



NATIONAL CITIZENS INQUIRY

Ottawa, ON

Day 1

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EVIDENCE

Witness 6: Sheila Lewis

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[00:00:00]

Shawn Buckley

Our next witness is attending virtually: Sheila Lewis. Sheila, can you hear me? If you can, I can't hear you because your mic is muted. Now I can see you. And can you talk just so I can see? Oh, there we go. Sheila, thanks for joining us. I'd like to start by asking if you could state your full name for the record, spelling your first and last name.

Sheila Lewis

My full name is Sheila Annette Lewis, and my first name is spelled S-H-E-I-L-A. Last name Lewis, L-E-W-I-S.

Shawn Buckley

Sheila, do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Sheila Lewis

I do, so help me God.

Shawn Buckley

Now, Sheila, I have to explain to people that you and I need to proceed with caution because you're under a court order, aren't you?

Sheila Lewis

Correct.

Shawn Buckley

In fact, you're basically under a gag order.

Sheila Lewis

Correct.

Shawn Buckley

So you can't mention the name of an organ, that you're going to not mention but kind of talk about today, is that right?

Sheila Lewis

Yes.

Shawn Buckley

And you can't mention the names of doctors?

Sheila Lewis

Correct.

Shawn Buckley

And you can't mention the location of hospitals.

Sheila Lewis

Correct. Or the name of the hospital.

Shawn Buckley

Right. Or the location, too, or its name. So we have to be very careful because actually you and I could be violating that order if we don't. But I want to be clear. And when you're giving your testimony, that basically, you have truthful information about your health condition, and what specific treatments you need, but you are under a court order preventing you from telling your whole story with us.

Sheila Lewis

Correct.

Shawn Buckley

Now can you tell us, as best you understand it, how this court order came about, basically gagging you from speaking about some things?

Sheila Lewis

One of the doctors in the transplant team—in the lower court, the first court case I had—mentioned and stated to the judge that she had received a threatening email. I didn't see it. She didn't have it to show the court. But anyway, she stated she had got a threatening email, and she was scared for her life, as she stated. And I guess they asked the courts to put a gag order—to hide their names, and location, and what we mentioned—against me in order to protect them.

Shawn Buckley

How many doctors are involved in this lawsuit?

Sheila Lewis

I believe there's five or six.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. So one out of five claims to have received an email that's not produced to you or the court, and there's a gag order covering all five?

Sheila Lewis

Correct.

Shawn Buckley

Without violating the order, I'm going to lead you a little bit. And just so that the people watching your testimony understand, leading is where the question kind of suggests the answer. And we're just doing that so that we don't inadvertently violate the court order. It's a severe restriction on Sheila's ability to testify, but we don't want to violate the court order.

You have a life-threatening condition?

Sheila Lewis

Yes, I do.

Shawn Buckley

When did that develop?

Sheila Lewis

It started in June of 2019, when I found out.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. And because of this life-threatening condition, you were told that you needed something. Don't mention the organ, but tell us what you needed.

Sheila Lewis

I needed a transplant. A double organ transplant, that's what I needed.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. And I will just indicate for the commissioners that a copy of the court order has been entered as Exhibit OT-5. When you need an organ transplant how do you get on the list?

Sheila Lewis

By doing a very thorough series of tests from head to toe. When they say head to toe,

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believe me it's head to toe: there's a lot of testing.

They go through, they test all your organs to make sure they're healthy and in good working order. They test everything: your bones, your blood, your bone density, CT [Computed Tomography] scans. They do everything you can imagine. They test to make sure that you will pass and be able to get through this organ transplant, which usually takes, they said, eight to ten hours for this transplant.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. And I just want to make sure that I understand. So you basically have to go through an entire range of tests to make sure that your other organs are all good and you're strong enough so that you a) survive the surgery and then also, it wouldn't be a waste of time: you would survive it.

