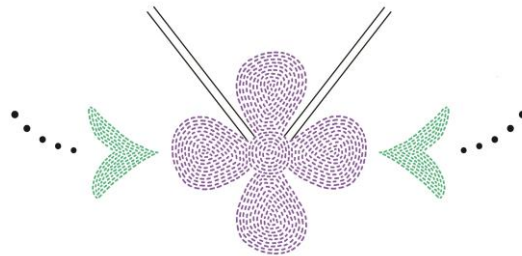


National Inquiry into
Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls



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
Prince George Conference & Civic Centre
Prince George, British Columbia**



PUBLIC

Wednesday February 7, 2018

Statement - Volume 234

**Peter Basil, Vivian Basil & Daniel Alexis,
In relation to Immaculate “Mackie” Basil**

Statement gathered by Caitlin Hendrickson

Coast Reporting Services Inc.

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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Statement gatherer: Caitlin Hendrickson

Documents submitted with testimony: none.

FEBRUARY 7, 2018, 12:06

1
2 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: So my name is Caitlin Hendrickson, and
3 I'm a statement taker with the National Inquiry
4 Into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and
5 Girls. It is 12:06 on February 7th, 2018. We're
6 in Prince George, B.C., and I'm here with Peter
7 Basil, Vivian Basil, and Daniel Alexis. Also in
8 the room with us is Denise McKinley, as a mental
9 health support.

10 They're here today to talk about Peter's
11 sister Immaculate Basil, also known as Mackie, and
12 she disappeared on June 13th, 2013.

13 We have discussed us recording your
14 statement today on both audio recorder and video
15 recorder. Can you please state that you've agreed
16 to that.

17 PETER BASIL: Yes.

18 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Thank you. And we've also discussed that
19 your statement is going to be a public statement
20 and the commissioners will review that and take
21 that into consideration with their -- their reports
22 and really listen to your story and what you have
23 to say.

24 So with that, I want to open it up to you,
25 and you can start wherever you feel comfortable.

1 PETER BASIL: So in June, what was it, what day? June -- well,
2 it was before Father's Day of June, anyway, Mackie
3 went into port with us and (unintelligible) want to
4 shop for groceries and head for Father's Day cake
5 and -- but at that day she wanted -- Mackie wanted
6 to buy two bottles of vodka, so she was trying to
7 jump out of the vehicle so we told her to jump back
8 in and stopped by the liquor store to run in for
9 her because she didn't have no identification going
10 there herself.

11 So then we made the trip to Vanderhoof back
12 to Tachie, and then she went out drinking that
13 weekend, and she never -- well, she came back at
14 11:30 that evening for her last bottle of vodka,
15 and she left, and nobody like pretty much after
16 that evening, all weekend after that, nobody saw
17 her so -- and Sunday, Monday came around, that's
18 when -- or Sunday evening.

19 VIVIAN BASIL: Sunday afternoon.

20 PETER BASIL: Or Sunday afternoon, then that's when we started
21 looking for her around the reserve, asking peoples
22 about her, and peoples, they said they never saw
23 her, and then that night we went up the road a
24 little ways looking, and we came back down, and
25 that Monday -- Monday or Sunday --

1 VIVIAN BASIL: Sunday evening we phoned the cops.

2 PETER BASIL: Sunday evening, we phoned the R.C.M.P., reported
3 her missing, and by Monday and --

4 VIVIAN BASIL: That's when they came our place.

5 PETER BASIL: Monday, the R.C.M.P., they came out, question us,
6 and then did some questioning around the reserve,
7 and then by Tuesday, they had a full search going.
8 By Tuesday morning I --

9 VIVIAN BASIL: Yeah.

10 DANIEL ALEXIS: We look in the other village (unintelligible)
11 and that's what it was. That's where she actually
12 -- they said she went, but then -- that's from
13 there she went missing.

14 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

15 DANIEL ALEXIS: So --

16 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Do you know the people that she was with?

