



Public Inquiry Respecting the Treatment, Experiences and Outcomes of Innu in the Child Protection System

IN THE MATTER OF the Investigation into the Treatment, Experience and Outcome in the Child Protection System of JAMES POKER (deceased on or about February 2015)

ORDER

WHEREAS pursuant to the Application of Thomas Poker (the “**Applicant**”), father of **James Poker** (born May 30, 1997), the Commissioners of the Inquiry Respecting the Treatment, Experiences and Outcomes of Innu in the Child Protection System (the “**Inquiry**”) ordered an Investigation (the “**Investigation**”) pursuant to s. 4(2) of the Inquiry’s Terms of Reference (Order-in-Council 2022-103);

AND WHEREAS the Investigation is conducted with the consent of the Applicant and he may withdraw his consent at any time, terminating the Investigation.

AND WHEREAS Counsel for the Applicant and Inquiry Counsel have conferred together and consulted with Counsel for Parties with General Standing;

AND WHEREAS it is anticipated that the Investigation proceeding will be a facilitated circle process;

AND WHEREAS it is anticipated that the Inquiry will issue a final Order setting out the particulars of the facilitated circle, and that Parties with standing will have an opportunity to provide their input;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the Inquiry will investigate the following:

- i. James’s experience in care and custody of the Manager, why actions were taken or not taken, and why information was not effectively communicated;
- ii. Supports offered or not offered to James’ family by the child protection system prior to and during James’ time in care and custody of the Manager;
- iii. James’s experience in out of province placements, and the reasons for choosing out of province placements;
- iv. James’s experience with medical and mental health treatment and services while involved with or exiting child protection services, including medications;

- v. Communication and barriers to communication within CSSD, between CSSD and out of province placement providers, between CSSD and other service providers, and between CSSD, service providers, placement providers and the Applicant/family members;
- vi. James's access to Innu culture, Innu language (Innu-aimun), Innu land-based activities, community connection and family connection, and related impact on his well-being; and
- vii. Reintegration planning and support for James when exiting care and custody of the Manager, including any youth services and other supports after returning to Labrador.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT the Inquiry will not investigate the following:

- i. The manner and immediate cause of James's death; and
- ii. James's life prior to coming into care, except as set out in (ii) above.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT evidence in respect of the investigation may be collected through an investigative process consisting of interviews, affidavits and interrogatories, resulting in a report to Commissioners.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT Parties are expected to identify to Inquiry Counsel any factual issues or disputes at an early stage and as soon as they are known to the Party.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT Inquiry Counsel prepare a statement of facts.

DATED this 5th day of February, 2025.



The Hon. James Igloliorte
Commissioner



Ms. Anastasia Qupee
Commissioner



Dr. Michael Devine
Commissioner