FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 8, 2025

RE: Femicide in Brampton

August 8, 2025. Peel Region - The Peel Committee Against Women Abuse (PCAWA) is incredibly saddened and outraged to share that on Tuesday August 5, 2025 a 78-year old woman was murdered in Brampton. The relationship with the accused, a 64-year old male from Brampton, is unknown. The woman's name has not been released in respect of her family's wishes.

This is the second femicide to take place in our community in 2025. We mourn this loss as a collective and send our deepest condolences to her family, friends and community.

Gender-based violence is an epidemic. Yet we still wait on our provincial government to make this declaration and take the appropriate action in response to this growing issue.

The work on Bill 173, the Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic Act, has stopped. **This is incredibly concerning.**

Despite the calls for urgency from the gender-based violence sector, Bill 173 was referred to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy for consideration and study. Our call for immediate action was met with the response of lengthy and redundant research. **Survivors needed action, not research.**

The snap provincial election in February of 2025 paused all committee work, including the research and report being conducted for Bill 173. There has been no update or indication since provided by the government on if or when to expect this report and identified next steps to be taken by the government.

Bill 173 has been re-tabled by the NDP as Bill 55, and would require the provincial government to recognize intimate partner violence as an epidemic and create an "implementation committee" to review the 86 recommendations from the 2022 Renfrew County Inquest.

"Gender-based violence is an epidemic. Looking at the rising rates of gender-based violence, this cannot be denied. We need to demand urgency and accountability from our government. We need meaningful action now."

- Andrine Johnson, PCAWA Co-Chair & CEO of Embrave Agency to End Violence

WE MUST DO BETTER

Understanding what femicide means is critical in raising awareness on an issue that continues to grow larger in Ontario. Femicide includes any gender-based killing of a

woman, child, trans woman, 2-Spirited Person or gender non-conforming individual where a man has been charged in relation to the death.[1]

Most femicides are preventable. ***We Count Femicide Because…*** is intended to mark the tragic loss of each life, to raise a public alarm and to engage everyone in working together toward prevention. Professionals, coworkers, neighbours, friends and family members can learn to recognize the warning signs and how to respond safely and supportively. It is a call to action to prevent future deaths. Ask us what you can do to contribute.

PCAWA released its newest resource, the GBV Resource Guide. This resource guide was developed to provide a clear, detailed and comprehensive overview of supports and services available to survivors of gender-based violence in the Region of Peel. It includes informational profiles for over 100 community supports in the Greater Toronto Area.

Education is a key part of prevention and PCAWA has created a series of resources to support these prevention efforts. The GBV Allyship Resource outlines tangible ways to get involved in GBV advocacy, and the Understanding Femicide Infographic provides education and information on femicide. The 2023 PCAWA Peel Regional Snapshot is available, which shares more information about gender-based violence within the context of the Region of Peel. All three of these resources are available on the PCAWA website.

PCAWA also has training opportunities available on the Enhanced Gender-Based Violence Protocol for the Region of Peel. This training is available to all community members and will provide you with information on how to best support survivors and respond to disclosures of gender-based violence. Please contact Rebecca Pacheco at rebeccap@embrave.ca to schedule this training.

If you would like to join the PCAWA mailing list to receive newsletters and updates on events and advocacy efforts email rebeccap@embrave.ca

If you are a survivor of violence in need of support, please contact Embrave: Agency to End Violence's 24-hour Crisis Line at 905-403-0864 or 1-855-676-8515. You can also seek support from any of the PCAWA member agencies. Visit their website at www.pcawa.net for more information. **Remember that you are not alone. We are here if you need us.**

You can find a link to related media here:

https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/homicide-brampton-fight-1.7601340

https://www.ctvnews.ca/toronto/article/1-dead-2-others-injured-after-altercation-in-brampton-police/

https://www.peelpolice.ca/Modules/News/index.aspx?feedId=d6aa0ab4-eb5f-4b5e-a251-0e833d984d68&newsId=346fe169-7b88-4840-9a53-1ef8248abcdf

[1] Ontario Association of Interval & Transition Houses (OAITH)