



For Immediate Release
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Calgary Police lay charges in a sexual assault and child pornography case

Calgary, AB – A particularly disturbing domestic and sexual violence case hit Calgary headlines on Jan. 14, in which a Calgary man was charged with sexual assault with a firearm, extortion, criminal harassment, and possession of child pornography.

Stephen Huggett, 58, was charged following a thorough year-long investigation launched by the CPS Domestic Conflict Unit in January 2012 after allegations that a woman was being harassed by her ex boyfriend – Huggett – and that the abuse began while she was still dating him.

Based on evidence gathered during the investigation, Huggett was charged with possession of child pornography. Huggett had been previously charged with child pornography possession in 2007 and served nine months in prison after being found guilty of the crime. Child pornography production, distribution, and possession are punishable in Canada for up to 20 years. Prior to retiring in 2007 Huggett had been a member of CPS for approximately 25 years.

This is yet another a disturbing case in recognizing that domestic and sexual violence knows no barriers and can happen in any community, or profession. It is our hope that this will further entrench the need for all of Calgary to act – to break the silence, to get involved in solutions – and to hold offenders accountable for their actions.

Domestic and sexual violence are crimes which cross all professions, socioeconomic and cultural boundaries. Approximately 30 per cent of families across Alberta experience some type of abuse but are often are silenced and have to endure this in isolation. As a community it is important for us to stand together and say that domestic and sexual abuse are not ok, and that we need to move forward collectively to increase awareness and understanding of these issues to affect change.

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic or sexual violence, there is help available: dial 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 310-1818 (Toll Free); Distress Centre (403) 266-HELP (4357).

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

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 and Area Child and Family Services, Calgary Chinese Elderly Citizens' Association, Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse, Calgary Counseling Centre, Calgary Immigrant Women's Association, 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, Chinese Community Response to Family Violence, Calgary Action Committee on Housing and Homelessness, 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, Discovery House Family Violence Prevention Society, Distress Centre, Ethno-Cultural Council of Calgary, 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, Peer Support Services for Abused Women, Rowan House Emergency Shelters, Servants Anonymous Society, Sonshine Community Services, United Way of Calgary and Area, Women's Centre of Calgary, Youville Recovery Residence for Women, YWCA Banff, YWCA of Calgary, or YWCA Emergency Shelter: Sheriff King Home