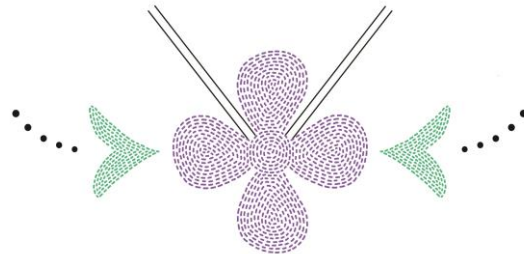


National Inquiry into
Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls



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

**National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls
Truth-Gathering Process
Part 1 Statement Gathering
Sheraton Cavalier Hotel
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**



PUBLIC

Thursday November 23, 2017

Statement - Volume 128

**Jocelyn Wolfe, Freda Chief & Janet Trottier,
In relation to Jeanette Chief**

Statement gathered by Caitlin Hendrickson

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NOTE

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 Bryana Bouchir, Public Inquiry Clerk with the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQ, May 10th 2018 at Vancouver, BC.

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Statement Gatherer: Caitlin Hendrickson

Documents provided by witnesses: none.

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

--- Upon commencing on Thursday, November 23, 2017

MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Okay. So, we'll begin. So, my name is Caitlin Hendrickson and I'm a statement gatherer with the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. I'm here today with Freda Chief and Jocelyn Wolfe to speak on the matter of Jeanette Chief who was missing in 2007 and found in June of 2007. And, we've got some other family members in the room, if we could each have you list who you are.

[R.C.]: [R.C.], she was my auntie.

[G.G.]: [G.G.], she was my auntie.

[T.C.]: [T.C.], she's my auntie.

[T.H.]: [T.H.], she's my kokum.

MS. JANET TROTTIER: Janet Chadre, she was my auntie, my mom's sister.

MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Okay.

[J.G.]: [J.G.], she was my kokum.

MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: And so, we'll be here today, audio recording your statement, as well as video recording it. And, I just want you to confirm with me, please, that you'll agree to the video recording?

MS. JOCELYN WOLFE: I agree to the video recording.

MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Okay. Thank you.

1 So, wherever you'd like to begin, just speak about Jeanette
2 and her life, and you can just start wherever you feel like
3 is right. You can tell me about when she was born, who she
4 was, her family.

5 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** I don't even know --
6 remember the year she was born, but her birthday ---

7 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** She was born June 8,
8 1958.

9 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** And, there was 14 of us in
10 the family, she was the second youngest and I'm the
11 youngest, and now I'm the only girl in the family and I
12 have three brothers.

13 And, my sister was found June 6th of 2007.
14 And -- well, actually, probably nobody knew what was --
15 what had happened to her because there was -- it's one
16 person that found her under a bridge and we had never thank
17 that guy. I always wanted to thank that guy, because if it
18 wasn't for him, we'd probably still be looking.

19 --- Whereupon the recording was paused

20 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** So, it's 1:57 p.m.
21 We just had to pause recording due to a technical issue and
22 we're resuming now. So, you were speaking about Jeanette
23 and her being found in June 2007. Do you want to continue
24 talking about Jeanette?

25 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Maybe I can give it to her

1 now.

2 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Sure.

3 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Well, she was my mom,
4 I'm the youngest out of seven. My oldest brother has a
5 different dad, but the six of us came and was married to my
6 dad for, I don't know, 30 years. So, yes, I have four
7 brothers and two older sisters, and she has, like, 20 --
8 over 20 grandchildren.

9 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Wow.

10 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** And, she was like -- you
11 know, even though we had a big family, she was like the
12 center of our -- and growing up, she was like a -- she was
13 a stay at home mom, but she worked with my dad, like
14 fencing around the house -- like fencing around our area,
15 and she would go -- you know, [just did odd jobs]
16 (~~indiscernible~~) growing up.

17 But, yes, she was a stay-at-home mom and --
18 and it's like -- like, she was with my dad a really long
19 time, but they separated when I turned 18 and that was in
20 2004 when they separated, but they were still legally
21 married. When she left my dad, you know, she had met a
22 white guy named [G.M.] in 2004, so she stayed with him in
23 Kitscoty, Alberta.

24 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** So, can you tell
25 me when she was first reported missing?