17 PETER BASIL: [Person 1], [Person 2].

18 That was -- but then that night, when
19 they said they were supposed to go to town, they make up
20 (unintelligible) supposed to be heard of the Friday
21 night, but they said she was -- they were supposed
22 to go make another --

23 VIVIAN BASIL: Beer run.

24 PETER BASIL: -- beer run to town, but then they never -- they
25 never went to town. They went straight up the

1 road.

2 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

3 PETER BASIL: Up the Leo Creek Road to (unintelligible), I
4 don't know what happened from there, but they said
5 must be more like [Person 3],
6 (unintelligible), and [Person 4], but then they
7 all jumped out right at the --

8 VIVIAN BASIL: The school.

9 PETER BASIL: -- the school. Yeah, the school, from the --
10 there they jumped out and then from there they said
11 it was just [Person 2], [Person 1], and Mackie in the
12 vehicle and they left.

13 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Do you feel that [Person 1] and [Person 2] were
14 safe people for her to be with?

15 PETER BASIL: I don't know. Pretty hard to say because --

16 VIVIAN BASIL: Yeah, hard to say.

17 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Did you know them well?

18 PETER BASIL: Well, pretty well. Pretty well knew them but not
19 that good knowing because --

20 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

21 PETER BASIL: -- everybody on the reserve, just had their own
22 -- have problems within their own families and do
23 things together in their own ways.

24 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. Okay. So what do you think made
25 her vulnerable leading up to her disappearance?

1 PETER BASIL: I don't know. Hard to say.

2 VIVIAN BASIL: I don't know. Like what do you mean, what --

3 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Like what are some of the things that you
4 can think of that might have put her at risk to go
5 missing? Like -- like I'd asked do you think that
6 [Person 1] and [Person 2] were safe people, you had talked
7 about her drinking, so those are things that did
8 put her at risk because she wasn't able to protect
9 herself as much as she could have, but I'm just
10 wondering if there's anything else that you think
11 that would have made her more vulnerable.

12 PETER BASIL: Probably due to -- well, pretty much anybody
13 probably could take advantage of a woman who went
14 by themselves with two guys --

15 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

16 PETER BASIL: -- or more guys in the vehicle and -- that --

17 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Can you talk a little bit about what your
18 relationship was like with your sister growing up
19 and what her personality and strengths were.

20 PETER BASIL: Well, she was living with us at the time because
21 her -- she had a little son with her ex-boyfriend,
22 but they were having problems, and so she was
23 living with us off and on and she was working, like
24 going to work from our house, coming back, and
25 staying with us. She was outgoing, happy, stuff

1 like that, and likes to be around kids and help out
2 peoples and --

3 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Yeah. How old was her son?

4 PETER BASIL: Well, about nine or ten now, so he must have been
5 about eight or seven when she went missing.

6 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Okay.

7 DANIEL ALEXIS: During the time she was growing up, I think
8 they were all in the care of the ministry so --
9 some of us were (unintelligible) --

10 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: He's been in the care of the ministry?

11 PETER BASIL: My sister was, yep.

12 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Oh, your sister was.

13 PETER BASIL: Mackie was in the care of the ministry and --
14 first in the group homes and --

15 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: So there's experiences and trauma that
16 she experienced that also could have put her at
17 risk.

18 PETER BASIL: And due to my mom and dad when we were younger,
19 like when I was 15 years old, 14, 13, [*four lines*
20 *redacted - private information*] and from there, my mom
21 kind of like just turned to the alcohol and
22 kind of just like left us, left us behind -

23 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

24 PETER BASIL: -- to go deal with her problems and drink her --
25 cover up her problems by drinking and -- or just
26 like -- after a while, (unintelligible), I even try

