National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
Truth-Gathering Process
Part 1: Truth-Gathering Sessions
Maison de la famille
Maliotenam/Uashat mak Mani-Utenam, Quebec

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William Fontaine
Testimony heard by Marie-Audrey Girard

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Heard by:
Marie-Audrey Girard

List of exhibits: none
--- Upon commencing on Friday, December 1, 2017,
2:21 p.m.

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: William Fontaine, member of the Uashat Maliotenam community, and I’m part of the Innu Takuakain Uashat Mak Mani-Utenam organization, which is the Band Council.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: William, thank you very much for being here today, thank you for sharing your testimony. So, like I said when we were getting ready, I’ll start with a first question. My first question for you is: What do you want to share with the commissioners and the Commission today?

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: I want to talk about the violence that women have experienced and currently experience. And first I’d like to start by addressing the colonial policies regarding the residential school system. I’d like this; it’s important that I talk about this.

Second, I’d like to talk about my work experience and the abuse toward women that I’ve witnessed. I’d also like to talk about my family life, where I grew up.

And I’d like to quickly touch upon the media.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Do you want us to
start with the first topic you mentioned?

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: Yes, yes. This is what I’ll start with. To begin with, I’m sitting here, and the Commission is coming to an end, and as we listen to the stories, we’re becoming more aware. Yesterday I realized that I had to make a statement, share my observations. That it was important that I share my observations on life in general, on my work and on community life.

I’ll start with the effects of colonial policies. When I listened to... the women’s stories were very touching and very painful at the same time.

I’m kind of drawing a parallel here, between the uprooting of children who were forcibly taken... when the residential school system began, and went on for several decades, and I think that’s an important topic... It must’ve been so painful for women to have their children taken from them by the governments, in collaboration with the Church, and now we can understand more and more as men what the women went through. I think it’s just natural that... that I highlight that event in our history.

And that’s all I’ll say about that. I don’t want to say more; there’s already been so much work on the subject, several commissions, and I don’t want to...

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Did any of your family or close friends go to these residential schools?
MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: I haven’t really asked my family, but I think my mother told me she went to the Rivière-du-Loup residential school. She didn’t stay long, maybe just a week or two, but she was mistreated during her time there. And that’s what I’ve heard on my mother’s side, but I haven’t asked my uncles and aunts.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: In your community, have you noticed the effects that the residential schools have had on Indigenous people who attended them?

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: Yes, I still notice it, always, and the more we become aware, the more... we don’t suffer in... the more we become aware, the more we’re aware of the suffering. Before, without realizing it, I didn’t really know where the suffering was coming from, mine and that of the community.

And it’s by learning about the history, the colonial policies and the systems imposed on Indigenous people across Canada, that I’ve gained a better understanding of why there was so much pain here. So many things have been imposed on us, and we’ve lost so much of our culture.

Look, I often feel sad, on a daily basis, about having been robbed of my cultural knowledge, of my... When you talk about cultures. But there is such a vast array when it comes to stories; animal stories, forest
stories, all that. Sometimes I still feel the pain, but
I’ve become aware of these effects.

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** You’re talking
about... Let me go back. You mentioned pain, personal pain.
Can you tell us a bit more about your feelings about what
you just told us?

**MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE:** Yes, yes. I feel very,
very... I still feel very trapped on the reserve... It
feels like a prison. I don’t always talk openly, because I
work in politics, and you have to be careful about what you
say. But in my heart, I feel like I’m in a prison here,
with all the effects that I see. I see how people behave in
the community, the social problems, and I already feel like
I’m in a prison.

I see the effects on the community, what the
effects have been. It’s like people imprison themselves in
their houses more and more. It’s like people confine
themselves to their homes, more than thirty years ago, when
there was less technology. So our old addictions, like
drugs and alcohol, have become virtual. The virtual world
is replacing alcoholism; it’s a different type of addiction
to forget the pain we experience daily, individually, in
our spirits, our souls. And that’s what I have to say about
the effects. There have been a lot of effects.

