|  | Page 1 |  | Page 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | September 22, 2021 | 1 | And finally, we've heard already from the Deer |
| 2 |  | 2 | Lake Search and Rescue Team that this team has |
| 3 | THE CLERK: | 3 | had good success in recruitment, particularly of |
| 4 | This Commission of Inquiry is now open. | 4 | younger people. |
| 5 | Commissioner James Igloliorte presiding as | 5 |  |
| 6 | Commission. Please be seated. | 6 | We have a couple of such persons on the panel. |
| 7 | MR. BUDDEN: | 7 | Another person will be joining at 10:30. She was |
| 8 | Good morning, Mr. Commissioner. I'm pleased | 8 | unable to get here before then. So we'll be |
| 9 | today to have with us the Bay of Islands Search | 9 | dealing with recruitment, perhaps, after the |
| 10 | and Rescue Team. And I'll allow the individuals | 10 | break at about 10:15. |
| 11 | in a moment just to introduce themselves and tell | 11 |  |
| 12 | us how long they've been part of Search and | 12 | So I'll turn it over now, unless somebody has |
| 13 | Rescue and anything else that they believe to be | 13 | anything else, to Ms. Christine Doucet and |
| 14 | relevant. | 14 | Mr. Shawn Street, who will be doing the |
| 15 |  | 15 | presentation. |
| 16 | What we will be hearing today, Mr. Commissioner, | 16 |  |
| 17 | is the Search and Rescue team will be telling us | 17 | I should also say with regard to Cody Peddle, I |
| 18 | about a particular search they were involved in, | 18 | spoke to his mother several weeks ago. She is |
| 19 | almost exactly 11 years ago. The search for a | 19 | unable to participate. She doesn't live in |
| 20 | six-year-old boy who went missing. | 20 | Newfoundland at present and has some family |
| 21 |  | 21 | medical matters that are occupying her. However, |
| 22 | It's unlike some of the other longer searches | 22 | she asked me to say that she remains grateful for |
| 23 | where we're not looking at this one in the same | 23 | the search efforts that were undertaken with |
| 24 | level of detail. This is more like the matter we | 24 | regard to her then six-year-old child. And that |
|  | Page 2 |  | Page 4 |
| 1 | heard last Wednesday or the Wednesday in | 1 | her and Cody are doing well. |
| 2 | Makkovik, the search and rescue operation | 2 | MR. STREET: |
| 3 | involving the crashed plane. | 3 | Thank you very much. |
| 4 |  | 4 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 5 | I believe it's a search that illustrates some | 5 | Q. So perhaps, Ms. Doucet, you can lead and |
| 6 | strategies and related matters having to do with | 6 | introduce yourself, and the other team members |
| 7 | a search for a very vulnerable person. | 7 | can do the same. Again, saying your name and how |
| 8 |  | 8 | long you've been involved in search and rescue |
| 9 | The search and rescue team will also be talking | 9 | and anything else you regard as important. |
| 10 | about some issues of concern to them, including | 10 | MR. STREET: |
| 11 | some issues that are raised in Exhibit 76, which | 11 | A. Yes. Feel free to take off your mask when you're |
| 12 | I spoke about yesterday. | 12 | speaking. It's no problem. And we'll try to |
| 13 |  | 13 | maintain a degree of COVID awareness by keeping |
| 14 | And I would mention that those matters they're | 14 | our masks on while we're in this room. Thank you |
| 15 | putting them before the Commission, but we are | 15 | very much. |
| 16 | not expecting them to be examined on today or | 16 | MS. DOUCET: |
| 17 | anything like that. This is just their | 17 | A. Thank you very, very much for inviting us. Yes. |
| 18 | opportunity to present them. And these issues | 18 | My name is Christine Doucet. I'm a member of Bay |
| 19 | will be revisited, perhaps, in the round table. | 19 | of Islands Search and Rescue. I've been with the |
| 20 | So I'm not expecting counsel or putting them in | 20 | team for 17 years. I'm currently also a member |
| 21 | the spot to pursue those issues here today. | 21 | of the Executive. I've been the treasurer for |
| 22 | We'll also be hearing from them on a few other | 22 | ten years and served as secretary for a few years |
| 23 | matters of concern. I believe fundraising is one | 23 | before that. |


|  | Page 5 |  | Page 7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | And I'll pass it over to Shawn Street to | 1 | Perhaps, just, Madam Clerk, I believe that's |
| 2 | introduce himself. | 2 | Exhibit 178? |
| 3 | MR. STREET: | 3 | THE CLERK: |
| 4 | A. Good day. My name is Shawn Street and I've been | 4 | Okay. |
| 5 | with the Bay of Islands Search and Rescue for 26 | 5 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 6 | years. Coordinator for probably the last 20 | 6 | Q. I'm sorry to have interrupted you. Then we'll |
| 7 | years. I've been on, I'd say over my career with | 7 | have it there, so if we ever need to refer to it. |
| 8 | the Search and Rescue, over hundreds of searches. | 8 | MS. DOUCET: |
| 9 | And I must say, there's a lot of stuff I | 9 | A. Okay. Thank you very much. I've done up sort of |
| 10 | volunteer with, but this is the one I feel that | 10 | a summary overview of the Search Summary. So |
| 11 | is most rewarding. And if I could put in another | 11 | what I'll do is I'll just start to recount what |
| 12 | 60 years, I would. | 12 | happened during the search and go from there. |
| 13 | MR. BUDDEN: | 13 | Sorry. It's from Harry. |
| 14 | Q. Perhaps, Nick, you can now do the same? | 14 |  |
| 15 | NICK: | 15 | So on September 18th, Bay of Islands Search and |
| 16 | A. Hi there. I'm Nick. I've been with the Search | 16 | Rescue received a call from the Royal |
| 17 | and Rescue now for only about a month and a half. | 17 | Newfoundland Constabulary just after 6:00 p.m. |
| 18 | MR. DALRYMPLE: | 18 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 19 | A. And my name is Garry Dalrymple. I've been with |  | Q. Of 2010. |
| 20 | the team now for about six years. I've only been | 20 | MS. DOUCET: |
| 21 | living in Corner Brook for the past seven. Got | 21 | A. 2010. Yeah, sorry. That was a long time ago. |
| 22 | involved very early on in moving here. | 22 | We had the report that Cody Peddle, age six, he'd |
| 23 |  | 23 | last been seen about 3:30, playing with friends |
| 24 | I've been a member of the Executive for the last | 24 | near his house. At 5:30 p.m., his grandfather |
|  | Page 6 |  | Page 8 |
| 1 | five years and currently hold the position | 1 | could not locate him, and so he contacted the |
| 2 | fundraising coordinator and assistant coordinator | 2 | police. |
| 3 | with the team. | 3 |  |
| 4 | MR. GAUDET: | 4 | Our team deployed very quickly as a rapid |
| 5 | A. And hello. My name is Adam Gaudet. I've been on | 5 | response, and we began searching. Shortly after, |
| 6 | the team for about three years now | 6 | the team members returned to get our command |
| 7 | MR. BUDDEN: | 7 | centre and established it on scene near the point |
| 8 | Q. Thank you, folks. And later on this morning, | 8 | last seen. |
| 9 | we'll be interested, particularly, not that the | 9 |  |
| 10 | others of you aren't valued, but we're interested | 10 | At that time, when we first arrived on scene, |
| 11 | in Nick and Adam's experiences. How they came to | 11 | there were many, many people searching in the |
| 12 | be involved in search and rescue, and so on. So | 12 | woods on quad, on foot. Many family and friends |
| 13 | we'll circle back to that. | 13 | from the trailer court area where Cody was |
| 14 |  | 14 | living. |
| 15 | But perhaps now, Ms. Doucet, Mr. Street, you guys | 15 |  |
| 16 | can do your Cody Peddle presentation. | 16 | We established some hasty teams to search the |
| 17 | MS. DOUCET: | 17 | trails where his friends had indicated he had |
| 18 | A. Thank you very much. | 18 | last been seen where he had been moving. And |
| 19 | MR. BUDDEN: | 19 | basically, were sent out very quickly to do hasty |
| 20 | Q. Oh, I'm sorry to interrupt. That exhibit is | 20 | search focusing on those trails. |
| 21 | actually here and can be called up. There's a | 21 |  |
| 22 | picture in that if you wish to, or you can just | 22 | We also had support from members of the Corner |
| 23 | give your presentation. | 23 | Brook Fire Department who had arrived on scene. |
| 24 |  | 24 | They had their thermal imaging cameras, and they |

were sent out with members of our search teams to search the trails looking for any heat signatures.

We also had in one of our command vehicles, we had a PA system. And we had that set up so that Cody's mother could broadcast loudly over the area to see if we could get any response from Cody.

Deer Lake Search and Rescue: As we contained the search, it started to get dark. It was about this time of year, so it was getting dark out. We contacted Deer Lake Search Team -- or requested the RNC contact Deer Lake Search Team to bring in additional resources to assist with the search, as we hadn't found him during our hasty search.

Again, with so many people combing the woods, it was making it very difficult for our search teams to listen to see if we could hear Cody calling out or making any sounds.

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At that time, Gander base was also contacted and dispatched to Cormorant to come and assist with the search. By the time the Deer Lake Search and Rescue Team had arrived, we had been able to get most of the people out of the woods.

And what we did was then we had all of the civilian volunteers, all of the people who were there, we had them sign-in with their name and contact information. And then we started to assign them, because everybody wanted to help. We started to assign them to search teams with both BOISAR and Deer Lake Search Team members.

Those civilians who had an understanding of the trail system, who knew the woods, who were more of the outdoorsy type had been used to using those trails in both day and night conditions, they were assigned with the search and rescue teams to search the trails and the wooded areas.

Those that had less experience were basically assigned to assist a fewer number of search team members in searching the entire trailer court.

1 We had the entire area searched. Every backyard,
every shed, every open door, anyplace, underneath decks. They searched the entire trailer court area.

The Coast Guard also sent the Cape Fox from Lark Harbour. That was done when someone had reported seeing a child down by the waterfront. So the Cape Fox came in to search the shoreline.

All the teams continued searching through the night, through the trailer park, through the trails, up into the woods as much as possible. At one point, we initiated a very large line abreast search from the point last seen heading into the woods.

This was difficult to maintain our lines and our spacing as we had many civilian volunteers who weren't familiar with how to conduct a line abreast search.

As night went on, we decided that additional resources would be required come morning to

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reinitiate, as we had not been successful. Those areas that we searched at night, we would likely need to research again during the daytime.

And so we asked for contact at Stephenville
Search and Rescue, Barachois Search and Rescue, and Bonne Bay Search and Rescue all be contacted, send additional members to the site.

Stephenville and Barachois Search and Rescue both arrived at daybreak. And, again, at that point, Deer Lake departed the scene to rest and rejuvenate. Stephenville and Barachois arrived on scene, and we, again, created teams to continue searching the areas.

So teams were assigned to, again, search the trails, the woods, the roadways, and the properties all again. Members from Bay of Islands Search and Rescue, Deer Lake Search and Rescue, and the RNC were dispatched to search from a helicopter. The Cormorant had been there for a little bit during the evening and had to depart.

And so, basically, at around 11:00 in the morning, 11:15, members from Barachois Search and Page 14
First thing in the morning, we got air support from Universal Helicopters, and they established a search team, and they established a grid search pattern, which there are pictures in that Exhibit 78. Shows the flight path right at the end that the Universal Helicopter took.
MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Sorry to interrupt. But we have that up there now if you wish to speak to it.
MS. DOUCET:
A. Yeah. So basically, the helicopter landed at the soccer pitch close to the trailer court. They landed at the soccer pitch. And then it was between Damian Morrissey, who was one of our long-term members at the time. He's no longer with the team, but he was then. And the RNC and the Deer Lake member determined with the pilot the flight path that they were going to use. So you can see the flight path that they took there. And the idea was two fairly close grid searches for the entire area.

Rescue noted that the helicopter was hovering.

We had no direct communications with the helicopter at the time, so we didn't know what was going on, on the helicopter. So at about 11:00, somebody from Barachois said, gee, helicopter has been sitting there. Staying in the same place for quite some time. And so I actually used the cell phone to call Damian. I wasn't sure whether he'd answer on the helicopter or not, but he did. And he indicated at that time that, yes, they had Cody, and he was alive and well.

And I got to tell you, there's no feeling in the world like that. And I was like, really? You have him? Really? Honest? Are you sure? You got him? He's fine? Let me talk to him. I spoke with Cody myself because I wasn't believing that they had him.

And then once it was confirmed they had him, we let the rest of the team know. And we told the volunteers that were all around and the teams
that we had Cody. something. bed.

In the search summary there, there's a little sort of -- it doesn't fit in the timeline, and it starts just above where we have it there, but that is a recount from Damian of what happened while they were in the helicopter.

So they had been flying. One of the spotters in the helicopter indicated that they thought they saw something red, because Cody was wearing a red shirt. And so, he said, wait, we spotted

He was in an area. He was all curled up. And that's probably what saved his life because he made a little nest for himself. Because he knew that -- and he told us this -- his parents told us this after when we met with them, that he knew that when it got dark, he was supposed to go to

So he found himself a little grassy spot, he curled up, and he went to sleep. And that was

Page 16
before the sunset, because it went down to four degrees that evening. And so he made himself a little nest, and he went to sleep.

So they couldn't land right where he had, so the helicopter moved about a half a kilometre away, dropped the guys off from the helicopter, and then went back and hovered over Cody. And that's why they were hovering. They were over Cody, marking his spot so that the search members could get to him.

And he was still asleep when they got to him. And they had to sort of touch him to wake him up. But when he woke up, he was like, "Oh, yes, I'm hungry. I'm thirsty. Can I see my mom?" And so they took him.

When they got him on the helicopter, his pants were all wet. They'd stripped off his wet pants. They'd wrapped him up in a blanket. They gave him a juice box. Weren't sure about allergies, so they didn't give him anything to eat. Gave him the juice box. Got him in the helicopter.

1 And he was talking and everything.

When he got in the helicopter and started to warm up, he started to shiver. The initial plan had been to take him to land at the ball field and reunite him with his mother then, and then have him taken to the hospital to be checked over. But when he started shivering in the helicopter, we thought, no, we're going to take him straight.

So the helicopter went straight to the hospital. The decision was made to go straight to the hospital. And his mother was picked up by the police at the ball field and taken to the hospital to be reunited with him.
and he checked out. He was cold, but he was fine. And we did get a chance to -- he came by our Search and Rescue building about a week later, him and his mother, and said thank you.
MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Thank you, Ms. Doucet. I have a few questions for you following your report. But before I ask some, and the other lawyers may have questions as

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well, as may the Commissioner Mr. Street, do you have anything to add? You were part of that search as well, I believe?
MR. STREET:
A. Yes, I was. I was the search manager at the time. And I must say, at the beginning, it was a really challenging search for the reason that as soon as we got there, we had so many civilians in the woods that you didn't know who was who and who was singing out. And all the trails and all the clues and evidence were actually, you know, all destroyed at that time. So there was no footprints. No nothing. So we were only going by the kids that he was playing with that we knew what direction he went to.

And as the search came on, like, it didn't seem right to us. So we had to do more investigation on that one. And we found out he was actually playing with a little four-year-old girl who pointed in a different direction. Well, no, he went that way. And so, this is what turned our search around to a different area.

And actually, that pattern that the helicopter was flying, there was actually in the area, that the little girl he was playing with actually showed us which way to go.

The other kids just wanted, yeah, we know this way he goes because the media was there, and everyone had got there, so they got a bit of attention out of it. But it was actually they weren't even playing with him at the time.

So there was a lot of challenges in this here because it's a really rough area. The weather wasn't cooperating because it was 12 degrees that night. Then it went down to 4 . So we knew time was of the essence.

So right off the get-go, we had to actually get all the civilian volunteers that was in there running around out of the woods and try to organize some type of plan out of this one here. And we knew right upfront -- we had, I think, 22 members of our own show up. But we knew right up front; we need more trained volunteers.

Page 20
And our closest team that we rely on big time is Deer Lake Search and Rescue. So we were contacting RNC and said we need them here now because we need trained volunteers to help organize these civilians.

So at that point, they showed up, and we took it, and we broke up in all teams. And also then, by the time we got there, there was over probably 70 to 100 people in the woods. And they were just going everywhere, and there was no organization to it.

So we hauled them out as best we could and organized our teams the best we could there. Because if we told them they couldn't help, they were going in anyway. So we decided we had to take them with us and organize it and do the best with it.