Sheila Lewis

And your heart is a big one too. They test that, make sure there's no blockage. You've got to go into day surgery for that. If there's a blockage, they have to put a stint in. And I was told, if there is blockage, I probably wouldn't get the transplant.

I had absolutely no blockage and they said my heart is very strong. So yeah, I was really, really happy when I heard that. I went through a lot of testing; I redid all the vaccinations as well, the childhood vaccinations.

Shawn Buckley

And how long did this testing take?

Sheila Lewis

The testing for my organs and whatnot and to make sure my body was in very healthy condition: it took pretty much the year. By the time they did them all, spread them out and did everything, it took a long time.

Shawn Buckley

Okay, so you basically went through a year of testing to be able to qualify to get on the organ transplant list and the testing went well.

Sheila Lewis

Very well. Yes, very well.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. Did you smoke, drink, or do any drugs, or anything like that?

Sheila Lewis

I've never done drugs in my life, I've never drank, I think maybe when I was 16 or something like that, I drank beer or something, and I didn't like the taste of it. And I tasted— I think back then it was Kelly's wine or something, and it was absolutely atrocious. So that kind of just threw me right off the alcohol. And then I had alcohol in my past—not by me—and that put a big damper on it. So I just never got into the alcohol.

Then I had children. I dedicated my life to my kids and my work and whatever. And smoking, yes, I did. I smoked cigarettes, but I quit smoking in 2015. I was just tired of smoking, didn't want to do it anymore, so I just quit in 2015.

Shawn Buckley

My understanding is that you were considered to be a very good candidate for transplant.

Sheila Lewis

Yes, they told me I was ideal—that's the word they used. One of the doctors looked at me in one of the meetings that I had with them in Alberta here. She had mentioned that I was an ideal candidate for a transplant. They said they actually looked forward to transplanting me because I was in such good health other than the organ that I need, and they said they couldn't wait to get it done.

I was happy. I was so excited. It meant if I got the transplant, a gift of life, that I was going to live, possibly; and further my life; and go on. And I was really happy.

Shawn Buckley

Now, my understanding is that, in going through this process to get on the organ transplant list, they wanted to know if you had completed your childhood vaccination schedule.

Sheila Lewis

Yes, they did. They couldn't find my records.

Shawn Buckley

Okay, so tell us what happened. Because that was one of the requirements, so tell us what happened and what you did.

Sheila Lewis

They couldn't find my vaccination records from my childhood. So they called me up and told me I would have to get all my childhood vaccinations. And I'm, "Oh my gosh, that's a lot of vaccinations again." They said, "Yes, but it needs to be done if you want to transplant." And I said, "Oh, definitely." I said, "Well, just schedule them up and get them to call me, and I'll go get them done."

It's exactly what I did but it took a year: it took a full year. I remember we started it in January—I believe it was January 2021.

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And in December, I got the very last. There was one needle that took three—there was three parts to it. Something telling me it's hepatitis B maybe. Or one of the, I think, hepatitis C or hepatitis B. But anyway, I got the last one in December of that year. Because they had to span them out every three months, it took a year to get all my vaccinations from childhood, again. I got them all done.

Shawn Buckley

Right. My understanding is you were vaccinated as a child, but because they couldn't find the records of that, you consented to go through all those vaccinations again.

Sheila Lewis

Yeah, because I wanted my transplant.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. Then the COVID vaccine came along. And can you tell us what occurred with the COVID vaccine?

Sheila Lewis

COVID vaccine, COVID-19. They called me up one day and they said— It was just after it was rolled out. And they said they would have to have a meeting because at that point they weren't sure if transplant patients needed to get the COVID vaccine.

Shawn Buckley

Can I back you up and just ask you kind of the position you took towards whether you were willing to get the vaccine, and why you made the decision that you did?

Sheila Lewis

Well, that goes with what they said to me when I get in the office. When they called me up and told me they would have to sit around the table and make a decision whether transplant patients that needed organ transplants would need to get this COVID vaccine. So I said, "Okay." In a couple weeks they called me back, and they said I would have to get it.

