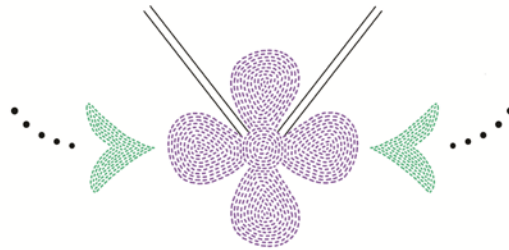


National Inquiry into  
Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls



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  
Hôtel Bonaventure  
Montreal, Quebec**



**PUBLIC**

**March 13, 2018**

**Public Volume 286**

**Dominique Dubé, Johanne Dubé, Marguerite Dubé,  
Martine Dubé & Marcelline Dubé,  
In relation to Marie-Jeanne Line Dubé**

**Heard by Sheila Mazhari**

**INTERNATIONAL REPORTING INC.**

41-5450 Canotek Road, Ottawa, Ontario, K1J 9G2

E-mail: [info@irri.net](mailto:info@irri.net) – Phone: 613-748-6043 – Fax: 613-748-8246

II

Table of Contents

Public Volume 286

March 13, 2018

Witnesses: Dominique Dubé, Johanne Dubé, Martine  
Dubé, Marguerite Dubé & Marcelline Dubé

PAGE

Testimony of Dominique Dubé et al. . . . . 1

Legal Dicta-Typist's Certificate . . . . . 27

Heard by: Sheila Mazhari

**List of exhibits:**

1. Handwritten notes (1 page on both sides)

1 Montreal, Quebec

2 --- Upon commencing on Tuesday, March 13, at 8:50 a.m.

3 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** OK. Hello, my name is  
4 Sheila Mazhari. I'm here with the National Inquiry into  
5 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. It's March  
6 13, 2018, and we're at the Hôtel Bonaventure in Montreal,  
7 Quebec. And who do we have with us?

8 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** (Speaking Atikamekw)  
9 Martine Dubé (speaking Atikamekw). I'm one of the members  
10 of (speaking Atikamekw).

11 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** OK. And yourself?

12 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** My name is Johanne Dubé.  
13 I'm the eldest of the family. I was born on [date of  
14 birth], 1957. I'm here with my father to make a statement  
15 about his children that went missing.

16 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Can you spell your name?

17 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** Johanne Dubé. J-O-H-A-N-N-  
18 E Dubé. D-U-B-É.

19 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** OK. Thank you. And your  
20 name?

21 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Martine Dubé. M-A-R-T-I-N-  
22 E D-U-B-E with an acute accent.

23 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** OK. Thank you. And you?

24 **MS. MARGUERITE DUBÉ:** My name is Marguerite  
25 Dubé. I'm part of the family (laughs), and I'm here with my

1 father to... (laughs).

2 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Yes. (Indiscernible).

3 Because...

4 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** (Speaking Atikamekw)

5 **MS. MARGUERITE DUBÉ:** Should I start over?

6 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Yes. No, just your  
7 name...

8 **MS. MARGUERITE DUBÉ:** Spell my name? My name  
9 is Marguerite Dubé. M-A-R-G-U-E-R-I-T-E. Dubé. D-U-B-E with  
10 an acute accent.

11 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Thank you.

12 **MS. MARCELLINE DUBÉ:** Hello, my name is  
13 Marcelline Dubé. I'm also here with my father Dominique  
14 Dubé, and my name is spelled M-A-R-C-E-L-L-I-N-E D-U-B-E  
15 with an acute accent. Dubé.

16 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Thank you. And you are?

17 **MS. LISE DUBÉ:** Lise Dubé. L-I-S-E. D-U-B-É.  
18 And I'm here to support Dominique's family.

19 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** OK. Thank you very much.  
20 And Dominique, can you introduce yourself?

21 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** (Speaking Atikamekw)

22 **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** Dominique Dubé (speaking  
23 Atikamekw).

24 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** (Speaking Atikamekw)

25 **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous

1 language)

2 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous

3 language) D -

4 **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** D

5 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** D-O-M

6 **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** D-O-M

7 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** I

8 **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** M-I-N-I

9 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** I-Q

10 **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** Q-U-E D-U-B-E

11 (Johanne Dubé and Dominique Dubé speaking an

12 Indigenous language)

13 **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous

14 language) Johanne, Léopold, Maxime, Line, Jean-Guy,

15 Marcelline, Marguerite, Édith, Martine. (Speaking an

16 Indigenous language)

17 (Johanne Dubé and Dominique Dubé speaking an

18 Indigenous language)

19 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** Should I translate?

