



**FOR PUBLIC RELEASE: Coroner Judgement of Inquiry and Inquest
Inquisition and Recommendations**

Department of Justice, Legal Services
Yukon Coroners Service
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Yukon Coroners Service: Judgement of Inquiry into the death of: <u>Lis DENSMORE</u>			
Coroner Investigative File No.: <u>45202017063</u>			
Name: <u>Lis DENSMORE</u>	Date of Birth: <u>1948/11/13</u>	Date of Death: <u>2018/01/06</u>	
	<small>YYYY/MM/DD</small>	<small>YYYY/MM/DD</small>	
Address: <u>Whitehorse, Yukon</u>			
<small>Street Address</small>	<small>Province/Territory</small>	<small>Postal Code</small>	
Ethnic Origin: <u>Caucasian</u>	Location of Death: <u>Cowley Lake Road</u>		

<p><u>Cause of Death</u></p> <p>Hypothermia - as a result of Motor Vehicle Incident</p>
<p><u>Manner of Death</u></p> <p>Accidental</p>
<p><u>Autopsy Findings</u></p> <p>Small bruises and skin tears on the hands, as well as scattered additional minor blunt injuries. No significant injuries were identified that would have contributed to death. Internally there were demonstrated fractures of the seventh and eighth rib on the right side and the second rib on the left.</p> <p>There were changes within the lining of the stomach that can be seen in association with individuals succumbing secondary to hypothermia.</p>
<p><u>Toxicological Findings</u></p> <p>Blood alcohol content (BAC) levels were detected to be 0.27%..</p>

Circumstances of Death

Ms. DENSMORE had attended a social event on the evening of January 5, 2018 leaving early (ca. 2000hrs) due to illness. When Ms. DENSMORE could not be reached by phone on the morning of January 6, a friend drove to her home to do a welfare check. At the point where the Cowley Lake Road turns sharply to the left to access the DENSMORE residence, tracks were seen from a vehicle which had not navigated the turn, driving over a steep bluff. A neighbour was able to climb down the embankment and found the vehicle belonging to Lis DENSMORE and her body lying about 25 meters away in a prone position.

Tracks in the fresh snow indicated that Ms. DENSMORE had exited her vehicle on foot and was attempting to find her way to a path which would have led to her residence.

The weather at the time of the incident had temperatures ranging from -5.3C to -12.4C, with moderate to heavy snowfall and wind from the southeast between 21-35km/hour. The incident also occurred during the darkness of night and early morning.

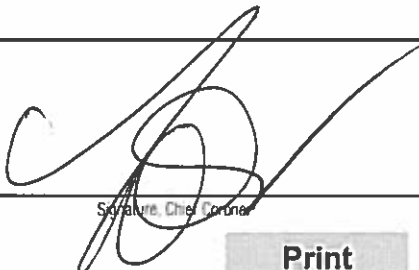
Significant Factors/Conclusions

Weather conditions and alcohol intoxication were significant factors in the death of Lis DENSMORE.

I therefore find that Lis DENSMORE came to her death on or about January 6, 2018 from Unnatural causes, to wit: Hypothermia as a result of a Motor Vehicle Incident.

Recommendations

No recommendations



Signature, Chief Coroner

Whitehorse, Yukon

Province/Territory

November 1, 2018

Date

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