

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK *Celebrating 20 Years*

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Executive Digest

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HALIFAX - The Halifax police say they have reopened an investigation into an alleged sexual assault after the group Anonymous posted a call for renewed action on social media.

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OTTAWA - Prime Minister Justin Trudeau gave his ministers their formal marching orders on Friday. Much of what their so-called mandate letters contained came straight from the Liberal campaign platform, but there were some fresh details.

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TORONTO - A handful of Toronto police incident reports involving a couple who killed a seven-year-old girl in their care will be included as evidence in the coroner's inquest into her death, the presiding coroner ruled Tuesday.

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Nov 17 2015

OTTAWA - The RCMP turned to its closest allies this week for advice on countering violent extremists and a leading expert says Canada is finally making strides on addressing home-grown radicalism.

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Nov 19, 2015

MONCTON, N.B. - A hearing on alleged violations of the Canada Labour Code by the RCMP related to the force's response to a deadly shooting rampage last year in Moncton, New Brunswick, has been adjourned until next year.

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BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

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No jail time for teen who murdered Const. Garrett Styles



Nov 16 2015

TORONTO - The teenager convicted of killing Const. Garrett Styles was sentenced to no jail time, but was given nine years of "conditional supervision," in a ruling handed down at a Toronto-area courthouse today.

The 19-year-old, who was only 15 and considered a young offender at the time of the incident, was found guilty of first-degree

murder in June. He has been referred to as S.K. throughout the proceedings.

Styles, who worked for the York Regional Police force, died in the early morning hours of June 28, 2011, after pulling over a minivan full of teenagers that S.K. was driving. Styles was then dragged and crushed when S.K. fled the roadside stop and the van rolled over.

"Imposing a custodial sentence will not



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make S.K. more accountable,” Justice Alex Sosna told a packed Newmarket, Ont., courtroom on Monday.

S.K., he said, is “already serving a life sentence, imprisoned in his wheelchair.”

Sosna, who spent more than an hour delivering his sentence, also cited evidence that S.K.’s life expectancy had been shortened by 25 years because of his injuries.

As part of his sentence, S.K. will also be required to make public speaking appearances three times a year for the next four years to talk about his injuries and why they occurred.

S.K. opted to stay silent before hearing the sentence.

York Regional Police Chief Eric Jolliffe and the Styles family left the court shortly after the decision without speaking with reporters.

But the officer’s wife, Melissa, and his parents later said they were disappointed to learn S.K. would not be serving prison time.

“My children and I have been given a life sentence to have to live without Garrett,” his wife said in a statement released by York police Monday. “This sentence is a huge letdown.”

The chief of police echoed the Styles family in their disappointment.

“Notwithstanding the physical condition of the accused, this sentence does not reflect the principles of accountability referenced in the Youth Criminal Justice Act,” Jolliffe said in the statement.

Sosna acknowledged the “horrific and painful impact” Styles’ death had on his family and friends, acknowledging the officer’s widow and two young children in particular. He also noted the “profound” effect the officer’s death had on the community he served.

Styles was just 32 at the time of his death.

The judge found, however, that S.K. had not engaged in a malevolent act.

“I find fleeing the traffic stop was an impulsive and irrational act, but not an act of viciousness,” he said.

Sosna also noted that the teen has said he never intended to take Styles’ life and was “very sad” about what had happened.

The Crown had sought an “open custody” youth sentence and recommended a facility in Milton, Ont., which is wheelchair accessible.

Sosna said he wasn’t convinced that the facility, which officials had vowed to retrofit to meet S.K.’s needs, would have worked, saying it seemed “too good to be true.”

Sosna, in closing, called the case “an unfolding tragedy with life-changing circumstances for all involved.”

(CBC)

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2015

Nov 12 2015

HALIFAX - The lawyer for a Nova Scotia man appealing his murder conviction for the death of a woman whose bound body was found in a shallow grave says the jury received confused instructions on how to interpret key evidence.

Lee Seshagiri argued Thursday in the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal that the jury may not have understood whether evidence had to be accepted as fact in the trial of Christopher Alexander Falconer for the murder of 19-year-old Amber Kirwan.

“These are repeated and multiple signals to the jury that there were limitations on their function of weighing evidence,” he said. “That is a significant error of law.”

Falconer was given an automatic sentence of life in prison with no parole eligibility for 25 years after he was convicted by a jury in January.

He had pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder in the death of Kirwan, who vanished after leaving a pool hall in New Glasgow on Oct. 9, 2011.

Her naked, bound remains were discovered lying face down in a clandestine grave about a month later near a rural road in nearby Heathbell.

In arguing the jury wasn’t properly instructed, Seshagiri gave the example of expert evidence on the amount of codeine found in Kirwan’s body.

He noted that the defence lawyer in the case, Mike Taylor, had questioned the figures given by an expert toxicologist.

Seshagiri said that if defence counsel was trying to undermine the credibility of findings in a report, jurors shouldn’t have been left with the impression the expert’s report was to be accepted as fact.

The appellant’s lawyer also argued there was a wide swath of evidence the jury could question in the case.

He said that Falconer’s DNA wasn’t found in the camper where the Crown alleged Kirwan was confined before she was murdered.

During the original trial, the court heard that Falconer had sent a text message to his

step-sister Alice Meier, saying he was at the camper the night Kirwan disappeared, and that he dropped off some items there.

“There is a strange aspect of attending a property that’s not yours and you’re not in control of, presumably with a victim, knowing the occupants could return at any moment,” said Seshagiri.

Crown prosecutor Tim O’Leary said the jury had viewed the texts and were capable of understanding what was factual in them, and what aspects they could interpret.

He said the judge didn’t need to give further instruction on this evidence, other than what he provided in the charge to the jury.

“It was undisputed evidence,” he said, referring to Falconer’s presence at the camper.

O’Leary said the expert evidence provided by the toxicologists and other experts was subject to cross examination, and the jury was able to consider their validity.

“In this case, the jury was ... adequately, but not perfectly, instructed and the appellant had a fair trial and the jury was not misled about any factual issues,” he said.

Chief Justice Michael MacDonald reserved judgment after hearing the arguments.

Nov 12 2015

MISSION, B.C. - Day parole has been granted to an Alberta man who took nine people hostage at gunpoint in a Workers’ Compensation Board office in downtown Edmonton.

The Parole Board has approved the release of 44-year-old Patrick Clayton to an aboriginal-focused substance abuse treatment centre in British Columbia.

Clayton, whose WCB claim involved a knee injury, has served nearly four years of his six-year, 10-month sentence at the medium-security Mission Institution, where the board made its decision.

Board member Maryam Majedi says Clayton’s offence in October 2009 put many people in danger, but he has made positive changes since then.

Clayton told the hearing that he stormed the office in a cry for help after his young son asked to move in with him but he realized he was living in a “crack shack.”

He surrendered to police 10 hours after herding people into a conference room with a hunting rifle and 100 rounds of ammunition.

Nov 12 2015


CALGARY - Two years after being subjected to a racist tirade by an unruly passenger a Calgary cab driver has received an apology.

However, the apology to Sardar Qayyum didn’t come from his former passenger but from the RCMP, which reviewed how the verbal assault in November 2013 was handled.

A video from the cab’s dashcam that became public last summer showed a front-seat taxi passenger using profanity and racial slurs.

“Go back to where you’re from, take your wife and four kids,” the passenger yelled.

Later, the passenger said the cabbie would “strap a bomb” to his body.



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An RCMP officer got the passenger to pay Qayyum for breaking his camera, but there were no criminal charges.

Qayyum complained and the RCMP looked into the matter again, but the Crown decided that charges against the passenger now would amount to an "abuse of process."

The Crown concluded a charge of mischief for wilful damage to property would have been warranted before the decision was made to have the passenger pay the driver for the property damages. It said the passenger paid the driver on the understanding that he would not be charged and prosecuted.