20 (Laughs). My father said he came here to talk about his

21 children that were born, Pauline Dubé, Johanne, Léopold,

22 Maxime, Line, Jean-Guy, Marcelline, Marguerite, Édith,

23 Martine. One of his children got sick and was taken to the

24 hospital in Amos. In February, he was told that his child,

25 Line, had died. They never got any papers, death

1 certificate, or any other papers. They never got her  
2 medical records either.

3 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** What year was this?

4 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** In 1963.

5 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** OK. And can you spell  
6 the name of...

7 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** The child was two months  
8 old. Almost three months.

9  
10 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** OK. And can you spell  
11 her name?

12 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** Line. Her full name is  
13 Marie-Jeanne Line, but they called her Line. L-I-N-E Dubé  
14 D-U-B-É. He said, to describe her, that the baby had red  
15 hair and very pale skin. And when they took her she was  
16 sick, she had a scalp infection. I don't know what the  
17 disease was, but it was on her head, on the skin.

18 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Which community was this  
19 in?

20 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** Manawan. And they sent her  
21 to the Hôtel-Dieu hospital in Amos.

22 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Can you spell Hôtel-  
23 Dieu? How is it spelled?

24 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** Spelled?

25 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Yes, spelled.

1 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: H-O-T-E-L dash D-I-E-U

2 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: OK. And where was it?

3 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: Amos.

4 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Amos?

5 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: Amos. Yes, Amos. A-M-O-S.

6 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: OK.

7 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: And a man from our  
8 community who did research on the Manawan registry... There  
9 were children in Amos. People who were buried in Amos. And  
10 the name of our child, Line Dubé, was on the list, and it  
11 said she died on February 16, 1963, and was buried on  
12 February 18 at the Christ-Roi cemetery in Amos.

13 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: OK. Can you spell that?

14 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: Christ-Roi?

15 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Yes.

16 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: C-H-R-I-S-T, dash, R-O-I

17 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: This was in Amos?

18 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: Amos.

19 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Amos.

20 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: A-M-O-S.

21 I understand, I don't know if, because for every death  
22 there's always the name of a witness. It's not a witness  
23 that's buried, or I don't know, but it says, "witness  
24 [Person 1] and [Person 2]." That's what it says in the  
25 record that... Someone from Manawan did some research into

1 the children that were buried in the Amos cemetery.

2 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Can you spell these  
3 names as well? Because we need evidence...

4 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: Uh, OK. The witnesses?

5 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Yes, yes, the witnesses.

6 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: [*She starts spelling*],  
7 wait, I don't know. I'm not looking at the right spot. It's  
8 [Person 1]. And the other person is [Person 2].

9 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: OK. Thank you.

10 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: And my father and one of  
11 my sisters went to see if she was really buried there, if  
12 they could find her name on anything, like a monument or  
13 something. Unfortunately, the cemetery was closed, and they  
14 weren't able to go in to check if she really was...

15 MS. MARTINE DUBÉ: ... To find her name.

16 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: What year was this?

17 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: Uh.

18 MS. MARTINE DUBÉ: Last year (indiscernible)  
19 November.

20 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: November. What year?

21 MS. MARTINE DUBÉ: 2017

22 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: 2017. November 2017.

23 What we want is proof that she really died. And we want to  
24 see Line's medical records.

25 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Have you ever tried to



1 obtain the medical records?

2 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** No. We just talked about  
3 it and we were told that we could get the documents online,  
4 but you know, we have limited resources. We also wanted to  
5 go to the police station and ask them to look into it.

6 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** No one would back us, we  
7 didn't get any guidance and weren't told where to go. When  
8 my mother was alive, my mother died on June 29, 2014. She  
9 would often talk about her children, especially the one who  
10 got sick and was taken to the Hôpital-Dieu in Amos. I don't  
11 think she ever got over the... (Cries)... The loss of her  
12 child. I don't think she ever got over it. I'm the  
13 youngest; I'm 49. And my mother - I just have these  
14 memories of it - my mother would always talk to me about my  
15 little sister, sorry, my big sister. And when I think about  
16 all that now, I realize how hard it must have been for my  
17 mother to let her little two-month-old baby leave on a  
18 plane all by herself. She couldn't even go with her...  
19 (Cries) She couldn't even go with her baby, bring her to  
20 the hospital herself (cries). Sorry, I thought I'd be  
21 really strong today (cries). I didn't know, sorry. As a  
22 mother of two boys, I imagine myself in her place, having  
23 to send her off alone in a plane. Not knowing how, not  
24 being able to communicate with her child. It must have been  
25 very hard for her. And for my father too, I imagine. From

