National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
Truth-Gathering Process
Part 1 Statement Gathering
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Statement - Volume 105

Jeremiah Bosse,
In relation to Daleen Muskego Bosse

Statement gathered by Francine Merasty,
Commission Counsel

Coast Reporting Services Inc.
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Documents submitted with testimony: None.
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NOTE

Redactions to this public transcript have been made pursuant to Rule 55 of the Commission’s Legal Path: Rules of Respectful Practice, which provides for “the discretion to redact private information of a sensitive nature where it is not material to the evidence to be given before distributing the information to the Parties. The National Inquiry will consider the public interest in releasing this type of information against the potential harmful impact on the individual whose personal information is at issue.”
NOVEMBER 21, 2017, 3:52 P.M.

FRANCINE MERASTY: This is Francine Merasty with the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Speaking on the record with --

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Jeremiah Bosse.

FRANCINE MERASTY: And he is from Saskatoon. We're here in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and the date is November 21st, 2017. The time is 3:52 p.m. Jeremiah, you are here to voluntarily give your statement in the matter of Daleen Bosse.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Bosse.

FRANCINE MERASTY: Bosse. And present with us in the room are.

LINDA BANKLY: Linda Bankly, Saskatoon.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Valerie Morissette, Three River First Nation.

FRANCINE MERASTY: Your statement will be audio recorded today, and you've also allowed us to videotape your statement. Can you please confirm that you agree with this?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Yes, I agree.

FRANCINE MERASTY: Okay. So what do you want to share with the commissioners?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: I guess I'm here to share my story of my late wife, Daleen Muskego Bosse -- well, she's just Bosse by marriage. First of all, I guess I just
talk about, you know, how we met and everything. I think the personal relationship between how I met her and everything and how we got to be together is important as well. I mean, it shows the person who she is, so I'll just go from there.

It was Halloween. One of the weirdest nights to meet somebody, I guess, because you're all in costume. I had been out with my sister and one of our family friends, and I was dressed up as this big white ball, it was supposed to be a snowman, and painted my face and had my hair white, and that's how I met my future wife is dressed up as a big old snowman and met her and we talked, exchanged numbers.

I think she had called me first just to say hi and we got to know each other on the phone and then that didn't really go much further than that, and then I met her again a few weeks later at a different nightclub, and her and I started talking again and was -- we really hit it off, like right away, just instantly, got to the -- we were really good right away, and we just -- from there, our relationship just grew, and we just kept dating.

And I just remember her smile. The first thing I seen was her smile. She had such a big
bright smile on her face and -- I didn't think I was going to cry right away, but I just remember her always being happy, and I miss that, I do, I miss that a lot, but -- now, you know, I -- I wish, you know, there was -- I could see that smile one more time, you know, it was such a long time ago and --

FRANCINE MERASTY: How long ago was this?

JEREMIAH Bosse: Well, I met her in 1997, I believe, or -- it was '97 or '98; it was quite a long time ago. I can't even do the math. We were still young, and we were so in love, and we just fell in love right away. I started dating her and we started hanging out quite a bit, and I met her parents, and that was scary, and I guess, you know, you don't know what to expect as a young guy like that. I was like 19 or 20.

And I proposed to her the following year, I think, after I met her. Yeah, it would have been '97 I met her, and then '98 I proposed, and there was some hesitation from my mother, and her mother and dad were wanting us to get married first, then move in, my mom wanted us to move in and get to know each other, so we gave it a year, and I moved in with her, with my late wife Daleen, we moved in
together and gave my mom her wish of letting us 
spend a year together and then -- and then get 
moved, instead of getting married and then moving 
together and start a family.

But kind of did it a little bit backwards 
of what Pauline and Herb wished, and so we moved
in. We stayed there, the first apartment, for a
few months, five, six months, and then we moved --
she wanted to live on the end of the building near
the big window and whatnot, so we found -- an
apartment opened up and we moved down the hallway
there, and that's where we conceived our daughter,
[Daughter 1].

And you know, we didn't really want [Daughter 1]
growing up in that apartment, it was old and dingy,
and so we moved further, across town to a bigger
apartment, brighter, more clean, and my late wife
Daleen was unable to attend -- or no, she was
unable to get the -- what is it, the maternity
leave or whatever, so I had to take time off work
and actually be the stay at home dad and -- while
she went back to school and started her -- I think
it was her training in education.

Very good in school. She was always -- you
know, always doing good in school. I guess I -- I
just remember her really wanting to be a teacher, like her mom and her dad. And then again [Daughter 1] was getting a little older, and I was working for the school board at the time, and we moved -- again we moved closer to the school I was working at and closer to the university for her, and ended up moving again within the same area again, like, wasn't quite satisfied, and we found something a little cheaper for rent and closer to Aden Bowman was the high school I was working at, which was a walking distance, so it was kind of easier for us to converse. I could walk and she could take the car to school, and it worked out with daycare and everything like that.

