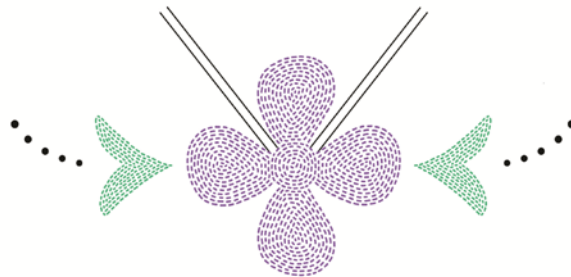


National Inquiry into  
Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls



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 I Statement Gathering  
Sheraton Four Points  
Moncton, New Brunswick**



**PUBLIC**

**Wednesday February 14, 2018**

**Statement - Volume 257**

**Madison Donovan**

**Statement gathered by Shelby Thomas,  
Commission Counsel**

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Documents submitted with testimony: none.

1 Moncton, New Brunswick  
2 --- Upon commencing on Wednesday, February 14, 2018  
3 at 6:45 p.m.

4 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: All right. This is  
5 Shelby Thomas, Commission Counsel with the National  
6 Inquiry. It is February 14th at 6:45 p.m. We're in  
7 Moncton, New Brunswick, for the community hearings here,  
8 and it's a statement gathering session with Madison  
9 Donovan. Madison, if you could just start off with telling  
10 us a little bit about yourself, and then you can flow into  
11 your story however you choose.

12 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Okay. So, um, first  
13 of all, I'll start with the basics. I'm 21 years old. I  
14 come from a very big family. I have 7 siblings, actually;  
15 six brothers and one sister. They're all, all half-  
16 siblings, but I love them all equally. I came from a very  
17 dysfunctional family growing up. Like, when my mom had me,  
18 she had no one, really, to help her, and she -- you'd kind  
19 of try to stay away from my first father -- with my father,  
20 and he didn't love he and he didn't want to be with he. He  
21 basically told us to go back to New Brunswick.

22 We were living in Ontario at the time.  
23 She was, and she lived with me for about a year, maybe two,  
24 when we lived in Ontario, then we moved to New Brunswick  
25 when I was around 2-ish. And we, like, mostly were just me

1 and my mom for a little bit. I can't remember a while lot  
2 because I was really young at the time.

3 Um, she met this man who was very, very  
4 abusive, sexually and physically. She had two children  
5 with him who were my brothers. Um, he was sexually abusive  
6 to not only me, to [Family members], as well, and  
7 physically to us. I was about four at the time when he did  
8 those things to me. And he would tell my mother that I'd  
9 always say that I, that he'd be touching me and stuff, and  
10 that's why he didn't want me around him and stuff. And she  
11 thought that it was lies; but it wasn't. It was me saying,  
12 "I don't want to be around him." And him forcing me to be  
13 locked in rooms with him and sexually assaulting me.  
14 That's actually the earliest memories I can remember as a  
15 child, is her first husband sexually assaulting me. Um,  
16 she was with him for about a year and, like, my brothers,  
17 they're basically, um, twins, nine months apart.

18 And he got arrested for kidnapping and  
19 also for something car-related. He kidnapped a teenage  
20 girl, I believe, my mother had said. And she thought that  
21 he had just done something stupid and the police said, "No.  
22 Your husband has kidnapped this young girl, and, like, has  
23 been following her and been trying to do this to her." So  
24 she got a divorce after that. She still didn't know that  
25 he was touching. *[One sentence redacted - private*

1 information]. And he lost full custody of the boys and I  
2 knew that he was touching me, but I didn't know it was  
3 wrong until I was ten. And that's when I started to tell my  
4 mom, you know, the stuff that he did, it wasn't just  
5 whatever. He was, like, assaulting me and not only  
6 physically, but sexually. I'd tell her and she, like, tried  
7 to, like, brush it off or whatever. And that hurt, a lot,  
8 because it felt like I didn't really matter. And that was  
9 the first time I was ever sexually assaulted. And it hurt  
10 a lot.

11 And here I am 21 years old, and I still  
12 think about it all the time. And like, I wish I could say  
13 that was the first time that I was ever -- I mean, the last  
14 time I was ever sexually assaulted, but it wasn't.