The Corner Brook Fire Department showed up because at the time we never had thermal imaging, but they did. So they wanted to help. So we put them on the trails and everything with their

|  | Page 21 |  | Page 23 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | thermal imaging cameras. So they could actually | 1 | search through the night with so many. And only |
| 2 | maybe pick up a heat signature on him and | 2 | for the volunteers from the other teams around |
| 3 | hopefully get him that way. | 3 | the area, Stephenville and Barachois and Deer |
| 4 |  | 4 | Lake, that we could actually bring them all |
| 5 | But it was really challenging because, I mean, | 5 | together with people that with the same training, |
| 6 | his mother told us he's probably not going to | 6 | underneath the same organization and knew how to |
| 7 | answer us. He's deaf in one ear. And we had | 7 | search, that we pulled it off the way we did, |
| 8 | everything going against us at the time for this | 8 | right? Because we had so many trained volunteers |
| 9 | here. He's not going to answer you if you call. | 9 | that could actually take so many civilian |
| 10 | So we used her to sing out on the loudspeakers. | 10 | volunteers with them that actually, you know, |
| 11 |  | 11 | pulled all together to actually save Cody |
| 12 | We called the Cormorant, and they searched most | 12 | Peddle's life, actually. |
| 13 | of the night, because they can fly at nighttime | 13 | R. BUDDEN: |
| 14 | and they use their spotlight and everything. And | 14 | Q. Thank you, Mr. Street. I have a handful of |
| 15 | that was a little bit challenging because with | 15 | follow-up questions. What you were talking |
| 16 | the noise from the Cormorant and everything like | 16 | about, the individuals there, neighbours, |
| 17 | that, it did play a little bit of havoc at trying | 17 | friends, so on, would that be what are known as |
| 18 | to listen for noises and everything like that | 18 | spontaneous volunteers? Is that sort of the team |
| 19 | there. | 19 | that one uses? |
| 20 |  | 20 | MR. STREET: |
| 21 | So the fog come in that night in the evening | 21 | A. Yeah. I would say spontaneous because, I mean, |
| 22 | time, and they had to turn back and everything | 22 | it's a missing child. Everyone that thought they |
| 23 | because they couldn't really see no more. | 23 | could help. I mean, we even had the road blocked |
| 24 |  | 24 | off that night to actually turn people away. |
|  | Page 22 |  | Page 24 |
| 1 | So this was supposed to be cleared up by the | 1 | There was that many people there. And the |
| 2 | morning. So this is when we made the call to | 2 | community support when people heard there was a |
| 3 | have Universal Helicopters first thing there in | 3 | missing child, it was, like, the police actually |
| 4 | the morning to assist. | 4 | had to block the road to stop cars from coming |
| 5 |  | 5 | in, right? |
| 6 | And at that time, during the night, we knew that | 6 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 7 | we had so many civilians and so many people that | 7 | Q. So that, obviously, for a search manager or an |
| 8 | we were going to burn out of resources. So we | 8 | incident commander, on the one hand, you've got |
| 9 | made that call early to make sure Barachois and | 9 | this tremendous community support, which, no |
| 10 | Stephenville Search and Rescue would show up on | 10 | doubt, is valuable in many ways. But on the |
| 11 | scene. And they did. They were there first | 11 | other hand, it has to be managed. So you can't |
| 12 | thing at daylight in the morning and they | 12 | have people going through the woods in any and |
| 13 | deployed. And we had more civilian volunteers | 13 | all directions, perhaps terrifying the child into |
| 14 | that wanted to go in the woods. But I must say, | 14 | hiding or running or something like that. |
| 15 | the outcome, by 11:00-- because we knew once it | 15 |  |
| 16 | reached 11:30, survival rate drops. All of our | 16 | Have you particular training or are there |
| 17 | statistics shows it drops big time. | 17 | particular ways of managing spontaneous |
| 18 |  | 18 | volunteers? And if so, are there illustrations |
| 19 | So at 11:00 is roughly when the helicopter | 19 | here as to how that's done? |
| 20 | spotted Cody. And I must say, it was a really | 20 | MR. STREET: |
| 21 | tremendous feeling when we heard he was safe and | 21 | A. Well, to manage them, you actually can't just |
| 22 | alive and well. | 22 | turn them away because they're going to go a |
| 23 |  | 23 | different route, and they're going to go in |
| 24 | But yeah. It was a really, really challenging | 24 | anyway, right? But first of all, we got to get |


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| 1 | permission from the police departments that we | 1 | So actually, a line abreast is actually where |
| 2 | can actually use these people. Because if we | 2 | eryone just lines up, right? And use your |
| 3 | don't get permission, and anything happens, you | 3 | ical spacing so that you make sure you don't |
| 4 | know, we're liable. | 4 | in between you and the other team |
| 5 |  | 5 | ber. It's a bit slower way of searching, but |
| 6 | So Sgt. Nabogan (phonetic) was there at the time. | 6 | e do just a line abreast in one particular |
| 7 | He was actually our RNC officer there at the | 7 | irection. And then we go for a determined |
| 8 | time. And they make all the calls. So we asked | 8 | mount, say, we say a kilometre or a mile. And |
| 9 | him if it was okay to use these people, and he | 9 | ing, and we come back. |
| 10 | said yes. | 10 |  |
| 11 |  | 11 | ctually, we're doing a thorough search of an |
| 12 | Like I said, they're going to go in the woods | 12 | rea. So nothing is missed, right? Because if |
| 13 | anyway. So if we can actually bring them in and | 13 | e was laid down, we thought, and kids like to |
| 14 | make them seem like they're helpful and they're | 14 | uck their way in small spaces. So, you know, we |
| 15 | doing the right thing, and we got more eyes | 15 | ecided, right now at this point, we would do a |
| 16 | that's with trained volunteers. So actually, we | 16 | ne abreast in the direction he was last seen. |
| 17 | can take them and use them just the same as our | 17 | So just in case he was laid down somewhere and |
| 18 | own members. | 18 | ouldn't answer us, and we could stumble up on |
| 19 |  | 19 | top of him, right? |
| 20 | And actually, we turned 22 members plus, I think, | 20 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 21 | it was 17 in Deer Lake. So we turned them into, | 21 | Q. So would it be fair to say that, in this |
| 22 | you know, 40 members roughly into well over 100 | 22 | nce, you're dealing with a very small child, |
| 23 | members at the time. | 23 | obably a child that's been told not to talk to |
| 24 |  | 24 | strangers? Who's frightened. So you've got a |
|  | Page 26 |  | Page 28 |
| 1 | R. BUDDEN: | 1 | allenge you wouldn't have, say, with an adult |
| 2 | Q. Okay. And I see here there's certain terms used | 2 | the woods. |
| 3 | in the report. And these are terms that, | 3 |  |
| 4 | doubt, mean everything to you, but I'm | 4 | nd this particular search technique, would it be |
| 5 | necessarily that knowledgeable about them and | 5 | fair to say this is adopted for that specific |
| 6 | members of the public may | 6 | cumstance? Looking for a small child that may |
| 7 |  | 7 | be curled up and may not be responsive? |
| 8 | So if we go to page 3 at 2:11 a.m. -- Madam | 8 | MR. STREET: |
| 9 | Clerk, perhaps, if you could just bring | 9 | A. Well, we use this technique, like, for a small |
| 10 | page 3. I think it's -- yeah. I see the term | 10 | ild or could be a hunter. Anything that went |
| 11 | here. "Started line abreast with all members and | 11 | for a period of time that probably is not |
| 12 | volunteers still on scene heading in gen | 12 | responsive anymore |
| 13 | southerly direction 182 degrees." | 13 |  |
| 14 |  | 14 | did go after a hunter, a berry picker, or |
| 15 | an you tell me a bit about what's going | 15 | something like that there that was responsive, we |
| 16 | there? | 16 | ould be not doing a line abreast. We would do |
| 17 | . STREE | 17 | asty searches, which is small teams, separated, |
| 18 | A. Well, | 18 | robably, you know, a quarter of a kilometre |
| 19 | seen. So we set up a line abreast because we | 19 | apart, and we would use whistle blows and calling |
| 20 | thought at 2 a.m. in the morning that he was | 20 | out their names and doing hasty searches so we |
| 21 | going to be laid down somewhere asleep, and his | 21 | n move quicker, because we would expect the |
| 22 | mother said he would not answer us anyway, even | 22 | erson to be more responsive and want to be |
| 23 | if we did sing out his name. | 23 | found. |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | But in this circumstance, we couldn't do that | 1 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 2 | because he was not going to answer us, and he was | 2 | Q. Or over it? |
| 3 | probably curled up somewhere asleep. So this is | 3 | MR. STREET: |
| 4 | why we used this technique. | 4 | A. Yes. |
| 5 | MR. BUDDEN: | 5 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 6 | Q. And I notice here, the following entries, that | 6 | Q. Okay. Are there other examples here in this |
| 7 | it's a bit of a challenge to do this, probably, | 7 | search of -- I see other terms here used. |
| 8 | especially, in the middle of the night in the | 8 | "Different point grid searching," and so on. I |
| 9 | conditions, the thick brush and that you're | 9 | think you've somewhat explained those. But are |
| 10 | working in. | 10 | there other techniques, search techniques used in |
| 11 |  | 11 | this search? |
| 12 | So it takes a bit to get this kind of thing | 12 |  |
| 13 | right, I would assume? | 13 | And I'm obviously directing this at you, but it |
| 14 | MR. STREET: | 14 | could be you or Christine. I'm really focusing |
| 15 | A. Yes. Well, the way we do a line abreast, most | 15 | on you guys as you were there. |
| 16 | everyone got a whistle on them. Then when they | 16 |  |
| 17 | come upon something, they blow the whistle, and | 17 | But are there other examples here of search |
| 18 | then everyone stops until we find out what they | 18 | techniques that might help inform us as to how a |
| 19 | blowed the whistle for. | 19 | search like this actually happens on the ground? |
| 20 |  | 20 | MR. STREET: |
| 21 | Or maybe it was just to line everyone back up | 21 | A. Well, first, when we hit, we start doing hasty |
| 22 | because so many people were getting out of line. | 22 | searching because, you know, there was a lot of |
| 23 | And so we wait until the slower members catches | 23 | trails in this area. So I mean, if we could |
| 24 | up. Because you're only as fast as the slowest | 24 | actually run the trails and pick up any evidence, |
|  | Page 30 |  | Page 32 |
| 1 | member on your team. | 1 | or we can run the trails and pick up any |
| 2 |  | 2 | footprints. |
| 3 | So when they catch up, then we give two blasts | 3 |  |
| 4 | again, and we start off our line abreast again. | 4 | So we do hasty teams first on the trails. And so |
| 5 | So that we make sure we don't miss nothing in | 5 | they're doing the trails as far back as they |
| 6 | between. | 6 | could, try to pick up any little evidence at all |
| 7 |  | 7 | to give us some clue on what direction he might |
| 8 | We don't go around objects. If it's thick brush, | 8 | have went. |
| 9 | we go through it to make sure that we don't miss | 9 |  |
| 10 | nothing, right? We do the same thing if we're | 10 | So we do hasty searches first. And then when |
| 11 | going to look for evidence on an evidence search | 11 | that doesn't turn up, then we start going into a |
| 12 | in a field and everything. Well, Danny's | 12 | more methodical grid searching and everything |
| 13 | familiar with this too, and Harry more than | 13 | like that there, so that we could actually pick |
| 14 | anything. | 14 | up more clues or pick up him or pick up more |
| 15 |  | 15 | evidence. |
| 16 | it's the type of search that nothing is left out | 16 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 17 | and nothing is missed, right? | 17 | Q. Okay. You mentioned that Deer Lake was involved, |
| 18 | MR. BUDDEN: | 18 | and also, I believe, Barachois and Stephenville. |
| 19 | Q. So if there's a big jumble of rocks and brush and | 19 | So four of the Newfoundland and Labrador NLSARA |
| 20 | God knows what else in front of you, you go | 20 | teams were involved in this search? |
| 21 | through it? | 21 | MR. STREET: |
| 22 | MR. STREET: | 22 | A. Yes. |
| 23 | A. Yeah. | 23 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 24 |  | 24 | Q. Okay. And are you able to -- sort of putting you |


|  | Page 33 |  | Page 35 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | on the spot here because I didn't mention this | 1 | very challenging. |
| 2 | beforehand. But are you able to tell me | 2 |  |
| 3 | approximately how many NLSARA volunteers were | 3 | What we did, though, at one point was, as people |
| 4 | involved? Just the NLSARA people? | 4 | were coming and saying, we took the first ones |
| 5 | MR. STREET: | 5 | that we thought that -- and I was signing |
| 6 | A. Well, I think there was 22 on our team. It's | 6 | everybody in and assigning them to teams. And |
| 7 | there somewhere, how many Deer Lake and | 7 | basically, what we did was we said, okay. |
| 8 | Stephenville and Barachois had. It's there's | 8 | There's five search and rescue members, and we're |
| 9 | somewhere. It's 11 years ago. | 9 | going to put eight or ten with them. |
| 10 |  | 10 |  |
| 11 | I think Deer Lake had 17. And then Barachois and | 11 | You have these skills, so you're going to go with |
| 12 | Stephenville showed up. I'm assuming, if I can | 12 | these people. And it was like your team leader |
| 13 | remember correctly now, 11 years ago. I'm | 13 | is God. Do what they say and only what they say. |
| 14 | assuming they showed up with actually 20 members. | 14 | Listen to everything. Do what they... |
| 15 |  | 15 |  |
| 16 | So roughly, we had about 45, probably 45 members | 16 | So we arranged them that way. When I had extras |
| 17 | altogether in the woods. Trained volunteers at | 17 | leftover, we asked them all if they could please |
| 18 | that point. | 18 | go home now. Sleep. In the morning, we're going |
| 19 | MR. BUDDEN: | 19 | to need more. |
| 20 | Q. Okay. And spontaneous volunteers who you | 20 |  |
| 21 | incorporated as their skills and so forth | 21 | And then, so if we hadn't had a successful |
| 22 | permitted? | 22 | search, I asked them to, please, you can call or |
| 23 | MR. STREET: | 23 | return. And then if we need extra volunteers, |
| 24 | A. Yes. So at one point, I think, Christine, you | 24 | we'll assign you. |
|  | Page 34 |  | Page 36 |
| 1 | were more or less writing this down and | 1 | We also did a check on the volunteers, so that |
| 2 | everything. You can actually explain how many | 2 | nobody was going out searching in, you know, |
| 3 | more volunteers there was. | 3 | jeans and running shoes. It's like, no, if you |
| 4 | MS. DOUCET: | 4 | want to be part of this search, you have to be |
| 5 | A. Yeah. With the civilian volunteers, there were | 5 | dressed properly. It's cold. It's wet. So I |
| 6 | probably in excess of 60 at one point. But that | 6 | don't want to have anybody else becoming a |
| 7 | was far too many to manage. And, like I said, | 7 | casualty because they're not dressed properly for |
| 8 | the issues with doing the searches with, we call | 8 | this. |
| 9 | them civilian volunteers, is that basically, they | 9 |  |
| 10 | don't have the training. And oftentimes, it's | 10 | So some people, we sent home to get properly |
| 11 | very hard to get them to understand the rationale | 11 | equipped and come back, and you can come |
| 12 | between, say, something like a line abreast | 12 | volunteer. Others, we asked, please go home now. |
| 13 | search, where it's like, no matter what you see, | 13 | Sleep if you can. Come back in the morning. |
| 14 | you have to stay right with the person next to | 14 | Because we'll need fresh people then, so... |
| 15 | you, so we're all moving together. | 15 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 16 |  | 16 | Q. And was the members of your team who were |
| 17 | If you see something, you blow your whistle. We | 17 | spotters in the helicopter, or were they members |
| 18 | will all stop and someone will go and investigate | 18 | from other teams or other people? |
| 19 | that whatever it is that you see. But we stay. | 19 | MS. DOUCET: |
| 20 |  | 20 | A. In the helicopter, there was one member from our |
| 21 | But with the adrenaline going and, oh, my God, | 21 | team, one member of the RNC, and a member from |
| 22 | there's something red. And at night, and it was | 22 | Deer Lake. |
| 23 | thick, thick brush, getting everybody to stay and | 23 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 24 | walk that one right next to each other, it was | 24 | Q. Okay. So two SAR volunteers? |

MS. DOUCET:
A. Yeah.

MR. BUDDEN:
Q. And I believe that Mr. Blackmore, I see his name in this report. So Mr. Harry Blackmore would have been involved from a distance?
MS. DOUCET:
A. Usually what happens is whenever we're involved in a search, we contact Mr. Blackmore just to let him know that the search is ongoing, as head of the provincial association. So whenever we get called for a search, we just, at some point, make Mr. Blackmore aware that we're out on a search.
MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Okay. I noticed that beyond the other search and rescue volunteers, I see that there's a reference, the RCMP were involved in a search of, I believe, a marina, if I read that correctly.

We have the Coast Guard involved. We have the Cormorant. You've already mentioned the RNC.

So this particular search involved any number of agencies, provincial and federal, assisting, as

Page 38
well as the volunteers. And of course, the RCMP detachment. Would that be correct?

MS. DOUCET:
A. Yeah. I'm pretty sure we had everybody.

MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Yeah. Yeah.

MS. DOUCET:
A. We had them all.

MR. BUDDEN:
Q. It looks that way.

MS. DOUCET:
A. Yeah.

MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Okay. What equipment did you guys use in this search of the equipment available to your SAR team?

MR. STREET:
A. Well, you know, we used the helicopter, which was available to us. And this is one of the reasons why we contact Harry at the beginning of the search, too. I just wanted to add onto it, because he knows what teams on the island got what equipment.

So if we need a specialty piece of equipment that we haven't gotten, and which a lot of teams haven't got, especially in the smaller groups, we could just call Harry and say, we needs this here. And Harry can dig it up for us and have it on scene as quick as it takes to get it across the island, right?

So that's one major reason why we let Harry know. Plus, he got more insight probably than most of us around. So he's a good guy to be near a phone waiting for you to call. So he's only there to help us out the best he can.

One other equipment we use is, like, we got -- at the time GPS wasn't big, 11 years ago. So we were relying on maps and compasses and, more or less, just our own personal skills at the time.

We had our own command centre at the time that we just finished, but, you know, funding is a big issue. So I mean, we only had an old school bus that we converted over into a command centre at that time, but it did the job for us. But that's

Page 40
the only really equipment that we had.

When you get into today's technology with the other equipment, GPSs and everything, it makes a different ball game altogether.

When you got radios that can actually tracks your team now, we've got. And actually, you can see it up on the computer screen, it makes a big difference. Because you're only relying on, at the time, when they radio back trying to tell, in the nighttime, where they're to. We're sitting down with a map, trying to figure out what we had searched and what we didn't. It was extremely difficult, right.
MR. BUDDEN:
Q. So that was a question and sort of building on a comment that Ms. Doucet made to me earlier this morning before we started.

