National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls  
Truth-Gathering Process  
Part 1 Statement Gathering  
Best Western Plus Norwester Hotel  
Thunder Bay, Ontario

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Wednesday December 6, 2017
Statement - Volume 167
James Munroe & Ina Commanda,  
In Relation to Marilyn Munroe & Viola Panacheese  
Statement gathered by Sheila Mazhari

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**Documents submitted with testimony:** none.
--- Upon commencing on Wednesday, December 6, 2017, at 10:04 a.m.

**MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** So, hi. My name is Sheila Mazhari, here statement gathering with the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Today is December 6, 2017. We’re at the Best Western Hotel, Norwester, in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

I'm here with James Munroe. And also in the room is Margaret --

**MS. MARGARET ANGECONEB:** Angeconeb.

**MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** -- Angeconeb, Ina Commanda and Terriea Harris, who's a health support, and I will let James -- James introduce himself.

**MR. JAMES MUNROE:** Yeah, my name’s James Munroe. I'm from Sachigo First Nation. I'm here for that Inquiry about -- about my daughter and I hope to get through with this, what I have to say. And I don't -- I don't have the full details of what the whole -- the whole case on -- on her murder. And actually I'm quite a busy person up north too in one of my remote areas, and I’d like to find out what kind of resources I could get from the -- from the Inquiry. And from there, I’d like to start -- find out what happened to her two years ago. I think wasn’t it two years ago? And there's nothing -- not
much I -- I could give -- give up because I won't say my feelings about -- about the whole situation, this -- this whole case.

When I first heard about her -- her murder two years ago, I didn't -- I didn't quite -- quite understand why she had to go. And I tried -- tried to lead her in a better -- better way of life regarding about her situation up in the city life. I wanted her to sort of come back to our community to live with us again. And I didn't have a chance to talk to her so often, but she always calls me every third -- every two weeks, biweekly, to see how I'm doing and I asked her the same -- same question. And we mostly talked about her way of life in -- in the city. I tried to ask her to come home once -- once -- a few times, but she -- she just laughs at me and she said she -- she wants to stay here instead.

And I also mentioned about her involvement with -- with drug -- drug abuse which she encountered years -- while she was living in -- in the city and I tried to encourage -- encourage her to stop -- stop to take drugs and alcohol and she said she was -- she's trying, she said. I guess she was trying her best to -- not to hurt my feelings about her activities in town.

What I’d like to know is like what actually happened her -- with her that -- that month two years
ago -- yeah, two years ago -- two years ago, but I never
got to find out the details about the whole incident.
Nobody wants to tell me anything. I tried to ask my other
family members to help me out. So I -- I only went to the
one in -- in Winnipeg there a year ago or two -- a year
ago. I think it was in Winnipeg and I didn't -- I think
I -- I think I was in kind of a shock when I heard about my
daughter’s murder and I tried to cope with it, but I
couldn't, but -- although I got a strong mind to -- not
to -- not to break down. I know -- I know if she -- if she
was -- if she was still alive, she would tell -- she would
have told me to, “Be strong, Dad,” and she -- she always
couraged me to -- to be strong and to try to come
out -- come out to the city often, but I can't because I'm
involved too much with my work up north. I'm kind of
looking after the airport for the -- for the remote area in
Sachigo Lake.

Can I have a break here for a while?

--- Upon recessing
--- Upon reconvening

    MR. JAMES MUNROE: Yeah, we'll start again.

    MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Okay.

    MR. JAMES MUNROE: Okay. What -- what I
want to -- what I'm going to say right now is that I want
to -- I want to say something about murder and what -- what
she did in her past life. And she -- oh, yeah, and then
there's when she was -- when she was young -- younger and
during the time when she -- when she grew up with -- back
in Sachigo Lake First Nation, she -- she's kind of -- as a
teenager, you wanted to explore -- explore things like
drugs, alcohol and relationships, and things like that.
But the most important I taught her while she was alive was
just I taught her to -- to be kind to everybody when -- who
she ever met during -- during her life. I always told her
to help -- help them as best as you can. That's what my
parents used to taught me is to help people no matter what
you -- what you have. Whether you have a little, you have
yourself, to help out. Don’t ignore the person that needs
your help. Maybe one of these days they'll come back to
you and -- and they'll help you too is what I always told
her too. And when I heard from her other -- other people
around her, I always hear things that she -- she helps
people when she was living in Winnipeg. She tried to help
everybody no matter -- no matter how the person’s done
or -- or couldn't help themselves, so she kind of support
them. That's the way I like my -- my late -- late
daughter -- daughter’s legacy, to help people. And I try
to do my best to -- to help people the way -- the
way -- what my parents taught me how to treat people.

