say something about -- when she would say something, she’d say it, and I’d understand her. And I’d say, “e’e” to let her know.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah. Yeah.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And so when -- so when she -- I told her I was going home, and --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: This is around
December?

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** Yeah. This was in the fall, late fall.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** Novemberish?

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** Yeah.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Of what year, sorry?

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** 19 -- 1975.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** And so anyway, I -- she never called me. I rushed home --

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** -- and asked somebody to do my clients. I said, “I -- I got to go. I’m not feeling well.” I was pregnant. And so anyway, I got there and I waited, and I waited. And she never called. And I had no number for her because she called me collect.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Right.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** And so anyway, it was all right. Christmas time we used to go up and -- Sundays -- the old homestead in Shube (ph). And I said, “Okay. Let’s go. Let’s go home.” Because I didn’t want to miss a call because she’d call every Christmas and say, “What did the kids get?” And that (indiscernible) [-- tah, tah, tah (ph) --] tell them. And so she didn’t call. And I was making the bed up, we had a water bed, and I was trying to
tuck the girls in. I said, “Do you know what?” I said, “I think something happened to Annie Mae.” “Oh, you’re always thinking negative.” I said, “No. No. I think something happened.” I said, “She’d never forgot Christmas Eve -- Christmas Day Eve, and see what the kids got.” And so I thought about that, and I thought about it, I said, “God.” And I didn’t dare ask Jake, or anything like that. Did they hear from her? Because I don’t think she would of called there. She always called me.

And so anyway, and then in February was when we heard that she was found. I wanted to fly out there. Nobody would let me. Justine (ph) was out -- going to have Justine -- and this was March. And I was having Justine in June. “No, you’re not going.” I said, “Yes, I am. I’m going out there. I’m going out there.” “No.” So I thought, “Okay.” I think how blind I would -- and here she was shot in the back of the head. And they wouldn’t even let her pray. They wouldn’t even let her say a prayer for her kids. And I -- and I found that so awful. And they wouldn’t let her --

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** And with -- everybody was speculating how she -- who killed her and things like that. And when -- when that came to be -- and to think that another Native did that to her. I was so -- I just
couldn’t believe it, you know. But she was a brave girl.
She was going to -- she was going to take it all the way.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:  M’hm. Make changes.

MS. LINDA MALONEY:  Yeah. Make changes.

And she -- and she didn’t care, you know. She was going to get justice for whatever.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:  M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:  What about getting justice for her?

MS. LINDA MALONEY:  Well --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:  What about the process of getting -- getting justice and getting the -- this government -- these police to listen to the stories of trying to find her, and then, yeah -- just, it doesn’t have to be the long story, but I think some of the things we want to know is what could have been done. Or what was done that that wasn’t easy, but that went (indiscernible).

But -- but you too. And then --

MS. LINDA MALONEY:  Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:  You -- you’ve been part of this journey of resolve.

MS. LINDA MALONEY:  Yeah. Yeah. I’m -- I just feel that, there again, is a woman. And she’s strong, like Nora. And a lot of times -- like, even our -- even our own men, I feel -- feel threatened.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: When -- when they know that you’re on a mission --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- and you’re not going to stop.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: You know what I mean? And -- and Annie Mae was like that. She had a mind of her own. And once she said she was going to do something, she wasn’t going to veer off of there.

So some of the stories that she used to -- when she used to call me, she’d say, “Oh, my God. Had to go to Kenora.”

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And I said, “Oh, my God. What are you doing there?” “Oh, they’re having problems there.” And it’s surrounded by a body -- a body of water.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And so anyway, I said, “Well, how you going to get over there? You got -- is there a boat?” And I thought, “Oh, my God. No, can’t get a boat. I had to -- I have to go swim around there, along the bank.” And I’m like, “Oh, my God.” So anyway, she said, “But I’ll call you. I’ll call you when I get there,
and I’ll let you know what I’m doing.” And so she didn’t call me.

