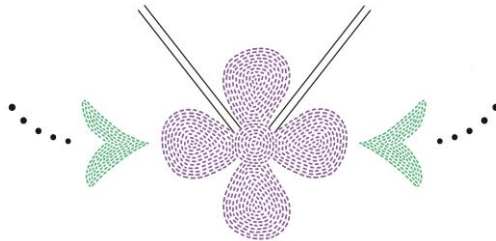


National Inquiry into  
Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls



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 1 Statement Gathering  
Kuujjuaq, Quebec**



**PUBLIC**

**Tuesday July 31, 2018**

**Statement - Volume 437  
Bernard Adams,  
In relation to Ida Michelin, Elaine Flowers,  
Ida Angutigirk, Aunt 1 & Robert Adams**

**Statement gathered by Lillian Lundigran, Commission Counsel**

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## II

### NOTE

Where not required by other statute, redactions to this public transcript have been made pursuant to Rule 55 of the Commission's *Legal Path: Rules of Respectful Practice*, which provides for "the discretion to redact private information of a sensitive nature where it is not material to the evidence to be given before distributing the information to the Parties. The National Inquiry will consider the public interest in releasing this type of information against the potential harmful impact on the individual whose personal information is at issue."

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Documents submitted with testimony: none

1 Kuujjuaq, Quebec

2 --- Upon commencing on Tuesday, July 31, 2018

3 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** So, thank you for  
4 being here. My name is Lillian Lundigran. I'm here to  
5 take your statement. We're in Kuujjuaq, Nunavik, Quebec.  
6 Today is Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>. I'll go around the room and  
7 ask everyone to introduce themselves.

8 **MR. NORMAND D'ARAGON:** So, my name is  
9 Normand D'Aragon, and I'm here as a support worker.

10 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Can you spell your  
11 name, please, for the record?

12 **MR. NORMAND D'ARAGON:** Okay, Normand, in  
13 French. It's N-O-R-M-A-N-D. My family name is D,  
14 apostrophe, A-R-A-G-O-N.

15 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Okay, thank you.

16 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** My name is Bernie Adams.  
17 I'm originally from Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador, but  
18 I've been living in Kuujjuaq, Quebec since 1993. I lived  
19 in Sudbury from 1990 to 1993.

20 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Thank you. Okay,  
21 thank you, Bernie. Thank you for being here ---

22 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** You're welcome.

23 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** --- and sharing with  
24 us. So, you are here to talk about some family members of  
25 yours, sisters?

Bernard Adams (Ida Michelin,  
Elaine Flowers, Ida Angutigirk,  
Aunt 1 & Robert Adams)

1                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Cousins.

2                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Cousins?

3                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Cousins.

4                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Murdered and  
5                   missing?

6                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** One is still missing,  
7                   yes.

8                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** One is still  
9                   missing. And, any murdered cousins?

10                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** I have -- I was 10 years  
11                  old when my female cousin was murdered by her husband back  
12                  in Labrador, and he turned a gun on himself.

13                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Okay. Would you  
14                  like to share about your cousin at this time?

15                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** I was too young to  
16                  really know her. She was three or four years older than  
17                  me, so we had different friends. But, through the family,  
18                  being cousins, we did talk, but I really did not know her  
19                  that well.

20                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Okay. Can you give  
21                  me her name?

22                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** I believe her name was  
23                  Ida Michelin in North West River, Labrador.

24                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** And, she was  
25                  murdered by her ---

Bernard Adams (Ida Michelin,  
Elaine Flowers, Ida Angutigirk,  
Aunt 1 & Robert Adams)

1                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Husband, common-law.

2                   Then he murdered himself. He shot himself.

3                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** He shot himself,  
4                   yes. Yes. So, it was a murder-suicide?

5                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes.

6                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Abusive relationship

7                   ---

8                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes.

9                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** --- that you know?

10                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Alcohol, drugs. That's  
11                  the environment that I grew up in and what our cousins grew  
12                  -- my cousins grew up in.

13                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Mm-hmm.

14                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** My cousin, Elaine  
15                  Flowers, she was laying on her bed in Rigolet, Labrador,  
16                  with her child, when her boyfriend at the time opened a  
17                  window and shot her in the face with a shotgun.

18                                I went to court with a knife in my back  
19                  pocket. When he was walking out, I was going to stab him.  
20                  I was going to kill him, for killing my cousin.

21                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** When did this occur?

22                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** 1977, 1978.

23                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** And, that was an  
24                  abusive relationship?

25                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Very abusive alcoholic

1 relationship.

2 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Did you want to  
3 share as to why it was the way it was, the abusiveness, the  
4 alcohol? Where was it coming from?

5 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** My family and Elaine's  
6 family and Barry Allen's family, they all used to party  
7 together in Rigolet, Labrador, a small community. Every  
8 drink -- got drunk with each other. And, I guess she was  
9 going to break up with him, and one thing led to another.  
10 I guess he was drunk, and he did not want to either lose  
11 his girlfriend or lose the child, so he ended up shooting  
12 her and killing her.

13 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Is he still alive  
14 today?

15 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** He's still alive. He  
16 spent 10 years in prison.

17 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Ten years?

18 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Ten years. I should  
19 have stabbed him when I had the opportunity to stab him.

20 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** So, what was he  
21 charged with, murder or manslaughter?

22 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Manslaughter. That's  
23 what I'm worried about for my son. I'm worried that my son  
24 might -- his murderer might get manslaughter. Right now,  
25 in Wakeham Bay, we have two murderers who spent less than

1 six years in prison, and we have a female woman who hit and  
2 struck another Inuk woman, she spent two and a half years  
3 in prison, while she was drunk.

4 So, when my son was murdered on March 19<sup>th</sup>, I  
5 hope -- I hope the justice system would keep that man in  
6 prison for 20 to 25 years.

7 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Life without chance  
8 of parole; right?

9 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Like I told the Sûreté,  
10 the Quebec Police, if he gets less than six, seven years in  
11 prison, I, as the father, will be taking justice into my  
12 own hands, not only for myself, but for my wife and seven  
13 sons and daughters. A person who murders someone else  
14 should not spend that amount of time in prison, five-and-a-  
15 half to six years, for murdering someone.

16 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Go back to -- is it  
17 Barry Allen that murdered your cousin, Elaine?

18 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes.

19 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** And, he was charged  
20 with manslaughter. He spent 10 years. He's out and free?

21 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** He's out and free in  
22 Labrador. Elaine's mother, my cousin, she's the one that's  
23 giving me support for my son's death.

24 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** And, who is Elaine's  
25 mother?



1                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Bertha. She's the one  
2                   that's giving me support. She knew -- I grew up with them  
3                   when I was younger, and it broke her heart when she heard  
4                   that one of my children was murdered. And, she told me  
5                   that anytime I need support, to talk to her, because I know  
6                   what she's -- she knows what I'm going through at the  
7                   moment. She went through it back in the '70s, but she said  
8                   it feels like yesterday. I'm stuck on March 19<sup>th</sup>. I know  
9                   it's July 31, but I'm stuck on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

10                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** So, 10 years ago.  
11                   1977/'78, when your cousin was murdered. How long after  
12                   her murder was Barry Allen put through the court system, do  
13                   you remember?

14                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Less than a year.

15                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Okay. So, I'm  
16                   asking because when they look for documents, like court  
17                   documents, they'll be looking for court cases. It's public  
18                   record; right?

19                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes.

20                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** So, we'll be looking  
21                   for that court record. You said your support was your  
22                   cousin?

23                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes.

24                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** And, you grew up  
25                   with your cousins; right? Do you want to talk a little bit

1 about your family, growing up as a child, your life?

2 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** I come from a very  
3 dysfunctional family community environment. I was an  
4 alcoholic by the time I was 10 years old. I was a drug  
5 addict by the time I was 11 years old.

6 Being sexually abused, molested, raped at a  
7 young age. And, the people who were drinking, they allowed  
8 me to drink. So, at the age of 10, I thought I was an  
9 adult. And, when people do adult stuff, they do adult  
10 stuff. That's when they started sexually assaulting me.

11 I saw my [Family members] being raped and  
12 passed around and beaten to a pulp by my father, by my  
13 uncles, by their friends. If they did not have sex with  
14 the men, they would get beaten.

15 I have four brothers and sisters with  
16 different fathers. So, our father, when he got drunk, he  
17 would beat us, knowing that if he beat me or my other  
18 sisters or brothers, he would be hurting my mother for  
19 cheating on him.

20 So, when I was 13 years old, I got drunk.  
21 My dad was drunk, and he started beating my mom. And, I  
22 said, "No, you're not going to beat my mom no more." So, I  
23 got a knife and I put it to his neck. "You are not going  
24 to hurt me no more. You're not going to hurt my mom no  
25 more. You're not going to hurt my brothers and sisters.

1           You hurt us again, I'm going to slice your throat and let  
2           you die."

3                       A couple of years prior, my mom asked me to  
4           kill my dad for her. She got tired of being beaten. She  
5           got tired of seeing me get beaten. So, we were home one  
6           night and she asked me, "Your father is out drinking. I  
7           want you to do me a favour. When he comes home and passes  
8           out, I want you to slice his throat for me."

9                       I did what I was told. I listened to my  
10          mom. I respected my mom. My mom raised me. I got his  
11          hunting knife, put it underneath my pillow, waited for him  
12          to come home. I feel asleep. And, my mom woke me up to go  
13          to school the next morning. She was cleaning up the room.  
14          She saw the knife.

15                      She said, "What are you doing with the  
16          knife?" I said, "I was going to slash my father's throat,  
17          like you asked me to, because you're tired of being hurt,  
18          and I'm tired of seeing you hurt." "I did not think you  
19          were going to do that for me, but I don't want you to hurt  
20          your father."

21                      That's the kind of environment that I grew  
22          up in. I saw people getting stabbed. I saw people getting  
23          their face kicked in. I saw people -- blood coming out of  
24          their face. I saw people freezing. I had people shoot  
25          themselves in front of me. I was accused of my friend's

1 suicide by the police. That's the kind of environment that  
2 this Inuit family grew up in; destructive, violent, with  
3 all the hurt and all the pain that I had to go through as a  
4 child. And, I had seen Elaine get murdered.

5 I ran away from home when I was 15, to try  
6 to get away, to have a different life. My mom phoned the  
7 police. They brought me home. But, as soon as I turned  
8 17, I joined the Army to change my life, to get away from  
9 the alcohol, to get away from the drugs, to get away from  
10 my family, to make a better life for myself. So, I was in  
11 the military for a year-and-a-half.

12 But, when I moved away and joined the  
13 military, I thought I left my old life behind, but my life  
14 followed me. So, from 17, 18-and-a-half years old, I was  
15 constantly drunk. I had the opportunity to join Alcoholics  
16 Anonymous when I was 18 or get myself kicked out of the  
17 military. At 18 years old, "I'm not an alcoholic.  
18 Alcoholics are 60, 65 years. Kick me the fuck out of the  
19 Army," so that's what they did.

20 I am no different than Barry Allen. I am no  
21 different than the man who killed my son. That's the  
22 violent person that will leave that island when I was  
23 growing up, and if I couldn't win my fight using my fists  
24 or my feet, 2-by-4's, knives, guns. I was stabbed six  
25 times. I was shot at two times.

1                   That's the environment that I lived, in  
2                   order for me to survive on the streets. I lived all across  
3                   Canada, hitchhiking when I got kicked out of the Army.

4                   July -- February '85, I had to go into  
5                   rehab, a six-month program. I went to the rehab. I  
6                   graduated. The next of my graduation, me and two of my  
7                   friends went out to party, and I put two of them in the  
8                   hospital.

9                   When I went to see the judge in Cornwall,  
10                  Ontario, he gave me an ultimatum, either go to rehab or go  
11                  to prison for 25 years for being a very violent person. I  
12                  could not see myself as a caged animal, so I chose rehab.  
13                  And, when I went to rehab, that was just to get away from  
14                  the jail. I loved getting drunk, got up getting stoned, 22  
15                  years old. I had no problems.