If the search is being done today, in 2021, have you equipment or training or techniques that have evolved since then that would make the search look a little different than this one did?

|  | Page 41 |  | Page 43 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | MR. STREET: | 1 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 2 | A. Well, we have radio tracking now that, actually, | 2 | Q. Okay. Do any of the members who weren't actually |
| 3 | we can actually put it up. And as the teams walk | 3 | involved in the search wish to comment |
| 4 | through the woods, we can actually look at them | 4 | particularly on that last point I just made about |
| 5 | at the computer screen and see where they're to | 5 | the evolution in training and so on? |
| 6 | exactly any time at all. So they can call out | 6 |  |
| 7 | and say, where are we, and we can tell them | 7 | You, Mr. Dalrymple? |
| 8 | exactly where they're to, which is a big game | 8 | MR. DALRYMPLE: |
| 9 | changer. | 9 | A. I guess in my shorter time with the team, the |
| 10 |  | 10 | training has been fantastic, and you really get |
| 11 | So we can actually see where every team has | 11 | to see what kind of a difference there is between |
| 12 | actually went through and know that we haven't | 12 | walking in the woods without a plan and not |
| 13 | missed a spot. So it would make it a very more | 13 | knowing exactly what to do, that our general |
| 14 | thorough search. | 14 | spontaneous civilian volunteers would do, versus |
| 15 |  | 15 | doing it as a team with some training. |
| 16 | Better rated communication is what we got now | 16 |  |
| 17 | and, plus, yeah, we have our own thermal imaging | 17 | It sounds very simple to walk in the woods in a |
| 18 | now. I think every team on the island; is that | 18 | straight line, but understanding why it's so |
| 19 | right, Harry, that got one of those now? That | 19 | important and how to do that properly is |
| 20 | was supplied, actually, by the provincial | 20 | something that you just don't learn until you're |
| 21 | government to every team. | 21 | a member of a search and rescue team. |
| 22 |  | 22 |  |
| 23 | So that was a big game changer with them thermal | 23 | Other training that we've received, yeah, there's |
| 24 | imaging cameras, because that can pick up a | 24 | a lot of emphasis on Lost Person Behaviour, |
|  | Page 42 |  | Page 44 |
| 1 | person a kilometre away easy, right? You can see | 1 | understanding the statistics behind everything, |
| 2 | somebody. So searching the area is really great | 2 | and why we are doing things the way we're doing |
| 3 | with that. | 3 | it. Again, not publicly available information |
| 4 |  | 4 | that the general public knows about. |
| 5 | But the training aspect is actually very involved | 5 |  |
| 6 | so much with statistics and all that there to | 6 | That was a big eye-opener for me when I started |
| 7 | actually give you a better insight of how a | 7 | learning just how accurate some of the statistics |
| 8 | person reacts and what kind of distance they | 8 | are from other searches. So you can look up in a |
| 9 | travel and everything like that there. | 9 | Lost Person Behaviour book, had a six-year-old |
| 10 |  | 10 | child missing this time of day with this kind of |
| 11 | And the training that we do is ongoing all the | 11 | equipment, this kind of weather. And it's |
| 12 | time for our members. And I've been on the team | 12 | remarkable how often they are found within the |
| 13 | 26 years and I'll never know it all. And the | 13 | parameters set out in the Lost Person Behaviour |
| 14 | learning aspect of it and being able to take it | 14 | books. |
| 15 | and experience it and pass it on to the newer | 15 |  |
| 16 | members that are joining now. | 16 | Beyond that, you know, we do a lot of training in |
| 17 |  | 17 | First Aid, both for ourselves and for any missing |
| 18 | But all the statistics that was done in searches, | 18 | persons that we may go looking for. So that |
| 19 | over thousands of searches, and it really gives | 19 | training is top-notch. |
| 20 | you an insight and really, really actually points | 20 |  |
| 21 | you in the right direction. | 21 | Our team has done a really good job at being able |
| 22 |  | 22 | to consistently bring in members - and Nick and |
| 23 | So I mean, with the new training that we do now | 23 | Krista will talk to this later on - and get them |
| 24 | and everything that's our biggest asset, I think. | 24 | trained very, very quickly. So that virtually, |


|  | Page 45 |  | Page 47 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | as soon as they join the team, come up with a | 1 | secretary and started taking over these roles, I |
| 2 | couple of things. We focus on some of those kind | 2 | regularly did up these. |
| 3 | of core skills with them. We can make really | 3 |  |
| 4 | good use of them very early on in their search | 4 | Anyone else who might be involved in taking |
| 5 | and rescue career. | 5 | notes, because there were several of us that were |
| 6 | MR. BUDDEN: | 6 | taking notes during a search, usually know to |
| 7 | Q. The last question I really had... (Technical | 7 | follow my lead in terms of the detailed |
| 8 | difficulties.) | 8 | information that we're taking in any type of |
| 9 |  | 9 | search summary. |
| 10 | (Recess) | 10 |  |
| 11 |  | 11 | So normally, our notes are taken in a hardcopy |
| 12 | THE CLERK: | 12 | notebook. And then for the most part, I have |
| 13 | All rise. This Commission of Inquiry is now in | 13 | learned that as soon as is feasible, following |
| 14 | session. Please be seated. | 14 | the conclusion of the search, I transcribe those |
| 15 | MR. BUDDEN: | 15 | notes and make them into the search summary. |
| 16 | Q. Thank you. And thanks to the technicians for | 16 |  |
| 17 | fixing this so quickly. | 17 | So for every search that we're involved in, we |
| 18 |  | 18 | have a search summary. It is submitted, along |
| 19 | I was just going to ask a question about -- well, | 19 | with our expense claim, to the Police Authority, |
| 20 | I'll ask this one, and we'll come back to | 20 | at the conclusion of the search and when we're |
| 21 | Mr. Street and Mr. Blackmore, they have points | 21 | submitting our expense claim. |
| 22 | they wish to make. | 22 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 23 |  | 23 | Q. I have to say, the level of detail here is quite |
| 24 | We see here a report that is detailed. I'm | 24 | impressive. So we see, for instance, that, "At |
|  | Page 46 |  | Page 48 |
| 1 | talking about the exhibit that's very detailed. | 1 | 7:24 a.m., two groups of ten volunteers each |
| 2 | Like, we see 346, 351, 354, 430. And this is | 2 | deployed to search backyards on Hilliard's Road |
| 3 | dated September 18th, 2010. | 3 | and Upper Georgetown Road." |
| 4 |  | 4 |  |
| 5 | I'm assuming this is a report that was compiled | 5 | Like, there's a degree of specificity here that's |
| 6 | -- or at least the date it was compiled as this | 6 | quite impressive. Like every search that you |
| 7 | search was unfolding. It's very detailed. And | 7 | were doing these days is documented at this level |
| 8 | obviously, couldn't possibly have been just | 8 | of detail? |
| 9 | recreated after the fact? | 9 | MS. DOUCET: |
| 10 |  | 10 | A. Yes. And I have to say, when I read over this |
| 11 | Can you tell me a little bit about your reporting | 11 | one, most recently, I was like, oh, that doesn't |
| 12 | process? | 12 | make sense. We've gotten better. |
| 13 | MS. DOUCET: | 13 | MS. DOUCET: |
| 14 | A. Sure. Every search that I've been on since very | 14 | A. It is still recorded in that level of detail down |
| 15 | early with joining search and rescue, I've | 15 | to, here's the minutes that this is when this |
| 16 | primarily taken the role of note-taker | 16 | happened. |
| 17 | communications. And from early on, I've | 17 |  |
| 18 | recognized that as we're taking the notes, the | 18 | We've been training a few new people in also |
| 19 | time that things are happening, and how things | 19 | being able to take over this role. And one of |
| 20 | are unfolding as we go along through the search | 20 | the things that I'm very clear about when we're |
| 21 | were important components to be sure that that | 21 | trying to instruct new people in learning how to |
| 22 | was tracked. | 22 | do this is that it's really important to be |
| 23 |  | 23 | accurate. It's really important to capture the |
| 24 | So when I became an executive member and the | 24 | details of how the search unfolded. Which teams |


|  | Page 49 |  | Page 51 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | went where. Where they were instructed to | 1 | tired, need to rest, for our command functions. |
| 2 | search. When they started. When they finished. | 2 |  |
| 3 | Anything that they found. | 3 | So we have a considerable amount of gear that we |
| 4 |  | 4 | didn't have 11 years ago. But I do feel that the |
| 5 | Anything that they report in as the search | 5 | decisions around how to deploy people, how to |
| 6 | evolves is documented very specifically. | 6 | conduct the search, if we had the same search |
| 7 | MR. BUDDEN: | 7 | today, we'd have some extra gear to work with. |
| 8 | Q. Yes. And when we spoke earlier this morning, and | 8 | But the techniques that we used, this is exactly |
| 9 | again over the break, you have a comment you wish | 9 | how we would run the search today. |
| 10 | to make about equipment or something, how things | 10 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 11 | have changed over the 11 years since this search. | 11 | Q. Thank you. And, Mr. Blackmore, had a point he |
| 12 | MS. DOUCET: | 12 | wished to make. I believe it's Exhibit 74, page |
| 13 | A. Yes. Over the 11 years since this search was | 13 | 15. Madam Clerk, if you could call that up? I |
| 14 | conducted, we've gotten a fair bit of additional | 14 | can't recall, I may not be accurate on the page |
| 15 | equipment. Some through the association, a lot | 15 | number, but it was Exhibit 74. |
| 16 | through fundraising that our members undertook. | 16 |  |
| 17 |  | 17 | And so at that point -- |
| 18 | At that time, we had no access to ATVs. At the | 18 | MR. BLACKMORE: |
| 19 | time, I worked for the Provincial Wildlife | 19 | A. Just to give you an idea of how that tracking |
| 20 | Division, and my director graciously allowed us | 20 | works. If you go to Exhibit 74, page 16. |
| 21 | to use a couple of the provincial government | 21 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 22 | assets during this search. They weren't being | 22 | Q. Sixteen, sorry. |
| 23 | used for work overnight on a Saturday. | 23 | MR. BLACKMORE: |
| 24 |  | 24 | A. Sixteen or seventeen. |
|  | Page 50 |  | Page 52 |
| 1 | MR. BUDDEN: | 1 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 2 | Q. Yeah. I saw that entry fairly early in the | 2 | Q. This, by the way, is the search we'll be looking |
| 3 | search. I wondered about it. | 3 | t in detail next week. But it's for a search |
| 4 | MS. DOUCET: | 4 | for the gentleman in St. John's. But there's a |
| 5 | A. Yes. Yeah. So he was like, fuel them, take care | 5 | point here. And this is a search from November |
| 6 | of them, but if they're needed for a search and | 6 | of 2020. |
| 7 | they are not needed for the work from the | 7 | MR. BLACKMORE: |
| 8 | Wildlife Division, at that point in time, you | 8 | A. Scroll it up. Let's just take it up a bit. If |
| 9 | could use those assets for a search. | 9 | you see all those lines in the circles, that's |
| 10 |  | 10 | where every team went. And most of those lines |
| 11 | So since then, we've acquired a quad of our own. | 11 | have four and five people with them, so that at |
| 12 | We also have an Argo. We have the radio tracking | 12 | least we know exactly what we got done. |
| 13 | system, which allows us to very accurately know | 13 |  |
| 14 | where our members are. | 14 | And the circle in the middle is that 300 metres, |
| 15 |  | 15 | 600 metres on out to 1200 metres. But it lets |
| 16 | We have a lot more functionality in our cell | 16 | the person that's doing the search know. At |
| 17 | phones that allow for mapping and understanding | 17 | least they know where we're after being. |
| 18 | where people are. We can get their locations | 18 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 19 | from those. | 19 | Q. And this search is done in November 2020. Almost |
| 20 |  | 20 | exactly ten years after the Peddle search. |
| 21 | So we have more gear that would facilitate. We | 21 |  |
| 22 | have a new command centre. We have a | 22 | And this technique, it's available now, but |
| 23 | fast-response trailer that have capacity for | 23 | wasn't available in 2010? Do I understand that |
| 24 | seating, for comfort for volunteers who may be | 24 | correctly? |


|  | Page 53 |  | Page 55 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | MR. BLACKMORE: | 1 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 2 | A. Yes. Every single team in the province has this | 2 | Q. And I guess, so when you arrived there and, I |
| 3 | technology. | 3 | guess, you are in command of the search. So do |
| 4 | MR. BUDDEN: | 4 | you determine who has what role? Because I |
| 5 | Q. Okay. Thank you, Mr. Blackmore. | 5 | understand, I guess, would an RNC officer be with |
| 6 |  | 6 | you, as well? |
| 7 | Those are all the questions I have with respect | 7 | MR. STREET: |
| 8 | to the Cody Peddle search. If other lawyers have | 8 | A. Yes, he would be. |
| 9 | any questions, folks, they will now direct those | 9 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 10 | questions at you. Or the Commissioner may. | 10 | Q. At the command post? |
| 11 |  | 11 | MR. STREET: |
| 12 | Mr. Ralph? | 12 | A. Yeah. |
| 13 | RALPH, Q.C.: | 13 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 14 | Q. Thank you. That's a very interesting search | 14 | Q. So would that have been Officer Ogden? Would he |
| 15 | operation to hear about. And I guess it's one of | 15 | have been at the command post? |
| 16 | these operations that makes the whole thing | 16 | A. Yes, he would. Yeah. |
| 17 | worthwhile. All those hours of training and | 17 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 18 | sacrificing your personal time to become good | 18 | Q. And would he be considered sort of incident |
| 19 | search and rescue people. | 19 | commander; is that correct? |
| 20 |  | 20 | MR. STREET: |
| 21 | I just want to go back to the beginning of the | 21 | A. He's considered incident commander. I'm the |
| 22 | search. Because as I understand, I think, | 22 | search manager at the time. So I'm running, |
| 23 | Mr. Street, you were called the search manager; | 23 | calling who has what role and what. And who's |
| 24 | is that right? | 24 | there and how to set up teams. And how many |
|  | Page 54 |  | Page 56 |
| 1 | MR. STREET: | 1 | teams I wanted and what direction and everything. |
| 2 | A. Yes. I was actually called the search manager at | 2 |  |
| 3 | that one. I was the one who was contacted by | 3 | But the RNC or the RCMP, because we're probably |
| 4 | Sergeant Nabogan that we had a missing child. | 4 | the only team on the island that deals with two |
| 5 |  | 5 | police departments. |
| 6 | So at the time, I'm coordinator of the team. And | 6 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 7 | when we showed up, I was actually the first one | 7 | Q. Right. |
| 8 | that showed up. So I took command of the search. | 8 | MR. STREET: |
| 9 | RALPH, Q.C.: | 9 | A. So they actually make the last call onto it. |
| 10 | Q. So at that point, does the command post -- I | 10 | MR. RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 11 | guess the old school bus would have been on | 11 | Q. Right. So they make the last call. What do you |
| 12 | scene; is that correct? | 12 | mean by that? |
| 13 | MR. STREET: | 13 | MR. STREET: |
| 14 | A. Yes. Well, we quick deploy first. Find out what | 14 | A. Like I said, if we need other teams or if we need |
| 15 | the situation is. What we may need. And then we | 15 | a helicopter or anything like that there, I got |
| 16 | decide what equipment we're going to bring with | 16 | to -- |
| 17 | it. We knew at the time it was going to be a | 17 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 18 | long search, so we did bring our command centre | 18 | Q. You got to go through the police officers to get |
| 19 | to the scene, right? | 19 | that. |
| 20 |  | 20 | MR. STREET: |
| 21 | If it was a fast search that we thought we could | 21 | A. Go to the police officers and their agencies, |
| 22 | get over, or we're going be back in the country | 22 | right? |
| 23 | where the command centre can't get there, we | 23 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 24 | would not have deployed it, right? | 24 | Q. Right. |

Page 57
MR. STREET:

## A. And so actually, when we're on a search, we work together to actually determine if this is the right thing and someone else might be determined. <br> RALPH, Q.C.: <br> Q. Right. So as you're assigning roles and, I guess, creating teams and creating team leaders, is that information recorded?

MR. STREET:
A. Yes.

RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. So there are documents out there that would record all this information? For example, would there be a document in there saying: search manager, Shawn Street; note-taker, Christine Doucet? Is that how the document would look like?
MR. STREET:
A. It would now. At that time, back then, we wouldn't so much -- like, whoever showed up at the time, where the team is a lot smaller, everyone knew what role who was going to take, right?

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So we knew Christine was going to do the note-taking on our team. They knew I was going to run the search, right? And we knew who our team leaders were going to be because, at that time, our team was a lot smaller, and everyone was familiar with everyone else, so we actually knew.

Today, where our team is so much bigger, right, we actually get on scene, and Christine or whoever is taking notes at the time would actually sit down, okay, and they would have the sheet in front of them and actually document who's this. What role each individual person is playing. Who's going to be team leader. Who is going to be on that team, right?

And my job now is, like, the search manager, say, looking at the maps and the mapping program and say, okay. I needs five teams of this many people. Go find them for me. And now I'm gone off on some other thing. How am I going to plan the search? And someone else has gone. Or Christine, usually, or whatever is gone to get

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the five teams ready for me and make sure they're all equipped and safe to go in the woods. Because the big thing that we do now is all safety, right?

## RALPH, Q.C.:

Q. So you arrive at the scene. And at that point, I guess you find the situation before you. And then so how do you decide how the search would have been conducted?

Who makes that decision? Would that be the search manager decision, or is that done in consultation with the RNC? How does that happen? MR. STREET:
A. Well, it's done in consultation with the RNC, but usually, when we get on the scene, where they look at us as the ones that do the training, and they know what we're doing, so they actually turn it over to us and we decide, this is the way we're going to run this search. This is how many teams. This is where I'm going to put them.

And then the officer in charge will actually come over and look at it. And if he agrees with it

## Page 60

A. It was much easier just to document things as it

## MR. STREET:

A. I'm guessing it's hard to really explain what kind of search you want to deploy because you got to pull out your maps. Look at the area. Look at the detail. Look at the terrain. And then you go through your Lost Person Behaviour. How far could a young child travel at this distance, if they're walking? And how far would they actually travel over this amount of time?

So we put all that together and look at where can he travel, when it comes to the map. Where can he travel? What trails are available? Because the trails are places that are easier to walk. So a child will probably follow a trail more than he would try to walk through hard brush, if he can find one.

So we take all that and account from our experience and look at it and say, okay. Where am I going to put my teams? So if there's a cliff here, he's not going to go up a cliff. If there's a pond here, he's not going to swim across the pond. A six-year-old.

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So first of all, we look at what places that we can cover off that are going to get somebody hurt quick. So if there's water there, we had the Cape Fox come in and do the shorelines and we actually had members there, too, civilian members that was there at the time, actually down there. They were going back and forth. Sorry. Spontaneous volunteers, I should say.

They were actually going back and forth on the waterfront down there, checking the shoreline, because a young child near water is not good. So we look at the places that can do most harm quick, and we cover off them first.