1 and go see my mom, but me and my brothers -- 12 of
2 brothers are living with her down here in Prince
3 George, but then she ended up getting run over by a
4 semi so -- now my dad -- my dad was drinking, too,
5 after that, and he had to quit drinking now because
6 [*two lines redacted - private information*]
7 yeah, probably the reason why like after my family
8 got broken up is because of what happened to my mom
9 and my dad like, how they got separated and whole
10 family got broken up, and all those feelings like
11 stayed in the back of their mind and --

12 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

13 PETER BASIL: And then they're still -- like even right to this
14 day, my brother [Brother 1], and I don't know about my
15 sister [Sister 1], but I know my -- probably my sister
16 [Sister 2] and [Brother 2], they still hurt about it because
17 at times when they're drinking, I think it comes
18 out slowly, and they always say like how my dad
19 left us and wasn't there for us.

20 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: So was it your mom passed away when she
21 was struck by a vehicle?

22 PETER BASIL: Yeah, she got run over by a semi, yep.

23 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: When did that happen?

24 PETER BASIL: 2000 -- I think 2006 or somewhere.

25 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Was there a police investigation around
26 that?

1 PETER BASIL: Yeah.

2 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: And what was the result of it?

3 PETER BASIL: Well, going to the I.C.B.C. office, they were
4 telling me that her head was stuck between the
5 tractor trailer tires and she was in the ICU for
6 maybe a couple hours, and then after that, they
7 just had to unplug her, I guess.

8 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: I'm sorry that happened. That is awful.

9 PETER BASIL: So --

10 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: So that must have been a big --

11 PETER BASIL: Well --

12 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: -- big -- hard thing to deal with for
13 your whole family.

14 PETER BASIL: Yeah, it's pretty hard to deal with things like
15 that, but I was just young at the time, now I'm
16 kind of like learning from all the past history
17 what happened like and trying to fit it altogether.

18 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Was the driver ever charged for hitting
19 her? PETER BASIL: No, I think he took his own life, too,
20 because that's what I heard through the --

21 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: So can I get your sister's date of birth.

22 PETER BASIL: My date of birth?

23 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Your sister's.

24 PETER BASIL: Oh, Mackie?

25 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Yeah.

26 VIVIAN BASIL: December 8th, don't know the year.

1 PETER BASIL: December 8, but I don't know what year she was
2 born.

3 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Okay. So at the time she was living with
4 you when she disappeared, right, and so her son was
5 with you as well?

6 PETER BASIL: No, he was staying with his father.

7 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Oh, okay.

8 PETER BASIL: But she was always going over there to visit him
9 and making sure that he had enough groceries and
10 stuff like that, snacks and clothes and --

11 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

12 PETER BASIL: So like -- and when she was having problems with
13 her boyfriend, she was working and just up and took
14 her son, I guess, more likely.

15 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. Were you also in care growing up
16 or was it just Mackie?

17 PETER BASIL: Just my seven -- seven other siblings.

18 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Okay. Are you the oldest?

19 PETER BASIL: Yep.

20 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Okay.

21 PETER BASIL: And I was 15 years old at the time when they took
22 them, so they couldn't -- they didn't have no
23 control over me, so they just left me out of it.

24 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Okay. And what was the circumstance that
25 brought them all into care?

26 PETER BASIL: Well, due to my granny being old and -- like I

1 was trying to take care of them at one point when I
2 was 15 years old, trying to cook for them and clean
3 them, make sure they made it -- make it to school
4 and that, but somewhere along the line, the welfare
5 got involved with them, with us, and took them from
6 my granny, so they've been in foster homes since
7 then.

8 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Are there still some siblings in foster
9 care?

10 PETER BASIL: They're all aged now --

11 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: They're all grown up now?

12 PETER BASIL: Yep.

13 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: And how are they doing as adults?

14 PETER BASIL: Well, pretty -- pretty much living through like
15 -- my brother [Brother 1] drinks quite a bit, and my
16 sister [Sister 2] is going through a terrible breakup as
17 well. Last December saw her, too, she is drinking
18 off and on, and my sister -- my other sister,
19 Samantha, got -- died in here, too. She got a
20 large amount of fentanyl in her system they found.