"The RCMP would like to publicly announce our apology to Mr. Qayyum, the taxi driver in this matter, as the service provided to him did not accomplish a satisfactory outcome for him," said Insp. Gord Sage, officer in charge of the Airdrie RCMP.

"We know the public expects members of the RCMP to conduct thorough and balanced investigations and this is our expectation as well."

The formal complaint was made through the Civilian Review and Complaints Commission. The RCMP assigned a senior investigator to look in to the matter.

The report found the investigating officer became lost on the element of restitution, and "little effort" was made to bring the accused before the court for prosecution.

Qayyum received the results of the report and the apology at a meeting with Sage on Thursday.

Nov 12 2015

TORONTO - Two people acquitted of first-degree murder but found guilty of second-degree murder have won a new trial because of a judge's decision related to selection of their jury.

The ruling comes in an appeal Thursday in the case of Chad Nouredine and Richard Sheridan, who were convicted in November 2010 after a trial presided over by Superior Court Justice Eugene Ewaschuk.

Court records show the men took part in a brutal and ultimately fatal beating of a third man, Andre Pelliccione, in Toronto in August 2008. While the jury acquitted them of first-degree murder, it convicted them of the included offence of second-degree murder.

Under the Criminal Code, two people must be given the task of deciding whether a prospective juror is biased and therefore can't serve on the panel. Those two people are the last two jurors already selected. If no one has yet been chosen, the judge appoints two people until there are two sworn jurors. The result is what is called "rotating triers" to describe the process.

A single exception to the rule allows a presiding judge to exclude all jurors during the challenge process at the request of the accused. In that case, the Criminal Code mandates the court appoint two people - who do not get to serve on the jury - to decide the juror challenges. They are called "static" triers.

At trial, Sheridan's lawyer asked for

prospective jurors to be excluded during the challenge-for-cause process so that they would not be affected by what they heard. The lawyer - as did Nouredine's counsel - made it clear they wanted rotating triers used to decide the challenges for cause.

Despite the request, Ewaschuk decided that static triers would be used.

On appeal, lawyers for the convicted men argued Ewaschuk had violated the Criminal Code resulting in an improperly constituted jury. They maintained the judge's ruling created the appearance of unfairness and prejudice.

While the prosecution agreed the judge was wrong to use static triers, she argued the error was essentially harmless.

In quashing the conviction, the Appeal Court noted the use of rotating triers has been a feature of the Canadian jury-selection process since at least 1892 and that a properly constituted jury is critical to the entire process.

While it's impossible to determine whether the accused suffered any actual harm from what happened, the Appeal Court said, they nevertheless deserved a new hearing.

"The prejudice in this case lies in the negative effect the improper use of static triers, over the express objection of counsel, had on the appearance of the fairness of the proceedings and the due administration of justice," the Appeal Court wrote.

The court also rejected the prosecution's contention that it should set aside the acquittals on first-degree murder if it decided to

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order a new trial on the second-degree murder conviction.

The judge's jury error, the Appeal Court found, had no impact on any of the prosecution's rights or on the acquittals.

Nov 12 2015

MONTREAL - A Montreal police officer charged with drug trafficking and possessing a prohibited weapon will appear before a judge Friday to seek bail.

Philippe Bonenfant, 29, was charged Thursday with drug trafficking, counselling another person to commit a criminal act, possession of brass knuckles and the fraudulent use of a police computer.

A Montreal police commander described Bonenfant as a patrol officer with six years of experience, stationed at a downtown police station.

He was arrested Wednesday afternoon and the Crown objected to his release.

A bail hearing is to be held Friday in Montreal.

Nov 12 2015

VANCOUVER - A Richmond, B.C., man charged in the 2012 death of his mother has been found guilty of second-degree murder.

Yuan Xi Tang admitted to killing Lian Jie Guo, whose body was stuffed in a suitcase and thrown in the Fraser River.

Guo was killed on June 7, 2012, and her body was found on a small island near Powell River on July 29 that year.

Tang was charged with first-degree murder, but his lawyer argued there was no evidence that he planned the attack.

The guilty verdict was announced by the jury this afternoon following 11 days of deliberations.

The second degree murder charge carries an automatic life sentence and a sentencing hearing will be held for Tang at a later date to determine his parole eligibility.

Nov 12 2015

WINNIPEG - A Winnipeg man has been convicted of second-degree murder for killing a transgender sex-trader worker.

Theodore Herntier, 44, was convicted by a jury Thursday in the September 2004 death of David Boulanger, also known as Divas B, who was found dead and wrapped in plastic near a truck stop close to Portage la Prairie, Man.

The prosecution had suggested Herntier picked up Boulanger on a street corner, hit her with a wrench and then killed her in his shop.

They said he dumped the body at a rest stop along the Trans-Canada Highway.

Defence lawyer Martin Glazer had said in his closing argument that the Crown had simply not proven its case against his client, which he said was mostly circumstantial.

Herntier showed no emotion as the verdict came down but Boulanger's friends and relatives wept in court.

Nov 12 2015

CALGARY - A hunger strike is underway at the Calgary Remand Centre as inmates are attempting to bring attention to their concerns with alleged mistreatment and unhygienic practices.

Inmates are complaining that clothing changes are permitted only about once a week and food portions they are served are small and lack protein.

They also say some inmates are unfairly being classified as gang members and having their privileges restricted.

As of Thursday afternoon, as many as 30 inmates were involved in the hunger strike.

Dan Laville of Alberta Justice has confirmed the hunger strike involving inmates from the maximum-security area.

He says they are carrying out standard procedure, which is to agree to discuss the issues "when the inmates observe the behaviour expected of offenders held in custody."

Defence lawyer Hersh Wolch represents one of the striking inmates.

"The one thing to be kept in mind is that you have people here who are presumed innocent," explains Wolch. "People who have been convicted and are guilty are in better facilities."

Nov 12 2015

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE, Alta. - After spending nearly two weeks on the lam, a 26-year-old prisoner has been captured.

RCMP allege that on Oct. 26, Jason McGinn escaped during a prisoner custody transfer from Thorsby RCMP to Drayton Valley RCMP.

They allege the 26-year-old jumped into the driver's seat of a marked RCMP cruiser and drove off.

The abandoned vehicle was located a short time later near Warburg, Alta., but air support and members of the RCMP K-9 unit were unable to find him.

He was located and arrested in Rocky Mountain House on Nov. 8.

McGinn had been facing charges including possession of stolen property.

He now faces more than 15 additional charges including escaping lawful custody, assault with a weapon and theft over \$5,000.

He is scheduled to appear in court in Drayton Valley on Nov. 17.

**FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 13, 2015**

Nov 13 2015

TORONTO - A 21-year-old man is facing charges in the killing of an elderly woman found dead in her east Toronto home this week.

Police say Sinbad Marshall is charged with second-degree murder and breaking and entering.

Officers found 82-year-old Stella Tetos dead in the basement of her house on Wednesday.

Police say her body showed obvious signs of trauma. The basement window was also smashed.

Marshall is due in court Friday morning. (CFRB)

Nov 13 2015

KING TOWNSHIP, Ont. - A Toronto-area woman is charged with impaired driving after police say her nine-year-old son called 911 while she was at the wheel.



Police say the boy called from a cell-phone just before 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday but didn't speak to the operator.

They say the operator called back and the boy said he was in a van with his mother, who had been drinking.

Police say the child sounded scared but was able to describe the vehicle and its location before his mother grabbed the phone and hung up.

Officers caught up with the van in King Township, north of Toronto, and arrested a 52-year-old woman.

Police say a breath test showed more than twice the legal limit for alcohol.

They say the boy was turned over to his father and the Children's Aid Society has been notified.

