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First Nations student deaths inquest: Boarding home parent testifies

17 hours ago

WORLD



Jethro Anderson, 15, was last seen in October, 28, 2000, on the boardwalk of the Kaministiquia River Heritage Park. His body was found in the water nearly two weeks later. (CBC)

A boarding home parent is testifying for the first time Wednesday at the inquest into seven First Nations student deaths in Thunder Bay.

The court proceedings Wednesday have focused on 15-year-old Jethro Anderson. The teen was staying with his aunt, Dora Morris, when he disappeared in 2000. Anderson's body was later found in the Kaministiquia River.

The inquest, which began in October, is looking into the deaths of seven young people who died after coming to the city for school from remote First Nations communities.

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- · First Nations student recalls 'very scary' experience in Thunder Bay

His mother testified Tuesday that she helped chose where her teenage son would stay in the city.

Evidence about Anderson's death is scheduled for the rest of this week at the inquest.

Here is a look at the some of the proceedings from the CBC reporter in the courtroom. Tweets are in chronological order beginning at the bottom of the page.



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Presiding coroner asks whether searchers were wearing life jackets. 'They didn't give us any equipment' Anderson says #cbctb 6:22 PM - 4 Nov 2015

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Anderson says he held Jethro's body for about half an hour before fire fighters came with a stretcher in their own boat #cbctb

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'I couldn't sleep for 2 days,' after finding Jethro, Anderson says. He pulled him out of the water, face down #cbctb

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'I felt something and we kind of panicked,' Anderson says. 'No other boats were around to help' #cbctb

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Anderson says searchers borrowed boats, found Jethro's body after about 1.5 hours on the water #cbctb

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Anderson says it was his idea to search the river 'where the seagulls were landing' #cbctb

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Morely Anderson, from Kasabonika Lake First Nation now on the stand. He helped find Jethro's body #cbctb

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Presiding coroner asks ii there was anything from [Jethro] that he was planning to kill himself Morris: no, never. #cbctb 6:00 PM - 4 Nov 2015

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Presiding coroner asks if there was 'anything from [Jethro] that he was planning to kill himself' Morris: no, never. #cbctb 6:00 PM - 4 Nov 2015

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Morris says 'he was walking home & someone hit him'. Coroner interrupts. Morris: 'l just want to tell them how police were' #cbctb

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Morris says when she picked her boy up police said he was intoxicated. When she took him home his head was caked with blood. #cbctb

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Morris says she called police to see if her son was in lock-up. They said no. Then next morning he called from police station #cbctb

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Morris: 'I had an incident w/my own son. He was hit on the back of the head with a beer bottle.' He was 17. He didn't come home. #cbctb

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'I don't know if they told them anything,' Morris says #cbctb 5:51 PM - 4 Nov 2015



5:46 PM - 4 Nov 2015













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Aboriginal Affairs lawyer suggests asking Morris if she was aware of other options she had to pursue her concerns about police. #cbctb

4:16 PM - 4 Nov 2015

3

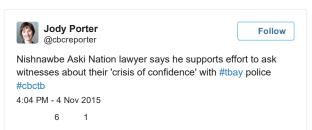


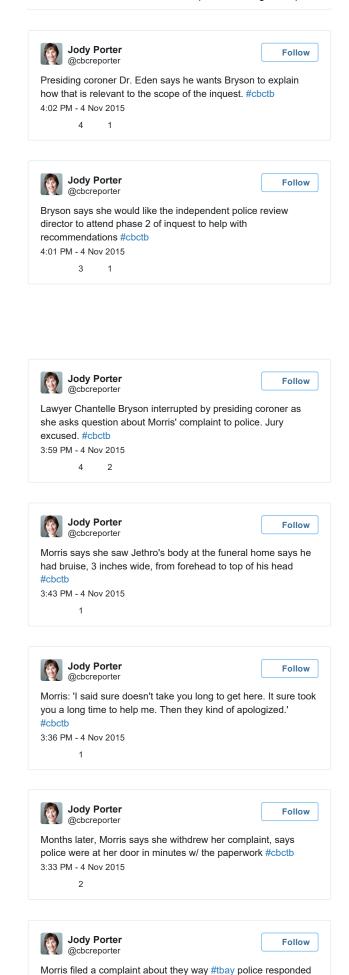
'This jury already has a very formidable task ahead of it,' Gover says. 'We have to engage in a cost-benefit analysis' #cbctb 4:12 PM - 4 Nov 2015











to her calls about Jethro. #cbctb









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Morris says when she first called police about her concerns about Jethro, police said it was too early for missing persons report #cbctb