I’m 39, and I’ve been working in politics
for seven years, since 2010. I wasn’t a politicized person, but through a political career, you attend events, meet inspiring people, you become aware, you start questioning a lot of things, all that to say that you grow a lot because you rub shoulders with inspiring people. That’s what has allowed me to get so far.

I’d compare it to stress management. You can’t make political history quickly, like I did, you need to learn, like I mentioned earlier, about the history of colonial policies. Before I got interested in politics, in 2010, it wasn’t my parents who passed that interest down to me... I had to get into politics, attend events, commissions, anything, to become aware that it’s important to know the history, to go further in life, be it the collective story or the individual one. That’s what I can say...

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD**: At the beginning of the interview, you mentioned that you wanted to talk about your work experiences.

**MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE**: Yes.

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD**: Can you tell us more about that?

**MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE**: Yes, I’ll give you more details. These incidents happened in the past year and the most recent happened a few weeks ago, around three or
four weeks ago. It was during an administrative meeting with the Chief, and there were councillors there too, as well as the clerk, general management and I don’t think I’m forgetting anyone, but in general there were some elected representatives. And we were discussing... I can’t quite remember... Oh yes, we were having a debate about one of my male colleagues who had made a statement, who had told the Council elder... that he had filed a report against us, you could say.

His complaint was that we were at fault about... our contribution to the Indigenous benefits plan. And that was the issue, and we asked our colleague, who was questioned by a female colleague, to find out where, and how it’s going to be handled, you know, to get more information about that. It escalated quickly... It even got violent and the reaction of my colleague, who was sitting right next to me, was to raise his tone of voice and, I’d say, to use contempt to put a stop to the debate. It kept escalating, he was talking louder and maybe a little more aggressively and I had to intervene. I intervened because I couldn’t prevent myself from, tolerating that type of violence, to confront my work colleague who had raised his voice at my female colleague. I couldn’t help stepping in and not wanting to tolerate that type of violence.

And like I said, as you become more aware,
sometimes you say no, that’s enough. You can’t tolerate that type of violence and it’s like I let myself... I stepped in and that caused some friction... Things escalated between the person, the woman, the Chief and myself. At some point, the person who was being confronted by the majority decided to leave because he said he was feeling angry and things might go downhill, so he decided to leave the meeting to avoid...

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Do you often witness that type of stuff, especially toward your female colleagues?

**MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE:** Really, I’ve witnessed some stuff over the last few years, and maybe I’ve even said stuff to colleagues, but I think I found it important because we’ve been becoming more aware, we’ve realized that... I mentioned that event, which happened only recently.

And I’d like to mention another event involving the same person, an elected representative, my colleague, but I didn’t witness this in person, except that he... he denounced (indiscernible) or on the community radio, the media, to CKAU. I didn’t hear the interview, but I heard through the Band that he denounced one of the women. He denounced her because he was turning a blind eye to... he had witnessed bad administrative practices, and he
denounced her publicly.

At the time, I thought it was... I didn’t react, but a few hours, a few days later, I realized how serious it was to make public allegations like that, to talk about someone, you know. I think that it’s a very confidential topic and those types of things should be handled amongst ourselves, around the table. That was an incident that really affected the person who was named publicly. We saw her in the following days, and she was really affected.

And I know that after that episode, something else happened at an administrative meeting. I wasn’t there at the time, but I heard that the woman was chairing the meeting with all the elected representatives and she was doing like the... she was replacing the general manager, and there was another member there, a manager from another organization that was one of the Band’s babies, on economic development. And the woman who was replacing the general manager questioned the economic development manager and that ruffled my colleague’s feathers. When I say my colleague, I mean the same person who made a statement on the radio and... I don’t really know what happened, but he started raising his voice, and maybe insulting her and that led to the real general manager, who wasn’t at that meeting, to suggest bringing in an investigator to get
everyone’s testimonies.

I think we still don’t really have the report on what really happened, the content of the report. We haven’t really examined that, and so those are two incidents.