And I think I'm skipping ahead a little bit, but I'm trying to get to the whole point of where -- why I came here, but it was in -- it was May -- May 18th, I believe, or May 17th, 2004, she had been going to school, conversing back and forth, and I was -- I was still at work, working night shift. I would work 3 until 11.

And her brother was staying with us at the time and -- with his girlfriend, and I think she was -- his girlfriend was pregnant at the time, and they -- his girlfriend and late Daleen went to FSI,
like their annual meetings downtown.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Assembly.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Assembly, yeah, First Nations meetings, and
late Daleen and Shauna went down there. They had
met some people that were from Onion Lake and came
back that evening more or less. You know, she was
excited to go back for the supper and maybe hang
out with some of the people she didn't see for a
long time, and so I said yeah, go ahead, you know,
I got [Daughter 1], I can take care of her, I don't work
until the following day, and her brother lives
there, too, so I also -- you know, I had extra
sitters.

And Shauna said, well, I'm not feeling up
to it, I'm not going to come with you, and so
Daleen, you know, helped [Daughter 1] get ready for her
bath, and I still -- you know, I still remember
her, you know, telling her that -- telling [Daughter 1]
that she'll see her tomorrow and be good for dad
and --

FRANCINE MERASTY: So how long were you married to her at this
point?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: At this point, we had been married -- '99 --
we got married in '99, and this was 2004, so yeah,
almost five years. I believe. Yeah. '99, we got
married and --

FRANCINE MERASTY: And how old was your baby?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: My daughter was four -- or three. Three years old. She had just turned three in January, and this was May so -- yeah, so just barely three.

FRANCINE MERASTY: M-hm.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: And so I remember Daleen putting her into the bath and then talking to her and telling her that she would see her tomorrow, then coming down, hugging me and saying, you know, I'll see you later tonight or I'll see you in the morning when you wake up, and gave me a hug and a kiss, and last time I remember seeing her was she was driving off in our white car, our Cavalier, and it was the last memory I have seeing her.

And what happened is that, you know, I knew she was going out for drinks, I knew that, you know, possibly she might have too much or something and not come home, so I expected it, and when I woke up the next morning, she's -- you know, I woke up alone in the bed, and usually we phone each other or whatnot, so I -- I had my morning coffee, like regular, everything was the same, and so no worries.

I think I still -- I had that day off, so I
Jeremiah Bosse (Daleen Bosse)

1 didn't have to rush to work or anything. Oh, no, wait. I think I did have to work that day, but it was in the afternoon, so I don't start till 3 p.m., and I wasn't worried at all, just -- you know, I was thinking, okay, she's probably hung over or something, had crashed out at a friend's house, and not to worry about it.

2 And came a little concerned, I guess, was more or less I was kind of frustrated with her for not calling by lunch hour, and I was thinking, okay, you know, I gotta get [Daughter 1] ready, take her to daycare, and leave her there, there's -- it was a Tuesday, I believe, and -- excuse me. Tuesday or Wednesday. I remember -- no, my Monday, Tuesdays were off so it would have been a Wednesday.

3 And she didn't call by, you know, two o'clock, and I think her brother, Dana, was staying with us, but he wasn't at the house at the time, so I had to take her somewhere, I had to take my daughter on the bus somewhere to drop her off, which was -- the only place was daycare, so I took her to daycare at -- you know, that evening -- or around two o'clock, and then bused back ready in time for work.

4 And I began my shift, was kind of a little
bit upset that she didn't call, you know -- you
know, set up something so [Daughter 1] could be picked up,
and I was getting a little worried more or less to
see who was picking [Daughter 1] up at -- and I'd called
my house a few times, getting no answer.

And then I finally got ahold of Dana, my
late wife's brother, and I called him, I said, you
know what, have you talked to your sister, no, he
didn't talk to her, and I said well, I need
somebody to watch [Daughter 1], are you able to watch
[Daughter 1] tonight, I'll have to get a ride and pick her
up at daycare before it closes at six.

So he said yeah, he'd watch her, and I got
one of my coworkers to rush me over at break, our
coffee break at 5:30, rush back and drop her off
and then go back to work, and so we did that.

Luckily, you know, everything worked out where
[Daughter 1] was being taken care of.

And at that point, at 5:30, I was like
starting to get pretty concerned because she had
never left and not contacted me in that time
period. Or at least tried to contact me to say,
you know, something happened, I got a flat tire or
something, and didn't get any of that.

And then I talked to Dana again once -- on
one of my later breaks, closer to nine, and he's like no, still haven't heard anything. Then I was really concerned, and then I said, well, what should -- I asked Dana, I remember asking him if we should involve his mom and dad, and he said, well, no, not yet, just give her some time, she'll probably come forward and -- say maybe she's on a two day bender or something and -- because she had -- she had also had told me that she had some reason to celebrate because she passed her third year in education, so that was another thing I forgot was -- she was planning to maybe have -- go out with some friends and ended up doing that, but -- ended up being something else -- so -- this is so long ago, like some of the things that I -- it's just hard to remember.

