Statement gathered by Kate Langham

Coast Reporting Inc.
II

NOTE

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III

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Statement Volume 429
Witness: Phyllis Buffalo
April 11, 2018

Statement Gatherer: Kate Langham

Testimony of Phyllis Buffalo ............................... 1
Reporters’s Certification ................................. 16

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Onion Lake, SK

(PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 2:00 P.M.)

KATE LANGHAM: This is Kate Langham. Statement gatherer for the National Inquiry for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. I'm here in Onion Lake, Saskatchewan, at the health centre. It is 2:00 o'clock and I am here with ...?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Hi, my name is Phyllis Buffalo. Cousin of late Daleen Muskego Bosse.

KATE LANGHAM: Can you spell Daleen's last name?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Muskego?

KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: M-u-s-k-e-g-o.

KATE LANGHAM: Now, please start off by sharing with us what it is that you would like the commissioners to know.

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Well, okay. It wasn't until about a week later we found out that she was missing. But the reason at that time was because my uncle and auntie were hoping to find her during the weekend. And after we come, we couldn't find her anywhere. We started searching, phoning friends. I remember they went to the police station. All they said was, oh, she probably left with another guy. And, of course, we were all hurt for them to assume that right away. And we kept on looking around searching ourselves, and then my aunt came and ended up hiring a private investigator because cops in Saskatoon didn't make an effort to do anything right away.

It wasn't until January when it was brought up to them that she was missing. We couldn't find her anywhere. And, then, that's when the RCMP got involved. And during that time -- I remember the first time I heard she was missing. I just remember my chest tightened up here. I knew -- I just had this feeling something was wrong. She always used to phone. She would phone on weekends just to see how we were doing, and she would tell us how she was doing.

At that point I was starting to get mad at everybody, cops especially. They made me feel like she wasn't worth to go looking for her. And then after finally when they started helping
us -- in our culture, we do everything in fours.
So to bring awareness to her missing and wanting

to find her, we started a walk, a memorial walk
for her. And we did that for four years. And
every year we did it, we always did it the same
time. And those trips, they were hard, but then
we would always tell each other we're here.

We're doing it for my uncle, my auntie, my
cousins, and for her, to bring her home.

So we would leave Onion Lake, and it would
take us five days to get to Saskatoon. And then
along the way we're trying to bring awareness to
her and to maybe other ones. And people started
joining our walks, people from Fedderchild
[phonetic], people from here. We had people that
showed up from BC, brought their support and
everything. And in our culture, our family,
that's the thing that makes me wonder about other
families, you know, when I hear about other
families. I wonder about what are they doing to
help themselves, and how come they're not using
our culture, you know, to ask for help.

We used to do -- we went and seen this one
woman in Vermilion; she was a clairvoyant. And
we would have candlelight vigils, everything to
help ourselves and for her to hear us to come
home. And I don't know, I guess, that's the one
thing that I would want people to know is ask the
Creator for help. We did that in the four years.

After the four years, two, three weeks after,
that's when her remains were found.

And before that, my cousin, [D.], we
would travel to places and go put posters. We
went to BC, we went to east side Hastings looking
for her. We just did a lot of -- we did a lot of
miles and walking to try and find her and let her
know we were looking for her. And after going to
Vancouver, we had cops there that they helped us
out more than the cops in Saskatoon. So after
all the four years, when we were told that her
remains were found, we were happy but yet
devastated.

And at that time I had wrote out a letter, a
victim impact statement. I never got to read it,
but at that time when I wrote it, I was just so
full of anger. And to top it off, my grandfather
was sick when she went missing. And he couldn't
talk, and he used to -- always talk about her.
And we didn't want him knowing, so we would always tell him she was too busy with school, she couldn't come down. He passed before we found her. And it was through him that -- that encouraged us with our culture, whenever we needed he's always there to help us, the Creator. And after finding her I just, like -- anytime I looked at any white guy, I would be, like, I wonder if he has done anything to anybody. Or sometimes I would see guys that look -- are, like, similar looking to that guy. And I don't know there were times that I just wanted to tell this one reporter in court to shut the fuck up. Quit talking about my cousin like that. It was always negative.