16                  But the program I was in, it was a six-month  
17                  program, a live-in program. After two months, I started  
18                  hearing people's stories similar to mine. And, once I told  
19                  the group I had something to say, the flood gates opened.  
20                  My childhood came out; the hurt, the pain, the  
21                  molestations, the rape, the violence that I saw, people  
22                  that I knew that died by murder or that died by suicide.

23                  All that hurt and that pain, I had to  
24                  forgive the people that did it to us. I had to forgive my  
25                  mom when I was five years old. She told me, "I wish" --

**Bernard Adams (Ida Michelin,  
Elaine Flowers, Ida Angutigirk,  
Aunt 1 & Robert Adams)**

1 she wished I died, instead of her favourite son. Our mom  
2 told us never go on the Skidoo in the nighttime on the  
3 river. He did not listen and fell through the ice. Five  
4 years old, I go to her at the kitchen table and I -- "Is  
5 there something I can help you with?" because she was  
6 crying and sobbing. She looked me dead in the eye, "I wish  
7 you died, instead of my favourite son."

8 From that age to 22, in order for me to  
9 survive, I learned early I had to hurt others before I get  
10 hurt by them. I had a very rough childhood. But I learned  
11 to forgive my mother for what she said. I had to forgive  
12 my dad for what he had done. I asked my mom and my dad to  
13 forgive me before they passed away.

14 Getting away from that vicious circle that I  
15 grew up with in my own family, that I had enough, I tried  
16 to show them to stay away from alcohol, stay away from  
17 drugs, lead the good life, listen to your mother, listen to  
18 your father, stay in school. But, being teenagers, they  
19 swerved to the right; they swerved to the left.

20 *[Six lines redacted - ongoing investigation*  
21 *& prosecution for the murder of Robert Adams].*

22 If I could change anything in my life, I  
23 wouldn't change nothing. If I changed something of my  
24 past, I would not be where I'm at today, and I would not  
25 have my children today.

**Bernard Adams (Ida Michelin,  
Elaine Flowers, Ida Angutigirk,  
Aunt 1 & Robert Adams)**

1           I did not want my children to grow up in the  
2           same kind of environment that I grew up in. I taught them  
3           that you have to believe in God, you have to believe in  
4           Jesus, you have to listen to the Commandments, but you also  
5           have to listen to Inuit culture, Inuit tradition.

6           I was stuck in both worlds when I was  
7           younger. I grew up in the white culture and I grew up in  
8           the Inuit culture, but Inuit culture did not accept me,  
9           because I did not speak Inuktitut or understand Inuktitut.

10           My mom was sent to residential school. So,  
11           my mom told me many, many times, "I'm not going to teach my  
12           children Inuktitut, because I don't want you guys to be  
13           embarrassed." The ministers and the churches told us, "Do  
14           not teach your children your savage language."

15           So, I can only understand English. But, my  
16           children, they both -- they understand three languages.  
17           They can speak three languages. And, I just tell my  
18           children, "Don't go worrying about your father, the people  
19           who are saying that to me. They're ignorant and they're  
20           racist. Leave them alone. They do not know how I grew up  
21           in Happy Valley, Labrador. They do not know how the people  
22           were treated back in Happy Valley, Labrador."

23           That's where I get my strength from. I also  
24           get my strength from my mom. She lost six children before  
25           she died, two by drownings, four when she was -- when they

**Bernard Adams (Ida Michelin,  
Elaine Flowers, Ida Angutigirk,  
Aunt 1 & Robert Adams)**

1           were little babies. My auntie, she lost four or five  
2           children. My daughter, [Daughter 2], she lost one child  
3           nine years ago. So, I get my strength from my mom, my aunt  
4           and my daughter. If they can get through losing one of  
5           their children, I can get by losing my son.

6                               Two months ago, I was in a very dark place.  
7           I went to the shack. I locked the door, got my rifle, had  
8           the gun up to my mouth, thinking whether or not I should  
9           end the pain. And then I started realizing my mom, my dad,  
10          my brothers, my sisters, my son Robert, they would not want  
11          me to shoot myself. Their little spirits telling me that,  
12          "You're going to live a long time. Your sons, your  
13          daughters, my brothers and sisters, need their father."

14                              So, I crawled out of the hole. No, I don't  
15          want to. I will learn how to live with the hurt, the pain  
16          of losing my son, the same way that I had to learn with the  
17          pain of losing the other women in the past that were  
18          murdered.

19                              My cousin, Ida Savietsuk (phonetic), she was  
20          murdered eight, nine years ago. They couldn't find her  
21          body, but I knew where her body was at. I knew that the  
22          boyfriend wrapped up her body and threw her in the Hudson  
23          Bay.

24                              **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Where did this  
25          happen?



Bernard Adams (Ida Michelin,  
Elaine Flowers, Ida Angutigirk,  
Aunt 1 & Robert Adams)

1                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Salluit.

2                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Salluit?

3                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** That's my little cousin  
4 next to her.

5                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** (Indiscernible).

6                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** (Indiscernible) is my  
7 cousin, yes.

8                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** And, is that who  
9 she's talking about (indiscernible)?

10                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes, Ida Angutikirk.  
11 Her father and my mother, they were second cousins. So,  
12 when I lived in Salluit, my wife and I, we visited Ida  
13 quite often. And, my wife and I had an opportunity for me  
14 to go to John Abbott College.

15                   A couple of years later, this is when Ida as  
16 murdered. I knew her boyfriend, Johnny Popigutik  
17 (phonetic). I knew he was violent.

18                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Was he charged?

19                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** He was charged with  
20 second-degree murder. He's still in prison.

21                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** So, he got 25 years?

22                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** He got 14 years, I  
23 believe it was. But, as soon as I heard that she got  
24 murdered and they could not find her body, they were -- he  
25 was blaming she ran away, she ran away, she ran away. I

Bernard Adams (Ida Michelin,  
Elaine Flowers, Ida Angutigirk,  
Aunt 1 & Robert Adams)

1           knew what he did with her body. I knew he wrapped her up  
2           in the wintertime and took her out on the ice and put her  
3           body through the ice.

4                       **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Did they ever find  
5           her body?

6                       **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Her little body is still  
7           missing. And, I felt bad for her mother and father,  
8           because I used to go hunting with her father, and my wife  
9           was good friends with her mother, Ida's mother.

10                      When Martha's husband got lost nine years  
11           ago, they found his body two years ago, but between that  
12           time, his wife gave up and starved herself to death.  
13           [*Eight lines redacted - private information*].

14           Being a father, the hurt and the pain is one thing, but  
15           being a mother of the hurt and the pain, to me, it's  
16           completely different, because my wife had our son kicking  
17           and moving for nine months. So, I don't know exactly how  
18           she's feeling.

19                      **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** I have a son.

20                      **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** So, I do not know the  
21           parental instincts, if they're different than that, but I  
22           feel myself that they're different. I do not know. Robert  
23           never (indiscernible). Robert did, so I don't know if  
24           [Wife] is -- I don't -- [Wife] -- I don't know if [Wife]  
25           still feels that. I don't know.

1                   I think a death of a child is much more  
2                   harder on a mother than it is a father. I was there to  
3                   love my son, to hold my son, change his Pampers, take him  
4                   to school, take him to court, go to court with him, take  
5                   him to the police station, take him to the hospital.  
6                   That's me being the father. But, [Wife] being the mother,  
7                   doing her motherly instincts, there are different feelings  
8                   for a parent. [*Three lines redacted - private*  
9                   *information*].

10                   When I was working for Makivik Construction  
11                   10 years ago in (indiscernible), this young Inuk man,  
12                   somebody grey, he kept coming to me, "How do I stay sober?  
13                   I want to quit drinking. I want to quit drinking. I want  
14                   to quit using drugs." But every time he came to me after  
15                   work, he was drunk and he was stoned. I kept telling him,  
16                   "If you want to stay sober or if you want to get away from  
17                   alcohol and drugs, come to me sober."

18                   Within three weeks after he asked me, he  
19                   ended up killing his girlfriend. I blame myself  
20                   personally, because if I would have helped him with the AA  
21                   program, maybe he would not have killed his girlfriend. He  
22                   got drunk, stabbed her and left her body up by the airport.

23                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Recently?

24                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Ten years ago.

25                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Okay.

1                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** About ten years ago. Me  
2                   and my wife, we go out to Montreal quite often. About five  
3                   years ago, she met an Inuk woman living on the streets. We  
4                   give her money. We give her smokes. We give her something  
5                   to eat.

6                                 That's when we read on the Nunatsiaq News  
7                   that [Wife]'s friend, the person that we helped, she was  
8                   murdered last year. I told my wife she did not die of  
9                   suicide. She was murdered. I said, "She would not do  
10                  that." We helped her. We helped her as best we could.

11                                So, the police opened an investigation again  
12                  and charged her boyfriend with her murder. Having people  
13                  murdered is hard, very, very hard.

14                                [Certain family members] are -- besides  
15                  Robert, they know -- knew of that young girl, the Inukjuak  
16                  that was murdered last summer. They're comparing the two  
17                  stories about her death and Robert's death. They find that  
18                  [Robert]'s death is more harder to handle than their  
19                  friend's death, the young 14-year-old that was murdered.

20                                I tried to use my past and my experience to  
21                  let them know that, "If I can deal with all these deaths in  
22                  my past, you guys could be just as strong as [me]. You  
23                  don't have to get drunk. You don't have to get stoned."  
24                  But, they choose -- they choose to ease their pain.

25                                July 1, 1985 was the last time I got drunk,

1 the last time I got stoned. I don't take Aspirin. I don't  
2 take Tylenol, unless it's prescribed by the doctor. If I'm  
3 in really, really pain, I take medication.

4 And, if I had to get stitches, I'll just get  
5 the nurse to give me the stitches, instead of giving me any  
6 of those. And, once I start feeling a needle, I start  
7 getting a rush, and maybe I should get stoned. That there  
8 is the action of an alcoholic and drug addict. You miss  
9 something, you feel it and you just want to go back to it,  
10 but I know what will happen to me.

11 Thirty-three years ago, I went to my rehab  
12 centre. How did I get to the rehab centre? By being  
13 violent. Second rehab -- first rehab centre, it was the  
14 same thing, always fighting. So, I was running away to not  
15 go to jail. And, if I get drunk today, if I get stoned  
16 today, I won't begin where I ended up at. That's being in  
17 handcuffs.

18 I know I can't drink. I know I can't use  
19 drugs. I know I will be hurting a lot of people. That's  
20 -- once I get drunk and get stoned, I'm taking all that  
21 anger and hate that I had towards society and for myself,  
22 and I will be a very destructive person. I know that. I  
23 don't want to be that person today.

24 A good excuse, my mom's death. I should  
25 have gotten drunk, gotten stoned to deal with the hurt and

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1 the pain, but my -- I know my mom's little spirit said,  
2 "No, you don't need to get drunk and get stoned, my son.  
3 You're a stronger person that."

4 I could have gotten drunk and gotten stoned  
5 over my son's murder. I should have, to not deal with the  
6 hurt and deal with the pain. But, my son never, ever saw  
7 me drunk. He never, ever saw me stoned.

8 My children never, ever saw me drunk and  
9 never, ever saw me stoned. So, alcoholics and drug  
10 addicts, they're very good at looking for excuses to get  
11 drunk and get stoned. I hurt my finger. I got to kill the  
12 pain, get drunk, get stoned.

13 But, with my son's death, there's nothing  
14 that the Good Man upstairs that will get me drunk or get me  
15 stoned. And, if I can deal with my son's death on a daily  
16 basis without getting drunk and getting stoned, give it to  
17 me. I can deal with it.

18 I'm learning how to deal with it the same  
19 way that I learned how to deal with the people that I knew  
20 that were murdered. I know approximately 74 people that  
21 died by suicide, either it be in Nunavik or in Labrador or  
22 in Ontario.