21 And brother Travis, he was taken -- like I
22 think -- well, he was the smallest out of us, so I
23 think he was pretty mixed up in life so living on
24 the streets down here doing -- selling -- trying to
25 sell drugs and stuff like that, but he end up
26 getting shot so -- and I got another brother,

1 [Brother 2], that's down here, he's in and out of
2 jail. Stays out about a week or maybe about a
3 month, then he's right back in there so -- I think
4 they just don't know how to deal with the trauma
5 they've been through in life or something, I don't
6 know.

7 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. It's understandable. Trauma has a
8 big effect on what happens when you're older and
9 makes you more susceptible to more trauma as you
10 continue. When did your sister pass away?

11 PETER BASIL: Samantha?

12 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Yeah.

13 VIVIAN BASIL: Year after Mackie went missing.

14 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: So 2014?

15 PETER BASIL: 2014, yep, or 2015. December. Just before
16 Christmas.

17 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. So you had mentioned before we
18 started that you had a pretty good experience with
19 the R.C.M.P. with the investigation for Mackie.
20 Can you talk a bit about that process.

21 PETER BASIL: The R.C.M.P., when we notified them for Mackie,
22 they responded to our call right away, and after
23 that they kind of like handed it over to the
24 investigators, and the investigators that we were
25 dealing with for Mackie let the -- they are pretty
26 much on everything and keeping us up to date on

1 things and -- sometimes I find stuff out through my
2 searching, phone them, give it to them.

3 And sometimes when I got questions, I phone
4 them and stay on the phone about two hours or
5 something with them, sometimes three hours, just
6 asking questions and stuff like that and gives me
7 -- gives me answers and --

8 VIVIAN BASIL: But these guys that -- who Mackie was with last
9 weren't charged because you don't have no evidence.
10 When they were searching, couldn't find her shirt
11 or her headphones, nothing, so they're not being
12 charged.

13 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: So they're still living --

14 PETER BASIL: Yep, still living free.

15 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Okay.

16 PETER BASIL: But they said if we do find any source of
17 evidence, remains or -- remains of his and -- if it
18 leads up to them, then they said they are going to
19 get charged for it, but right now just, I don't
20 know, point fingers at nobody, but then -- if they
21 do find her or come across any evidence or somebody
22 comes forward and speak up about it and --

23 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. Do you think there's any supports
24 that could have helped Mackie?

25 PETER BASIL: Well, pretty much if -- well, hard to say, it's
26 up -- like when -- if we -- they did try to provide

1 support to peoples that's addicted to drugs or
2 alcohol or stuff like that or dealing with trauma
3 and stuff like that, like it's up really -- really
4 up to the person that wants to seek the support if
5 they want it or -- other than that, they'll just
6 probably end up walking down that road and keep on
7 doing what they're doing to cover up their feelings
8 more likely I could say.

9 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. Is her son still with his dad?

10 PETER BASIL: Yeah.

11 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: And do you see him?

12 PETER BASIL: Yeah, he comes to our place.

13 VIVIAN BASIL: The funny thing is he comes when we're feeling
14 lonely for Mackie, he walks in the door.

15 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Think he knows.

16 VIVIAN BASIL: Yeah.

17 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: That's kind of nice.

18 PETER BASIL: And he sleeps at our house, and he tells us that
19 his mom is there with him. Like last time, he said
20 I see my mom in the bathroom, and I tell him where,
21 at your house, he say no, right there in the
22 bathroom, he said that. The last time he slept
23 with us, he said my mummy was sleeping with me.
24 She got up and left this morning, he said that.
25 You know.

26 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Sounds like he has a special gift.

1 PETER BASIL: Yeah.

2 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: To keep her there with you.