So we had got -- I got home, my shift had ended, and I think that's where I was concerned enough to phone the police, and the police kind of seemed to brush it off, like it was not important, and then I asked, you know, well, how long do I have to wait until she's considered missing, and they said, well, usually it's about 24 hours, and we'll send somebody to talk to you either tonight or first thing in the morning, and they said, you
know, by morning maybe she'll call you, so be okay
by then.

So I spent all night worrying, not knowing
anything, and still hadn't told Pauline and Herb
that their daughter was missing, and you know, my
daughter didn't -- she didn't really cry or
anything for her mom, but you know, she kept asking
where's mom, and I said I don't know, we'll see --
we'll probably see her tomorrow, stuff like that.

And -- I just remember not having like the
greatest sleep, you know, I was -- got that sick
kind of stomach feeling like you've got the flu or
something I guess would be the best to explain it.
Worried and try to sleep a little bit and wake up
kind of in a panic or a sweat, I guess.

And then next morning comes, you're tired
and you got a three year old to look after and get
ready for whatever the day and thinking, okay, do
we do this again, do I take her to daycare or do I
leave her.

And luckily I think again her brother was
available to look after [Daughter 1], and you know, about
10, 11, I think, 10 or 11 that day, that morning, a
police officer finally shows up, you know, comes
in, asks a few basic questions, what she's driving,
what she was wearing, basically that, and what the
license plate number was on the car.

Simple little questions and then he was
gone, just left, you know, didn't seem very caring
or didn't give a shit kind of attitude, and I
thought wow, what a prick I kind of thought in my
head, and you know, and --

FRANCINE MERASTY: Did you call the police again or did they
just show up at your door?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Like when this --

FRANCINE MERASTY: Like the next morning.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: No, that morning, they just showed up.

FRANCINE MERASTY: Okay.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: But yeah, called the night before. And then I
think that's -- when the police officer left,
that's about the time I called Pauline and Herb, to
tell them that we haven't seen Daleen in two days,
almost two days, and that -- that we didn't know
where she was and haven't had any contact from her.

And I just remember Herb kind of being
upset with me, saying why did you wait so long, you
know, you should have called me right away, and I
had no idea, I just said, you know, I thought she
would come home and -- so they said okay, we're --
we'll gas up and come first thing -- as soon as we
can, and so they gassed up, came down, and we all went to the police station to see what could be done, you know.

We sat in a room with a -- I don't know the officer's name, went through the missing person report, and he kind of showed us -- he gave us kind of a guideline what happens when people go missing, and you know, either they're unhappy in a marriage or, you know, things like that. Or -- you know, have a mental breakdown, which -- none of them, to me --

FRANCINE MERA STY: Didn't fit.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Didn't fit with what they were trying to --

FRANCINE MERA STY: Imply.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: -- imply, yeah. And I think there was a lot of frustration right from that point when we left, feeling a lot of unanswered questions. Like I know for sure Pauline and Herb feeling like wow, this is all they're going to do for us and --

FRANCINE MERA STY: So --

JEREMIAH BOSSE: And --

FRANCINE MERA STY: -- what do you think would have -- like what -- how do you wish they had acted?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Well, for one, the response time, the change -- I think it has changed already, that they're
taking a missing person a lot more seriously now
than back then, so I think that's changed to --
especially -- well, I'm not saying all police
services are like that, but with Saskatoon's
police, they've changed the protocol for regarding
somebody missing, you know. I'm not sure what the
time limit is now, but at 24 hours, that's a lot of
time already. Knowing what I know now, it's too
much time.

And you know, day three, day four go on,
and the family are -- like Muskego family pulled
together, and I mean there's tons of help come in.
My house was full of family members for two or
three weeks, almost three weeks. People took time
off work to come help search for her, and this is
just family.

And you know, I think we had almost come
this close to catching him ourselves. Like when we
started searching for Daleen, we went to -- all
over Saskatoon, straight -- you know, from trying
to find her friends, trying to -- we even had to
stalk one of her friends just to talk to her
because we had so much trouble finding her, we
finally caught up with her at her boyfriend's
house, but we had to do all the police work
ourselves, like.

Things like that, things that we had to do as a group of people, the amount of volunteer work that was done by Herb, my late wife's family, like unbelievable. I can't thank them enough for what they ever did and -- you know, there was this one instant that I always look back at, and I was thinking, wow, we were that close to catching him ourselves, was my late wife's cousin called me on her cellphone to my cellphone, and she was like I think this is the car, I think this is the car we're following. She read the license plate.

I had to phone the police office to make sure that was the number and then I was going to call her back and say yeah, follow him and report that you're following the stolen vehicle, and one of the officers was -- mixed up the numbers and told me it was the opposite, it was -- there was a screw up there anyways, and that -- and she had actually been following the person that was responsible for my late wife, but the numbers I got and the numbers she had from the license plate number didn't match, they were flip flopped, and if I would have just got the right information right there, pretty sure she could have followed that guy
and had him caught right there, but we had to wait another four years, and luckily, you know -- that's just an example of how much effort loved ones can put in, yeah.

