



PCAWA

PEEL COMMITTEE AGAINST WOMAN ABUSE

Peel Region's Femicide List 2014



Introduction

The United Nations, in its “Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women” defines violence against women as “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion, or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.”

Gender-based violence in Canada is a serious and widespread societal problem. Fifty percent of Canadian women have experienced at least one incident of physical or sexual violence since the age of 16 (Statistics Canada, 1993) and on average, every 6 days a woman is killed by her intimate partner (Statistics Canada, 2011). These statistics are alarming and demonstrate that women are disproportionately targeted for violence as a result of their gender, buttressed by their socio-political and economic marginalization across communities.

The underlying causes of violence against women are multifaceted but related to imbalances in power between the perpetrator and victim/survivor of violence.

Too often women’s lived experiences of violence go unreported, and when reported/shared- minimized or all-together ignored. This list was created to honour and remember the women and children in our community who lost their lives due to gender-based violence.

Three women were murdered in Peel Region during 2014. The following are the stories of these three women whose lives were taken.

Who We Are

The Peel committee against Woman Abuse (PCAWA) is the domestic violence community coordination committee (DV3C) for the Region of Peel. Comprised of various Peel agencies, our mandate is to promote a comprehensive and effective response to woman abuse, which we define as the actual or threatened physical, psychological, sexual, financial, verbal, or spiritual abuse of a woman by someone with who she has/or has had an intimate, familial or romantic relationship, as well as violence occurring outside of any familiar relationship such as violence perpetrated by a stranger.

Our vision is to eliminate all violence against women, by facilitating and advocating for a coordinated and effective community response to violence against women in the Region of Peel.

For more information on the PCAWA, you can contact Toni Francis, Coordinator, at :

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Special thanks to Tasleem Rasool for her support in the research and development of this list.

If there is a woman and her children in Peel Region who we may have missed, please email:

pcawa@pcawa.org / Sources used: Mississauga News, Brampton Guardian, Toronto Star, CBC, Maclean’s

PCAWA is funded by:



Anita Summan



Age: 51

Date of Femicide: January 21 2014

Sources: Brampton Guardian, Maclean's

Anita Summan was stabbed to death on January 21st 2014 in her Brampton home by her common-law partner, Iqbal Singh. Anita's friend who was in the home with her during the attack was also stabbed, though survived his injuries. Iqbal Singh has been charged with second-degree murder and attempted murder and is awaiting trial. Anita is a mother to two children, Sonali and Rinku, and owned and operated the family's trucking company. Sonali describes her mother as a very kind person who wanted to help as many people as possible.

Evelyn Bumatay-Castillo



Age: 43

Date of Femicide: October 11 2014

Source: CBC, Mississauga News

Evelyn Bumatay-Castillo a caregiver and mother from Thornhill, Ontario who immigrated to Canada less than two years ago, was found unconscious in a guest room at the Mississauga Quality Inn after crews put out a fire on October 11. Evelyn was taken to hospital where she was pronounced dead. Peel Regional Police believe that Evelyn died of injuries that she sustained before the fire was started. Evelyn was involved in the sex trade and was meeting a customer, Niran Vade “Nick” Murray at the hotel the night that she was killed. Murray has now been charged with first-degree murder, and is being investigated for a physical assault that took place in a York Region hotel against another sex trade worker. Friends and family of Evelyn say that Evelyn moved to Canada to find employment so that she could send money back home to her family. Evelyn studied at Lyceum-Northwestern University in Dagupan, Philippines and grew up in La Union, Philippines. Evelyn leaves behind her son and siblings.

Manjulaben Mistry

(no picture available)

Age: 57

Date of Femicide: October 2014 (during Thanksgiving weekend)

Source: Toronto Star, CBC

Manjulaben Mistry was killed in her Brampton home in a double-murder suicide that was perpetrated by her husband, Hashmuklal Mistry. Hashmuklal's 91-year-old father was also killed. Manjulaben leaves behind two adult daughters and grandchildren. Her neighbors describe her as a very nice person. Peel Regional Police will not be releasing any further information about this case, or how Manjulaben and her father-in-law died out of respect to the families.