



For Immediate Release
May 2, 2013

Calgary Police Service lay second-degree murder charges in a same-sex domestic homicide

The Calgary Police Service Homicide Unit has laid a second-degree murder charge after a man was discovered deceased in the Thorncliffe area. Just before 2 a.m. yesterday, Wednesday, May 1, 2013, police responded to a 911 call for a disturbance at a residence. When they arrived, police found one man who was pronounced dead at the scene. His partner, Haden Gidel DIDIER, 29, of Calgary is charged with one count of second-degree murder. He will make his first court appearance this morning, Thursday, May 2, 2013.

Safety Under the Rainbow (SUTR) is a collaborative committee of the Calgary Domestic Violence Collective, whose mission is to effect a reduction in the incidence of same-sex domestic and sexual violence in Calgary through effective and seamless service delivery, collaboration, promotion of prevention initiatives, advocacy, professional development and public education. SUTR is deeply saddened by the news of this crime and our hearts go out to the friends and family members of the victim.

As a community it is important for us to stand together and say that domestic and sexual abuse are wrong in every incident and all relationships, and that we need to move forward collectively, to increase awareness and understanding of same-sex domestic and sexual violence to affect change. "Services for abused and abusive GLBT individuals and families are limited and are not specialized for this community's unique need" says Jane Oxenbury M.Ed., R.Psych, Co-Chair of SUTR. "It not unusual for persons in these communities to experience a lack of understanding of the seriousness of the abuse when reporting to a therapist, medical personnel or legal services. Also, many are very reluctant to come forward due to homophobia and the fear that they will neither be believed by the service providers nor have confidentiality within their own community".

Domestic and sexual violence are unnecessary crimes of violence in which someone makes a deliberate and calculated choice to hurt another individual. It is our hope that following the outcome of this tragedy, that Calgarians will see the need to act, to break the silence, to get involved in solutions, and to hold offenders accountable for their actions. Furthermore it is important to recognize equality in all relationships including same sex relationships and further broaden our awareness on the stigma that society holds against this group of individuals. To get involved and learn more visit: www.sutr.ca; www.pssaw.org; www.vigorcalgary.ca; www.youthsafe.net

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic or sexual violence, help and support is available. Please call the Calgary Police Service at 911, Connect Family & Sexual Abuse Network 403-237-5888 (Toll Free:1-877-237-5888); 24-hour Family Violence Helpline 403-234-SAFE (7233); Family Violence Information Line 403-310-1818 (Toll Free); Distress Centre 403-266-HELP (4357) to access information, help and support for your needs.

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Andrea Silverstone, Peer Support Services for Abused Women 403-616-7673

The Calgary Domestic Violence Collective (CDVC) works with community partners to provide a coordinated response to domestic and sexual violence prevention and intervention in Calgary. It works to help prevent domestic and sexual violence through increased public awareness, education, and improved legislation. **Partners include:**



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Action Coalition on Human Trafficking, AIDS Calgary Awareness Association, Alberta Child and Youth Services, Alberta Council of Women's Shelters, Alberta, Employment and Immigration, Alberta Health Services: Addictions and Mental Health, Aventa Addiction Treatment for Women, Awo Taan Healing Lodge, Brenda Strafford Chair in the Prevention of Domestic Violence, Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary, Brenda Strafford Society for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, Calgary Action Committee on Housing and Homelessness, Calgary and Area Child and Family Services, Calgary Catholic Immigration Society, Calgary Catholic School District, Calgary Chinese Elderly Citizens' Association, Calgary Communities Against Sexual Violence, Calgary Counseling Centre, Calgary Immigrant Women's Association, Calgary John Howard Society, Calgary Legal Guidance, Calgary Police Services- Domestic Conflict Unit, Calgary Sexual Health Centre, Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter, Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family, Cerebral Palsy Association of Alberta, Child Advocacy Centre, Chinese Community Response to Family Violence, Community Corrections and Release Programs Branch, Alberta Solicitor General, Community Crisis Society of Strathmore: Wheatlands Shelter, CONNECT Family and Sexual Abuse Network, Developmental Disabilities Resources Centre of Calgary, Disability Action Hall, Discovery House, Distress Centre, East Calgary Family Violence Committee, Ethno-Cultural Council of Calgary, Forensic Research Network, Further Education Society, HomeFront, Jane M. Oxenbury, M.Ed., R. Psych., Edan Counseling Associates, Jewish Family Service Calgary, Kerby Centre, Legal Aid Alberta, Multiple Sclerosis Society, Calgary and Area Chapter, Mustard Seed, Peer Support Services for Abused Women, Red Cross Society, Research and Education for Solutions to Violence and Abuse (RESOLVE) Alberta, Rowan House Emergency Shelters, Servants Anonymous Society, Service Canada, Sonshine Community Services, The Mustard Seed, United Way of Calgary and Area, University of Calgary - Faculty of Social Work, Women's Centre of Calgary, Youville Recovery Residence for Women, YWCA Banff, YWCA of Calgary