Nov 13 2015

CALGARY - A Calgary man has pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in the death of a 17-year-old boy who was shot in the head through a basement window.

The man, who was also 17 at the time of the February 2007 shooting, entered the plea Thursday. He had originally been charged with first-degree murder after Adam Cavanagh was killed during a house party. The man was convicted of the more serious charge in 2012, but the decision was overturned on appeal and a new trial was ordered. Cavanagh's parents say they are disappointed with the plea and want an adult sentence. A sentencing date will be set Feb. 5. (CHQR)

Nov 13 2015

STONY MOUNTAIN, Man. - A federal prison north of Winnipeg has been ordered locked down.

The Correctional Service of Canada says it is conducting what it calls an "exceptional" search of the Stony Mountain Institution to protect the safety of inmates and staff.

Stony Mountain houses both maximum- and medium-security inmates.

Assistant Warden Guy Langlois says guards are looking for contraband, a term that refers to drugs or weapons.

Visits have been suspended until the search is complete, which could take about four days.

Nov 13 2015

CALGARY - Charges are pending against a man following the fatal stabbing of two women last month in a northeast Calgary home.

Police say a 30-year-old man has been arrested and is being interviewed by detectives from the homicide unit.

The women were found dead on Oct. 19 by officers who had been called to check on the welfare of an individual.

An autopsy showed that Selamawit Alem, who was 54, and 25-year-old Julie Tran died of stab wounds.

Nov 13 2015

HALIFAX - The Halifax police say they have reopened an investigation into an alleged sexual assault after the group Anonymous posted a call for renewed action on social media.



Police spokeswoman Lauren Leal says investigators originally responded to a call from a third party about an alleged sexual assault in the city on Nov. 1.

She says the alleged victim initially told police she was sexually assaulted but later decided she did not want to proceed and police respected her wishes.

Leal says the sexual assault team would normally have renewed contact with the woman and it is not unusual for victims to initially decline due to trauma before deciding to proceed.

However, she says police also noticed social media comments under a video Anonymous posted online indicating the woman might be willing to proceed, and this played a role in investigators' decision to contact her.

A spokesman for Anonymous couldn't immediately be reached for comment.

Nov 13 2015

WEST KELOWNA, B.C. - A West Kelowna, B.C., man has been arrested after a break-in at the home of an 85-year-old woman who fought back against her attacker.

RCMP say a man broke through the kitchen window of the home at around 2:45 a.m. on Oct. 25.

Const. Jesse O'Donaghey says the suspect tried to tie the woman up with a phone cord and gag her during a struggle that lasted 20 minutes.

The woman who suffered minor injuries eventually got away and ran to a neighbor's house.

bour's house.

O'Donaghey says the suspect stole the woman's wallet and was arrested the next day after her credit cards were used at several stores.

Twenty-four year-old Benjamin Barnhart is expected to appear in court on Monday.

Nov 13 2015

OTTAWA - Prime Minister Justin Trudeau gave his ministers their formal marching orders on Friday. Much of what their so-called mandate letters contained came straight from the Liberal campaign platform, but there were some fresh details.

Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould:

- Review litigation strategy to end ap-

peals or positions that are not consistent with Liberal commitments, values, or the charter.

- Assess changes made in the criminal justice system and sentencing reforms over the last decade to ensure they increase community safety, provide value for money and are aligned with the objectives of the criminal justice system.

- Look at increased use of restorative justice processes and other initiatives to reduce the rate of incarceration amongst aboriginals.
- Implement the recommendations from the Ashley Smith inquest regarding the restriction of the use of solitary confinement and the treatment of those with mental illness.
- Modernize the criminal justice system in co-operation with the provinces and territo-

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ries to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

- Explore sentencing alternatives and bail reform and the creation of a unified family court.

Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale:

- Work with provinces and territories, indigenous peoples and municipalities to develop a comprehensive action plan to better predict, prepare for and respond to weather-related emergencies and natural disasters.
- Work with the minister of justice and the minister of indigenous and northern affairs to address gaps in services to aboriginals and those with mental illness throughout the criminal justice system.

Nov 13 2015

RED DEER, Alta. - Alberta's Justice Department has ordered an investigation after a man was found dead in Red Deer following a chase by RCMP.

Mounties found the man's body in a wooded area of the city on Wednesday.

RCMP say they believe officers were the last people to see the man alive on Oct. 6 when they were pursuing a stolen vehicle.

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team says an autopsy found no evidence to suggest the 45-year old man died as a result of any physical injury or direct contact with police.

ASIRT says its investigation will focus on the circumstances surrounding what happened on Oct. 6 to determine whether anything police did contributed to the man's death.

RCMP say the man was reported missing by his family on Oct. 21.

ASIRT investigates incidents involving Alberta police that result in serious injury or death to any person.

Nov 13 2015

CALGARY - Two men are being accused of impersonating Calgary police officers last month.

It started when police were called about several vehicles being pulled over on Oct. 24.

The vehicle had a flashing strobe light, and the officers demanded cash from the drivers.

In the last incident, a person was forced to stop, pulled from his vehicle and robbed.

Matthew Owen Osberg, who is 20, and 24-year-old Tyler Lance Sanderson face charges including "falsely representing themselves to be a peace officer, extortion and robbery."

(CHQR)

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 14, 2015

Nov 14 2015

TORONTO - National police have charged two Toronto men with allegedly illegally importing almost a kilogram of heroin in video game consoles.

Investigators say Canada Border Services officers in Vancouver intercepted a pack-

age from Malaysia that contained about 989 grams of heroin, concealed in a number of video game consoles on Nov. 2. They say the package was destined for Toronto.

Police say they arrested the two Toronto men Nov. 6.

Peter Ukwuaba, 48, was charged with importing drugs into Canada, conspiracy to traffic a controlled substance and obstruction of a police officer. He appeared in court Nov. 12, when he was charged with another count of importing heroin. RCMP say he remains in custody, and will appear in a Brampton court Nov. 16.

Samuel Anike, 45, was charged with possession of drugs for the purpose of traf-

ficking and conspiracy to traffic a controlled substance. Police say he was released Nov. 9, and will appear in a Toronto court on Dec. 12.

Nov 14 2015

MISSISSAUGA, Ont. - Ontario's police watchdog has been called in to investigate a shooting incident in Mississauga.

The Special Investigations Unit says Peel Regional Police officers responded to a call (at Golden Orchard Drive and Grand Forks Road) just after 1 a.m. today.

The SIU says there was an interaction between the officers and a 26-year-old man, and the man was shot. Peel police confirmed

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on Twitter that the man was shot by police.

Investigators say he was taken to St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto for treatment of injuries they say are not life-threatening.

Three investigators and two forensic investigators have been assigned to the case.

The SIU is automatically called in whenever someone is seriously hurt or killed in incidents involving police.

Nov 14 2015

MONCTON, N.B. - A Fredericton man is facing sexual assault and indecent exposure charges following three incidents in Moncton last week.

Police say Adegoke Lawal, 28, has been charged with two counts of sexual assault, one count of indecent exposure and two counts of breach of court undertakings.

Police say officers received a complaint on Nov. 4 that a 57-year-old woman had been sexually assaulted at a billiards room in Moncton and that a man had exposed himself to a 28-year-old woman in the same establishment.

On Nov. 8, police received a complaint that a 45-year-old woman had also been assaulted four days earlier at a motel just outside of Moncton.

The investigation led to the arrest of Lawal by Fredericton police this past Tuesday.

Police say investigators believe there may be more victims.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2015

Nov 15 2015

TORONTO - A self-published fictional ebook purportedly written by notorious Canadian killer Paul Bernardo is no longer for sale on Amazon.

The online retailer did not immediately respond to an email asking whether it removed "A Mad World Order" from its site.

A web search did not turn up the 631 page fictional work that involved a plot to return Russia to a world power.

