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Reference: 436651734

June 10, 2022

Honourable Tyler Shandro, Q.C. Minister of Justice and Solicitor General 204 Legislature Building Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Shandro:

I am concerned about a recent media report and am writing to ask that your Department conduct a review of the disturbing information shared. Here's the story I am referring to: Accused in Chinatown homicides was dropped off in Edmonton by RCMP 3 days before killings.

Based on Edmonton Police Service's statement to media, on May 15 the individual with court conditions who was not to be in the city of Edmonton or unsupervised, was transported to Edmonton by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). The individual was dropped off in west Edmonton by a member of the RCMP and left alone. A message was sent by the RCMP to Edmonton Police Service identifying the individual as Justin Bone after he was dropped off. This same individual is accused of killing Hung Trang and Ban Phuc Hoang days later. It has also been noted that Edmonton Police Service officers spoke to this person accused in two recent murders, but did not detain him because no criminal offence was observed even though his bail conditions prohibited him being in Edmonton unsupervised.

I am concerned about the series of events and I know that Edmontonians are concerned as well. During our recent meetings with the Chinatown community and business leaders, we have heard that it is a common practice for police to drop unhoused people close to social service agencies without any supervision or accountability.

We are requesting that you conduct a comprehensive review of all elements of this case, including operational practices, transfer procedures, discharge procedures, and coordination with supporting social and health agencies. Until that review is complete, we also request that you instruct all enforcement agencies to stop transporting and abandoning at-risk-individuals in Edmonton and releasing offenders from provincial correctional facilities into houselessness.

I have also asked that the Edmonton Police Commission conduct an inquiry under section 32 of the *Police Act*.

As you indicated in your recent call for a public safety plan, Edmontonians deserve and expect a safe community. The practices described in the media article fundamentally violate that principle. Minister, we are pleading for your help to seek solutions to prevent such tragedies from happening in the future. Public safety is a shared responsibility and I hope you are willing to work with us to ensure that we keep our community safe.

Yours sincerely,

A. Sohi

Amarjeet Sohi, Mayor

CC:

Edmonton Police Commission info@edmontonpolicecommission.ca

Honourable Jason Luan, Minister of Community and Social Services

Honourable Josephine Pon, Minister of Seniors and Housing

Honourable Jason Copping, Minister of Health

Honourable Mike Ellis, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions

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Honourable Marco Mendicino, Minister of Public Safety, Canada