



Statement from Mayor Iveson on tragic events in Edmonton and Fort Saskatchewan

Like all Edmontonians, I am shocked and saddened to hear of the multiple homicides that took place on Monday night. On behalf of City Council, our hearts are heavy with the news, and our thoughts are with the friends and family of the victims as we all struggle to come to terms with the magnitude of what has happened.

As more details have emerged, it now seems clear that this is a devastating case of domestic violence. The scale of these events is rare and exceptional. However, domestic violence remains all too common in our society and this tragedy is a harsh reminder of the continuing need for support for individuals and families in crisis, and the critical importance of reporting any instances of domestic violence to police.

On behalf of my City Council colleagues, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to the members of the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) and the RCMP for their work on this disturbing case. We ask a lot of our first responders and each day they serve our city with an exceptional sense of duty and pride. It is a job few of us are equipped to handle and we thank them for their courage and focus in otherwise horrific circumstances. Edmonton stands alongside you.

I would also like to thank mayors from across the region and the province for reaching out to offer their support and condolences on behalf of their communities. It is appreciated.

Lastly, I would encourage anyone who is struggling to cope this holiday season to reach out to friends and family for support. Professional counselling is available via Alberta Health Services' Mental Health Helpline (1-877-303-2642) and the Crisis and Distress Line (780-482-4357). They also offer mobile response services at 780-342-7777.

As we begin looking forward to 2015, I wish good health and healing for our community.

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