23 I lived on the streets. One of the women  
24 that was murdered lived on the streets. I know what she  
25 was running away from, the same reason what I was running

1 away for, running away from the hurt, the pain and the  
2 memories. I was running away from my hurt, my pain and my  
3 memories because I wanted a better life. I lived on the  
4 streets of Montreal for a year-and-a-half.

5 But, I also went to college. I also went to  
6 university. I knew the difference between right and wrong,  
7 and do I want to keep living the way that I was living on  
8 the streets or do I want to have a better life?

9 So, I decided since I'm in rehab, okay, I'm  
10 going to be having a better life. Married 20 -- 25 years?  
11 Married 25 years. My wife and I, we had five girls, three  
12 boys. And now, it's five girls, two boys, two grandsons  
13 and another baby on the way. [*Three lines redacted -*  
14 *private information*].

15 That's what I was doing. I attempted  
16 suicide twice when I was younger by hanging. I attempted  
17 suicide once with a shotgun. I got scared, and when I knew  
18 I got scared by committing suicide that way or dying that  
19 way by suicide, I turned to alcohol and drugs.

20 I wanted to get drunk so much that I would  
21 poison myself or I'd take so much drugs that I would OD.  
22 That was my form of suicide, getting drunk, going after a  
23 6'4" or 6'6" men, 300 pounds, wanting to fight them so they  
24 could beat the shit out of me and kill me. That was my  
25 form of suicide, because I was scared, and I saw myself as

1 a coward, that I could not kill myself when I was younger.  
2 So, that was my form of suicide. My wife sees that today.  
3 [*One line redacted - private information*].

4 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** You said earlier  
5 that you know that's the life that was (Indiscernible).

6 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes.

7 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** (Indiscernible)  
8 they're doing these kind of things, because they're  
9 suffering. In your opinion, they're suffering like the way  
10 you did.

11 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Mentally, emotionally,  
12 psychologically, they're suffering.

13 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Yes.

14 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** I see my life being an  
15 Inuk growing up in Labrador and then moving up here in  
16 Nunavik, no difference. When I moved to Salluit in 1990, I  
17 was up here for maybe four or five months, and I took a  
18 step back, and I realized I went back in time. I went back  
19 40 years. I don't know if you will understand, but when I  
20 moved to Salluit, the mentality, psychologically and  
21 emotionally, the people were stuck back in the 1980's.

22 Whatever they're going through now in  
23 Nunavik, I already went through that as a young boy. I saw  
24 the violence. I saw the growth of our community. I saw  
25 people wanted to get a better education and a better job.



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1 But, the Inuit up here get stoned, get drunk, get stoned,  
2 get drunk, get stoned, get drunk.

3 People my age, they had children. For  
4 example, [Daughter 2] is 28. She's not a full-blown  
5 alcoholic or a drug addict but she asked me last week, "I  
6 need to join AA. How can I join AA?" My daughter's  
7 friends, they're alcoholics and drug addicts. They're  
8 violent. I see it. I know it.

9 This is the kind of life that I experienced  
10 growing up. This is why I was hoping that the town,  
11 municipality in Makkovik and KRG would hear my story.  
12 Whatever destructive life that I lived before I moved up  
13 here, this is the destructive life that the young people  
14 are living now.

15 We would be blaming the residential schools.  
16 My mom was in residential school. I was angry for the  
17 stories that she told me. My dad had to kill 14 of his  
18 dogs, instead of having other people kill his dogs.

19 All of these were good excuses for me to get  
20 drunk and get stoned at the white people. Like I said, I  
21 grew up very early knowing that in order for me not to be  
22 hurt, I had to hurt other people. Education system, the  
23 police, the courts, the schools, the church, I had to hurt  
24 them before they hurt me.

25 And, I see the young people today. That's

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1           what they're doing. They're rebelling the same way as I  
2           rebelled when I was younger, but it's getting way out of  
3           control in my community; too much booze, too much drugs,  
4           lack of leadership; KRG, lack of leadership; Makivik  
5           Corporation, lack of leadership. Nunavik Regional Board of  
6           Health and Social Services, lack of leadership.

7                         They're spending hundreds of thousands of  
8           dollars on meetings, meetings, meetings and conferences,  
9           trying to find out and figure out ways to help the Inuit  
10          that are suffering.

11                        March 19, my son Robert was murdered. That  
12          same day, the town mayor had to go to a young man's house  
13          because nobody saw him all weekend. He went there and he  
14          found him hanging. And, they, the coroner, believed that  
15          he hanged himself Sunday.

16                        Sunday, there was a suicide. Monday, there  
17          was a murder. Three weeks later, a 21-year-old girl was  
18          drunk; she hanged herself. Two weeks later or three weeks  
19          later, a young woman banged into a telephone pole, drunk,  
20          killed herself. Her passenger is still at the Montreal  
21          General Hospital. That same evening, an elderly woman  
22          died. So, we had five people that died in less than three  
23          weeks.

24                        **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** In Salluit?

25                        **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Wakeham Bay.

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1                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Oh, Wakeham Bay?

2                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Wakeham Bay. My son's  
3 death [18 lines redacted - ongoing investigation of the  
4 murder of Robert Adams]. But, I lost what I was talking  
5 about.

6                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** You were talking  
7 about the deaths in Wakeham Bay.

8                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes. There's -- the  
9 police, KRPF know who the bootleggers are, drug dealers.  
10 The municipality knows who the bootleggers and drug dealers  
11 are. KRPF and the CNB, both of them are offering rewards  
12 to anybody for information about the bootleggers and drug  
13 dealers. They don't want the free money. If they rat out  
14 the bootleggers and drug dealers, where are they going to  
15 get the booze and drugs to get stoned and get drunk?

16                   I blame -- I partially blame the bootleggers  
17 and drug dealers for my son's death. I blame [Organization  
18 1] for steering near Inuit and the post office for their  
19 source of transportation, to get the illegal booze and  
20 illegal drugs into my community. I blame the [Business 1]  
21 and [Business 2] for the drug dealers to be sending money  
22 down south to the drug suppliers. I threw everybody under  
23 the bus.

24                   Six weeks ago, Eye on the Arctic CBC Radio  
25 News came up to Wakeham Bay for nine days, did a story on

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1 my son Robert's death, and also did a story on the social  
2 issues that are not being recognized in my community. I  
3 threw everybody under the bus. People are telling me I'm  
4 doing it because I had to blame somebody for my son's  
5 death. My son is responsible for his death. I taught him  
6 do not go here, do not go there, don't get drunk, don't get  
7 stoned.

8 Last April, he was walking to the airport.  
9 From behind, he got hit by a truck. Sixteen days, he was  
10 at the ICU in coma, four days in the recovery room of the  
11 Montreal General Hospital and another four-and-a-half  
12 months' rehab. The doctors, his rehabilitation, his nurses  
13 told him, "Do not get drunk. Do not get stoned. Do not  
14 use drugs. Do not use alcohol. Your brain is like Jell-O.  
15 Let your brain heal first."

16 So, I told my sons and my daughters and my  
17 wife and Robert's friends, "Don't get him drunk. Don't get  
18 him stoned. Don't let him use alcohol. Don't use -- don't  
19 let him use drugs or alcohol, because his mind is -- his  
20 brain is like Jell-O right now. Let it get better."

21 Robert, being Robert, he did what he wanted  
22 to do. He thought he was doing okay, and he was getting  
23 drunk and getting stoned. I did not know he was getting  
24 drunk and getting stoned while we were in Montreal  
25 together.

1                   When I would fall asleep, he would run over  
2                   to [Man 1]'s house. [Man 1] was living in Montreal at the  
3                   time and get drunk very fast. Get a taxi, go back to  
4                   Ullivik, and when I'd wake up, I thought he'd still be  
5                   sleeping, like he fell asleep. I did not know he was  
6                   getting drunk and getting stoned.

7                   [Two lines redacted pursuant to Rule 55].

8                   Robert, 19 years and 11 months, he was an adult. His brain  
9                   was 95 percent functional. He was doing good. He still  
10                  had the ability to play sports and to write and go to  
11                  school after he had his accident, so he was able to learn.

12                  But, I told Eye on the Arctic, and I told  
13                  the municipality that I look at my son, Robert, as a hero.  
14                  If Robert was not there at that time while he was walking  
15                  home, or be throwing rocks at somebody's house, Kamugaaluk  
16                  would have killed somebody else, maybe a younger child,  
17                  maybe a mother. So, I look at my son as a hero. He was in  
18                  the wrong place at the wrong time. That could have  
19                  happened to anybody.

20                  That young man should not have been out of  
21                  prison. He's been in and out of prison for years and  
22                  years. He was homeless in Montreal. And, I partly blame  
23                  the justice system and the police for letting him out and  
24                  allowing him to roam around the community, to harm other  
25                  people. That's what happened.

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1                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** (Indiscernible).

2                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** That's why I have a  
3 tattoo, Robert Adams, murdered March 19, 2018, with his  
4 favourite basketball player, Lebron James. I also had his  
5 tattoo -- I mean, I got all my children tattooed on my  
6 neck, their names. My children is my world. My children  
7 is my life.

8                   But, with my son's death, it feels like a  
9 part of my soul is ripped out of my heart that will never  
10 be replaced. I talk to his little spirit. I pray to his  
11 little spirit every night. I've got a bunch of ghosts and  
12 memories of people that I know that died: my mom, my dad,  
13 my brothers, my sisters, Ida, the young girl in POV, I mean  
14 Inukjuak, Inuk woman, the people that I know that died.

15                   A bunch of ghosts I talk to every day,  
16 letting them know that I'm not forgetting about them,  
17 letting them know that "You guys are no longer here, but  
18 somebody is thinking about you, somebody is loving you."  
19 And, I'm scared to let them go, because if I let them go,  
20 their little spirits will believe or think that I no longer  
21 care about them or I no longer love them. That's why I  
22 talk to them, "Mom, I love you. Dad, I love you."

23                   [Aunt 1], she hanged herself. My uncle, he  
24 hanged himself. So, I talk to them every day, briefly, but  
25 I talk to them. I don't want their little spirits to think

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1           that I forgot about them. They were a part of my life  
2           while they were alive. How am I supposed to deal with  
3           their death, if I don't think about them? I am not  
4           respecting their spirit if I don't talk to them at least  
5           once a day. To me, that's what I was shown when I was  
6           growing up.

7                           The people that you love, you talk to them.  
8           The people that you lose, you talk to them. So, I talk to  
9           them every day, so the ghosts or the memories of them. I  
10          believe I have more love for my ghosts that were my people  
11          that died than for my own children.

12                          I say that I'm a disappointment. For my son  
13          that was murdered, I say that I'm a disappointment. For  
14          the young girl that was murdered in (indiscernible). I see  
15          myself as a disappointment in my children's eyes because I  
16          wasn't there to help their brother.

17                          Instead of talk to my wife and my kids, I  
18          talk to my loved ones' spirits. "You're not a  
19          disappointment, my son." "Daddy, you're not a  
20          disappointment. You're doing what you're supposed to be  
21          doing. You're loving us the same way as you're loving your  
22          children." But, it's poor me, me being selfish. I don't  
23          want them to be dead, but I have to accept their death. I  
24          did not want to see my [Aunt 1] hanging in Salluit.

25                          To me, my [Aunt 1]'s death was a murder. I

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1 believe her husband, my uncle, my mom's brother -- that was  
2 a very abusive relationship, even when they lived in  
3 Labrador. But, I believe my uncle got drunk. My [Aunt 1]  
4 said something to him. I believe he knocked her out, put  
5 the rope around her neck and hanged her in the shack. And,  
6 I believe that's what happened.

7 I know of at least two more people that were  
8 murdered in Nunavik, but the police say that it was a  
9 suicide. When my children were taken away from me in 1993  
10 by Youth Protection and Social Services and the police,  
11 someone falsely accused me of molesting my daughter,  
12 [Daughter 2], and physically beating my son, [Son 1]. They  
13 came to the house, snatched them, kidnapped them. I didn't  
14 do it. I didn't do it. I didn't do it.