15 And when I was around nine or ten years  
16 old, this man who -- well, not a man, but he was 16, 17, so  
17 I thought of it more as a man than anything. He was  
18 Chinese, and he'd always grab me and, like, force me down  
19 on the couch and, like, touch me. And I had told my mother  
20 this time, and my step-father at the time - which was a  
21 different man - what was going on, and they believed me  
22 this time. I don't know why they wouldn't believe me the  
23 first time, but this time they did. And that he brought him  
24 to court, and he faced charges, and was sent back to China.

25 A little after that, my mom had my brother

1 Eric (ph), and he was born with D.S., down syndrome. And  
2 it was very hard on our family. He was on an oxygen tank  
3 and had a lot of brain problems, so it was hard on all of  
4 us. Um, he only lasted three years, and my mother had  
5 [Brother 1] about a year and a half, maybe, before he died  
6 -- which is my other brother.

7                   And I think that's when everything got out  
8 of hand, because after my brother died, I couldn't anymore.  
9 I started to, like, try to hurt myself constantly. I was  
10 suicidal, I was angry, I had nobody to talk to, everybody  
11 who I talked to that I thought were my friends thought I  
12 was a freak, that I had a dead brother, and, like, I was  
13 just emotionally not okay. And my bipolar started to get  
14 bad, too, at the time. And I did try to kill myself  
15 multiple times by cutting myself, and, like, none of that  
16 would ever work. Um, but my [family member] would always  
17 leave prescription bottles of morphine and, like, other  
18 prescription drugs lying around.

19                   So one night I got really, really,  
20 depressed, the darkest I had ever been, ever. I was about  
21 11-and-a-half years old and I took about 15 oxycontins and  
22 tried to end my life that night. Um, my mother found me  
23 having a seizure in my room and brought me to the hospital,  
24 and they pumped my stomach and everything to get it out.  
25 Sometimes, when I was younger, I wished that I would be

1 dead, because if I would be dead, then, I wouldn't have  
2 gone through years of drug abuse after that. I just wanted  
3 more pain killers because it felt good. I didn't care  
4 about, like, killing myself anymore as long as I felt dead  
5 inside at the time, it didn't matter.

6 Um, this went on until I was 17, 16 years  
7 old, and my mother had finally found out I was using,  
8 stealing her drugs and stuff and she had brought me to  
9 rehab. I needed six months there, um, and then when I got  
10 home, I left because I had done six months and I wasn't  
11 going any further in my recovery. I was sober, but I  
12 wasn't going up in rank, as they would say. It was a place  
13 called Portage where you used start as level one, and you'd  
14 make your way up to level five. And I was a level three,  
15 and they'd never let me go up to level four. Um, so I just  
16 said, "Screw it. I've had enough" because I was supposed  
17 to be graduated because six months is the time you're  
18 supposed to be graduated and out of there.

19 So I went back home. My mother was furious  
20 that I wasn't in rehab. She wouldn't even pick me up,  
21 actually, when I left rehab. I had to hitchhike all the  
22 way from Sussex to Moncton, just so I could get home.  
23 Nobody would help me, um. Then when I showed up at my  
24 mother's house, she let me, like, come home for a day and  
25 then, like, she started saying that -- I should mention,

1 first of all, after my brother died, [*two lines redacted -*  
2 *personal information*]. I'd watch all three of my brothers  
3 that were there because my other brother - my brother lived  
4 with my biological father - and I'd take care of them. I  
5 made sure they were fed, that she had everything taken care  
6 of, while I was on drugs. [*Two lines redacted - personal*  
7 *information*]. She'd just yell at us and tell us how we're,  
8 like, screwing up. Like, we were doing adult things at 13  
9 years old. Like, I was, like, getting a job so I could  
10 help pay for, like, stuff we needed. And it was very, very  
11 hard on us.

12 Um, but anyway, like, I was getting -- I  
13 had come home for a day and my mother, being not right in  
14 the head from, like, my brother dying, she sent me to live  
15 in a homeless shelter because I refused to go back to  
16 rehab. And I begged and begged. I didn't want to stay in  
17 a shelter. I was sober. I had six months and I was, like,  
18 I just don't want to. And then as soon as I hit shelter, I  
19 relapsed. And, like, right away. I had started getting  
20 that other stuff. I started touching speed, opiates. I am  
21 -- no, not opiates. Sorry. Speed, ecstasy, a bunch of  
22 things, really. I can't name off all the things I've done,  
23 but if you think of it, I probably, most likely have done  
24 it. Um, and it got to the point where it was hard to make  
25 money and, like, I didn't know how to do it at the time.