And then we get into more of a detailed search of, okay. Let's get the trails done and the places that he's going to find it easier to walk, before we get into the heavy, thick brush.
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. So your hasty searches would have been to the places that are sort of most dangerous?
MR. STREET:
A. Most dangerous and the trails, too, if we had

|  | Page 65 |  | Page 67 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | enough people to do it. But, I mean, the most | 1 | The high probability areas where he's most likely |
| 2 | dangerous places we cover off first. We got a -- | 2 | to be based on the lost person statistics, based |
| 3 | RALPH, Q.C.: | 3 | on his point last seen, based on his direction of |
| 4 | Q. And, again, as search manager, you would be | 4 | travel, and any other evidence that has been |
| 5 | deploying those people to do those hasty | 5 | brought to the search manager's attention. |
| 6 | searches; is that right? | 6 |  |
| 7 | MR. STREET: | 7 | In the notes, like I said now, we don't specify |
| 8 | A. Yes. | 8 | hasty team because we know they're the hasty |
| 9 | RALPH, Q.C.: | 9 | team. So it's sort of as we're writing it, it's |
| 10 | Q. And then is that information recorded, regarding | 10 | Team 1. They deploy that way. |
| 11 | hasty searches? | 11 |  |
| 12 | MR. STREET: | 12 | And then after, okay, we've had no success on |
| 13 | A. Yes. It would be more now than we did before, | 13 | those places that we think are the highest |
| 14 | right? | 14 | probability. Now we're going to have to start |
| 15 | RALPH, Q.C.: | 15 | searching. That's where you move to the line |
| 16 | Q. But at that point, would that be something you'd | 16 | abreast search, grid search patterns, that are |
| 17 | be taking note of during the search? | 17 | much more methodical. Much slower. But the idea |
| 18 | MR. STREET: | 18 | is if he's there, we're going to find him. |
| 19 | A. Yes. Yeah. | 19 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 20 | MS. DOUCET: | 20 | Q. So I guess it's really important to record where |
| 21 | A. Yes. I mean, in this Search Summary, I don't | 21 | everyone's gone in terms of the searches. And |
| 22 | specifically say, oh, Hasty Search Team 1. But | 22 | you need that information to come back, I guess, |
| 23 | the Team 1s that were deployed to the trails, | 23 | to the manager, as well. |
| 24 | right off the bat, those were our hasty search | 24 |  |
|  | Page 66 |  | Page 68 |
| 1 | teams. And that was based on the information | 1 | I guess when it's done, they come back, and |
| 2 | that we had on his point last seen and direction | 2 | they'll come back and tell the manager what they |
| 3 | of travel. | 3 | did and where they were and what they saw; is |
| 4 |  | 4 | that ...? |
| 5 | So search manager is getting that information | 5 | MR. STREET: |
| 6 | from the police, from the family. And what's | 6 | A. Yes. Like, every team that comes back in at that |
| 7 | happening is, in his head, which nobody wants to | 7 | particular time, they come back, and they give up |
| 8 | go there, but it spins like this when he's on a | 8 | their little report on what they've done and what |
| 9 | search. And basically, he's going, okay. I need | 9 | they did at the time, right? |
| 10 | teams out here. I need teams out here. I want | 10 |  |
| 11 | ones going that way along the trail. Who knows | 11 | And they showed, like, at -- we never had the |
| 12 | those trails? Get them out there. | 12 | tracking or anything on the map or GPSs, |
| 13 |  | 13 | actually. So they come back, and we sit down |
| 14 | So those would be the hasty teams that are going | 14 | with the search team leader, and he would |
| 15 | there. Then based on any other information that | 15 | actually show us on the map where he went and |
| 16 | we get on the places that, okay, this is a spot | 16 | what he searched so we could actually clear off |
| 17 | where he could get, where he could get into a lot | 17 | that area, right. |
| 18 | of trouble quick if he was headed in this | 18 |  |
| 19 | direction. We're going to send teams out in that | 19 | And then we would actually have -- by that time, |
| 20 | direction to check those locations. | 20 | we would have a -- if he didn't find nothing, |
| 21 |  | 21 | we'd actually have another area ready for that |
| 22 | So those are the hasty teams that are, like, | 22 | team to go into. So when he come back, and he'd |
| 23 | where can we go? The idea is, let's find him | 23 | give his little debriefing, then he'd go back out |
| 24 | real quick. So those are the most likely areas. | 24 | in their area or in another task that we wanted |

RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. So could you have sort of hasty searches happening at the same time you could be doing line abreast somewhere else?
MR. STREET:
A. Yes.

RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. These things happen simultaneously?

MR. STREET:
A. Yeah.

RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. It's not hasty searches and then another type of methodical search?
MR. STREET:
A. Well, depends on how many volunteers that we have at the time, right?
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Right.
A. If we just got ten people and we got three trails, and we want hasty searches, we do the hasty searches first, right?
UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER:
A. Yeah. I just wanted to elaborate on the thing

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that team to do. role that I very frequently fill with the team as a hasty search team leader.

Of course, when somebody's missing, there's only one individual who is missing, but there's a thousand footprints. There's other clues and stuff like that, right, that may then direct the search the rest of the way.

So that's one of the main reasons why the hasty teams get out there and cover ground that they can cover very quickly on trails, high probability areas and stuff, to collect more information so we better know how to deploy our resources from there.

Had we found his shoe in the mud on the side of a trail, that would have directed our line abreast teams to go in the woods in that direction instead.

Now, I wasn't on that particular search, but I would have to think that the hasty team, when
Q. So there must be a fair amount of documentation then after the search is concluded? I mean, can you give a sense of, for example, like, this search, how many pages of notes you would have taken?

MS. DOUCET:
A. Well, this search, it wasn't actually a horribly long search. So I don't know. There was probably in the notes that myself and the others had taken, there was probably maybe six, eight pages of handwritten notes, which turns into this.

We've had some searches that have gone four, six, seven days long, which have a tendency to have

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many more pages.
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. So if I looked at those pages that you did at the time, sort of search manager, would I see the roles and the team leaders' names and where the searches were conducted and the line abreast sort of determination?
MS. DOUCET:
A. Now, you would.

RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Okay. And what happens with those documents? Do you keep those?
MS. DOUCET:
A. Yeah. Usually in our system we have a file where our secretary takes the notes that were taken, the search summary and the expense claim, and there's a copy. So it goes into a file at our headquarter's building.
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Okay.

MS. DOUCET:
A. And then we mostly have me that does up the search summaries. So I have those all digitally.

RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. So the search summary is what you eventually give to the police; is that right?
MS. DOUCET:
A. Yes.

RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. But not the documentation that you did at the time?

MS. DOUCET:
A. No.

RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Exhibit 178 , there's a map there with a grid on it. Grid pattern. And so I'm just curious, how is that map generated? How is the grid pattern generated?
MS. DOUCET:
A. That map, I believe, was generated either by the helicopter as he flew the pattern, or it was generated by a member who had his GPS on while they were flying the search pattern.
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Right.

MS. DOUCET:
A. So the helicopters have the ability to do the

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So I understand there was the Cormorant helicopter first. Universal helicopter second?
MR. STREET:
A. Yes. Yes. And this one was done by Universal helicopter with one of our members and Deer Lake's member and the RNC member in this here, right?

So how we determine this one here, we look at our maps, and we look at high-probability areas, and we look at places that are hard to get to and something that a helicopter would cover quick. And so we determine what area we want them to search.

3 MR. STREET:

7 RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Right.

9 MR. STREET:
10 A. At that time, we had no communication from --
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. But I would have thought they would have spoken to someone. Perhaps, the information they gathered from the RNC officer?
MR. STREET:
A. Yes. He probably made the initial call to them and let them know where the area was and gave them GPS coordinates. So they come and then they ran their grid pattern of the whole area, right?
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Right. And so the next morning, Universal is now flying?
MR. STREET:
A. Yes.

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RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. And did you have direct contact with the Universal pilot; can you recall?
MR. STREET:
A. Yes. We had contact with them. And because they had to land and put our members in with them, right?
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Okay.

MR. STREET:
A. And then Damian, which was on our team, knew what areas that we wanted to search. So when he got in the helicopter, he informed the pilot, okay? On our map, this is the high-probability area that we would like to search with the helicopter.
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. And was that your decision, this is where I want the helicopter to search?
MR. STREET:
A. That's right.

RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Would that have been the search manager's decision?

MR. STREET:
A. Yes, it would have been. Yes.

RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Okay. So you didn't directly communicate with the pilot, but you had someone from your team -MR. STREET:
A. No. I directly communicated with our team member, who directly, when he was in the helicopter, directed the pilot on which they wanted to search.
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Thank you. Those are my questions.

MR. BUDDEN:
Ms. Bedford?
MS. BEDFORD:
I have no questions. Thank you.
MR. BUDDEN:
Mr. Williams?
WILLIAMS, Q.C.:
I have no questions. I'd just like to -- I guess the first comment I have is to thank you for all your efforts. And as you probably already know, we've been in Makkovik, and we've been here for a couple of days.

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Unfortunately, the nature of the job we're doing here, we get to hear some tragic stories. And it's refreshing to hear the enthusiasm that your team has, especially people with experience of anywhere from a couple of months to 20-odd years.
And the enthusiasm that you still express in being able go out, and in this case, have a happy ending to a story.

So I do have some issues with recruitment, but I don't want to steal Mr. Budden's thunder. I think you're going to be leading into that. So I might follow up with some issues. But thank you. MR. BUDDEN:

You'll have your chance. (Technical difficulties) Thank you. And we'll move on to the next topic. There's another member of your team who is due to arrive around 10:30. She may be waiting outside.
COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:
I've got a couple of questions.
MR. BUDDEN:
Oh, you do, do you? Okay. Sure.

1 COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:
2 Q. Well, first of all, thank you very much. I do want to echo Mr. Williams' comments and congratulations to you. And every person here certainly recognizes your enthusiasm, your professionalism, your sense of duty, coolness under stress. And your engagement in what you do is really inspirational.

So, Harry, what do you think of your B-O-I-S-A-R team ten years ago? How is that baby doing for you?
MR. BLACKMORE:
A. The team has been very active throughout the years. They're just as efficient in searching techniques now as they were then. It's just now that all with the new standards and the new protocols, every team has tightened up. But I'd stack them up with any other team that's in the province. And in my opinion, there's no one out there any better or any less.
COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:
Q. Spoken like a true father. You're proud of all your 24, 25 children, obviously.

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The first question I have is how does the command machine you had or centre you had from ten years ago compare to what it's like today? Maybe Christine or Shawn?
MR. STREET:
A. Our command centre that we had ten years ago was a little bit rougher looking than the one we got now. Right now, we got a 34-foot factory-done command centre that is really equipped with all the modern technology.

Back then, we had a school bus that we actually converted over into a command centre. Now, that had what we needed into it at the time. I must say, it had all the comforts of home. But it was an old machine, and it was an old school bus. But that's all we could afford and get at the time. And it took a lot of time and hours to convert it over into a command centre. And it was an old school bus. So if you went out and turned the key and it didn't start, you never had a command centre.

So, I mean, there was more than one night that I
ran a command centre, ran a search out of the front part of a truck. So I mean, well, when you're trying to take notes and listen to radios and everything like this here... Sometimes we went on search with that one for eight days.

On a search, the better and the more equipment you got and the better equipment you got and the more comfortable equipment you got, it makes it a lot easier when you're coming to members that just needs a place just to sit down and recharge before they go out in the woods again, right?

So the equipment, it was hard to come back over the years, but we pick away at it slowly with the fundraising. And slowly upgrade our equipment until we get something that's suitable for our needs.

## COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:

Q. I'd like to ask one of you, Shawn or Christine, to come up to the map. Show us where the little child was eventually found. And also, comment on what you learned about a child with hearing issues and how you applied that when you do any

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subsequent searches.
MS. DOUCET:
A. While Shawn goes and points to the location where he was found, I can just say that a lot of the information we had at the beginning of the search, for a six-year-old child with hearing difficulties, it might have been very similar.

We had the training in Lost Person Behaviour. We had the statistics on where the likelihood a six-year-old child would be.

Now, Cody was found outside the radius. He went further than would have been predicted for a six-year-old child. He was over a kilometre, 1.2 kilometres, from the point last seen from near his home.

One of the things was that if we had been searching for a six-year-old who we could have expected to respond to us, because they could hear and they were likely to, we might have done more in terms of whistle blasts and those types of things.

|  | Page 85 |  | Page 87 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | With children that young, the statistics often | 1 | United States and Canada together. So different |
| 2 | say that they may not respond because it's | 2 | hors that have done this stuff, that are |
| 3 | stranger danger, right? | 3 | doctors in their degrees, in which way patterns |
| 4 |  | 4 | go. |
| 5 | Oftentimes, too, with children in that age | 5 |  |
| 6 | category, they're scared because they know they | 6 | So it is updated. Not every search is |
| 7 | might get in trouble when they're found because | 7 | calculated. But overall, there is more data. |
| 8 | they've been missing. | 8 | And matter of fact, there's a new Lost Person |
| 9 |  | 9 | Behaviour book supposedly on the market this |
| 10 | So sometimes they hide, as well. So those were | 10 | year. Most up-to-date. |
| 11 | things we were aware of on searching for Cody. | 11 | ALPH, Q.C.: |
| 12 | And that's part of the reason the search tactics | 12 | Q. So in terms of the data in the province, there |
| 13 | that we use for a child are used, because they're | 13 | isn't sort of one collection place? I guess you |
| 14 | based on those things. That the child may be | 14 | would be, perhaps, the -- |
| 15 | wary of strangers. That they may hide because | 15 | MR. BLACKMORE: |
| 16 | they're afraid they're going to be in trouble. | 16 | A. Well, just last month, I spent four hours on the |
| 17 |  | 17 | phone with the people in Saskatchewan, CANOPS, |
| 18 | And so it's an active search. That grid search | 18 | which had a grant to do this. And gave them |
| 19 | pattern is, okay, we're going to assume the child | 19 | everything that we had from here in Newfoundland. |
| 20 | is not going to respond when we call them and | 20 | Because I can look at it on the Emwerx system. I |
| 21 | that they may even be hiding from us. | 21 | see it. I've talked to the teams. I know what |
| 22 | RALPH, Q.C.: | 22 | it is. So we pass it on to the best we can. |
| 23 | Commissioner, I got one question about that. | 23 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 24 |  | 24 | Q. Right. And so I guess that'll get easier to |
|  | Page 86 |  | Page 88 |
| 1 | COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE: | 1 | collect and distribute if everyone's using the -- |
| 2 | Yeah. Go ahead. | 2 | MR. BLACKMORE: |
| 3 | RALPH, Q.C. | 3 | A. Well, then it goes to different people. |
| 4 | Q. So in terms of that, that's interesting. So | 4 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 5 | child is outside where you'd expect them, based | 5 | Q. As long as people start using the Emwerx system |
| 6 | on the science of lost behaviour | 6 | more, I guess that'll be a much easier process. |
| 7 |  | 7 | MR. BLACKMORE: |
| 8 | So that information or that data, is that | 8 | A. Well, it makes it easier for sure. But then |
| 9 | collected by anyone? Do you know if that data | 9 | Il go to Dr. Kasner (phonetic) in the States, |
| 10 | basically becomes part of the data on lost | 10 | and he'll compile it again. |
| 11 | behaviour? | 11 |  |
| 12 | MS. DOUCET: | 12 | ow, they're trying to do a full Canadian book, |
| 13 | A. I don't know if the gentleman, John Syrotuck, who | 13 | and Richard might have more information on that. |
| 14 | compiled all of this Lost Person Behaviour -- | 14 | I'm not sure. |
| 15 | RALPH, Q.C.: | 15 | MR. SMITH: |
| 16 | Q. Mayb | 16 | A. Richard Smith. Commissioner, presently working |
| 17 | MR. BLACKMORE | 17 | with Dr. Ed Cornell and Dr. Don Heth, University |
| 18 | A. Yeah. Both myself and Richard are involved with | 18 | of Alberta Psychologists, we started the |
| 19 | it. Lost data is being collected all over the | 19 | gathering of lost person behaviour data back in |
| 20 | country. And right now, there's a big thing on | 20 | 1996, 1997. And continue to do so today. |
| 21 | the go out of Saskatchewan who are updating a | 21 |  |
| 22 | lost person behaviour. | 22 | I also work with Ken Hill, Saint Mary's |
| 23 |  | 23 | University in Nova Scotia. And Ken was also |
| 24 | But most of it is all being done between the | 24 | involved with the original documentation |


