

Exhibit #26

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THE PROVINCE Vancouver, B.C.
 Thursday, November 21, 2002

CANUCKS 5, 'HAWKS 3
 Trevor Linden, right, ties club record for goals
 Sports, A70-71

THE BACHELOR PICKS HELENE
 Aaron takes brainy psychologist over blond Brooke in finale
 Television, B2

RCMP have offered cash, restaurant meals, a cellphone, secure housing and even drug treatment to a key witness against accused serial-killer Robert Pickton. But so far, Dinah Taylor isn't co-operating

Police pamper Pickton witness

■ Dinah Taylor lived for 18 months in a trailer with Robert Pickton on his Port Coquitlam pig farm.
 Ric Emel — The Province

STORY, Page A3

WIN

1 OF 3 TRIPS FOR 4 TO SUN PEAKS RESORT
 Adventure, A50

2003

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Missing Women Commission of Inquiry

EXHIBIT No: 26

Date: *October 27, 2001*

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Witness in Pickton case agitated by police surveillance, says friend

Stories by Suzanne Fournier
Staff Reporter

RCMP are struggling to control a leading witness in the case against accused serial-killer Robert "Willie" Pickton, offering her cash, restaurant meals, a cellphone, secure housing and access to drug treatment.

But Dinah Taylor, who lived for 18 months in a trailer with Pickton on his Port Coquitlam pig farm where police continue to recover human remains, has resisted full co-operation with her handlers from the missing women's task force.

Taylor, a heroin and cocaine addict, has accepted benefits offered by police, including a cellphone she promptly sold at the Lotus Hotel. But Taylor shrugged off a summons to appear on the first day of Pickton's preliminary hearing Nov. 4.

Charles Jackson, 53, a retired nurse who is living with AIDS, says he reluctantly allowed Taylor to stay with him in his east Vancouver apartment in early October.

Jackson said he thought the extreme police interest in Taylor was because she knew some of the missing women.

He says he asked her to leave Tuesday when he discovered she is a former friend of Pickton's.

Jackson says he was scared by how agitated Taylor has become in the last two weeks, in response to the blanket of police surveillance and the attention paid to her by media and the building's neighbours.

"The RCMP were very good to her, but when they served her with the summonses and told her she would have to testify at Pickton's trial or she could be charged, she just kind of blew them off," he said.

"They are only trying to help her."

"Dinah would take the \$20 from the woman officer, who always seemed to be available or nearby when Dinah called, but she wouldn't use it on groceries or to help me out for feeding her."

"She took the cellphone the RCMP gave her and sold it to some Hispanic guys at the Lotus Hotel, and then tried to get it back."

Jackson said a task-force constable offered to get Taylor into addiction treatment and has found her a secure place to live.

Jackson, who calls himself "a ministering angel" who is "too vulnerable to being used and abused," says Taylor took over



Mc Ernst photos — The Province

Dinah Taylor walks through an alley in Vancouver. Taylor has been linked to Robert Pickton, who faces trial charged with 15 murders of Downtown Eastside women.

his life and his apartment after she moved in. He said she banished him from his own living room and would lock herself in the bathroom for hours.

"She'd sleep all day until about 5 p.m., get up and then she'd be up all night," says Jackson. "She was definitely a bad influence on me."

"She had a lot of friends and people coming and going at all hours. I told her I want-

ed her to leave. I don't want her back here. It's too stressful."

"I want to clear my name with people in this building, because I don't want Dinah here if she upsets people."

Taylor left Vancouver late last year for her home reserve in Ontario.

She denied that she left to escape the Downtown Eastside or her relationship with Pickton.



Charles Jackson was befriended by Dinah Taylor.

"I didn't go back east to escape no sense or nothing," said Taylor. "My father is 66, he's had two operations and he's dying of throat cancer. I go home for Christmas all the time. My family is there and I care about them."

An Ojibway with shoulder-length curly hair, Taylor is bold, aggressive and reluctant to discuss her past.

But she did agree to talk to Ernie Crey, a Stolo leader whose sister Dawn disappeared in November 2000, after living in the Roosevelt Hotel where Taylor arranged for women to visit the Pickton farm.

"He's a brother, he's native like me and I'll talk to him," said Taylor.

At first she didn't recall Dawn Crey, but nodded when Dawn was described as having sold clothes to working women from her room in the Roosevelt.

Ernie Crey said Taylor called him in response to his request and was friendly but offered few details.

"She may have seen my sister in the last days before she vanished, and it would be helpful for me and my brothers and sisters to know that," said Crey. "I'd just like to know what Dinah remembers about my sister."

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ROBERT PICKTON

Dec. 2 set for Pickton hearing on publication ban

The preliminary hearing for accused serial-killer Robert "Willie" Pickton will begin again Dec. 2 with arguments for a publication ban and discussion on how to handle media that might defy it.

Evidence in the hearing won't be introduced in Port Coquitlam Provincial Court until Jan. 13, according to a deal between Pickton's lawyer, Peter Ritchie, and lead Crown counsel Michael Peirle.

Pickton, 53, who sat impassively in court yes-

terday, nodded once to agree he wants to get the trial under way soon. He faces 15 first-degree murder charges in connection with Vancouver's 63 missing women from the Downtown Eastside.

Outside court, Ritchie said he is concerned, as is Peirle and provincial court Judge David Stone, about how to control the U.S. media.

"We're all worried, concerned that the evidence from the preliminary hearing may get out in public and influence the potential jury pool," Ritchie

said. "We're not talking about responsible media. It was an issue in the [convicted Ontario murderer Paul] Bernardo case, but the internet has advanced a very great deal since that case."

"The judge will have to consider whether he can close the courtroom completely, whether that's acceptable under the circumstances."

"No one really wants that. That would be the last option."