15 For 18 months, I went to see psychiatrists.  
16 I went to see psychologists. I went to go see whoever was  
17 here in Kuujjuaq and in Montreal to be mentally evaluated,  
18 to see if I was a sexual deviant. Eighteen months, I  
19 fought them, and I fought them, and I fought them. No, no,  
20 no, no, no.

21 They gave [Daughter 2] and [Son 1] and [Son  
22 2] back to me and [Wife] six years ago. My [Family member]  
23 went to the police and Social Services. I lied. I didn't  
24 know -- I did not know any other way for my daughter and  
25 her husband to be separated, so I lied about Bernie



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1 molesting his children and physically assaulting his  
2 children. That was the only way she knew how to break us  
3 up.

4 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Was that an abusive  
5 relationship?

6 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Pardon me?

7 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Was that an abusive  
8 relationship too, your daughter and her husband? What are  
9 you ---

10 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** No, me and wife.

11 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Oh, okay.

12 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** It was my [Family  
13 member] that accused me ---

14 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Oh okay. Okay.  
15 Sorry.

16 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** --- that accused me. I  
17 fought and I fought. I did not do this, I did not do that.  
18 She went to the police and she apologized. She came to me  
19 and [Wife]. She apologized to us, because she did not want  
20 me and her together ---

21 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Okay.

22 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** --- to be together.  
23 After she told me that, I wanted revenge. I wanted to  
24 knock her out the same way that I believe my uncle knocked  
25 out my auntie, and to kill my [Family member] because she

1           tried to break up my family. I wanted to do it. I wanted  
2           to do it, but I had to forgive her.

3                         In 1990, her son shot himself in the stomach  
4           just to get out of town by the hospital, and he ended up  
5           dying. So, I know how she thinks sometimes. And, I find  
6           that women, they use the justice system and Social Services  
7           and Youth Protection to get revenge against sons, brothers,  
8           in-laws, loved ones, husbands, boyfriends, to get revenge  
9           on them where they falsely accuse us of doing something  
10          wrong towards our children or to them.

11                        I could have been sent to prison for 10, 15  
12          years if criminal charges were brought against me for  
13          sexually assaulting my daughter or punching [Son 1] in the  
14          face. I'm glad I fought. I'm glad I fought for what I  
15          believe I did not do. I wanted my children's life to be  
16          completely different than the way that I grew up. I didn't  
17          want them to be sexually assaulted. I didn't want them to  
18          have memories or hurt and pain that they had to carry for  
19          the rest of their life.

20                        So, what my [Family member] did to me, being  
21          the vengeful person that I was, I thought about it. I  
22          thought about killing her to make it look like a suicide,  
23          but that's quite often happening up here, people killing  
24          other people by whatever they do, then they make it look  
25          like a suicide.

1                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** So, there's people  
2                   -- you're saying there's people capable of doing that, and  
3                   they are doing that?

4                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** One hundred percent. To  
5                   me, Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services,  
6                   Kativik Regional Government, the nursing station, they all  
7                   had to get together -- and the police, they all had to get  
8                   together when there's a suicide in town, to send the body  
9                   automatically down south for autopsy.

10                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** They're not doing  
11                  that right now? When it's a suicide, they're not doing  
12                  autopsies?

13                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** No. When my son got  
14                  murdered and when they found the young boy the following  
15                  day, I heard through the grapevine or I heard rumours that  
16                  [Five lines redacted - ongoing investigation].

17                  And, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to  
18                  put two and two together. Me being a violent drunk, me  
19                  being a very violent individual, I know what I was capable  
20                  of doing, and what I'm capable of doing drunk and stoned,  
21                  but I also know what I'm capable of doing while I'm sober.

22                  And, at times, I had that violent tenacity  
23                  just to go and cause havoc on the community. Common sense  
24                  kicks in. No, you can't do that. [14 lines redacted -  
25                  ongoing investigation]. No justice.

1                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** So, how do you think  
2                   that that can be fixed? Is it fixable, this problem that  
3                   you're talking about, the intergenerational trauma leading  
4                   to all this violence in the communities? Do you have any  
5                   recommendations or solutions that you would like to share  
6                   with the Inquiry? How can this get fixed?

7                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** The elders -- there's an  
8                   elder committee for the justice system. They're there to  
9                   give leniency to the people who are doing criminal  
10                  activities. Then, they're asking the Quebec justice system  
11                  to slap them on the wrist. "We're Aboriginal. We're  
12                  Inuit. They should not be away from their community. They  
13                  should not be away from their family for a long period of  
14                  time."

15                  Most of the elders that harm people are the  
16                  same people that harm me. I'm 55 years old. So, it was my  
17                  elders, people older than me that had harmed me. So,  
18                  they're trying to find retribution or they're trying to  
19                  find forgiveness in giving leniency on the young people of  
20                  today.

21                  There should be no elders committee for the  
22                  justice system. Leave the justice system for the  
23                  professional justice of Quebec. Leave it up to the judge.  
24                  Leave it up to the judge and jury. Leave it up to the  
25                  police. Leave it up to those who have authority to give

1 the sentencing.

2 Do not listen to the elders. The elders are  
3 looking for forgiveness in their own life for what they  
4 done to us when we were growing. I don't know if you  
5 understand, but that's the way that I see it.

6 If I lived in Nunavik and if I lived in  
7 Wakeham Bay and the elders that are on the justice  
8 committee, if they did something to me when I was growing  
9 up and they saw that I was in trouble, they'd look for  
10 leniency. "Do not give Bernie such a harsh sentence."  
11 And, that's how I see it up there. They're getting a slap  
12 on the wrist by the elders. And, the justice system,  
13 Quebec justice system, is listening to the adults.

14 If it's a serious crime -- my son [*two lines*  
15 *redacted - ongoing investigation*]. A violent, brutal  
16 murder. Kamugaaluk, who killed him, should not get five or  
17 six years for that brutal murder. He should be spending 25  
18 years to the rest of his life in prison.

19 But, the elders' justice system up here,  
20 they'll find an excuse. I'm a 55-year-old Labrador Eskimo.  
21 My mom always told me, "My son Bun, don't ever be afraid to  
22 use the term, Eskimo. Your mother is an Eskimo. I'm from  
23 Cape Bosebo (phonetic). Your grandmother is an Eskimo.  
24 She's from (indiscernible). Your grandfather and  
25 grandmother are Eskimos. Don't ever be afraid to use the

1 term, Eskimo." I call my children Labrador Eskimos.

2 But, the elders on the justice committee and  
3 the Quebec justice system, "Poor little Inuit people. They  
4 had a rough life. They -- oh, no, we can't give them a  
5 severe punishment."

6 I'm 55 years old. I was no different than  
7 Kamugaaluk, [Man 2] (phonetic), [Man 3] (phonetic) or any  
8 other violent person in the community when they're drunk.  
9 If I can change my life, if I can stay away from alcohol  
10 and drugs for 33 years -- I'm sober today. They're using  
11 alcohol and drugs as a crutch.

12 I knew what I did. It's up to the police  
13 across Canada to find out, did Bernie do this, did Bernie  
14 do that? I know what I did. If I get a knock on the door  
15 and said, "Bernie Adams, you have to come with us," okay.  
16 That's if I did something while I was drunk or stoned.

17 I remember a lot I did. I'm not using  
18 alcohol or drugs as an excuse for any crimes that I  
19 committed in my past. I know what I did. I know what I'm  
20 capable of doing. "I can't remember kicking the shit or  
21 kicking somebody's face in and blood coming out of their  
22 ears and nose and mouth and knocking out their teeth, I  
23 can't remember," but yes, I do. I remember.

24 Using alcohol or drugs as an excuse, that's  
25 what it is. The Quebec justice system or any court in

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Aunt 1 & Robert Adams)**

1 Canada, in the news down south, in the news up here,  
2 Aboriginal, First Nations, violent, violent tenacity. Yes,  
3 we are. Yes, we are. It's how we grew up. It's how  
4 alcohol and drugs became a part of me when I was 10 years  
5 old.

6 When I went to rehab, I had to find a way to  
7 -- I had to learn to stop thinking like a 5-year-old and  
8 start acting like a 22-year-old. Once a person starts  
9 alcohol and drugs at whatever age, that's where their  
10 learning capacity stops. To me, this is what I think.

11 I started booze and drugs when I was 10.  
12 From 10 years old to 22 years old, I was thinking like a  
13 10-year-old. We would be fighting, stealing, stealing  
14 cars, breaking into people's homes, "Give me your money."  
15 I was thinking like a 10-year-old.

16 I am 55. I don't like -- I feel as though  
17 I'm not 55. Yes, I feel like I'm only in my 30's, learning  
18 how to live on a daily basis, learning how to cope with the  
19 stress and the struggles. I did not know how to deal with  
20 that when I was growing up.

21 I had no support. I had no role models. My  
22 dad drunk every day. My mom getting beat up every day, but  
23 she'd go play Bingo until 10:00, 11:00 at night. Then she  
24 started having affairs, so that left me home with a younger  
25 brother and a younger sister. Older brother was out

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1 partying.

2 So, I had no guidance when I was growing up.  
3 I had to learn fast. I was cooking for my younger brother  
4 and sister, when I was 12, 13 years old. I was being a  
5 mother and a father at a young age. This is what the Inuit  
6 are going through, that mentality, like I said, jumping  
7 back 40 years. That's the mentality that I see.

8 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Today?

9 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Today. They're slowly  
10 growing, but the violence is out of hand, not only in  
11 Wakeham Bay. You go to the Quebec court. You ask them to  
12 see the dockets for other communities. Ninety to 95  
13 percent of the convictions that they have in each  
14 community, alcohol- and drug-related. What are the ages?  
15 Eighteen to 35-years-old. Very violent.

16 The way that I grew up and the way that my  
17 children are growing up, I had to fight. I had to work for  
18 what I want. My children, they know they have to work, but  
19 they know that they can depend on daddy. This is their  
20 generation, 28, 29 to 35-years-old that are spoiled,  
21 spoiled, spoiled, "I'm going to get drunk. I'm going to  
22 beat somebody up. Oh, it's not my responsibility. I can't  
23 remember." That's part of my doing.

24 But, as long as I show them that, use your  
25 common sense, they don't use common sense all the time.



1 They do not use common sense. They do it spur of the  
2 moment. It's done without thinking the consequences  
3 afterwards. My children are starting to realize think  
4 before you do something stupid, but it's too late now. My  
5 son is dead. He wasn't using his common sense.

6 [Daughter 2], [Son 1], [Son 2], [Daughter 1]  
7 and my wife and Robert, before going out, "I love you. Be  
8 careful. Wherever you're going, know who you're going to  
9 be with. Do not get drunk. Do not get stoned. Do not go  
10 to a place where there's lots of violence. Kiss you, hug  
11 you, talk to you later. Good-bye."

12 Those six solutions that I gave to my  
13 children on a daily basis did not sink into Robert's head,  
14 or it probably sunk in, but he did not listen. He did not  
15 realize that something serious could happen.

16 So, my son's death is not my responsibility.  
17 My son's death is the one who murdered him, and my son  
18 putting himself in that position. Kind of harsh, kind of  
19 cruel to say, but that's my reality. I did not put my son  
20 in that position for him to die. It's the environment that  
21 we live in, Elaine's.

22 The young woman, Lorraine Saunders, she's --  
23 her parents are friends of my older brothers and sisters.  
24 She's the young Labrador Inuk that was murdered in Halifax,  
25 and her body was disposed of in New Brunswick. That's

1 another young woman that I knew by her family.

2           Once I saw that on the news, I got my  
3 children to sit down, watch the news. Anything can happen  
4 at any time. Wrong place, wrong time. She was not  
5 expecting that to happen, the same way my son wasn't  
6 expecting to be stabbed three times.