When I was in the next visit in the office, I asked one of the doctors—he's actually the top doctor that I see a lot, or seen a lot of. And I asked him, when he spoke about how I would have to get it if I wanted to continue on with a transplant I said, "How safe is this vaccine?" And he looked at me, and he didn't even blink. He said, "One hundred per cent safe." And I said, "There's no data. Hasn't even been out very long, there's nothing on it, we don't know anything about it. How could it be 100 per cent safe?" He said, "It's 100 per cent safe." He said he'd bet his life on it. I said, "Okay."

I went home; I thought about it. I told him I'd get back to him. But when I did get back to him— I got searching in the meantime online, there wasn't a whole lot out about it. And I just kept putting it off and putting it off. The more I put it off, the more I found out, the more I didn't feel good about it. It was just a gut feeling, just something— I don't know, because I've never ever said no; I wanted this transplant so bad; I've never said no to them.

It was a hard, hard decision. It was either, “Well, you either take it or you’re going to die.” That’s basically what it come down to. And I knew it was no good. They didn’t even do the testing on it— They stopped all testing. It’s supposed to go through a series of tests. And not only that, a vaccine takes years to come up with—a safe and effective vaccine. They certainly didn’t take years, unless it was done long before.

Shawn Buckley

Okay, so you had looked into it and first of all, you became suspicious when the head doctor just assured you, “100 per cent safe,” and that made you suspicious. And then as you looked into it more, you became more concerned.

What happened? They’re telling you that you need this to stay on the list and you weren’t willing to do it. So what happened?

Sheila Lewis

I kind of guess at one point I said, “Yeah I will, I’ll take it” because I was terrified not to get the transplant. And then I wouldn’t go get it, and then when he called again in a couple weeks, he said, “Did you make your decision?” And I said, “I just can’t take it, it’s not safe.

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I know it’s not. And there’s so much coming out now.”

It was at the point then when Pfizer was told by the Supreme Court of Canada [sic] that they couldn’t hide the secrets for 75 years—or the data for 75 years, which they wanted to. That they would have to do a dump every month. And that’s when it started coming out. I was researching the heck out of it all, and that’s when I started finding things out.

And I just said, “No way.”

And then in the lower courts— But I guess that’s down after; I won’t get into that yet. But anyway, yeah.

Shawn Buckley

They weren’t willing to bend at all?

Sheila Lewis

No, not at all. It’s either I take it or I die. That’s exactly what they told me.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. Now, was basically the problem, if you refused to take it they would take you off the list?

Sheila Lewis

Correct. They said, “no transplant.”

Shawn Buckley

Okay, now this is an important question. Tell us, what happens if you're taken off the list?

Sheila Lewis

When I'm taken off the list, I go to Status 0. And what happens when you get on the list first, you go to Status 1, that's the first step of getting on the list. They called me; they said I'm on the list. It was like heaven opened up. I was so happy when they told me that. Then they put me up to Status 2. Status 2 is the highest you go on a donor list. And it means that you progressed and you need one right away—a transplant as soon as possible. When they take you off the list, they take you from Status 2, to the top of the tier, right down to the bottom, which means 0, and you're inactive. They are no longer looking for an organ for you.

Shawn Buckley

Do you know if it is possible to really get back on the list again once you're taken off?

Sheila Lewis

It is if you're at Status 0, but it's not if they remove you all together. And the only reason I'm not moved, in a sense, is because I have court action—like, going through court.

Shawn Buckley

Right, okay. Before we go into the court proceedings— Because they just made these rules themselves, right? This wasn't a provincial rule. This was just a local hospital rule. Am I right about that?

Sheila Lewis

As far as they tell me, yes.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. And am I also right that some hospitals don't require hospitalization for organ transplants?

Sheila Lewis

Correct. There's only two major cities in Canada—and that's Alberta and Toronto—that perform the organ transplant that I need. Other hospitals perform other transplants but not the organ that I need.

