

GENERAL TIMELINE

OF THE SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN REASONABLE DOUBT

AUGUST 9, 2016

- Colten Boushie, a 22 year old First Nations man from Red Pheasant Cree Nation, is one of five people in a vehicle that enters the farmyard of Gerald Stanley in the Rural Municipality of Glenside near Biggar, Saskatchewan.
- In the events that follow, Boushie is shot and killed by Gerald Stanley (aged 54).
- Police arrive and arrest Gerald Stanley.
- Police also detain and charge 3 of Boushie's companions from Red Pheasant Cree Nation. The charges are later dropped.
- RCMP enter the home of Debbie Baptiste, Colton's mother, at Red Pheasant Cree Nation, to inform her of Colten's death and to search for Colten's friend, Cassidy Cross. Baptiste later files a civil lawsuit against the RCMP for their discriminatory actions.

AUGUST 10, 2016

- RCMP media release includes, "One adult male associated to the property was arrested by the police at the scene without incident. Three occupants from the vehicle, including two females (one being a youth) and one adult male were taken into custody as part of a related theft investigation."

AUGUST 11, 2016

- Gerald Stanley charged with second degree murder after forensic evidence reveals that Boushie was killed by a single gunshot in the back of his head.

AUGUST 12, 2016

- The Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN), which represents 74 First Nations in Saskatchewan, issues a press release in which FSIN Chief Bobby Cameron states: "We are extremely disappointed in the way the RCMP have presented the shooting incident near Biggar, Saskatchewan, on August 9, 2016. The news release the RCMP issued the following day provided just enough prejudicial information for the average reader to draw their own conclusions that the shooting was somehow justified. The messaging in an RCMP news release should not fuel racial tensions."

AUGUST 13, 2016

- Funeral held for Colten Boushie at Red Pheasant First Nation.

AUGUST 14, 2016

- Provincial and national leaders respond to the racist comments which Saskatchewan residents have posted online and in social media since the shooting. Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall makes this Facebook post:



National Chief Perry Bellegarde writes, "To see racist, derogatory comments about this young man and about First Nations people online and on social media in response to this tragedy is profoundly disturbing."

AUGUST 17, 2016

- The National Farmers Union publishes a statement expressing condolences to the Boushie family and condemning, "the rampant racist remarks that have circulated since the death of Colten Boushie, including comments made on the Saskatchewan Farmers' Facebook group."

AUGUST 18, 2016

- Hundreds protest outside North Battleford courthouse during Gerald Stanley's bail hearing as RCMP observe from rooftops. Stanley pleads not guilty.

AUGUST 19, 2016

- Judge grants bail.

APRIL 3, 2016

- Preliminary inquiry begins.

APRIL 6, 2016

- Judge orders Stanley to stand trial on charge of second-degree murder.

AUGUST 2, 2017

- January 28, 2019 set as trial start date.

JANUARY 29, 2018

- Jury Selection in Battleford, Saskatchewan results in an all-white jury with 7 women and 5 men. Stanley's legal team uses 5 of 14 peremptory challenges to dismiss 5 First Nations jurors.

JANUARY 30, 2018

- Trial begins for second-degree murder charge, Court of Queen's Bench, Battleford, Saskatchewan.
- Defense case focuses on 'accidental hang-fire' calling firearms experts as witnesses.

FEBRUARY 9, 2018

- After 15 hours of deliberation, jury delivers acquittal verdict for the charges of both murder and manslaughter in the Court of Queen's Bench, Battleford, SK.

FEBRUARY 10, 2018

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Minister of Justice Jody Wilson-Raybould both make statements.
- Thousands attend rallies across Canada (including Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Calgary, Halifax, Toronto, and Ottawa) to express sympathy for the Boushie family and to condemn the verdict. Many Chiefs travel from across Saskatchewan to Saskatoon to join the nearly one thousand people gathered in front of the courthouse.
- The Saskatoon Tribal Council hosts a press conference at which Saskatoon Mayor Charlie Clark states: "This high-profile trial and its aftermath . . . represent a defining moment for our city, our country, where we decide what country we're going to be."

FEBRUARY 11, 2018

- Members of Colten's family meet with Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe. Debbie Baptiste, Colten's mother, and his cousin, Jade Tootoosis, and uncle Alvin travel to Ottawa to meet with Wilson-Raybould, Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale, and other ministers, to call for:
 - an end to peremptory challenges in jury selection, &
 - commitments to addressing systemic racism in the justice system



MARCH 17, 2018

- A representative of the Saskatchewan Attorney General announces that it would not appeal the acquittal.

APRIL, 2019

- nîpawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up, Tasha Hubbard's documentary about the trial, premieres at 2019 Hot Doc Canadian International Film Festival, where it wins the 2019 award for Best Canadian Feature Documentary. After its commercial screen premiere at the Roxy Theatre in Saskatoon in May, the film is shared across Canada in a screening tour.

JUNE 21, 2019

- Liberal government passes Bill C-75 banning peremptory challenges in jury selection.

JAN.29 – FEB.12, 2020

- Reasonable Doubt premieres at Persephone Theatre in Saskatoon to sold-out audiences.

OCTOBER 7, 2020

- The Supreme Court of Canada upholds Bill C-75.

MARCH 2021

- The Civilian Review and Complaints Commission (CRCC) completes its 3 year investigation into how the RCMP handled the case. The report contains 47 findings and 17 recommendations. It concludes that the RCMP's treatment of Debbie Baptiste was discriminatory and that the RCMP's handling of evidence and treatment of witnesses were problematic.

SOURCES

- APTN
- Canadian Encyclopedia
- CBC
- CTV
- Eagle Feather News
- Globe and Mail
- Star Phoenix
- Globe and Mail
- Wikipedia