It seems like every time a Native lady goes missing, she's a hooker, she's a prostitute, but my cousin was educated and she was going to school. She wasn't anything like how he tried to portray her in court. There were so many times when my uncle had to tell me to quit looking at him. I just hated him. And I would say, how can a person forgive somebody that did that? How is that supposed to help? To me, it's, like, I'm saying -- I know I can't forgive him. I can't. And they say that's supposed to help you heal, but I don't think so.

And the way he had talked about my cousin, and he even also talked about looking at other Native women, that this one Native woman robbed him of his cab fare in Saskatoon. A couple of months later he goes and picks up a fare and here it was that girl. And what he said was, I recognized her right away. He said to himself that if she gets in, he was going to get back at her. And I am, like, did we just catch a serial killer? He talked about his wife, his sister-in-laws, how he had sexual fantasies about his mother-in-law. It was just the way he talked about the women.

And then how he accused the Saskatoon cops for going to his grandma's place and telling her that he was getting charged for murder. He turned around and he blamed the cops. I just want to [indiscernible] at him and tell them, you killed your mom -- your grandma because of what
she heard you did to women. I'm still in the
process of writing out my impact statement.
Because this one is just -- it was all anger.
And I wouldn't mind, like, to read it.
KATE LANGHAM: Please do, if you would like to share
with the commission.
PHYLLIS BUFFALO:

"Our cousin, our sister Daleen was
beautiful, thoughtful, outspoken, caring and
fun loving. She was outgoing, friendly and
enjoyed life. She always laughed. She was
always laughing, joking, doing and saying
silly things to make us laugh or smile.
Daleen was family oriented. Family meant
everything to her. She always took the time
to visit cousins, aunties and friends. We
look forward to the weekends when she would
come home. She would lend a helping hand
and offer support in any way she could. She
always used to tell us not to worry about
her. We would get her to promise us to be
careful and phone us when she needed
anything.

When her daughter, [Daughter], was born, she
was happy, she was proud, and she had so
much love for [Daughter]. She often talked about
watching [Daughter] grow up, finish school, and
get married. Everything that a mother and
daughter experience together to build that
special bond mothers and daughters share.
But now that's gone.

[Daughter] has to grow up without her mom.
You deprived her of that for both of them.
Now, the only way [Daughter] will get to know her
mom is through our memories and pictures.
Never again will we hear her laugh, to see
her face and her smile, to give and receive
hugs from her. She was our sister. Our
family loved her, cared for her. You took
that part of our lives away. Daleen, our
family, our life.

She was a person with feelings,
emotions, and had a life worth living. She
had a family, a husband, and a daughter.
Our last visit in memory with Daleen was
Mother's Day 2004. It was Sunday and we had
dinner early so Daleen could make the drive
back during the day. As usual, when it was
time, she hugged us all. She told us she
would be back the following weekend. She
told us to take care and that we will see
her and [Daughter] soon.

Her last words to us were, 'take care.
We'll see you next week and see you soon.'
But that never happened. You know why? She
met you. Tell us why Daleen -- why our
sister? How is she a threat to you? What
could she have possibly done to you? She
would never harm a person. She was caring.
What made you think you can decide who lives
and who dies? You're no god; you're a
murderer. What were my cousin's last words?
Did she beg and plead for you to stop? Did
she look scared? Was she crying? Think.
Remember her words. Daleen didn't deserve
that. No one deserves that. Women give
life. A women gave you your life. Your
mom, a woman, just like Daleen.

Remember her last words on Christmas,
on Mother's Day, her birthday, March 25th.
[Daughter]'s birthday, [birthdate]. Or just
think every day Daleen's last words. Say
them out loud so everybody can hear Daleen.
Say them in a way she said them to you.

A person pays one way or another. If
not, you or your family that you have
brought down will have hardship and
suffering. Your own family, our family and
especially [Daughter]. You're nothing but a
coward who preyed on an innocent woman who
was loved and cared for and missed dearly.
Every day she is in our hearts. The pain
you put her through, I prayed to God that
you pay and cause you pain and to feel what
you put her through. Live with it forever
as we have to live and go on without her,
without our sister Daleen."

I wrote this on the fourth year after her remains
were found. And a couple of days after he got
picked up. But I'm ready to revise some of this
because I know we're going to have to go back
when he appeals. I just pray that I am strong
enough. And I just pray for everybody out there
that lost somebody. And I feel their pain.
Sometimes I just want to go there and help in any
way I can.

