

# INQUIRY RESPECTING THE TREATMENT, EXPERIENCES AND OUTCOMES OF INNU IN THE CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEM

English Transcript | Volume 7

*Commissioners: Retired Judge James Igloliorte, Dr. Mike Devine and Anastasia Qupee*

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**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Welcome again, everyone, and thank you very much for our witnesses for this morning. Where we – begin by hearing the testimony of Justine Noah.

Thank you, Justine, for being here. You can speak in English or in your own language, whichever you prefer.

We will be having other individuals; David will be following Justine this morning. And then, in the afternoon we will have a private session as well as another person who wants to come to be a witness at the Inquiry.

Justine has very kindly agreed to allow her story to be recorded – her opinions, which are very valuable for us to understand – and she has spoken to our lawyers about allowing her name to be used as part of this Inquiry as well.

The purpose of this Inquiry is to allow Innu people in the Innu Nation to explain how their lives have been impacted over many, many years by having children taken into custody under provincial laws.

But we also know that Innu's – Innu lives have been impacted negatively, not only by child protection laws, but from the very first time that Europeans came into Innu land. And ever since then, the white culture – the white person's culture – has negatively impacted Innu lives.

So the Governments of Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador, the Innu Nation, Innu Round Table, the Innu communities and people want this entire history examined by a Commission of Inquiry.

So we're list – we are listening to the voice of the Elders, we're listening to the voice of ordinary people, we are listening to the voice of families who have lost children in care, to give recommendations about how things should change for the better.

**UNIDENTIFIED INTERPRETER:** [Innu-aimun spoken.]

What was it you said, I forgot.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** I was – just listening to –

**UNIDENTIFIED INTERPRETER:** [Innu-aimun spoken.]

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** – people's stories.

**UNIDENTIFIED INTERPRETER:** [Innu-aimun spoken.]

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** So, Justine, we thank you – Justine, we thank you for being here. Tell us your feelings, what you recall, how you have been affected, how your community has been affected, and we may have some questions when you finish.

**J. NOAH:** Thank you.

I don't know where to begin but I'll do my best to – to tell my story and the – the struggle and the problems that I went through, throughout my life and …

Way back, I can't remember if the Social Services were there before, in Davis Inlet. All I remember is the location, when the people moved to the island at Davis Inlet, and I wasn't even one years old. I was crawling and we were – people were making – living by the shore, with their tent frames.

So as I grew up – I grow up there and I've seen a lot of things happening and I didn't understand as I grow up, and then … and I don't – I can't remember when the Social Services started to take in – taking the kids away from there, when – but as I grow up I have a – a … I been abused, and – and I grow up in a alcoholic home and – and I – I was having these really hurt feelings, that I was being abused, in home and – and at – and at school and – and then I – I started thinking that I didn't know where to go.

And then I started to seek help and – and someone mentioned to me about the Social Services, and I – I – I went there and I – and

I asked for help and they were only listening to my story, what I told them; and nothing happened, and like I – I didn't understand, back then.

And throughout the years I – I started seeking more help from the Social Services but they only – they – they took – took me away. They took me away and placed me in another home and – but there's no – in – in – I didn't get any help that I was looking for, but I was placed in homes, different homes, and – and then I went back to my family; but the abuse still continue on. And I – and – and there's a lot of drinking still going on in – in – in my home.

So, throughout the years when I looked at the Social Services, I didn't see and I didn't understand much what they were doing and why the kids are taken – taken away and why are they're not giving it back to their parents. And when – then I went for training to become a police officer, and from there during the training then I realize – then I realize what's –what's happening.

And I graduated and then went back to my community in Natuashish, and I started working there. And I dealt with a lot of people who – who – who are drinking heavily and causing a disturbance and – and I've seen a lot of – many of them are my relatives, and some of them commit suicide. And I lost two of my siblings just by alcohol.

And one of my siblings, the social worker services took away his children and – and – 'cause I was the one who reported – and I'm not gonna say their names – 'cause I was planning to go back to college, and I couldn't do anything for – for them. All I can do is report it to the Social Services; and the next thing is, they took – they took away all their children while – while – while they're still – while my sibling – my – was very drunk.

And then when I was – reported to the Social Services, I explained to them that the – that the children can – can – should be only taken away for a few months, and then give them back to the – give them back to the parents and – but that didn't happen.