Bernardo is serving a life sentence for the brutal murders of Ontario teenagers Leslie Mahaffy and Kristen French in the early 1990s.

Word of the ebook provoked an angry reaction, with many customers posting on Amazon that they would no longer do business with the retail site as it was heading into the Christmas shopping season.

could not confirm Bernardo is the author, but his lawyer told Global TV last week he was aware that his client was writing a book.

The Correctional Service of Canada said the book did not relate Bernardo's "specific" crimes, but it couldn't explain how it was published as federal inmates have no access to the Internet or email.

Attempts to enter a weblink to the book on Amazon produced "We're sorry. The Web address you entered is not a functioning page on our site."

Nov 15 2015

LONDON, Ont. - A London, Ont., man is facing a total of 18 charges after an early-morning crime spree Saturday.

Police say the man was breaking into cars at about 7:30 a.m. Saturday, and he physically assaulted a witness.

They say they were called to the scene, but the suspect had fled.

Investigators say the man allegedly entered a nearby home, grabbed a kitchen knife and demanded the keys to the homeowner's vehicle.

They say he failed to steal the vehicle, and ran off. Police located the man, still in possession of the knife, hiding in a neighbour's shed.

Police say the man originally gave a fake name, but they eventually discovered his identity.

Bernard Ingraham, 24, faces numerous criminal charges including threats of death and assault.

Nov 15 2015

ST. JOHN'S, N.L. - A woman in Newfoundland was pulled over with more than \$17,000 in outstanding fines.

Police in St John's say the 47-year-old woman was pulled over during a traffic stop Saturday night and was found to be operating the vehicle without a valid drivers licence, not wearing a seatbelt, speeding and running a red light.

It was then, police say, it was discovered she already owed more than \$17,000 in fines.

Police say the vehicle was released to the male passenger who was with the woman.

Nov 15 2015

PETERBOROUGH - Just a half hour before their mosque was set ablaze on Saturday, members of the Kawartha Muslim Religious Association were in the building celebrating the birth of a baby, said the president of the association, Kenzu Abdella.



Shortly after the party left, a neighbour noticed smoke and called 911.

The fire was set deliberately around 11 p.m., police confirmed Sunday. Abdella said the group left at 10:30 p.m.

Police say they don't know the motive, and they don't have a suspect. They couldn't say whether the fire was connected to the attacks in Paris that the Islamic State is taking credit for.

However a Muslim group is calling for police to treat the fire as a hate crime.

"We call on authorities to investigate this arson as a hate crime so a clear message is

sent that these acts have no place in our communities," Ihsaan Gardee, executive director of the National Council of Canadian Muslims, said in a statement late Sunday.

"This attack is very disturbing. The mosque is regularly attended by families with young children. We are relieved no one was injured as this incident could have been much worse," Gardee said.

The Peterborough fire department has pegged damages to the mosque at \$80,000, though the building's exterior is relatively unscathed.

Abdella said the inside of the building is charred black with smoke damage.

"It's not what we expected," he said. "We thought it was minor."

For now, the building is unusable, and he isn't sure where they'll go for their five-times-daily prayers while it's being repaired.

He said he was shocked when he first heard about the fire, and that it was being treated as suspicious.

"The Muslim community has a very good relationship with the Peterborough community," he said. "We had an open house just last year, and the mayor was here."

Now Abdella knows the fire was deliberate, he believes it to be a hate crime.

"I'm devastated," he said. "Children pray here."

But he said the Peterborough community has been supportive in the hours since the fire, and for that, he's immensely grateful.

Peterborough MP and federal Minister of Democratic Institutions Maryam Monsef wrote in a statement, "My thoughts are with the families who visit the mosque for prayer every week."

She added, "I wish to take this moment to remind us all that Peterborough-Kawartha is a warm and generous community ... I know that the residents of Peterborough-Kawartha will be as upset as I am about this incident, and together we will continue to demonstrate that these sorts of incidents are in no way reflective of our community as a whole."

Peterborough Mayor Daryl Bennett also issued a statement condemning the fire.

"Attacking a place of worship is a despicable act," the statement said. "Masjid Al-Salaam, the name of the mosque, means mosque of peace."

An online fundraising campaign was started Sunday to raise money for the mosque. It had raised more than \$22,000 dollars by Sunday evening.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2015

Nov 16 2015

KITCHENER, Ont. - Police in Kitchener, Ont., are investigating vandalism at a Hindu temple.

Ram Dham Hindu Temple president Dilip Dav says several windows at the rear entrance of the temple were shattered late Sunday night.

He says no one inside the temple was in-

jured and they were unable to see who did the damage.

The incident follows an arson attack on a Peterborough, Ont., mosque on Saturday.

Investigators say they haven't drawn any link between the attacks and Friday's attacks in Paris that killed at least 129 people.

Nov 16 2015

CALGARY - Four people from Calgary are facing dozens of charges after pickup trucks, SUVs and a Bentley luxury car were stolen during test drives arranged through online classified ads.

Police say they recovered nine cars and trucks worth more than \$300,000 in a three-month investigation.

They say people using an online site to privately sell their vehicles were contacted by a suspect claiming to be a potential buyer and wanting a test drive.

A meeting was arranged and the suspect drove away when the owners momentarily stepped out of their vehicles.

Police say one owner was seriously hurt when he tried to stop a theft in September, but has since recovered.

Investigators believe the suspects were stealing the vehicles for personal use and it does not appear there is a connection to organized crime.

Alexandre Alfred Beck-Quenneville, 23, faces 46 charges that include numerous counts of theft and possession of stolen property.

Kirk Leslie Nazeil, 28, faces 10 charges that include hit and run causing injury.

Christina Louise Ramchuk, 26, faces six charges and Lacey Victoria Cecile Tiedemann faces four.

Nov 16 2015

OTTAWA - The Liberal government is abandoning a highly controversial court challenge involving the niqab.

The Conservatives had asked the Supreme Court of Canada to hear an appeal of a ruling that said it was unlawful to prohibit women from wearing a face covering at a citizenship ceremony.

Stephen Harper's government argued it was important for new citizens to show their face at the moment they become Canadian.

The Liberals accused the Conservatives of using the niqab, which is worn by only a small number of women, as a distraction and a wedge issue during the recent federal election campaign.

Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould and Immigration Minister John McCallum say the court application has been discontinued.

In a statement, they say Canada's diversity is among its greatest strengths, and the Liberals are ensuring that successful citizenship candidates continue to be included in the Canadian family.

Nov 16 2015

VANCOUVER - The City of Vancouver has settled in a wrongful conviction lawsuit launched by a B.C. man who spent decades behind bars before being acquitted on 10 counts of sexual assault.

The city settled with Ivan Henry midway through the lengthy trial process, but the provincial and federal governments remain as defendants in the legal action.

"One third of the way there," said Henry, smiling outside the courtroom. "We're not done yet."

A statement released in B.C. Supreme Court says the City of Vancouver unequivocally withdraws its allegations in its opening statement, saying Henry was guilty of the crimes.

The trial was to establish Henry's right to compensation, but his lawyer noted during the hearing that the city still hadn't accepted the B.C. Court of Appeal decision that Henry was innocent.

The settlement also resolves any claims Henry has made against the Vancouver Police Department.

Neither the terms nor the amount of the settlement are not being released.

Henry's lawyer, John Laxton, said the drawn-out trial has been "very difficult" for his client.

"I would say even traumatic," said Laxton. "The fact that this city has withdrawn all these allegations is a great relief to him."

Henry's daughter, Tanya Olivares, described the settlement with the city as "positive."

Henry is suing for damages after the B.C. Appeal Court ruled in 2010 that he was wrongfully convicted on 10 counts of sexual assault in 1983.