7           But, common sense and it's the environment  
8 that we live in with the authorities and those put in  
9 charge. Like I said, the town, municipality, the mayor,  
10 KRG, Makkovik, they're the ones who are supposed to be  
11 representing and helping the Inuit. They're not helping  
12 us.

13           If they were helping us, I would not know 74  
14 people that died by suicide, and I would not know of at  
15 least two men that I know, my son and [Victim 1], that [Man  
16 2] killed in Wakeham Bay six-and-a-half years ago. If they  
17 cared, they'd be doing something about it, but they're not  
18 doing nothing.

19           That's why I did my Eye on the Arctic  
20 interview. I want to embarrass. I want to shame. I want  
21 to humiliate KRG, Makkovik, nursing board, justice system.  
22 I want to embarrass, "Look what you guys are doing to our  
23 people." People are telling me that I want to be famous.  
24 I don't want to be famous. No, I don't. I want what's  
25 right for our people. I want justice for our people.

1 Nobody else is standing up.

2 The young reporter from Montreal that came  
3 to my house for nine days, "You're the only Inuk man that's  
4 willing to throw everybody under the bus." I wanted to  
5 talk about what I wanted to talk about. There's also  
6 issues from the past 20 years before my son's death. But,  
7 when my son died, I was throwing everybody under the bus.  
8 ICC, I threw them under the bus. Pauktuutit, I threw them  
9 under the bus. Sad to say, Missing and Murdered Indigenous  
10 Women and Girls, I threw them under the bus.

11 Why do MMIWG only deal with murdered women  
12 and girls? What about the men and boys? I know men -- I  
13 know boys that were murdered. Why do we have to be racist?  
14 The report from the Eye on the Arctic, "Are you sure you  
15 want me to publish the story?" "Yes. I want to throw  
16 everybody under the bus, the federal government, ICC,  
17 Pauktuutit."

18 Pauktuutit, my mom was vice-president for  
19 the elders, [Mom]. My sister, [Sister 1], she was one of  
20 the representatives for Pauktuutit. I told her my view is  
21 that how the Inuit men are being mistreated by the Inuit  
22 women. "Why can't Pauktuutit help the men to do something  
23 about it?" "We're only here for the women."

24 So, to me, that's a racist organization.  
25 MMIWG, I'm glad that you guys are here to get the stories,

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1 but this, to me, could be a racist organization, helping  
2 women and girls. Who is there to help the boys and the  
3 men? How can I, as a father, get through the emotional  
4 trauma that I'm going through if I don't have an  
5 organization to go to or to talk to?

6 MMIWG gave me their telephone numbers, but I  
7 feel bad because my mom told me always respect those who  
8 are in charge and who may be elders. So, I feel bad  
9 thinking about phoning MMIWG, "This is what I'm feeling.  
10 This is what I'm going through." So, I just closed my  
11 mouth. If I feel this way towards any organization, why  
12 should I be a hypocrite and go ask for help?

13 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** But, that's how  
14 change happens; right?

15 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes. My mind at times  
16 could be very confusing, but that's the way that I learned.  
17 I was programmed. I was programmed by my mom. She was  
18 programmed by the residential school.

19 Today, 55 years old, I don't speak  
20 Inuktitut. I don't understand Inuktitut. I lived in  
21 Mica Bay. I lived in Nunavik since 1990. So, that would  
22 have given me a lot of time to learn the Inuktitut  
23 language, to understand it, to write it and to speak it.

24 But, it's ingrained in my brain. The  
25 federal government residential school did not want my

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1 mother to teach us. My mother did not teach us, so I did  
2 not want to learn. It's an ingrained. They did not want  
3 us to be savages, but I turned out to be a savage. I still  
4 am a savage. I still eat raw meat.

5 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** I'm going to correct  
6 you on that point. Just because you eat raw meat doesn't  
7 mean you're a savage. You're an Eskimo. You're a raw meat  
8 eater. There's a difference.

9 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes. That there is what  
10 I was taught growing up, "You're a savage."

11 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Yes.

12 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** I know I'm not a savage,  
13 but that's what I was told. It's ingrained in me.

14 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Yes.

15 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Go to school, listen to  
16 the teachers, listen to the white people, so that's what I  
17 did. I was in the Air Cadets for six-and-a-half years. I  
18 wanted to make the military my career. It's my own  
19 stupidity that I got kicked out of the military.

20 I did not admit that I was an alcoholic, and  
21 we did not say, "I'm sorry, sir, I need help." It started  
22 saying, "Kick me the fuck out of the Army." That's my  
23 responsibility. It's ingrained in me to be who I am.  
24 Schools, justice system, police, knowing what my human  
25 rights are and what my human rights aren't, standing up for

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1 myself.

2 A lot of people in AA, my sister, [Sister 1]  
3 and Ellis for Eye on the Arctic, "Are you not scared to be  
4 talking about your struggles? Are you not scared that you  
5 may be putting a target on the back of your head?"

6 Go ahead. If you think I offended you in  
7 any way, that means I hit a nerve and what I said was true.  
8 And, this is what the Missing and Murdered Indigenous women  
9 -- this is what people down south has to understand.

10 Inuit, First Nations or you want to call  
11 them Aboriginals of Canada, the first people of Canada, you  
12 see us as drunken, fallen-down alcoholics who do not care  
13 about their life. You could be 100 percent true. This is  
14 what you want to see. This is what you hear on the news.  
15 This is what you see on the news.

16 But, you do not see us fighting for our  
17 children's safety. They do not know how we grew up. They  
18 did not walk in our shoes to get where I'm at today.  
19 Psychologists, psychiatrists in the past when I went to  
20 rehab, they were amazed of how I survived to be 22 years  
21 old. "You went through so much. You survived. I do not  
22 know how you did it. You should have been dead many times  
23 over."

24 And, I agree with what they said.  
25 Determination, resilience, being from a strong culture,

1 coming from a strong-minded mother, father, brothers and  
2 sisters, me living my life for my brothers and sisters that  
3 died at a young age, this is why I keep going.

4 My brothers and sisters are still telling  
5 me, "Don't give up. You can have more than we ever had."  
6 So, that's what I'm doing. I'm living my life for them.  
7 I'm living my life for me and my children.

8 Before I'm being judged by society down  
9 south without them knowing we're drunken Eskimos, we're  
10 falling down and "Yes, you guys deserve to be on the  
11 streets peddling for money," making an asshole -- or being  
12 embarrassed seeing us down there, do not judge us without  
13 knowing what we went through.

14 Most of the white people huddling up down  
15 south, they're protected by a big bubble. Inuit, First  
16 Nations, our bubble was burst from the day we were born.  
17 We had to fight to survive to get where we're at today.  
18 That's the way that I see it. I had to fight to be where  
19 I'm at today.

20 Fighting verbally now, in the past, fighting  
21 physically. I prefer to be verbally fighting today instead  
22 of physically. That's what I would like MMIWG to show and  
23 to represent to the people down south or to the Inquiry,  
24 those in charge.

25 These are some of the reasons why I believe

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1 women are being murdered. This is the reason why I believe  
2 my son was murdered. This is why I believe I got away from  
3 alcohol and drugs, because I could be a murderer myself,  
4 could have been, but I had to change my life.

5 I had to change my way of thinking. I had  
6 to change my belief. I had to change. The world does not  
7 revolve around me. There are other people that's involved  
8 in my life, so it's not my world. I'm trying to do the  
9 best I can with the knowledge that I know to help protect  
10 my sons and daughters and my grandchildren, and your sons  
11 and daughters and grandchildren.

12 My son was murdered on the 19<sup>th</sup> in Wakeham  
13 Bay. One week later, a young nurse was murdered over here.  
14 Sad to say, Inuit tradition murder, Francophone being  
15 murdered, what's the criminal justice system going to say?  
16 What's the verdict going to be? Is it going to be  
17 different for my son or is it going to be different for the  
18 young, Francophone woman that was murdered?

19 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Mm-hmm.

20 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** That's the question that  
21 I have.

22 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Mm-hmm.

23 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** My condolences to the  
24 young woman's family. I know what they're going through.  
25 But, being stereotyped all my life, my culture being



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1 stereotyped, is this murderer going to get six-and-a-half  
2 years or is this murdered going to get 20 to 25 years? Why  
3 the difference?

4 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Yeah, why the  
5 difference?

6 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Why the difference?  
7 That's what I'm finding right now. Is there going to be a  
8 difference?

9 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Mm-hmm.

10 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** It's hard to say. It  
11 may be cruel to say, but that's the way life is. Two other  
12 murderers, six-and-a-half years for murdering a man. A  
13 Francophone woman dying, what's the murderer's sentence  
14 going to be? Sad to say, but that's the reality that I  
15 live in. Is there going to be two different justice  
16 systems involved?

17 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Yes.

18 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** And, if there is, there  
19 will be one unhappy father, and I will try -- I will get  
20 something done about it, because a Francophone's death and  
21 an Inuk's death, both of them were loved. They're still  
22 loved today. One should not be receiving a lighter  
23 sentence than the other. No. MMIWG should know that I  
24 will try my best to get equal sentencing for our young  
25 people that are murdered.

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1                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Right.

2                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** But, it's hard to do,  
3 living in an isolated community, because all the  
4 organizations are down south. I'm up here twiddling my  
5 thumbs and twiddling my toes. Who can I talk to? Who can  
6 I talk to?

7                   Everybody is down south. Everybody knows  
8 where to go down south. Up here, we had to wait two, three  
9 weeks, two, three, four months for MMIWG or the social  
10 workers or the Inuit health care workers to go to Wakeham  
11 Bay to talk to us ---

12                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Mm-hmm.

13                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** --- whereas down south,  
14 boom, immediately. You go to an organization. You get  
15 help immediately. Up here, we had to wait. And, that has  
16 to change.

17                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Okay.

18                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** It has to change. I  
19 dealt with many suicides, dealing with my son being  
20 murdered, I need to talk to somebody. I can't talk to my  
21 wife or my children. [*One line redacted - Rule 55*].

22                   I can't tell that to them. That will  
23 shatter their little being. [*One line redacted - Rule 55*].  
24 I can't tell that to my wife and kids. I know I can't. I  
25 need somebody to express that to. So, we have to start

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1 getting organizations available for our young families up  
2 here who are going through what I'm going through.

3 I did not know nothing about preparing a  
4 funeral. [*Six lines redacted - Rule 55*]. Those are the  
5 questions that was throwing onto me the day my son's body  
6 came back from Montreal.

7 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Mm-hmm.

8 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** [*Three lines redacted -*  
9 *Rule 55*]. I should not have to see that. I should not have  
10 to witness it.

11 Why should I have to be a funeral director?  
12 I am not a qualified funeral director. I'm the building  
13 supervisor for the gymnasium. And, they put it on my  
14 shoulders to put the deceased bodies from the morgue  
15 freezer to the gymnasium, back to the morgue freezer, to  
16 the gymnasium, to the graveyard.

17 Why should not -- why shouldn't Nunavik have  
18 a funeral director parlour located in Kuujjuaq that's  
19 capable of going to the communities and dealing with the  
20 deaths, instead of having the parents deal with the deaths  
21 or ---

22 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Mm-hmm.

23 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** --- the dead body of our  
24 loved ones? Those are the questions that I did not know  
25 how to answer. I had to wait three months before I

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1 received my son's death certificate from the hospital board  
2 here, whereas they thought -- they sent an attestation  
3 death to the Landholding Corporation two weeks after my  
4 son's death. Why did the Landholding Corporation get paper  
5 regarding my son's death before me, before the parent?  
6 That's baffling to me. I don't know why.

7 And, I did not know I had to fill out an  
8 application for my son's death certificate. I thought the  
9 death certificate would come automatically from the Quebec  
10 government. I did not know I had to fill out an  
11 application. I did not know I had to send a postal money  
12 order for my son's death certificate. I did not know.

13 These are the unknown questions that I would  
14 like to be placed in a pamphlet. You've got all kinds of  
15 pamphlets at the nursing stations up here, SID, STD, child  
16 pregnancy, suicide grieving, good, good, good, good. Maybe  
17 a pamphlet should be made out, in case your loved one is  
18 murdered, this is what should be done. I don't know.