And, again – and then the children were taken away for – for years and years. And they keep calling me, my nieces and my – my nieces, they keep calling me, and things are not very – they're afraid of their – their foster parents, and they're telling me that they're – they – they were put in a basement and locked – they didn't come out.

And then when I think about it I realize that I did something wrong – I did something wrong. I shouldn't have – I should – I don't know if I was doing the right thing or not. I keep thinking about it, what would happen if I just left them there, I – and let it happen. I would lose all of them. Something would – would have bad happened to them if I – if I didn't do anything.

And before they were taken out from the community, and I – I think there were – there were eight or nine of them, and I was – 'cause I was ready to go away too, and I couldn't leave them just like that and while – while their parents were drunk every day.

And when I looked at it over the years, I – I tried everything to let the Social Services give – give their parents back to them. The children should go back to the parents, to see if they can give them a second chance, but there's – they – they – they didn't want to. And it was very – it was very hard for the parents.

And I remember when – when her – when their children taken away, on the next day and they were sober and then – so the hardest thing, I went – is I just went over there and I told them – I told them – I told my sibling that: Do you know what happened?

And he said: I know what happened but I don't know who – who reported to us.

And I – and I said: I'm the one who reported you, and I'm sorry and – 'cause you – you – both of you are drinking every day and I've seen your children on the road, crying, and

'cause – and I'm – I'm going away. I got – I have my own life to move on, and I can't continue like this, worrying about your children.

And he said: That's okay. That's okay.

And so I went away – moved and took my children with me, and over the years I – I kept thinking about it and I – I – I blame myself also. And I'm also very angry at the system – the Social Services. I was very angry at them but I didn't say anything much. And – 'cause the – the – my – my nieces, my nephews, were calling me, telling me how they were treated in – in the foster homes, and they didn't know these people, these strangers.

And sometimes they were telling me that: I'm – I'm not allowed to speak my language and I can't – I can't talk to you in Innu. And I said: I can talk to you in Innu, but you can talk to me in English over there, so they can hear you, but they cannot hear me, I said.

And it's – and one of them also told me that the – one of the foster parent was trying – was trying to sexually abuse me. He wants – he wanted – he wanted, but I don't let him, he said. And – but I can't remember if I reported – if I told the Social Services – I can't remember on that.

But I – I gave up, because I felt like the Social Services are not believing. They're not believing me, they're not believing to my siblings.

And sometimes I really – I don't know, like, my feelings to my sibling. Maybe that's why the way I felt – that's probably also bothered him, today, that he's out there drinking every day in Goose Bay.

And it – it hurts me a lot when I see him around, in town. I tried helping him every day, but there's no – nothing I can do.

And some part of his life too, that I named myself because I reported for him, when their children are taken away; but also there's times that I think about it 'cause their children, I don't know what would have happened if I didn't do anything. Sometimes their children got mad at me, and I have to explain to them.

And the other one, I – but – and I – my other sibling, when his – when his grandson was taken away from the Social Services, he was drinking also, and his common-law wife. When – when the Social Services took away from their grandson, I didn't – someone reported to – to them, and their grandson was taken away.

He was still – he was still alive that time, and the – the grandson was placed in – in – in – in his biological father. And while their grandson was with their father, the boy got very abused by his father. And many times I reported the – there were many times I reported for him, that this – this boy is being abused, but I never seen him – I never seen him, but I'm – I was told many times.

And he was – he was being used to – he – the boy was used to go to Goose Bay – I don't know like – I don't know if it's true, but I believe it myself, 'cause one time I – I saw him at the Friendship Centre and he got bruises on his eyes, and there's a cast on his arm, and took a picture of him and I report it to the Social Services, but nothing was done – still nothing was done.

And there are – there were many times that he was flown out to Goose Bay for hospital, that he got hurt, he fell off – he fell – fell – fell on the – on the floor or on the stairs. That was – I was told, but they said that his father did that to him.

And yet the Social Services didn't – didn't believe him. I mean, they didn't believe me when they were checking on the – on the boy. The father covered it up. Like he – he told – he probably told the – the Social Services that he – he fell off the stairs; he was playing outside, and hurt himself. And – no. But – it's not that. It didn't happen. He's the one who hurt the boy.

