



New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council **PRESS RELEASE**

The New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council expresses its frustration with the Inadequate Police Commission's conclusion in regard to Chantal Moore's shooting.

Fredericton, November 19, 2021 - Yesterday, the New Brunswick Police Commission released a statement on the conclusion of their investigation into the conduct of the Edmundston police officer who fatally shot Chantal Moore last June. The Commission concluded that there was "insufficient evidence" that the officer had breached the *Code of Professional Conduct* in shooting Chantal. The New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council expresses its frustration with the Police Commission's conclusion.

When one is told that there was insufficient evidence to come to a conclusion, one naturally asks "Why?" What was done to Chantal Moore was, on its face, clearly unjust. To have someone repeatedly shot by the police officer who was sent to do a "wellness check" on that person simply does not sit right with this province's Indigenous community. This conclusion cannot possibly bring any comfort or justice to the family of Chantal Moore; we, the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council, want to express our deepest sympathy to Chantal's family for their loss and this continued injustice.

As a representative organization of the Off Reserve Indigenous people in New Brunswick, the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council has to wonder if the investigation was truly comprehensive or if evidence that could have helped the Commission come to an answer about what happened was not sought out or was ignored. "We need to be reassured that this investigation would not have been more thorough and would not have resulted in a clear conclusion about the officer's guilt or innocence had Chantal Moore been a non-Indigenous person, rather than an Indigenous woman" stated New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council Chief Barry LaBillois.

"We could have more confidence if the Police Commission publicly released its report, but they say they cannot do so. In the absence of that report and with the Coroner's Inquest long delayed, we are left with the sense that the killing of Chantal Moore is yet another tragic murder of an Indigenous person, made all the worse because Chantal was killed at the hands of an officer of the law, the very people whose mission is to "ensure a safe quality of life for all citizens". We will continue to press for a just process, such as a public inquiry, to get to the bottom of why Chantal was killed by an Edmundston police officer on a 'wellness check'" said Chief LaBillois.

For media inquiries, contact Yara Smadi, Communication Officer. Tel: 506 458 8422, E-mail: communication@nbapc.org

The New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council (NBAPC) is the voice for Status and Non-Status Aboriginal Peoples who reside off-reserve in the Province of New Brunswick, providing a political voice for our members, services and programs.