3 PETER BASIL: But yeah, the investigator, the R.C.M.P. on
4 Mackie's case, they were pretty much doing their
5 job, like keeping us up to date on things and
6 keeping us informed, and I think they are doing a
7 good job on their end for us, but -- in other
8 words, for my brother Travis that got shot like --
9 maybe once or twice we got in touch with the
10 investigator, like went through -- like for his
11 case, there was about three different
12 investigators, I think, that took on the case and
13 dropped it and then another one took it on, dropped
14 it, and this last person here that's taken on the
15 case I really never got in contact with them about
16 it so --

17 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. But you've tried to?

18 PETER BASIL: Yeah, I've been trying, like over the summer, I
19 tried getting in touch with them and no response
20 and -- I never -- usually -- well, maybe now I
21 start talking about it again, now I'll probably end
22 up trying to phone around, try to get in contact
23 with him again or she or whoever is taking on the
24 case and try to get -- well, the last time that
25 girl phoned me back, she said they had a few leads
26 but nobody is speaking up about what happened,

1 that's all they told me, and that's where the --
2 that -- those answers ended for me for now.

3 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. So there's a big difference
4 between those experiences.

5 PETER BASIL: Yep.

6 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Just wanting to know if anyone in your
7 family also attended residential school or anything
8 like that.

9 PETER BASIL: Well, pretty much just my mom.

10 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Your mom?

11 PETER BASIL: M-hm. And my dad, I think or --

12 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Do you know where they attended?

13 PETER BASIL: I think in Fraser Lake. Well, my dad I think
14 went to college, but -- I don't know if he went to
15 residential school or not.

16 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Okay.

17 PETER BASIL: But I know my mom went there.

18 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: It's just so that the commissioners know,
19 again, what is really common among the families
20 that are speaking to us, and one thing that we do
21 see really common is that trauma sustained in
22 residential school is -- continues through the
23 generations, and you know, people are experiencing
24 further trauma through their children and their
25 children are experiencing trauma.

26 So we really want to identify those

1 patterns and find out what do we need to do to make
2 that stop.

3 PETER BASIL: Well, for all that to stop, like man, look at it
4 today, like reality.

5 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm?

6 PETER BASIL: Our parents' days, they get put on the bus and
7 get sent to the residential school, and now all
8 that is off the way and -- behind -- behind them,
9 and now they know that's -- they'll do it and put
10 off the side so they not going to worry about that,
11 but in reality right today, now it's the Ministry
12 that's stepping over that boundary and they're
13 taking our kids.

14 Like say my brother is dealing with the
15 Ministry and there's -- they come to our reserves
16 and they take our kids and that's how they rip a
17 family apart and that's where -- like I said, if I
18 had my own kids, the Ministry came and take them
19 and take them away from our home and we have
20 nothing to stay home for, so we go to town, start
21 drinking and smoking crack or whatever they doing
22 and bury those feelings because their kids were
23 taken away.

24 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

25 PETER BASIL: So that's why I keep saying like it's just as
26 good as that Wenjack stuff still happening

1 today because ministries, they're taking their kids
2 away from them.

3 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

4 PETER BASIL: I keep telling my wife like they should try give
5 our people the chance and give them back their
6 kids, let them try to support them, be there for
7 their kids and maybe all the -- our First Nations
8 people (unintelligible) maybe they wouldn't be on
9 the streets doing what they're doing, but that's
10 just how I see it in my eyes, anyways.

11 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

12 PETER BASIL: Because like due to the trauma, like -- maybe
13 they lost their mom, their dad, their grammy, or
14 something, some peoples, they hold it in their mind
15 and they lose all that, they drink and do drugs and
16 stuff like that, but maybe they've just got to give
17 them a chance and try to let them have their kids
18 and maybe just push them into more counselling and
19 mental health issues, like working with a mental
20 health worker or something and getting them to open
21 up their feelings they're bottling up.

22 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: So more support for the families while
23 the children are at home.

24 PETER BASIL: Yeah.

25 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Rather than removing children and then
26 saying you need to fix it.