1 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Well, we didn't even
2 report her missing or gone. The last time I saw her was
3 the first week of June and she gave me her van and --
4 because I had a little family back then and I needed to
5 take them to Hobbema because we were moving to Edmonton,
6 because I was supposed to be starting school in Edmonton.
7 And, it was her birthday week coming up that week, so I
8 was, kind of, worried because I didn't really have money to
9 buy her anything.

10 So, the last time I saw her was outside of
11 Onion Lake and she stopped me, and she was with [L.P.] and
12 [P.W.], and she was already buzzed out. And, she stopped
13 me and I was, kind of, getting mad at her. I was like --
14 because she wanted money, and I said, you don't have to
15 drink. If I give you money, you're just going to drink,
16 and she starts laughing at me. Stop being mad, my baby. I
17 love you. And, I said, just wait till I get back from
18 Hobbema and I'll take you out, and I only give her \$20.00,
19 then I left -- I left to Hobbema and that was the last time
20 I ever saw her.

21 Then, the next morning, I came back home --
22 and she lived with me at the street, it's called
23 Innuyanuyik (ph) in (indiscernible) Parks. Well, she was
24 just going to live there, her and my brother, because I
25 moved out, I took all my stuff to Hobbema. And, I came

1 back that morning and I thought she would be home, and I
2 went walking into the house and I saw, like, empties on the
3 table, and I was like, oh, she must have went -- I was
4 thinking she was still with the people that I last saw her
5 with, [L.P] and [P.W.]. So, I was like, oh, she probably
6 went out again. So -- and my brother was home and I asked
7 him, where's mom? He's like, I don't know, I just got here
8 and she wasn't here. And, I was like okay.

9 So, that whole day, we kept on looking for
10 her. And, we kept on missing her calls, that's like -- we
11 didn't have cell phones, just landline phones. So, my
12 brother would go to town and look for her, and I would be
13 to look for her and I couldn't find her, then -- for two
14 days. And, we kept on going to the bars in Lloyd, there's
15 me and my brother, Justin, and my sister, Danielle. And,
16 we go to Frenchman Butte. We all had different -- I still
17 had her van and I phoned all the people that she knew, and
18 we couldn't find her. And, I just had, like, a gut
19 feeling, something was wrong, but I thought it was, like,
20 with my kids that I left in Hobbema.

21 So, that night, that Saturday -- it was a
22 Saturday night, my brother was still looking for her, but
23 people in a bar -- like, there's people in a bar, like,
24 that were from Onion Lake, that knew -- that knew who my
25 mom was, and they're like, oh, you just missed her, she

1 went to the next bar. And, there was just, like, a little
2 area in Lloyd that had three bars for Cree, PC and Alberta.
3 I kept on missing her or she would leave for Frenchman
4 Butte.

5 Then, that Saturday, I took off, I was back
6 at Hobbema, and it was, like, real late, 3:00 in the
7 morning, and -- when I was driving to Hobbema, it was,
8 like, just me. There was no vehicles around this way
9 because -- and I heard, like, a real -- like, a real loud
10 whistle and I just knew something was wrong.

11 I don't know, we didn't report her missing
12 or anything, we just thought she was with friends. But,
13 the next day, I went back home, just me and my boys, and I
14 walked inside and she still wasn't home. And, I just got
15 on the phone and I was phoning people that I knew that knew
16 her, and they're like, oh, we saw her, you know, she was at
17 the bar. She was having a good time (indiscernible).
18 Okay. And then I was talking to my one friend and --
19 because she told me she saw her, and they were laughing and
20 whatever, then that's like when you had -- well, before my
21 sons were (indiscernible), but I was on the -- like, the
22 landline, and you know when it beeps and you have to --
23 hold on, somebody's on the other line. So, that happened.
24 And, it was my brother [Brother] had called me, and he
25 said, I'm just saying they found mom. And, I was like,

1 what do you mean they -- well, I was like, where is she?
2 Tell her I'll pick her up. And, he's like, no, not like
3 that. They didn't -- like, you can't pick her up. She's
4 gone. Like, they found her body. I was like, what? I was
5 like, who? And, he's like, somebody found her body.

6 And, that's how I found out anyway. We
7 didn't know she was missing, we just thought we kept on
8 missing her. And, somebody seen it on the news, like that
9 they found the body, but we weren't notified till that
10 night.

11 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** How long was it
12 between the last time you saw her and being notified that
13 she's found?

14 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Three days.

15 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Three days.

