



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 11, 2021

Community Message From Mayor Virginia Hackson

This past Saturday, a tragic incident unfolded in Mount Albert which has affected our entire Town. On behalf of Council, I extend to the victims, family, friends, and neighbours our deepest condolences, and sympathies.

I want to acknowledge the first responders who attended the scene - our own East Gwillimbury Emergency Services fire crews, York Region paramedics and York Regional Police. These are difficult calls to manage and I know there will be a lasting affect for those on scene and I encourage everyone to take the necessary steps to reach out for the support needed.

Many will feel the impact of the events in the days, weeks, and months ahead. We are working with community partners and agencies to coordinate counselling services for our residents. I encourage everyone to access the supports needed during this difficult time. Information related to mental health supports are available on the Town's website including:

- Mindbeacon.com - Free mental health support for Ontario residents.
- Victim Service of York Region - 24/7 crisis counselling at 905-953-5363
- Dcontario.org - Distress Centre's available via phone or a web chat function
- Kids Help Phone - 1-800-668-6868 or text CONNECT to 686868 for youth mental health support

East Gwillimbury is a small Town with a big heart, and this is what will move us forward through such a tragedy. Please be supportive and kind.

My office is always available if you require further assistance.