If that's -- that type of effort gets put out there from the police, they could catch a lot more people that are responsible for murders and stuff, lots of work, and these are untrained people, people that are just doing it out of love, trying to find their loved ones.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Family.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Family. You know. A lot of -- a lot -- like I said, I can't thank them enough for the effort that they put in.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Everyone is doing their job than they were. The family.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: M-hm.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: I have speculations on that part, too.

The police officer probably had the right number but probably changed it because he didn't want to feel like he wasn't doing his job. They said they were actually following the right car --

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Yeah.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: -- when it was called in.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: When it was called in, I came up with the
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number that they --

VALERIE MORISSETTE: They gave the wrong number but --

JEREMIAH Bosse: They said it was the wrong number. It was

   flip flopped. I think at that time Saskatchewan
was changing the numbers to the letters side and --
I'm not 100 percent, but I'm pretty sure that that
was what was going on there and -- yeah, I --

VALERIE MORISSETTE: And late Daleen's family didn't --

JEREMIAH Bosse: We were that close.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: They were really supportive.

JEREMIAH Bosse: We were --

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Close. Close knit. It's awesome when we
all came together to do this job that the police
were supposed to be doing.

FRANCINE MERASTY: M-hm.

JEREMIAH Bosse: Yeah. I have more to talk about, but I'd like
to have a quick break.

FRANCINE MERASTY: Okay. So it's 4:22 p.m., November 21st, and
we're taking a break.

[PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 4:22 P.M.]

[PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AT 4:29 P.M.]

FRANCINE MERASTY: So we're back on the record. It's 4:29
p.m., November 21st.

JEREMIAH Bosse: Okay. The last thing I was talking about was
the police not coming up with the correct numbers
for the license plate, and I think, you know, things started -- like leads -- we started -- we put up tons of posters, like as far as we could reach, you know, I had people that I knew in the truck driving industry take tons of posters, like stacks of posters with them and disperse them every which way they could.

At the same time, I think Herb and Pauline had put a reward out of their own money for any tips leading to finding her, and we put posters everywhere, across Canada, as far as we could get them, and then that's -- you know, I think at that point, once we had started handing posters out, putting posters out in neighbourhoods and in Saskatoon, once that was all done, I think a lot of family dispersed back to, you know, their jobs, their own family life because we had done pretty much everything we could, and you know, we sent everybody home with enough posters to do posting around where they were at in case she had taken off anywhere on her own, like just to get away in case maybe she wasn't happy in married life.

So you know, that happened for quite a few months. We'd gotten -- we had gotten all these phone calls coming up saying oh, we know where she
is and blah, blah, blah, and Pauline and Herb went
to every single one of them, trying to -- or they
would send, you know, one of the boys, Daleen's
brothers, to go check on these leads, even to
Vancouver. I think we even got calls from Montreal
or something.

And at this point, you know, I guess
needless to say the husband gets looked at as one
of the prime suspects, and you know, started -- the
police took me down to the station, take me -- put
me in a small little interview room and talked to
me and asked me a bunch of questions and not really
saying or asking me anything about if I had done
anything, they more or less wanted to just talk and
ask questions and --

FRANCINE MERASTY: So how long was this after Daleen went
missing?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: I went for that interview -- it was fairly
soon after the missing person's report, probably a
week or two, which then again, if you're looking
for a suspect, you know, maybe a little sooner, but
I think they disclosed that they had another
suspect that they were -- had leads on at that
time, and I had -- they couldn't give me a name or
anything like that, but you know, I was curious as
to who.

And then I know Pauline and Herb had come back quite a few times to talk to the police, and I came in with them that one time, and this is probably a few months after she had been missing, and we had talked to the lead detective at the time, and I can't remember his name, it was so long ago, but he was the same guy that took the report the first time through, and Herb stormed out mad. He was frustrated with the way they talked to us.

I can't pinpoint exactly why he was mad, it was -- I just forget, totally forget what was his main reason for being mad. I think more or less being brushed off, and then I remember the one part that the police officer had said was, he goes in most cases that have gone on longer than this, usually the outcomes aren't good, and that's -- you know, unfortunately I guess he was right, but there was a lot of hope, you know, and trying to almost rub that hope out was, I think, wrong in his part.

Because there is cases where, you know, I've even seen on Facebook like the good -- the -- I guess the ones that -- the girls that are found that are okay, there's a lot that, yeah, they find them, and they are deceased, but there is also a
lot that are just runaways, and I think that -- to say that in that meeting at that time when we didn't know, we didn't know what was going on, to give us that false oh, well, there's a good chance that she's dead, that kind of attitude was unneeded. You know, what if he was wrong, what if she was alive at that time? We needed that hope. And so I think there was a lot of frustration there with working with the police, the attitude was, you know -- ah, we're kind of working on it and -- you know, if something comes up, we'll get ahold of you and -- it was being brushed off a lot and -- yeah, the compassion wasn't there. So, you know, we continued going on leads, and I started falling out of the search. Actually, I had probably already been out of the search already, as much as I wanted to be there, due to the fact that I was trying to help raise a young -- our young daughter, but like -- I had support, I had my mother and my sister, Dana I think was still living with me at the time and -- you know, it come to, you know, financial reasoning, but I moved again to the same -- we were staying with this company -- I'm not going -- I'm not sure if I can say the company's name or whatnot, but we left the
one place that I was staying at and moved into the
-- the company still owned that other building but
the rent was a lot cheaper anyways, so I moved
there for financial reasons. At the same time
still staying in contact with Herb and Pauline.

