National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
Truth-Gathering Process
Part 1 Statement Gathering
Lower Post, British Columbia

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Statement - Volume 273

Dominic Charlie & Mary Charlie,
In relation to Tootsie Charlie

Statement gathered by Kerrie Reay

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NOTE

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Documents submitted with testimony: none.
February 28, 2018
Lower Post, BC

(PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 10:20 A.M.)

KERRIE REAY: Okay. Dominic, I now have the tape
recorder going. And -- and the other thing is at
times I may just make sure it's running, so I
will try to make sure I don't interrupt. And we
are now going to start the video. There we go.
All right.

So this is Kerrie Reay, statement taker with
the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls, and we are at Lower
Post today on February the 28th, and the time is
now 10:20.

Today, I am speaking with Dominic Charlie of
the Liard First Nation, and Dominic is residing
in Watson Lake, Yukon. And Dominic is here to
share his truth in the loss of his sister,
Tootsie Charlie. That's T-o-o-t-s-i-e, who was
found murdered in Whitehorse, in the Yukon, and
the recollection is about 1967 or 1968.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: Okay. And Dominic may share today some
personal survivorship, but he will -- you'll make
that decision as -- as this -- as you -- as you
speak. Also present in the room is Mary Charlie,
who is Dominic's sister and is also Tootsie's
younger sister. And for the record, Dominic, you
are here voluntarily to provide your truth, and
you understand and agree to the videotaping and
audio taping, and we signed those documents. And
you also understand that this will be a public
statement.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: Okay. Okay. As I said, Dominic, this
is your space. This is your time. And I invite
you to start wherever you feel comfortable
starting.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Okay. And I think I was just a
young age, '67 or '68, I would be like six, seven
years old. And when I was younger, like five
years old, I used to go visit -- go -- used to go
visit Tootsie. I stayed across from the creek
from her. She used to reside in Two Mile.

KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: And I used to go visit her, and she --I talked with her and stuff like that. And a couple years -- and I was here, I went to residential school. I went to residential school, Lower Post, and then I lost contact with her and -- and my parents. And I didn't know nothing about Tootsie getting murdered and stuff like that until my mom told me. And she took it really hard, and I guess those days, really how to survive is we don't -- we don't get no SA from the government, like these -- like today. Today, we have to survive by the bush, go hunt, or set rabbit snares and stuff like that just to survive, get water down the creek. And I mean that was in the late -- late 60s was cold, man, it was like this -- sometimes this is 60 below, 50, 60 below wind. No one was going to do nothing for us, so we had to do it ourselves. You know, going down the creek called [indiscernible], getting water and, of course, that's rabbit snare and stuff like that, you know. Nobody's going to do anything for us. We had to do it on our own.

KERRIE REAY: So how old would have you been? What year were you born?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: I was born in '61.

KERRIE REAY: So at eight and nine, you were --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: -- out doing rabbit snares?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, yeah.

KERRIE REAY: Okay.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Eight and nine and but I went to residential school when I was young age still.

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. The boys school, I was down here for '67 -- '66, '67, and my last year was '75, which was residential school. I mean, I didn't -- I didn't know how my sister got murdered, and my sisters told me, your sister got murdered in Whitehorse, and I was young age. I don't understand about, you know, death at young age, you know.

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm. No.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: No. So I went to residential school and had really hard time, really hard time at residential school. And I used to get beat up
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Dominic & Mary Charlie
(Tootsie Charlie)

all the time. Tried to defend myself, but the
guys beat me up all the time, and it's like --
KERRIE REAY: Was that the teachers, the priest or --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, teachers, yeah, the students.
KERRIE REAY: The students?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. People, I -- you know, I was
-- intermediate -- [indiscernible] -- was small
guys.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: The intermediate, senior always pick
on us.
KERRIE REAY: Oh, okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Having a hard time.
KERRIE REAY: And so for the commissioners, we're in
    Lower Post. Where is -- how far is Two Mile from
    Lower Post?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I think it's about 18 kilometres,
    maybe -- maybe more. I think it was something
    like 26 kilometres.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. Now, is that towards Upper Liard,
or is that past Watson Lake?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: That's past -- that's past
    Watson Lake, going to the airport.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. So it's west -- west of
    Lower Post is east --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yes.
KERRIE REAY: -- of Two Mile, and Two Mile is where
    your parents were?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep, at -- at the time, but we
    usually stayed in Liard. We had a house in
    Liard.
KERRIE REAY: And when you say "Liard," where are you
    referring to?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: At the village, the bottom village.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: They call it Upper Liard Village.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. Is that towards -- is -- from
    Lower Post, is that upwards towards Watson Lake?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: That's Watson Lake.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. Still past Watson Lake?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. Going west.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. Going west.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Toward Whitehorse.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: So how old were you then when you found out that your sister had been murdered?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I was like eight, nine, I think I -- somewhere around there.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Eight or nine, yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: 60- -- '68, '69 --
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: So it was -- it was at least a year after she had been murdered?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Do you know much about what happened, Dominic, in the murder?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: No. I think in -- like I say, I didn't really know about death at the time I was -- this was when I was a kid just growing up.
KERRIE REAY: Do you know today as an adult how she died, how she was murdered?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: She was murdered and -- and she was -- she was dumped -- thrown in a dump, in the murderer's dump. They find the body in the dump.
KERRIE REAY: Did they ever find who did it?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Nope, never find. Never found --
KERRIE REAY: Never found out?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- out which person responsible doing that, no.
KERRIE REAY: No. It's been hard on the family?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: It's been very hard on the family. I think, and -- you know, I -- I -- all these years, I stayed in Watson and live around Liard and Two Mile --
KERRIE REAY: Uh-huh.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- you know, and I find it hard to be living around there, even today, because so much -- so much, you know, there's non -- non-Native, they're really prejudiced, eh.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. In Watson Lake?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. Watson Lake --
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: And I grew up there. I grew up there.
KERRIE REAY: Right.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: They all call me, oh, buddy, you're
a good friend to me and stuff, but -- but behind
-- behind my back, they call me [indiscernible].
KERRIE REAY: Oh, dear.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: So I've -- they was all my life.
Now my --
KERRIE REAY: Racism.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. And now I'm 57, and I still
see it today, you know.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: You know, I just like -- what can
you do? Can't do nothing about it. Can't get
mean about it, you know.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: It's been there for -- since I was a
kid.
KERRIE REAY: Right.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: And still today, it's so bad in
Watson more recent.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: So, you know, it's all around us.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah. Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah. And we hear that.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: We hear that as we travel --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Oh, yeah.
KERRIE REAY: -- across the country.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Oh, yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Racism is still very, very strong.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: So is -- is your mom still surviving?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: No. She passed on around 2005.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. Yeah --
KERRIE REAY: And your dad?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: My dad passed on in 1994.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Did they -- did they go to residential
school?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Not to -- I don't remember that
time --
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- I've got no idea if they went to
residential school.
KERRIE REAY: Right. Right.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: But, yeah, I'm pretty sure all my
sisters and brothers went to residential school.

KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: I'm just going to ask Mary if she knows whether or not your parents went to residential school.
MARY CHARLIE: I don't think so.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
MARY CHARLIE: I'm not sure. Maybe mom went to day --
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
MARY CHARLIE: -- or something.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. Thank you. Thank you. And you stayed at the residential school until you were 14?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: And then did you go back home to live with your parents?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep, went back to Liard.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: And then -- and thens I --
KERRIE REAY: Yep.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- and then I got into -- into alcohol.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: It was my safeguard. It was like I don't remember -- don't remember nothing from residential school, so I would try to hide it --
KERRIE REAY: Right.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- because I don't want nobody know what happened to me in residential school.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: So I tried to drink it off.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: And I drank and drank, and I drank and drank. I didn't know how long I drank. My family was really worried about me, said, when you going to quit drinking? And I know they talked to me, but I never listened.
KERRIE REAY: Right. The pain.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: The pain was there --
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- so one day -- one day, I end up in the hospital, was early '94, before dad passed, like early '94 --
KERRIE REAY: Okay. So you were 33?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep. That when I -- when I went
into the hospital, that was my fifth time in the hospital. Doctor said I -- doctor said I -- it's still Watson doctor, family doctor.

KERRIE REAY: Uh-huh.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: And he told me, well, Gordie -- he said, Gordie, and -- it's up to you now. You're want to quit drinking, or you'll be permanent [indiscernible] in Liard. And what he's talking about, that, going to grief site and stuff like that.

KERRIE REAY: Right, right.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: He said, it's up to you, you know, and if you keep drowning in drinking, then you're going to last for -- maybe in a year or stuff like that. So, man, I had so hard time just to deal with it and take [indiscernible] when I'm in hospital. Oh, my, it's just like -- and it was really hard. And I thought about it, so one day -- one day I came to the hospital, and I said, okay, I will deal with it. So I went -- I went to treatment in Whitehorse.

KERRIE REAY: Okay. How long was the treatment?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: 28 days.

KERRIE REAY: 28 days.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, Crossroads.

KERRIE REAY: Okay. Crossroads --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. Yes. I went there for 28 days, and I did so good. I did so good, and then I came back to Watson, and there's no -- there's no support --

KERRIE REAY: Okay.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- system around at that time.

KERRIE REAY: Right.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: It was early 80s, late -- late in 90s.

KERRIE REAY: 90s, yep.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, late 90s, there was no, absolutely no support --

KERRIE REAY: Okay.


KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: And I did so good. Man, I did really good, sober and got a job and started making money, and then one day I fall off again. And that what really got me. I fell off for about two days. I was so mad at myself. Why I
did this? You know, how come I did this? I did [indiscernible], beating myself up for --
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- falling off.
KERRIE REAY: Right. Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Because it's too much -- every time, every place you go, it's so much alcohol in the community. Every place you go, there's alcohol there.
KERRIE REAY: Right. Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- falling off.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. And what year was that.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: '81.
KERRIE REAY: 2001, the second time?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: 1981.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. When you said you -- sorry. I'm just trying to get the timeline, so I may have the first one wrong. In 1994, you were 33.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: And 1994, you went to treatment in Whitehorse the first --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.
KERRIE REAY: -- time.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.
KERRIE REAY: So the second time was in 2001 in.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. Yeah. All those numbers; right?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I was going backwards.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah, the other way. Okay. 2001, okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.
KERRIE REAY: And that was your second time that you went to Crossroads?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, second time --
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- second time went to Crossroads.
KERRIE REAY: And --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: And I came back out from Crossroads, and ever since, I never drink --
KERRIE REAY: Congratulations.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- to this day.
KERRIE REAY: Congratulations.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: You're welcome.
KERRIE REAY: That takes a lot of strength.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I got a -- I got a lot of support from my sisters and --
KERRIE REAY: Okay. Good --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: -- good.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. And '84 -- '84, I was in Whitehorse. '82 -- '83, '82 -- I think around was '82, I think, I found a girlfriend in Whitehorse.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: [Indiscernible] stayed in Two Mile for a year, I think, or six months.
KERRIE REAY: And what was her name?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: [Girlfriend].
KERRIE REAY: Oh, [Girlfriend]?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. So I stayed in Two Mile for six months, Two Mile, and then we moved to Whitehorse in '83.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: End of '82, we moved to Whitehorse.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: So I got a job there. I started working. I worked, then I had my first daughter, 1984, [Daughter 1].
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: 1984, I had my first daughter with [Girlfriend], June of '84.
KERRIE REAY: So you had your first daughter in June of 1984, and what was her name?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: [Daughter 1].
KERRIE REAY: [Daughter 1]?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. [Daughter 1].
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep. And then I started out for --
Kwanlin Dün First Nation. I was working to build the new village up -- they have the village in Whitehorse --
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- the new village, way up.
KERRIE REAY: Oh, okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. So that room, we start building new village, and I worked there for -- I started working there in 80-- '83 --
KERRIE REAY: Okay.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- and work and work and work and had my first daughter, '84. And then I continued working, and then I had another daughter, '85.

KERRIE REAY: Okay.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Her name was [Daughter 2].

KERRIE REAY: [Daughter 2]?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: All right.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Then I worked there -- I worked -- I worked '83, '84, '85, '86, then '86, we -- and after I had two daughters and '86, I worked too much, I think -- I don't know if I worked too much or -- I don't know. But -- and -- but my -- my g- -- my -- and -- [Girlfriend], then she started -- started chasing other guys and, you know -- I caught them kissing away and stuff like that. And I got pissed off. And I try -- I try -- I tried my best to work it out with her, but [indiscernible] so hard.

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: And she continued doing that, so I started working '86, and end up '86, I think I went and quit my job. And my boss said, why you quit? Too much [indiscernible], and I said, too much problems with -- and -- my family -- family life. So I left -- left Whitehorse.

KERRIE REAY: And did you go back to Two Mile?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: I went back to Watson.

KERRIE REAY: You went to Watson?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.

KERRIE REAY: Okay.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: And I stayed with my sister Mary. Mary always there to help me out and everything, and I thank her for everything. Like, she help me out.

Even today, I -- still help me out. Now, at [indiscernible] -- [indiscernible] help me out in every way. She's having a hard time getting around to help out, to doing this and doing that -- and, you know, I did something wrong and get mad at me. You know what, it's like, okay, I can't say nothing to her.

But after that I came back to Watson, '84 -- '87, I came back and I stayed in Two Mile with my parents. We had a house in Two Mile, so I went back to my parents, stayed there, and then I live
with Mary in town. She used to have a place in
town.

MARY CHARLIE: Apartment.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Used to have an apartment in town,
so I visited there, and then I met this other
girl, and she's from Ontario. And she was going
by, and she was going by town, and then -- and me
and her hooked up, and -- and so she ended up
staying with me for, I think, about two and a
half years -- or maybe two years. And then she
was -- then I give her a baby, a boy, yeah. But
then -- before even she was -- even born -- the
boy was born, and she -- she took off back to
Sudbury where she -- her family's from.

KERRIE REAY: Okay.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. Ever since then, I never see
them. I never contact them. I never -- never
see them to this day. So I got a son back East I
don't know. I always wanted to go search for him
one of these days. I know -- I just never did.
And today, to this day too, I have really hard
time with my daughters.

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm. Did they stay in Whitehorse
when you came back to Watson Lake?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: My daughters, they all stay in
[Community]. They always say you can stay with
me. You can come down and stay with me, but they
never did stay with me.

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: So, like -- but they always -- but I
make sure I would support them from -- from --
from when they were baby and grown up. I always
support them. I always there for -- to buy food
for them and clothes for them. And so I was
basically -- basically their provider for them.

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: And -- and today I was having some
issues with my daughters right now. I try to
talk to them, but, you know -- I -- I've had
really good relationships with [Daughter 2], but
[Daughter 1] now, she's -- [redacted]

[line redacted pursuant to Rule 55]
[line redacted pursuant to Rule 55]
[line redacted pursuant to Rule 55]
[line redacted pursuant to Rule 55]
[line redacted pursuant to Rule 55]
around her, you know, family --

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- oh, my dad, he don't want to --
he don't want to help me, don't want to talk to
[line redacted pursuant to Rule 55]
[line redacted pursuant to Rule 55]

KERRIE REAY: Right, right.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: So I try -- I tried my best. I
tried to talk to her. I always tell her, come
down. Come down and stay with me. I've got a
place of my own. If you stay with me, you
know -- you know, and I always tell her to take
treatment, but she don't want. [Indiscernible].
Means she's ready, I guess -- I can't -- I can't
force her to take treatment -- only to stand by
her and talk to her and stuff like that.

KERRIE REAY: No.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: And it sounds really tough.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: It is.