|  | Page 89 |  | Page 91 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | publication of our data from '98 to '99. We all | 1 | to get rid of their files. They can't keep them |
| 2 | put that forward. | 2 | forever. But there is a program out there that |
| 3 |  | 3 | does allow them do that, and it just needs some |
| 4 | So it does continue, Counsellor. But with that | 4 | funding behind it. For the RCMP as an example, |
| 5 | being said, the new program in Saskatchewan will | 5 | or RNC, to start keeping all those SAR files. |
| 6 | add the database nationally. Bill Syrotuck, who | 6 | Work in concert with their provincial partners, |
| 7 | was a Canadian, was the first person to actively | 7 | like NSARA, and then you have a good solid |
| 8 | document persons into different levels of | 8 | provincial database which would be the best one |
| 9 | categories. From children, to hunters, to | 9 | out there. |
| 10 | hikers, et cetera. | 10 | MR. WILLIAMS: |
| 11 |  | 11 | A. Sergeant Williams. So that's correct. |
| 12 | But we've expanded that now to include mountain | 12 | Obviously, we receive some data, but we are also |
| 13 | bikers and other specific categories. But we | 13 | susceptible to our purge dates, as they relate |
| 14 | need to synthesize or correlate it, turn it into | 14 | nationally. It's a national policy. |
| 15 | useful data so that it can be used by SAR | 15 |  |
| 16 | managers in the field. And that plan is now | 16 | I'm sure we'll hear in the next phase of our |
| 17 | being done. | 17 | inquiry that search and rescue files themselves, |
| 18 |  | 18 | depending on the outcome, do have specific purge |
| 19 | It's just to get the SAR managers, the RCMP, and | 19 | dates and timelines when that data is to be |
| 20 | the provincial groups to keep their data, not | 20 | purged. |
| 21 | destroy it based on destruction dates, and then | 21 |  |
| 22 | turn it in to the National Program, which is now | 22 | So certainly, something to further discuss at the |
| 23 | being run out of Saskatchewan, instead of the | 23 | next section of the inquiry. But they are |
| 24 | University of Alberta. | 24 | susceptible to purge dates. |
|  | Page 90 |  | Page 92 |
| 1 | RALPH, Q.C.: | 1 | So that information from an RCMP standpoint, any |
| 2 | Q. So, Mr. Smith, do you have a sense of how well | 2 | documentation we do have, is categorized based |
| 3 | we're doing in the province in terms of | 3 | on, I guess, the outcome and the file |
| 4 | collecting that data and keeping it and, I guess, | 4 | classification. And then ultimately, purged |
| 5 | distributing it to those people who want to study | 5 | based on an assigned date, unless it's been |
| 6 | those issues? | 6 | flagged. |
| 7 | MR. SMITH: | 7 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 8 | A. Yeah. Presently, as Mr. Blackmore advised, the | 8 | Q. So I understand you right. So when it's |
| 9 | Emwerx system does collect all that data, but | 9 | recorded, it's recorded in a manner which is sort |
| 10 | it's also incumbent upon the tasking mandated | 10 | of consistent with the categories in the science |
| 11 | agencies to also keep a database for their | 11 | of lost person behaviour? I'm sorry. Do you |
| 12 | purpose. Because the best local data on lost | 12 | understand what I'm asking you? |
| 13 | person behaviour is the data that you want to | 13 | MR. WILLIAMS: |
| 14 | use. Not something from elsewhere in the world. | 14 | A. Yeah. To that question, when we receive the info |
| 15 |  | 15 | it's just hard data that we have, and we retain |
| 16 | Sometimes the aggregate cases can skew the data. | 16 | on a file. It's not categorized within the RCMP |
| 17 | And so if you have anywhere from 50 to 100 cases | 17 | PROS system. It's just essentially put in a |
| 18 | locally, provincially, those are the ones you | 18 | folder itself on the PROS system, and then when |
| 19 | want to utilize based on geographic environmental | 19 | the purge date arrives, it becomes unavailable |
| 20 | atmosphere-type conditions. That's ideal data. | 20 | again. It gets destroyed. |
| 21 |  | 21 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 22 | So it is incumbent upon these agencies to keep | 22 | Q. So if you got the file -- which you wouldn't |
| 23 | it. And unfortunately, I'm sure Sergeant | 23 | because it's an RNC file. But if you'd gotten |
| 24 | Williams can attest to this, that they are forced | 24 | this file looking for Cory, you wouldn't have |

recorded it in some sort of six-year-old is lost in that fashion?
A. So yeah. We would like to have their documentation, as well as our own, in our PROS systems, like you've seen on our reports. But the data is not then broken down specifically to be categorized on the system.

It's just a plot. It's almost like a PDF with that information on there.
MR. BLACKMORE:
A. (Inaudible) set up something years ago in data collecting from both all ground search and rescue teams, the Coast Guard, Airforce. Everybody together. And it was supposed to be all made up so that everybody could dump into the same system and the statistics would come out of that.

Now, that went on for ten years. It did fall by the wayside due to budget cuts. Now, it's resurrected again. And it looks like that the Canadian Coast Guard right now out of Halifax are the ones that are going to be collecting most of the data. And they'll end up putting out a paper

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on it when it's ready.
COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:
Q. All right. Thank you. Yeah, go ahead, Richard. We're not ignoring you, Mr. Street. We just went to a sideline, and we want to kind of run down through that before we finish.

Mr. Smith?
MR. SMITH:
A. Commissioner, thank you. Richard Smith. So one of the important aspects here is statistical analysis. And it's not that difficult. So it's a great community-based policing initiative between, this example, RNC, RCMP, NLSARA. Just to keep (inaudible) access database from Microsoft would really work well. Because you want to know the start point. You want to know the point found. The intended destination.

And I'll give you an example. Would be, in Nova Scotia data, which would apply somewhat here, the 50 percentile for finding children who are one to six years old are 950 metres from point last seen.

And so that's going to be pretty close to what you have here. But there are always going to be outliers, based on path of least resistance. So this particular case would end up changing that data. And it's just a matter of putting it all together time and time again. And it's a great study.

So for Sergeant Williams, as an example, we would love to see you have more funding through the $B$ Division SAR coordinator program, NLSARA, to keep your local database. Yes. And then use the national one after that. And then use international data subsequently after that, etcetera. Because it does take into account a lot of variables because we talk about crow flight distances, not the actual distance travelled by the subject, who actually may have walked two or three times this 950 meters from point last seen.

And that's been proven by Dr. Ken Hill, Dr. Ed Cornell, and Dr. Don Heth, and ourselves, in doing studies through the University of Alberta

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on the last National NIF Fund Grant through Public Safety Canada and National Search and Rescue Secretariat.

So local is the key and then through the RCMP and RNC.

## COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:

Q. Now, I think we left you wondering where the child lives, where he went, where you thought he was. Any of those things that you learned from that session? (Technical difficulties.)
MR. STREET:
A. So he actually lived here down in Georgetown Road, here this way. Down here is where he lived. You can see this is where the helicopter originally landed. So eventually this is where they picked up the SAR members and the RNC officer here. And they came out. And this is the grid pattern that they started to fly.

So, first of all, they flew this way. You can actually follow it here. And when they finished to the end of this one here, they never picked up nothing. So now, they started, then came back.

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1 And you can see the loop here when they finished.

And now they started coming back this way.
Now, it's hard to see it here, but if you go down to the next picture -- we'll come back to this one in a minute. Next picture. It's really hilly and mountain here. Like, there's a lot of rock, a lot of terrain, a lot of trails, because people got quad trails and everything in this area. A lot of ponds and everything. So it's very wooded. It's very high. It's very steep.

Actually, when you go in to look, if you go down there physically and look at the mountain that he was in behind, you can actually look at it, and you stand up, and you go, wow, that's a high mountain. So he was actually in around that there. And it all had to do with the trails.

So if you go back up to the top one again, please. So the helicopter ran this grid pattern. And actually, then when the helicopter, when they came back this way, they never got him on the first time because he was on, like, a -- it was

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actually like a cutline where someone was cutting wood. That's where the trail actually led out to. So he was in an old cut area, which was a little bit open.

So as they came back this way, they picked him up there. All they seen was a little red shirt curled up around by an old stump is actually what they'd seen.

So they picked him up here. They could not land because there was nowhere for the helicopter to land. So this is why you see this one. The helicopter come back. Landed here. Dropped them off. And you can see the trail from Damian's, I guess, GPS that he had on. They had to walk to the person.

So what the helicopter did was took off again, went back here, and hovered above him. Kept his eyes on him just in case he wandered away from them. Like if he got up because of the noise of the helicopter and ended up wandering into the woods, they would know what direction that he
went.

So the helicopter hovered above him, and they walked out until they found him. They made sure he was okay. They took off his wet clothes. Wrapped him in some warmer jackets that they had. Give him some juice box and everything like that there.

And like I said, they weren't sure of allergies, because I think he was allergic to eggs, or anything like that there. So they stopped here wouldn't give him any food. And then they took him and carried him back to the helicopter.

So at that time, they got him in the helicopter, and he was talking and everything. And like I said, all the training that we do when it comes to kids and everything like that there. Kids can actually be really fine, and then once they start to warm up and everything, they can bottom out really quick.

So all the people down here. The ambulance and

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everything was waiting for him. But if you do any studies with hypothermia and everything like that there, they start to shiver after they start to warm up. It's not a good sign because we wanted to get him to the hospital quick, just in case something did happen.

So we made the decision there not to actually take him to there because it's a rough road down there and everything. Put him in an ambulance, jostle him and everything like that there. If you do any study with hypothermia, that's not a good thing. So we decided to fly him directly right to Western Memorial Hospital.

So that way he was going to be seen by professionals and doctors a lot quicker. So that's when we made the decision for him to come here.

Yeah. So these here got a lot of trails and everything. So what he actually done, he was actually there playing with another little girl, and he'd seen a rabbit. And he chased the rabbit
into the woods. And he picked up on a trail, and there's where he ended up to.

Because at certain ages, you can say, okay, if I'm a moose hunter and I went this way I'm going to follow my trail back out. But with younger kids, they don't realize that. They just keep walking until, eventually, I'll find a way out.

So he just kept walking. And then when he came to that tree line, like he said, he knew when it got dark, he had to go to sleep. So that's really actually what saved him. He curled up because the temperate went down to, like, four degrees that night. So he curled up. And when he laid down when it got dark, he actually made the ground and everything around him, the moss and everything that he was laid down in, warm before the temperature really dropped. So...
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Any sense of how close your searchers would have been to him before that point?
MR. STREET:
A. We had search teams in here that night that

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actually turned around and came back in. We were, at one point, about 120 metres from him that night, right?
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. And, I guess, so based on your science of lost behaviour, you kind of assumed that he wouldn't have gone any further in that direction; is that correct?
MR. STREET:
A. Yes. Well, yeah. Yeah. Well, kind of that way. And the terrain was really difficult, too. Christine was actually on that team that went in there, so she probably would know about what the area was like at the time, right?
MS. DOUCET:
A. Yeah. We had continued along sort of a trail. And it grew in really extensively, and it started to go up. And so we searched for him that way. And it was like, okay, unlikely that he would have gone further than this.

We were sort of at the edge of the search, the likely search area. And the terrain got very steep. So it was like, okay. No. There are
other areas. We'll stop here for now. We turned around at that point and said, okay. We're going to redeploy to other more high probability areas.
RALPH, Q.C.:
So it wasn't distance entirely? It was distance and other factors?
MS. DOUCET:
A. And other factors, yeah. If the trail had continued and the walking had been easy, we probably would have continued along in that direction.

And I don't think he got there from the same way we were getting there. So I think that the idea -- right? When we started to get this, the trail was growing in. It was almost disappearing. And like I said, we were coming up on this mountain. And it's the trail that was going up the side of the mountain. It was like, okay. Unlikely that the six-year-old would go this way.

Now, at the time, he wandered off. If we had known, yes, he wandered off, and he was chasing a rabbit to get for supper, it was like, okay.

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Well, that's why he went further then. Because he had a purpose, right?

Whereas, we just thought he wandered off and got lost in the woods. So you're not likely to climb the mountain.
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. And are you pretty certain about how he got to where he ended up, in terms of the trail?
MS. DOUCET:
A. It's hard to know exactly. He went off on one trail. We can look at where the trails were, but he was six. A six-year-old is much lower to what they see on the ground. It's something that you have to take into account when you're searching, is that they're seeing it from a whole different perspective. Not so different for me, but for most.

And but, yeah. So you have to sort of think about that. But we're not exactly sure. So what looked like it might have been impassable for an adult, for a child, it's just, oh, well, there's just a hole. I'll just crawl through there.

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 |  | 1 | MR. STREET: |
| 2 | So it is something that we keep in mind when | 2 | A. Well, then again, like when we set up an active |
| 3 | we're searching because we're trained to think of | 3 | search, and we look at our maps and everything, |
| 4 | those things. But knowing exactly where... | 4 | we look at, yes, that's one possibility. But we |
| 5 | Because he didn't know exactly where he went. He | 5 | also got to look at the terrain and everything |
| 6 | just knew he ended up where we found him. | 6 | and where we were told he was going on the |
| 7 | COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE: | 7 | trails. |
| 8 | Go ahead, sir. | 8 |  |
| 9 | WILLIAMS, Q.C.: | 9 | We had a lot of people that actually ran them |
| 10 | Q. Yes. A question in terms of searching | 10 | trails a lot farther than what that young kid |
| 11 | methodology or thought plan. Because I noticed | 11 | could travel, right? And when it comes into the |
| 12 | just a couple times in the conversations, like he | 12 | direction that he was found into, there's really |
| 13 | had travelled further than you would have | 13 | no access to that area to the trails and |
| 14 | anticipated based on behavioural patterns for a | 14 | everything to get in behind that area to actually |
| 15 | six-year-old. | 15 | come back. |
| 16 |  | 16 |  |
| 17 | And I know Mr. Smith had used the word | 17 | But we do run containment searches. We call it a |
| 18 | "outliers." And we've seen in some of the other | 18 | containment search, where we actually put people |
| 19 | cases exceptional circumstances that lead people | 19 | out, the farthest point out, and stop and move |
| 20 | to be beyond where you would normally expect them | 20 | in. There's actually containment searches. |
| 21 | to be. | 21 |  |
| 22 |  | 22 | If we got a hiker, we know he's heading five |
| 23 | So where I'm leading from, in fact, in the | 23 | kilometres in, and we know he can travel a lot of |
| 24 | Makkovik/Winters' case, all evidence led to this | 24 | distance, we can put someone seven kilometres in, |
|  | Page 106 |  | Page 108 |
| 1 | young boy going through open water and that he | 1 | if there's access to that area and actually head |
| 2 | couldn't get past. Yet circumstance had it such | 2 | him off before he got that distance, right? |
| 3 | that he did. | 3 |  |
| 4 |  | 4 | But it depends on the search. It depends on the |
| 5 | So I guess my question is, that when you're | 5 | person you're looking for. And it mostly depends |
| 6 | deploying your resources, it makes logical sense | 6 | on the terrain, right? So I mean, this is |
| 7 | to start at the core area where the person was | 7 | something that you got to sit down with your map |
| 8 | last seen, and then as one of your exhibits | 8 | and determine ahead of time if you can actually |
| 9 | shows, you go out in a circular fashion and | 9 | do that. Like, some searches, you can. Some |
| 10 | expand it. | 10 | searches, you can't really access it. |
| 11 |  | 11 | MR. SMITH: |
| 12 | Are any portion of the search resources utilized | 12 | A. Richard Smith. Commissioner, there's one thing |
| 13 | at an early stage to take into consideration that | 13 | to keep in mind, and Mr. Street has certainly |
| 14 | maybe, in this case, like, this little boy went | 14 | mentioned it here. In planning a search and |
| 15 | faster than he could. Maybe in the case of young | 15 | rescue mission, for a six-year-old in this |
| 16 | Burton Winters, he made it past that open water. | 16 | particular case, or a 14-year-old, it's not just |
| 17 | To allow for the possibility of exceptional | 17 | studying lost person behaviour. |
| 18 | circumstances, so that you don't have to wait | 18 |  |
| 19 | until the search pattern expands out to those | 19 | Lost person behaviour is only one tool in your |
| 20 | areas. | 20 | toolbox. The four methods of establishing a |
| 21 |  | 21 | search area for any number of subjects: Number |
| 22 | I don't know if that's a fair question to ask, | 22 | one, would be theoretically. So theoretically, |
| 23 | but I'll throw it out there. It just comes to | 23 | how far could somebody walk from the point last |
| 24 | mind when I look at some of these circumstances. | 24 | seen going outwards? |

2

And that's based on, you profile the lost/missing person to really understand how far could they go based on their weight, their height, how much experience they have, and what do they have with them, and how good shape they have. That's one aspect.

The other part is statistical data, which is lost person behaviour. There are two other methods. One is subjective. So Mr. Street has clearly articulated, quite well, that it's also based on a terrain and topography analysis.

In other words, you would think the child would go up to the base of the cliff or the rocks. And he probably wouldn't go over top of the mountain, but he may go up to the base, as an example. So a search and rescue manager can eliminate vast portions of the search area based on subjective considerations, which also takes into account the SAR manager's experience, their Spidey-sense intuition and their gut feeling, which they do get from their experience.

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The last method of establishing a search area is called deductive reasoning. And that's what police officers do very well, especially in homicide investigations. So you find the deceased subject, the homicide victim, and then you kind of do analytical reasoning or reasoning backwards as to from the body going back to, okay, how did the body actually get here?

And that's part of the investigation side on why it's so important for the police and the SAR managers to work hand in glove to help solve these problems.

Now, to go back to the statistical analysis. If you think of a linear liner, a linear graph, and there's 12 cases on there. And the point last seen is at zero, and then your data may go out to three kilometres as an example.

If you think of the 25 percentile. In other words, 25 percent of those 12 cases are found within 670 metres from point last seen, that's your 25 percentile where that number of cases
have been found.

2

But more often than not, because we're dealing with small datasets of 50 to 100 quality cases, you deal with the median distance, which, in other words, half the cases are found on one side, half the cases are found on the other side.
And that's at 50 percentile where most six-year-olds are found 950 metres from point last seen.

But you can go out to the 75 percentile. So you take in an extra few other cases, and that ends up being 2650 metres from the point last seen is that 75 percentile. Then you can go out to the 90 percentile, which is just a little over three kilometres from the point last seen, as an example.

So with that being said, when you do your planning, you want to include all four methods to establish a search area, which I know Mr. Street and Ms. Doucet have certainly done, and thought about. And not just limit yourself to that one

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percentage.

And that is very, very important. So to answer, Counsellor Williams's question, there's terrain and topography analysis. So you take this statistical, and you put it into your
scenario-based analyses to really determine where do you think the child would go.

And as Ms. Doucet said, it's based on the terrain. So you need to get on your hands and knees with your teams and look around. Look up and down and all around and determine where would a six-year-old go? We would step over a log. That may end up being a barrier for them. So you do your scenarios.

In this case, the rabbit is an attractor. And they'll follow that little rabbit until they actually feel tired. Then they go down, curl up under a log or a tree, and clearly go to sleep.