1 So I had no other way to feed my drug habit then to work,  
2 and that's what I'd do. I think I made \$20 while I was  
3 working -- which makes you feel like a complete piece of  
4 shit. Sorry, I didn't mean to swear.

5 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: You can swear if you  
6 want.

7 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: But once you, like,  
8 like, sell your soul and someone just hands you \$20,  
9 there's a part of you that dies. And it hurts so badly,  
10 and the worst part, I think, is, I spent it on, like, two  
11 pills and a pack of cigarettes. And I went out and did it  
12 again because I had given up on myself completely. I  
13 didn't care what people thought of me no more, I had no  
14 family, my mother refused to let me live at home, um.

15 A little into it and stuff, I started to,  
16 like, to do work, like, at streets and stuff, and I'd give  
17 some of the money to my pimp, and he'd never, really, slept  
18 with me like, ever. It was more, like, me and him always  
19 being friends and stuff and, like, me getting money for us,  
20 until I got really messed up on speed one night. And I was  
21 drunk, and I was too drunk and high to go to the shelter  
22 because they have a rule if you go there drunk or high,  
23 you're kicked out for a certain period of time. And I  
24 actually had to go to this abandoned house on the back deck  
25 and make a little spot out of blankets so I could sleep

1 there. And I thought nothing of, like, my pimp, like,  
2 sleeping there with me because I thought, oh, he will just,  
3 whatever, go to bed, too.

4                   Then I woke up and I had noticed that it  
5 was really, really cold out. It was around November, it  
6 was snowing, and I looked down, and I saw that my pants  
7 were all the way down and his stuff was over it. I felt so  
8 hurt because I thought, here it is, the one person I  
9 thought I could trust, and he just used me like I was  
10 nothing. And then I got more into the drugs. I got so  
11 heavy into it. I actually tried to, like, put him in jail  
12 for what he did to me. And you know what? He didn't even,  
13 like, and couldn't go through trial or anything. The judge  
14 looked at him and said, "You're free to go." Yeah. Not  
15 enough proof. I went to the hospital the night that, of  
16 the day he raped me, they did samples and everything. They  
17 saw the bruises, they saw the semen, they saw it all, and  
18 the judge said, "Not enough proof."

19                   MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Terrible.

20                   MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah. It hurt  
21 because here I am homeless and he's homeless, and I have no  
22 place to hide. I have no place to go. He's everywhere I'm  
23 at. Like, it was horrible.

24                   MS. SHELBY THOMAS: And was this all  
25 happening in Moncton?

1 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

2 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: And how old were you  
3 when this was happening?

4 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: I think I was,  
5 maybe, 19.

6 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Okay. Okay.

7 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Maybe. No, I was  
8 18, actually.

9 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Okay.

10 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: I wasn't even like,  
11 able to, like, get assistance, actually, because you can't  
12 get assistance 'til you're 19 without parents' consent. If  
13 you're 18 and you want assistance, you need parents', like,  
14 consent. And that wasn't happening. I begged my mother  
15 for consent. She would not give it to me. And she'd yell,  
16 and she did lie to the social worker saying that I had a  
17 home to come to, I could go home whenever I wanted, when I  
18 didn't.

19 I've done some bad things to try to get  
20 home, too. I actually did a job for a John so he'd drive  
21 me straight away from my house, and my mother said, "No.  
22 You can't come home." And called me a selfish bitch for  
23 doing what I did. That's the sort of abuse I went through.  
24 She refused to have me around there.

25 And the biggest betrayal, I felt, wasn't

1 from the sexual abuse, it wasn't from all that, it was  
2 from, like, the harm my mother did to me while I took care  
3 of the boys. I got a job, I tried to do everything. It was  
4 her telling me that I couldn't come home.