As the years go by, I can't -- I'm getting
to the age that I can't -- I got a few more -- a few more
years to work where I'm working right now and then I'll
have to retire and my goal is to try to find out about
my -- about my daughter’s murder and then -- then my late
sister’s disappearance years back. Maybe I'll start
working on it while I still have time in this world. And I
know it'll take a lot of frustration to seek the -- the
answer, what I'm trying to seek. And if I can't do it,
then I'll get my son or my two grandsons to -- to look, try
to find out what happened to her and to my sister.

But this -- this is a picture of my -- my
daughter. Her name is Marilyn Rose Munroe. The reason I
called Marilyn Munroe, when she was born I copied
the -- the movie actor, so I called her Marilyn. And every
time she was in Toronto airport and then -- then they
announced on the PA to, “Is there a Marilyn Munroe in -- in
the terminal?” they said everybody looked around. “Marilyn
Munroe, I thought she was passed already.” That's a good
thing about Marilyn. She -- she used to like her -- her
name, Marilyn.

I only got two -- two kids out of my
marriage by my -- my ex-wife passed away about four or five
years ago. And I got my other son that lives in -- with me
in -- back in Sachigo and he -- he's another -- another
famous people’s name I took down in history. That's
James' Son, but James' Son's name was -- the character was a black man from down in the States, so I called him James' Son, but his last name is [last name], not Munroe. And if I had another son, I would have called him John Paul. That's another pirate -- buccaneer.

And -- and my name -- and my first name is James -- my last name is James Munroe. That was the fifth President of the United States, so I must be reincarnated. Okay.

I'm trying to -- maybe I could try to find some help from -- from the -- from this Inquiry about -- to see what -- some resources I could get from -- from some supporting hand, maybe try to get involved with this. Anyways, like all my heart, I -- I should try to find out what happened to her and -- and my late sister.

I haven't seen my sister -- I was the last one to see my late sister, Viola, when she -- the way when she was -- disappeared. I always -- all my family -- all my family that went away already, I seem to be the only one, the first and last person, to -- to see them and I always think it's -- I think it's part of my fault, if I did my best to look after them while they're still alive. I think that's three times already -- three times already that I blame myself on that. I always think I should have helped them, tried to encourage them to stop what they're
doing, but I guess I'm kind of -- I was too late on that.

There's nothing, I guess -- nothing else I could say about her except I -- except I'd like to find out what happened to her. I know she will try -- she will -- and maybe -- maybe in her space, she'll probably tell me what that said. She -- she would have said something to me about -- about her -- her incident, but I don't know if that would help on my part. It's pretty hard to say now.

**MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Do you want to talk about when you went to Winnipeg for your sister and then how you were expecting to see Marilyn?

**MR. JAMES MUNROE:** I wasn't really -- I knew she -- she must have heard I was coming to town, but I don't know that she -- maybe she was doing something else, but she knew -- she knew I was kind of a busy person all the time, but like I mean I've been busy all my life.

Ever since I was 12 years old, I always had -- my first job was at 12 years old. I started making money at 12 years old, my own. I like to go to work. I like to go to school. I like to take sports, be in sports, every -- every sport I could -- could enter. And I really did enjoy my life the way -- the way my -- my life was, to be -- to do everything. And I landed in a good job too, which I'm still employed with same -- same company. And I
travelled a lot in the whole part of western Ontario -- western Canada. I travel down the west coast, the Yukon, and all those places. I met a lot of people, good people. All -- all lots of life.

And my -- my parents took -- took two of my kids over to BC one time there too when I was working, which I was glad my parents took them over there to see me. And then once -- the funny thing is -- is my daughter used to call me every two weeks, ask me for money. She knew when my pay date landed all the time. See, like -- like she needed help, so I’d give her a helping hand sometimes.

Like I helped people. I don't -- I'm not selfish with anything what I got. What was given -- what was given to me and what I earned, I -- I give back. Like there's no way I could say no to anybody. I even help street people, everybody that I see that needs help, but usually -- usually I don't give them cash. I give them something to eat, at least, to make a day go through. And Marilyn would have needed -- Marilyn was always like that though. She was --

**MS. INA COMMANDA:** She was.

**MR. JAMES MUNROE:** She was a kind -- a kind lady to everybody. And my son’s -- my son is beginning to see like the way I like -- I see too.