It took more than a quarter century and upwards of 40 applications filed by Henry and his daughters before the appeal court quashed the convictions in 2010.

Fellowship of Christian Peace Officers – Canada



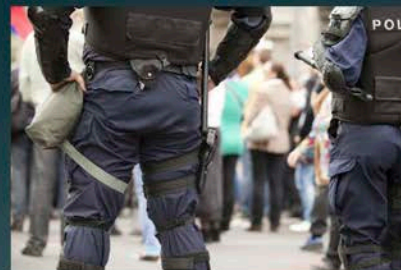
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OTTAWA - The level of jihadist militancy simmering in France and other parts of western Europe simply doesn't exist in Canada, making the sort of attack that devastated Paris less likely, security experts say.



In France and Belgium there are tens of thousands of people who, while not terrorists, sympathize with the ideology espoused by radical elements like the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, said Phil Gurski, a former Canadian Security Intelligence Service analyst who specializes in counter-radicalization efforts.

"We don't have that here - not to the best of our knowledge," Gurski said in an interview.

"I think we have to acknowledge that there are some significant differences."

Last year Michael Zehaf Bibeau shot Cpl. Nathan Cirillo, an honour guard at the National War Memorial, before rushing into Parliament's Centre Block. Zehaf Bibeau was quickly gunned down.

Two days earlier, Martin Couture-Rouleau had fatally rammed Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent with a car in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Que. After a chase, police shot and killed the knife-wielding assailant.

While Canada has been hit by jihadi-inspired lone-wolf attacks, there has been nothing like the co-ordinated assaults on multiple targets in Paris that claimed 129 lives and injured hundreds of others, said Jez Littlewood of the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University in Ottawa.

"That's not something we've seen Canadian terrorists actually being able to carry out."

Canada is pursuing a significantly smaller proportion of counter-terrorism investigations than some European nations, and a relatively low number of Canadians - between 45 and 60 - have headed to Iraq and Syria as foreign fighters, experts say.

At the same time, Canada has generally been perceived as less of a target of interest than some allies for jihadi-motivated extremists.

"Things are better here. I can't imagine a scenario where Canada gets like that," Gurski said. "I really can't. And I'm not sure I know why, but whatever it is we're doing here, we're doing it right for the most part."

Littlewood points to a more civil political discourse in Canada that has avoided "openly hostile" messages to immigrants and refugees of the kind spouted by the far right in France.

"No western democracy is perfect in this realm - I don't think any of us would say that," Littlewood said.

But he quickly adds that Canada "seems to be faring better" than France in terms of ensuring a sense of identity and belonging for newcomers.

Gurski spent almost 13 years at CSIS be-

fore moving to Public Safety Canada and now works as a private threat and risk consultant. He has been openly critical of the previous Conservative government's harsh tone toward the Muslim community - something he believes strained delicate bonds of trust.

He applauds as a welcome shift the Liberal government's promise to create an office of community outreach and counter-radicalization.

"This is your early intervention," he said. "You can work with communities, you can work with local law enforcement."

In addition, it is much less intimidating and expensive than a CSIS or police investigation.

Security experts say that despite such efforts no one can promise all violent plots will be averted.

"You're going to have attacks periodically, you're going to have arrests periodically," Gurski said. "This is what life is in 2015 and unfortunately it's going to be this way for the next couple decades."

Nov 16 2015

CALGARY - A woman has pleaded guilty to manslaughter in the death of a 21-month-old toddler who was in her care at a Calgary day home.

Mackenzie Woolfsmith was critically injured at the home in May 2012 and died from her injuries the next day.

The medical examiner determined that the child died of blunt-force trauma.

Day-home operator Caitlin Jarosz told police that the child had fallen down the stairs, but it was determined that the toddler's injuries didn't match that explanation.

The major crimes section took over and Jarosz was charged with second-degree murder.

She pleaded guilty to the lesser manslaughter charge after a deal was reached between the defence and the Crown.

"The evidence really was lining up that manslaughter would be the just and right verdict on this, because it looked like it was a sudden burst of anger, rather than something that was an intention to kill," prosecutor Shane Parker said Monday on what was to be the first day of Jarosz's trial.

"She was remorseful the first day I met her when she came into my office," defence lawyer Alain Hepner told reporters outside court.

Jarosz is to undergo a psychiatric assessment and is scheduled to be back in court in March.

(CTV Calgary, CHQR)

**TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 17, 2015**

Nov 17 2015

TORONTO - Ontario's Special Investigations Unit has been called in to probe a police-related shooting in Toronto late Monday night.

The SIU says police received a 911 call at about 10:20 p.m. and responded to a north-end home (near Finch Avenue and Highway 404).

The agency says a 45-year-old woman was shot during "an interaction" with the of-

ficers and was taken to hospital with unspecified injuries.

Four investigators and three forensic investigators have been assigned to investigate this incident.

There was no immediate information on the nature of the initial 911.

The SIU investigates all reports involving police that result in death, serious injury or allegations of sexual assault.

Nov 17 2015

TORONTO - Police in Toronto are investigating the assault and robbery of a Muslim woman near an elementary school in the city, saying the incident appears "motivated by hate."

The assault came two days after a mosque in Peterborough, Ont., was set ablaze in the aftermath of last week's terrorist attacks in Paris that left 129 people dead.

Peterborough police are investigating the fire as a hate crime and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau assured Muslim Canadians the federal government would work hard to find those responsible.

The Toronto assault took place around 3 p.m. on Monday near the mid-town Grenoble Public School while a woman was on her way to pick up her son.

Police said the woman, who was wearing a hijab, was approached by two men and attacked.

"It was a completely unprovoked attack," said Const. Victor Kwong. "She was punched all over and kicked."

The two men hurled slurs that were "bigoted in nature" at the woman and tried to rip off her hijab, Kwong said.

The woman fell to the ground and was robbed of her cellphone and some money before the two men fled the area, he said.

The entire incident was observed by a witness who called police, he said. The woman was taken to hospital to be treated for non-life threatening injuries.

Police said they are currently interviewing witnesses, gathering surveillance video from the area and asking anyone with information to contact them.

"There's no doubt that this is hate-motivated," Kwong said, noting that police typically see a spike in such incidents after events like the attacks in Paris.

The Islamic State group has claimed responsibility for attacks Friday in Paris that sent shock waves around the world.

French officials say the attacks were carried out by disaffected French Muslims under the supervision of a Belgian who had fought in Syria.

Nov 17 2015

DELTA, B.C. - Friday the 13th of November was a lucky day for police in Delta, B.C., as they resolved a six-year-old case and helped remove a convicted sex offender from Canada.

George Wilcox was taken from a Metro Vancouver jail cell he had occupied since his arrest in Delta in 2012, and handed over to

United States authorities to face sentencing for abusing his brain-injured, quadriplegic stepson.

Fifty-seven-year-old Wilcox has been on the run since 2009 when he failed to appear at his Arizona trial and was convicted in absentia of two counts of sexual interference.

That same year, Delta Police Chief Neil Dubord says the department learned Wilcox, a Canadian citizen, might have fled to that municipality south of Vancouver.

He was behind bars for three years while extradition proceedings were underway.

In addition to sentencing on the Arizona convictions, Wilcox faces two further counts of sexual conduct with a minor and, under Arizona law, could face up to 27 years in prison.

Nov 17 2015

TORONTO - A handful of Toronto police incident reports involving a couple who killed a seven-year-old girl in their care will be included as evidence in the coroner's inquest into her death, the presiding coroner ruled Tuesday.

Other police reports will not be entered as exhibits but witnesses testifying at the Katelynn Sampson inquest can be asked about their content, Dr. William Lucas said. And one report will be fully excluded as it dates back to 1998, far beyond the time frame examined by the inquest, he said.