And this woman who was a victim of violence, [two lines redacted - personal information]. I commend her, good on her... I took the time to call her. [One line redacted - personal information], but I nonetheless took the time to say bravo for her courage, and at the same time, sorry for not having the reflex to say no, that’s enough, we can’t tolerate that kind of violence that... that women experience. And even us men shouldn’t tolerate that kind of violence. And I took the time to say thank you, bravo for what she did.

So those are two recent incidents that I was talking about that happened to one of my elected colleagues, and two incidents that happened to that woman, a manager and a victim of violence in her workplace.

I could even talk about another incident that happened two years ago. The same person again, my male work colleague, who has already had two incidents of bad behaviour toward an actual manager, but he had already, if you go back even further, three years ago, he had also publicly denounced on the radio that there were like... He
made allegations of fraud in the Band Council’s housing, capital asset, infrastructure sector.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Just to clarify, this person is the same as the first person you mentioned. So it’s not the elected representative that you said went to the community radio, it’s one of the first people you mentioned.

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: No, that’s someone else.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: That’s someone else. OK, perfect.

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: Yes. If I think about it, I was talking about a housing officer, a team of housing officers, and they were publicly denounced by the elected representative.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: I understand, yes.

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: And I remember how I felt about it at the time. It was like, OK, that’s normal, he’s admitting to the community what really happened. But I’ve come to realize what the right way to denounce something is, to solve issues in an organization. And I know that it was women who were denounced, and one of the women was so affected by it that she became suicidal and... a few months later, almost a year later, she came to make a statement about how she felt, but she wanted to make the
statement to heal. She wanted to say, look at what I went through, what this person made me go through, and also to make us realize at a political level, to tell us you said that openly, but we tolerated this bad behaviour. I think that woman is going through a healing process. She was badly affected.

And that’s what I see in my workplace. It’s unhealthy and generally men are the majority around the table and... However, it’s all ten elected representatives who are responsible for what happens there, and I’m including myself and everyone. We can’t tolerate that type of violence. It has to stop. We have to go through a healing process, reconciliation with humility and without violence. I think we have to be able to admit that we didn’t... that we tolerated it, you know. That would promote and facilitate the community’s healing. And that’s all I can say. I don’t want too much... I can’t really remember the details of those incidents, because that’s how I am; I don’t have a great memory.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: But that’s perfect. You’ve provided some really valuable and valid information. So even if you don’t remember everything, it still gives us insight into what happens at work and you’ve mentioned incidents that happened to women. It’s interesting to hear what’s happening and how... and you’re saying that there’s
this awareness happening regarding that so... in my opinion, you’ve shared some important things.

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: Yesterday, I was on the phone with a colleague and I was telling him how I thought I had been crazy, you know you let yourself say things, we’re crazy to have tolerated that, since we adopted a psychological harassment policy. We adopted it to implement it, and we still tolerated psychological harassment, and we did it ourselves. We witnessed it and we didn’t do anything, it’s crazy.

Just to let you know, I’m aware of it, and we have to realize that it needs to stop now. And you have to be able to intervene in a healthy way, to say that’s enough. And not use violence against violence. But to use wisdom and say, look, that’s enough, without violence, without contributing to the... escalation. And like I was telling my colleague yesterday, I feel kind of stupid for having tolerated that. So you wake up, you become aware of... everything you heard this week from the Commission. And I think the Commission helps with the healing process. It’s important for people to testify, to share their life experiences, because it will help them release their pain and maybe encourage them to continue their healing process. That’s what I can share about my seven years in politics with the Band Council.
MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: You also mentioned that you wanted to talk about your family life. Would you like to talk about that some more this afternoon?

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: Yes. I don’t want to... I don’t want to talk too much about what I’ve already started doing to heal personally, before coming here. I’ll be brief about my life, my childhood. Sometimes I can see that we’ve grown up in unhealthy family environments, that we were... our education was... in painful environments, where our parents have also suffered a lot in childhood, and then they became parents in turn. I have a child too... From what I’ve seen... I grew up with domestic violence, and it makes me sad, it’s a shame that... that a woman could tolerate that. Maybe it was because of ignorance or, I don’t know, lack of awareness, I’m not sure, I’m not a psychology expert, but I grew up in that. My father, my mother, domestic violence, I often... There have been a lot of incidents I could talk about, like the time I was abandoned for a night. I was traumatized. At one point, I got a sister, and I became a teen, and you, there was constant domestic violence.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: When you talk about domestic violence, was it both your parents being violent or was it one parent being violent toward the other?