And I think that was when [Annie Mae’s boyfriend] -- they met up together, and he took her to his home, way out in the country. And he beat her up. And he -- she said that she didn’t think she was going to live, but she was able to get away. And she said, “I just snuck out when he passed out.” And -- and she said, “I just -- I made my way back.” And she said, “And I never went back with him again.” He beat her up really, really bad. And she see -- what? She brought him down, and he was at in Shube at Huba (ph) -- in Jackie’s (ph) place. They were all over there. And so I looked at him, and I went, “Hmm, okay. So this is who she chose?” And then they went back. And then that’s when he and she were -- she had a calling for Kenora, and then he found her. And they went up there, and she -- he beat her up. Then she -- then she got into really with Dennis and them. And -- and she -- she was a designer. She designed clothes. She was making a living that way. She was good, wasn’t she?

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** What?

(Indiscernible).

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

And --

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** Fashion shows.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Fashion shows and everything. And even with Buffy Sainte-Marie. Yeah. Yeah. So she was -- but Buffy didn’t know her by Annie Mae.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: What did Buffy say she knew her as?

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Jo -- Joanna (ph).

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Joanna, yes. Joanna. She known her as Joanna. And she said, “Oh, my God. We did well.” She said on the -- when our designs and, “Oh, I think we’re -- we’re on to something.” Then they -- well, then [Annie Mae’s boyfriend] didn’t drink at first. Then he started to drink. And then he’d be hollering about, “All these white people and da-ta-da-ta-da.” And then she said that when he got feeling good, he would just take any, like, a white girl out. And she -- that hurt her because she was so Native. And -- and she never once thought about anybody but a Native --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- person, Native mate.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And then she -- when she -- when he did that, how -- did he, [Annie Mae’s
boyfriend], die?

   MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Not before her.

   MS. LINDA MALONEY: No.

   MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: He has, but not

before she died.

   MS. LINDA MALONEY: But -- okay. Anyway --

   MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: She went to the

American -- she went to Wounded Knee --

   MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

   MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- and became

quite involved with the --

   MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm. Yeah.

   MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- leadership of

AIM --

   MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

   MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And became a

threat --

   MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

   MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- for her

knowledge and her -- what she knew in her voice.

   MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah.

   MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So then, like --

like, it was 30 years before we got the information because

of that State’s --

   MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- arresting the
two men and charge them.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: But 30 years of
them trying to get anyone to --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Refine it.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And so that is
one of the -- with the family because I was -- I’ve been
with them so long.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: I know.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Going to all
these places and raising all the money.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: But they did --
couldn’t get any money to get help to get legal support to
try to -- help find the -- why she was murdered.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: The truth, yeah.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Huba and Becky
(ph) were not listened to back in 1975.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Because they
were --
MS. LINDA MALONEY: No.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- they were Mi’kmaq women.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Then the daughters took over. Cookie, all along, has been trying to get someone to listen. The daughters took over, and they weren’t being listened to until, I think -- what -- we made a film about it, and then --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- some people came forward and so it was the United States, after 28 years, or 25 years, they got the ball in motion.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Not that they would do any -- they had four grand juries. This was the fourth one.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So I just wanted to bring her --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. That’s the point.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- you to that point. It wasn’t right after she died because they said she died of --
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Exposure.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- exposure.

Yeah. And the Bureau of Indian Affairs in the United States were the ones that processed that, and --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- the police that knew her, found her, but they said no one knew who she was. So she was buried --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- as an unidentified --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- Jane Doe.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And the family said, “No. She -- she would never have died of exposure.”

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No. No.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So they thought -- and they were able to get help to get the second autopsy from United -- from Canada, they got someone to help them. And you all know that detail.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So the second autopsy showed the gun [sic] and -- the bullet in the back of her ear, and head. And the witnesses of that time, the
nurses and the doctors, said it was so obvious. Why would we -- they say she died of exposure? Because the nurses and the attendees took care of the blood --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- that was -- soaked her head.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So -- so the question started, what happened to her in 1976? So she was -- died -- died in December, around the 14th. They -- and was found in February. In March, Ave (ph) they did a -- a second autopsy, or whatever. And that was where it was left.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: She was shot in the back of the head, and it was said it was by the FBI, but nobody could prove that. And that was it --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- for 25 years.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. And when -- when did they sever her hands?