16 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** (Indiscernible). It was
17 a Saturday -- well, Sunday morning, like when the bar is
18 closing.

19 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** And, was there a
20 police investigation?

21 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** There was, and when I
22 was in to -- well, that guy was finally charged last year.

23 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Who was charged?

24 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Gordon Rogers.

25 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** In her death?

1 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Yes. Well, with two
2 women anyway.

3 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Were you involved
4 in that investigation at all, were they getting statements
5 for your family?

6 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** No, they would just tell
7 us they had a person of interest, but it took like -- like,
8 10 years for them to finally charge him. But, what gets me
9 mad is like, he was -- that Gordon Rogers, when they first
10 started the investigation, like he was already -- like, a
11 lot of people identified who he was. And, even, like, his
12 work -- where Gordon was working, like one of his co-
13 workers even said like, because he had that route, where my
14 mom was found -- he's like a truck driver. And, even
15 though, like, he was pointed out by people -- and he didn't
16 want to take the lie detector test and he (indiscernible),
17 and they -- like, I don't know.

18 When I think about it, like why didn't they
19 get his DNA from his trailer and stuff right away, like --
20 and he was pointed out from a few people that were in the
21 bar that night, that seen him with my mom.

22 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Can I ask if they
23 determined a cause of death?

24 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Yes, she was hit in the
25 back of her head with a beer bottle while she was passed

1 out.

2 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** And, she was tied up.

3 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Yes, she had -- yes, she
4 was tied up.

5 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** I'm sorry that
6 happened to her. I'm sorry that your family went through
7 this. I'm sorry that the investigation was a frustrating
8 process, to see that he be charged and have any kind of
9 closure for your family. What do you feel like the police
10 could have done better?

11 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Like, they should have
12 listened to, like, the people that were -- that identified
13 him. Like, even like his -- the people at his work that
14 told them, like, he even cleaned up that whole bay, and
15 they asked him -- like, his co-workers asked him why he did
16 it, it wasn't part of his job description, and he was seen
17 moving something from his trailer to his car, and they
18 didn't -- I was like, why couldn't they charge him? Why
19 does he get to live his life?

20 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** I think that's where --
21 because he did get charged. At first, he pleaded not
22 guilty, but after the private investigators took all this
23 confession, he changed -- he got the defence lawyer to get
24 to higher court, and that's where he changed his guilty to
25 plea.

1 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** So, he pled guilty
2 in ---

3 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes.

4 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** How long was his
5 sentence?

6 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Sentencing is not till
7 January 19.

8 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Oh, okay. So,
9 it's still (indiscernible).

10 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes. But ---

11 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** But, then,
12 (indiscernible).

13 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes. They -- on both
14 counts, they had told us first degree -- 25 to life on both
15 counts on those ladies. But, when we went to Edmonton,
16 that's when -- I don't know.

17 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** So, was that ---

18 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** They lessened it to 10 to
19 20 years on both counts of those both ladies.

20 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** So, he's going to
21 get a lesser sentence?

22 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes. And, that's what --
23 we really got...

24 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** How does that make
25 you feel?

1 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes.

2 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Like, all angry and like
3 -- like, it took them this long to, like, find out -- like,
4 to charge him. Like, he probably did it before because
5 there's other women that went missing around that area.

6 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Mm-hmm.

7 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** And, he's been there,
8 like, around -- working around those (indiscernible) for a
9 long time.

10 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** And, he -- also too, he --
11 like, I don't know. I don't know why my sister. He didn't
12 know her. That guy didn't know her. Why bother her? What
13 did my sister do to him? My sister enjoyed her life, she
14 worked, she liked her drinking, but so does everybody.
15 That guy went and took her life for what? And, he stands
16 there, and he turns around and he looks at all of us like
17 he didn't do anything. It gets me mad.

18 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** You're right.
19 It's not fair.

20 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** And, my sister was a good
21 lady. Good (indiscernible) her, she was a good mentor.
22 For me, I was the youngest, I went to her. Sometimes she
23 -- she'd get mad, but she hardly, hardly ever went up to
24 anybody to say anything to them. She enjoyed her life.

25 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Oh, jeez. We'll

1 just take it down. Sorry. It's been up for three days,
2 (indiscernible). Sorry about that. I heard a tearing and
3 I was just hoping it would hold. Did you have any part to
4 do with the file, were you -- did you testify?

5 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** No.

6 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Were you given any
7 opportunity to be involved in that?