Shawn Buckley

Okay.

Sheila Lewis

I was told by my transplant doctors in 2019 or early 2020 that there's only two hospitals that does this. And that's Toronto and Alberta.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. You're now facing a life and death situation because, if they take you off the list and you go to a zero, likely you're going to die. Am I correct about that?

Sheila Lewis

Yes, I'm at zero now. I have been for a long time, two years.

Shawn Buckley

But you started court proceedings to try and get your ranking back. Am I right about that?

Sheila Lewis

Correct. Two years ago, yes.

Shawn Buckley

So your life basically depends on the court proceedings.

Sheila Lewis

Correct.

Shawn Buckley

My understanding is that the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms basically stepped in to help you.

Sheila Lewis

Thank goodness, yes.

Shawn Buckley

Do you recall your lawyer's name?

Sheila Lewis

Allison Pejovic. Forgive me if I'm saying it wrong, Allison, I know you're watching, but forgive me if I said your last name wrong.

Shawn Buckley

I think it might be Pejovic, right?

Sheila Lewis

Yeah.

Shawn Buckley

Right. And Allison was a volunteer at our Red Deer hearings, so the NCI knows Allison. The JCCF basically stepped in to help you, likely without charge. Am I right about that?

Sheila Lewis

That is very correct, yes.

Shawn Buckley

I just bring that up for those watching because it's important to support groups like that.

Sheila Lewis

Yes.

Shawn Buckley

So that people like you have a chance.

[00:20:00]

Sheila Lewis

Yes. They gather donations in order to help people like myself and other people that need legal proceedings, need a lawyer. They step in and help, and society donates to the JCCF in order for them to do this, to help people like me.

Shawn Buckley

Right, because you didn't have the resources to hire a lawyer yourself.

Sheila Lewis

No, definitely not. It costs a lot, a lot, a lot of money.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. My understanding is you brought a constitutional case basically arguing— I haven't looked at the pleadings, but I know you would have argued your section 7 right for life, liberty, and security of the person, amongst other things.

So you guys brought a constitutional argument. What happened in the Court of (now) King's Bench?

Sheila Lewis

Basically, what it came down to was that they went with the Bill of Rights, and they agreed with the doctors that I should get the vaccine in order to get a transplant. They also agreed with the doctors to put a gag order on me. And I lost. It didn't matter. It was no longer my choice, my body. I lost, plain and simple. They went with the Charter.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. So you're basically going to court saying, "My life depends on this transplant, and the only reason they're saying I can't do it is because I won't take a vaccine." And you would have been pointing out that the vaccine is very new. And the court basically said, "Too bad." You can literally— I mean, the effect is, you can die or take the vaccine. Am I right about that?

Sheila Lewis

That's correct.

Shawn Buckley

And if you took the vaccine, you still would be at zero and have to work your way back up?

Sheila Lewis

No, they would reinstate me, they would have to reinstate me. That is true.

Shawn Buckley

It's the lower court that then also issued the gag order, am I right about that?

Sheila Lewis

Yes.

Shawn Buckley

Your life depends on this. So you did the only thing you could do, you appealed.

Sheila Lewis

That's correct.

Shawn Buckley

What happened in the Alberta Court of Appeal?

Sheila Lewis

Pretty much the same thing, but in the Court of Appeal the judges had stated that they didn't know if they could or should intervene—that's what was stated—in a medical procedure, from the lower courts. So they stayed with the decision that the lower courts made and dismissed, but kept the gag order in place.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. So your life depends on them actually looking at this on the merits. And the Alberta Court of Appeal would have known that, am I right?

Sheila Lewis

Correct.

Shawn Buckley

But rather than choose to look at it on the merits, they said, “Well, we shouldn’t interfere,” and just upheld the lower court’s decision.

Sheila Lewis

That’s right.

Shawn Buckley

How did you feel about that?