1 one day to the next, a few months, a few weeks later... We  
2 talked about that a lot yesterday. We asked him, "Do you  
3 remember when you found out that our sister Line had died?"  
4 And it was in pre-spring (speaking an Indigenous language).  
5 *Sikoke* is pre-spring. Whereas the register said February,  
6 and that's still in winter, there's still a lot of snow.  
7 And in pre-spring, basically, the snow is melting. It's  
8 getting a little bit warmer, you could say. And when they  
9 went, when the person came to tell us, because they didn't  
10 do it over the phone, there were no phones back then, they  
11 knocked on my parents' door (speaking an Indigenous  
12 language).

13 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous  
14 language)

15 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous  
16 language) It was Pierre Ottawa who told them their daughter  
17 had died.

18 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** He had gotten a phone from  
19 Hudson's Bay at the beginning. He was the only one with a  
20 phone.

21 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** In Manawan, the Hudson's  
22 Bay store was on the other side of the lake. The community  
23 is here, and then there's Lac Nadon. The Hudson's Bay was  
24 on the other side. In the winter, we could go across, in  
25 the summer we used a canoe. That's what...

1                   **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** So when the late Pierre  
2                   Ottawa spoke to my parents, he said, "I have some sad news  
3                   to tell you." Some bad news, you could say. In my language,  
4                   he said in Atikamekw (speaking an Indigenous language).

5                   **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous  
6                   language)

7                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** He said, "I've come to  
8                   tell you that your child... I have a message for you, that  
9                   your child Line has died. She died at the hospital in  
10                  Amos." That was the only... No letter was sent. He never  
11                  got a letter, and he wasn't allowed to visit, to see the  
12                  child to make sure that was the case. He didn't even get a  
13                  death certificate or (sighs). It must've been really hard  
14                  for my mother to lose a child without knowing if that's  
15                  really what happened, if it was true.

16                  **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Who took Line on the  
17                  plane?

18                  **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** There were other people  
19                  being airlifted to Amos.

20                  **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** What organization did  
21                  they work for? The people came from the hospital, or?

22                  **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** No, there weren't even any  
23                  nurses (speaking an Indigenous language).

24                  **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous  
25                  language)

1                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** There weren't any nurses  
2                   or helpers for the child. The only ones authorized to get  
3                   on the plane were those who needed medical care.

4                   **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous  
5                   language)

6                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Uh-huh.  
7                   My mother handed her to a woman who had a medical  
8                   appointment at the hospital. My mother gave her the child  
9                   because she wasn't allowed to go on the plane with her.

10                  **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Who told your mother she  
11                  wasn't allowed to go?

12                  **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** The government, Health  
13                  Canada, that was the rule back then.

14                  **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** I'm really angry, and I  
15                  don't realize that I'm putting it all out there.

16                  You know, there's something else we wonder  
17                  about; we had a great-grandmother who went to the hospital  
18                  a few months, a few weeks after our sister was  
19                  hospitalized. A few weeks later, she saw her there and she  
20                  said, "I saw Dominique Dubé's little girl, and..." My  
21                  father's name was Pocwar and my mother was Sosana.

22                  **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Can you spell both  
23                  names?

24                  **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Pocwar: P-O-C-W-A-R.

25                  Sosana: S-O-S-A-N-A.

1                   And she had seen our sister standing in her  
2                   crib, jumping.

3                   **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** She said she had bandages  
4                   wrapped around her head, and she was very pale, with red  
5                   hair. She said her skin would get better sometimes, but  
6                   other times it got worse again and they would put more  
7                   bandages on her.

8                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** But a baby who's only two  
9                   months old, barely three months old can't get up in bed.  
10                  Unfortunately, our great-great-grandmother died so we can't  
11                  confirm this, but we heard it from one of our aunts in  
12                  Manawan. Lucie Dubé told us this. L-U-C-I-E-D-U-B- É.

13                  That's why we want to get our sister's  
14                  medical records, because how can you die from having scabs  
15                  on your scalp? You can't die from that.

16                  **MS. MARCELLINE DUBÉ:** Marcelline Dubé. My  
17                  [Family Member] had the same thing, and she also went to  
18                  the hospital in La Tuque, but she came back alive.