8 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Well, they said when he
9 goes for sentencing, we can write our victim impact report.

10 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Mm-hmm.

11 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Other than that, they
12 just told we could go and listen.

13 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Mm-hmm. Is that
14 something that you plan to do?

15 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Yes.

16 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Yes. When we
17 first started talking about her, you said she was at the
18 center of your family. Can you talk about her strengths,
19 of what that means to you?

20 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** I don't know. She was
21 like -- because she had seven of us and, like, a lot of
22 grandchildren, but she always made us feel, like, loved and
23 she always found time for all of us.

24 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Mm-hmm.

25 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** And then when she's gone

1 now, like we don't have that. Like, our family is all
2 broken up. [*One line redacted - personal information*] and
3 just me and my sister talk.

4 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** You say that she
5 always made time for you guys, what did you get to do with
6 her?

7 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Well, we were all adults
8 and we already all had our own families and kids ---

9 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Mm-hmm.

10 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** --- and she would, like,
11 just come and visit and be with her grandkids. She just
12 had to be there like -- and she'd make us feel good about
13 ourselves.

14 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Mm-hmm. And, when
15 you were growing up and -- as a child with your six
16 siblings, was it like that too?

17 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Yes. Well, I was always
18 with her because I was the baby.

19 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Mm-hmm.

20 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** And, as an adult too, I
21 still lived with her.

22 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** So, given your
23 statement to the National Inquiry, what would you like to
24 see come out of the Inquiry to make change going forward,
25 to...?

1 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** To take the
2 investigations more serious. Like, just because it's a
3 Native person doesn't mean, like, they shouldn't, like, not
4 try. And, I think my mom's case like, kind of, bounced
5 around, and they, kind of, closed it for a couple of years,
6 till that other investigation -- investigator opened it up
7 again. And, I forgot his name, but he's from Saskatoon.

8 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Do you feel like
9 there's any information regarding the case of your mom's
10 death that you weren't able to get?

11 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Well, they wouldn't even
12 tell us anything. They just kept on saying, the
13 investigation is ongoing, or they have a person of
14 interest.

15 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** That's all they
16 told you?

17 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Yes.

18 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Okay.

19 **[T.C.]:** They need to communicate more.

20 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Mm-hmm.

21 **[T.C.]:** Although they say it's -- because
22 it's in investigation, it needs to be -- they can't relay
23 any information to you until that person is charged.

24 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Mm-hmm.

25 **[T.C.]:** But, they should be really

1 communicating with the family and (indiscernible) what the
2 file is and what they're going to do.

3 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Mm-hmm. Can you
4 please state your name for the recording?

5 **[T.C.]:** [T.C.].

6 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Thank you.

7 **[T.C.]:** She's my auntie.

8 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Yes, yes. Just so
9 that they know who is talking when somebody is off camera.
10 So, one thing that the Inquiry is able to do with their
11 power and mandate is to look into those police records and
12 actually find out what the quality of the police
13 investigation was, is that something that you would like to
14 see from the Inquiry?

15 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Yes.

16 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Yes. Okay. And,
17 another option for you too, I don't know if you've spoken
18 to anybody here about that, but there's the Family
19 Information Liaison Unit which might be a little bit
20 quicker for you to do personally, if anybody in your family
21 is interested, is that they can help you also request those
22 records. But, I will flag it with the Commissioners that
23 there was inadequacies with the police investigation and,
24 you know, around the court case and the pending sentencing,
25 so that they know to look into that. But, one thing I

1 would recommend is talking to the Family Information
2 Liaison Unit because then you can make those requests
3 yourself as well, and they might be able to get some
4 information for you.

5 And, is there anything that you would like
6 to do as part of your testimony to further honour Jeanette?
7 Is there anything that you'd like to see the Inquiry do to
8 honour her?

9 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Like, what can they do?

10 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Some people just
11 suggest things, like some people like to submit art pieces
12 to our artistic expressions. One thing, I don't know if
13 you've been told about, is the red ribbons that are -- that
14 you might have noticed outside. We have artist, Jaime
15 Black, here, she's responsible for the Red Dress Project,
16 and so she's done a little bit of an inspired project based
17 on that, where we're tying the red ribbons around trees to
18 honour our women who have been impacted by violence and who
19 have been lost.