And, well, I’d like to get some help, that's
all, and recoup (ph) -- recoup what is the situation that's
the tragedy I had in my past life and maybe I could open my
mind and be a little bit stronger too, a stronger person,
or maybe I’d like -- I’d like help. I’d like some advice.
I’d like -- I’d like to talk to the Elders. I'm an Elder
too, but I don't have the wisdom, what they have.

What I got to support -- I got supporting
hands from -- from my family and my sisters. Yeah, that's
all I got is my sister. My other brothers are -- are gone.
The most person I got to help me is my -- my second oldest
sister. Her name’s Ina. She -- she's a much strong woman
and I always try to see her as much as I can when I'm up
north, but not too often I come to town because I kind of
sort of -- I love my job, yeah.

Maybe this Inquiry will give me some -- a
new -- yeah, a new look -- a new look towards life. And
maybe if I have time, maybe I could kind of help people,
give them information the way -- the way I did, all those
60-ish years of my life, or maybe I could give some
information about the younger people, how they -- how to
live their life. Can I cut it for --

MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: You want to cut it
again? Okay.

--- Upon recessing

--- Upon reconvening
Statement – Public

James Munroe & Ina Commanda
(Viola Panacheese & Marilyn Munroe)

1  MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Okay. So I'll start it. Just tell me when to start.
2
3  MS. INA COMMANDA: Okay. I will start off with my niece, Marilyn. Her dates read December 23, 1974, when she was born and it says here February 22, 2016. That's the date she was found in Winnipeg. And how that came to be was -- I can't even remember who phoned me that time saying that she was missing, but this guy she was living with in Winnipeg, he posted on Facebook that her family was concerned about her and for people -- if anybody had information where she was to get a hold of him through his Facebook. And that happened on a certain day. I can't remember when though.

And then -- and I can't remember if it was the -- the same day or the day after that thing came up on Facebook, they're wheeling her out of that building in a stretcher. Anyway, I wonder how many days we waited before we could have that service.

4  MR. JAMES MUNROE: Two days.
5
6  MS. INA COMMANDA: We waited two days for her body to be released?

7  MR. JAMES MUNROE: Yeah, because I had to fly -- fly out to here to (indiscernible). Two days that stayed there.

8  MS. INA COMMANDA: Oh, yeah. Anyway, we had
to wait a few days to get the release of her body so we
could have a wake for her in Winnipeg.

And anyway, before that -- before that, my
brother and I, we had entered -- not entered -- we -- we
went to a National Inquiry thing in Winnipeg on Portage and
Main at this hotel called -- called Lombard Place and we
were there on -- on behalf of my sister, Viola. So
in -- and we kept wondering why Marilyn wasn't contacting
us. At different times, he's say -- he'd say, “She -- she
never called me yet,” and I would ask again. You know, I
said, “Did she call you?”

So after this Inquiry was over, over there,
he went home and I went home. And it was only -- I don't
even know if it was a week later when -- when this thing
came out.

MR. JAMES MUNROE: Yeah.

MS. INA COMMANDA: I can't remember the
dates. And that's when we were told that she was missing
and, anyway, it's so weird about how that happened.

Like her boyfriend, like I said, had posted
it up that she was missing. And then just in a little
short while, she's being wheeled out of their apartment in
Winnipeg and they -- my brother’s never been told nothing.
It was a closed casket. They haven't told him how she died
or -- you know, and stuff like that, nothing.
And my niece, she lives in (indiscernible) Lake. She was a spokesperson for the whole family, like, but they never contacted her. And one time Jodi called me up and she says, “I'm so upset,” she says, about what that detective said, so we went to Winnipeg. We went to Winnipeg because we were having a memorial walk for her. That was last year. In February, we went there.

MR. JAMES MUNROE: I didn't go.

MS. INA COMMANDA: Oh, yeah, you couldn't make it. You were weathered out again.

MR. JAMES MUNROE: Weathered out again.

MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah, he's always being weathered out.

Anyway, we did -- me and my niece put on this walk for her, so right from her place to where we -- it was quite a -- quite a walk, but there's a -- have you heard of the Bear Clan in Winnipeg?

MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: M'hm.

MS. INA COMMANDA: They helped us. They were so -- so good to us.