5 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: I just want to say  
6 that it's unimage- -- I can't imagine going through what  
7 you've gone through, but you show so much strength, all  
8 today, just now sharing it. And you're a beautiful and  
9 lovely person and you deserve the world. I hope you know  
10 that, and I can't imagine your relationship with your  
11 mother and how you just said it's, that, that's what hurts  
12 the most. But just know that you've done yourself super  
13 well. And you're here and it's important, and you may have  
14 made some not -- or poor choices, you have said, or bad  
15 choices, but that doesn't define you as a person, who you  
16 are right now. And I hope you know that.

17 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Thank you.

18 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: And so, did you want  
19 to continue about anything?

20 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

21 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Okay.

22 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: I guess I'll go on  
23 more about how, about my ex, the one who actually tried to  
24 kill me. I was high on speed when I was with him. He got  
25 me on all the speed I wanted, all the alcohol I wanted,

1 because I was only 18 at the time. And we actually broke  
2 up a week after my birthday, my 19th one. Um, he accused  
3 me of doing sexual acts with a woman when I was not, I was  
4 doing drugs with someone. And he refused to let me come  
5 inside and get my jacket. I was in shorts and a tank top  
6 and I just wanted my jacket, and it was raining out and it  
7 was just really bad weather. And he just started to push  
8 me away from the door, and he started to kick me down the  
9 staircase, and I was trying to hold on to the railing, so I  
10 wouldn't fall down and, like, he kicked he so hard that he  
11 broke one of my ribs, and he punched me and he choked me,  
12 he did a lot of things. I had to -- I don't know how I got  
13 out of it, but I managed to somehow call the police to come  
14 and, like, get him away from me. And they had taken him  
15 away and I charged him and, again, I got an unfair trial.  
16 He got three months for that. And I have a permanently  
17 damaged rib cage, now. I can't even move this part of it  
18 because it's that bad. Like, this is four years later and  
19 it's still in so much unbearable pain. You know, I had  
20 kept doing drugs and drinking until I met my husband  
21 Nathan. He actually was the one who dragged me out of a  
22 crack shack and got me sobered up. If it wasn't for  
23 Nathan, I wouldn't be here today. I really wouldn't.  
24 Like, he's gotten me clean. He's, like, made me feel worth  
25 it. He's done everything for me. I was actually beaten up

1 by this girl at the time, and, like, I was bleeding to  
2 death, basically, at this crack shack, and he, like, came  
3 and, like, dragged my ass out there and got me cleaned up,  
4 got me sobered up. He, he got me fed and, like, we had,  
5 like, started talking again, and we got together. And then  
6 a year and a half later got married, and now I got three  
7 years in July off of drugs. Yeah. If it wasn't for  
8 Nathan, I'd still be the drug-addicted prostitute that I  
9 was. And he didn't care about that stuff. All he cared  
10 about was my safety and me being, like, okay.

11 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: I'm happy that Nathan  
12 did that for you, because it would be a true shame for you  
13 not to be here, because you're powerful and you have so  
14 much to offer. And I just feel pleasure to have met you  
15 and for you to be sharing your story with me. Because I  
16 know it can't be easy, but it's, it's a lot of strength and  
17 I just feel honoured.

18 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Thank you.

19 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Is, is that, kind of,  
20 where you wanted to end off, or?

21 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

22 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Okay.

23 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: That's all I have to  
24 say, really, unless you have questions.

25 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Um, I just have a few.

1 So --

2 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

3 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: -- you said you went  
4 to a homeless shelter, were there no -- did you know of a  
5 women's shelters available, or?

6 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah. I was in  
7 women's shelters, men, women's shelters. There were drugs  
8 everywhere.

9 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: And so, that was a big  
10 issue in that --

11 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah. The women's  
12 shelter, actually, was telling me how I could make money  
13 prostituting and stuff.

14 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Oh, interesting.

15 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

16 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: And were those centers  
17 in Moncton?

18 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

19 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Um. Are there a  
20 couple of centers in Moncton? Or are there very limited  
21 centers in Moncton?

22 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: There's three  
23 centers, but I find none of them help the way that they  
24 should be helping someone who's a worker. You know what I  
25 mean?

1 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Um hum. Yeah. They  
2 don't offer -- or they don't provide the support --

3 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

4 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: -- to help workers get  
5 where they -- or help them out of their situation,  
6 situations?