And many times the – the – I told the Social Services and report them, but then finally, when I – when I saw the boy at the Friendship Centre, I took a picture of him

because that's not the – that's not the accident, the way I looked at him. His – his eyes were all blue and there were bruises on his – in – in – I see it right here on his neck, too, and there's a cast on his arm, and that's when I got really, really upset. And the father was there, he was just looking at me, and – didn't say anything, and I took a picture of the boy.

And my – and then the – I – I called in St. John's and – and talked to the child advocates and – and then they immediately take – take an action on it. The boy was removed far away from his father, and I told them – the child advocates the – I think, why can't the Social Services take the boy back to his grandparents in Natuashish, and give them another chance. But that didn't happen either.

The boy was placed into his father's sister home in Hopedale and – and then – and then the grandparents waited and waited in Natuashish to see what's gonna happen, if they're gonna bring – if they gonna be back – the boy back to them – to their grandson.

And – 'cause they were waited. Then my brother was sick, and sick, and he died. He died by heart attack and never had a chance to see his grandson back. And after – after when that happens, before the burial day for my brother, then his grandson was returned. His grandson was – came – came to Natuashish. And I was so angry. I was very angry.

I remember what – him telling me that: If only they can give me my grandson back I will – I will stop drinking, he said, I would have – I would have quit. I would have stopped drinking.

They never gave – the Social Services never gave him a chance, to his grandparents. To go back to – to give this – go back to the boy – their grandson, to be given back to his grandparents, and now he – he – today he – he was asking for his – his grandfather, 'cause he didn't understand where – where – that his grandfather was gone that time, and today, I don't know today. I haven't seen him around here.

He was very – they were very – likes, they were sound like they were very committed, that they gonna quit if only their grandson given back to them. But they didn't. They always postpone it. They always told us to go back to the treatment, and they – they – they went to the treatment, and they completed the treatment and they waited and waited and they went back – they never – they never sent – they never give – give back, like, their grandson to them. They never give it back to them.

The way I seen the Social Services is – is why can't they give – give them back to the kids, to their parents and their grandparents to give them another chance and it – it makes me so mad when I – when I looked at it, the system.

And – and there's this one time, too, but it was my fault when my children were taken away – my grandchildren. Years ago, they were taken away, and I – it – I know it was my fault that time, 'cause I was drinking. And they were taken away from Goose Bay before I came back here, and I was all alone. I didn't have nothing and the social worker came over to my place and she told me that: Do you know why – why your – all your grandchildren taken away? And I said: Yeah, I know.

And they gave me one week – one week. I waited one week to be – to be handed back to me, all of them. And so I told – I said to the social worker: If you don't want to give me my – my grandchildren back, you can have them, I said. I was so angry at her. You can have all my grandchildren back. And if you want me to go to the court, I'm not going. And I'm gonna wait for them 'til they grow up, and it'll come back to you, I said.

He just – she just looked at me, and – and she said: Okay. So she left.

So I didn't – I didn't do anything. I just stayed home. And after one week they were – they were given back to me and ever since that I – I looked after my grandkids. And I – when I think about it, I think my late

brother would have done the same thing, if the Social Services will give them a chance.

And they didn't do that and they didn't do that to my other brother, too. They should have given them back to their grand – to their children, but it didn't happen.

That's it.

Thank you.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Justine, will you allow us to ask you some questions?

**J. NOAH:** Yup.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** When you talk about how you remember things when you were very young, one or two years old in – on the island at Davis Inlet, give us an idea of what year you were born, so we can have – we can understand around what time that was.

**J. NOAH:** 1967.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Thank you.

We understand some of the history of where Mushuau Innu lived in this area: old Davis Inlet, Utshimassit and now Natuashish. So what you are saying makes a lot of sense about the time, because we know that in the late '60s is when people were moved to the island.

When you talk about being abused, was this – were you being beaten up, or are you talking about other kinds of abuse?

**J. NOAH:** Being beaten up, at home and at school.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** We want you to understand that we're learning about why people drink, and we're beginning to understand that it is a way of coping with very difficult life experiences. And we realize how brave a person is to be able to speak, like you did, about your experiences.