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Well, the FBI were ordered to cut off her hand -- ordered the coroner to cut off her hands --
MS. LINDA MALONEY: And so --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- first.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: That time.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Knowing -- they knew who she was, but they were told to cut off her hands and send it to the FBI for -- for -- they said they did it for identification. They said it’s a normal procedure. So they had them in -- her hands in a box. And when the case was re-opened, they were finally tried. Oh, no. A lawyer went and tried to get her hands, and they, kind of, threw the box at the guy.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Oh, my God.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Because --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: That --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Because the tradition is you have to all be buried, every part --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- of them needs to be buried.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And so that has to happen for peace. So to have done that, they felt that was a violence to -- why did they cut off her wrists -- at
her wrists. Why didn’t they just --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: They said her body was over -- totally un-decomposed, and it wasn’t.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: But that was told after the second autopsy, and because the first autopsy, and then they -- there was so much evidence that was corrupted that 28 -- 28 years later, they would -- did DNA testing for rape and for identity.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And they could identify her, but not for evidence -- it was inconclusive of rape.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: But that was 28 years later. But the story had been known by so many people for so many years, and could have been somehow uncovered, but, you know, the -- a lot of what you -- what happens when there’s a murder involved, and it’s connected to murderers.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Two hundred witnesses over four inquiries.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And everybody knew of -- many people knew what happened.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So that, kind of, is curious. Why did not that come through out of two hundred testimonies?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: That -- like Debbie said, her daughter, that it -- it was a secret that everybody knew. So why does that have to take, not just 25 years, but the toll on her --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- on (indiscernible) [her community], on your family, on her daughters, and their fear for all those years of who killed my mothers?

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Are they around?


MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So I -- I would say that I’m just trying to help her in -- in what it is we’re trying to learn. Is -- what happened that wasn’t quite right?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Who responded to this women being killed? Or who didn’t respond? And now, how did it get found out? How -- it was the daughters, it was Cookie, it was Huba and Becky after all those years, and women who forced this to continue to be investigated.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: They got a little information. When I did the film, there was a little more information. And so there was enough information -- and after my film was released, two people came forward and signed their affidavits for the last -- but because the last grand jury -- the foreman was still open. And those two witnesses, whoever they were, I -- we know who they are, signed. And that caused -- that gave the -- the U.S. enough evidence to put a warrant out for the arrest of these two men.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So these two people who knew all the time --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- what was going one, finally came forward 30 years -- 28 years later. Signed it, and that caused the arrest of John (ph) -- the warrant for the arrest of John Graham (ph), and Arlo Looking Cloud (ph).
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And a third woman was involved, but they didn’t have that yet. So it took the United States -- they released the warrant on March 20th, and March 27th, Annie Mae’s birthday, 19 -- I don’t know what year, ’99 -- some -- I don’t remember what year.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: ’44. (Indiscernible) [When they --].

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Well, when they -- when they arrested him?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: They arrested Arlo Looking Cloud on her -- on March 27th --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- within seven days of the warrant. It took Canada four years. He was arrested after almost a year of being -- everyone knowing where he was, what he was doing. He was arrested for some other crime, and he was put on house arrest, so he didn’t miss his Christmas with his kids who he had left that year. But he was arrested in -- because of the Canadian laws, and because he would have to be extradited, it took three more years before he could be extradited. That stress on the family, I watched it.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: I watched them.

It -- it -- it’s not -- it’s -- it’s not right.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And -- and the

fear that that man, after 30 years, could walk, being under

house arrest and often, you know, he was free to be where

ever he wanted.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: It was their

fear he would go underground, and after 30 years they

couldn’t --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. But he’s still

maintaining his innocence.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Yeah. Oh, he

says he’s still innocent, but he got taken and within the

time he got brought to the United States, was months.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And he was

being -- he was -- months he went to court. Both of them

were charged for being there --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- but not with