1 PETER BASIL: Yeah, because it's just like good as giving them
2 easy access to go do what they're going to do.

3 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

4 PETER BASIL: Drink and do the drugs maybe.

5 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. What recommendations do you have
6 to the commissioners, what you would like to see
7 come out of the National Inquiry?

8 PETER BASIL: It's kind of a hard answer to answer so --

9 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: That's okay if you don't have an answer
10 to that, but if you have something you'd like to
11 say about that.

12 DANIEL ALEXIS: Well, it's been -- I've sort of been involved
13 in some issues around inquiries, and we had one
14 person that got shot by police in our village, and
15 I had the inquiry at the village, and there's a
16 recommendation that's been made.

17 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

18 DANIEL ALEXIS: And that never went nowhere, so really, in my
19 own mind, I don't know if this going to help
20 anybody.

21 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: That's a fair -- that's a fair criticism
22 to have because you're right, at the end of the
23 day, we give the recommendations and then it's up
24 to the government to make those changes, and my
25 hope is that we can give them enough pressure to
26 actually make those changes, but I -- I understand

1 your point of view.

2 Is there anything that you would like to
3 see that would honour your family, honour your
4 sister?

5 PETER BASIL: Well, only thing I would like to see to honour my
6 sister is for the peoples that did that come
7 forward and give her back to us so could have a
8 proper burial, put that -- put a stick in the
9 ground to mark her grave and get on with our life.

10 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

11 PETER BASIL: Because like to them, still -- still in trauma on
12 the day she went missing and now it's like taking
13 my dad down, taking my family apart.

14 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

15 PETER BASIL: And it's pretty much affected our whole reserve.
16 Like my father-in-law has been with us from day
17 one, we've been through quite a bit and breaking
18 down lots of vehicles, just going out there
19 searching and -- we would like to bury her and get
20 over that bump in the road and carry on with our
21 life.

22 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. What gives you strength and what
23 has made you resilient to get where you are today?

24 PETER BASIL: Well, what gives me strength is being beside my wife
25 and having my father-in-law around and having my
26 little ten-year-old boy at home. Going out there

1 trying to look for my sister, having friends
2 helping me. I know it's kind of like taken
3 a pretty huge toll on my sisters and my other
4 brothers.

5 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

6 PETER BASIL: Well, my two sisters and my two brothers that I
7 have left.

8 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: What are your hopes for them?

9 PETER BASIL: Well, my hopes for them is for them to smarten up
10 and keep their priorities straight and carry on the
11 pride our mom gave us.

12 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: And what do you think would help do that?

13 PETER BASIL: Well, for one thing, there's *[six lines redacted pursuant to*
14 *Rule 55]*.

15 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm?

16 PETER BASIL: That's what I would like to see for them anyways.

17 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: *[One line redacted pursuant to*
18 *Rule 55]*?

19 PETER BASIL: It's pretty hard to say because, like I said,
20 it's -- it's for -- it's balancing.

21 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

22 PETER BASIL: Saying I don't do nothing, I got no habits. I
23 was pretty badly addicted to pills and stuff like
24 that, but I quit now for over four years, and I had
25 to make up those choices myself to get to where I
26 am right now, and it's really up to them to live up

1 to the knowledge of where they want to be in life.

2 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

3 PETER BASIL: But better -- better their future for themselves.

4 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. Well, I want to acknowledge your
5 strength in being here today, and four years of
6 recovery is awesome, and I wish you many more, and
7 I can see that you have a lot of really great
8 support around you, so hopefully one day maybe the
9 support you give your siblings will help them get
10 to that same place.

11 PETER BASIL: Yeah, so -- that really pretty much on being -- I
12 got no hard grudges against some of the
13 investigators, like I said, some of the ones that
14 handled Mackie's case, they're doing good, but the
15 one that's handling my brother's case --

16 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

17 PETER BASIL: -- haven't heard a peep out of them, since then, but
18 -- this inquiry has -- hopefully they could add
19 more enforcements to the law and stuff like that,
20 you know --

21 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

22 PETER BASIL: -- try to put an end to our native womens going
23 missing and stuff like that.

24 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

25 PETER BASIL: Well, not only native womens, but our -- us being
26 pretty much in contact with Don Scott and them. I

1 always wondered how they'll felt when their
2 daughter went missing, because I saw their
3 billboard signs and that, and I always wondered
4 about that, but I didn't expect it to happen to us
5 the way -- the way it did anyways, because that
6 kind of answered my questions on how they felt and
7 that.

