



Office of the Mayor

Amarjeet Sohi
Mayor

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Reference: 436651734

June 10, 2022

Honourable Marco Mendicino, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Public Safety
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
Email: marco.mendicino@parl.gc.ca

Dear Minister Mendicino:

I am writing to share the City of Edmonton's Downtown Core and Transit System Safety Plan, a comprehensive action plan that was developed in light of post-pandemic challenges with violence, open drug use, increases in mental health and addictions issues, and a growing sense of community unease in the city's Downtown and Chinatown particularly. I am also sharing a media report published today about a recent tragic event in Edmonton. In both matters, I invite you and your officials to discuss actions we can take to address community needs and prevent any similar incidents in the future.

["Accused in Chinatown homicides was dropped off in Edmonton by RCMP 3 days before killings,"](#) reports the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The media outlet further indicates that there had been involvement from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), a probation officer, warnings to enforcement agencies, bail conditions, and the transportation and dropoff of offenders to Edmonton without any arrangement for support services.

I am concerned about how the series of events described in the article contributed to two recent murders in Edmonton, and I expect that the Chinatown community and other residents are concerned as well.

I have asked the Alberta Minister of Justice, the Hon. Tyler Shandro, to 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, I have also asked him to instruct all enforcement agencies to stop transporting and abandoning at-risk individuals in Edmonton and releasing offenders from provincial correctional facilities into houselessness.

Could we discuss these matters further? In particular, the Downtown Core and Transit System Safety Plan advocates to stop releasing people from federal corrections facilities into houselessness, as that poses an ongoing risk to our community. In light of the information about the particular incident, I also ask that you review the mentioned RCMP practices and consider how such a terrible tragedy could be prevented in the future.

I look forward to our conversation about keeping Edmontonians safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Sohi". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Amarjeet Sohi,
Mayor

CC:

Honorable David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, David.Lametti@parl.gc.ca

Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Carolyn.Bennett@parl.gc.ca

Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion

Honourable Randy Boissonnault, Member of Parliament, Edmonton Centre

Honourable Tyler Shandro, Minister of Justice and Solicitor General of Alberta

Attachment: [Edmonton's Downtown Core and Transit System Safety Plan](#)