KERRIE REAY: You know, I -- I can hear the difficulty
you feel by maybe a little bit of guilt for not
giving her money --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: -- but you know at the same time what
she's going to use it for.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: So that's really tough to -- it's kind
of tough love, isn't it?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, it is.

KERRIE REAY: It's hard being tough like that when you
know that's what they're doing with it.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, it is.

KERRIE REAY: Yeah.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: It's so hard.

KERRIE REAY: And -- and so if -- if -- with her
addictions, you talked earlier about your pain
and how you turned to substances to help deal
with that pain.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.

KERRIE REAY: And perhaps something similar for her,
you know --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: She's trying --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: I know how she's going through
because I went through it at a young age.

KERRIE REAY: Okay. Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. I know how -- I know how she's going through each -- going through with it. I -- I --
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- at an early age, I went through that for 20 years of my life. M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: Did you find when you went to Crossroads that there was a lot of support for the pain that you endured as a young person to help?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: It take -- it take me -- you know, when I first went to Crossroads, it took me a long -- to really -- really admit it --
KERRIE REAY: Uh-huh.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- that I was alcoholic, and --
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- and I really -- didn't really admit it that alcohol was a problem -- was the problem. But it took me a long time.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: In 28 days, it took me -- like, when counsellors talk to you, and she -- at least the counsellor was patient for me, eh.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: And that told me -- you know, it's new for me, and it's really hard for me to come out, you know, and bunch of strange people --
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- and, you know, a big group, that.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: It was hard for me to --
KERRIE REAY: Oh, I bet.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- you know, it was -- [indiscernible]. Oh, and then -- but slowly --
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- slowly came out, you know.
KERRIE REAY: And I think for many people -- like, the counsellors hear those truths --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.
KERRIE REAY: -- over and over --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.
KERRIE REAY: -- and over and over.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: So for people who go there for the first time, sometimes it's like feeling you're the only one.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: And then as people talk, you -- you see
that, oh, I'm not the only one.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: But the counsellors, you know, they've heard it other and over --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: -- especially for those who suffered through residential school.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: So they have that sense of what's happened. But you're right, it's in your own time --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep, yep.
KERRIE REAY: -- right? You have to find the trust. DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: It's really hard to find that trust when you really want it, yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Right, right.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: You can't just trust anybody, you know. You just like --
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: You have to be -- have to be really sure.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm, m'mm-hmm. So if I can ask, growing up in the family home --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: -- how was that for you? You -- you don't think your parents went to residential school?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I don't think so, no.
KERRIE REAY: So your family, as children, were the first generation going to residential school?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: So can you share a bit with what it was like growing up in the home?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I think when I was growing up in the home, it was a lot -- it was a lot of us --
KERRIE REAY: Uh-huh.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- growing up and we were close.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Even to this day, we were really close --
KERRIE REAY: Right.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- family. Except that big family, we always right among each other, and then we get mad at each other, but -- but in -- in just five minutes later, we don't -- we're happy to
Dominic & Mary Charlie
(Tootsie Charlie)

[indiscernible]. You know how family -- our
family is really close, you know, and --

KERRIE REAY: How many children?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Eh?
KERRIE REAY: How many children?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: There's 14.
KERRIE REAY: 14 children, wow.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, 14, yeah. Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. And just for the record, earlier,
you referred to your boss calling you "Gordie."
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. My legal name is Dominic.
KERRIE REAY: But when -- when you were in residential
school, they called you "Gordon" --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.
KERRIE REAY: -- or "Gordie."
DOMINIC CHARLIE: My sisters call me -- gave me the
name.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: That's where I heard it was -- and
my sisters gave me the name "Dominic," so --
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. All right. And so -- so growing
up in the family home was -- was good?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.
KERRIE REAY: It was a positive experience?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: It was good, you know --
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- because we always -- we always
rely on each other. We help each other out.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. And it sounded like when you were
talking earlier that the family lived off the
land --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: -- when you talked about snaring --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: -- rabbits and your dad hunted for the
family food --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. He was really good food
provider.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: He was a good provider, my dad.
KERRIE REAY: And so when you spoke about your
struggle with alcohol --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.

KERRIE REAY: -- did your parents consume alcohol?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. They consumed alcohol. They consumed alcohol.

KERRIE REAY: Okay. Would you -- given your experience with alcohol, would you -- how would you describe their use of alcohol?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I was -- I was a bit young too, so I think they consumed fewer [indiscernible].

KERRIE REAY: Okay. Okay. So growing -- growing up, you -- you -- it sounds from you talking, you've been back and forth between home and -- your own home or --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: -- with your sister? And one of the things that -- I know you were young and maybe -- maybe Mary might be able to answer this -- I'm just wondering how the impact of your -- the murder of Tootsie impacted your parents?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I think it impact quite a bit, that. I'm pretty sure it impacted quite a bit.

KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: And then I remember when we lost Thomas in an accident, car accident.

KERRIE REAY: Uh-huh.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: And me and Peter was inside there too --

KERRIE REAY: Oh, okay.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- when that happened.
KERRIE REAY: Uh-huh.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: And that really -- it was '79. That really, really affect my parents, especially mom.

It was just like --
KERRIE REAY: Because I -- I often won- -- you know, like, in terms of the consumption of alcohol --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Uh-huh.

