

Joni Mitchell finds daughter

Singer locates child put up for adoption 30 years ago

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CALGARY — Singer **Joni Mitchell** has found her long-lost child, a daughter she conceived in Calgary and put up for adoption more than 30 years ago.

"Apparently her daughter was looking for her, too, so there's sort of a fairy tale ending," Mitchell's father Bill Anderson said in an interview from his Saskatoon home.

"We've seen pictures and you can see the similarities, and it's kind of funny that they're in similar businesses." The young woman has apparently worked as a model.

Mitchell's only child was conceived while she was an art student living in Calgary 33 years ago. Mitchell's parents weren't told about the pregnancy until at least two years after the birth.

"We're quite happy. (She and Joni) have been together, and we're looking forward to meeting her later," said Anderson, who learned about 10 days ago that his granddaughter had been found.

He was reluctant to give more information, including her name, where she was found and what she is doing. "Joni is just gathering her thoughts to go public," said Bob Merlis of Los Angeles-based Reprise Records, Mitchell's record label.

Mitchell is expected to make a statement in Los Angeles — where she lives — within several days, he said. He would not provide further details.

The singer, who was born in Fort Macleod, Alta., and raised in Saskatoon, was an art student at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology when she met the child's father, Brad McMath.

Neither had seen their daughter since 1965 when she was born in Toronto and put up for adoption. The couple "really didn't want to get married and settle down," McMath, a Toronto photographer, said last December.

The New York Post reported private detectives traced the daughter, described as "a stunning model and a dead ringer for mum in her flower-power, hit days."

Mitchell began singing in Calgary folk clubs, and went on to international acclaim after such hits as *Both Sides Now* and *Woodstock*. Neither Mitchell nor McMath could be reached for comment. The office of her Vancouver-based manager also refused to divulge details.