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: It was both parents,
especially when we were children we... our mother was the protector. And now, even when I was growing up, I’ve always been against my father. He was the guilty one. But now I’ve realized that my mother was responsible for that too. She was responsible for her pain, because she tolerated being treated that way. That’s what I’ve realized now, and that’s it. It’s sad to see your mother tolerate all that, and at the same time, at my age now, I see that it was both of them, the man and the woman, who needed to take responsibility and say, let’s admit our wrongs and sit down. We haven’t met our children’s needs.

And I was traumatized at a young age, I grew up in that, you know, I didn’t have support, there was no stability. I had a good routine, but sometimes the lack of stability... The man, the father tends to leave the house sometimes when things get bad and the mother usually stays behind. And I often witnessed violence when my father came home because he’d be drunk (indiscernible) more than... My testimony should be more about witnessing your father’s drunkenness and him coming home... The mother is angry and we witness it all. And that summarizes a lot of my childhood and teen years, and I often looked after my sister.

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Are you the oldest?

**MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE:** I’m the oldest. I have
a younger sister who’s seven or eight years younger.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: OK.

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: It’s just the two of us. I was around 11 when we had our house in Uashat, and that’s when we really had some stability, and ability, no wait, it was stability in the house. We had a home for the rest of our lives. Compared to before, we... we would move places, but the stability and the instability followed us in... in my home life and it affected us... and I’m fully aware that it’s a lifestyle that’s been imposed.

It’s not... for them too, a lifestyle was suddenly imposed on their parents, and having something imposed, it’s a type of violence. And things were imposed on us, and our culture and land were taken away and... they even admitted it recently, with the apologies about the residential schools. The whole government of Canada admitted its wrongdoings.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: And for the domestic violence between your parents, did any institutions ever get involved? I mean, did the police... did anyone file any reports? Did you interact with the police or it’s the SQ here, I believe, or did it stay within your family?

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: Just once, I remember when I was young, the first time I was abandoned for a
night, the SQ saw me leave... I was near the... I was near the reserve and near the town, and the SQ saw me. I’d left the house, and they must have seen I was traumatized and...
The other times... Sometimes now I’m surprised child services didn’t step in, that no one reported us.

I think my development must have been... it must’ve been compromised often, at times, but I’m happy I didn’t have to deal with them because... I might have been even more affected today if I’d gone into the youth protection program, and I thank God that no one reported us, I’m glad they didn’t.

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Did you get help because... those are difficult things to live through. Did you get help from, for example, institutions or...

**MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE:** No.

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** ... (Indiscernible) community or family?

**MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE:** No. My parents and I never really asked for help. I also didn’t get any... It’s like it was very tolerated in the community. I guess people around us witnessed our family situation, my parents, and it’s like it was tolerated.

And like I said... I still thank God for not letting youth protection get involved, because I might be even more traumatized. They might’ve placed me with a
foster family and I’d be even more traumatized today. At the same time, it’s not good if... The kind of environment I grew up in... I thank... I can’t say... It’s like I got here today, and I understand more, and I’m glad that that’s how my story went.

So that’s it. That’s what happened. There was violence, I don’t know... It had a lot of repercussions... I’m talking about the Indian act (indiscernible) under the residential school system, how the children were forcibly uprooted. The reserve system too, you know, they forced us to become sedentary. That must’ve caused a lot of pain too, being trapped here for years, being scorned by that colonization.

And today, in 2017, the government has already held several recognition events, but like I already said, the healing process will be quicker if it comes organically from us. You can’t expect the government to invest and... I see there are natural healers in our communities, and that helps with the healing. And there is a lot of... The effects were that we became... violent people. We were abused and abusive at the same time...