I've come to a stump here.

So they continued to look for her, I
continued to work and look after [Daughter 1], and then --
and just every time they got a lead, it just come
up nothing, you know, close but not quite or people
saying they saw her were just lying because there
was money involved for, you know, a reward.

And you know, they came -- oh, before we
moved, I forgot an important thing that happened
was another thing that was kind of surprised that
somebody -- a good friend of mine was -- before we
moved and the car was still missing at the time,
one of my friends was working for the City, for the
parks and that.

And I had gotten a phone call, it was in
the afternoon when we were still searching for
Daleen, you know, putting out posters and stuff,
and I was at home, completely, you know, kind of
running out of leads at the time, and I had gotten
a phone call from my friend, Justin, and he said,
hey, I think I found your car. It's at so and so address, it's over in the Sutherland area, he said, and he gave me the exact address.

And I phoned the police, I said this is urgent, I said, my stolen car has been found. My wife was in that car missing, I said. How soon can you have a car, oh, we'll have somebody there as soon as possible. That was the attitude I got. And I was like are you kidding me. I can be there in 10 minutes, 15 minutes tops.

I got in my car, I actually sped over there, hoping the police would actually chase me, so get somebody there on time, because I -- this was urgent to me. I beat the police by about 25 minutes before they showed up at that location, and I had called them, talked to them, and then drove over, and I still beat them by 20 minutes, 25 minutes. And there was no urgency.

The officer asked if we touched the car, we said, yeah, I put my hands on the window just looking in, and I said other than that, I didn't touch it and -- you know, I looked at the car, yeah, it was my car, but it was missing a few items I realized at the time.

He told me, well, you know, this is what
was missing, and so I gave him a list of everything that was missing, and that was it, they towed the car away, and it went to forensics.

And -- yeah, so skip ahead a few weeks, Herb and Pauline had hired a private detective, and we got the car back, and to me it was kind of odd the way they returned it. It was like missing -- or no, the -- just -- ah, shit. They didn't do that till later, hey, they cut the pieces out?

VALERIE MORISSETTE: They gave the car back to you.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: I'm talking to Valerie, by the way, refreshing my brain. So yeah, the -- they didn't do a very good job, I guess, in my opinion, because they did it a second time, and the time they did it between was like nine months.

And the first forensics, they returned the car, seemed untouched except for needed air in the tire, and the -- so I continued to use that car for nine months, and then I had moved and everything by that time, what I was talking about earlier, and then had met my future partner, Valerie, and they dragged me down for another interview, hey?

VALERIE MORISSETTE: M-hm.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: They interviewed me again, same kind of setting, gave me -- you know, gave me all the same
questions they would somebody that they suspected of murder, right?

And that was a little unnerving, and you know, I understand the fact that yes, usually the husband is, you know, one of the prime suspects, but then again, I wasn't acting like a prime suspect. I wasn't, you know, trying to run off, I wasn't taking, you know, odd jobs all over different parts of the country and stuff like that so.

Then again, they had asked permission to do forensics on the car, and I was like why are you doing this kind of nine months after you already had it, and they couldn't really come up with a good answer except for the stuff they were using was more potent or something that could actually bring up blood stains and stuff.

And so I agreed, go ahead, you know, but it doesn't make sense that you're doing it now, you know, nine months later, and got the car back after that forensic and there was pieces missing out of the car, like cut out in -- kind of felt awful driving that, thinking that it was a crime scene, you know, I'm like wow, so if there was something -- at that point my mind started
thinking, okay, something did happen to her, and
you guys are giving me back a part of a crime
scene, that's -- you know, felt really awful
driving that, felt victimized again, like these
guys just don't give a shit, you know, this is --
could be -- and later find out that's where my wife
took her last breath was in that vehicle.

Feels really awful now to think about that,
but -- yeah, so I'm driving around in the crime
scene for how many months, and then that car
actually ended up in a wrecker's because it was in
an accident, and therefore, gone, so maybe it was a
good thing.

FRANCINE MERASTY: So during all this time, did you access any
help or counselling or --

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Well, no, I didn't seek any counselling at
that time. You know, I had no idea what had
happened or -- I guess I could have got counselling
on the account of her being missing and the stress
it put on me as a parent, but actually, that's
around the time things started -- blew up for me,
and I started drinking quite a bit. I lost my job.
Started drinking quite heavily, more so than that.