the gun because no one could find the gun.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So they weren’t -- no one could be charged with shooting her, but both were charged with -- for life. They’re in prison --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- for life for being there.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So they’re not -- voice being not heard for 30 years --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- four different women trying to change it.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Native women.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And I can say as well, the -- her and her family do not get any contacts from the RCMP over all the years, even when there was a -- the reinvestigation. Even when the RCMP knew what was going on, or the FBI, nobody contacted that family --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- the daughters --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- to say, “Hi. We’ve got this arrested.” Or, “We’ve got” -- nothing.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So that was, I know, from their family and -- in Cookie --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- it, you know, like, you just -- it’s like if you don’t run and get into that door fast and close it, they’re going to get at it, but --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- it’s that kind of stress. And I watched the family.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: The whole family, I’ve -- end up -- and Cookie, I’ve watch their lives just (indiscernible) --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: It just seemed -- it just seemed like one thing after another all -- all these things that were in -- and that Joanna Brand (ph) came knocking on my door and trying to --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: A writer of her life --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- of Annie Mae Aquash.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And it -- it just -- it was always right there. And you think, okay, they’re going to find out. They’re going -- oh, yeah, they’ll -- they’re going to find out now. But it never --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Yeah. The --

the story by Joanna Brand has painted a picture that everybody went with. That it was the FBI --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- and that’s it.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So the whole world, the AIM --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- they believed it. So when it came out that it was these two guys, most people won’t believe it.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: No.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: They think that the family was snow-jobbed and they -- they were bought out or something.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And they went
with this other story. But I think, if it’s okay if I talk --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Oh, yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: I think that the other things that happened, after she was found -- after it was known that these two guys did it, the girls had to raise money on their own to go and exhume her -- their mother’s body and bring her home and rebury her at home. Because that’s the tradition of the Mi’kmaw to bring them home, no matter where they are. So they had to raise -- we raised money. We passed hats when (indiscernible) [-- you know] --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: I think we got about six or seven thousand, so it ended up that Denise and Deb -- Denise had to use her own credit card. Meanwhile -- years they were raising money. Meanwhile, when John Graham was arrested, the second guy in Vancouver, Amnesty International raised 25,000 overnight to get him out for his bail. That broke everybody almost.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: That how could you do that?
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: How could Amnesty International and all these activists go behind the murderer --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: and leave Annie Mae --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So that was one thing. The second thing was, when they exhumed the body, the lawyer for Arlo Looking Cloud down in the United States, basically AIM, when we exhumed her body -- and then she stayed overnight in a -- waiting for the plane to -- to put her on the plane, and Arlo Looking Cloud’s lawyer came and filed an injunction to stop the girls from bringing her mom -- their mom home because they wanted testing done that she was raped, or DNA. They didn’t -- they wanted to be sure she was who she was. I’m sorry. But it’s not, kind of, good and bad here.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So the United States judge, the next morning before -- when we were supposed to leave, the -- that United States judge heard the request for the injunction, and he heard it from Arlo Looking Cloud’s lawyer, and said, “First of all” -- and he
looked at Denise and then Huba (ph), and said, “I have no
doubt that this woman is who she is.”

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Basically --

“You don’t go and do what you -- we just did yesterday.”
Secondly, he said, “You’re not being charge for rape. Why
are you looking for testing done? So as far as I’m
cconcerned, this lady’s going home.” So she got home before
everybody else. We had this whole ceremony --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- ready to go --
-- go from the airport to the --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- funeral home,
where we were going to keep her for three months. We -- we
took her out on her birthday and we were going have on
Aboriginal Day, a funeral -- the four day traditional
funeral, so that all the people who never got the funeral,
the wake, were -- they’re all over the world, could come
home. So that’s --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- three months.

