



Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council

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Officer Jeremy Son Who Shot & Killed Chantel Moore Not Charged: Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council Outraged

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Port Alberni, BC- It's been over a year since the shocking and heartbreaking murder of one of our precious Nuuchahnulth women, Chantel Moore from Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation. Chantel Moore, a young beautiful mother was shot 4 times in her own home on what was said to be a "wellness check" by an active duty Edmundston police officer Jeremy Son, in Edmundston New Brunswick.

We are outraged at today's news that the officer who shot and killed Chantel Moore, Jeremy Son, will not be charged. This reality is reflective of Canada's persisting colonization and genocidal practices. No one deserves to be gunned down on a wellness check. We demand Canada to do more to end the violence and killing of our people, particularly our women and girls, who are grossly overrepresented as victims of violence. Canada states time and time again that reconciliation with First Nations and Indigenous peoples is a top priority and mandate yet when one of our own is gunned down and killed on a "wellness check", there is no accountability and Justice. We cannot sit and allow this reality to persist. This is not Justice. We demand more.

It's been a long year of protests, rallies, and ceremonies calling RCMP and Canada to act to end the violence and killing of our precious loved ones. NTC has called on the RCMP to change their excessive force guidelines to end the senseless shootings, questioned the roles of police/RCMP in wellness checks, called for localized cultural safety training of all police/RCMP, called Police/RCMP to use trauma informed teams, advocated for more accountability through body cams, as well as advocated for Indigenous oversight anytime an Indigenous person is harmed or killed by Police/RCMP in Canada. These are some of the things we continue to advocate for in changing this grim reality we face as First Nations peoples.

Nuuchahnulth-aht and people all across Canada and the world have expressed support to seek Justice for Chantel Moore. The public's outrage towards the excessive violence and murder that took place over a year ago reflects the need for police reform and protection of our loved ones. We demand policy that reflects meaningful change, accountability, and respect for all human beings, not more killings.

President Judith Sayers states “The biggest problem with this case is that it is only the police officer’s statement that the Crown depends on for a large part of the evidence. There was no body cam, there was no witnesses so this police officer will say what he has to in order to save himself. I have never understood how an armed, large police officer was scared of a 5 foot, 100 pound woman with a small knife in her hand if she had one. Shooting 4 times is excessive force by anyone’s standards except the Crown counsel.”

Vice-president Mariah Charleson adds “Chantel Moore was murdered by Edmundston police 1 year and a day after the MMIWG Final Report was publicly issued, a report that explicitly called out Canada for their treatment of Indigenous women and girls as genocide. This report collected dust for 2 years before finally seeing an incomplete action plan, this isn’t good enough.” Charleson goes on to say “When an officer guns down one of our members on a “wellness check” and the result is death with no repercussions’, accountability, nor change to policy, it allows genocide to persist and we cannot stand for it any longer.”

The police officer in Rodney Levi’s case was not charged either. There are many examples, too many in fact, of police shooting, killing, and harming our people with no charges being laid. Since Chantel’s death, we have seen 2 other Nuu-chah-nulth members shot by RCMP, 1 fatal and 1 very severely injured and still recovering in hospital. This is an unacceptable pattern and Indigenous people’s lives must be valued and protected.

We will not stop in getting Justice for Chantel Moore. Her mother is considering a civil law suit, there are the Police Act complaints and the coroners inquest to continue to seek justice for Chanel. We will continue to press for changes to address the systemic racism that is so embedded in policing.

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About Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council

The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council (NTC) provides programs and services to over 10,000 registered members. The role of the NTC is to represent 14 First Nations in three regions stretching 300 kilometers of the Pacific Coast of Vancouver Island from Brooks Peninsula in the north to Point-no-Point in the south. The NTC represents Ahousaht, Ditidaht, Ehattesaht/Chinehkint, Hesquiaht, Hupacasath, Huu-ay- aht, Kyuquot/Checklesah, Mowachaht /Muchalaht, Nuchatlaht, Tla-o-qui-aht, Toquaht, Tseshaht, Uchucklesaht and Ucluelet First Nations and provides a variety of programs and services to them.

For more information, please visit www.nuuchahnulth.org.