7 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

8 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Um, um, if you're  
9 comfortable, can you talk about the relationship you have  
10 with your siblings, now? Are you, are you in contact with  
11 them? Or...

12 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Um. My brother  
13 [Brother 2], I'm not really in contact with. [Brother 1],  
14 not really, either, nor [Brother 3]. My other siblings, I  
15 don't really know them.

16 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Okay.

17 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: It's kind of a  
18 mixed-up relationship between them all because my mother,  
19 when she and I fight, she abandons me, and she takes  
20 away my brothers from me. So I'm not allowed to talk to  
21 them if I don't talk to her --

22 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Okay.

23 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: -- basically.

24 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Okay. Now, I know,  
25 in, um, the youth panel, you gave some recommendations on



1 how to help workers, how to better support workers to help  
2 them move forward. Um, did you want to add anything to  
3 that? What you said earlier? Or you can repeat it, now,  
4 if you want, if you wanted, um...

5 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Um, just like I  
6 said. I really feel there should be a place for, like,  
7 workers to go to, like, a place for them to live and, like,  
8 a space for them to, like, find clothes and, like,  
9 toiletries, and like, feel human again. You know what I  
10 mean? Because when you're a worker, you don't got a lot.  
11 Sometimes you'll be working in two outfits and you'd have  
12 that for a week to wear, and it's hard. You lose  
13 everything from, like, so many things, from, like, the  
14 johns or, like, the pimps and stuff like that.

15 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Okay. And because of  
16 how your mom treated you and pretty much forced you on the  
17 streets - from what I gather - and not providing you any  
18 support, do you have any ideas that could help other  
19 children or youth on those situations? Like, do centers  
20 need to be created for children specifically in those  
21 situations? And, and - not to say, like, the child, child  
22 necessarily the child welfare system - but, like, you had a  
23 lot of independence from a very young age because you were  
24 forced into it. You were forced to help provide, um,  
25 provide care for your siblings. So I guess I'm trying to

1 say, like, if you find a facility that -- creating a  
2 facility where youth who are being abandoned by their  
3 family, yet don't necessarily need parental guardianship  
4 because, you know, you, you, probably could, could have  
5 been fine on your own.

6 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah. Like, if I  
7 would have had some assistance, like I said, it would have  
8 been a lot easier if I had someone telling me how to manage  
9 things and how to do things. It would have been a lot, lot  
10 easier on my own.

11 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: And more from a  
12 supportive end than --

13 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

14 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: -- than from a  
15 parental, um --

16 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah. I feel like  
17 we need a lot more support systems than a lot more parental  
18 sort of things. Like, people trying to tell you how to do  
19 things. Like, you need support. You can't just always  
20 have strictness. You need someone saying, "I know what  
21 you're going through. If you want to get out of it, I'm  
22 here for you, and if you don't want to get out of it, I'm  
23 still here for you." You know what I mean?

24 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Um hum. No, no  
25 judgment or -

1 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

2 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: -- saying, and just be  
3 there for whatever you need and to support you to help you  
4 move forward.

5 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah. Exactly.

6 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Because moving forward  
7 isn't necessarily a stepping stone, right? It's, kind of,  
8 you move forward and then sometimes you might take a few  
9 steps back, but, you know -- and I'm assuming that's what  
10 happened with you and Nathan's relationship.

11 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

12 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Did you want --

13 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: He had that support  
14 that I didn't get.

15 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Oh. Okay. But then  
16 he, did he end up being that support that you needed?

17 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Oh, yes.  
18 Definitely.

19 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Yeah, yeah, that's,  
20 I'm super glad to hear that.

21 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: He was that shoulder  
22 that I'd been looking everywhere to cry on. I remember one  
23 day I was at his house and I just started bawling my eyes  
24 out and he, like, wrapped his arms around me and told me,  
25 "It's okay." And that's what I always wanted to hear.

1 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: That's super great.  
2 Um, I'm just trying to make sure, um, and you're from  
3 Elsipogtog, right?

4 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

5 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Yeah. And do you have  
6 any connection and keep to your community?

7 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: A little bit.

8 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: A little bit? And do  
9 you want to talk about what kind of connection you have  
10 with it? Or...

11 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah. I talk to a  
12 lot of my family there, like, my aunts. Like, I'm also  
13 very close to my uncle Wayne (ph). He's -- not as an elder  
14 over there, but he's kind of one of those guys who are  
15 just, like, those old smart asses. You know what I mean?

