



Report of Coroner When Inquest Not Necessary
(Clause 17(a) of The Coroners Act)

I, Kent Stewart, a Coroner for Saskatchewan, residing at Regina, Saskatchewan, report

That, after an investigation by me, I am of the opinion that

Nadine Kelly MACHISKINIC, (date of birth: May 7, 1985)

of Regina in Saskatchewan came to his/her her

death on the 10th day of January, 2015 at Regina

of Unnatural Causes by the following means:

Medical Cause of Death: Blunt Force Trauma Due to Fall with Drug Toxicity being a significant Contributing Factor

Manner of Death: Accidental (Natural, Accidental, Suicide, Homicide or Undetermined)

Circumstances: please see attached report

After this investigation, I am of the opinion that a public inquest is not necessary and I have completed the required Registration of Death and have permitted the disposition of the body of

Nadine Kelly MACHISKINIC

DATED at Regina, this 20th day of May, 2016

Signature of Coroner (Handwritten signature)

**Name of Deceased: Nadine Kelly MACHISKINIC**

**Date of Birth: May 7, 1985**

**Date of Death: January 10, 2015**

The decedent is a 29 year old female resident of Regina, Saskatchewan. On January 10, 2015, she was found unresponsive on the basement floor of a Regina hotel. She was transported to hospital by ambulance and pronounced deceased several hours later.

#### **Circumstances:**

On January 10, 2015 (Saturday) at approximately 0400 hours, hotel staff located Ms. MACHISKINIC lying unconscious on the basement floor in the laundry area. 911 was called and Emergency Medical Services responded and transported her to Regina General Hospital arriving at approximately 0449 hours. She was initially identified by personal items and later, fingerprints.

Upon admission to hospital, the initial assessment showed that she was unconscious, bradypnic, bradycardic and hypotensive. She was intubated; blood was drawn and a portable chest x-ray done which noted multiple rib fractures. Despite treatment and resuscitative measures, her condition continued to deteriorate until she was pronounced deceased at 0638 hours on January 10, 2015. The coroner was notified shortly after and she attended. Examination of the body showed numerous old bruises and recent bruising below the eyes and on the nose and the chin. Ms. MACHISKINIC'S body was transferred to the morgue.

After a routine review of the circumstances at the Office of the Chief Coroner (OCC) on the morning of January 12, 2015, Regina Police Service (RPS) was notified of the circumstances and they initiated an investigation.

#### **Investigation Findings**

The hotel has 25 floors. The pedway doors to the Casino and Cornwall Centre on the second floor are locked at midnight; you can exit but can't enter unless you have a hotel room access card. The pedway on the second floor to the parkade is automatically locked at 0100 hours and access to the hotel must be through the lobby area. There are three other entrances, Rose Street (exit only), Hamilton Street and Saskatchewan Drive (both of which are locked at 2100 hours). These three doors are normally under video surveillance however the Saskatchewan Drive entrance camera was not operational on January 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. The video cameras in the hotel are motion activated and in some circumstances, do not provide a complete view of some areas in the lobby. There are no video cameras in the hotel hallways or stairwells.

There was one security guard, two front desk night auditors, two night cleaners and a cook working the night shift on January 9<sup>th</sup>. Around 0345 hours, January 10<sup>th</sup>, the fire

alarm was activated on the 10<sup>th</sup> floor. The security guard made his way up to the 10<sup>th</sup> floor via the stairwell as the elevators had been disabled as part of the fire alarm protocol. When he reached the 10<sup>th</sup> floor, the security guard noted a fire extinguisher out of its cabinet lying on the floor as well as some candies scattered on the floor. The fire phone box was smashed open. The door leading to the laundry chute was locked. It should be noted that the door leading to the chute is controlled by a hydraulic mechanism which allows the door to close and lock automatically. According to hotel staff, recently, the door had not been closing properly and therefore, not locking. Police members tested the door several times and noted that it did not fully close and lock. The laundry chute located inside the room was not locked. The fire alarm that was pulled is located next to the door leading to the laundry chute.

