



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 THUNDERHEART TSHAKAPESH (deceased on May 24, 2017)

ORDER

WHEREAS pursuant to the Application of Simeon Tshakapesh and Ruby Tshakapesh (the “**Applicants**”), parents of **Thunderheart Tshakapesh**, born January 18, 2001, 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 Applicants and they may withdraw their consent at any time, terminating the Investigation;

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

AND WHEREAS Simeon Tshakapesh and Ruby Tshakapesh wish for the Inquiry to pursue an initial, broad investigation of the services that Thunderheart received, understanding that the scope of investigation may need to be narrowed before any formal or informal hearings begin;

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

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

- i. What services did Thunderheart Tshakapesh need, what services were available and what services did he receive while in care?
- ii. Thunderheart’s experience while in Treatment and services provided there.
- iii. Did lack of access to services or inadequacies in these services, if any, contribute to Thunderheart Tshakapesh’s death?

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

- i. The manner of Thunderheart's death; and
- ii. Thunderheart's life prior to coming into care.

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 if the Investigation proceeds by way of Formal Hearing Inquiry Counsel are expected to prepare a statement of facts.

DATED this 19th day of August, 2025



**The Hon. James Igloliorte
Commissioner**



**Ms. Anastasia Qupee
Commissioner**



**Dr. Michael Devine
Commissioner**