Anyway, that's -- that was last year we had her walk. So my niece was telling me how upset she was, so she got in touch with the detective and I talked to -- to that detective and I was upset too because he said that he had told her that it was her lifestyle and I said, “What
does that mean?” I says, “I don't understand what you mean by that. Does that mean you're not going to try hard to find out anything?” and he -- he did apologize. He said, “I'm sorry that there was a miscommunication here,” he said. And he said, “I'm the voice for these people who can no longer talk for themselves.” And he says, “I try hard.” I believed him. You know, like I believe what he's saying, but -- but still they never -- they never said anything, who they interviewed or -- or -- you know, he hasn't even gotten the coroner’s report, nothing. I mean it doesn't change the fact, but still we would like to know. I would like to know.

You know, like I talked to the funeral director that time when we were there and he said it was going to be closed, a closed casket. Anyway, we took -- took her home to be buried by her mom in Osnaburgh. They call it Mishkeegogamang now.

And you should have seen her daughter. She's got two little kids yet. [Marilyn’s Child 1] is 15 --

MR. JAMES MUNROE: Yeah.

MS. INA COMMANDA: -- and [Marilyn’s Child 2] must be around 11?

MR. JAMES MUNROE: I don't know, but two years apart, I think.
MS. INA COMMANDA: Oh, yeah.

MR. JAMES MUNROE: Two years apart.

MS. INA COMMANDA: So, okay, she must be around 13. She stayed right -- right at the gravesite until that last bit of sand was thrown on the grave, yeah. Yeah, [Marilyn’s Child 2].

And -- and my sister, Margot (ph), raised her first son. His name is [Marilyn’s Child 3], just [Marilyn’s Child 3]. My dad -- my dad started that thing off. My dad’s name was [Father], so --

MR. JAMES MUNROE: The late -- the late [Occupation], [Father].

MS. INA COMMANDA: So anyway, us, we -- we -- like my -- my son’s name is [Ina’s Son] and so on, you know, after my dad. And I think he was getting tired of naming a friend of his [Father] -- or a name after [Father], anyway. We were wondering about Marilyn’s son, what the name should -- what other name should be there, and he says, “No, just [Marilyn’s Child 3],” he says, so that's what we called him. Even my -- my granddaughter, she named -- she named her son [Ina’s Great-grandson] after my -- my dad. Anyway, getting -- that's getting off the subject.

But -- so my sister raised her son, her oldest boy. I don't know how old he is now, about
19 -- 19, 20, somewhere around there. And then she had another daughter and she's here now. You're going to phone her after.

**MR. JAMES MUNROE:** Who?

**MS. INA COMMANDA:** [Marilyn’s Child 4].

**MR. JAMES MUNROE:** Oh, yeah.

**MS. INA COMMANDA:** Yeah. So Marilyn left four children behind, but, you know, the -- the youngest -- the youngest girl, that will always stick in my mind, how -- how -- and Marilyn used to go see them all the time in Winnipeg. Her and her partner were not together, the children’s father. They were not together, but she -- you know, they were on good -- good term. Like [Partner] always said, “Come over and see the kids.” You know, he never said, “You can't see the kids,” never. But they were close. She was close to her children, yeah.

So anyway we -- we’re hoping that somehow it can open doors to -- to people who are wanting answers and it’s just like banging your head against a wall. You know, they say, “I can't tell you anything.” It’s almost like saying, “I'm not going to tell you anything.” That's how it feels even though they don’t use those kind of words. That's how I find it anyway. So I -- I really hope they can help my brother with -- with everything that he needs to know. It’s the knowing that can give you some kind of
peace in your mind and heart. It’s the uncertainty -- you
know, sometimes it’s so hard to believe that it happened,
it actually happened.

But like I said yesterday, you know, like I
love talking about my grandmother. My grandmother and I
lived in the bush until I was about five and -- and then my
dad moved us to -- to where he worked. And I said that's
when evil touched us, being in town, learning about booze,
what it can do to a person. Like, you know, it’s -- it’s
no good. And kids nowadays, they -- actually, I'm looking
after three of my great-grandchildren and I'm trying to
tell the girls to be careful and it’s scary because people
can just do anything to your children. Some of it is not
good. Yeah, especially, you know, people like this poor,
poor woman. And you never know when it’s going to hit
close to your own life.