8 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

9 PETER BASIL: Four years, five years, going on 12.

10 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Is there anything that you would like to
11 share with the commissioners that I haven't already
12 asked?

13 PETER BASIL: Pretty much.

14 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Anybody else like to share anything
15 before we conclude?

16 DANIEL ALEXIS: I think what happened with Mackie, like the
17 village has always -- whenever something happen,
18 somebody drown or somebody lost or whatever, we get
19 together and always find what we're looking for.
20 In this case, it was just -- we had hundreds of
21 people searching out there any one day --

22 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

23 DANIEL ALEXIS: -- for the whole summer, but then didn't come
24 up with nothing, and that's split the village --
25 kind of split the village in -- with the family,
26 their family, the one that went with Mackie and --

1 and it's kind of -- we're not going to speculate to
2 anything that they were there doing something,
3 something -- something, but just all we've been
4 asking for is that they tell us where she is and
5 we'll get her back and have a proper ceremony,
6 burial.

7 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

8 DANIEL ALEXIS: And the police, whatever they want to do, it's
9 up to them to do what they want to do with these
10 people. That's pretty much what we been saying,
11 asking, that's what we need.

12 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: You just haven't got your closure.

13 PETER BASIL: No. Because there's days like -- she's more or
14 less thinking -- she like -- some day she kind of
15 doesn't talk about it and some day she talks about
16 Mackie and -- it's been like -- like the years,
17 they're going by, and it's getting more harder on
18 us, and like my dad is -- my dad's health, too, is
19 getting pretty bad on account of what happened so
20 --

21 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

22 PETER BASIL: I don't know that -- maybe -- yeah, it's pretty
23 much --

24 VIVIAN BASIL: The funny thing is that since Mackie went
25 missing, I watch the ID channel, which I never used
26 to. Have a couple movies on missing persons.

1 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

2 VIVIAN BASIL: When I'm missing Mackie, I always watch one.

3 It's called the Frozen Ground.

4 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Oh, okay.

5 VIVIAN BASIL: It's based on a true story.

6 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Is there anything else that you would
7 like to discuss today?

8 PETER BASIL: Well, it would be good if like -- if they could
9 enforce the mental health like support workers and
10 stuff like that and like give more support to
11 people like that's gone -- for the nearest future,
12 not saying like if anybody else goes missing or
13 stuff like that, but --

14 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Do you mean support for people who are
15 vulnerable?

16 PETER BASIL: Yeah. Well, not born -- like -- not for them
17 that's going to go missing, but if anything, any
18 form of tragedy like that ever happens in somebody
19 else's family, like --

20 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: So more support for the families?

21 PETER BASIL: Yeah.

22 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: So support for yourself and --

23 PETER BASIL: Because right now -- we had a mental health
24 worker in our reserve, but most times like some of
25 us we don't like going into public places and
26 seeing them and talking in public or meeting in

1 public, like it's better for -- let's say if we got
2 our own private, like our band office and they got
3 their own -- our own workers.

4 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

5 PETER BASIL: Say if they get the track on them, like just --
6 make them go to your house and see how you're
7 dealing with things and --

8 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

9 PETER BASIL: -- coping with things and stuff like that.

10 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: So more outreach.

11 PETER BASIL: Yep.

12 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: People able to come in to you and support
13 you in your space.