And then there was the other two ladies that
were from Nisinger [phonetic]. I knew them. And
they were, like, all nice. It's just the people
that they kept company with. I don't know.

Growing up we were told not to think or look
down on others, but it was so hard to do that
after we lost her. Any guy I saw, any white guy,
I would think does he treat his woman right or is
he abusive. You know, all this stuff still pop
up in my head. And I know it's been, like, ten
years but it's always there. And every little
thing, a song that she loved. A movie that she
loved. When I see it or if I hear it, and I will
just -- it hurts. Takes me back to her. I try
not to miss her too much because I want her to
rest in peace. But then it's so hard at times.

And it is so hard watching my uncle, my
auntie, and my two cousins, my brothers, how they
struggled. My brothers were going downhill.
They were getting into alcohol, getting into
fights, getting in trouble with the law. And
now, like, Daleen, I used to babysit her when she
was small, so I watched her grow up. She really
loved her brothers. To see them suffer like
that. It took me a while to get [D.] to start
talking. He was so hurt that he pretty well
pushed the whole family away, but now it's at the
point where we can talk -- he can talk with me
and I can talk with him.

And I can't stress enough of why people
won't go and ask for help with their Creator or
go to church. It just gets me mad when I feel
like they're sitting around not doing nothing
when they should be out there fighting and just
really looking. And in our culture we have
animals that I represent. And every time we did
our walk with Daleen -- for Daleen, we always had
eagles and there were horses dancing for us,
eagles flying around.

That very last year when we were done, the
northern lights were out and they were dancing
into the shape of an eagle. And it was so
awesome to see. For us it was, like, my grandpa,
my grandma and all the other family members that passed. That was their way of letting us know they are there supporting us and that we're going to find her. And sure enough it did happen. But I just wish people would do that, ask for help. And as for the cops, there's that one name Sergeant Weighill. That guy was so understanding. If only we had the whole department of him, there would probably be a lot more family members going up to talk and ask for help instead of being too scared or given the run around, or ... The cops, thinking, like, no, it's not worth it, you know. But I'm really grateful for that guy. He even made the effort to come downtown to talk with the family and the community. Not just for our family, but for the other family that lost a loved one here. There were -- we do our own little walks from Chief Taylor School and we would walk up to Cahill. And that was our little community support, I guess, for the families that lost somebody. So they're there too to help us. And they used to come to us and ask us what did we do. Or they needed help and they would come and ask us for advice, and we would let them know what they should do. But the majority -- my cousin was starting to -- she grew up Christian and she was shy with us. We always encourage her to come hang out with us and get to know us. Because with our family -- like, she's my cousin, but then we were brought up to know each other as sisters. So my -- the four of us sisters, we would include her in whatever we did. Because she used to say I'm so jealous, I don't have any sisters, and there's four of you. And we would tell her, well, you are our sister. Just whenever you're ready to get to know us, you know we're always here. So when she got into her teens, that's when she started talking with the other sisters. Because we grew up like this, so I encouraged her to go and get to know the rest of the sisters. And she was starting to -- how would I say that -- she was getting into her culture and she loved it. She was taking classes. She even bought rabbit fur. She was going to make
something out of it, but she didn't have the
chance to, so I have kept that rabbit skin. I
don't know what I am going to do with it, but I
know maybe one of these days I can get somebody
to make something with it and give it to her
daughter.

Going through her stuff after the funeral
and everything, it was so hard, like, seeing her
clothes being given away. To me, it was, like,
okay, she is not coming home. It just made it
more real. So at that time all I thought about
was my niece, [Daughter]. How she never got to know
her mom. So I grabbed some stuff for her to
keep. I grabbed her veil and I kept that for her
daughter. A leather jacket, leather boots, an
outfit. Just so, you know -- I wanted her to
have something of her mom's.

And she was an angry girl when she came. We
all knew she was hurting and all. It took me a
while for her to open up to me. When she was
ready to talk about her mom or ask about her mom.
We told her whenever you're ready just come and
let us know. So now we have that bond with her.
It took a while, but now she's opening up. And
you can tell she loves it when we see her give
her hugs.