KERRIE REAY: -- and substance because so many people turn to that to deal with pain.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, I do.
KERRIE REAY: And as you -- and as you describe, and now your daughter is struggling with the same, and -- and it becomes the coping --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: -- the way to cope. Does -- did your daughter ever share with you what her pain was?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: No.

KERRIE REAY: No. Do you suspect what it is?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, I know.

KERRIE REAY: Okay.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: Right. And what -- do -- do you keep in

touch, or have you -- did you keep in touch with

[Girlfriend] as the girls were growing up?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: I kept in touch with her, but -- and
to this day, it's just like, every time I see
her -- it's just like we have no communication at
all. She always -- she always --

KERRIE REAY: Okay.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: And she track our daughters in --

KERRIE REAY: She's still in Whitehorse?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. She still in -- beside my
daughters, stay behind with --

KERRIE REAY: Oh.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- the daughters and keep track --

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- and keep an eye on them. And me
and her, we have no communication at all. Every
time we see each other, we just like --

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- you know, no communication. But
we have five grandkids.

KERRIE REAY: Okay. Okay.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, five grandkids.

KERRIE REAY: Does [Daughter 1] have children?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Two.

KERRIE REAY: Two?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: Yeah, yeah.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Two boys.

KERRIE REAY: Two boys. And [Daughter 2] has ...?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Three girls.

KERRIE REAY: Three girls?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.

KERRIE REAY: And how's [Daughter 2] doing?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: [Daughter 2]'s doing really good. It

was about a year ago, I went -- I think a year --
she went out for treatment. She was drinking a

lot --


DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- admitted to treatment. And she's

had a baby too.

KERRIE REAY: Oh.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: And she went to treatment and doing

good.
KERRIE REAY: Good.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: But had a couple -- a couple slips, and the last one -- the last one she had, it was about three weeks ago. And then her mom phoned [indiscernible].

KERRIE REAY: Okay.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Because mom concerned about --

KERRIE REAY: And that's [Girlfriend]?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep. [Girlfriend] phoned -- phoned [indiscernible] on her. So and [Daughter 2] was mad at her and so I had a good talk with [Daughter 2]. I told her, [Daughter 2], you know what, you should -- you should, you know, consider quitting drinking. Your mom just concerned about the babies, you know.

KERRIE REAY: Yeah. Yeah.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: You know.

KERRIE REAY: But, again, it becomes, you know, children are being taken from their families.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, yeah. Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: Right.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: So --

KERRIE REAY: It may not be residential school, but --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: -- it becomes -- now it becomes foster care.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, foster care, yeah. And I told her that, you know, you have a lot of times been babies and a lot of times, we can --

KERRIE REAY: Yeah.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- like, with babies, what you want is -- you know, it's, okay, Dad. I'll quit drinking. Then we went to see -- you got to comfort her.

KERRIE REAY: Uh-huh.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: And [indiscernible] comfort and come to help out quite a bit, and I'd talk to her and talk to her constantly.

KERRIE REAY: So -- so you can see how the substance, the alcohol --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: -- you know, it starts with pain.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.

KERRIE REAY: You know, maybe with your parents, the loss of Tootsie in such a violent way, right --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.

KERRIE REAY: -- and your experience at residential
Statement – Public

Dominic & Mary Charlie
(Tootsie Charlie)