Police on Friday turned over nearly 1,000

pages of documents detailing past interactions with Donna Irving and Warren Johnson, including domestic incidents during their relationship and with previous partners.

The documents were requested in a notice of motion filed last week by the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth, which argued the reports provide crucial information that will help understand the circumstances that led to Katelynn's death in 2008.

"The question that this raises is what should police be doing" when it comes to flagging incidents that don't lead to criminal charges, the advocate's lawyer, Freya Kristjanson, said in pushing for the documents to be included.

The reports "could form the basis for important recommendations," she said.

Most parties had expressed some support for the motion, although some raised concerns that including the reports would lengthen the inquest or broaden it beyond its original scope.

Three incident reports involving Irving in a household where children were present will now be included in the proceedings, and the content of more than a dozen reports involving the pair in a household without children may be put to witnesses.

In delivering his ruling, Lucas said it was reasonable to ask child welfare workers whether the information would have been useful in assessing the risk to Katelynn or in

planning the services offered to her guardians. But he stressed they shouldn't be asked whether police should have disclosed the information, since they have no knowledge of police procedures.

The inquest has heard that two child welfare organizations - the Children's Aid Society of Toronto and Native Child and Family Services - were contacted about Katelynn or had dealings with her guardians while she was living with them.

Katelynn's mother, Bernice Sampson, was addicted to crack and gave her daughter to Irving and Johnson in a misguided attempt to give Katelynn a better life. Sampson's other children had already become wards of the Crown and she did not want to lose access to Katelynn in the same way.

It was later revealed that a judge granted custody to Irving despite her criminal convictions for prostitution, drugs and violence. Johnson also had several convictions.

Katelynn was beaten for months and died from septic shock on Aug. 3, 2008.

The couple pleaded guilty three years ago of second-degree murder in the girl's death and were sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole for 15 years.

The Children's Aid Society is expected to testify at the inquest later Tuesday.

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Nov 17 2015

NEWMARKET, Ont. - Police say a former pharmacist has been sentenced to 18 years in prison after pleading guilty to drugging and sexually assaulting sex workers.

In May, 62-year-old Allen Chow, of Toronto, pleaded guilty to 36 charges related to the assaults. He was sentenced to 18 years in prison Friday, with no chance of parole for six years.

Police say he drugged women, many of whom worked in the sex trade, to the point of unconsciousness, and photographed or videotaped them as he sexually assaulted them.

They say many of the women weren't even aware they had been videotaped.

They say Chow frequented Belleville, Cobourg, Oshawa, Toronto and Markham.

Nov 17 2015

TORONTO - An inquest will be held next year into the death of a man who was shot by a Toronto police officer five years ago.

Eric Osawe, 26, died on Sept. 29, 2010, after being fatally shot by Const. David Cavanagh during a drug and weapon search.

Cavanagh, who was cleared of homicide charges, was part of an Emergency Task Force team that burst into Osawe's west-end Toronto apartment on a search warrant for cocaine and a handgun.

Court heard Osawe struggled with several officers as Cavanagh turned him onto his chest, trying to subdue and handcuff him, and Cavanagh's MP5 submachine-gun went off.

Superior Court Judge Michael Quigley ruled that Cavanagh likely let go of his gun, which was connected to the front of his vest by a sling, which meant it pointed downward and discharged after getting caught on another item on Cavanagh's vest.

Coroner Dr. James Edwards says the inquest is to begin on Jan.

Nov 17 2015

LONDON, Ont. - An 84-year-old woman will appear in court Wednesday to face a charge of attempted murder.

Police in London, Ont., allege the woman gave her 83-year-old husband medication on Sunday, and then took the medication herself in an attempted murder-suicide.

Both the woman and her husband became ill as a result of the drugs, and were transported to hospital. Her husband has since been released.

Investigators say the woman's husband has dementia and lives in a long-term care facility, but the incident took place at the woman's home.

They say two animals also were given the medication, and neither was harmed.

Police say they won't release the woman's name in an effort to protect the identity of her husband.

Nov 17 2015

OTTAWA - The RCMP turned to its closest allies this week for advice on

countering violent extremists and a leading expert says Canada is finally making strides on addressing home-grown radicalism.



Lorne Dawson, a University of Waterloo sociology professor, helped the Mounties with an intensive session Monday at RCMP headquarters aimed at learning from experiences in Australia, Britain and the United States.

The meeting was planned long before the devastating terrorist attacks in Paris - assaults that have rekindled concern about extremist activity in Canada.

Dawson, co-director of the Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security and Society, says he was pessimistic as recently as eight months ago about counter-radicalization efforts in Canada.

While the RCMP - the lead agency on the file - continues to lag behind allies, it looks like initiatives are now on track, Dawson said in an interview.

"It's finally got to the point where it seems in Canada, we're saying, 'Yes, we're going to do something about this.'"

"The missing component is the buy-in from the new government," he said, quickly adding that early signs are positive.

Dawson hopes the recently elected Liberals will fulfil their promise of creating a federal co-ordinator on counter-radicalization and community outreach - something he sees as a key ingredient for national success.

Money will also be needed, he said, noting Canada spends only a fraction of the tens of millions of dollars Australia has devoted to dealing with extremism.

While some of Canada's international partners have done more to keep young people off the dangerous path of radical jihadism, Canadian agencies stand to learn from their missteps and adopt practices that are actually working, Dawson said.

He pointed to efforts in Australia to develop a system of hubs in major centres to provide assistance and counselling for people.

In the United States, the Federal Bureau of Investigation is working with federal partners to empower local agencies to prevent extremists and their supporters from inspiring, radicalizing or recruiting others to their cause.

"The RCMP, with more money and assistance, can handle - and is moving towards handling better - that intervention stage and developing a whole proper system for doing that," Dawson said.

Several municipal initiatives are also underway. Successful programs will bring together police, social workers and psychologists, Dawson said.

A co-ordinator of the kind proposed by the Liberals could help oversee national efforts and help design broad-based prevention strategies.

A final component is needed to deal with extremists who have been jailed for their crimes, Dawson believes.

"We need to start working more effectively with Corrections Canada to develop programs in prisons and to develop programs for after release - because most of the terrorists we're dealing with are going to be released."

Nov 17 2015

BRANDON, Man. - A hostage-taking that began with a businessman being forced into his own car at gunpoint has ended safely.

Police say a suspect entered a business in Brandon, Man., with a loaded rifle and took the owner hostage.

The suspect tried to force the owner to drive to another spot in the city to find a third man.

The suspect said he was going to shoot the hostage, the other man and himself.

Employees in the store fled and called police, who arrived before the car left.

Guns drawn, officers approached the vehicle, and the suspect surrendered.

"No shots were fired, everyone is safe and the male is now in custody at our head office," Sgt. K.N. McLean said Tuesday.

McLean would not say which business was involved.

Police aren't yet sure exactly what happened. They would only say some kind of disagreement escalated.

"They are known to each other, along with the third individual that they were going to go find. They all know each other," said McLean.

Police confirmed the suspect never worked at the business.

A 35-year-old man is in custody and faces a string of offences, including forcible confinement.

He is to appear in Brandon court Wednesday.

Nov 17 2015

BRAMPTON, Ont. - Peel police say they've arrested and charged a 23-year-old man following a three-year homicide investigation.

Police say 19-year-old Andrew DaCosta died from multiple stab wounds at a Brampton, Ont., home on Oct. 19, 2012.

Investigators say Dwayne Gordon of Brampton was arrested on Tuesday and has been charged with first-degree murder.

Gordon is to appear in court on Wednesday for a bail hearing.

Nov 17 2015

BURNABY, B.C. - Skeletal remains found nearly nine years ago on an island off British Columbia's Sunshine Coast have been identified through DNA analysis.

The BC Coroners Service says Burnaby resident Lan Ping Leung, also known as Monica Tam, went missing in 2006, but her absence wasn't reported by a friend until 2007.