19 It would have helped me. It would have  
20 helped my wife. It was like I was thrown to the dogs. I  
21 did not know what to do. A suicide and a murder, two  
22 separate themes all together. When a loved one dies by  
23 suicide, wait two or three days for other family members to  
24 come from other communities to attend the funeral. Murder,  
25 body sent down south to be investigated as evidence, eight,

1 nine, ten days.

2 I never got the opportunity or [Wife] never  
3 got the opportunity to kiss our son's hand. We never had  
4 the opportunity to fix his hair. We never had the  
5 opportunity to kiss his lips or kiss his forehead when he  
6 died in the hospital. The nurses told us, the police told  
7 us, "Your son's body is now evidence. You cannot see him.  
8 You cannot touch him." So, for eight days, I was in shock,  
9 wanting to touch him, wanting to hold him, wanting to hug  
10 him one last time.

11 But, we had to wait nine days. We had to  
12 wait nine days for our son's body to be returned. So, for  
13 nine days, my wife and I, we were in limbo, thinking about  
14 our son. Who is taking care of him? Is he being treated  
15 well? Is he being cleaned well? Did they find out exactly  
16 what -- these are the questions that was going through my  
17 mind for eight days, instead of immediately touching or  
18 kissing my son. That's the hardest part that I'm learning  
19 to let go.

20 I'm angry at the police. I'm angry at the  
21 nursing station for telling me and my wife that we could  
22 not touch or kiss our son goodbye. It should have been  
23 done right then and there, instead of eight days later.

24 I know my son was murdered. I know that the  
25 SQ has to follow protocol, but they also have to understand

1 the father and mother loved Robert. We wanted to have that  
2 opportunity to kiss him one more time before believing that  
3 his little spirit is thinking that his mother and father  
4 don't love him.

5 That's what broke my heart, immediately not  
6 being able to touch him, and knowing that my son's little  
7 spirit is gone, but knowing that I wanted to hold him and  
8 kiss him one more time to say, "I'm sorry, my son, that I  
9 wasn't there to hold your hand. I'm sorry that I wasn't  
10 there to love you."

11 But, it's -- it wasn't in my hands. It was  
12 up to the nurses and the police. That's what breaks my  
13 heart, not being able to hold him and say, "I love you,"  
14 kiss his forehead, play with his hair, fix up his hair,  
15 spit-clean his dead lips.

16 He was 19, but I still spit-clean his lips.  
17 That's what I do to all my children, if I see that they're  
18 dirty and on their cheeks, I spit-clean them. "Daddy,  
19 you're embarrassing me." "Well, you should know when your  
20 lips are dirty." But, that's the heartache.

21 If I'm going through this as a father by  
22 losing my son, a mother or a daughter or a sister or an  
23 auntie should not be murdered. They're the givers of life  
24 and they shouldn't be murdered.

25 Inuit culture is a very, very violent

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Aunt 1 & Robert Adams)**

1 culture. We have to learn -- we have to learn to be  
2 socializing -- be sociable to other people. We have to  
3 understand that not all Inuit can handle alcohol in our  
4 bodies. Alcohol is much powerful than we think it is.  
5 Europeans had it for 20,000 years. Inuit have been having  
6 it 300 years. There's a big timeline for us to have the  
7 effects of alcohol in our body.

8 I drink to socialize, but once I started  
9 getting drunk, I knew what I was capable of doing when I  
10 was drunk. The hate for, the angry me, I was able to  
11 express myself. Instead of me walking down the street and  
12 keeping my mouth shut, the real me came out when I was  
13 drunk. Inuit has to learn to understand that the real  
14 person comes out when they're drunk.

15 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Mixed with the  
16 trauma ---

17 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes.

18 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** --- and  
19 intergenerational trauma ---

20 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes.

21 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** --- it's not a good  
22 combination.

23 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** The stories that I  
24 heard, like I said, about my mom and her dealings with the  
25 residential school and my dog and -- my dad killing his

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1 dogs and other stories that they told me, I grabbed onto it  
2 and I became angry for them. So, once I became angry, I  
3 took their anger and then I got angry; a very bad mix.

4 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Can I ask you, why  
5 did your dad have to kill his dogs?

6 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Slaughter.

7 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Dog slaughter?

8 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Dog slaughter. My dad  
9 did not want no white man to kill 14 of his dogs. He  
10 killed them himself. That must have been tough on him,  
11 taking him from point A to point B, being his companions.  
12 It took a stronger man than I'll ever be to do what he had  
13 to do for his dogs. And then he ended up walking, bumming  
14 rides, instead of going -- having his dogs to go check his  
15 traps or go seal hunting.

16 I can understand why my dad beat me, when I  
17 was growing up, the way that he did. I forgave him and my  
18 mom years and years ago for chasing me around the house  
19 with the extension cord, or belts, or any object that was  
20 close to them, cracked me over the head while they were  
21 made or angry when I did something wrong. I know now this  
22 was shown to them when they were growing up.

23 When I started having my children, I started  
24 doing the same thing to my daughters and my sons, smacking  
25 their ass. But, it's been about 14 years I haven't smacked



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1 my children's ass. I knew what I was doing was wrong. My  
2 mom and dad did it to me. It was shown to them. They  
3 taught me. And, I stopped. I still shout at my children  
4 when they piss me off, but I don't crack their ass no more.  
5 I know it's wrong. I know the hurt and the pain that I  
6 caused my children, and I had to forgive myself. It's up  
7 to my children to forgive me or keep dealing or living with  
8 it, the same way I had to do.

9 Black and blue, head to toe, good old belts,  
10 thicker extension cords, about three-quarter inch beam,  
11 chased around the house by my mom and dad, because I didn't  
12 want to feel the hurt and the pain no more. It wasn't one  
13 or two cracks. "You want to goddamn disobey me? Don't,  
14 don't," a two, three, four-minute beating.

15 Okay. In order for me -- like I say, in  
16 order for me not to feel hurt and pain, I will hurt you  
17 first. That was my mentality when I was 14. "I'll kill  
18 your cat. I'll kill your dog. I'll kill your fish. I'll  
19 hurt you first before you hurt me." That's what I did to  
20 my mom's and dad's animals. "You have more compassion and  
21 more love for your dog and your fish." Jealous. I killed  
22 them myself.

23 "You're crazy. You're mental." "No, I'm  
24 not crazy. No, I'm not mental. You love them more than  
25 you love me? Okay. You can't love nobody." Eight, nine,

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1           ten years old. We can be revengeful people sometimes,  
2           without us knowing what we're doing.

3                           **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** And, that's what  
4           you're seeing in the society today?

5                           **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes. They can deny it  
6           all they want to. There's alcohol and drugs. There's  
7           alcohol and drugs. If you want to deny the fact that you  
8           grew up the same way as I grew up, and your parents grew up  
9           the same way as I grew up, with all this trauma that's been  
10          -- that you've seen all your life.

11                          Today, my grandson, [Grandson 1], he has  
12          been put in a position where he's seeing my daughter's  
13          boyfriend beating her up. "[Daughter 2], get away from  
14          him. [Daughter 2], separate from him, kick him out. Kick  
15          him out of your apartment. Your son is being traumatized.  
16          Your son is being hurt." She did not want to see it.

17                          It's not only my daughter. It's all the  
18          young women that I know of in Wakeham Bay, getting beaten,  
19          getting abused, getting the shit kicked out of them. Then  
20          their boyfriends or husbands, "Oh, I'm sorry. I won't do  
21          it again. I promise I won't do it again. I'll be a better  
22          person," buy them something nice. A couple of weeks later,  
23          the same thing happens.

24                          The same thing happened when I was growing  
25          up. My dad was buying my mom off, my mom buying me off. I

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1 never, ever bought off my children. You have [Daughter 2],  
2 [Son 1], [Son 2], [Daughter 1], Robert, [Daughter 5],  
3 [Daughter 3], [Daughter 4] and my two grandsons. All of my  
4 children, I do not have a favourite. I treat one the same  
5 as I treat the others. I love [Daughter 2] the same way as  
6 I love Baby Inuk. I love [Son 1], my oldest son, the same  
7 way as I loved his brother, Robert. I did not love one  
8 more than the other. I did not give one more than the  
9 other.

10 "I love you. You guys are doing good in  
11 school. You guys are graduating. I will get you  
12 something." "You love this person more than you love me."  
13 "Oh, no, no, no. Did you graduate to your next high school  
14 level? What did you get?" "A bicycle." "What did I get  
15 your sister?" "A bicycle." There you go. I did not give  
16 one -- I did not treat one special and I did not treat one  
17 worse. They were treated all the same way. That's the  
18 difference that my children, who are now mothers, that's  
19 what they don't understand.

20 They expect and my wife, their mother, to be  
21 babysitting our grandson seven days a week. Oh, no, no,  
22 no. "You guys wanted to have the fun, but you guys don't  
23 want to take care of the fun when the baby is born." Me  
24 and [Wife] - [Daughter 1], [Son 1], [Son 2], [Daughter 2],  
25 Robert, [Daughter 3], [Daughter 4], [Daughter 5], we had

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1 eight children. No aunts, no uncles, no brothers, no  
2 sisters. Mother-in-law did not want anything to do with  
3 us, so it was me and [Wife] taking care of our children by  
4 ourselves.

5 Now, the young kids these days, "Take care  
6 of my son. Take care of my son." "No, I will take my  
7 grandson when I want to take him. You do not leave him  
8 with us when you want to go out and get drunk and get  
9 stoned." That's what they believe is their right.

10 "No, you're right, not to get drunk, not to  
11 get stoned, be home, love your son, the same way as me and  
12 your mother stayed home and loved you guys." But, I was  
13 more of a mother than [Wife] was the mother. [Wife] was  
14 out getting drunk, getting stoned. That's what I had to  
15 learn to forgive about my wife.

16 [One line redacted - Rule 55]. My belief,  
17 God put [Wife] in my life for me to be with her, to raise  
18 our children. And, if I turn my back on my wife, I'm  
19 turning my back on God. And, He's saying, "You are the one  
20 that's placing the last spike in my hands," and I do not  
21 want to turn my back on that. I'm scared.

22 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Do you want to take  
23 a break before continuing?

24 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** I'm good.

25 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Do you have anything

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1 to add? I don't really have any questions.

2 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Oh, I thought you had  
3 lots of questions for me.

4 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** No, no. See, this  
5 process is about you telling your truth, your story. It's  
6 not me to question it. Even though I'm a lawyer or I'm a  
7 statement taker, we're here to listen to you, to record it,  
8 so that the Commissioners can hear it.

9 And, what I'm going to get you to sign and  
10 explain to you is the consent form, because there's two  
11 different ways that your story can be recorded into the  
12 Inquiry is the public where all the information that has  
13 been provided the names that you've mentioned, everything  
14 that you've suggested, the recommendations, all the  
15 organizations that you're throwing under the bus, that can  
16 be public, made public so that it's included in the public  
17 report, parts of it, not the whole thing but, you know,  
18 parts of it. Or, if you don't want that to be public, it  
19 will be made in-camera.

20 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** No. I want everything  
21 to be public. I want to throw everybody under the bus. I  
22 want them to see how much hurt and how much pain a person  
23 endures from five years old to 55 and everything else,  
24 the ---

25 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Yes.

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1                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** --- the happy times and  
2                   the death times.

3                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Yes, okay. But, I'm  
4                   going to get you to -- this is your copy. You can go  
5                   through that. It gives you the different explanations of,  
6                   you know, what happens when it's a public statement or what  
7                   happens when it's an in-camera statement. But, yours is  
8                   public and you're okay with it being made public.

9                   So, that's for you to review and keep. If  
10                  you have any questions, you can contact us. So, this is  
11                  the consent form that I need you to sign.

12                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Okay.

13                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** You can read it.  
14                  And, this is where you consent that your statement is to be  
15                  public. So, you would check there, sign here, and I'll  
16                  have Normand witness it for you.