14 PETER BASIL: Yep. Coming -- a lot of peoples that -- they're
15 -- they're not used to being in public and talking
16 about their feelings and --

17 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

18 PETER BASIL: And that's what I think like about the drugs and
19 alcohol, I think like they should have more support
20 workers on the streets like trying to help our
21 peoples and trying to set them back on the right
22 track instead of --

23 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

24 PETER BASIL: -- just sitting in the office and trying to
25 expect people to come to them for their needs.

26 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. Those are good recommendations,

1 and hopefully smaller communities will see that
2 because, you know, bigger cities do have some of
3 that, but certainly not enough.

4 PETER BASIL: Yeah. Half of -- well, maybe 20 or -- 20 percent
5 of our native peoples from different communities
6 are all living down here in Prince George,
7 Vancouver, and places like that and -- where
8 they're going -- how they're going to have them
9 (unintelligible) back to our band office and seek
10 the help they want to get and they put -- sending
11 enforcers out from -- on to them.

12 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

13 PETER BASIL: And try to deal with things like that.

14 DANIEL ALEXIS: Even our nation there are -- our mental health
15 is limited.

16 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

17 DANIEL ALEXIS: Only get probably maybe -- if you're lucky, you
18 get the mental health come up once a week, one day
19 a week or -- maybe two times a month, that's pretty
20 much it and --

21 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

22 DANIEL ALEXIS: 'Cause before we used to have one that comes in
23 quite often when anything happens, he always,
24 didn't matter what time of the night or what time
25 of the -- he comes, he drives to Tachie and be with
26 the people.

1 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

2 DANIEL ALEXIS: And do what he can for you. But now, we just
3 can't -- we don't even know our mental health
4 worker in our community anymore, it's so long.

5 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

6 DANIEL ALEXIS: It's so expensive, I think, I'm not sure what's
7 the problem.

8 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

9 PETER BASIL: So maybe the idea I'm getting at is maybe you
10 could -- well, looking at -- maybe like -- just as
11 good as having our own native victim services, but
12 due to the inquiry, they're going to do anyways --

13 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

14 PETER BASIL: But just my opening remark but --

15 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

16 PETER BASIL: Like I'm trying to get at, like, (unintelligible)
17 down the streets and --

18 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm.

19 PETER BASIL: -- nobody like -- maybe -- I don't know how to
20 say, but -- say maybe like if my brother, I run
21 into him, maybe I sit him down or go for coffee or
22 something or try to talk to him and stuff like
23 that, but I know deep down, there's more things
24 bother him, but he's just gotta -- just probably
25 gotta spend more time with him for him to open up,
26 little at a time, I guess.

1 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. Doing outreach for our own people.

2 PETER BASIL: Yep.

3 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: And getting those people who live in the
4 communities to be those supports.

5 PETER BASIL: So I say it would be good if they could hire just
6 like a scout, look at it like hockey but just
7 people on the street.

8 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: M-hm. No, you've got a lot of really
9 great thoughts and ideas around what could be
10 improved, and I think that those are
11 recommendations that are really important for the
12 commissioners to hear, and again, the hope is is
13 that we put enough pressure and heat on the
14 government to actually take those recommendations
15 into action because you're right, like what are the
16 recommendations going to do if the government just
17 pushes them aside.

18 PETER BASIL: Yeah.

19 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: So I want to thank you today for coming
20 in and sharing your story about your sister and
21 your family and your recommendations for the
22 commissioners. They thank and appreciate you for
23 doing that as well.

24 We're going to conclude now, unless there's
25 anything else that you feel that you would like to add.

26 PETER BASIL: That's pretty much it.

1 CAITLIN HENDRICKSON: Okay. So it is 12:51. We're going to
2 stop the recording and we can continue to talk
3 after.

4 [PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED 12:51 P.M.]

5

I, Vicki Webster, Official Reporter in the Province of British Columbia, Canada, do hereby certify:

That this is a true and accurate transcript of these proceedings recorded on sound-recording apparatus, transcribed to the best of my skill and ability in accordance with applicable standards.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 12th day of March, 2018.

Vicki Webster
Official Reporter