The coroner says an intensive investigation failed to locate any sign of Leung.

A lighthouse keeper on Merry Island, near the community of Halfmoon Bay, spotted skeletal remains on Dec. 30, 2006, but they remained unidentified.

They were linked to Leung through DNA analysis during a recent review of cases by the coroners service and the BC Police Missing Persons Centre.

The coroners service is continuing its investigation.

Nov 17 2015

VANCOUVER - Vancouver police say officers seized 50 rounds of ammunition from a man during a recent sting using a bait bicycle.

Police say officers locked a bait bike in a rack in the city's downtown core on Sunday night.

The suspect broke the lock, removed the bike from the rack and walk off with it, but then officers arrested the 24-year-old, who police say is known to them.

Officers found tools and 50 rounds of ammunition during their search of the Vancouver resident.

About 3,000 bikes are stolen annually in the city, but hundreds can't be returned because police say their owners haven't recorded and reported the serial numbers.

Police have launched an online registry that tracks stolen bikes through their serial numbers.

Nov 17 2015

STONY MOUNTAIN, Man. - A lockdown at Stony Mountain Institution in southern Manitoba is over.

The medium- and maximum-security areas had been in lockdown mode since Thursday as staff conducted a search.

Reports suggest they were looking for contraband and drugs.

It's unclear what specifically triggered the search, however there are no reports of any injuries.

Normal activities have now resumed.

Nov 17 2015

MISSISSAUGA, ON - Police in Mississauga shot a young man whom they suspected was wearing an explosive device just hours after attackers in Paris killed 129 people using assault rifles and suicide vests.

The man was released from hospital after being struck four times shortly after 1 a.m. on Saturday, police said.

Hamza Mohamed Abdi, 26, faces one charge of possessing an imitation weapon for a dangerous purpose, two charges of uttering death threats and one charge of failing to comply with a recognizance.

Peel Regional Police said they responded to a report of a suicidal man at the intersection of Golden Orchard Drive and Grand Forks Road early Saturday. Once on scene, officers called in the Explosive Disposal Unit and warned neighbouring residents to seek safety in their basements.

"We got a call from police telling us to hurry down to the basement, but they wouldn't tell us why," said Sheila Stratigeas, who lives one door down from an outline of green paint on the pavement that marks where Mr. Abdi fell to the ground. "We couldn't figure out what was going on, but what happened in France was on our minds."

Ms. Stratigeas and her husband remained in the basement watching news coverage of the Paris attacks until around 3 a.m., when police said it was safe to return upstairs.

As with all Ontario shootings involving police, the investigation has been handed over to the independent Special Investigation Unit (SIU).

A spokesman for the SIU said that four investigators and two forensic specialists have been assigned to the case. The investigators have designated one subject officer and six witness officers, but little other information was available on Tuesday.

"Investigators are working to determine the circumstances leading to the shooting as well as particulars of the incident," SIU spokesman Jason Gennaro said by e-mail. "At this point, the investigation is ongoing and I'm unable to confirm details or comment further."

Peel police also deferred comment because the investigation is in the SIU's hands.

One neighbour who watched parts of the encounter said police first engaged a distraught man on the grounds of Burnhamthorpe Public School. A report in the Toronto Sun cited unnamed police sources as saying the man appeared to be wearing an explosive vest and held something that looked like a trigger device.

Mr. Abdi had a bail hearing on Sunday and is scheduled to appear in court again on Thursday.
(The Globe and Mail)

**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 18, 2015**

Nov 18 2015

TORONTO - Toronto police say they've arrested a 17-year-old boy and charged him with child pornography offences.

Police say the boy allegedly posed online as a 15-year-old girl between September 2014 and April this year to lure a child.

They say he then allegedly distributed the child's images.

Police say the teen communicated with the child through various social media applications including Snapchat, Facebook and Instagram using the usernames of Amanda and PencilCrayons, among others.

The teen, who cannot be named, is charged with luring a child under 18, extortion, two counts of distributing child pornography, possession of child pornography and accessing child pornography.

Police believe there may be other victims.

Nov 18 2015

Montreal police say they have arrested a man in connection with a YouTube video in which someone says one Arab would be murdered in Quebec every week.

Spokesman Andre Leclerc says the arrest was made early this morning.

The person in the video could be seen brandishing what looks like a pistol as he made the threats and spoke about last week's terrorist attacks in Paris that left 129 people dead.

Leclerc says a weapon with compressed air was confiscated when they arrested the 24-year-old man.

He is expected to be arraigned later today on various charges, including uttering threats, although Leclerc says there might also be charges related to inciting hatred.

The video surfaced on Tuesday and followed an attack on a Muslim woman near an elementary school in Toronto that police said appeared to be "motivated by hate."

That incident came two days after a mosque in Peterborough, Ont., was set ablaze in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks in France.

Nov 18 2015

TORONTO - A 21-year-old man is suing Toronto police for what he alleges was a brutal beating during a mistaken arrest.

In his unproven statement of claim, Santokh Bola says he suffered serious injuries.

The incident in a west-end parking lot on Nov. 1 was caught on video by a bystander.

According to the claim, Bola was getting out of his car when two officers, guns drawn, approached him.

He alleges they then punched and kicked him.

There was no immediate comment from police.

No charges were laid.

Nov 18 2015

TORONTO - The Special Investigations Unit says it's probing the death of a 43-year-old man who was Tasered twice during an incident in Toronto.

The police watchdog agency says Toronto police officers went to a west-end apartment early on Nov. 6.

The SIU says the officers encountered a man in the apartment and Emergency Task Force officers were called for assistance.

During the interaction with the man, the SIU says two conducted energy weapons were deployed.

The man was taken to hospital where he

was pronounced dead the next day.

The SIU is an arm's length agency that investigates reports involving police where there has been death, serious injury or allegations of sexual assault.

Nov 18, 2015

OTTAWA - A Toronto man arrested for allegedly carrying a hidden weapon at the entrance to the Centre Block of Parliament was remanded in custody Wednesday.

Yasin Ali, 56, was detained by the Parliamentary Protective Service on Tuesday after a security screening discovered what police say was a knife.

Ali made a brief court appearance Wednesday on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon.

Defence lawyer Peter Azzi said his client is due back in court on Friday and will be assessed by a doctor.

Neither Azzi nor the RCMP would discuss media reports that described the weapon as a meat cleaver.

However, RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson applauded the "great job" by the protective service, for which the Mounties have day-to-day responsibility.

"The individual was identified behaving oddly, suspiciously. And one of our officers challenged him, saw the knife, took him into custody," Paulson said.

"I understand that it is less a concern around so-called national security considerations than it is a mental-health issue."

Security on Parliament Hill has been tight since Oct. 22, 2014, when Michael Zehaf Bibeau gunned down a soldier at the nearby National War Memorial and sprinted through the main doors of Centre Block.

Moments later, the rifle-wielding Zehaf Bibeau died in a hail of bullets just outside the Library of Parliament, leading to a major reorganization of security on the Hill.

The RCMP had been responsible for the grounds of the parliamentary precinct, while House of Commons and Senate security forces had jurisdiction inside the Parliament Buildings.

The three have merged into a single service to manage security on Parliament Hill.

Nov 18, 2015

TORONTO - A Toronto officer who fired nine bullets at a teen on an empty streetcar had multiple alternatives to lethal force but didn't use them, his trial heard Wednesday.

Robert Warshaw - an expert on police use-of-force tactics - offered an analysis of the confrontation which triggered outrage across the city.

Robert Warshaw, who studied video and audio of the 2013 incident, said the 50 second standoff between Const. James Forcillo and 18-year-old Sammy Yatim "went from A to Z rather quickly."

"There were, in my view, alternatives at the time to the use of deadly force," Warshaw said, noting that Forcillo's options would

only have increased as more time went by.