1. school.
2. DOMINIC CHARLIE: She -- she --
3. KERRIE REAY: Now, your daughter's --
4. DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
5. KERRIE REAY: Right. And now they've got --
6. [Daughter 2]'s got three girls?
7. DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
8. KERRIE REAY: So just it becomes this continuous
9. cycle.
10. DOMINIC CHARLIE: Continuous cycle.
11. KERRIE REAY: Yeah. But you demonstrate how life can
12. change when you quit --
13. DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
14. KERRIE REAY: -- drinking.
15. DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
16. KERRIE REAY: And so, you know, those are part of --
17. those are some of the things that the commission
18. is looking for --
19. DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
20. KERRIE REAY: -- is the patterns that occurs within
21. Indigenous families that --
22. DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
23. KERRIE REAY: -- that leads to, you know, problems
24. with child welfare coming in --
25. DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
26. KERRIE REAY: -- and just so that it doesn't keep
27. going from generation to generation.
28. DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
29. KERRIE REAY: You -- you spoke briefly to your own
30. pain at residential school and that you shared
31. some of that in your counselling.
32. DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
33. KERRIE REAY: And so that -- that talks about really
34. getting to where the pain comes from. Is there
35. anything about your sister's murder that you
36. would like the commission to know?
37. DOMINIC CHARLIE: I -- I don't really much know
38. about --
39. KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
40. DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- about that. I know really -- I
41. know didn't ever talk to any of my sisters about
42. it.
43. KERRIE REAY: Right.
44. DOMINIC CHARLIE: So I think --
45. KERRIE REAY: And do we know a sort of --
46. DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- I think my sisters went to
47. Whitehorse has [indiscernible] on it --
KERRIE REAY: Uh-huh.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- last summer, but I was working.
I work for YTG. I work for the government --
KERRIE REAY: Oh, okay. Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- since 1995.
KERRIE REAY: Good, good, awesome.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. I'm a firefighter.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. Good for you.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: We travel -- travel the country.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. And then you talk to my
sister more. I don't [indiscernible].
KERRIE REAY: Do you want to know anything about it?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I think I'd just leave it at that.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm. You carry enough pain?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I carry enough -- carry enough pain
around.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah. Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Is there anything you would like the
residential -- you would like the commissioners
to know about how residential school has impacted
your family? We can see the alcohol abuse.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. Can see the alcohol abuse,
but I don't want to -- you know, this --
KERRIE REAY: No. No. That's -- that's fine. That's
fine. One of the things, you know, we're also --
the commissioners are also interested -- the
terms of reference talk about violence in
families and -- you know, you have a different
lens.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: You know, you've found sobriety and for
a long time now -- and again congratulations --
is there anything, you know -- do you see any
domestic violence in your daughters'
relationships?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, I see. I see it, especially
[Daughter 1] --
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- gone through it and going through
the hard time with spouse.
KERRIE REAY: Uh-huh.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. I tried -- I tried talk to
her, but she don't want to listen.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah. Sometimes people have to find
their own time; right?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, yeah. I tried -- I tried -- I tried to talk to her, but, you know -- like -- like -- like I said, all -- all the [indiscernible] all the [indiscernible] to her --
KERRIE REAY: Right.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- could support her, yeah -- because support her all the time and talk to her.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: But it really comes down to her to --
KERRIE REAY: Right.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- to decide what she really want and change her life. I think it's the best for her to change her life, change the alcoholism.
KERRIE REAY: Do you think -- do you say are there better services now? You mentioned earlier the first time you went to treatment in 1994 that when you came back --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Way, way, way --
KERRIE REAY: -- is there better support in the communities now?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- way, way better, yeah. Before -- before when I came [indiscernible] back -- back to the community over, there was nothing.
KERRIE REAY: Right. Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: There was no support, nothing. It's really important to have support, you know, I think.
KERRIE REAY: Is the support coming from the band council or the band office, or is the support in the -- with the Yukon territory --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I think --
KERRIE REAY: -- services?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I think it's mostly the people you know.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I always -- I always take my support from my family --
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- [indiscernible] --
KERRIE REAY: So you've done good. So the support you've found yourself, within your family --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.
KERRIE REAY: -- not on alcohol, on drug --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.
KERRIE REAY: -- counselling service?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: No.
KERRIE REAY: You've -- you've been lucky to have that --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: -- family support?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I take -- I take the treatment.
KERRIE REAY: Right.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: But I take the support from my family. Like --
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- Ann, Ann was -- she was my support when I went in to tell my stories from residential school.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: And she was beside me and --
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- and so ...
KERRIE REAY: All right. And what about -- you spoke about the racism.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: I just want to come back to that because you said that's still very prevalent in 2018 --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: -- in -- in Watson Lake. Is it getting any better, or is it -- is it the same, or is it getting worse --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I think --
KERRIE REAY: -- over time?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yes. I think it pretty much the same.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: But they sure -- they sure hide it pretty good from you. I'm pretty sure it's the same.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. Growing up -- I've been growing up, and I see it all the time, all the time.
KERRIE REAY: ID'ed for what?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Eh?
KERRIE REAY: ID'ed for what?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I just see it all the time. I just see it all the time, people just putting me down because you're First Nation.
KERRIE REAY: Oh, okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: You can't hang around the store,
and -- you know, you go to Watson -- some day,
you go -- I go to lunch --
KERRIE REAY: Uh-huh.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- you know, from -- from work.
KERRIE REAY: Uh-huh.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I go to the store all the time and
see members there drinking and try to hang around
there, and the owner just, you're not allowed
here. Get back home. And it's like, holy mack.
It's like, I'd say something, but I -- I work for
the government. So I have to respect -- respect
everybody, you know.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah. Yeah. It's unfortunate that the
respect doesn't come back.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah, yeah, for sure. But, yeah,
obody -- government always assign -- always
assign people that have respect in the community
because you're working with the community. You
work with the community all the time --
KERRIE REAY: Right. Yes.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: So -- [indiscernible] you work with
the public --
KERRIE REAY: Yeah, yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: And the public, you know -- and my
job, you know, they always watching. Everybody
watching you --
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- how will you demonstrate
yourself, how will you -- how will you present
yourself and stuff like that.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm, m'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: And I'm getting pretty good at that,
you know --
KERRIE REAY: Yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- these days. I'm a teacher now,
so I teach.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah, yeah. Take the high road and make
those who are racist --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep, yep.
KERRIE REAY: -- show for who they are --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep.
KERRIE REAY: -- and you take the high road. And that
must be difficult at times?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Oh, sometimes very difficult. Yeah.
Sometimes I just --
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- bite my tongue, and the ones
doing -- and it's just, oh -- I quit a few companies.

KERRIE REAY: Any ideas how -- how -- any ideas about how we could try to teach people, to educate people that we're all people, we're all human? Racism doesn't have a place?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: I think it's just the environment of how they're brought up.

KERRIE REAY: Yeah.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: You see all be from brought up -- you know.

KERRIE REAY: So need to teach it --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: -- from little, little, little?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Little, little, yeah. Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: Well, you know, it's interesting that, you know, you're starting to see research and -- and children don't see any differences.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: It's being taught somewhere --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: -- as -- as they get older. It's being taught. So is there anything you -- else you would like the commission to know?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: No.

KERRIE REAY: This is your space and your time --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Oh, yeah, I think I did --

KERRIE REAY: Yeah.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- did -- did a lot.