20 So, it's a sign that your voices are being
21 heard, the stories are being told, and it's to commemorate
22 and honour. So, that's something that you can do when you
23 leave here -- leave the room. But, if there's anything
24 else that you would like to add, if you would like to
25 submit any photos of Jeanette for your testimony ---

1 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** That's what -- actually, I
2 would like to ---

3 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** You would like to
4 do that?

5 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** With an art.

6 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** With an art --
7 okay. I will get you the contact information for that when
8 we go downstairs ---

9 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Mm-hmm.

10 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** --- and we'll do
11 that, and make sure that you can submit things to go along
12 with it. I'll write that down as well. And, if there's
13 anything else that you'd like to share, I'll leave that
14 open to you, or if anybody else in the room would like to
15 share.

16 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** I'd like to share.

17 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Okay.

18 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** I was just waiting --
19 I'm just sitting here, just squirming.

20 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Would you like to
21 be on camera or just on the recording?

22 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** No, I'm okay with the
23 recording.

24 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Okay. Can you
25 state your name, please?

1 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** My name is Janet
2 Chadre.

3 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Okay.

4 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** I just wanted to add
5 just to the whole trial, like the -- where we went through.
6 We were in Vermilion for about -- it was supposed to be for
7 a week initially, and then halfway through the preliminary
8 hearing, preliminary trial, whatever you call it, it ended
9 in three days because the legal counsel and Gordon Rogers
10 decided that -- that they wanted to take it straight to ---

11 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Queen's Bench.

12 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** Yes, Queen's Bench. So
13 -- and I wondered at that point, and even before that, I
14 just -- I know the justice system. I've worked in that
15 area, going on 13 years, just with the people I work with
16 and I know how the justice system works. The justice
17 system works only if you have money, only if you have the
18 right people in place. It doesn't work for people that
19 don't have money or not so-called a part of that world;
20 right? Unfortunately.

21 And, I knew right off the cuff he would just
22 get away with it. I knew it long time ago. And, I kept
23 voicing that. I just said, he's going to get away with it.
24 Don't let him get away with it. I didn't want him to get
25 away with it. And, to me, I think already he got away with

1 it, you know? He's receiving a second-degree murder charge
2 for both. Not for each one, but for both. And, they did a
3 plea bargain, that's basically what happened. They did a
4 plea bargain between legal counsel and the Crown. They
5 agreed that if he would plea to the lesser charge of second
6 degree murder, that they wouldn't charge him for first
7 degree, but he wouldn't be eligible for parole for 17
8 years. So, that was all in the private of their own, they
9 decided all of that. Not talking to anybody.

10 Sure, they met with us -- sure, the Crown
11 prosecutor met with us, but -- and he answered our
12 questions because sometimes we would sit there and we'd
13 have questions. And so, they always made it look good --
14 he always made it look good that, okay, it's going to turn
15 this way. He's going to be charged twice. He's going to
16 be -- he could get a life sentence. So, all these good
17 things enticed us; right? I remember sitting there and
18 thinking, you know, this is good, you know? And, the
19 Victim Services were there too, and they said, oh, no, this
20 Jeff is a really good lawyer and he's going to work for
21 you, and -- and so, of course I was bought in, but there
22 was still a part of me that believed that he was going to
23 get away with it.

24 So, that day, when we went to court in
25 Edmonton, I was really upset, because that was the day I

1 found out that he was pleading to a lesser charge of second
2 degree murder. And, to me, anybody who frickin' commits --
3 kills more than one person should automatically get first
4 degree murder. Automatically. Maybe they need to change
5 legislation, I don't know, but something needs to happen,
6 because it seems like here in Canada, when someone kills a
7 Native woman, it's always second-degree murder. Always.

8 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Even brutally.

9 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** Brutally murdered.

10 And, more than one. Yes, more than one. And then -- and
11 that's what's going to happen. So, really, this happened
12 when he was, what, 50?

13 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes.

14 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** So, in 17 years --
15 right now he's 55. So, in 17 years, he'll be 67. He still
16 has how many years left to go to live? And so, why should
17 we have to continue to come forward with victim impact
18 statements? I find that so -- I don't like it, because it
19 seems like you've got to fight to keep him in jail ---

20 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes.

21 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** --- and all he has to
22 do is feed money to a lawyer to keep him out of jail.