I basically signed over the custody of my
daughter to my mom, knowing that I was unfit to be
a good father. I would still see [Daughter 1] on the weekends and stuff when I wasn't out doing --
drinking, and a good thing I didn't get into drugs or anything like that, but it was all booze, you
know, so went job to job after that.

I had a pretty good City job with the school board, so you know, it was union, and things just fell apart there, and I just -- just didn't hold it together. I went from job to job still, you know, couch surfing, things like that, just -- I just didn't hold it together, and then I started getting my life together around 2006, 2007.

I went to welding school, started working as a welder, and then shortly thereafter, we were -- I was with Valerie in Mistawasis First Nations, at her family's house, and I got the worst phone call in my life, which was the police saying that they had found my late wife, and that it wasn't good, and that I should come in and -- worst feeling in my life ever to find out that.

And then my mind went straight to my daughter. How am I going to talk to my daughter, how am I going to tell her that her mom's dead, and how do you tell a seven year old, you know, your mom is dead. It's been four years since she was
missing, and she grew up having all that hope, you
know.

[Daughter 1] was three when I left -- or when her
mom left and -- yeah, so she would have been seven
or eight, almost eight when her mom was found, so
how do you tell, you know, somebody in Grade 1, a
Grade 1 girl that she's got only one parent left
now, and that devastated me. It devastated her
when I had to tell her.

I just remember talking to my mom, I phoned
my mom after. In Mistawasis still, I gathered
myself, phoned my mother, and we talked for about
half an hour about how we were going to deal with
talking to [Daughter 1], and I just remember trying to get
it together so I could go outside, and at that time
my partner's family had all heard that -- what had
happened, and they had -- everybody was there,
everybody was there to support me, and being able
to hold it together, trying to just get home so I
could talk to my daughter was hard.

I remember all the emotions of yeah, it was
good to know that we knew where she was, but you
know, not the outcome that you wanted. That
somebody, you know, was gone and taken from you the
wrong way. That's the main focus. Most painful
thing I ever had to go through.

Then you sit there in front of your daughter, your child, any child that has to go through that, just imagine how they -- how it hurts them. But the look on my daughter's face. To sit there with my mom -- my mom left, we were sitting on her porch, and [Daughter 1], just little, innocent little girl, and to tell her that they found her mom and then from going from her excitement, not understanding right away that we found her, to squishing that hope with it's not good, we found mom, and she's dead.

Go from that big smile that we found her to your mommy's dead. I can't even explain in words how that looks. It just crushed her, and she just wailed, just the most awful cry ever, sticks -- it sticks to me even today, how painful that was for her. It was like the worst sound that a father could hear is the cry like that, of your child, any parent, you know, I guess if their kids are ever hurt really bad.

And again, you know, we went through -- went to the police station, they explained to us, you know, how they caught Doug Hales, the guy that murdered my wife. Explained how they caught him
and how they -- how the process went, and
everything they could tell us. They didn't tell us
much because they didn't want to wreck their case
or whatever, and that he was arrested, and that's
all that we basically knew.

And then we had to go out as a group and we
got to go out to where they found my late wife,
where they found her body, and we went out there,
and I just remember smoking like three or four
cigarettes just before, you know, because my nerves
were a wreck back then, couldn't even hold it
together, and to be there was just awful, just the
most awful place to be. I don't ever want to go
back there.

And then there were -- you know, there's
the long process of waiting for court, and this is
back in, what, 2007 or '8, I think, 2008, I
believe, that he had his preliminary hearings and
then the wait until -- the end of everything was in
2015, I believe, just before Christmas, they
finalized the verdict and -- like there's a long
process.

And I don't know if that can be helped, I
mean, court systems are the way they are, but it
seemed like the victims have no rights almost, it's
like -- these guys that get away with -- well, not get away with murder but get caught for murder, they get more rights than the families and the victim's families.

It's a long process, and you hear a lot of hope from the prosecutors, I hope this goes good or this goes good, and you just keep hearing that and getting kind of frustrated because he has rights to fire this lawyer and that lawyer and play games for -- well, seven years. Another seven years we have to wait until he finally gets prosecuted and put behind bars.

You know, it's unfortunate it's like that, but -- that whole waiting, waiting, and waiting for trial was so hard. You just wait and wait and then you have kind of hope you kind of get a date and then no, going to have to push it back now, push it back, push it back, and it just takes forever, and I think the victims have no rights.

The prosecution system to actual -- to have enough evidence to go to court or to trial, you have everything set except for the guy that doesn't want to go to jail fights to the -- tooth and nail until, you know -- there should be a faster process, that's all I'm saying. It's very hard as
Jeremiah Bosse

(Daleen Bosse)

a victim to wait that long.

FRANCINE MERASTY: So when did he get convicted?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: I believe it was the end of 2015. It's kind of hard because trial got paused and -- that was 2015, right?

VALERIE MORISSETTE: I believe so. I think it was the end of 2015.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Yeah.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Because 2014 we were still going through the trial. I remember that summer.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Yeah. With the wheat.