We got home, and Debbie and Denise -- and we all talked as
said, I -- I connected her with the forensic anthropologist
at -- at St. Mary’s University, keeping in mind the --
these people have no money, this is just -- and he was so
nice, and he said, “I will do the invest -- I will -- I
will do the DNA testing and I will make sure that the
tissue from her, you know, the tissue for looking at rape,
would be taken care of.” Which is quite huge at the time,
2004.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So he did the
DNA test -- test. That -- and I’m telling you these
details because that was April 23rd, 4th, 5th, when we
said, “Get the DNA done now, right.” So they did that.
And nobody knew we did that. And the guy knew a lab in
Toronto, the anthropologist, and he connected Deb and they
sent the other tissue stuff for -- to look at rape -- to
Toronto, in April. So three months are going by, John
Graham has been arrested by now, but he’s on house arrest.
You know, just because --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: April, May,
June -- June 21st was our funeral --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: June 20, or 20,
19, 18, so Wednesday -- what -- Thursday was our --
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday -- Thursday, Friday,
Saturday, Sunday, yeah, four days of wake, day and night, 24 hours, for people to come.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** So the wake was started, and -- the wake was about to be started, and Deb called me and was screaming. And she said, “We just got a call, they’re going to -- they’re filing for an injunction to stop the funeral -- John Graham.” He had three months to do that, but he did it on this day before the funeral. And Huba said, “That man held a gun to my sister, 25 -- 8 years ago, and he still got a damn” -- blah-blah-blah-blah “gun to her head now.” And so instead of the girls, and Huba, and Becky getting -- like, good things happen, and that’s the whole story that we’re not going to talk about, but good things out of that happened because Annie Mae ended up getting taken from the funeral home that night to our reserve where nobody can come and do anything in a reserve house.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** It’s the law -- law. So Becky always wanted Huba [sic], I mean, Annie Mae to be waked in her home as we always do, but it was going to be such a big funeral that we were going to try to put her in a church and nobody was liking that, but it was logistically right. But Becky kept saying, “I’ve had a
vision for many years, that Becky [sic], that Annie Mae is
going to be coming to my house and this is how, you know,
it’s going to have all pink things.” And she had it all
figured out. And sure enough, in the middle of the night,
the funeral home director said, “Well, I’ll tell you what.”
He said, “I’ll -- I’ll get her over there.” So she came
into Becky’s house. So that was a good thing, but that was
Annie Mae, following her sister’s --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- wish.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So -- and
because of that -- so -- so the girls, instead of getting
waked and -- and having all the people come, they spent the
four days of the wake with lawyers and -- with police,
lawyers and the lab. And the lab hadn’t finished, the lab
in Toronto, still hadn’t finished their thing.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And so on
Friday, they said, “We will work over the weekend, and
we’ll get that.” Because the -- the injunction was filed
on -- by Joel Pink, here in Nova Scotia, on behalf of John
Graham in Vancouver. But the family was never told that
the injunction --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Started.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- was going to be in this court in Nova Scotia, so they hired a lawyer, Dana Young, in Vancouver, to go to the injunction to try to do something about it. And they find out after the injunction was filed, that the court was in Truro -- is in Nova Scotia. They should have been -- that one thing, they should have been informed of that by somebody. And the judge granted the injunction to stop the burial. We could have the wake, but no burial. And so I was in Gunwabee (ph) at the time, doing a workshop that night when it happened. And the -- and the Gunwabee woman said, “You go home, and you tell them that they’re wiping the tears for me.” To bring to the family. You tell them, “There will be a funeral. And you tell them the Mohawk women will make sure that happens.”

And so we had to prepare, not just for this funeral after 30 years, but we also had to prepare that we would probably behind barricades, which none of us wanted to do.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: We don’t like that.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, the girls, Huba, Becky, the
family, worked with the lawyers, couldn’t get any help, you
know, couldn’t be with family members for the wake and all
that, which you need to have in our tradition. And Monday
morning, at quarter to nine, they got called that the
judge -- the -- John Graham’s lawyer granted [sic] --
released the injunction because they received one, the DNA,
and they received the evidence of -- of whether or not
there was evidence of rape. And so 8:30 in the morning,
after, you know, three months of planning, they were told
they could have a funeral. And Debbie said, “Guess what?
We’re having a funeral.” And we’re all on the road going
there to be barricaded, right, to have the funeral. But
that again, the disrespect and the lack of communication
from authorities, from the court system, from the RCMP --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- from the
lawyers, that -- that’s not acceptable.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And I remember
so many years prior to, when little bits of evidence were
coming up, and maybe this guy got arrested, and maybe
someone -- they would call the RCMP and they would call the
Attorney General, or the Department of Justice Minister --
and we had three throughout that process, “Could you please
stop this potential guy from leaving? Could you steep
[sic] -- please expedite -- expedeed (ph) the process for extradition so we don’t lose him?” Nobody an -- nobody responded. He was able to use all the laws in this country to -- to delay his extradition. We have lots of laws to protect the -- the accused. But the family, the victim, they did not get any help. Victim Services only came to them, like, almost after the fact.