Politically, I’m also talking at my level, community politics, we were abusing and being abused sometimes... I share that thought. We are political abusers and we are abused politically. We abuse our administration, we
mistreat it, we tolerate violence, we abuse our citizens
too, just like we get abused by our administration, and we
get abused by our citizens too. It’s like a vicious cycle
and we’re all being affected. And everyone is affected by
colonization, everyone, except... everyone is injured,
everyone expects the Council to... heal all the pain.

We formed habits through the effects of
paternalism, because paternalism, the effect is “don’t
move, I’ll take care of you. Don’t move, I’ll pay for your
education and I’ll pay for your healthcare, no problem.”
And now the habit we naturally have, still to this day, is
to go to the Indigenous government, which is the Band
Council, when we need something. And so it’s that whole
concept, the idea of a family, you know, all the family
values have been disrupted by that because it’s the
Council, it’s the government that’s going to take care of
us when we could turn to our families first when we need
help.

If I’m having problems raising my children,
if I can’t take care of them, I tell myself that I should
turn to my parents or my in-laws and get them to help, as
was the custom (indiscernible). That’s the mentality I’ve
developed, I’m developing, through my journey of the last
few years. I’m becoming aware of all that. I’m the one who
needs to take charge of myself. We talk about self-
determination, but self-determination will happen through individuals becoming aware... By leaving the house, not staying isolated. We shouldn’t isolate ourselves. We’ve already been isolated by others, we’re isolating ourselves, which makes isolation spread even faster.

We have to get out of the house, we need to become aware that history is important with (indiscernible). We have to stop using... I’m lucky to talk like that, because I didn’t... I wasn’t molested or sexually abused... I consider myself lucky. I’m making a comparison with people who did go through that in residential schools, and how traumatized they must be today. However, I do realize that all types of things happened, and we have to understand the context and stop, you know. The healing process will start with us. So that’s where I am in my life journey... It’s becoming aware on my own. And I’ll probably continue thinking that... as political leaders, we just have to feed people’s consciousness. Today, I think we just have to feed people’s consciousness. We can’t really say self-determination. To me, self-determination... it starts today by feeding people’s consciousness about all the effects caused by colonial policies and everything we’ve gone through, the healing, reconciliation and to stop tolerating that.

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** And following that,
I’ll lead you to the last topic you mentioned today. How do you think the media is covering this? What do you think of the media’s participation in what you’ve talked about? What you just shared?

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: Yes, I understand that the media generally isn’t Indigenous people, it’s more Radio Canada, TVA, and regional media that come see us. So many things have happened in the last few years regarding the Canadian government, say, the apologies, the Commission came, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, there have been so many Commissions before the Indigenous people.

And there’ve been so many... How can I put it... times when we, as a community, or the Indigenous communities, when we were twisted by all that, psychologically twisted, sexually twisted, you know... It’s very insidious, the toxicity becomes insidious and it infiltrates our communities and we don’t notice how insidious it is. Then people from the community start behaving in a toxic manner as well. The media people come see us, and sometimes they want to know how we feel about this or that Commission, and sometimes it seems like... We tell them it’s a healing process, that we were colonized, that things were taken from us, and all that, and it just has a negative effect. It’s like it’s just an opportunity to see the unhealthy behaviour that’s being perpetuated.
Because I don’t think that nomadic people
were innately violent, sexually or psychologically, to
their children in the bush... It’s in your (indiscernible).
And it’s like... I don’t know, I find it abnormal.

I find them a little insensitive as well. I
understand that it’s a part of their job, but I think the
media also plays a significant role in our healing process.
The media in general seems to cover mostly tragedies, not
just for Indigenous people, but even in the regional news.
Fires, murders, you know, the media generally covers that
type of... There aren’t enough positive stories. We learned
some positive things in our political circle. We do a lot
of positive stuff that should be in the news, and lots of
positive things happen that should be in the news too. Some
of the media are of no help with the healing process,
regional or national.