LINDA BANKLY: This is Linda speaking. What was the sentence?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: He got second degree murder, indecency to a human body was five years added, but that's the maximum they can give for that crime, but he got second degree murder, which is a life sentence, chance of parole after -- and his was changed due to what he had done to the body, I think they added -- the judge added a sentence of 15 years before parole, which he had already served how many years in remand, so you know, his chance of parole is pretty quick, I think, here, and he just went to jail so -- that's kind of unfortunate the way that is, too. And the term that he served in remand I believe is two years to one or something, something
horrible.

And -- yeah, so, you know, we have closure now that he's behind bars and that we know where Daleen is, and she's -- you know, what they did find of her is resting in Onion Lake now, you know. The whole -- everything, you know, having -- being able to put her to rest was good. I got closure there.

FRANCINE MERASTY: Where is your daughter?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: My daughter is with her -- well, lives with her boyfriend at his mom's house in Onion Lake, and you know, I think our relationship, like [Daughter 1] and I's relationship isn't as strong as it should be. There's a lot of frustration when we talk to each other.

She's very headstrong, like her mom. And I tend to forget that sometimes, but I think, you know, for the most part, after 2007, I fell apart again, started drinking, went back to my old ways a bit, and then I snapped out of it, and I just told myself no, I've got to be strong for your daughter and I pulled it together.

I have a good job now, working for the City now and been there for quite a few years, and things are going good, and my daughter and I are
starting to talk quite a bit more.

[PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO A SHORT BREAK]

JEREMIAH BOSSE: I think there's still a lot to heal, I mean, there's definitely room to heal yet. I know my daughter needs quite a bit of healing yet. So -- I had a few ideas that I forgot to even bring up, but I guess these were more things that I thought the inquiry could help.

One of them was actually [Daughter 1]'s idea, was helping victims' children. All the children have -- it seems like -- she's been to quite a few of these like seminars -- or not seminars, but --

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Events.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: -- events with -- with healing and stuff with -- with a lot of the adults, a lot of people, like the mothers of the victims and the kokums and that, and [Daughter 1]'s idea was that there should be something for youth, children, more centralized on like a youth group or something.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: This is Valerie. Like for other children who have lost parents, to, you know, being missing and murdered, you know, like they could come together.

FRANCINE MERASTY: So that's what you would recommend?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Well, that's one of my recommendations. I'm
not sure like -- I've told [Daughter 1] to bring it up, but it -- sometimes she gets sidetracked in her thoughts and maybe doesn't feel like she wants to say something like that, but I think that was a very strong idea on her behalf.

I give her full credit, and I think she could be -- it would help her quite a bit, too, as a teenager going through this particular -- to being able to talk to some peer groups that are her own age, you know, I think to connect with other people that are her own age a lot better than someone my age or older.

FRANCINE MERASTY: M-hm.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: She does bring it up a lot.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Yeah, she does, you know.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: When she's frustrated and angry with us, she brings up, well, I never grew up without a mom and --

JEREMIAH BOSSE: You don't know how it feels.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: -- it's kind of hard for us to -- you know.

LINDA BANKLY: This is Linda speaking. It's -- I find it troubling that you weren't offered counselling, not just a few sessions but to support you all the way through, both you and your daughter. That's a
profound loss.

Jeremiah Bosse
(Daleen Bosse)

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Yeah, well, we were actually offered, and we have taken some counselling.

LINDA BANKLY: M-hm.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: But it was after the fact that we went through trial. It was much after that.

LINDA BANKLY: So much later and --

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Yeah, and there -- there maybe there needs to be more support from the get-go, like from the time you start searching for somebody, there needs to be more support there.

LINDA BANKLY: It's Linda again. And not just a generic counsellor, but a good fit for individuals, that's the most important piece in counselling. So some people like traditional counselling and others like Christian, so I thank you for sharing that -- your story with me here today. Yeah.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: You're welcome. I had another idea that might help, too. I'm not sure if there is or not, but -- like having maybe involved with schools, a class or classes on murdered and missing subjects or even history of what has happened to the youth and other women involved, like maybe an all women's class, even involving young gentlemen in those classes, you know.
I'm not saying making a mandatory class or something, maybe optional, as young as high school because I think we need to educate our youth, and not only that, but maybe making people aware of dangers out there because, you know, I tell my girls, my stepdaughters, I always tell them, I always talk to them, and my daughter as well, if they're going out, you know, make sure you're with a buddy.

You know, there's not a lot of crazy people out there, but there is a lot of un -- you know, there is a lot of people that are racist or look at women as a sexual object or -- you know, they just don't have respect for women in any sense, right, and we tell our girls, me and Valerie tell our girls that they have a target on their back being First Nation and to be careful out there.

And I think that -- if you put that into the schools, maybe not necessarily a class or like where you get graded but maybe an optional sit in type of situation where you can talk to the young group.