So if these are services that the country provides? Why didn’t they get them? They only got them from the United States to go to the trials in the United States. Canada didn’t help them to go down to three different hearings and trials. So if, you know, if it, like, if we’re trying to learn from something --

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** Yeah.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** -- you know, it -- and it -- that -- I don’t know, was that race? Was that because of race, gender? Was it because it didn’t really matter? Like, so questions like that.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** And I’m -- I’m sorry, I sort of took over her --

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** No. (Speaking in Native language), no.

**MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN:** I just remember
what I -- I was --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- with them

all, and we -- we had a lot of meetings.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: A lot of get
togethers.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: And we did have
the funeral, but we had the funeral. And then after that,
was when all these arrests starting make -- being made, and
all this other stuff.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: So lack of
communication, or informing the family caused so much
stress --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: It caused so
much --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- heartache
between the family members.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: We saw that --
and we saw that with Nora.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: As well.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: With Nora’s family, and her daughters. It broke them up.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Yeah. Nora’s girls don’t talk.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm. So just, kind of, putting everything together that you’ve talked about, what do you -- how do you see the -- the hope to make things better for the next -- other generations? Like, what do you -- what do you want leave -- the -- the message you would like to leave the commissioners? What --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Well, we’re still fighting. The Native women are still fighting for recognition. Where they were born, brought up, and when they’re saying that, you know, they’ve experienced violence, or whatever, that they’re believed. And I just feel that, we still got a lot to do. We still have a lot to do.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: We’re dealing with Muriel (ph) Bernard (ph), trying to get on reserve.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: M’hm.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Muriel Barrthelod (ph), she was born and brought up right on the reserve, right next door to Nora, and they won’t allow her back on. So -- and it’s our -- it’s our band, Chief and Council, that are not listening to us.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And they say, “Oh, no, it’s the people. It’s the people who need to -- the people have to do this. The people have to do that.” And they’ve -- and to me, they have that power. They do it with everything else.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: So I’m thinking, Cathy and I were just thinking about we’re getting tired -- well, I am.

(LAUGHTER)

MS. LINDA MALONEY: I’m getting tired. And -- and we’re -- we’re just wondering who is going to take over next, you know? It -- it -- we did -- I -- I don’t want any more controversy in my life, but it probably will be. I’ll probably will end up doing something, you know, like, more -- more of what Annie Mae and Nora have done.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right. Carrying their legacy on.
MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yes. Yeah. And I’d never be able to fill their shoes, never, never. And -- but I could keep on trying, but --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- there’s --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Anyway, with I don’t know, you’re going to do anymore?

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: It’s just been part of Native Women of Nova Scotia for many, many years --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- especially in trying to create employment.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: You know, maybe that’s an area you might want to discuss, but --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: -- the importance of employment --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: --

entrepreneurship.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. Because I, like, I was in business for, like, 30 years, hairstyling. And I owned a salon in Truro. And one of things that I found
with the women, I -- I couldn’t -- I’d hire a few Native women, and they -- but they never -- never stayed. And I think that they just felt that there was a lot of racist people in Truro. And so whenever I closed my door, I worked -- I started with the Native women, that was back in '93 --

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** M’hm.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** And I was going to try to find out why they were not -- want to go into the town -- into the town of Truro. And we tried to, you know, find them jobs and things like that. All they -- what we did, we would get them to do -- make garments, make things like that. And I used to present these to the Lamb and the Ram, when they were in -- the local management board of each reserve. And one time, I -- I gave them a proposal, and it was to make garments and, you know, the-- the mukluks and the whatever. So then that’s when -- that’s when they -- things were swaying to live like the non-Native people. Don’t be trying to do these things.