Kids are very good at survival that way because they like to build beds, and they're used to

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | playing and playing hide and seek. Well, we | 1 | percentile, the 50 percentile being the yellow |
| 2 | don't think about that anymore as adults. | 2 | one, and then the outer one being the 90 |
| 3 |  | 3 | percentile. |
| 4 | So the scenario-based analyses is also very, very | 4 |  |
| 5 | important when you're putting all this together. | 5 | And then you dedicate, based on the four methods |
| 6 | RALPH, Q.C.: | 6 | of establishing a search area, and what you want |
|  | Q. So as the search manager and you're doing your | 7 | to cover based on the scenario analysis. And, |
| 8 | initial sort of analysis in determining what kind | 8 | again, most SAR managers will come up with five |
| 9 | of search you're going to do, do you tell your | 9 | to ten scenarios as to what they think has |
| 10 | leaders, look, I only want you to go 750 metres, | 10 | happened to the child. |
| 11 | or I only want you to go a metre, or 1.25? How | 11 |  |
| 12 | does that work? | 12 | That includes everything from parental abduction, |
| 13 |  | 13 | to stranger abduction, to wildlife-human |
| 14 | And sort of how do you make that decision about | 14 | conflict, to a host of other aspects, including |
| 15 | whether you're going to use 50 percentile or 75th | 15 | drownings. And most kids, if there's water in |
| 16 | percentile? How is that decision made? | 16 | the area, you want to search that first because |
| 17 | MR. SMITH: | 17 | it's a hazard, because they may succumb to that |
| 18 | A. As clearly, it worked very well here. I | 18 | hazard and drown. So those are things you bring |
| 19 | mentioned about hasty teams searching. When you | 19 | into it. |
| 20 | do the planning for initial response - and we go | 20 |  |
| 21 | with an initial response because you're looking | 21 | And then by correlating all this together, there |
| 22 | for a live subject until proven otherwise - You | 22 | is your plan and initial response. And you want |
| 23 | look at the planning based on time. Okay? | 23 | to find out and eliminate all the trails in the |
| 24 |  | 24 | area, as well. |
|  | Page 114 |  | Page 116 |
| 1 | And so with that being said, the hasty team is a | 1 | So you want to find out where the person is not, |
| 2 | fast, systematic response to high-probability | 2 | and then you start searching the woods, so to |
| 3 | areas using immediate available trained | 3 | speak. The forest cover area. And because of |
| 4 | resources. | 4 | the terrain topography analysis, it's different |
| 5 |  | 5 | in the Arctic, as it would be in the area around |
| 6 | And those high-probability areas are identified | 6 | Corner Brook here. |
| 7 | by yourself, as a SAR manager, on the map, on the | 7 |  |
| 8 | scenarios, and the terrain and typography | 8 | And it's different if the person's on a mountain |
| 9 | analysis. And also, based on hazards because | 9 | bike because we have mountain bike statistics and |
| 10 | maybe that person succumbed to hazardous-type | 10 | we have limited statistics on snow machines |
| 11 | terrain. | 11 | because there's a lot of variables in there, and |
| 12 |  | 12 | the data is not as accurate as we think it should |
| 13 | So you identify all those on the map. You do | 13 | be. |
| 14 | draw a circle on there based on your time. In | 14 |  |
| 15 | this particular case, the first 24 hours is your | 15 | And, again, it comes into the track, the snow |
| 16 | initial response. So you would put several | 16 | machine, the person's experience, et cetera, as |
| 17 | circles on the map. | 17 | to exactly what would happen there. But you can |
| 18 |  | 18 | put all this together. And that's your plan, and |
| 19 | And I believe Mr. Blackmore did have a map up | 19 | then off you go. |
| 20 | there. Mr. Blackmore had a map up there earlier | 20 |  |
| 21 | showing several circles indicating different | 21 | So it's not that you're eliminating certain |
| 22 | distances from the point last seen. And so those | 22 | areas. You are still looking at it as you go |
| 23 | are identified and put on the map. Just like you | 23 | through. The hasty team's job is to look for |
| 24 | see up there right now, starting with the 25 | 24 | those clues. All the searchers get paid the big |

1 dollars to look for clues.

2
3 And as Mr. Dalrymple said, it's those footfall
1 impressions. It's every little stone or rock that's overturned and kicked, etcetera. It could be a candy bar wrapper that's left behind. It could be a shoelace. Any number of little things. And that would also give you a direction of travel.

And if you have several footprints in a row, and in this case, unfortunately, the spontaneous convergent volunteers destroyed a lot of what they were looking for, making it very difficult for them, but they did a great job because they were using the aircraft as well.

You're looking at probability of detection value. So the SAR team gives you a probability of detection value. In other words, if I had ten daypacks in a one-kilometre area, how many daypacks would I find with a hasty team? How many would I find with a canine? How many would I find with a helicopter? How many would I find

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with a mountain bike team?

They all give you different -- (technical issues)
-- start getting a direction of travel in what you're finding. And then you can start rearranging your strategy and tactics as the mission evolves, because it's a constant evolution of information flow and coordination from the hasty team to the SAR managers.

Their plan is not cast in stone. They have to constantly change it, based on the information they get from the field. And they synthesize it, correlate it, turn it into useful intelligence, so you can modify and adapt your strategy and tactics as the mission unfolds. That's what you need to do to be successful and not just concentrate on the lost person behaviour only.

So I hope I've kind of answered your question there.
RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Basically, because I guess that wouldn't have that information there in terms of how you kind
of worked out your strategy for the search.

But it sounds like the documents that you have at the office would have that information in them; is that...
MR. STREET:
A. Sorry. Yes. That's way more detailed than what we actually put into it. It's just our general search summary that we turned into the police at the end of it, right? They don't need all seven or eight pages of written documents, right? But that's in our files that we keep.

Another thing I wanted to mention here, too, on this one here. If you go back to the grid pattern that the helicopter flew. You look at where he was actually found, was roughly 1.2 kilometres away.

First when we showed up to this search, that time never evolved. So he was probably a lot closer. So this is why we determined what area we were going to search and how far out we were going to bring out teams. Because he was only missing for

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six hours when we showed up.

Now, when the helicopter flew, you can see how far the helicopter went out a lot farther, because now we're into 18 hours. So we knew that if he was still travelling, he was travelling a lot farther. So this is why the helicopter didn't just go 900 metres.

So as Mr. Smith was saying, it's always evolving. You always got to have your mind going, wondering, okay. Now, we're an extra hour into it. Now, we're an extra two hours. If that was a missing hunter, okay. How far can he travel? So your search is always evolving.

And so first when we got there, it was only a few hours since he was missing. So we were assuming that he was fairly close. And this why our hasty teams were going not so far as they should have went. And then as the night evolved, we were sending teams out farther.

The next morning, we were actually sending teams

|  | Page 121 |  | Page 123 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | out farther still, because we knew a | 1 | ourselves. That has thermal imaging, cameras. |
| 2 | six-year-old, if he was still moving because of | 2 | It has everything that you need. And we can keep |
| 3 | the time, he was going farther and farther, | 3 | flying that 24 hours around the clock, because we |
| 4 | right? | 4 | have enough batteries to go with it. |
| 5 | COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE: | 5 |  |
| 6 | Q. Okay. The last speaker was Shawn Street. So one | 6 | But to tackle something like that for each team? |
| 7 | more question for the team about drones. Do you | 7 | Everybody, yeah, you better want to buy some |
| 8 | use them today? Are they useful? Do they have | 8 | peanuts next time you pass by the team. |
| 9 | cameras? Has the technology evolved? I just | 9 | COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE: |
| 10 | want you to tell me about that area. | 10 | Q. You made me lose my train of thought, and I was |
| 11 | MR. DALRYMPLE: | 11 | going to ask a very smart question. Now I've |
| 12 | A. I can if you want me to? Garry Dalrymple | 12 | forgotten it. Let me just go through my notes |
| 13 | speaking there. The only time we have used | 13 | once more. There was one more area. Let me see. |
| 14 | drones with our team -- we don't have a drone | 14 |  |
| 15 | owned by BOISAR. The only times we have used | 15 | Yes. We've heard from other searchers that you |
| 16 | drones have been some of our members do own their | 16 | must or can keep an account of the amount of time |
| 17 | own just kind of regular, consumer-level drones, | 17 | that you spend in a year doing volunteer work. |
| 18 | which are still pretty phenomenal quality | 18 | So I just want a sense from each one of you what |
| 19 | nowadays. | 19 | that number is. |
| 20 |  | 20 | MR. STREET: |
| 21 | But we have used, in probably two or maybe three | 21 | A. Well, it's hard to say because where I'm |
| 22 | occasions, two occasions, we have used individual | 22 | coordinator of the team, I spend a lot of time at |
| 23 | members' drones. | 23 | the training, at the team level, at the searches, |
| 24 |  | 24 | on the phone, and talking to Danny and talking to |
|  | Page 122 |  | Page 124 |
| 1 | I guess why we haven't really pushed to have our | 1 | Harry and everything. |
| 2 | own is that to get a device, a drone, that is of | 2 |  |
| 3 | extreme quality. Can operate in all conditions. | 3 | So I mean, in the run of a year, it's thousands |
| 4 | Has thermal imaging cameras, high-resolution | 4 | of hours, I can actually say. Because on our |
| 5 | cameras, long battery life and everything, you're | 5 | team, like, for the volunteer search and rescue |
| 6 | talking tens of thousands, if not pushing towards | 6 | teams, we can actually apply for that tax credit |
| 7 | \$100,000. | 7 | now. So, actually, every member on our team that |
| 8 |  | 8 | actually does something to do with training or |
| 9 | While these consumer-level drones may only have a | 9 | anything like that there, it's signed off by |
| 10 | regular camera, 20 minutes of flight time, can | 10 | themselves and the hours they're putting into it. |
| 11 | only operate in 20-kilometre-an-hour or less | 11 |  |
| 12 | winds, they're incredibly affordable, but we do | 12 | And we have a lot of members that reach that |
| 13 | already have a number of those on the team and | 13 | 2,000-hour mark very quick. What? Oh, sorry. |
| 14 | available to us. | 14 | 200-hour mark, sorry. I've been up since 9:00 |
| 15 |  | 15 | yesterday morning. I worked last night. Sorry, |
| 16 | So we certainly see the value in having a drone | 16 | guys. My train of thought could be a little bit |
| 17 | and have heard stories from Harry's team just | 17 | off here today. |
| 18 | about how phenomenal they can be used. But | 18 |  |
| 19 | that's a cost that has just been well outside of | 19 | But 200 hours of community service. But I mean, |
| 20 | our ability to fundraise. | 20 | it's actually, in the run of a year, with our |
| 21 | MR. BLACKMORE: | 21 | team, the size of it, it's thousands of hours. |
| 22 | A. Commissioner, drones right now, the one that we | 22 | We have got it actually recorded and actually |
| 23 | have, we basically got after we looked for an | 23 | documented on our Emwerx system, too. So I mean, |
| 24 | autistic child. But we have \$135,000 into it now | 24 | the actual figures, we can actually give you |

every hour, but, I must say, on our team, it's thousands of hours in a year.
MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Maybe that's something, Christine, if you don't have it handy, you can get that to me by e-mail. And I'll see that it's put before the Commission in subsequent hearings.
MS. DOUCET:
A. I can certainly do that. And I just can say, because I'm more familiar with the specific hours, that every single member of our Executive team puts in, in excess of 250 or 300 hours. So the seven-member Executive, every single one of them is well over.

I think myself and Adam Kennedy, I think, who's our training coordinator, I think I had 420 last year, and Adam had, like, 480, or something like that.

And then as for our regular members, many of them make at least 200 hours. You've had 200 hours.
MR. GAUDET:
A. Yeah. So I can just add as a general member.

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I'm Adam Gaudet. So last year, I completed just over 200, I believe it was around 203 or 206 hours with Search and Rescue.

I'm from Nova Scotia originally. And when COVID hit, I had to go home. So that's a significant number of months where I wasn't here. But during the time that I was here, I was able to put in that 200-plus hours with the team.
MR. DALRYMPLE:
A. And Garry speaking here. Especially for our Executive, those are the hours that we remember to record. Those are the members, the ones that when we're all together, having a meeting, having our training and stuff. When we converse in group chats, group texts, and stuff like that daily. And sometimes this is hours-long conversations and doing the little extra things on the side. We don't think to record all that kind of stuff.

I think it would be fair to say that most of us Executive members are probably over 500 hours a year if we really want to nitpick and get it.

But actually recorded, yeah, anywhere between 2-, 3-, 4-, 500 hours apiece.

Just because I have the recent information, a few weeks ago we participated in a community event, an ultra marathon that was happening in our area. It was a 22 -hour long wilderness race. A hundred kilometres is what the competitors were taking on. Our team provided first aid services, as well as a bit of traffic control support.

We do these kinds of events to be able to fundraise. That did land us a couple thousand dollars from the organizers and everything, which is great to be able to put into our coffers.

But just as an example, that one individual Saturday - this is not including setup the day before, tear down the day after, preparation, planning, and all that stuff. Just actually boots on the ground doing stuff - we had 27 members commit a total of 266 person hours.

That's just to the community to help an event get
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off the ground. Bring some attention to our economy, our outdoor sports enthusiasts, and things like that. And to help us raise some money for teams. That's just a one-day commitment of 27 members, 266 person hours.
COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE:
Okay. Thanks so much. Mr. Budden, give us an overview of where we are. I'd prefer to finish by continuing on through lunch, if necessary. But give us a sense of where we are.
MR. BUDDEN:
Sure. Firstly, there's a young team member that's been waiting outside now for close onto an hour. Perhaps, Garry, if you would get her. We have three matters, really, to cover. Two of them we might be able to compress.

There's an exhibit, Exhibit 76. I'm wondering if Mr. Street, in particular, who is the author of this letter -- that that letter is an exhibit formally before the Commission. If we could perhaps park that for the time being and talk about recruitment.


1 What's your situation?
MR. DROVER:
A. Yeah. I just graduated, and I'm working for the time being.
MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Okay. Graduated from high school?

MR. DROVER:
A. Yes.

MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Perfect. And what have you done so far? Have you been able to do any training?
MR. DROVER:
A. Yeah. I've done the online training and the two or three meetings that I've been to, as well.
MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Perfect. And thank you for coming here today. Have you any suggestions for getting young people involved?
MR. DROVER:
A. I'm not really sure.

MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Okay. No problem. Well, you explained how you got involved. That was quite helpful. Perhaps, Adam?

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## MR. GAUDET:

A. Sure. So I've been on the team about three years now. I am currently 22. I joined when I was 19. So a bit of my background is, I grew up. I was pretty outdoorsy. Did nine years in scouting. So I've always been into outdoors and the survival skills. All that.

I took AdventureSmart presentations, such as Hug-a-Tree, when I was with scouting. So I was somewhat exposed to search and rescue. And then growing up, I always thought, hey, that'd be kind of a neat thing to get into.

I'm originally from Nova Scotia. I'm here attending the university in town here in Corner Brook. And in one of my first classes here, it just happened to be with a professor who was assistant coordinator on the team at the time. He's still an executive with the team.

And as he was introducing himself, he said that he was in search and rescue. And to speak to him if we had any questions or wanted to get involved

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with the team.

So right after class, I went right up to him. It was actually me and another girl that was in the class. We both went up to him and spoke with him. And I was at the next meeting.

Yeah. I really enjoy search and rescue because right now I'm in university. So, yes, it's important to work, but at the same time it's writing essays and reading papers. So I like having this balance in my life where it feels like I am really doing something in the moment to help people, right?

I'm of the opinion that if I assist on a search and just me being there helps with there being a positive outcome to the search, then it's more than worth the hundreds and hundreds of hours that I've put in over the last three years and will continue to do so long into the future.
MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Thank you. And you said a moment ago, you put in 203 hours in this past year?

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MR. GAUDET:
A. Yes, I believe that is. I don't remember completely offhand. But, like I said, when COVID hit, I was living in the residence at the time. Everything shut down, so I had to leave to go home, back to Nova Scotia.

So in that last year there, there was a significant portion where I was at home. And anytime I'm at home, and I see that the team is getting deployed or even just community events, it's always like, oh, I wish I was there and being able to help out with my team. Yeah.
MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Well, thank you. That was really interesting. So it goes without saying, you found it to be -or I'm sure this is a leading question. But I take it you found it to be a welcoming team? One that was open to a young person joining and welcomed your involvement?
MR. GAUDET:
A. Oh, for sure. Yes, it was great. It's a very welcoming community. This team, at least I'm with. The team I have experience with.

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 |  | 1 | MS. TARBETT: |
| 2 | I have also gone to a conference for the | 2 | A. I think just getting the knowledge out there. I |
| 3 | provincial association. So I met with a bunch of | 3 | don't know if maybe we can visit the schools |
| 4 | members from other teams there, and they were all | 4 | sometime? Again, for myself, I thought that you |
| 5 | super welcoming and happy to see young people | 5 | needed qualifications. And maybe people think |
| 6 | getting involved with search and rescue. | 6 | that you do need particular qualifications and |
| 7 |  | 7 | they don't bother to reach out. So maybe if we |
| 8 | But this team in particular, which I have the | 8 | advertise more that, we train you or we can |
| 9 | experience with, right from the start, they were | 9 | utilize whatever skill that you have. |
| 10 | doing everything to involve us, right? If we had | 10 |  |
| 11 | a question, they would answer. If I had a | 11 | Because, I mean, there's all kinds of different |
| 12 | suggestion, they would be more than willing to | 12 | skill levels and different people are needed for |
| 13 | listen to it. | 13 | different things, so. |
| 14 | MR. BUDDEN: | 14 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 15 | Q. Well, thank you. And how about yourself, Krista? | 15 | Q. Thank you. What sort of training have you done |
| 16 | Would you tell us those same things? | 16 | so far? |
| 17 | MS. TARBETT: | 17 | MS. TARBETT: |
| 18 | A. Hi. So I recently became involved about four | 18 | A. Well, I've done a little bit on the GPS and |
| 19 | months ago. What initially piqued my interest is | 19 | mapping. We've done search patterns, radio |
| 20 | the search they were recently doing for Stewart | 20 | communications, survival skills. I recently did |
| 21 | Taylor. I had a little bit of interest in that | 21 | the Wilderness Remote First-Aid Course that Garry |
| 22 | myself. | 22 | had offered. A lot. |
| 23 |  | 23 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 24 | So I had seen them down at one of the local parks | 24 | Q. Okay. Thank you. Thank you. And, Garry, do you |
|  | Page 138 |  | Page 140 |
| 1 | searching. And I reached out to Garry through | 1 | want to speak to some of these issues, as well? |
| 2 | their social media site. I, myself, thought that | 2 | MR. DALRYMPLE: |
| 3 | you had to have some sort of qualifications. So | 3 | A. Yeah, absolutely. Both because I am a relatively |
| 4 | I really thought that maybe I couldn't get | 4 | newish members, only six years with the team. |
| 5 | involved, but was quite pleased when he told me, | 5 | And I am only 36 years old. And I did move here |
| 6 | no, we actually train you. You don't need any | 6 | from away. And I do actually handle a lot of |
| 7 | specific qualifications. So that made me happy. | 7 | that first direct contact with people when they |
| 8 |  | 8 | first look to join the team through our social |
| 9 | Again, it was very easy to join. All the | 9 | media and our e-mail and things like that. |
| 10 | resources were very easy to use, and clear. I've | 10 |  |
| 11 | had quite an amount of training in the last four | 11 | Yeah. Just to echo what Krista is saying. I |
| 12 | months. | 12 | think she's a hundred percent correct. That a |
| 13 |  | 13 | lot of people assume that you need some sort of |
| 14 | And I do find that in the four months I've been | 14 | skill to come into this. |
| 15 | there, I consider these guys almost like a family | 15 |  |
| 16 | already. It's a really good team. I like it | 16 | We had a member join about two years ago who |
| 17 | because it gets us outdoors and, again, it | 17 | apparently had been thinking about it for over |
| 18 | teaches us skills, and we can help in the | 18 | five years, but he said, I can't swim. I'm no |
| 19 | community a lot. And we do a lot of fundraising | 19 | good to a search and rescue team, so I'm not |
| 20 | events here in Corner Brook, too, so. | 20 | going to join. |
| 21 | MR. BUDDEN: | 21 |  |
| 22 | Q. Okay. Do you have any suggestions for, perhaps, | 22 | When he finally found out, no, we don't need you |
| 23 | recruitment of young persons or young women? Any | 23 | to be able to swim. We won't throw you in the |
| 24 | observations you could offer there? | 24 | water. We'll throw somebody else in the water. |

He said, oh. Oh, okay. Maybe I will join.