I'm that type of person that I'll give hugs,
and she used to stay-away-from-me. And I used to
get hurt and think -- I told Daleen that I would
help in any way to help her girl. But she was
too angry at that time. But now it's different.
Now she's with the family. She's getting to know
all of us. She'll ask about her mom. She was
really nice, Daleen. She was caring, silly. We
got -- growing up we used to go play bingo with
our grandparents. So when she got older and
after she had [Daughter], she started coming with us
to bingo and just bonding with her like that.
She loved having sisters, big sisters.

She was the youngest of the first generation
of granddaughters. And we used to always tell
her, you're too trusting, you just talk to
anybody and you got to be careful. That's how
she was. She was outgoing. It didn't matter who
you were, how you were dressed, or -- she would
acknowledge you and -- she was a really awesome
sister. It's sad that it was her time.
And my auntie, she's so -- her religion, she
prays to God and everything like that. And I
used to see her and would wonder, like, the pain
that she's going through and everything. And I
used to wonder how she could do it. How she
would put on a brave face. And I used to
think -- maybe because I didn't see her show
emotion, I always thought she was, like, strong.
But here, after we found out that that guy went
to jail, I've never heard my auntie swear ever.
Because we were told that there were these Native
guys in jail that heard about him and that they
were waiting for him to come into jail. So I was
happy -- I was, like, really? Can you tell those
guys to beat him up. Maybe castrate him, if they
can. And that's how angry I was.

I know you're not supposed to think bad on
people, but this one, I hated. I just really
wanted somebody to get back at him. And then we
were told, There is some guys here waiting for
him anyway. Sure enough, they found him and they
beat him up. And then when they went to court,
his lawyer, the first thing he says was, I like
to let you -- the court know that my client was
spit on and was punched by an Aboriginal man that
was being transported with him to the courthouse.
And I am, like, fuck, for real? You're going to
complain about being spit on and what you did to
my sister. I fucking hated him.

The lawyer, the way he made it sound that
the cops were doing -- how did they say -- that
interrogations were so rough. And I'm like --
and that's all they can talk about. And they're
still not thinking about what he did to my
sister. Like, they thought we were the liars and
that what he did wasn't nothing wrong. It wasn't
nothing bad. Terrorists -- they said they were
using terrorist tactics to make him confess to
something that he didn't do.

And my other cousin [D.2], normally he's the
type of guy that will tell you, okay, calm down.
Don't let it get to you. But then when he heard
all that stuff, he caused a commotion in court
where we had to leave the courthouse. Then I am,
like, I don't know why they protected him. It's
the first thing they did was they covered him.
Like, really? You guys are going to protect him?
Why? So then my cousin was thrown out of court, 
but he was allowed to come back the next day. 
But then they had cops there too now. 
And why are they protecting him? Why? 

KATE LANGHAM: Yeah. 

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: I just feel bad about his wife. I 
don't know but it gets to me a bit. He has a 
wife and yet he can go out and do that to women 
and then come back to her. And he talked about 
all Native women are hookers. He hated Native 
women. He hated hookers. And yet he was driving 
down 28th in Saskatoon picking up Native women. 
And during our walks, there were -- we had 
support. People would drive by and honk the 
horn. Anybody, white people, natives. There 
would be some negative people that would drive by 
and give us the finger, tell us to go back home, 
we're nothing but drunken Indians. But then we 
would just go, okay, that's your opinion. I 
don't care what you think. This is our culture; 
this is what we believe in. 
So we would continue. And we would always 
pray. We pray, pray, pray all the time. I think 
that's what helped us keep us sane. That's all I 
can think about right now. 


KATE LANGHAM: And her remains were found in 2009. 

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: '08. 

KATE LANGHAM: 2008. Locally? 

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Warman, Saskatchewan of Saskatoon. 

KATE LANGHAM: Was your family offered any supports 
throughout the court process? 

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Yeah, we had social workers come and 
talk to us. But at that time nobody really 
wanted to talk, the family. Because I think for 
ourselves at that time was, okay, well, why now 
do they want to help us when we have been asking 
for help. And the way we have been helping 
ourselves is through our culture, praying, 
singing, you know. 

KATE LANGHAM: So the supports that were offered 
weren't a good fit? 

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: No. 

KATE LANGHAM: Do you have any suggestions about what 
might be a better fit for families going through 
that process?
PHYLLIS BUFFALO: For me, I would think to have somebody there that is willing to listen and not judge and make the people feel comfortable so they'll be able to go to this person and ask for help and not be scared or -- but if I go ask and they say, no, you know. I wish there was somebody there right from the beginning to help them out in that way.