We also understand that these experiences make you feel very guilty. But we are learning that it is not your fault how your life turned out, and we appreciate that you have the strength and are being so brave to share what you experienced, with – with the Commission.

It gives us a picture, because when so many people have the same experience and they're willing to talk about it in public, we know that these experiences are real.

So we want to thank you for explaining what you saw as being wrong in the system. And we – we agree with – we agree with you about that.

Thank you for talking about the details that you recall, and we want – we want to assure you that we believe you. We want to assure you as Commissioners that we recognize how brave people have to be to talk about such a harmful past. And you are helping others not only to change their lives, but make things better for all Innu people.

So I'll just take a break, and ask if Anastasia or Mike would like to have any questions.

Anastasia, any questions?

**COMMISSIONER QUPEE:** [Sheshatshiu-aimun spoken.]

[Dialogue between J. Noah and Commissioner Qupee in Innu-aimun]

**P. RALPH:** Can we translate this please?

**COMMISSIONER QUPEE:** Yeah, I just asked her if – currently where her grandchildren are.

And she had four of her – in her care, and then the – the other one is in the other grandparent's place. So she has three that she's looking after. So she does have her – some of her grandchildren in care.

**P. RALPH:** Right.

**COMMISSIONER QUPEE:** Mm-hmm.

**J. NOAH:** And there's another two on the way and one of them is going to be given to me again. And I know my daughter is – is – is not doing well and the Social Services are – are looking at her, and two of their – two of her children are in my care and she's gonna have another one and I will – and she told me that she's gonna give that – she's gonna give me, when the baby's born.

And I – I don't like to see the Social Services involved on that if – if my child – grandchild is born and I just wanted to look after them and – 'cause I know my daughter is not – not doing very good. But she's trying her best to help herself and it – it's – I know it is hard for me but I can do it.

If I can't – if I can't do it, I will talk to the Socials – and it is my decision. It's not the Social Services.

**COMMISSIONER DEVINE:** I don't have any questions. I just wanted to say thank you for speaking to us and as has already been said and by Commissioner Igloliorte, you've sewn – shown great strength in the many challenges that you've talked to us about.

And certainly I think, you know to – to reassure, from what we've heard is that you've made the best decisions you could at those times in your life. And, of course, you continue to – you know – to provide care to your family and I think it's very commendable of you in that regard.

So thank you so much.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Also, I want to congratulate you for being one of the first Indigenous police officers in this community, and for trying to make governments and other government officials realize that what you have to say, and what Innu have to say to the government and government workers is important, and they should listen. Because you are the one, and Innu people are the ones, who are suffering from these laws. And the way that you explain things really helps us to think about what kind of recommendations we will be making as we move forward.

At this time, we're just gonna have a short break to talk to our lawyers, because they want us to make sure that we ask all the right questions in the right way. So we'll take just a few minutes to allow them to give us any ideas of where we have not explored things with you.

So we'll just take a five-minute break and ask you to come back again after five minutes.

**J. NOAH:** Yeah.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Thank you.

Short break please.

**Recess**

**COMMISSIONER QUPEE:** [Sheshatshiu-aimun spoken.]

[Dialogue between J. Noah and Commissioner Qupee in Innu-aimun.]

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Yeah. We're gonna start now, if you're all ready.

**P. RALPH:** Justine, I know you said you want to say a few more things.

**J. NOAH:** Yeah.

**P. RALPH:** And then they'll ask questions.

**J. NOAH:** Okay.

**P. RALPH:** Yeah.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Thank you very much, Justine, for coming back again.

We will have some questions for you but before we do, anything else is on your mind, anything else you'd like to talk about, please feel free to do so.

**J. NOAH:** [Mushuau-aimun spoken.]

I – I know that I've been carrying the guilt through all these years, and it is my first

time taking – taking it out – out here and tell – and tell to the public.

And through the – through all these years when I look back at it, sometimes I – I get this fear: How long will I keep my grandchildren?

And the Social Services is in – in the way – it's in the way, but what's gonna happen if my – one of these days my grandchildren were taken away? What's gonna happen to me? Will I get more guilt? Will I get – get more sickness in my home?

And there are other things that I'm – I wanna try to – to get help, and to help my grandchildren, instead of Social Services. I'd like to see other programs step in, besides the Social Services that are – that are hard for us, and in our families and in our communities.