KERRIE REAY: Okay. Feeling good about it?

DOMINIC CHARLIE: I feel a lot better.

KERRIE REAY: Good, good. All right. Then it is 11:04. So if you feel comfortable, we can turn off the video.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: Okay.

(BRIEF RECESS)

KERRIE REAY: Okay. We're going to go back on the record. It is now 11:08, and Mary Charlie, who has been here supporting her brother Dominic -- we'd just like to take a moment to provide the commission with some information about the challenges the family had trying to find out information on the death, the murder of her older sister Tootsie.
So space and time is yours, Mary. Please, I invite you to start wherever you'd like.

MARY CHARLIE: Yeah. I just wanted some -- like to get some information on that missing, murdered Indigenous women. My sister was murdered in -- I think it was '67, '68. I was about 20, I think.

Anyway, when she passed on, they found her body in Whitehorse, and it was in a dump. And we were in -- by the riverbank in Liard when the cops pulled up, and I was standing there, and they asked me where -- where can I get -- if I knew Pete Charlie or Lina Charlie, and I said it was my parents. And I said they're down by the riverbank doing some fishing. And the cops said, well, we'd like to talk to them, both of them. So I called them up, and they got -- got mom and dad in the car, cop car, and -- and I knew right away something happened.

Mom came out of the car just crying, screaming, and I went over and talked to her. And I told her, what happened? And she said they found your sister in Whitehorse in a dump. When she went to -- how she end up in Whitehorse was she went to the -- she went to jail for -- they gave her two weeks, but she served about a week because of drinking. And that day, she was supposed to come back on the bus she never made it back to our community, never came home. We waited for her on a bus by the bus depot and see, but she never showed up. But three days later, that's when they found her body in Whitehorse.

But we were trying to open that case on her to see what really happened to her, how she died. We really wanted to know, but they never done nothing on it. So actually, Mom just let it go. It was like they slide it underneath the rug.

KERRIE REAY: Can I ask, Mary, when your mom was trying to get information, was that at the time that you learned of Tootsie's death, or was it later? Was it later in the 70s or in the 80s, trying to get them to reopen it? Or was it right at the beginning?

MARY CHARLIE: It was -- I think it was a year later or couple years [indiscernible] later.

KERRIE REAY: Okay. I'm just going to get you some Kleenex here, Mary. Of course, I can't get in there. Sorry. Here you go. Okay.
So how -- how long did your parents try to get information from the police?

MARY CHARLIE: I tried to help them to see if they could open a case for them because I figured they was going to let it slide again, and they really wanted to know how she died. That's all she wanted. They wanted to know.

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.

MARY CHARLIE: And we'd like to find out how she passed away.

KERRIE REAY: Would you like to still know?

MARY CHARLIE: Pardon?

KERRIE REAY: Would you like to know?

MARY CHARLIE: Yes. I'd like to know how she -- like, and then when they -- when they found her, we buried her in Upper Liard Cemetery, and -- but now -- not -- to this day, we couldn't find her grave site because somebody took all the cross off the grave, and then -- and then decided we wanted to find out what year she pass on and what month. And then Father Galbo [phonetic] was the one in Liard for years back then --

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.

MARY CHARLIE: -- and you can get all the records of people where they were buried and what year and -- you know.

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.

MARY CHARLIE: But he's passed on, and then his house burned down before he went back to Whitehorse.

KERRIE REAY: So all those records are lost?

MARY CHARLIE: All the records were gone.

KERRIE REAY: Okay. Do you know -- do you know Tootsie's date of birth?

MARY CHARLIE: I'm -- let me think. I'm 49.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: 40- --

MARY CHARLIE: I was born '49. My sisters -- Phoebe she's two years -- we're two years apart. So me, Phoebe, Aggie, Effie, Tootsie --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: She turns 50- --

MARY CHARLIE: -- Abby -- Tootsie's --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: [Indiscernible] '45, '43 --

MARY CHARLIE: 40- --

DOMINIC CHARLIE: '40, '41.

KERRIE REAY: Yeah, Aggie's '45.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: I know. Tootsie, after it's --

MARY CHARLIE: Yeah.

DOMINIC CHARLIE: -- Tootsie, so '41.
KERRIE REAY: Do you know what month she was born in?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Hm?
KERRIE REAY: Do you know what month she was born in?
MARY CHARLIE: Who?
KERRIE REAY: What month, January, March? Do you know what her birth date was? Just to try and see if we can find -- find this file.
MARY CHARLIE: I think it's February. I'm not sure.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. All right.
MARY CHARLIE: You know, I never had much time with her because I was in residential school.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm. M'mm-hmm.
MARY CHARLIE: And I really -- I know she was -- she had a really good husband, really good husband, Matthew Jimmy.
KERRIE REAY: Is Matthew still alive?
MARY CHARLIE: No. He baby her, do everything for her, everything.
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
MARY CHARLIE: And he looks after the kids. She's -- she have -- she had three -- three kids.
KERRIE REAY: And -- and where -- where are they today?
MARY CHARLIE: She lost --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: One passed.
MARY CHARLIE: -- one, eh.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yep, lost one, the youngest one.
MARY CHARLIE: She lost one.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: She lost the youngest one, Richard.
MARY CHARLIE: Oh, she lost two of them --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Two.
MARY CHARLIE: -- Richard, and there's a girl, and then there's Darlene. Darlene is the only one living right now.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: No, Jacky [phonetic] too.
MARY CHARLIE: Oh, Jacky excuse me.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Jacky's. He's oldest -- six months. Six months younger than me, Jacky.
KERRIE REAY: Was Jacky aware of the inquiry coming to Lower Post? Do you know?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I don't think so. I --
KERRIE REAY: Just wondering if Jacky would have liked to have talked to the commission?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Maybe. I'm not too sure.
MARY CHARLIE: Maybe.
KERRIE REAY: Where -- where does she [sic] live?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Maybe -- maybe Ann could -- contact
him and talk to him about it.