3:16 PM - 4 Nov 2015

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Morris says the curfew set out by Northern Nishnawbe Education Council of 10 pm weeknights, 12 wknds, was 'too late' she set her own #cbctb

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Morris says she was called to school Nov. 11, told her own kids not to get hopes up 'I already knew what the news was going to be' #cbctb

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'I just had a feeling he's in the river,' Morris says. 'I went there every day, twice a day until he was found' #cbctb

2:45 PM - 4 Nov 2015

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'I was really close to my nephew, we all were. He was like a son to me. He called me mom too,' Morris says through tears #cbctb 2:42 PM - 4 Nov 2015

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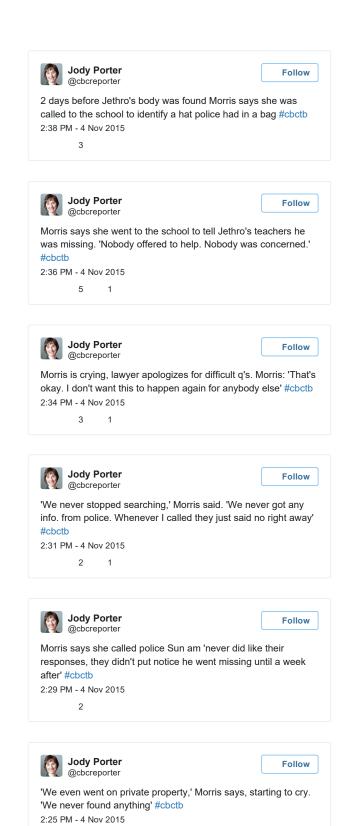


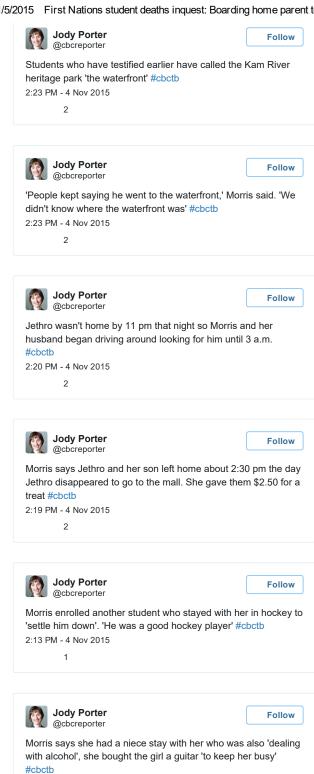
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'No one was believing me he was gone. I wanted police to drag the river because I believed he was in the river,' Morris says, crying #cbctb

2:41 PM - 4 Nov 2015



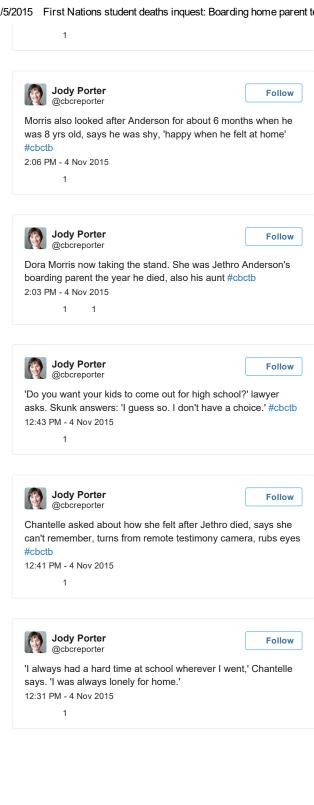




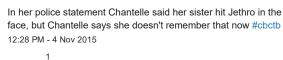
her for school in #tbay because he was 'dealing with alcohol' #cbctb

2:10 PM - 4 Nov 2015

2:11 PM - 4 Nov 2015 1







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Chantelle says she wasn't given time to go through her statements to police before testifying today #cbctb 12:25 PM - 4 Nov 2015

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The next day 'people kept coming to us and asking about him, so we started looking around too,'@#cbctb