17                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Okay.

18                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** And, after that, if  
19                  you have any questions for me or anything that you feel you  
20                  want to add, you can continue. If you want to take a break  
21                  or if you're finished, we can finish your statement at this  
22                  point.

23                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** I think everything that  
24                  I mentioned or everything that I talked about, how my life  
25                  came to where it is at today and everything that I had to

1 learn to deal with, especially my son's death and the women  
2 that I knew that died by murder, who are still missing.

3 It's not a spur-of-the-moment thing. We  
4 grew up in an environment like I did, not knowing or we did  
5 know this could happen to us, if we did not keep our  
6 emotion. I could have been murdered many times. I could  
7 have been killed many times. I could have murdered my dad.  
8 But, my mom did not want me to, once she saw the knife  
9 under my pillow.

10 It's how we grew up and how we deal with it  
11 at that time and how I deal with it now. I don't want to  
12 murder nobody now. If, if he gets six, six-and-a-half  
13 years in prison, I may as well end up shooting him, killing  
14 him myself, and go to prison for six-and-a-half years. At  
15 least I will feel justified.

16 But, by saying that and having it and not  
17 carrying out, it would be premeditated and I will get life.  
18 So, there's no reason for me to do what I wanted to do.  
19 Sensibility and common sense kicks in sometimes.

20 [Consent dialogue omitted].

21 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Mr. Robik (phonetic), I  
22 knew him growing up in Labrador. He knows my stance on how  
23 the Inuit are being treated since Day One, but he's going  
24 through the crooks and crannies to make himself look  
25 better. I do not agree with his politics.

1                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** And, that's  
2                   happening a lot in all of the regions when we meet with  
3                   people. It's the same.

4                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes.

5                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Most of it is the  
6                   same.

7                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** That's why I threw  
8                   everybody under the bus, the president, [Individual 1],  
9                   [Individual 4], KRG, nursing stations. If I'm going to go  
10                  after someone, I may as well go after everyone. Something  
11                  has to change. Somebody somewhere has to realize maybe  
12                  what Bernie Adams is saying, maybe there's a little bit of  
13                  truth behind it, maybe we could start doing something about  
14                  it.

15                  They better start doing something about it  
16                  before my grandchildren get bigger. Then they're  
17                  alcoholics and drug addicts and doing what I was doing,  
18                  thinking that it's normal to go around kicking people's  
19                  faces in. I was told when I was growing up by my brothers  
20                  and their friends, "If you're going to have a fight, make  
21                  sure you kick the shit out of them, so they do not get up  
22                  and harm you." That's the way that I learned how to fight.

23                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Mm-hmm.

24                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** You kick them down. You  
25                  start kicking the shit out of them. If they're not going



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1 to get up, they can't harm you. That's the way that I  
2 learned how to fight and that's the way that I fought.

3 I don't want my grandchildren to do the same  
4 thing I did. I don't want them to keep doing the same  
5 thing their mothers are doing, my daughters are doing. It  
6 has to change.

7 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** So, throwing the  
8 organizations under the bus, right, what would you do  
9 differently? What would you change that needs to change  
10 then? Because something has to be done. It's one thing to  
11 throw them under the bus, but then what do you do?

12 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Federal government has  
13 Canada Post Office. They make billions of dollars a year  
14 sending parcels and mail throughout the world. Drug  
15 dealers down south, drug suppliers, are using the post  
16 office to send their illegal booze, send their illegal  
17 drugs to Nunavik.

18 If they're making billions of dollars a  
19 year, the post office should be able to build a building to  
20 have a place where a dog can sniff out the illegal drugs.  
21 It's not only marijuana. It's not only hash. It's  
22 Ecstasy. It's cocaine. It's heroin. It's ice. All of  
23 that is up here. There's more drugs up here than there is  
24 down south.

25 The same with [Business 3] and [Organization

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1           1]. They're using that source of transportation to get  
2           those illegal drugs and liquor where our young people are  
3           killing themselves. [Business 3], [Business 4] and  
4           [Organization 1] making millions of dollars a year on cargo  
5           allowance. If I wanted a box of goods sent up here, \$150,  
6           \$200. So, if they're making \$200 off of me and \$200 off of  
7           you, they're making millions of dollars. They should be  
8           able to have a dog sniffing, canine, with the alcohol and  
9           drugs.

10                         There's more booze and drugs up here than  
11           there is down south. [Organization 1] is held responsible,  
12           [Business 4] is held responsible, post office is held  
13           responsible, and [Business 3] is held responsible. I hold  
14           them responsible, partially responsible for my son's death.

15                         The two suicides, young men and women in  
16           Wakeham Bay, they were drunk. The young woman that died on  
17           the Honda accident, she was drunk. Her passenger, she was  
18           drunk. She's still at the Montreal General Hospital with  
19           her pelvis rotted up with screws and nuts and bolts.

20                         Somebody had to be held accountable where  
21           the booze and drugs are coming up from down south. We're  
22           not walking the booze and drugs up here. No. [Business 3],  
23           [Business 4], [Individual 1], the President of  
24           [Organization 1], [Individuals 2 & 3], anyone who is a  
25           representative of [Organization 1], they all should be held

1           accountable for my son.

2                        If I knew a way to take a civil action suit  
3           against [Business 3], [Organization 1], [Business 4],  
4           Canada Post Office, [Business 1], where they're laundering  
5           the drug money to be sent back down south, send it to  
6           (indiscernible), I'd be taking them all to court on a civil  
7           matter, and I'd be suing everybody for as much as I can get  
8           for the death of my son.

9                        If it wasn't for the illegal drugs and  
10          alcohol being on the planes to go to Wakeham Bay, my son  
11          would probably still alive.  Somebody somewhere has to stop  
12          being slapped on the wrist and say, "Holy shit, Bernie is  
13          right."

14                      We know who the drug dealers are.  They come  
15          here quite often, once or twice a week with boxes going up  
16          Nunavik.  They're getting paid X amount of dollars to ship  
17          the box up here.  They're making millions of dollars on the  
18          death of innocent people.

19                      We may be drunks, we may be druggies, we may  
20          be mouthy, but we're still people.  They're the ones that  
21          are deciding one or two drunken Inuit, we don't care.  
22          [Organization 1] don't care.  [Business 3] don't care.  
23          [Business 4] don't care.  KRG don't care.  They don't care.

24                      If these organizations cared about their  
25          people, somebody somewhere would have put their foot down

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1 automatically and start getting rid of the problems. See  
2 no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil, that's Makivik, KRG,  
3 Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services.  
4 That's Nathan Obit (phonetic), that's Pauktuutit.

5 I gave them letters in the past about the  
6 social issues. Not one representative replied back to me.  
7 Not one. Because I'm not a woman, Pauktuutit is not going  
8 to say nothing back to me. That's the way that I see it.  
9 I gave a letter to my mom. I gave a letter to my sister to  
10 give to Pauktuutit, and I c.c.'d my mom who used to be also  
11 the vice-president for the elders on ICC. I gave her my  
12 concerns. She gave it to whoever was in charge, Mary  
13 Simon. Nothing has been done. Those in charge don't want  
14 to get their hands dirty.

15 I don't mind getting my hands dirty. I  
16 don't mind. My life from five years old to 22 years old,  
17 it was a dirty life. It was an embarrassing life. It was  
18 a shameful life. It was a scary life. Learning how to  
19 deal with it at 22 until now, 33 years sober, learning to  
20 forgive others, learning to forgive myself, I'm no longer  
21 embarrassed about the life that I lived.

22 That's my experience. That's my story.  
23 That's my life. If I lived this kind of life, how many  
24 other people behind me lived the same kind of life, but are  
25 scared to talk about it? If I can hear someone, someone's

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1 message similar to mine, that's what got me out of my  
2 shell, when I went to my second rehab centre.

3 I got tired of listening to my story and me  
4 not saying nothing. I'm listening to my story and I'm  
5 crying. The other client sitting next to me, holding my  
6 hand, touching my arm, "Why are you crying?" "Leave me  
7 out. I'm too embarrassed to talk about it." But, once I  
8 had enough courage to talk about what I had to talk about,  
9 like I said, the flood gates opened.

10 My life today as an alcoholic and a member  
11 of Alcoholics Anonymous, my life is an open book. I do not  
12 mind talking about my life. I don't mind whatsoever. My  
13 life is my story. Other members in AA told me I'm reliving  
14 my past. Why don't I forget about it? I can't. My past  
15 is my past. My past is my story. My story may help  
16 somebody else with the shit that they're going through.

17 It takes a strong person to talk about their  
18 past. Sometimes I pat myself on the shoulder. Sometimes  
19 the Good Man upstairs gives me a good pat and he says,  
20 "You're doing what you're supposed to be doing." Thank you  
21 for giving me the strength for talking. Thank you for not  
22 letting me be shy.

23 My wife was watching -- we were children,  
24 both in Indian residential school. And, I explained to  
25 [Wife] that this is what happened to Inuit and the First

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1 Nations back in the '40s, '50s, '60s, '70s and '80s. This  
2 is what my mom went through.

3 She was listening to the story of the man  
4 and the woman. She could not believe how cruel the school  
5 or the church system was to Inuit and First Nations. She  
6 heard about the stories, but she did not really see the  
7 stories on TV.

8 I tried to explain to her about the stories  
9 that my mom told me. She could not understand the stories  
10 that my mom was trying to tell her years and years ago  
11 until last night. White people are cruel. And, I said,  
12 "White people has been doing that for the Inuit and First  
13 Nations for hundreds of years."

14 I went to University of Winnipeg, 1983,  
15 1984. I wanted to go there for a couple of years to get  
16 some education and to find a university that I could become  
17 a lawyer. I wanted to be a lawyer once upon a time. I  
18 wanted to show my wife we're not all bad people. It's what  
19 we do with what we're shown and how other people treated  
20 us. I tried to explain to her, hundreds of years, European  
21 settlers came to Canada, taking what they wanted. We  
22 believed in them. These are gods to us. They know better  
23 than us.

24 Trying to teach my children -- my mom tried  
25 to teach me and told me, "They're no better than you." I

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1 tell my children white people are no better than us. They  
2 may be more educated than us, but we cannot put them up on  
3 pedestals like we once did, and we do not allow them to  
4 walk on us, to think that they're better than us.

5 "But, Daddy, we're scared." You've got to  
6 find it in yourself to stand up. Standing up to  
7 Pauktuutit, standing up to -- standing up to Prime Minister  
8 Trudeau, standing up to Prime Minister Mulroney. I stood  
9 up for what I believed in as being a Labrador Eskimo. You  
10 cannot take our land from us. Did they listen? No.

11 But, I let my voice be heard. Makivik, KRG,  
12 I'm letting my voice be heard. MMIWG, letting my voice be  
13 heard, what I experienced, what I went through, the  
14 unnecessary deaths because of either domestic violence,  
15 violence, alcohol or drugs. No need. No need.

16 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** It has to stop.

17 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Society, southern  
18 society has to understand we're not -- the Inuit, First  
19 Nations are not naïve. We're not stupid. We're told at a  
20 younger age by our parents, by our elders, by our  
21 grandparents, "Shh, don't say nothing. Don't say nothing  
22 to anybody. That's our secret."

23 For a lot of years, shh, secrets got me  
24 drunk, secrets got me stoned, secrets wanted to kill me.  
25 Sexually assaulted, raped, "Shh, don't say nothing. Shh, I

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1           won't be your friend. Shh, you're going to be lonely if  
2           you say I did something to you."

3                         These are the scary secrets that I had to  
4           face when I was growing up. Southern society does not  
5           understand how often it happens to the Inuit and First  
6           Nations. They hear about the stories, but they don't feel  
7           it, they don't see it, they don't hear it, they don't hear  
8           it firsthand. "Shh, don't say nothing. That's our  
9           secret."