I remember my mom used to – my late mom used to turn to Social Services. Then – and she didn't get much help either from them. But all they do is help my mom – remove – removed her and my siblings out of the community. And she was in – in – in a shelter, a women's shelter, at Goose Bay called Libra House, and back then I went over there, and I – but she didn't stay long. She went back to my late father again, she went back to him.

When I went there before she went back to my father, when I went there and visit her and – and my siblings, I – my – my feelings, my heart, just went down – went down to the bottom and I was helpless. I couldn't do anything. And I don't – I don't – but Social Services, I didn't understand them back then. All I see is they keep taking – remove the children away from the parents, and even the mothers too when they need help.

And I really – I love my – my late parents, I loved them when they were still around those years. Even – even though we have really – even though we had bigger problems at home, but – and we still – I still love them and I continue helping them.

And even my late grandparents. My late grandparents never mentioned anything about – before I started working as a cop, they never mentioned to me about the – the Social Services. And I remember my late grandfather told me: Are you still working? Are you still working as a cop? And I said: Yes. And he said: Well, that's very good, continue on as – as much as you can and keep fighting for the system 'cause this is our own people. That's what he told me, before he pass away.

In those days, the Elders we don't – we will never know what's – what their stories are, too, about the – the Social Services and – and we will never have that story, 'cause they were – they're all gone.

But for younger adults today, they will – they – they're learning by their culture – from their culture and their spiritual culture, and from – and some of them from their late parents and their late grandparents.

I know I carried all these years for the guilt and it – it was very hard for me and – but I'm very glad today that my brother and all his children are grown up, and he has a lot of grandchildren too.

Thank you for hearing me.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** And thank you as well.

Tell us the names of your grandparents on your mother's side, and your grandparents on your father's side, who were they?

**J. NOAH:** On my late mother's side, I – I never met them. I never seen them. And I wasn't – we weren't born back then.

And my – my late mom, she was never married – I mean, she was young, when her late parents died – passed away. Before she was removed. After her late parents died, they were removed – they were – all I learn is I – they were separated, all of them, and placed in foster homes. But my mom was placed – what I was told – I remember she told me she was sent to Ontario – Moosonee, in a residential school, and

that's where she was placed over there, and raised there 'til she turned – I don't know how old, she was probably 16?

And then – and then she was moved to stay with – live with the priest and the nuns in Montreal and raised there and – until she – I believe until she turns 18. Then she was going to become a nun and the – the – they couldn't take her to become a nun because her hand is – is not well on this side, and she gets seizures.

And they – I guess they don't believe her that she can do the job, and so they sent her when she was turned 18 or – I don't know how old she was – she was turned – moved to – they sent her to Sheshatshiu and placed at the nurses' residence and she became a – she became a nursing aide.

She was working there as a cleaner – cleaning – [Mushuau-aimun spoken] – she was like a house attendant? A house – camp attendant? Something –

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Right.

**J. NOAH:** And she was – she said she was starting – Dr. Paddon – the late Dr. Paddon helped her to – started to give her the training as to become a nursing aide.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** What was her name?

**J. NOAH:** Mary Ann Noah. She was Mary Ann Jacobish that time.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Okay.

**J. NOAH:** And – and she said: I did that, and then she – he – the Dr. Paddon sent me to old Davis Inlet to help the – the Innu – Innu there to do the nursing there, as a nurse – nurse's aide and – and that's where she met my father. But I never – I never met my late grandparents on her side 'cause we weren't –

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Right.

**J. NOAH:** And for my father, they were around – I – I met them, and I see them. They were still around, that time.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** What was your father's name and what were – what was his parent's names – your grandparents?

**J. NOAH:** My mom's side her – my mother's side, her late parents are named Simon Jacobish and Mary Jane Jacobish.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Okay.

**J. NOAH:** But I don't know who my great-great-grandparents were. And my father's side –

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Good and on your father's side, yes?

**J. NOAH:** – and my father's side, Thomas Noah and Alice Rich, but she was Alice Noah when she married to my –

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Thank you.

You talked about suffering abuse at school, how old were you then? Can you remember?

Well, you probably started school at five or six. Did the –

**J. NOAH:** Five.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** – did it happen right away?

**J. NOAH:** Not – I don't remember if it – it didn't – I – it didn't happen in grade – I mean in kindergarten and Grade 1, 2 and 3.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Physical abuse?