Sheila Lewis

I really had a lot of hope in the appeal court, I really did—the Court of Appeals, I guess. I was hoping upon hope that somebody had a heart and some kind of, I was going to say “brain.” But some kind of compassion or something. But I guess not.

I was angry; I was very angry. But I also was angry when I’d seen the Minister of Health from Alberta. When the decision come down from the Court of Appeals, the Minister of Health stated on Twitter that he agreed with the Court of Appeals’ decision to stay with the Charter for the doctors and say I had to get the vaccine if I wanted the transplant. Jason Copping agreed with him. I was really angry about it; I was hurt; I was scared. I didn’t know what my next move was.

All I wanted to do was to live. I didn’t want to hurt anybody.

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And I didn’t want to go to court. I never went to court in my life. All I wanted to do was be able to breathe. And I did everything that the doctors asked me to do.

I’m sorry.

Shawn Buckley

Take your time.

Sheila Lewis

I did everything in my power to do what I was supposed to do. And I didn’t drink and I didn’t smoke and I didn’t do drugs and I took all my vaccinations. I ate healthy. I’ve lost some weight. I didn’t need to lose hardly any; they said I didn’t need to lose any. But you know I did my exercises; I went to the programs; I did everything. All I want to do is live. I want to see my grand babies raised. But it’s not going to happen now; they just won’t bend. For no reason at all they won’t bend. It doesn’t matter what I do or how hard I try or if I have natural immunity. It doesn’t matter; they just won’t bend.

Shawn Buckley

So even if you had natural immunity.

Sheila Lewis

Which I do.

Shawn Buckley

Oh, so you've been tested? You've already had COVID. And you have natural immunity and they still will not bend.

Sheila Lewis

That's correct. They wouldn't do the test. I asked the head doctor in the transplant team to do a natural immunity test on me twice. And he refused. He said they don't do it anymore. And I said, "Well, can you just file the paperwork with the lab, the requisition? And I'll pay for it, I'll do whatever." He said, "I'll see what I can do." So I waited again. And in a couple weeks he did a Zoom call with me and I asked him about it. He said, "No, we don't do it anymore." I said, "Okay."

Then a lady I know; the name is Tanya Rollins; she's a wonderful lady from BC. She knew who Steven Pelech was. He is the one who does the natural immunity test from Kinexus, and she got a hold of him. He reached out to me. Long story short, he sent me the test. We did the test. I sent it back in. They did the testing. Three weeks later come back that I have high—he said extreme—antibodies to COVID-19. So yes, I've had COVID twice.

Shawn Buckley

But I just want to make sure I understand. So you have been tested. There's no doubt in anyone's mind that you have had COVID, you beat COVID. You have natural immunity. You have antibodies to COVID in your blood.

Sheila Lewis

Extreme high levels. He said more so than most people—that's what he said on the report. And he said I should not ever get a vaccine. Because I have such extreme high levels of antibodies to COVID-19, he said I should never get the COVID-19 vaccine of any kind. Because of the millions and millions of nanoparticles that will go through my cells and damage my cells. He said it would do a lot of damage to me. And another scientist told me about a spike protein in the vaccine that will do a lot of damage as well because I already have a damaged organ.

Shawn Buckley

Now, how long does this gag order last?

Sheila Lewis

As far as I know— I don't really know a lot about the gag order, but I know it lasts until I'm gone, I guess. I can never, ever mention.

Shawn Buckley

So it goes on until you're dead or something else happens at a different court. Because you've done the only thing—

Sheila Lewis

Pretty much. I guess if I have a new case with a different lawyer altogether and a different case altogether,

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I guess the new lawyer wouldn't have the gag order on him. But I have the gag order on me until I'm gone.

Shawn Buckley

So because your life depends on it, my understanding is you have applied for leave to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Sheila Lewis

Yes.

Shawn Buckley

And my understanding is that the Court of Appeal, all three judges ruled against you.

Sheila Lewis

Yes.

