



BACKGROUND RELATING TO THE DEATHS OF COREY BELESKY, JENNA OSTBERG, AND MACKENZIE MOONIAS, AND STACEY DEBUNGEE

Corey Belesky

Name: Corey Belesky

Date of Death: November 1, 2022

Age: 31 years old

Community: Marten Falls First Nation

Family Representative: Donna Delesky (sister of Corey Belesky)

Background:

November 1, 2022:

- Thunder Bay Police Service dispatched to a residential address just after 1:10 a.m. on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, following reports of an injured male.
- An adult male inside the home is pronounced deceased at the scene.
- The deceased is identified as Corey Belesky, who was 31 years old at the time of his death.

November 4, 2022:

- Thunder Bay Police Service confirm that the sudden death investigation is being treated as a homicide.

November 28, 2022:

- Thunder Bay Police Service release still images taken from surveillance video and request the public's assistance as it continues to investigate the circumstances surrounding the homicide of Corey Belesky.

April 2024:

- Death investigation by Thunder Bay Police Service has not been concluded and no charges have been laid.



Jenna Ostberg

Name: Jenna Ostberg

Date of Death: December 30, 2023

Age: 21 years old

Community: Bearskin Lake First Nation

Family Representative: Vincent Ostberg

Background:**December 30, 2023:**

- At approximately 2:00 a.m. on December 30, 2023, Thunder Bay Police Service receives a 911 call about a domestic disturbance at a residence on Ray Boulevard.
- Thunder Bay Police Service receives a second 911 call to “cancel” the call for service.
- Thunder Bay Police Service does not respond to either of these calls.
- A third 911 call is made from the residence to indicate that a woman was found deceased in the home.
- Thunder Bay Police Service responds and locates the woman deceased.
- The deceased is identified as Jenna Ostberg, who was 21 years old at the time of her death.

January 3, 2024:

- Special Investigations Unit publish a news release announcing that the SIU is investigating the death of Jenna Ostberg.
- The news release states that two investigators and one forensic investigator have been assigned to the case, and that one subject official has been designated.

January 11, 2024:

- Special Investigations Unit publish an updated news release clarifying that the 911 call initially received by the Thunder Bay Police Service was not in relation to violence in the home involving the woman.
- The press release stated that the caller had contracted police to report that the woman was an unwanted visitor at her home as there were court conditions that she and her son, also present in the home, were not supposed to be around each other. The same caller subsequently contacted police to cancel the call for service, reporting that the woman had left the residence.



Mackenzie Moonias

Name: Mackenzie Moonias

Date of Death: December 18, 2023

Age: 14 years old

Community: Neskantaga First Nation

Family Representative:

Background:

December 13, 2023:

- Mackenzie Moonias is last seen on December 13, 2023, at approximately 9 a.m. in the 100 block of University Drive.

December 18, 2023:

- Mackenzie Moonias' body is discovered in the morning on December 18, 2023, near the Sleeping Giant Parkway.

Mackenzie was in Thunder Bay to complete her high school education and attended the Matawa Education and Care Centre.

Following the death- Indigenous leadership, including NAN Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler raised concerns regarding gaps in the thunder bay police service reporting process of missing Indigenous youth. Gaps that had been identified by the Seven Youth Inquest but appear not to have been addressed.

No one has been charged in relation to Mackenzie's death.



Stacey DeBungee**Name:** Stacey DeBungee**Date of Death:** October 19, 2015**Age:** 41 years old**Community:** Rainy River First Nation**Family Representative:** Brad DeBungee**Background:**October 19, 2015:

- Thunder Bay Police Service received a 911 call from a member of the public reporting a deceased Indigenous male in the McIntyre River in Thunder Bay.
- Approximately three hours after the discovery of Stacey DeBungee's body, the Thunder Bay Police Service issued a press release that stated that an initial investigation does not indicate a suspicious death. This press release was issued prior to an autopsy being performed.
- The deceased person is later identified to be Stacey DeBungee.

October 20, 2015:

- Thunder Bay Police Service issue a second press release relating to the death of Stacey DeBungee which stated that the death had been deemed "non-criminal". This press release was also issued prior to the completion of the autopsy.

November 2015:

- Due to the lack of confidence in the Thunder Bay Police Service investigation, the family of Stacey DeBungee hires a private investigator to investigate his death.

March 16, 2016:

- Brad DeBungee, the brother of Stacey DeBungee, and Jim Leonard, former Chief of Rainy River First Nation, filed two complaints with the then OIPRD relating to the Thunder Bay Police Service's investigation into the death of Stacey DeBungee.

December 2018:

- The Office of the Independent Police Review Director release its systemic review of the Thunder Bay Police Service, titled "Broken Trust: Indigenous People and the Thunder Bay Police Service".
- The review found: "The failure to conduct adequate investigations and the premature conclusions drawn in these cases is, at least in part, attributable to racist attitudes and racial stereotyping. Racial stereotyping involves transforming individual experiences into generalized assumptions about an identifiable group defined by race. We observed this process of generalization based on race in a number of the investigations we



reviewed. Officers repeatedly relied on generalized notions about how Indigenous people came to their deaths and acted, or refrained from acting, based on those biases.”

- The review recommended the reinvestigation of Stacey DeBungee’s death in addition to 8 other Indigenous death investigations conducted by the Thunder Bay Police Service.

May-June, 2022:

- A hearing pursuant to the *Police Services Act* is held in May and June of 2022.
- The lead investigator in the investigation of Stacey DeBungee’s death, Staff Sergeant Shawn Harrison, is found guilty of neglect of duty and discreditable conduct.

April 2024:

- The re-investigation into the death of Stacey DeBungee by the Ontario Provincial Police has not been concluded and no charges have been laid.