19                  **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** How old was she?

20                  **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** She was a few months old  
21                  too, around three months old.

22                  **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And she was brought to  
23                  the hospital by herself, the same thing?

24                  **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** Yes. She was in a baby  
25                  carrier and they put her on the plane, same as with the

1 first one. They handed her over to someone who was going to  
2 La Tuque for an appointment.

3 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** What year was this?

4 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** Around 1966. August or  
5 July 1966. It was in the summer.

6 My mother carried a lot of guilt. When her  
7 child died, she talked to us about it a lot. Each of her  
8 children, she told us she was, what she had. There was a  
9 lot of (speaking Atikamekw), infection. There was a lot of  
10 infection on the scalp. And she told us she was beautiful,  
11 that she had red hair and that she... It was obvious to us.  
12 She wouldn't have (indiscernible).

13 Every time she talked about it, she got very  
14 emotional. And I would just listen to her when she talked  
15 about it. But some of my sisters would ask questions about  
16 it. Like Marcelline would ask, "Do you think she's really  
17 dead?"

18 **MS. MARCELLINE DUBÉ:** Yes, I asked my mother  
19 that. I asked her if she ever wondered if her daughter was  
20 alive since they never saw her again after she left on the  
21 plane, and she said, "Sometimes I think that she must still  
22 be alive somewhere."

23 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And no one in the family  
24 saw the coffin?

25 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** We want to know if it's

1 possible to get the medical records. Is it possible? Can they  
2 send us... Can they also show us the death certificate? Because  
3 if she's really dead, my mother always wanted (indiscernible).  
4 To make peace with all this.

5 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Have you ever contacted  
6 the hospital or...?

7 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Personally, I always kept  
8 that like... inhuman, the rage, the anger on their part. Whether  
9 it's the government or the hospital; it's unfair. It's unfair,  
10 cruel even, to not even take the time to write a death  
11 certificate so that we can at least find some peace. And even  
12 send us back the little chest. I never understood why they  
13 didn't do that. I'm scared too, because according to the  
14 testimonies of the people in the same situation... I'm really  
15 scared of finding out that she was used as a guinea pig for  
16 drugs. That's why I said earlier that you can't die from scabs  
17 on your head. It can't be... Especially if our great-grandmother  
18 saw and recognized our sister Line, jumping in her crib a few  
19 months later. I'm really scared, and once I said to my father,  
20 "One day, we'll go to Lac Simon." And he said, "Let's go to Amos  
21 while we're there. We'll go see the little coff..." I don't even  
22 know how to say it!

23 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** (Indiscernible).

24 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** When he said that, I told  
25 myself that must've really been like a shock, but no, forget it

1 Martine, you're not going there. And when my sister Marcelline  
2 went this year, and I saw the picture and their disappointment  
3 at not being able to visit the cemetery, I was a little  
4 relieved. I told myself that it was a good thing I didn't go,  
5 that it was just them. I'd really like to go there with the  
6 whole family. I'm not saying that to be mean or... I want to go  
7 there with my father and find out more about the real reasons.  
8 I'll stop there. I wasn't really very... I didn't go to  
9 meetings, I didn't go much, I didn't have the courage to ask  
10 many questions about my sister. Because it's painful and putting  
11 myself in my mother's place, especially... I have no words for  
12 that.

13 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** I asked you a question  
14 earlier... I asked if it was possible to get the medical  
15 records, because she isn't the only one. If at least we could...  
16 And our mother had another child, but we don't know if it was a  
17 stillbirth or a miscarriage. It's another one, in 1959, but it's  
18 recorded there, in Amos they named her Anne-Marie Dubé and if we  
19 can get Line's papers, we'd like to get our mother's medical  
20 records and find out if it was a stillbirth or a miscarriage.  
21 Because there's no name, it just says Anne-Marie Dubé, daughter  
22 of Dominique Dubé.

23 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** That was in 1950...?

24 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** In 1959. It says the child  
25 died on March 17, 1959. And buried on March 19, 1959, in the



1 Christ-Roi cemetery in Amos. It also has the name of the  
2 witness, that day probably, [Person 3].

3 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** [Person 3]?

4 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** [Person 3]. He witnessed  
5 the burial.

6 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And you have all the  
7 records to...

8 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** Pardon?

9 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And you have all the  
10 records? You have all the records for your...

11 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** No, just the... It just  
12 says Anne-Marie Dubé, daughter of Dominique Dubé. It was another  
13 girl, daughter of Suzanne Boivin who was stillborn.

