



## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, Thursday, October 26, 2023  
(76)

[English]

The Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs met this day at 11:47 a.m., in room B30, Senate of Canada Building, the chair, the Honourable Brent Cotter, presiding.

*Members of the committee present:* The Honourable Senators Batters, Boisvenu, Clement, Cotter, Dalphond, Dupuis, Jaffer, Klyne, LaBoucane-Benson, Pate, Patterson (*Nunavut*) and Simons (12).

*Other senators present:* The Honourable Senator Prosper (1).

*Participating in the meeting:* Aoife Mc Donald, Administrative Assistant, Committees Directorate; Michaela Keenan-Pelletier and Iryna Zazulya, analysts, Library of Parliament.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, the committee continued its consideration of Bill S-13, An Act to amend the Interpretation Act and to make related amendments to other Acts.

### WITNESSES:

#### *Native Women's Association of Canada:*

Sarah Niman, Senior Director, Legal Services.

#### *Assembly of First Nations:*

Sara Mainville, Partner, JFK Law LLP (*by videoconference*);

Cheryl Casimer, Executive Member, First Nations Summit (*by videoconference*).

#### *Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami:*

Natan Obed, President;

Will David, Director of Legal Affairs.

*Nisga'a Lisims Government:*

Eva Clayton, President *(by videoconference)*.

*Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated:*

Marie Belleau, Managing Legal Counsel *(by videoconference)*;

Alastair Campbell, Senior Policy Advisor *(by videoconference)*;

Jim Aldridge, Legal Counsel *(by videoconference)*.

Sarah Niman, Sara Mainville and Natan Obed each made a statement and, together with Cheryl Casimer and Will David, answered questions.

At 12:53 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 12:59 p.m., the committee resumed.

Eva Clayton and Marie Belleau each made a statement and, together with Jim Aldridge, answered questions.

At 1:49 p.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

*ATTEST:*

Vincent Labrosse

*Clerk of the Committee*