23 The system doesn't work for families. The
24 judicial system needs to change. They need to change it
25 from -- anybody who murders more than one person should

1 automatically get first degree murder, and that's what's
2 going to happen. It already did. He's going to go to
3 sentencing and it's up to the judge. The judge is the one
4 that decides, at the end of the day, when he's eligible for
5 parole.

6 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** And, he's done how many
7 years already.

8 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** And, he's done how many
9 years already.

10 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** But, not only that,
11 when he was put in jail, he was put somewhere he was, his
12 hometown.

13 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** Yes. See, it worked
14 for him and that's why I didn't like it. Right away, when
15 he was in jail, not long after, from custody, he was sent
16 to Red Deer, his hometown and he's been there ever since.

17 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Yes. And, they said,
18 when people get charged for murder, like they're supposed
19 to go to Edmonton max, but he got to go home.

20 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** So, he got a
21 municipal -- provincial facility?

22 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** See, he -- another
23 thing too, was -- that I didn't like, you know, and you'll
24 hear that metaphor, people say you see the federal and
25 provincial government in bed with each other. You see that

1 in the court house. I saw it in the court house when legal
2 counsel -- or the Crown prosecutor was talking to the
3 defence lawyer, calling him "my friend" all the time. "My
4 friend".

5 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** And, they were just
6 laughing and ---

7 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** "My friend", "Oh, my
8 friend", "My friend here". You know, I was sitting there,
9 thinking, I hate to say it, but asshole, you know? Like,
10 that shouldn't happen. He's there for the family. He
11 should have been helping the family and I just feel that he
12 wasn't -- he was there to make a deal with this friend, and
13 that's what happened.

14 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes.

15 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** And, I don't want him
16 to get away with it. I don't want him to be eligible for
17 parole in 15 years. He should be in there forever. He
18 shouldn't even have to be eligible for parole, he shouldn't
19 even qualify for that.

20 I think it would be really good -- like the
21 trial is come -- the sentencing date is coming up in
22 January and I want everybody to know what he did. That's
23 how I feel.

24 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes.

25 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** I want everybody to

1 know what he did and I want everybody to know who auntie
2 was too. It'd be nice if someone could make a video of
3 her, just even a 5 minutes, about who she was and what she
4 did ---

5 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** We did have a video,
6 but we lost it.

7 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** Yes. If they could --
8 if you guys could help with that, you know, to make a video
9 of her and show it before the trial. You know, I was
10 thinking of all these things. Like, I just want people to
11 know how comfortable this idiot has been since the
12 beginning.

13 And, I thought -- you know, they talk about
14 the Red Dress Project and I thought, you know, before
15 trial, I even thought, let's go -- let's walk from Onion
16 Lake to Edmonton. Let's do a walk. And, I thought, well,
17 when we get to Edmonton, maybe in certain areas do that Red
18 Dress thing, where -- have people who would be willing to
19 sit on -- like, say, Chesterfield like this, because that's
20 what's happening. Sitting on a Chesterfield, wearing that
21 dress, watching TV. People will look at it and say, what's
22 that all about, you know? And, to show her, that's what
23 he's doing. Basically, that's what's he's doing right now.
24 Even before he got caught, he was just sitting there,
25 watching TV. And, we heard that in court; right?

1 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes.

2 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** About how he saw -- he
3 was watching what all these stuff that the news was talking
4 about.

5 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** All these walks.

6 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** Yes, all these walks.
7 Saying that he knew her that one time, you know? And,
8 that's real. And, I thought, you know what, maybe we need
9 to paint that message. I'd like to paint that message so
10 he won't get away with it.

11 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Have you been
12 vocal with the media at all?

13 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** We weren't allowed -- for
14 a long time, we weren't allowed.

15 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** Yes.

16 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** And then that last court
17 we went to in September, and then our defence -- our legal
18 aid told, oh, you guys could have done that a while ago.

19 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** Yes.

20 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Like, after stopping us
21 for...

22 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** A long time, because
23 they kept saying there was a publication ban.

24 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes.

25 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Mm-hmm.

1 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** They convinced the
2 other family ---

3 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes.

4 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** --- that there was a
5 publication ban. So, they were upset when we tried to ex
6 -- you know, create a poster for when auntie's trial --
7 preliminary hearing was coming and we were trying to invite
8 support, but they were convinced there was a publication
9 ban.

10 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes.

11 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** And, yes. So, for a
12 long time, nobody said anything.

13 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes.

14 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** Like, even right now,
15 if you go on every TV, newspaper, you won't even see his
16 face, that guy. There's absolutely nothing...

