News Release



Coroner's Inquest to commence June 12

June 7, 2023 – A Coroner's Inquest into the death of Kaiya Sandra Faith STONE-KIRK will begin on June 12, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. at the Yukon Inn (4220-4th Avenue, Whitehorse, Yukon) and is scheduled to go through June 16, 2023.

The death of STONE-KIRK, who was 7 months old, was reported to Yukon Coroner's Service by the Watson Lake Community Hospital on August 1, 2021.

Under Section 40(1) of the Coroner's Act, the Chief Coroner may direct that an inquest be held when the public has an interest in being informed of the circumstances surrounding a death.

A coroner's inquest is a public inquiry that serves three primary functions:

- 1) to determine the facts related to a death, including the identity of the deceased and how, when, where and by what means the individual came to their death, as well as a classification for the death;
- 2) to make recommendations, where appropriate and supported by evidence, to prevent deaths in similar circumstances; and
- 3) to ensure public confidence that the circumstances surrounding the death of an individual will not be overlooked, concealed or ignored.

Presiding Coroner Mara POLLOCK and a jury will hear evidence from witnesses under oath to determine the facts surrounding this death. The jury will have the opportunity to make recommendations aimed at preventing deaths under similar circumstances. A jury must not make any finding of legal responsibility or express any conclusion of law.

For more information about inquests, visit: <u>https://yukoncoronerservice.ca/inquests</u>

Livestreaming will be available, which will have the same rules apply as for in-person attendance at the inquest. Reproduction, broadcasting and publishing, including through social media, of the Yukon Coroner's Service livestream and its content is prohibited. You cannot disrupt or attempt to disrupt the inquest proceedings.



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To access the livestream, you must provide your name and email address. You cannot let anyone other than yourself observe the inquest proceedings from the same venue unless that person also has approval from the Chief Coroner.

Please be aware that accessing the livestream is at the sole discretion of the Chief Coroner and this privilege may be revoked at any time by the Chief Coroner.

You must register in advance to access the livestream through the following link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KJsEV6zuTyW3CmKX3SAOJQ

Contact

For media inquiries contact the chief coroner [email heather.jones@yukon.ca, or phone 867-667-5317; toll free 1-800-661-0408, extension 5317].