So that’s my comment about the media. I’m no
communications expert, but sometimes the media comes and
asks us how we feel about the Inquiry Commission. And at
the end of the interview they’ll see an opportunity to slip
in a question, because at the moment we have a situation
with the Chief who has been charged and his... his trial
has been postponed. Sure, there’s a connection, it’s
unavoidable, but sometimes that’s like a sneaky way of
bringing it up. We tell them that it’s in the hands of the
law, but why they still dare to...

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Come.

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: ... Come

(indiscernible). You know, he’ll come ask us, “Why? What do you think?” I tell them that we’ve been an oppressed people
(indiscernible), we’ve been oppressed and dispossessed. We can’t, you know, we’re... We live in the scars of injuries
that have yet to... that we haven’t gotten rid of yet. So that’s my comment about the media, and I don’t want... I don’t really like talking to them.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: I understand.

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: Honestly, I don’t like... I don’t really like talking to them. I avoid them because they’ll make me say whatever. They’ll make me say whatever. I’d rather spend time with people from my community, and be present in their journey, in their healing process, and listen to their testimonies and share and understand their stories. That’s my priority in my journey: to be present for my community and to listen to them. And I think that pretty much covers what I’m going through.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: I may have a last question for you. If you had the opportunity to make a recommendation to the Commission to help stop violence against Indigenous women and girls, what do you think is
the one thing that must change? How can we solve the
problem of violence against Indigenous women and girls in
the short and long term?

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: OK. I think it’s
relevant to mention the uprooting. I think it’s important
to examine the uprooting of the children who were put in
residential schools, you know, when... It’s a major
uprooting when women get their children forcibly taken away
from them, it’s major violence.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Absolutely.

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: To begin with, it’s
the worst violence you can experience as a parent, an
uprooting, and meanwhile the education... that the parents
should give to their children... the government took charge
of that, and we all know how that turned out. I think it’s
important to talk about the uprooting, to give children the
connection they should have with their children (sic). And
obviously the women have experienced a lot of violence, but
it’s the men who are responsible for that violence.

I don’t know... I think it would be
important to do something to bring awareness to the men...
when they become adults or even before they become adults.
I think it’s the uprooting... Everything is... I think it’s
relevant to talk about colonial policies, just to become
aware, but not to revolt. It’s just a way to heal, to admit
that, yes, that happened and to continue our healing
process as men too. Look, we’re on a journey, I’m on a
journey, I realize I haven’t gone far on this journey. I
haven’t been a very, very responsible man and the older you
get... you become more aware and you take responsibility.
And like I said, sometimes I think about what I experienced
as a politician and I think, geez, there must be a lot of
people experiencing what I’m seeing because there’s still a
lot of positive stuff. We work in politics and we meet
interesting people. But for us that’s... that’s what I’ve
realized.

So that’s where we’re at now, we’re in the
process of admitting our mistakes too. We have to admit
that we’re perpetuating it, that we’re victims of the
violence, but we have to be able to stop perpetuating it
because now we’re the ones perpetuating the violence, and
we have to be humble enough to recognize that and make
peace with our oppressors.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Well, those are all
the questions I had for you today. Is there anything else
you didn’t get chance to talk about, before we wrap up?

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: No.

MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: No? (Indiscernible)

MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE: Maybe just one little
last thing. It’s important to admit, look, I admit it, I
was living in ignorance, I think. And today, I’ve become aware throughout my journey; everything I’ve seen as a politician, everything I’ve participated in has led to me becoming more aware. So I think it’s my responsibility today, to say, that’s enough William, you can’t tolerate it, you can’t... I don’t take it personally now. If I get attacked, I don’t take it personally since I... I’m growing more and more compared to some elected representatives... I used to take it very personally, it really hurt me, but now, I don’t take it personally so that’s all I...

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** William, thank you for taking the time to talk to us today. It’s much appreciated. And thank you for letting us record this.

**MR. WILLIAM FONTAINE:** Yes.

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** So, I’m done for today, so I’ll officially end the session. I’ll just mark the time. So, it’s 3:15 p.m. and the hearing is at an end.

--- Upon adjourning at 3:15 p.m.
LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST’S CERTIFICATE*

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

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Cécile Denis

September 14, 2018

* This certificate refers to the original transcript in French.