14 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** It was a daughter or a  
15 son?

16 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Daughter, two daughters.

17 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** So it was a girl. So,  
18 you want both...

19 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** We want both, two girls  
20 went missing like that.

21 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And you said the cause  
22 of death for...

23 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** It was a stillbirth or a  
24 miscarriage, we're not sure, but she was pretty far along in her  
25 pregnancy.

1                   **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And I wanted to check if  
2 I have Line's date of birth.

3                   **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** November 22, 1962.

4                   **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** (Speaking Atikamekw)

5                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** I asked him how he's  
6 doing. And he's happy to listen to us talk. And he says that  
7 back then, he was told, because there was no road, we were  
8 isolated, the only means of transportation was taking the plane  
9 or walking... In summer you could take the canoe, and in winter  
10 you could snowshoe to get to a road...

11                   **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** Somewhere with  
12 transportation...

13                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Where there was a road.  
14 When there was a storm, there were no means of transportation,  
15 because the planes couldn't fly in.

16                   (SHORT BREAK)

17                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** I feel shaken up inside. I  
18 feel confused. But at the same time, it's like I can hear the  
19 sound of children, happy sounds. Like they're playing in a park.  
20 That's what I can hear, because they're finally being heard.

21                   (SHORT BREAK)

22                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** I think about my mother a  
23 lot. I really wish that she could've been here, that she  
24 could've finally shared everything that's in her heart,  
25 everything she felt, everything she could have said, everything

1 she needed to say. I think about her a lot because of that.

2 (CRIES)

3 (SHORT BREAK)

4 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Excuse me... But I'm happy  
5 that today, March 13, 2018, I can talk about what my mother  
6 always wanted to know and find out the truth. I say the truth,  
7 because I imagine, as a mother, I can sense when my children  
8 aren't doing well... It's the maternal instinct. My mother must  
9 have felt a lot of things deep down. She never had the chance to  
10 talk about it, to share her real feelings, because our  
11 Indigenous culture didn't really allow grieving people to talk  
12 about their feelings or cry. Women, people weren't allowed to  
13 cry for the dead who left or... We weren't allowed to grieve  
14 properly, to find relief, to talk about our feelings. And I  
15 imagine... I know that it must've been very, very hard for my  
16 mother. And I'd like to thank the Commission... What's the name  
17 again?

18 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** The Inquiry.

19 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** The Inquiry, for allowing  
20 families to speak freely about what they experienced and endured  
21 for years. (Indiscernible).

22 (SHORT BREAK)

23 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** And my mother was strong  
24 because she kept going and taking care of her children.

25 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And why were people not

1 allowed to grieve, to express their feelings?

2 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** It was our beliefs, the  
3 Church... They forbade it, saying that it isn't right to cry for  
4 the dead.

5 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** So, it's not an  
6 Indigenous thing... It's a Church thing. It's...

7 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** They said, when you cry  
8 for the soul of a dead person, you're sending them... Their soul  
9 is on earth, for example, and it won't be able to fly up.

10 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** That's in your culture?

11 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Yes.

12 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** OK. Can you spell your  
13 mother's name and tell us her birth date?

14 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Suzanne Boivin: S-U-Z-A-N-  
15 N-E B-O-I-V-I-N. [Date of birth], 1940.

16 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** From the same community?

17 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Yes, from Manawan.

18 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And did anyone from your  
19 family go to residential school?

20 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Uh-huh.

21 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** I went to residential  
22 school.

23 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** I didn't know that.

24 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** What's your name?

25 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** Johanne Dubé.

1 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Which residential school  
2 was it?

3 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: The residential school?

4 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Yes.

5 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: Pointe-Bleue.

6 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: OK. Where was that?

7 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: In Lac-Saint-Jean.

8 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: When were you there?

9 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: 1969 to 1973.

10 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: And...

11 MS. MARGUERITE DUBÉ: And our brothers went  
12 too, our late brother [Brother 1].

13 MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ: (Speaking an Indigenous  
14 language) [Date of birth]...

15 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: He was born on [date of  
16 birth]?

17 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: 61

18 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: And...

19 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: 61. And he died on [date  
20 of death], 2002.

21 MS. SHEILA MAZHARI: Was it the same  
22 residential school?

23 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: Yes. There was also...

24 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: [Brother 2].

25 MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ: [Brother 2], our brother.

1                   **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And no other family  
2 members?