16 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Yeah. Okay. Well  
17 that's -- so you're, you're kind of building ties to your -  
18 not just your immediate family - your surrounding  
19 relatives.

20 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

21 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: That's nice to hear.  
22 At least, you know, you can still have that connection with  
23 your family and your roots and, um -- what, so, Nathan -  
24 from what I understand - Nathan was a big support for you.  
25 Were there any other things that you used to help you

1 become sober and through your healing process and how, how  
2 to move forward, how, how you have been able to move  
3 forward?

4 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Well, God's been a  
5 big help. I'm not a huge, huge, spiritual person, but  
6 God's helped a lot.

7 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Okay.

8 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Because I remember  
9 I, the day that Nathan picked me up, actually, I had a book  
10 bag packed and I said, "This is it, God. If you don't do  
11 anything today, I'm just going take my book bag and just  
12 start escorting in Halifax or something, I'm done." And  
13 then Nathan picked me up that day.

14 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: That's goose bumps.  
15 That's crazy how --

16 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah. And it's  
17 funny because he's, like, "Why did you have a book bag  
18 packed of clothes and stuff?" I'm like, "No reason."

19 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: He didn't know the  
20 whole bag plan?

21 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: No, not until a  
22 couple years later.

23 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: And right now, what  
24 are you -- just talk about your life in general. We don't  
25 have to go always just about the, your past, but how are

1 you feeling in your life right now?

2 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: I'm feeling good  
3 about my life right now. It's tiring, sometimes, because  
4 my son's eight months old and he doesn't like to sleep a  
5 lot. And I like to sleep a lot. So it's, like, love-hate  
6 relationship there.

7 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Growing pains right  
8 now --

9 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah.

10 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: -- just waiting until.

11 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Waking up at 7:30  
12 a.m. in the morning, just screaming at me, and it's just,  
13 like, "I just want to sleep."

14 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: All right. I --

15 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: He's basically my  
16 life.

17 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Well, you know what?  
18 Children are so important, right? They just add a whole  
19 other part to your life and -- I don't have any children of  
20 my own, but I've worked with youth and children, and I  
21 can't imagine life without them, really. Um, I think I'm  
22 done with the questions I had. Um, is there, at this  
23 point, is there, did you think you have anything else to  
24 share?

25 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Um, no. I think I've

1 basically spilled my heart out.

2 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: And I hope you're not,  
3 you're feeling okay about that right now.

4 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: Yeah. There's a few  
5 stories I forgot to mention about, like, sexual abuse, but  
6 I think I've shared a few, eh?

7 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: Yeah. Yeah. You  
8 don't need to share them all and -- yeah. You've shared a  
9 lot and you've given some good information just about how,  
10 how you were treated and even the services in the Moncton  
11 area and clearly where there needs to be change. And so, I  
12 think this will be super useful to the commissioners and  
13 help them with recommendations. So I want to thank you, so  
14 much, for coming forward and sharing your story with us.  
15 This is so important and having your voices is just -- we  
16 need them. This is for every woman, the survivors, the  
17 families. And we couldn't do this work without you guys  
18 coming forward. So just, thank you so much.

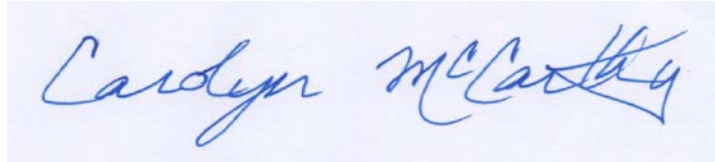
19 MS. MADISON DONOVAN: You're welcome.

20 MS. SHELBY THOMAS: All right. I'm just  
21 gonna turn off all the devices. Um, that concludes the  
22 statement gathering session with Madison. It is 7:20 p.m.  
23 on February 14<sup>th</sup>, in Moncton, New Brunswick.

24 --- Whereupon the statement concluded at 7:20 p.m.

25

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I have, to the best  
of my skill and ability,  
accurately transcribed from a pre-existing recording  
the foregoing proceeding.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carolyn McCarthy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and 'M'.

Carolyn McCarthy, Court Reporter