



Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc.

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MKO Supportive of Public Inquest into the Death of Eishia Hudson

Treaty Five Territory, Thompson, MB—Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO) Inc. is issuing this statement regarding Minister of Justice Cameron Friesen's announcement of the launch of a public inquest into the police shooting death of **Eishia Hudson** in April 2020.

Grand Chief Settee states:

“MKO continues to be saddened by the loss of young 16-year old Eisha Hudson as well as the passing of many other Indigenous citizens who have lost their lives so tragically to police violence. Our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to these families and we are hopeful that today's announcement made by Minister Cameron Friesen will not only help pave the way to a new relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Manitoba, but will bring closure and an opportunity for healing for the Hudson family.

Reconciliation requires ongoing commitment and dedication from everyone, from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. We can all learn from each other. We all have gifts to share with each other and we all have stories to tell.

Over the last 30 years, there have been many inquiries and reports that have outlined recommendations to improve relationships between First Nations and the justice systems. We are committed to conducting the hard work that must be done. We know what we all need to do. First Nations want a society where our children, our grand children and our great grand children do not have to continue to live in fear of the Police or the Justice System. Now, is the time for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples to act and to work together to finally bring an end to the discrimination and racism experienced by our First Nations within that system.

It is my sincere hope that today's announcement of a public inquest into the loss of Eisha Hudson will only mark the beginning of the rebuilding of new relationships.”

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For more information:

Mark Sweeny, Assistant to the Grand Chief

T: (431) 275-2428

E: Mark.Sweeny@mkonorth.com

Web: <http://mkonation.com/>