Shawn Buckley

So you don't have a right to appeal; you have to actually ask the Supreme Court of Canada if they would accept your case.

Sheila Lewis

Correct. And that's the process we're in now. And I guess— My lawyer mentioned to me last evening that they are looking at the case now but have not made a decision.

Shawn Buckley

So you guys have applied for leave to the Supreme Court of Canada, and you have not yet heard from the court whether or not they will choose to hear your case.

Sheila Lewis

No, not yet.

Shawn Buckley

And if they don't choose to hear your case, that's the end, isn't it?

Sheila Lewis

That's the end. And I'm taken off the list altogether. And if, like you mentioned before, if I'm taken off the list altogether, I'll never get back on. Because they won't put me back on.

Shawn Buckley

Okay. So they've left you on the list solely because you have court proceedings going. But if the Supreme Court of Canada refuses to hear your appeal, you will be taken off the transplant list. Is that right?

Sheila Lewis

That's correct. Yeah.

Shawn Buckley

What is your life expectancy right now without the transplant?

Sheila Lewis

It ain't long. It's not long now. I'm on about 25 liters per minute of oxygen. I have three machines, oxygen machines going. Each one is at 10. I wear two hoses 90 per cent of the time. If I just walk a few steps, go to do the dishes, I have to have a face mask on with a bag and hold oxygen so I can press it every so often to get a little bit extra. I can never finish a pan of dishes or whatever. I can't cook anymore. Can't make a bed. I really can't do anything anymore.

I'm sorry. You just feel useless.

Shawn Buckley

Don't be sorry.

Sheila Lewis

Like you're just here, and there's nothing— It's like nothing nobody can do to help you.

When you can't breathe it's one of the most scariest, scariest things in the world—when you can't breathe. If you laugh you lose your oxygen, and if you cry you lose your oxygen, and if you move you lose your oxygen. So you have to be void of emotion of any kind because you're scared to lose that oxygen. And it's an awful way to be, an awful way to be. Because one time when you laughed, or you cried, or you reached out for a hug, you could do all them things. You no longer can do it because you're going to not be able to breathe if you do.

So help me God, that's all I wanted—was just a transplant. I was hoping to get the gift of life and be blessed to get one. I didn't do anything wrong. I just couldn't take that vaccine because it was going to do a lot more damage. And I know it was going to when the scientists, or the science tells you that it's going to.

[00:35:00]

Why take it? It's going to do you in before the transplant is going to do you in. At least without the vaccine you got to live a little bit longer, but with the vaccine, you're not going at all. The science tells us that. Because my organs already critically damaged and the vaccine is going to do the rest in. So why take it?

Shawn Buckley

We sure appreciate you sharing with us, Sheila, so that we can understand what you've gone through. How has this been for your family?

Sheila Lewis

It's really hard. It's really hard on my boys, especially because they're the ones that see it every day. They go through it every day with me. They rearranged their life so one of them could be at home at all the time: one in the daytime, one in the evening. They do everything. They've learned to do dishes and cook, make beds, everything I can't do. They vacuum, they scrub. They're actually wonderful, wonderful, wonderful young men.

For them to go through every day and watch me. Because basically what they're doing is watching me die. And it's got to be tough. And they never say anything. And they never complain. And they never, you know, give up, and they never get angry. They're there 100 per cent of the time for me. And what better children can you ask for than that?

Unfortunately, I didn't have any girls. I had all boys. I had four boys and they're great boys. I'm blessed in that area. Anybody that has children, hang on tight, and don't forget to tell them that you love them every day because they're pretty precious people. Because you never know when the day is going to come that you can't, so make sure you hang on tight to them.

Shawn Buckley

Sheila, before I ask the commissioners if they have any questions, is there anything else you'd like to say?