**J. NOAH:** No – three – yes, yeah.

I was physically abused in there, and sexually abused and –

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** By a teacher?

**J. NOAH:** Yeah. Yeah.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Man or a woman?

**J. NOAH:** Men and women.

And that time I didn't – I have nowhere to go. I couldn't – I didn't know anything about the Social Services that time and there were many times I ran away. I ran away in – I put on the warm clothes, and I went into the woods and stayed in the woods for all day. And – because of – because at home, too, I was physically abused – but not sexually abused, but physically abused. And there's too much alcohol drinking going on that time, and I was very young. I – I can't remember, I was six, seven or eight.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** How many children did you have and what are their names?

**J. NOAH:** I have three daughters and I – I – I lost four, I had four miscarriages. I would have had seven today. And the oldest one is Nellie – Nellie Noah and the second one is Virginia – Virginia Noah and the youngest one is Denise – Denise Jack.

And I had – I raised one foster daughter. She was two weeks old when her – when her mother was given to me from Sheshatshiu and she's a grown – a grown-up – a woman now and she has three – two children and one on the way. And her name is Natalie – Natalie Jack.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** How old were they when they were first removed from your care, how old were your children?

**J. NOAH:** Can you say that again?

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** So when – you said that your children were taken from you –

**J. NOAH:** Yup.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** – what ages were they? Very young?

**J. NOAH:** That was in 2007, and I think my daughter was – my oldest daughter was 16 – 15 or 16 – I can't remember.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** How long were they gone from you?

**J. NOAH:** They were gone like, one week – one week.

And that time when the social worker came and was trying to – was telling me about it, that my kids were taken away, and I told – I said to her: I – I – I'm not gonna take them back. You can – you can have all my – my children and I'm not going to the court, and I won't be here. I'm gonna move somewhere else.

Like, I was so angry, and I was saying all those kind of stuff and I – I was very angry. But after one week they gave – she gave it back – they were given back to me, and from that then I looked after them all – all through the years.

And when I looked at – looked at it back, the parents, they should have done to their – to the parents too, and that didn't happen.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** I was going to ask you questions about how you feel Social Services should work but you already answered that –

**J. NOAH:** Oh.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** – because you said: We should make sure that Innu people – Innu social workers understand programs, and they're the ones who should make the decisions –

**J. NOAH:** Mm-hmm.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** – so thank you for –

**J. NOAH:** Mm-hmm.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** – explaining that to us.

**J. NOAH:** Mm-hmm.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Do you have anything else that you would like to talk about?

**J. NOAH:** I'd like – I'd like to see the Social Services to work with Innu, or if any Innu social worker who has a strong knowledge on the job and understands and work with the Social Services and make them one – have a good interact each other and work as a team.

'Cause I did that to the – to the RCMP when I was working with them and it was trouble – it was trouble for them and there are times that we got mad at each other and – but we work things out. We work things out and it was very, very hard.

And there were times that – that the – the – when I was working as a cop they – they were – how would I say it in English – they were using a lot of – they were trying to, but sometimes they were using excessive force – more force on the – and I – I stopped them. I don't – don't do that to the – to that person. He's drunk and he can't move.

And they were angry at me, and I said: No, don't – don't do that. And if I – if any Innu social worker who have that kind of knowledge, they can do that to the Social Services, so the Social Services can understand to Innu social worker.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Thank you for telling us that you forgive your parents. Thank you for telling us that you don't blame them for what you went through. Because every one of us know that we have said things to our parents that we regret. So we understand and appreciate how you're feeling about that today, and how strong you have to be in order to make that kind of statement. We're very happy that you can forgive yourself, too.

Thank you for being here.

**J. NOAH:** Okay. You're welcome.

Thanks.

**P. RALPH:** Should we take new break and give Justine some time to – David Nui is next.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Yup.

**P. RALPH:** Okay.

**COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:** Ten minutes please, and then we'll start with –

**J. NOAH:** Okay

**P. RALPH:** What's that?

**UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** (Inaudible.)

**P. RALPH:** Yeah – no we're good on time.

**UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** (Inaudible.)

**Recess**

[redacted]