

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Ministry of Justice

[release number] Aug. 21, 2012 Ministry of Justice BC Coroners Service

INQUEST CALLED INTO ARSON DEATH

VANCOUVER – The BC Coroners Service has announced it will hold an inquest into the death of Colette Marie Salemink.

Ms. Salemink, aged 59, died on April 19, 2010, following a house fire at her residence in Coquitlam.

Ms. Salemink's son was charged with arson and manslaughter in the death. In May 2012, he was found Not Criminally Responsible by reason of a Mental Disorder.

During the inquest, presiding coroner Liana Wright and a jury will hear evidence from subpoenaed witnesses to determine the facts surrounding this death. While the jury may not, by law, make any findings of legal responsibility, it will have the opportunity to make recommendations aimed at preventing deaths under similar circumstances in the future.

An inquest is a formal process that allows for public presentation of evidence relating to a death.

Date: Nov. 13 – 16, 2012. Time: 9 a.m. Place: Burnaby Coroners Court, 2035-4720 Kingsway, Burnaby.

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