12:23 PM - 4 Nov 2015

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'I kind of blacked out,' Chantelle says of the end of the night when Jethro Anderson was last seen alive in #tbay #cbctb 12:21 PM - 4 Nov 2015

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Chantelle says celebration of her 16th birthday that night included peer pressure to finish a 2-litre bottle of wine cooler #cbctb

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'It was just like a 1-night thing I ended up with him that night. We weren't really boyfriend and girlfriend,' Chantelle says #cbctb 12:05 PM - 4 Nov 2015

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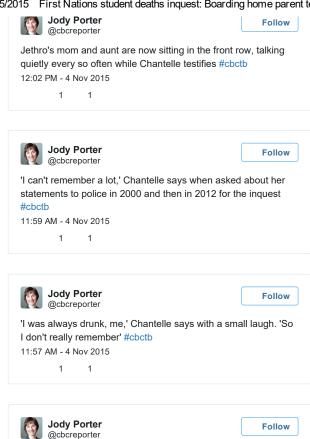


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'I'm trying to remember, trying my best to help you,' Chantelle says #cbctb

12:03 PM - 4 Nov 2015



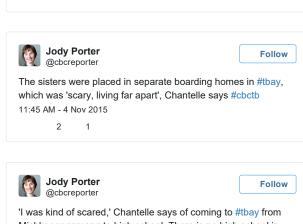




Chantelle says she only talked to Jethro Anderson twice before

the Saturday night he disappeared #cbctb

11:47 AM - 4 Nov 2015



'I was kind of scared,' Chantelle says of coming to #tbay from Mishkeegogamang to high school. There is no high school in Mish. #cbctb

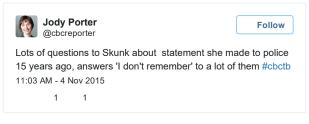
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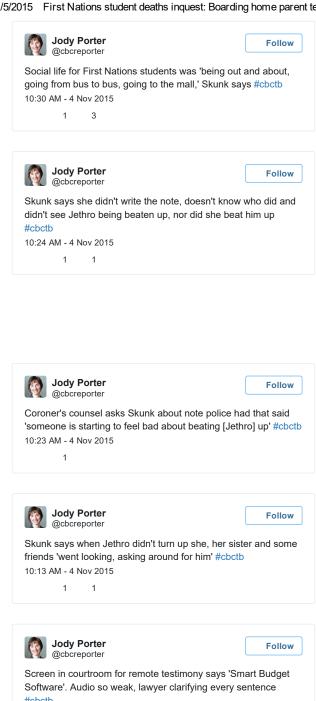


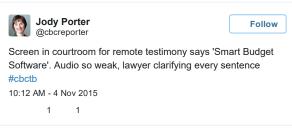




Skunk is now a parent of 4 kids. oldest is 10. 'If they let it be my

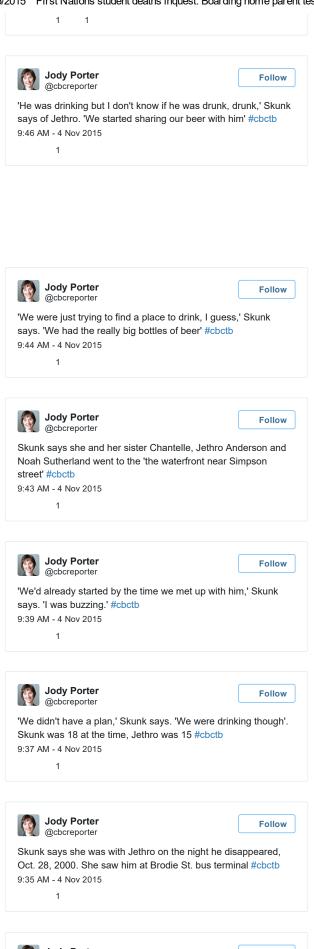






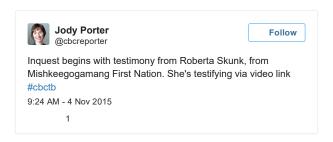




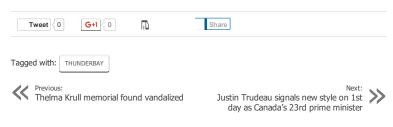




during the time Jethro Anderson also attended #cbctb 9:32 AM - 4 Nov 2015 1



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