17 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Where there isn't
18 a publication ban?

19 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** I know. I know. Where
20 -- we ---

21 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** That's what I'm
22 asking. There isn't ---

23 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** Exactly. That's what -
24 - there isn't. The only publication ban was during the
25 hearing where we couldn't divulge the content that came

1 with it; right? So, witnesses' statements, we couldn't
2 talk about that, but there was nothing stopping us from
3 creating posters ---

4 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Yes.

5 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** --- garnering support,
6 anything.

7 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** But, they didn't explain
8 anything to the other family.

9 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** Yes.

10 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Well, one
11 suggestion I have for you is, we do have media here, you
12 could say that you shared your story here today and about
13 where things are going. That's one avenue you can take.
14 I'm going to take all of these submissions and flag it with
15 our legal team. I don't know how quick they can act,
16 because January comes up really quick ---

17 **MS. JANET TROTTIER:** Yes.

18 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes.

19 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** --- but I
20 definitely hear your plea for support and justice around
21 this. Like, you're being heard, I assure you. I want to
22 make sure that this is flagged for our Commissioner. But,
23 that's up to you around the media. But, I would encourage,
24 if you'd like, to participate with our red ribbons, to take
25 one today and to tie one for Jeanette.

1 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes. It would be good,
2 yes.

3 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Yes. Is there
4 anything else that you'd like to share today? Do you feel
5 like you've been heard? Or is there something I haven't
6 asked you, that you're, kind of, thinking about?

7 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** I don't know.

8 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Well, when I first heard
9 about this National Inquiry, like I didn't even know what
10 it was about or what it's going to bring, because I was,
11 kind of, confused. And, I kept on getting invited -- like,
12 I thought I'm not coming, because I'm like, what's the
13 point? Like, are they even going to do anything?

14 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Mm-hmm.

15 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** But, it's like -- I'd
16 like to see something come out of it, like -- because I
17 have a daughter and she's going to grow up -- like, when
18 this happened to my mom, I felt like I was worth nothing.

19 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** It's frustrating. I
20 mean, she -- you know, relatives hurt like this, and when
21 they split up and -- and doing drugs, you know, I don't
22 really know what to do.

23 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** It's been hard, like,
24 living without her. Like, I still miss her every day. I
25 wonder how our life would have been. Like, I'm not even

1 close with my siblings anymore, like I don't even know,
2 like, my nephews and nieces. I mean, one of my nephews
3 committed suicide in July. I just think, like...

4 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** If only that guy knew how
5 much he destroyed the family, especially the siblings.

6 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** And, it is -- like, it
7 is frustrating because he's totally -- like, he gets to
8 come out again. Like, he didn't live with this. Like, he
9 didn't even have no remorse for even the families. He's
10 with his wife and talking -- got charged and he gets to
11 come out again.

12 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Do you know who
13 the other woman was?

14 **MS. JOCELYN WOLFE:** Violet Heathen. 2007 is
15 when he murdered my mom, and then two years later, Violet
16 went missing from the same bar, and he was seen leaving
17 with her too, but he just told the cops like, oh, I just
18 walked her to a truck and they believed him.

19 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Well, I want to
20 thank you for coming forward today and sharing with the
21 National Inquiry. I can see that you're definitely not
22 nothing, you're definitely something with an extensive
23 network of family here. And, I think that your mom would
24 be proud to be seeing you share her truth; right? Giving
25 her the voice that she lost. I really want to, you know,

1 give my appreciation for that and that I'm very honoured to
2 be the one receiving that and presenting it to the
3 Commissioners for you, so that you have some peace of mind
4 to move forward.

5 I know that this has been a frustrating
6 process and that you don't quite know what's going to come
7 of it yet, but I know that you're not going to give up
8 either. This is a strong circle of women that's in this
9 room, I can tell. Really, really strong. And, if that's
10 everything that you have to share today, I'm just going to
11 say that it's 2:41 and we're going to conclude our
12 recording. And, I'm going to get you set up with [health]
13 (indiscernible) again, so that we can do some after care
14 for you and your family, okay?

15 **MS. FREDA CHIEF:** Yes. Thank you.

16 **MS. CAITLIN HENDRICKSON:** Migwetch.

17 --- Upon adjourning at 14:41

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LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

I, Shirley Chang, 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.



Shirley Chang

March 14, 2018