"There was no single asset to officer Forcillo that was more valuable than time."

Forcillo has pleaded not guilty to second-degree murder and attempted murder in Yatim's death.

The jury has heard that Yatim had taken the drug ecstasy at some point before boarding a streetcar on which he eventually pulled out a small knife, causing panicked passengers to rush off the vehicle as it came to an abrupt stop.

Surveillance videos played in court have shown Forcillo arriving at the scene, yelling at Yatim to "drop the knife" and, after a confrontation that lasted less than a minute, firing nine bullets in two volleys.

Crown prosecutors have said they plan to prove that Forcillo's actions during the incident weren't necessary or reasonable. Forcillo's lawyer has said his client's actions were justified and carried out in self-defence.

Under questioning from a Crown prosecutor, Warshaw - a former American police officer who has helped several forces reform their operations - offered his views specifically on the "reasonable or viable alternatives" available to Forcillo around the time he fired the first volley.

"What level of risk did Yatim pose to officers on the street?" asked Crown lawyer Milan Rupic.

"At that point in time, in my judgement, none," Warshaw answered. "I did not see or hear anything that indicated that there was an imminence to any sort of attack being perpetrated by Mr. Yatim."

Warshaw said Forcillo "made no effort to have any interaction" with Yatim to determine whether there was anything on the young man's mind that could be mediated at the scene.

Forcillo could have asked Yatim for his name, asked him what the problem was, and whether anyone could be called for him in an attempt to connect with the teen, Warshaw said.

Police officers at the scene could also have used pepper spray to distract Yatim, used an expandable baton, used a switch on the outside of the streetcar to close the vehicle's doors or even simply waited for a superior to arrive on scene with a Taser, Warshaw said, but the situation appeared to show "no action plan" and "no tactical thinking."

"All of those opportunities to de-escalate the situation just never materialized, there was no effort," he said.

Warshaw noted that Yatim remained on the streetcar, near the front doors of the vehicle, when police arrived on scene, and was "essentially already contained."

The jury has heard both Forcillo and Yatim using profane language during the incident, but Warshaw said an officer's use of profanity likely doesn't help in such situations.

"A police officer who uses profanity as a means to underscore his authority is essentially bringing himself down to the level of the person he's attempting to bring under

control," he said. "It's somewhat difficult to migrate from that kind of language to de-escalating language where you're trying to be calming, and reassuring."

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 19, 2015

Nov 19, 2015

BATHURST, N.B. - RCMP have laid charges against two New Brunswick police officers in the shooting death of a 51-year-old man.

Michel Vienneau of Tracadie-Sheila was fired on in his vehicle near the Bathurst train station on Jan. 12.

A news release from Nova Scotia RCMP says constables Patrick Bulger, 38, and Mathieu Boudreau, 26, of the Bathurst City Police are each facing three charges of manslaughter with a weapon, assault with a weapon and unlawfully pointing a firearm.

The RCMP in Nova Scotia were asked to investigate the incident and concluded the investigation in July before handing it over to New Brunswick's Public Prosecution Service.

Both officers will appear in Bathurst provincial court on Jan. 4.

The New Brunswick Police Commission, which investigates complaints related to the conduct of police, has also launched an investigation into the two officers after a complaint made by the chief of the Bathurst police force.

That investigation has been suspended until the criminal process concludes.

Nov 19, 2015

MONCTON, N.B. - A hearing on alleged violations of the Canada Labour Code by the RCMP related to the force's response to a deadly shooting rampage last year in Moncton, New Brunswick, has been adjourned until next year.

Federal Crown Prosecutor Paul Adams told the court today the defence wants to provide the Crown with more information.

Provincial court Judge Troy Sweet adjourned the matter until January 22, but noted the case had been delayed since July.

Employment and Social Development Canada alleges there were four violations of the code relating to the force's equipment, training and supervision in the June 4, 2014 incident that terrorized the New Brunswick city and resulted in the deaths of three Mounties.

Justin Bourque murdered constables Doug Larche, Fabrice Gevaudan and Dave Ross, and constables Eric Dubois and Darlene Goguen were wounded in the city's north end.

An RCMP review of the shootings said officers responding to the shootings faced a litany of problems communicating accurate information, accessing high-powered weaponry and securing protective equipment.

VANCOUVER - A B-C Supreme Court judge says she will vet confidential legal documents the RCMP received during an undercover terrorism sting before turning them over to the defence.

Justice Catherine Bruce has not yet ruled whether the Mounties entrapped John Nuttall and Amanda Korody into plotting to blow up the B-C legislature in 2013.

But she says in a ruling that the Mounties may be guilty of knowingly facilitating a terrorist act.

Bruce has ordered the police to disclose the legal advice they received about running the undercover affair.

Such communications are normally protected under solicitor-client privilege.

But Bruce says the Mounties waived that right by willingly disclosing a portion of that information in court.

Nuttall and Korody were found guilty earlier this year of planning to detonate homemade pressure-cooker explosives during Canada Day celebrations two years ago.

Nov 19 2015

MONTREAL - The heads of the most powerful criminal organizations in Montreal were rounded up Thursday as part of a drug trafficking investigation that has shaken up the city's underworld and uncovered an incredible murder plot.



Leonardo Rizzuto, 46, and his longtime friend Stefano Sollecito, 48, were described as being the new heads of the Mafia in Montreal after more than 200 police officers made 48 arrests as part of two investigations - Projects Magot and Mastiff - that were joined together and revealed the Mafia, the Hells Angels and the city's major street gangs were working in concert to control drug trafficking in the city.

Rizzuto is the son of Vito Rizzuto, the former head of the Mafia in Montreal who died of natural causes near the end of 2013. Sollecito is the son of Rocco Sollecito, a longtime Mafia leader who remained loyal to the organization while attempts were made to overtake it four years ago.

The police also alleged that Loris Cavaliere, 61, a longtime defence lawyer, used his office in Little Italy on St-Laurent Blvd., as a place where the major players assumed they could meet in private because of the protection lawyers have to keep their discussion with clients secret. Cavaliere was arrested Thursday morning and is charged with "par-

ticipating or contributing to the activity of a criminal organization" to facilitate its crimes.

Police frequently kept an eye on Vito's children, particularly his sons, Leonardo (born in 1969) and Nicolo (born 1967), because of a Sicilian Mafia tradition of male heirs often moving into the family business.

Cavaliere has also long fallen under suspicion.

In 2014, a U.S. prosecutor called him the "house counsel" for the Montreal Mafia and Vito's "personal attorney."

Cavaliere denied being a criminal: "Are they saying I'm part of the Rizzuto family?" Cavaliere told the Post then. "Whatever link they're trying to make is a crock of shit."

Salvatore Cazzetta, 60, a longtime member of the Hells Angels and one of its more influential members in Quebec, was also arrested on Thursday. He is alleged to be the man who handled the money for the alliance between the Mafia, Hells Angels and street gangs.

Sûreté du Québec Chief Inspector Patrick Belanger said the combined investigations

"allowed the arrests of the very influential heads of organized crime who formed an alliance" between the Hells Angels, Mafia and street gangs.

"This alliance was born out of a desire to control territory, particularly drug trafficking, and more particularly the area of Montreal, and to share revenues," Belanger said. "During the investigation, Gregory Woolley, 43, of St-Hubert, was identified as the head of street gangs and also an influential player within the alliance."

Those targeted are alleged to have control of several sources for the supply and distribution of drugs in the Montreal area.

An organizational chart presented at the press conference by the Sûreté du Québec indicates that Cavaliere acted as a go-between for the Mafia and members of street gangs. His office was allegedly used for meetings between high-level members of organized crime.

Charges against those arrested include gangsterism, drug trafficking and conspiracy to commit murder.



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