So I think there are some misconceptions out there in the public about what you need to be able to do to be able to join a search and rescue team. And people then forget about all of this other stuff.

I mean, we spent most of the morning talking about documentation and recording notes and things like that. We have members of our team who, due to their age or maybe past injuries, really cannot even go into the woods in a safe manner. And these people fill these other roles.

And I think a lot of people in the community don't think about that. That, for us, is probably the hardest member to try to recruit.
It's not too bad for us to go to recruit the woodsman, the hunter, the berry picker, the people who are out in the woods. They think of this more often than the administrative-type people do, right?

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So, yeah. Getting the word out that if you have a skill, we want you to bring that skill to our team, and we will find a way to use that skill. And we'll train you in everything else you need to be trained in, to be safe and be effective.

And I'll be honest, when I joined this team six years ago, I come from Halifax. I'm a bit more of an urban kid. And I arrived in Corner Brook and started looking at these mountains, rivers, lakes, and valleys, and thought, I really need to get out there and explore this stuff, but I'm a little overwhelmed by it. Who can teach me how to be safe in the woods?

So I somewhat selfishly joined Search and Rescue to learn some of these skills and everything, right, for my own benefit.

But, yeah. Once you get into it, once you realize what kind of a community there is, a camaraderie, as Krista even said, family, you really kind of get hooked on it. And it only takes that one search, that one moment where you
are part of a team who brings somebody home, who may be not have been able to have come home otherwise, it's the best drug in the world.

Don't try all the other stuff out there. Come and try that little bit of adrenaline and warm feeling and everything. It's absolutely addictive. And it's something that I will continue with, I think, for the rest of my life, as long as I can.

Especially now, knowing that even if my legs give out, I can still be useful to a search team.

As I mentioned, I'm quite directly involved with a lot of our recruitment. And as Krista said, I am one of our possible first aid instructors.

Christine is also certified. Shawn has been, as well.

And I do teach a lot of wilderness and remote first aid. I teach it every fall. I've got it coming up here in a couple weeks to the Forestry and the Fish and Wildlife Programs at the College

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of the North Atlantic.

So in doing that, I'm telling stories of my experiences and incidents and injuries I have dealt with, and really kind of catching those young peoples' attention.

And especially with those kinds of programs, we really like to draw on the young people from those programs because they come in with that skill set already.

They now have the advanced first aid. They're doing courses in maps and compass. They have the boots and the gear, and those programs attract the people who are really good on ATVs and snowmobiles, and really capable with those kinds of machines. Who, me, having come from Halifax, doesn't have a sweet clue how to ride a snowmobile. But you can throw me on the back, and if you can get me there, we can be of use.

We know that we only have these students for between two and four years, in a lot of the

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | cases. Although we have seen some, even | 1 | team. We're going to train you. You're going to |
| 2 | including Adam, certainly make an extra effort to | 2 | bring your skills. But then, when you need us to |
| 3 | try to stay here in the summertime, when they | 3 | speak favourably on your behalf and help get you |
| 4 | could be gone, and try to stay here long term. | 4 | that premium job that you want and set yourself |
| 5 |  | 5 | that little notch ahead of all of your |
| 6 | We have a number of our students who have | 6 | classmates, this might be one of the deciding |
| 7 | graduated from their programs who have gone on to | 7 | factors. |
| 8 | other provinces, other jobs, and a very large | 8 |  |
| 9 | portion of them are seeking out their search and | 9 | And I've definitely seen it with a lot of our |
| 10 | rescue teams in those areas. | 10 | student members. That they're getting the jobs |
| 11 |  | 11 | that their classmates aren't. And it's this |
| 12 | So we have ex-members from BOISAR who are on | 12 | extra volunteerism that seems to be putting them |
| 13 | teams in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, | 13 | over the top. |
| 14 | Alberta, just because they got the training | 14 |  |
| 15 | through us. | 15 | And that real-life experience, like Adam was |
| 16 |  | 16 | talking. It's great to write papers and do |
| 17 | So while we know that we're going to do the bulk | 17 | research and everything, but sooner or later you |
| 18 | of their training and everything, we (a) love | 18 | got to get your boots dirty for a lot of these |
| 19 | their skill set that they bring; (b) love their | 19 | jobs that these people want. And that's what |
| 20 | energy that they bring. They're fun to have | 20 | they're doing with us. |
| 21 | around. And (c) if we think and know that | 21 | R. BUDDEN: |
| 22 | they're going to continue on with this in the | 22 | Q. Thank you, folks. That was really interesting... |
| 23 | future, we are more than happy to bring them into | 23 | (technical difficulties.) |
| 24 | the fold. | 24 |  |
|  | Page 146 |  | Page 148 |
| 1 | A lot of these students, as well, use us, and | 1 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 2 | oftentimes myself, where I've kind of dealt with | 2 | Q. I think we're good. Thank you. So thank you, |
| 3 | them a little bit more in that first aid | 3 | folks, for coming in. That was a really |
| 4 | capacity, as references on their resumes and | 4 | interesting few minutes. And the other |
| 5 | things, right? Those industries, Fish and | 5 | lawyers -- I know Mr. Ralph there seems to be |
| 6 | Wildlife, and Forestry, especially. And Nick's | 6 | chomping at the bit to ask a question. |
| 7 | actually working on an application to the RCMP. | 7 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 8 | So I don't know if you can help him out or not. | 8 | (Inaudible). |
| 9 |  | 9 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 10 | This kind of volunteerism or any kind of | 10 | Okay. No problem. There may be other people in |
| 11 | volunteerism is phenomenal of a young person to | 11 | the room, or the Commissioner may have questions. |
| 12 | be able to do. But this kind of stuff, in | 12 | And as I said earlier, we're going to return to |
| 13 | particular, really catches the attention of | 13 | the whole issue of recruitment later on in these |
| 14 | employers. | 14 | hearings. |
| 15 |  | 15 |  |
| 16 | A few years ago, Newfoundland had redeveloped its | 16 | And I may be reaching out, or somebody else in |
| 17 | wildland firefighting crew. We had probably 15 | 17 | the Commission may be reaching out to some of you |
| 18 | or 20 people from the Forestry program apply. | 18 | if you might want to participate in that, |
| 19 | All of the ones who got the job were the ones who | 19 | remotely or otherwise. |
| 20 | were also search and rescue members. | 20 |  |
| 21 |  | 21 | So anyway, thank you. I know we're not quite |
| 22 | So maybe getting that word out to the young | 22 | done here today, and there may be questions, but |
| 23 | people, as well, that this is a two-way street. | 23 | that was one of the more interesting parts of the |
| 24 | You're going to come in here and benefit this | 24 | hearing so far, in my opinion. |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | You have no questions, Mr. Ralph? | 1 | experiences that fundraising for recruitment is |
| 2 | RALPH, Q.C.: | 2 | just an additional (inaudible). And who feels |
| 3 | I don't, sir. | 3 | comfortable answering that question? |
| 4 | MR. BUDDEN: | 4 | MR. STREET: |
| 5 | Well, perhaps we can go to Mr. Williams. | 5 | A. Well, when it comes to, like, our area here, we |
| 6 | WILLIAMS, Q.C.: | 6 | are probably a little bit luckier because we had |
| 7 | Sure. And I'd like to make a recommendation we | 7 | the schools here with the ones, like, doing the |
| 8 | get funding to take you crowd out on the road, | 8 | Fish and Wildlife programs and everything like |
| 9 | because the enthusiasm is just phenomenal. And | 9 | that there. So they're already here. And so we |
| 10 | the recruitment piece is something that, from my | 10 | do first aid and everything. Get a lot of these |
| 11 | exposure in the search and rescue, I just see as | 11 | schools and we draw in these people because, like |
| 12 | having spoken with Harry on a number of | 12 | I said, with the stories and everything that we |
| 13 | occasions, I was blind-sided when first getting | 13 | tell. |
| 14 | involved in this, that all these organizations | 14 |  |
| 15 | across the province are volunteer-run. | 15 | And not only that there. Like when we actually |
| 16 |  | 16 | draw the person in, they come to our meetings. I |
| 17 | And the commitment and the time and the energy | 17 | say, like, come for a meeting or two. You're |
| 18 | that it takes. I mean, it's commendable to | 18 | welcome. If you like it, you can stay. If you |
| 19 | everybody. Whether you're the old white-haired | 19 | don't, well, then it's not for you. No hard |
| 20 | guys that we've typically seen. And I don't mean | 20 | feelings, right? |
| 21 | that in any negative way, but that's why we're so | 21 |  |
| 22 | enthusiastic to hear from you. | 22 | But I think our Executive, every person that |
| 23 |  | 23 | comes through that door, we take them as |
| 24 | So I guess one of the issues is some of the | 24 | important. And that's what we try to get out |
|  | Page 150 |  | Page 152 |
| 1 | programs that we've heard of - and I think you've | 1 | there. But I mean, we haven't got the time and |
| 2 | touched on - somebody mentioned scouting. That | 2 | the effort to raise money to, actually, try to |
| 3 | they were involved in the scouting program and | 3 | draw people in. |
| 4 | that helped. | 4 |  |
| 5 |  | 5 | So I mean, when you're talking about going out to |
| 6 | Somebody else had mentioned, and one that I | 6 | the Cadets and going out to this place and that |
| 7 | wonder about, is the Cadet program. I know the | 7 | place, it's hard to get the time and the funding |
| 8 | Cadet programs do a lot of outdoor work. And | 8 | to actually go out and make up all your |
| 9 | these kind of programs attract like-minded people | 9 | documentation and everything like that there to |
| 10 | with those kind of interests. The Duke of | 10 | actually pass out to all these young ones. So I |
| 11 | Edinburgh program, I don't know if that's located | 11 | mean, you got to try to attract them into your |
| 12 | in Corner Brook. It is. | 12 | team first. |
| 13 |  | 13 |  |
| 14 | Do you see any value in particularly targeting | 14 | And we do that, like, a lot. Like, a little bit |
| 15 | those type programs to get? Because the concerns | 15 | of it through social media. And with Garry doing |
| 16 | are - which is understandable - young people are | 16 | first aid and everything like that there. |
| 17 | getting trained or gotten jobs, they sometimes | 17 |  |
| 18 | have to move out of province. Things of that | 18 | And we know we might only have them for like |
| 19 | nature. Do you see that there's any value in | 19 | three years, but we look at it, if we can |
| 20 | having core funding for recruitment directly? | 20 | volunteer hundreds of hours out to help the |
| 21 |  | 21 | community in events and everything. We're out |
| 22 | Because I know all the various SAR teams are | 22 | trying to help strangers out in the woods and |
| 23 | trying to do it, but it seems that you're being | 23 | everything and find them. If we can spend three |
| 24 | torn in so many ways with so many costs and | 24 | years helping these young people to probably get |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | a better career later on in life, after three | 1 | training of new members includes both physical -- |
| 2 | years, they might move to a different SAR team | 2 | what you need to be physically capable of doing, |
| 3 | or, like I said. | 3 | if you're going to be out conducting search, not |
| 4 |  | 4 | necessarily working at the command centre. |
| 5 | But I mean, we got to get that out there that, | 5 |  |
| 6 | okay. I don't want to join because I'm only | 6 | There's also a big component that we talk about. |
| 7 | going to be with them three years and they won't | 7 | And we do spend a lot of time with our new |
| 8 | like that. | 8 | members briefing on the mental aspects, both |
| 9 |  | 9 | mental preparedness for training. And also, |
| 10 | No. No. We can bring you in. If we can get you | 10 | there's different types of searches that we can |
| 11 | there for three years and we can train you to the | 11 | be on. We go through this early in the new |
| 12 | point that you're going to get a better career | 12 | recruit training. |
| 13 | out of this, I think that's a part of | 13 |  |
| 14 | volunteering, too, that we take very dearly with | 14 | In terms of being comfortable with these tasks |
| 15 | our team and our Executive, right? | 15 | that you are assigned, we make it very clear to |
| 16 |  | 16 | all our new members that at any time, if they do |
| 17 | That we're out there helping strangers. Why | 17 | not feel comfortable with doing something, all |
| 18 | can't we help our own that wants to join and that | 18 | they have to do is indicate, no, I'm not |
| 19 | there. So we got to get that out there more. | 19 | comfortable with this. |
| 20 | But I mean, it's a stepping stone that we got to | 20 |  |
| 21 | try to get there, right? | 21 | And it has happened during several recent |
| 22 |  | 22 | searches where members have said, nope, can't do |
| 23 | Because, like I said, the funding part of it, | 23 | this. We have members that are phenomenal in the |
| 24 | it's hard when we're trying to raise enough money | 24 | woods. Some that are like, a dead body? Not |
|  | Page 154 |  | Page 156 |
| 1 | so that we can actually do training, because we | 1 | going anywhere near it. I'll search all night, |
| 2 | got to put gas in our machines and everything | 2 | but if we find, not. And it's like, that's fine. |
| 3 | else like that to train people. So the funding | 3 | You come right back. No problem. |
| 4 | part is hard, yeah. | 4 |  |
| 5 | WILLIAMS, Q.C.: | 5 | Members that are sensitive with issues |
| 6 | Q. A follow-up question, not related to recruitment, | 6 | surrounding suicide and that sort of thing. And |
| 7 | but the inquiry has been sensitive to the trauma | 7 | they are told that you just need to let one of us |
| 8 | effects of search and rescue. Not only on some | 8 | know, and there is no issue. There's no stigma. |
| 9 | of the victims, the families, but as well as on | 9 | That's fine. You're not going to be asked to do |
| 10 | searchers, and for a lot of the circumstances | 10 | anything that makes you uncomfortable. |
| 11 | that you're faced with. And we're fortunate to | 11 |  |
| 12 | have with us during our hearing process, who's | 12 | We also have the training that involves critical |
| 13 | seated behind me is Ms. Louise Bradley, who's a | 13 | incident stress. We have access to critical |
| 14 | leader in her field in the Canadian mental health | 14 | incident stress debriefing through both our RNC |
| 15 | area. | 15 | and our RCMP partners, if it's needed. |
| 16 |  | 16 |  |
| 17 | And so one of the questions we have is with | 17 | During our training and after, following every |
| 18 | respect to training. Do you see benefits with | 18 | search, we have a debrief, following the |
| 19 | respect -- or have you had exposure to any form | 19 | guidelines of the timing for the incident to |
| 20 | of mental health training in terms of | 20 | indicate 24 to 48 hours, everybody who's involved |
| 21 | incorporating it into your efforts as members of | 21 | in that search is going to get together. We're |
| 22 | the SAR team? | 22 | going to chat. |
| 23 | MS. DOUCET: | 23 |  |
| 24 | A. Yeah. Part of the standards that involve the | 24 | If we recognize that any members may have had a |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | bit more difficulty with the conditions or what | 1 | can access these resources. |
| 2 | happened during the search, members of the | 2 |  |
| 3 | Executive or others will contact them. Check up | 3 | There's also a lot of drop-in services, in Corner |
| 4 | on them. Make sure that they're okay. Check | 4 | Brook here. They have walk-in clinics for |
| 5 | that everything's going... We'll do this on a | 5 | certain things. |
| 6 | regular basis. | 6 | RALPH, Q.C.: |
| 7 |  | 7 | Q. Okay. Perhaps, Mr. Blackmore can comment on the |
| 8 | Prior to COVID, we had also, as an executive, | 8 | resources that are available for. |
| 9 | discussed having a summer barbeque for our team | 9 | MR. BLACKMORE: |
| 10 | that would also include all of the family | 10 | A. Most of the resources available for critical |
| 11 | members. | 11 | incident stress for us are through the EAP |
| 12 |  | 12 | program with Department of Justice. That was set |
| 13 | And during that barbeque, we're going to initiate | 13 | up a few years ago. Not easy to access, but it |
| 14 | a program where we would have a chat with all of | 14 | is there. |
| 15 | the members on the signs and symptoms of critical | 15 |  |
| 16 | incident stress and what to do about it. | 16 | For teams that right now are under the RNC |
| 17 |  | 17 | jurisdiction, it is set up through the liaison of |
| 18 | Because, in our experience, several of our | 18 | each team. Not a problem. They have different |
| 19 | members, including myself, have had to access | 19 | people through the Salvation Army, etcetera, that |
| 20 | help for critical incident stress following a | 20 | they'll bring people in. |
| 21 | search. | 21 |  |
| 22 |  | 22 | Under RCMP policy, right now, they take care of |
| 23 | So basically, we wanted to make sure that the | 23 | their own members for critical incident stress, |
| 24 | families of our search team members were aware of | 24 | but they will do a debriefing after every search. |
|  | Page 158 |  | Page 160 |
| 1 | the signs and symptoms of critical incident | 1 | If I find that there's anybody who needs any |
| 2 | stress, because sometimes the person doesn't | 2 | extra briefing or any issues with them, we ask |
| 3 | notice it in themselves. | 3 | them to let their team know. The team will |
| 4 |  | 4 | contact me. And basically, what we do then is we |
| 5 | And so that way they could say, okay, these are | 5 | go out into the community, hire psychiatrists to |
| 6 | the signs and here's what you do, if you think | 6 | take it from there. |
| 7 | that maybe something that's happened on a recent | 7 |  |
| 8 | search has triggered something in your loved one. | 8 | We don't see any reports and any funds that are |
| 9 | WILLIAMS, Q.C.: | 9 | expended on it. They would send me the bills and |
| 10 | Q. Well, can you just explain to me, as you said | 10 | then I'll go after the appropriate police force |
| 11 | access. What resources are available to teams? | 11 | to get it paid, or straight to Department of |
| 12 | So what specific resources, if somebody needs to | 12 | Justice. And that's the way we try to do it the |
| 13 | avail of support systems, are there? What | 13 | best we can. |
| 14 | resources would you direct them to in the | 14 |  |
| 15 | community? | 15 | Everybody's trying to help it. And but the EAP |
| 16 | MS. DOUCET: | 16 | is, right now, the thing that we do have in place |
| 17 | A. There's the open counselling through the RNC and | 17 | for the Province. |
| 18 | the RCMP. They're critical incident stress teams | 18 |  |
| 19 | that they have access to. We have access too | 19 | Also, while I got the mic there, just for... |
| 20 | through the police partners. | 20 | (Technical difficulties.) |
| 21 |  | 21 |  |
| 22 | So basically, if we had someone who needed, they | 22 | Sorry about that. Just for everybody's |
| 23 | could contact a member of the Executive. And | 23 | information, I can bring up the time sheets for |
| 24 | then we would say, okay. Well, here's how you | 24 | everything here. And everybody here is talking |