10                        It's probably happening in your culture, but  
11           to me, it's happening more even today. It's happening  
12           today, even more today than it did when I was growing up.  
13           Somebody somewhere has to plant their feet. Alcohol,  
14           drugs, sexual molestation, intergenerational, residential  
15           schools -- intergenerational, residential schools,  
16           colonialism, dog slaughters, I had to learn to deal with  
17           all of that.

18                        I had to learn to forgive. I had to learn  
19           to forgive my dad. I had to learn to forgive and stop  
20           being angry at society and the church. "Okay, God. Okay,  
21           Anaku (phonetic), whoever you are, I believe it." I  
22           forgive them. Go by a beach, go by waterfalls, say a  
23           prayer to my ancestors, say a prayer to my family. I don't  
24           want to feel like this no more. I will give it to you.

25                        I could be a patient man when I want to be,



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1 but don't try to push too many buttons on me or I will  
2 explode.

3 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** You should become a  
4 motivational speaker.

5 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** I tried to be a Dialogue  
6 for Life speaker for the past four years. "Your story is  
7 too raw. Your story will hurt too many people."

8 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** People are hurting  
9 already.

10 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** People are hurting  
11 already. People need to hurt. People need to hear my  
12 story, in order for them to find out that they can heal and  
13 lead a more productive life. But, they tell me that the  
14 way that I tell my story, it's too raw and it's too  
15 emotional.

16 No, you've got that backwards. In order for  
17 me to get sober today, I had to feel the raw emotions, what  
18 I was feeling then.

19 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** So, that rawness,  
20 like the truth comes out, but we need the services to help  
21 our people heal.

22 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes. Lack of service.  
23 Social workers in my community, I don't want to sound  
24 racist. I don't want to sound ignorant. For the past four  
25 years, we've been having Africans, Asians, Dominican

1 Republics and Francophones as our social workers.

2 I go there to talk about my past and my  
3 hurt, and they do nothing but judge me. I explained to  
4 them that my best friends shot themselves. And, their  
5 reply is they're not going to be getting into the kingdom  
6 of heaven; they're going straight to hell. And, to me, I  
7 do not want to hear garbage like that coming from a  
8 professional.

9 They're there to hear what I had to say to  
10 get off of my chest. And, whatever they say after I leave,  
11 that's their business. But, they do not tell me to my face  
12 they're going directly to hell. My brother, my nephews, my  
13 aunts, my uncles, to me, they died by their hands, yes.  
14 But to me, what I believe, that's God's way of calling them  
15 home, the same way as a person dies by cancer or leukemia  
16 or diabetes or a heart attack. They do not know when their  
17 time is coming. Boom, it happens. God is calling them  
18 home.

19 My belief is the same way about people who  
20 die of suicide. Blackness, mental illness, they had no  
21 control over their thoughts and what they do. And, at the  
22 spur of the moment, boom, one second here -- one second  
23 they're here, a fraction of a second later they're dead.  
24 The same as a heart attack, the same as a person with  
25 cancer.

1                   To me, that's God's way of calling them. I  
2                   may be right, I may be wrong, but that's what I believe.  
3                   But, no professional should tell me to my face they're  
4                   going directly to hell. That's your belief. That's your  
5                   culture. Me and my belief, my culture could be different  
6                   than yours. Other people in the Inuit culture may think  
7                   the same way. I don't know, but that's what I believe.

8                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** So, these  
9                   professionals that are going to the community to help Inuit  
10                  culture sounds like they're not being trained ---

11                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** No.

12                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** --- in cultural  
13                  sensitivity.

14                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** They're getting hired  
15                  from down south to go to Kuujjuaq. The Nunavik Regional  
16                  Board of Health and Social Services, they give them  
17                  whatever qualifications. The next day, they're posted in  
18                  Nunavik communities. They are not friends. They are not  
19                  told about the Inuit culture.

20                  The last woman that came in -- I knew a  
21                  social worker came in maybe four weeks ago. I went to go  
22                  talk to her about me and my son, Robert. And, she asked  
23                  me, "What should I be doing to fit into the community?"

24                  One, you just said it. You asked me. You  
25                  asked somebody from the community what we should be doing.

1                   Two, you should be out walking around,  
2                   greeting the people within the community, "Hello, my name  
3                   is (whoever). I'm the new social worker. I want to learn  
4                   about your lifestyle. I want to learn about your culture.  
5                   I want to learn about your tradition."

6                   So, that's what she's doing. She's taking  
7                   my advice and trying to fit in and trying to find out what  
8                   makes Inuit, Inuit. That's the first person -- I've been  
9                   living in Nunavik since 1990. That's the first person that  
10                  did -- what I saw that was trying to fit into the  
11                  community.

12                 Even the Northern Store managers in Nunavik,  
13                 they're being replaced, and they're they same as social  
14                 workers. They do not get the education of what life is  
15                 like living in an Inuit community and how to deal with  
16                 Inuit. KRPF, they abuse their authority. They dislocated  
17                 my wife's elbow. They gave her a very, very bad black eye  
18                 and a concussion. Another female in the community, the  
19                 same police offer dislocated her elbow. So, the police  
20                 abuse their authority up here.

21                 I was out at the Northern Store one day,  
22                 looking down towards the Co-op Hotel. I see one of my  
23                 friends drunk, waving to me. I thought he was waving to  
24                 me, so I start waving back to him. I see a police car  
25                 coming up behind him. He turned around. He starts putting

**Bernard Adams (Ida Michelin,  
Elaine Flowers, Ida Angutigirk,  
Aunt 1 & Robert Adams)**

1 his hands out towards the police officers. I don't know  
2 what the police officers were thinking. Instead of  
3 stopping, they ran right into him, hit him on the driver's  
4 side. He went flying on the other side of the passenger's  
5 front door. Abuse of authority.

6 They're getting away with it, to the Inuit  
7 people. There's a big turnover of Francophone and  
8 Anglophone KRPf officers. To me, they come up here to get  
9 their training that they need to become police officers in  
10 the Gatineau Region, Montreal, Quebec City, Ottawa region.  
11 They do a six-month stint up here. They see suicides.  
12 They see murders. They see sexual assaults. They see more  
13 violence up here in six months than they would in two or  
14 three years down south.

15 So, once they get the experience up here,  
16 they're hired automatically. After a six-month training  
17 program, they become a police officer. So, they're using  
18 the Inuit as stepping stones. I told that to KRPf  
19 (indiscernible). In one ear and out the other. No one  
20 cares.

21 My feet are planted. I threw everybody  
22 under the bus. If something happens, good. If nothing  
23 happens, I'll stay pissed off, but at least somebody  
24 somewhere knows how I feel. Someone somewhere knows how I  
25 stand and where I stand.

1                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** And hopefully change  
2 starts to happen.

3                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yes. So, there's no  
4 need for me to talk tomorrow? No?

5                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** When you're done  
6 here, you're done.

7                   **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** I took over my suit. I  
8 took over a suit, my tie, my double-breasted ---

9                   **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Wow.

10                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** --- jacket with my new  
11 pants and my Tony Soprano shoes. I was going to get all  
12 dressed up for the Inquiry, but I didn't know this was the  
13 Inquiry.

14                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** This is part of the  
15 Inquiry. Like, this is the statement gathering. I can  
16 turn this off now, because I think we're done? Are you  
17 done?

18                  **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** I think I'm finished.

19                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Yes. And, I'll  
20 explain this to you. So, this is the statement-gathering  
21 portion of the Inquiry. We're not doing...

22 --- Upon recessing

23 --- Upon resuming

24 (Indigenous language being spoken)

25                  **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** So, I would like

1 everyone to introduce themselves by name for the record.

2 **MS. EVA LEPAS:** Eva Lepas (phonetic), I'm a  
3 support worker.

4 **MS. DONNA ROBERTS:** Donna Roberts.

5 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Bernie Adams.

6 **MS. MARY MESHER:** Mary Mesher (phonetic),  
7 support.

8 **MR. NORMAND D'ARAGON:** Normand D'Aragon,  
9 support worker.

10 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Lillian Lundigran,  
11 Commission counsel. Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Bernie,  
12 for being here with us again this morning. It's an honour,  
13 and our understanding is that you would like to continue  
14 today with your -- with your truth and share your  
15 recommendations for the Commissioners that they will  
16 include into the Inquiry, into the report.

17 So, if you would like to begin with what you  
18 would like to share, please go ahead.

19 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** November of last year,  
20 Canada's Prime Minister Trudeau went to Labrador and he  
21 apologized to the Labrador Inuit for the treatment of the  
22 residential schools, and I did not like his apologize. To  
23 me, it was a fake apology. To me, he's a great actor.  
24 He's a good actor with his puppy dog tears.

25 The federal government is taking their time

**Bernard Adams (Ida Michelin,  
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1 in giving out the funds on Missing and Murdered Women and  
2 Girls. They're taking their time on the funds for the  
3 Nunavik and Labrador Inuit that are dying two, three times  
4 faster than people down south due to suicide. I had three  
5 suicides in my community in less than three months. My son  
6 was murdered.

7 Where is the funding? Where are the  
8 organizations that are supposed to be helping the Inuit?  
9 Who are the people who are representing the Inuit? Where  
10 is the meetings? Where is the funding going to? If you  
11 want us not to kill ourselves or to be murdered, you guys  
12 have to learn instead of talking, you've got to show more  
13 action.

14 Millions of dollars are being spent for  
15 suicides. Tens of thousands or millions of dollars are  
16 being spent for rehabs down south. One rehab centre for  
17 Nunavik is not enough. POV, Salluit, should have a rehab  
18 centre. Wakeham Bay, Wakeham Bay is a cesspool. There's  
19 too much violence due to the daily struggles that people  
20 are living through when I explained yesterday in my story,  
21 the social issues. They do not know how to deal with their  
22 past issues.

23 If you want us to stop hanging ourselves and  
24 shooting ourselves and us being murdered, more rehab  
25 centres have to be opened, more qualified people that



1 understand the Inuit culture. It's good that the federal  
2 and Quebec government are sending people up to help the  
3 Inuit in Nunavik, but they are not -- they do not know how  
4 we live. They do not know what happened to our past. They  
5 are not sensitive. They come here to do their job  
6 believing that what they say or what they're going to tell  
7 us is going to help us without us knowing what we went  
8 through.

9 There are not enough people, in my eyes, who  
10 are qualified to learn to deal with all the molestations,  
11 and rapes, and violence that an individual has to grow up  
12 with and learn how to deal with it. So, the funding from  
13 the federal government and the Quebec government, to me,  
14 they want us -- they want us to die, the same way they  
15 wanted us to die off when they first came to Canada. They  
16 knew about the problems, they know about the problems, they  
17 know about the social issues, but they're taking their  
18 time.

19 And, it's people that are in the  
20 organizations like Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women  
21 and Girls that are opening up the eyes, like I said  
22 yesterday. I threw everybody under the bus, and if  
23 Canada's Prime Minister does care and love the Inuit, he  
24 has to learn and he has to understand and he has to do  
25 something about the illegal sales of the alcohol and drugs

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1 coming into Nunavik, and Nunavut, and Labrador.

2 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** Thank you.

3 Nakurmiik.

4 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** You're welcome.

5 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** If there is nothing  
6 else to add, if you feel like you've shared what you wanted  
7 to share ---

8 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Yeah.

9 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** --- the  
10 recommendations are very important. The Commissioners'  
11 work is very important, and (indiscernible) all  
12 recommendations made by family members and survivors. So,  
13 thank you for sharing that today. Nakurmiik.

14 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** You're welcome. Thank  
15 you.

16 **MS. LILLIAN LUNDIGRAN:** If there is nothing  
17 else to add, then we can conclude this portion of your  
18 testimony.

19 **MR. BERNARD ADAMS:** Okay.

20 --- Upon adjourning

21

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LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

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I, Shirley Chang, Court Transcriber, hereby certify that I  
5 have transcribed the foregoing and it is a true and  
6 accurate transcript of the digital audio provided in this  
7 matter.

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Shirley Chang

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September 7, 2018