3                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** [Brother 3] went there  
4 too. Three of my brothers and one of my sisters, Johanne.

5                   **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Why didn't all the  
6 siblings go?

7                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** She refused to send us.

8                   **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Your mother?

9                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Uh-huh. But we went to  
10 another town (indiscernible).

11                   **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** What town?

12                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Joliette. We went to  
13 foster homes in Joliette for school. It's young still, to leave  
14 your parents at 13, 12 years old, and to go live with strangers  
15 in town when you're 12 to 18 years old. That's what I did! The  
16 others too.

17                   (SHORT BREAK)

18                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** And that made me question  
19 my identity. I was confused; I no longer knew what I was:  
20 Indigenous or...

21                   **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And you kept your  
22 language?

23                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Uh-huh.

24                   **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** How? How did you do  
25 that?

1                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Our parents. Our parents  
2 always took us in the bush when the school year... In the summer  
3 we would go in the bush, and we would learn about trapping, uh,  
4 no... (speaking an Indigenous language).

5                   **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous  
6 language)

7                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** The roots, and removing  
8 the bark, and how to make baskets, and how to arrange...

9                   **UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:** ... Game meat...

10                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Yes. And the blueberries  
11 too... That's why I don't eat them anymore. Yes, we spent a  
12 lot...

13                   **UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:** I spent a lot...

14                   (SHORT BREAK)

15                   **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And how do you  
16 identify... What's your Indigenous heritage? How do you  
17 identify?

18                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** Now? Indigenous:  
19 Atikamekw.

20                   **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Atikamekw.

21                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** That's why today, our  
22 *kokoms* (grandmothers) dressed like that, with the beret and  
23 that's how I dressed today. When I put on my beret and this  
24 skirt that belonged to my father's mother, I said this is mine.  
25 And I said that we're going to need you grandmothers; mother be

1 with us today. But still, I thought that by coming here, that I  
2 would be... that I was very strong... that it would be easier to  
3 talk. But the more I think about what it was like for my mother,  
4 the more I realize, today, that it's true how it happened; my  
5 mother sent her baby away, all by herself, to the hospital, and  
6 she never came back. She never came back. We never saw  
7 (indiscernible).

8 **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** Well, now I... But I feel  
9 guilty for not... For not doing anything earlier, when my mother  
10 would tell us about her baby who died far away. I ask myself why  
11 I didn't do something earlier. But I felt so helpless too. But  
12 coming here and talking about it is a step I'm taking for her  
13 and for us. My father, I'm happy to be here.

14 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** And for your father:  
15 Dominique... You decided to share this testimony publicly?

16 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous  
17 language)

18 **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous  
19 language)

20 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** So that everyone can know  
21 about it.

22 **MS. SHEILA MAZHARI:** Did you want to add  
23 anything else?

24 **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous  
25 language)



1                   **MR. DOMINIQUE DUBÉ:** (Speaking an Indigenous  
2 language)

3                   **MS. JOHANNE DUBÉ:** He said that he's pleased  
4 to hear the story told again. And he said, "I never forgot about  
5 it either. And I'm happy I get to hear my baby's story again."

6                   **MS. MARTINE DUBÉ:** I don't want to remain  
7 angry and unhappy, because that's what I feel. I'm trying to get  
8 rid of it, but I know that the anger isn't mine, it's going to  
9 be hard (indiscernible). But I'd like to thank all those who  
10 worked hard to make it possible for the other women, the other  
11 people to speak. Thanks to, I don't know who, but that power to  
12 say: that's what happened to our children, and that's what  
13 happened in our family. And thank you to that person who made  
14 possible the initiative (indiscernible). And the person opened a  
15 large door to allow others to follow and find freedom, and to  
16 talk and... and thank you, too. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you  
17 everyone.

18                   --- Upon adjourning at 9:55 a.m.

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE\*

2

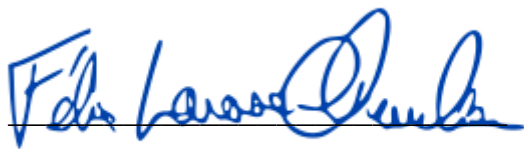
3 I, Félix Larose-Chevalier, Court Transcriber, hereby  
4 certify that I have transcribed the foregoing and it is a  
5 true and accurate transcript of the digital audio provided  
6 in this matter.

7

8

9

10



11

Félix Larose-Chevalier

12

August 15, 2018

13

\* This certificate refers to the original transcript in French.