|  | Page 161 |  | Page 163 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | about how much time people put in, how much time | 1 | our doorsteps going, what do you need? |
| 2 | they do. | 2 |  |
| 3 |  | 3 | So, yeah, for an area, this size and everything, |
| 4 | Just for your own information, this team, I got | 4 | factoring in the fact that people do have to work |
| 5 | theirs. So far this year, they've got 17,000 | 5 | and a lot of people can't leave their jobs. Some |
| 6 | hours in. And right now, for the whole | 6 | mployers are great about it. They can be. They |
| 7 | association, since January the 1st, until | 7 | let their people leave whenever. |
| 8 | yesterday afternoon, there's 155,574 volunteer | 8 |  |
| 9 | hours put into this program. | 9 | Some, it's absolutely not allowed to leave for a |
| 10 |  | 10 | search and rescue call. And others, it's kind of |
| 11 | And this is broken down by team, by event, by | 11 | on a scale, right. |
| 12 | month, whatever you want. There's a full pie | 12 |  |
| 13 | chart here. Tells who's doing what. | 13 | The last job that I had as a server, I had a lot |
| 14 | (Technical difficulties.) | 14 | of flexibility. Was able to leave. Sometimes I |
| 15 | RALPH, Q.C. | 15 | couldn't. But if it was a case like Cody Peddle, |
| 16 | Q. I'm not sure who can answer this question, but in | 16 | they would say, okay. Go for it. It's a young |
| 17 | terms of the number of members that -- | 17 | kid or whatever, you can go. |
| 18 | RALPH, Q.C.: | 18 |  |
| 19 | Q. All right. In terms of recruitment, I guess, | 19 | So, yeah, I hope that answers your question about |
| 20 | you have a sense of how many members is the, sort | 20 | the number of people on our team and what that |
| 21 | of, ideal number? And I guess, if you do, how do | 21 | actually means to what you will see at a callout. |
| 22 | you figure that out? | 22 | Yeah. |
| 23 | MR. DALRYMPLE: | 23 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 24 | A. Garry speaking here. Our team has been hovering | 24 | Q. I'm not sure -- oh, sorry. Mr. Street. Go |
|  | Page 162 |  | Page 164 |
| 1 | in the realm of 50 members, just over or just | 1 | ahead. |
| 2 | under, for the last three to four years. And I | 2 | R. STREET: |
| 3 | think we have found that to be a very comfortable | 3 | A. No. I just wanted to add on to Garry like that |
| 4 | number that is still manageable. | 4 | there. Because, I mean, like years ago -- like I |
| 5 |  | 5 | said, I've been with this team for a long time. |
| 6 | Within that 50, you do get varying degrees. As | 6 | And, like, we've started off years ago with eight |
| 7 | Christine mentioned earlier, there's the | 7 | members. |
| 8 | Executive members who are 4- and 500 hours a | 8 |  |
| 9 | year. You do get some who are a lot lower in | 9 | So I showed up to run a big search of a missing |
| 10 | their total number of hours, due to a variety of | 10 | person, everything, with three members. And then |
| 11 | reasons. Family, work, etcetera, etcetera. | 11 | you got to try to gather the people that are from |
| 12 |  | 12 | the local community to help you out. And that |
| 13 | But in my personal opinion, that number of 50 | 13 | just don't work with three members. |
| 14 | should be a good kind of benchmark for an area | 14 |  |
| 15 | our size. Because if a search comes in at 10:00 | 15 | But now, like I said, 50 members, for us, seems |
| 16 | in the morning on a Tuesday, when the vast | 16 | to be working well because you get a call on a |
| 17 | majority of your team is at work and may not be | 17 | weekday and you end up with 15, which is great. |
| 18 | able to get away from that, calling on 50 people | 18 | And, like I said, on the weekends, you end up -- |
| 19 | means that you can still get 15 to get things | 19 | and a lot of our calls are in the evening times |
| 20 | started. | 20 | and nighttime, when hunters don't show up or |
| 21 |  | 21 | berry pickers don't show up. |
| 22 | And I mean, there's other times when it's on a | 22 |  |
| 23 | Friday evening and everybody's off. We call and | 23 | So to have that more people to be able to go out |
| 24 | within minutes have 38 or 40 people standing on | 24 | in the woods and spread your resources out, helps |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | find the person a lot quicker. So 50 is working | 1 | So they'll get multiple contacts. It comes by |
| 2 | good for us. | 2 | text. It comes by cell phone. It comes by |
| 3 | MR. BUDDEN: | 3 | e-mail. And so any time we have where the team |
| 4 | Ms. Bedford, you'd stepped out for a moment. But | 4 | is going to be either put on standby, because |
| 5 | if you have any questions, you go ahead. | 5 | sometimes we get a call from our liaison officers |
| 6 | MS. BEDFORD: | 6 | that indicate, we're just doing a bit of |
| 7 | I don't have any questions. | 7 | investigation right now, we may need you. So we |
| 8 | MR. BUDDEN: | 8 | will put out a call on that system to our members |
| 9 | For the record, Ms. Bedford says she has no | 9 | saying "standby." We may get a call. Get your |
| 10 | questions. Do you, Mr. Commissioner, have any | 10 | gear ready. |
| 11 | questions on this topic? | 11 |  |
| 12 | COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE: | 12 | When the calls goes out, we send out, and we say |
| 13 | Q. Yes. Thank you. Thanks, Paul. Okay. Yeah. | 13 | either meet at our headquarters or meet on the |
| 14 | Well, I want to echo Mr. Williams' words of | 14 | scene. And it does have a function where it |
| 15 | gratitude to you. As a Commission, we owe you a | 15 | says, Press 1 if you can attend. Press 2 if you |
| 16 | personal debt of gratitude. But the Province, | 16 | cannot attend. Press 3 if you can attend only as |
| 17 | also, I think, should, in our recommendations, | 17 | a last resort. |
| 18 | hear the work that you put out. The effort that | 18 |  |
| 19 | you make. All in the spirit of volunteerism. | 19 | So, and if they press 1, it does go on to say, |
| 20 |  | 20 | thank you. You can respond. How many minutes |
| 21 | So I just need to know a little detail of how you | 21 | before we can expect to see you? And the person |
| 22 | contact your members? What do you do? What kind | 22 | can indicate how many. |
| 23 | of callout do you do? Do you use iPhones? Do | 23 |  |
| 24 | you use computer? How is that done? | 24 | So when we arrive at our headquarters base, we |
|  | Page 166 |  | Page 168 |
| 1 | MS. DOUCET: | 1 | can pull up the Volunteer Rescue software, and we |
| 2 | A. We have a system, it's called Volunteer Rescue. | 2 | can see who has indicated that they'll be here, |
| 3 | It was developed in British Columbia. We use it | 3 | how long it's going to take them to get there, |
| 4 | for our callout protocols. So basically, it's an | 4 | and who's not available, and who maybe we need to |
| 5 | automated system. | 5 | get, in case we need more people, so. |
| 6 |  | 6 | COMMISSIONER IGLOLIORTE: |
| 7 | Once a new team member has completed their | 7 | Q. Appreciate that. And thank you very much. And |
| 8 | initial paperwork and the simple online training, | 8 | just another random question to all of you. |
| 9 | which is an overview of search and rescue, and | 9 |  |
| 10 | some of their responsibilities and requirements | 10 | Is there any time of the year where you appear to |
| 11 | for being a team member, once that's completed, | 11 | get more calls than any other time of the year? |
| 12 | and their paperwork is all in, their names are | 12 | Is there a pattern that you've seen? |
| 13 | added to both our Emwerx system for the | 13 | MR. STREET: |
| 14 | provincial database and, also, to our Volunteer | 14 | A. Really, no, actually. I mean, you think when the |
| 15 | Rescue app. And we have a group Facebook page | 15 | moose hunter gets on the go and the berry pickers |
| 16 | that is a private group just for our members. | 16 | and everything, you get more. You get a few. |
| 17 |  | 17 | But I mean, wintertime over here, where we got so |
| 18 | So when there's a contact from the police agency | 18 | much tourism and all the ski-dooers are just as |
| 19 | that we have a search, if they're saying, yes, we | 19 | good in the wintertime as any other time. |
| 20 | need you now, a message is typed into the | 20 |  |
| 21 | Volunteer Rescue, or dictated into the Volunteer | 21 | Like, you might go four months and not get a |
| 22 | Rescue, and it contacts all of our members | 22 | call. And all of a sudden, one weekend, you get |
| 23 | simultaneously on whatever numbers, e-mails they | 23 | three. So there's really not -- our team anyway |
| 24 | have listed in their thing. | 24 | finds that we could be just as active in the |



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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | And also, as I said earlier, we're not expecting | 1 | But the problem is, is that they called. The |
| 2 | the other parties to respond to this. But at | 2 | helicopter was sent in. Eastern Health, I think, |
| 3 | paragraphs 1 and 2, you've set out some concerns | 3 | sent a helicopter in from St. Johns to try to do |
| 4 | -- we'll get back to paragraph 3. One and 2, | 4 | an airlift onto him. And the helicopter left |
| 5 | you've set out some concerns you have with, I | 5 | because he couldn't get airlift on him because he |
| 6 | guess, how dispatching to emergencies takes | 6 | wasn't in the right location. And they couldn't |
| 7 | place. And you folks not being engaged in a | 7 | move him. |
| 8 | timely fashion in some circumstances. | 8 |  |
| 9 |  | 9 | And this is incidents that we're finding |
| 10 | In the interest of time, perhaps we can keep this | 10 | ourselves in. That if we were called upfront -- |
| 11 | quite brief. Let's put it this way. Have you | 11 | we do not mind the volunteer fire department |
| 12 | anything to add to what you say there in | 12 | getting the call either. But I mean, if there's |
| 13 | paragraph 1 or 2? Or does that pretty much say | 13 | that little extra step in the 911 system where it |
| 14 | it all? | 14 | said, okay, whoever's on the 911 phone calls |
| 15 | MR. STREET: | 15 | says, like, how far is from the main road system, |
| 16 | A. Well, yeah. It pretty much says it all. Like, | 16 | right? |
| 17 | from what we wanted to put out as the Executive, | 17 |  |
| 18 | right, because we came up with this here. But | 18 | And if he's over a certain distance, well, okay, |
| 19 | we're finding, one major issue we have now is, | 19 | the police should be notified because actually |
| 20 | like, through the 911 system, what we're finding, | 20 | he's injured. But how did he get injured? So |
| 21 | right. | 21 | the police should be notified in that situation |
| 22 |  | 22 | anyway. And then it's up to them whether they |
| 23 | Because in the Bay of Islands here, we have a lot | 23 | dispatch us or not. |
| 24 | of small volunteer fire departments in this area. | 24 |  |
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| 1 | And, like, we work well with them. They're great | 1 | But it's that little bit of that extra step there |
| 2 | guys. I mean, I'm not downing any one of them. | 2 | that we're finding that's keeping us out of these |
| 3 | Not in the least. | 3 | situations where, eventually, something serious, |
| 4 |  | 4 | more serious is going to happen because that |
| 5 | But, like, there's incidents where 911 gets a | 5 | gentleman was in there for eight hours with a |
| 6 | call because someone's injured out in the woods. | 6 | broken ankle with no first aid and everything |
| 7 | And the police department are not notified, and | 7 | like that there, just because the volunteer team |
| 8 | just the volunteer fire department in that area | 8 | that was tasked to him. |
| 9 | gets notified. And they haven't gotten the gear, | 9 |  |
| 10 | the training, or the equipment. | 10 | And as soon as eight hours later, and the |
| 11 |  | 11 | helicopter couldn't do it, and they flew back to |
| 12 | There's one there, like I said, the gentleman | 12 | St. Johns, they called the police into it. |
| 13 | was, like, kilometres back in the woods and he | 13 | Fifteen minutes after the RCMP got the call, we |
| 14 | had a broken ankle. And eight hours later, when | 14 | got a call. |
| 15 | it was finally dark, we were called into the | 15 | UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: |
| 16 | situation because the situation wasn't handled. | 16 | A. Yeah, they called me. They called me directly. |
| 17 | The gentleman that was in there, there was no | 17 | MR. STREET: |
| 18 | first aid and everything onto him like that. | 18 | A. Oh, yeah. Well, they called you. But as soon as |
| 19 |  | 19 | they notified the police department, 15 minutes |
| 20 | And so we shows up at dark. Finds out that he'd | 20 | later, I got a call from the RCMP, and then we |
| 21 | been in there for eight hours now. Then we got | 21 | dispatched. |
| 22 | to go in and handle the situation, where we could | 22 | MR. BUDDEN: |
| 23 | have had him out by then, having supper. | 23 | Q. And I understand, as well, from you and others, |
| 24 |  | 24 | that there are talks underway, even perhaps since |

1 this letter, with a view to perhaps clarifying this situation? And is that correct? You don't need to get into talks, but just confirm that some efforts are being made at present to try to resolve this?
MR. STREET:
A. Yes, there is. Yes, there is. There is talks.

MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Okay. So perhaps we can park this for now with a view to returning to it at the policy table. Are you content with that?
MR. STREET:
A. Oh, yes. I just wanted to voice our concerns onto it because this is one of the major issues we're running into. And, like, this is only a couple of them. There have been more incidents besides this here that we ran into in the same part of it, right?

Like we're all just wanting to get the people out of the woods as quick as we can and safe as we can. But, like, when it comes to, like, a team, we could be out there in the daylight. The members could have been out there. Eight hours

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that gentleman was out there.

Now, we're out in the nighttime, when it's pouring down rain. The weather conditions are not trying to get a person eight -- well, no, five kilometres, I think it was, Garry, he was in the woods out, right? Trying to get him out by morning, when we -- (technical difficulties). We actually had medical to him in within, like, a couple of hours, right?
MR. BUDDEN:
Q. Thank you. And the other paragraph 3 is one we've heard from other teams, as well. It's to do with fundraising. Do you wish to speak to that?
MR. STREET:
A. Well, that's been an ongoing issue, like, for years upon years, ever since I was with the team. Like, first when I started with the team, we had to fundraise to put oil into our oil tanks so that we could keep our equipment from freezing in our old building that we had, right?

We were fortunate enough, after a while, to get a

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bigger building that was, actually, the City of Corner Brook is helping us out with. It comes with heat and lights.

But I mean, upkeep of equipment that you got to store out by the door. Stuff seizes up. Stuff rusts and everything like that there, that you got to keep up.

So I mean, we spend a lot of our time and effort into fundraising just to maintain equipment to go and help lost and injured people out in the woods.

And when you get out there, if something is broke or seized up and everything like that, it don't work. Then you got to go look for other resources.

But fundraising do take up a lot of our time to try to get better equipment, bigger equipment, upgraded equipment. And just keep equipment running, right? So I just wanted to add that.

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## MR. BUDDEN:

Thank you. Thank you. We're getting that message from other teams, and it'll certainly be, I would imagine, revisited at the policy table.

Does anybody else have any questions for this team about anything?

Okay. Thank you. Well, firstly, I'd like to just say publicly that you guys have - as have all the other teams we've dealt with - been very cooperative in helping us prepare for today.

And Mr. Street and Ms. Doucet and I were in touch. You guys were helpful in helping me track down the family of Cody Peddle, who've left Newfoundland. And Mr. Street, he and I have been in touch on several occasions. And, of course, a number of us met the other night.

So thank you for the cooperation you've shown the Commission, and thank you for coming in today and educating us on these important issues.


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1 notes are taken. And like I said, our filing
2 system has improved greatly in the last ten
3 years. I can certainly have a look and see if I
4 can find them.
5 RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. That'd be great.

MS. DOUCET:
A. And I can let Mr. Budden know.

RALPH, Q.C.:
Q. Thank you.

MR. BUDDEN:
Q. And you can let me know on that. Not any objection to letting Mr. Ralph know, but since we already have a line of communication. And I'll let him know.
THE CLERK:
All rise. This Commission of Inquiry is concluded for the day.
(Inquiry is adjourned)

By
Beverly Guest Digitally signed by Beverly
Beverly Guest, Court Reporter

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