KATE LANGHAM: Right.

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: And that -- not to feel like we're such a burden.

KATE LANGHAM: Yeah. Now, you mentioned the police were not helpful --

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: At first.

KATE LANGHAM: -- at first. Do you have any suggestions or recommendations around the policing aspect?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Other than maybe these cops should go and do a course with Sergeant Clive, his name is Clive Weighill.

KATE LANGHAM: Was he from the Saskatoon Police.

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Yes.

KATE LANGHAM: Was he an Indigenous policing officer?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: No, he was Caucasian.

KATE LANGHAM: So do a training or do a course about --

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: M'mm-hmm.

KATE LANGHAM: What kind of training would he be able to offer, do you think? What worked for your family?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: That when he made an effort to come to Onion Lake and get to know our family and see our community. Maybe to even show the family they're there to help them and to show it by going into a sweat with the family. Letting them know that, yes, I'm here. I'm here to help you. I'll do whatever I can. I'll even go into a sweat with you. I think that would ease some peoples' minds and hearts.

KATE LANGHAM: Now, your family was incredibly resourceful and like you said just kept at it and kept at it. Do you have any suggestions around that piece?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Well, I'm sure some people should know -- the ones that are still with their culture, should know that they could go to that for help and just to sit there and not do
nothing. Not even maybe to go to church, you know. That's still help. Even though you're just praying to God, he hears. And He'll help out in any way that He can. And just to believe in finding her, not to give up hope. Even knowing there's days that you feel so much despair, hurt and all, you still have to have that hope that you're going to find them, go see psychics, go talk to whoever.

KATE LANGHAM: How old was Daleen's daughter when she went missing?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: She was -- I think she was 3.

KATE LANGHAM: And who raised her after her mom passed?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: [Personal information - redacted] [Personal information - redacted] [Personal information - redacted] [Personal information - redacted]

KATE LANGHAM: And was she raised in a different community?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: She was raised in Saskatoon.

KATE LANGHAM: Okay. Do you know if any supports were offered to her during the time?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: I'm not even sure. I don't think she was. She was really angry. [One line redacted pursuant to Rule 55].

KATE LANGHAM: Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for supports or different ways that that could be handled for young people who have been impacted like that?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Well, maybe if -- like, with us, we had our aunties and uncles. Just to come and sit and listen to you and talk about what -- we talk about her, a little memory that we just thought of. And, you know, we would all talk about it and, you know, laugh. And then it would get serious after because we're remembering how she was and how she's not with us. And just for family to help each other in that time of need and no fighting, no blaming amongst each other.

KATE LANGHAM: So meaning for her to stay connected more or encouraged to be connected?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Yeah, with us too. Like, they kept her away from us is how we first looked at it.

KATE LANGHAM: Yeah. Is there anything else that you want the commission to know?
PHYLLIS BUFFALO: I don't know if he would be able to do anything about it, but freedom of speech. When we were there, the StarPhoenix, that female reporter, she was constantly negative writings about her. Like, it was always negative, and it was nothing positive. They didn't even talk about her going to school, trying to get her bachelor of education and, you know, none of that was brought up. They just made her out to be just another drunk Indian living in Saskatoon. And it got to a point where my auntie called -- I forget their names now. And so, like, the commissioners of, like, freedom of speech, they came down to talk with the reporters on how they were reporting. The two guys that were reporting weren't as bad as that female.

So the next day when we went to court, the two reporters, the male reporters, came and apologized and their writings were different, except for the woman. And I am, like, you're a woman. You know, why are you putting her down? Why are you making us look bad? We're not all bad. They only look at the bad and the stereotype all Indians are bad.

KATE LANGHAM: So you would like something to be done about the way in which reporters report on victims of crimes?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Yes. Even though they pass, these people, they're still people. People didn't know them that way, the way they're being portrayed on TV, on the news. A lot of our Indians are happy. They have empathy. I wish they would have that -- where they work. Even the cops. Like, for example, me growing up, my grandparents raised me. And I always wanted to be a nurse. And when I saw what a nurse does, I was, like, no, I don't think I can stomach it. But I still wanted to help people. I like working with elders. So I took a home care course and I was, like, I don't want to go work in Lloyd. I don't want to help these white people. Why should I when they look down on us?