Sheila Lewis

Yeah, these doctors: there's no reason why they can't give me the transplant, there's none. I have natural immunity, very high levels of natural immunity, as I stated. There's no reason why they can't. Natural immunity is much better than any vaccine ever out there. So there's no—to me, and it's just my opinion on it—there's no other reason. And everybody has stated: scientists, there's doctors that state it in courts. There's, you know, the doctor that does the testing for natural immunity: they've all stated I cannot have this vaccine.

So what's stopping them? Your guess is good as mine. But there's something evil in this world or in this country even, that's happening. And I know a lot of people don't agree with me, and I'm sorry if you don't. But for the love of God, look at the science. But these doctors, for whatever reason, they won't bend. And I've pleaded with them, and I've asked them to please give me this transplant—or at least try to look for the organ that I need. I always said they were great people; they really were. They were great doctors. And what happened I don't know, surrounding this vaccine. I have lots of questions. But there's no reason why they won't give it, so why won't they?

[00:40:00]

There's no science surrounding the fact that they won't give it to me. There's something else wrong here, and it comes from the top. And I know it does. I mean, doctors and nurses are losing their licence[s] if they speak out about it. I mean, when does that ever happen in history? You know something's wrong and something's got to be fixed—fast.

There's a lot of people dying and it's not just me. I'm not the only one that was refused the transplant because they chose not to get a vaccine. There's a lot of people in Canada, and I always said I was fighting for them. Because they deserve to get their transplant just as much as I do. It doesn't matter what organ it is, dear God, there's a lot of people that need help. And I feel for every one of them because I know what I'm going through, and they're going through the same damn thing. They need help and they need a lot of prayers.

Whatever these doctors are doing: they're evil. There's no other word for it. You're evil to let people die for no reason. I always thought a doctor took their oath, the Hippocratic oath: Do No Harm. Well, there's an awful lot of harms going on. And I'm going to plead with you: please, please, for the love of God, give people their transplants. They're not asking for anything else; they just want the gift of life. If it's there and it's possible, please give it.

I don't want to die, God help me. I'm so sorry.

Shawn Buckley

Don't be sorry.

Sheila Lewis

One thing I said I wasn't going to do was this when I come on. But I guess when you talk about it, emotions unfortunately get in the way.

Shawn Buckley

We appreciate your honesty. I'll ask the commissioners if they have any questions.

Commissioner Kaikkonen

Sheila, you have a purpose. And as difficult as this may seem right now, you are standing in the gap for every other Canadian who is experiencing the same—and standing up and fighting for justice and compassion in our country. Your testimony is a reminder that our government has lost— has forgotten how to govern. Your testimony is a reminder that our courts have lost their way in terms of justice. I don't know if you heard the woman here, but she's in the audience. And she said that we are praying for you in the name of the Lord Jesus, and we are. Keep looking up. And know that your testimony has given us a further purpose at the National Citizens Inquiry to continue to share the real-life experiences of Canadians. You matter.

Thank you for your testimony.

Sheila Lewis

Thank you. And thank you for your prayers.

Shawn Buckley

Sheila, there aren't any more questions. And the room is full, and there's people watching you live online. And I think I could safely say that every Canadian watching is very ashamed to be a Canadian right now. And on behalf of the National Citizens Inquiry,

[00:45:00]

we sincerely thank you for testifying, and you will be in our prayers.

Sheila Lewis

Thank you. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on the National Citizens Inquiry, Shawn. And thank you for everything you guys have done. I appreciate it. And stay safe. Go home and hug your family.

Shawn Buckley

You can't see, but there's a standing ovation for you, Sheila.

Sheila Lewis

Thank you. I appreciate it.

Shawn Buckley

Thanks again, Sheila.

Sheila Lewis

God bless the people in Canada.

Shawn Buckley

God bless you.

[00:46:12]

Final Review and Approval: Jodi Bruhn, September 1, 2023.

The evidence offered in this transcript is a true and faithful record of witness testimony given during the National Citizens Inquiry (NCI) hearings. The transcript was prepared by members of a team of volunteers using an "intelligent verbatim" transcription method.

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