You know, she was so -- she was funny and
kind, and I was telling this woman before. I says, you
know, “She didn't want much. You know, she didn't want
lots of things. She didn't want beautiful things.” You
know, like I was telling this woman. I said, “If she had a
mattress, it didn't matter if she didn't have a box spring
for it.” That's how she was, you know. She always put
somebody else’s comfort ahead of herself. That's how she
was. And if you travelled with her, every stop you -- you
made, she’d buy something for you. She was always doing
that.

MR. JAMES MUNROE: That's how we -- that's
how we -- in our family, that's how we -- we treat people,
even my mom too.

I was kind of surprised what Ina said one
time too while in Thunder Bay. I think she was coming from
Winnipeg because she was on the Greyhound and she met this
lady and she didn't have anything to eat,
nothing -- anything like that, and she gave what she had in
her pocket. She just gave it to her and -- and, you know,
that's the kind of persons we are. We like to help people
no matter how little we got, we just give it away. That's
how people -- how we treat people. I hope people treat
other people the way we treat people.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: M'hm.

MR. JAMES MUNROE: Yeah.

MS. INA COMMANDA: Yeah, she was -- she was
travelling to Toronto. She didn't even have coffee money
and here when we stopped -- well, I was getting off here in
Thunder Bay and I bought her coffee right from Winnipeg and
so I just gave her what I had left over. And you know
what? She gave me -- she dug in her little bag and she
gave me one of those dish cloths that are knitted. I felt
so humble when she did that. She just pressed it in my
hand and I said, “Oh, thank you very much.” I said, “I'm going to treasure this,” yeah. And I haven't seen her. I hope she made it. She was visiting her daughter.

But those are -- you know, it just happens that way.

**MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And what about Viola? How did -- how did she go missing?

**MS. INA COMMANDA:** My sister, Viola?

**MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** M'hm.

**MS. INA COMMANDA:** She disappeared from Sachigo -- from Sachigo -- from Sioux Lookout.

**MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** In what year?

**MS. INA COMMANDA:** 1991, m'hm.

**MR. JAMES MUNROE:** Yeah, I was the last one to talk to her too. I told her to stay in the room and, “I'll come back for you later,” but being me, it carried over that and I haven't seen her since after that. And when I heard she was missing, I went, “Oh, oh.” And that's another person that I’d like to find out what happened to her. And I think she's around -- some place around the whole -- the whole area of Sioux Lookout, but where would she be buried?

We took a -- we took a Google of the -- the whole Sioux Lookout area where we could -- the whole, maybe about -- about a ten-mile radius, I think we did. We did
the Google on the whole Sioux Lookout area and we tried to find any -- any spots where -- where she could be buried. There's a lot of places where we looked at it on the -- on the Google -- Earth Google. That's what you call it, Earth Google?

**MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Google Earth?

**MR. JAMES MUNROE:** Yeah.

**MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** M'hm.

**MR. JAMES MUNROE:** Yeah. And that's -- then the next -- the next step I could do is start -- get a report first, what happened, from -- from the day I left her in Sioux and that -- that afternoon, in the afternoon, not in the end, in the afternoon, and then where -- where she went.

I heard she went uptown after we left her. And from there, who she talked to, who she met, start from there and work your way up. And then after that, then look at the location where -- where she could -- maybe she could be buried or -- or maybe she could be buried past the ten -- ten-mile radius of the Sioux Lookout area, and we'll find out from there.

**MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Was there ever a police case opened for her?

**MR. JAMES MUNROE:** That's another thing. They never gave me information or anything like that, but
it would be good if I had that information.

MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Right.

MR. JAMES MUNROE: It would be good if that information was given to me. I could start working on it, do my own -- my own investigation, but it wouldn't be involved with anything except me, find out what happened to her. I know we -- we had -- I did -- I came from -- from Mishkeegogamang.

I used to work for Mishkeegogamang Band there that year that I came -- came for a break from my job there, so I went to Sioux and I seen her there. I was kind of surprised seeing her, happy to see her, but in the afternoon like we had -- we had a party in the -- in the room. Then after the party, everyone decided to go to the bar that afternoon and I told her she -- she was drunk already. I told her to stay in the room, "I'll come and check on you later on." And the next day, I couldn't find her, so I went home. Then, like I said, I feel like kind of what happened to her. I know I don't have very much years left. Well, I hope to live a hundred -- at least a hundred.

MS. INA COMMANDA: No, you don't. No, you won't be able to walk.