The on-call manager was notified and responded several minutes later and by that time the alarm had been cleared by Regina Fire Department. The front desk staff indicated to the manager that there was a report of an individual banging on doors on the 10<sup>th</sup> floor and yelling fire. Soon after, he received a call from the security guard advising him that cleaning staff had found an unconscious female on the floor of the laundry room in the basement. The manager and night auditor went to investigate and were met by the security guard and the night cleaners. They reported that the female was breathing but unconscious lying on her back in a pile of linen near the laundry chute. They noted that she was clad in a black winter coat. A blue bag was located near her body; both shoes were off and also lying close to her body. An empty prescription bottle for Zopiclone bearing the name of Nadine MACHISKINIC was found nearby. There were no signs of external trauma noted at that time.

The investigation confirmed that Ms. MACHISKINIC spoke to a friend on January 9, 2015 between 1500 and 1600 hours and he indicated that in his opinion, she sounded impaired by alcohol and/or drugs. He said that when Ms. MACHISKINIC drank, she would sometimes "go crazy", be disoriented and was clumsy. He indicated that she had never been suicidal but on several occasions had accidentally overdosed on drugs.

Ms. MACHISKINIC's Regina Casino Players Club card was activated at 0209 hours on January 10, 2015. In reviewing footage from one of the video cameras located in the lobby, time stamped 0348 hours; it shows a female walking from the hotel west lobby area and entering the elevator with two males who came from the front desk area. Although the view is limited, the clothing worn by the female in the video footage is consistent with the clothing worn by Nadine MACHISKINIC when found in the basement. Another video camera shows the two males walking from the front desk and entering the elevator at the same time as Ms. MACHISKINIC.

The security company recorded the actual time of the fire alarm was 0346 hours. When compared to the stamped time on the hotel video, there is a 33-36 minute variance. Thus, it is reasonable to suggest that Nadine MACHISKINIC entered the hotel at

approximately 0320 hours. The body was discovered at approximately 0400 hours. According to 911 records Emergency Medical Services was dispatched at 0415 hours.

Information obtained from a guest who was staying on the 10<sup>th</sup> floor of the hotel at the time of the incident, confirms that someone was banging on his door and he thought it was at the same time as the fire alarm was sounding. He opened the door slightly and there was a woman at the door who said there was a fire. He saw two “kids” behind her. He thanked her and told her he would notify security. He closed the door and then called security.

#### **History:**

According to medical records, Ms. MACHISKINIC had struggled with chronic alcohol and drug addiction for many years. She was HIV and Hepatitis C positive resulting in episodes of liver and kidney failure. At the time of her death, she was on the provincial methadone program.

#### **Postmortem Findings:**

An autopsy was completed which included toxicological analysis. The autopsy showed multiple blunt force trauma of the head, neck, and trunk consistent with a fall. Toxicological analysis from the RCMP Forensic Laboratory Services showed multiple drugs in the blood including methadone (opioid), bupropion (antidepressant), zopiclone (hypnotic), and alcohol. The methadone, bupropion and zopiclone were all significantly elevated and would have interacted with the alcohol. Diazepam (anti-anxiety) and benzoylecgonine (cocaine metabolite) were also detected in the urine. The OCC requested additional interpretation of the toxicology results from a toxicology expert in Alberta.

Despite the high levels of drugs, in some instances lethal, the evidence indicates that Ms. MACHISKINIC was indeed conscious and mobile prior to her being discovered on the basement floor of the hotel.

#### **Findings:**

I find that Nadine Kelly MACHISKINIC came to her death on January 10, 2015 at Regina, Saskatchewan as a result of blunt force trauma consistent with a fall. Combined drug toxicity is a contributing factor. The manner of death is accidental.

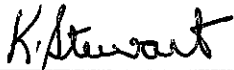
*The Regina Police Service has done a thorough investigation of the circumstances surrounding Ms. MACHISKINIC'S death and indicate that there is no evidence to suggest that foul play was a factor in the death. There is no suggestion of suicidal intent.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

TO: Richard Burton  
General Manager  
Delta Hotel Regina  
1919 Saskatchewan Drive  
REGINA SK S4P 4H2

That a comprehensive review of security/safety protocols be conducted at the Delta Hotel Regina that includes but is not limited to ensuring that:

- Video camera surveillance be installed so as to have full view of all areas of the lobby and all hallways on every floor of the hotel. Further, that there is routine inspection of the video equipment to ensure it is operational.
- Protocols are in place to safely monitor and be able to identify all those entering the hotel after hours.
- Policies/protocols are developed and staff is educated to ensure that routine patrols are completed throughout the night shift which includes at minimum, checking all doors to ensure they are locked and secured properly.



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Chief Coroner - Kent Stewart