**MS. DEBBIE BODKIN:** Right.

**MS. LINDA MALONEY:** So I had put the proposal on the table, and -- and let everybody else see them. They didn’t even look at them, and they just wanted -- just threw them back on the table. These were mostly men. “Oh, no, we’re not going to do anymore of those.” I
said, “Well, that’s what the women want. They want to try
to learn their culture, their tradition, and things like
that.” And that was, like, back in -- oh, God, that must
have been, like, in 1996. And then that’s where that died.
They didn’t -- they wanted them to be living in the white
world. And so now, it’s -- that’s the way. They don’t --
they don’t want to -- to me, the women out there need to
know their roots.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: All they know is drugs.
And they’re not learning their roots. And -- and even
though, I don’t -- I know my ancestors, where they came
from, they signed the Treaties, I know that. Now, mind
you, I’m not going out there and doing that, but I’m more
or less trying to get them back -- having cottage-type
industries -- bring that back.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Get them to do something
in their home -- stay with their children. Now, their
children are being taken away. And so now, my daughter is
doing my job that I used to have. And she’s working really
well with that. But there’s so much -- we have to try to
fundraise, and try to get little bits of monies to put on
these little -- these projects that will get the local
women doing -- making dream catchers --
MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- doing moccasins, and things like that, which I know they would love. But nobody wants to -- nobody wants to --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- put any money into -- like, that. So --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: And why is that important?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Oh, to me, if you don’t know, like, even the sewing, the quillwork, the -- the -- things like that, if they don’t know that, how they going to pass that onto their children?

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: You know?

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: What about making money? Why?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Oh, oh, God, yeah. They’re on welfare.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And this could, you know, supplement their -- what they need to buy their children. You know, maybe an extra pair of shoes there, you know what I mean? Because the welfare hasn’t gone up for, what -- 25, 30 years.
MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: M’hm. Yeah.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: My mother made $16 back in 1948 -- $16 a month. That’s no -- and right about now, they’re not making a heck of a lot, but anyway. So the -- so it looks like somebody has to pick that up. You’re tired.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: No, I’m good.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Well, do you feel that we’ve covered what you --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: -- your goal was when you came?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: The message to get across?

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yes. Yes. And we need to -- but we need to get our women on the reserve to speak up. They’re not speaking up. They’re scared of being ridiculed. “Oh, what is she doing?” What, you know, so and -- and I’m also speaking for our men --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: M’hm.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- our men that are lost.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Right.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: You know, because I have
four [sic] sons -- three sons, and where did the other one --

(LAUGHTER)

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: You’re getting tired.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah. And I -- no, I’d like to be able to something with the men because our men are -- they’re not speaking up. And the only way that they get the nerve to speak up, is if -- after they’ve had a -- a joint or whatever.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Oh.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: That’s not the way to get the courage to speak.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: No. No.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: So and Nora -- Nora was a person -- she didn’t need anything like that to speak. And none of us, actually.

(LAUGHTER)

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Me, but --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Understand.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: And that, I guess, that’s one of the things that I learnt in residential school, you know what I mean. Yeah. Anyway, that’s our story --
MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: -- and we’re sticking to it.

(LAUGHTER)

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: We’ll be --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Well --

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: (Indiscernible)

[We got more but we can’t tell you].

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Yeah.

(LAUGHTER)

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Amazing women, both of you. Very strong, very resilient. That’s --

MS. LINDA MALONEY: I know --

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: No doubt there.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: I just -- one of these days, I am going to drum -- drum.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Learn to play. Yeah.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: We’re going to drum.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: We’re going to drum. I don’t know when.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: I’m going to shut the tape off now.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Yeah.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Okay.
MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: It is 20 to 7.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: Thank you very much.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: Thank you.

MS. LINDA MALONEY: Oh, my God. 20 to 7.

MS. DEBBIE BODKIN: No wonder you’re tired out.

MS. CATHERINE ANNE MARTIN: I think the commissioners -- I think they’re going to...

--- Upon adjourning at 6:40 p.m.
LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST’S CERTIFICATE

I, Amanda Muscoby, 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.

[Signature]

Amanda Muscoby

March 5, 2018