MR. JAMES MUNROE: Yeah, then I would just start, try to find -- seek my -- try to find out what
happened to them. That's my goal right now. After this, then I'll collect my thoughts once I get home. Try to get more involved with that. And if I could solve my -- my daughter's -- daughter's murder and my sister's -- my sister's disappearance, maybe I could give more information to other people, what -- what I -- what procedures I did if I found it. If I found the answer and see what happened, well, I could give the information to other people. I think that would -- that would be my goal.

MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Thank you.

MR. JAMES MUNROE: Yeah.

MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Would you like to end it here?

MS. INA COMMANDA: (Speaking in Native language.)

MR. JAMES MUNROE: Huh?

MS. INA COMMANDA: (Speaking in Native language.)

MR. JAMES MUNROE: Yeah. That's all I could say. That's all.

MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Ina, do you want to add anything?

MR. JAMES MUNROE: The only thing I'd like to -- the only thing I'd like to know, I'd like more information like you guys, the way you guys are doing it,
yeah. But there's no information for us, so I need -- I
need something to go by.

When I walk out of the room, that's -- my
goal is -- as soon as I walk out of this -- out of this
room, my goal is to find out later, start from there. And
if I can't find it, maybe my -- my son or my family
will -- my family members will start -- seek
where -- seek -- try to find the answer on that
whole -- the whole tragedy we -- we have reached in -- in
our family. Yeah, that's -- well.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Ina?

MS. INA COMMANDA: You know, for -- for my
sister, like I tried to use our own people. And like I
used to dream about her in the beginning and I was telling
this woman I had the same dream three times about my
sister. And I was talking to a woman here from somewhere
around here. That was quite a few years ago, so I can't
remember her name. And she told me to -- to try and
recognize where she's leading me, but, you know,
I -- everything is so fussy when I dream anyway.

So my mother, she told me that she was taken
by rapture, and I don't know if -- if you know about
rapture. Do you know about rapture? It’s in the Bible.
Like if you're -- if you suffer too much or -- like you can
suffer in your body, in your soul, you know, like that.
God will -- God has compassion on you and He'll come and take you home, and that's what my mother died believing, that she was taken by rapture.

But, you know, like when I -- her and I were close, really close. Lots of times she used to come to me in Winnipeg and, "Rub my back, Ina. Let me sleep with you, Ina," like stuff like that, so I’d rub her back, take her to clinic. Like she drank a lot and I’d take her to the clinic and stuff and made sure she had a lot of juice and stuff like that.

But even when she was like younger, her and I had this -- something going between us. I would know when she needed me. I knew when she was hurt and she -- she had a lot of hurts in her life. [Two lines removed pursuant to Rule 55] And I -- I knew each time when -- when this thing was going to happen, but we’re so far apart, you know. I spent some of my life in Red Lake -- in Red Lake and she’d be here in Pickle Lake, you know, like -- like that. That's lots of miles apart.

And after when I first heard that she was gone, I know -- I knew she was really gone, but you still have that hope. You know, people can be wrong, you know, but I felt it already that I’d never see her again. I knew it. And I -- I even took my parents. Two -- two weeks we were gone searching in Sioux Lookout and you -- you have
that hope, at least find her so we can take her home to
have a burial, you know, and it’s been 26 years. So, you
know, my mind is kind of leaning towards rapture too, you
know. I’d like to believe that. I’d really, really like
to believe that, you know, so at least, you know, she’s
safe and nobody will ever hurt her again. That’s what I’d
like to believe.

My mom passed away in 1994, almost when my
daughter was having a birthday. She died May the -- the
end of May and my daughter’s birthday was on [birthdate].
I think my mom died of a broken heart because my two
brothers were gone and then Viola, and then not even a year
after Viola disappeared, her husband died accidentally,
yeah, but my mother too, she -- she prayed a lot. That
used to -- she could -- my mother could barely move --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: M'hm.

MS. INA COMMANDA: -- just -- oh, she could
barely move. I’d take her to church all the time, go sit
with her in church and as soon as she got going, she's up
there dancing, dancing away, yeah.

Well, I’d like to thank you people
for -- maybe you're opening doors for us.

MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Thank you both for
sharing.

MS. INA COMMANDA: M'hm.
MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Do you want to stop it here? Okay.
--- Upon adjourning at 11:03 a.m.
LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

I, Jane Baniulis, 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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Jane Baniulis

March 10, 2018