

BIOGRAPHY OF INNU WITNESSES

Provided to the Inquiry by OKT on February 9, 2023

Witness	Topic	Biography
Annie Picard	Sheshatshiu Innu Timeline	Health Coordinator, Innu Round Table Secretariat. IRT Secretariat is an Innu organization serving both Innu communities. Ms. Picard will present the Sheshatshiu Innu Timeline, which is a visual presentation of Innu history from the 1800s to approximately 2010, developed through a community process.
Penote Antuan	Innu History	Sheshatshiu Innu Elder. Mr. Antuan will speak about how Innu families and children were raised and worked together on the land in the past, and discuss his observations of how that changed over time. He may share other aspects of his life as a way to illustrate Innu history.
Tshaukuesh Penashue	Innu History	Sheshatshiu Innu Elder. Ms. Penashue will speak about how Innu families and children were raised and worked together on the land in the past, and discuss her observations of how that changed over time. She may share other aspects of her life as a way to illustrate Innu history.
Helen Aster	Community Wellbeing in Sheshatshiu	Social Health Director, Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation. Ms. Aster will speak about Innu health and wellbeing in recent history and at present.
Joachim Nui	Innu History	Mushuau Innu Elder. Mr. Nui will speak about how Innu families and children were raised and worked together on the land in the past, and discuss his observations of how that changed over time. He may share other aspects of his life as a way to illustrate Innu history.
Nympha Byrne	Gathering Voices	Healing Lodge, Health Commission, Mushuau Innu First Nation. Ms. Byrne will present on the report Gathering Voices: Finding Strength to Help Our Children, which is the report of the People's Inquiry led by Mushuau Innu First Nation in the early 1990s in the wake of a tragedy. She will give that document context and explain how that inquiry came about. Ms. Bryne was a commissioner of that inquiry.
Janet Bellefleur	RCAP Testimony	Executive Director, Shushepeshipan Ishpitentamun Mitshuap (SIM Inc). SIM is an Innu organization operating several staffed facilities in Sheshatshiu that care for a number of Innu children and youth in care within provincial child protection services. Ms. Bellefleur is the daughter of Rose Gregoire, an Innu leader in social services who passed away a number of years ago. Ms. Bellefleur will provide background on her mother, including her engagement in the community, providing context for her mother's comments to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples.
Nykesha Gregoire	RCAP Testimony	Student Support Manager with Mamu Tshishkutamashutau. Ms. Gregoire is the grand-daughter of Ms. Rose Gregoire. She is a registered social worker. She will read an extract of her grand-mother's RCAP testimony.

Mary Jane Edmonds	Mushuau Innu Timeline	Senior Innu Representative (Natuashish), Innu Round Table Secretariat. IRT Secretariat is an Innu organization serving both Innu communities. Ms. Edmonds will present the Mushuau Innu Timeline, which is a visual presentation of Innu history from the 1800s to recent years. She will also discuss the video “Land & Sea: Mushuau Innu learn to hunt caribou in Labrador”, and lead an activity regarding Innu culture.
Emma Ashini	Mushuau Innu Timeline	Ms. Ashini will support Ms. Edmonds in her presentation.
Kathleen Benuen	Community Wellbeing in Natuashish	Health Director, Health Commission, Mushuau Innu First Nation. Ms. Benuen will present on Innu health wellbeing in recent history and at present.
Mary Pia Benuen	Community Wellbeing in Sheshatshiu	Primary Health Director, Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation. She will discuss recent health challenges that face Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation, past needs assessments, demographic statistic, and the Innu Healing Strategy (2014).