But then when I got there and I saw them and I thought, these are somebody's grandma and grandpa, and if they're all too busy or they're too far away to come -- I lost my grandparents so I thought at that time, I guess it doesn't matter
Phyllis Buffalo
(Daleen Muskego Bosse)

if you're white, black, brown.
So I took them as my grandparents. I
treated them the way I would want my grandparents
to be treated. And I made friends. I just wish
people had more empathy for each other
everywhere.

KATE LANGHAM: Do you have any ideas about how empathy
could be nurtured or grown like that.

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: For me, when I am like that. I'll
put myself in their shoes and I'd be, like -- if
I want to be treated like this, I'll have to
treat somebody like that first. And how would I
feel if somebody did this to me? And I would be,
like, okay, fine. I'll go help. I like to help.
I like working with elders. I learn some stuff
from them. I don't know what else to say here.
Okay. Here is one headline that was in the news:

"Trial ordered in Bosse murder. The man
charged with killing a Saskatoon woman who
was missing for four years has been
committed to stand trial at Court of Queen's
Bench. Douglas Hales 31, was charged in
August '08 with first degree murder and
offering an indignity to a body after the
remains of Daleen Bosse were found in an
secluded rural area just west of Warman. A
three-day preliminary hearing of the Crown's
evidence wrapped up Wednesday. Preliminary
hearings are held to determine if there is
enough evidence to proceed to trial.

Bosse, 26, disappeared after going to a
night club on May 19th, 2004. Bosse was
married with a child and was in her third
year of education at the University of
Saskatchewan. No date has been set for
trial.

That was the first headline that came out when we
found her. And then when the trial started the
headlines were different.

KATE LANGHAM: Do you remember what newspaper that one
came from?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: They were all StarPhoenix.

KATE LANGHAM: Okay. So as soon as the trial started,
the tone kind of changed and got more negative.

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Yeah.
KATE LANGHAM: Okay.

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Another thing about that one, the whole time of the trial, we had noticed these two white ladies. They used to come and sit at the front. We were wondering if that's his family. I can't believe they're going to come sit right up front with us and all that.

Here, they were just two members of Saskatoon that weren't happy with the way things were going and the way things was. And these guys -- these two women supported us all through. They didn't have to. We were Indians and they still came. They still came and supported us. They would talk with us. They were really nice.

KATE LANGHAM: Yeah. And so is there a message that you want to share in that line?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Like in what way?

KATE LANGHAM: Just, you know, that -- I don't know. That it didn't really matter where these women were from, they kind of put stuff aside or came anyway and supported people as people.

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Yeah. They came -- they would hug us and just encourage us. And I just wish there was more people out there like that. And just to show support. We sympathize with you. We know what you must be going through. The least we can do is come support -- because you always feel, like, if we had white people on our side, then maybe people would help us.

KATE LANGHAM: Yeah. So it was important for your families to know they had allies? It didn't matter skin colour, anything?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Yeah. That's how it is for us. Why can't it be for everybody else? We're all the same. Our blood is all the same colour.

KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: Nobody is better than any other -- how would you say it -- no nationality is more than anybody else's.

KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: And all we do is, like, we help each other. We're there for each other. We take care of our -- what we call [SPEAKING CREE], Mother Earth.

KATE LANGHAM: Is there anything else that you want the commission to know?

PHYLLIS BUFFALO: I don't know. Just that I know you
probably have heard all these stories, but if they could just put themselves in our shoes and see the kind of pain we're going through, especially if we have no support. It would just be more -- it would be awesome if the RCMP, lawyers, everybody else were more -- had empathy. We're not just somebody to work with to make themselves look good. Like, help us because you want to, not because you have to.

KATE LANGHAM: Okay.
PHYLLIS BUFFALO: That's it?
KATE LANGHAM: Okay. So that concludes our public interview. It is 3:00 o'clock.

(PROCEEDINGS COMPLETED AT 3:00 P.M.)

REPORTER CERTIFICATION
I, Alyssa Fontaine, Official Reporter in the Province of British Columbia, Canada, do hereby certify:
That the proceedings were taken down by me in shorthand at the time and place herein set forth and thereafter transcribed, and the same is a true and correct and complete transcript of said proceedings to the best of my skill and ability.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 7th day of June, 2018.

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Alyssa Fontaine
Official Reporter