FRANCINE MERASTY: M-hm. Like somebody coming in --

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Yeah.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Yeah.
FRANCINE MERASTY: -- and presenting information to young people?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Yeah, and make it more regular so, you know, it's in the system that people know that this happens daily. It's not just once in awhile. It happens quite often. There's missing people all the time. You know. Every week on Facebook, I see missing person, missing person, and it's scary.

Some of them are children and they run off and hide at friend's, but I mean, it happens a lot. Not all of them end up being deceased, but there's lots. And -- yeah, the numbers are scary. Scares me, you know, that's for sure, especially with a lot of daughters. And especially now, well, you know, me having -- be a victim with my wife.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: This is Valerie speaking. Yeah, exactly what Jeremiah said is, you know, trying to talk to our daughters whenever they go out, you know, with friends, if they want to go out, because my -- our daughter [Daughter 2] is 16 but my other daughters are of age now, so my one daughter doesn't have any children, and for example, she was going out the other night, and so I told Desiree to let Dakota know, make sure you're safe, be safe because every time any of them are out, going out with friends
and they're going to bars and clubs, it just brings
me back to Jeremiah's situation, where Daleen
telling him went out that night and -- you know,
that -- you know, what had happened to her, and I
don't want that to happen to my daughters, [Daughter 1]
included, and it scares me.

And I don't want to instill that fear into
them, you know, thinking that something is going to
happen to them every night they go out drinking,
like -- or if you're going out, you know, with
friends, and you know, just exactly more --

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Yeah.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: -- education.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Education, teach these kids, you know, it's
okay to go out.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Yeah.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: But you know, make sure you know who you're
with.

LINDA BANKLY: Yeah, this is Linda. I used to have -- I have a
daughter named Desiree, too.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: M-hm.

LINDA BANKLY: I -- my daughters are a year and a half apart,
and they always had a safety plan. Did it work? I
don't know. Maybe luck was on their side, but
you're right, just being First Nations puts a
target on their back. I've got an indigenous granddaughter who I worry about, but safety plans are really, really important and --

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Yeah.

LINDA BANKLY: It's a worry, but you don't want to catastrophize and be extreme either, and yet on the other hand, you don't want to -- you have to have some clear place, they're your daughters.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Yeah. This is Valerie speaking again. Another thing, too, is I don't want -- I want my daughters to be able to date, because they are First Nations, I'm First Nations, I want my daughters to be able to date whoever they want, whether it's a black person, you know, non native, Chinese person, but because in the last number of years, like I've always -- because I feel -- I'm Native myself and I feel like that I'm scared to -- you know, I don't know if I want my daughters to be dating, you know, someone who is not Native because of the fact that, you know, what if they don't respect them --

LINDA BANKLY: Yeah.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: -- because they're Native, you know, like I -- again, I don't want to bring that fear on to my daughters because, you know -- again, more
education, you know. Because I'm not prejudiced, you know -- you know, but me and Jeremiah, we've been together for a long time, and see the future, if we ever just split up, I would be like -- if I was to date again, I've always told myself, I'm not going to date a white man because I just -- I feel so oppressed myself. I've told this many times, because I'm non Native, I'm always -- I always think that they're out to get -- you know, but it's not like that, you know, it's -- you know, there's -- I mean, not all people are like Doug Hales, not all white men are like Doug Hales, but you know, it's just a --

LINDA BANKLY: You know, you're right, I mean, racism exists. We can't ignore it.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: No.

LINDA BANKLY: And women in general are at a disadvantage, and First Nations are at a much higher disadvantage, so your fears are very real.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Yeah.

LINDA BANKLY: Thank you for sharing that. It's a significant concern or we wouldn't be sitting here today, would we?

VALERIE MORISSETTE: Exactly.

LINDA BANKLY: Yeah.
VALERIE MORISSETTE: It's like -- you know, I don't -- I want my daughters to be able to be safe when they go out there and be able to just be with anyone without causing harm, but I have that -- you know, that paranoid deal, that paranoia myself that -- you know, but I don't want that with my kids, and again, you know, like more awareness, and I'm very happy with this -- that they have this inquiry now.

FRANCINE MERASTY: M-hm.

VALERIE MORISSETTE: I hope it stays around for like a long time.

FRANCINE MERASTY: Do you have anything else to share?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Well, I think I've told my story.

FRANCINE MERASTY: All right.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: So I'm good.

FRANCINE MERASTY: Okay.

LINDA BANKLY: Thank you.

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Thank you.

FRANCINE MERASTY: Do you feel that you've been heard?

JEREMIAH BOSSE: Yes.

FRANCINE MERASTY: Okay. So it's 5:15 p.m., November 21st, in Saskatoon, and we're done.

[PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 5:15 P.M.]
I, Vicki Webster, Official Reporter in the Province of British Columbia, Canada, do hereby certify:

That this is a true and accurate transcript of these proceedings recorded on sound-recording apparatus, transcribed to the best of my skill and ability in accordance with applicable standards.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 16th day of April 2018.

____________________________
Vicki Webster

Official Reporter