KERRIE REAY: Where does Jacky live?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: He stayed in town.
KERRIE REAY: In White- -- in Watson Lake?
MARY CHARLIE: Watson Lake, yeah.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah. He stayed in time.
KERRIE REAY: Well, perhaps maybe -- we're here
tomorrow.
MARY CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: If -- if Jacky would like to come and
speak about the murder of her mom --
MARY CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: -- and what that meant for her, losing a
mom at such a young age.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
MARY CHARLIE: Darlene is in Vancouver.
KERRIE REAY: Okay. But -- but Jacky is here?
MARY CHARLIE: Jacky --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Jacky is here, yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: I think Ann could --
MARY CHARLIE: Talk -- --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Approach -- approach him and --
KERRIE REAY: Okay. Why don't I leave that with you,
okay --
MARY CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: -- as family?
DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: And if -- if she would like to come,
we'll find time for her tomorrow. And -- so
there's three of us here, so --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: Anything else, Mary?
MARY CHARLIE: One of the -- the only thing I'd like
to -- about this story -- say, and like other
stories that happened before, let -- let the
family -- family to get together and talk about
it because we never really talked about our
sister --
KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.
MARY CHARLIE: -- because mom, they shut it -- they
shut it right out, and the only thing we knew how
she died and where she died, and she just let it
go because nobody done nothing -- behalf -- for
her, help her out.
KERRIE REAY: So sort of sounds like unfinished
business with the family.

MARY CHARLIE: Yeah.

KERRIE REAY: The family needs to have some closure.

MARY CHARLIE: Yeah. We need some closure somehow.

KERRIE REAY: Okay. Okay.

MARY CHARLIE: My younger -- my younger brothers and sisters don't know much on her.

KERRIE REAY: M'mm-hmm.

MARY CHARLIE: You know, they never had a chance with her and stuff like that.

KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MARY CHARLIE: And I -- I always think about her once in a while, and it's pretty hard.

KERRIE REAY: I bet. Been a lot of years.

MARY CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.

KERRIE REAY: Yeah, yeah.

MARY CHARLIE: A lot of pain been packed for years.

KERRIE REAY: Yeah. Well --

MARY CHARLIE: And also I'd like to see other families that struggling like us, I hope they help them out.

KERRIE REAY: Yeah. And not to leave that pain for all those years.

MARY CHARLIE: Yeah. Just told them that it just sit there --

KERRIE REAY: Right.

MARY CHARLIE: -- you know. Help them along.

KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MARY CHARLIE: At least tell them what they find out about it, you know --

KERRIE REAY: Yeah.

MARY CHARLIE: -- about that story.


MARY CHARLIE: And then maybe it'll feel comfortable in our heart that somebody's doing something for it --

KERRIE REAY: Right.

MARY CHARLIE: -- for the family, you know, that we lost.

KERRIE REAY: Yes, yes. Okay. So I will make that as part of the request for follow-up --

MARY CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.

KERRIE REAY: -- is for the family to be provided with the details or the information from the police investigation. That's what I think --

MARY CHARLIE: Okay.

KERRIE REAY: -- I'm hearing you say.
MARY CHARLIE: That'd be good.
KERRIE REAY: And it may be really tough, you know, to hear and to see --
MARY CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: -- you know, in writing, but that's for the family to decide. Okay.
MARY CHARLIE: Yep.
KERRIE REAY: And not all -- maybe not all family wants to know too, right, because that's -- that's -- for Dominic, he's not really sure that he wants to --
DOMINIC CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: -- to have that information. But to have it gives you the choice --
MARY CHARLIE: M'mm-hmm.
KERRIE REAY: -- to decide who wants to -- to read it and who doesn't.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
MARY CHARLIE: I'd like to know.
KERRIE REAY: Yeah. And you were quite a bit older. You said you were about 20, while Dominic was maybe about eight, right.
DOMINIC CHARLIE: Yeah.
KERRIE REAY: You know, there's difference. Anything else, Mary, that you --
MARY CHARLIE: No.
KERRIE REAY: -- would like to share?
MARY CHARLIE: No.
KERRIE REAY: Okay.
MARY CHARLIE: Thank you.
KERRIE REAY: All right. Then we'll -- it's 11:20, and we'll turn this off.

(PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 11:20 A.M.)

Reporter's Certification:

I, Cordia Wong, Official Reporter in the Province of British Columbia, Canada, do hereby certify:

That the proceedings were transcribed by me from audio files provided of recorded proceedings, and the same is a true and correct and complete transcript of said recording to the best of my skill and ability.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 21st day of March, 2018.

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Cordia Wong
Official Reporter