



For Immediate Release
August 29, 2017

By-standers take action in domestic assault

CALGARY, AB – On the evening of Thursday, August 24, 2017 the Domestic Conflict Unit of the Calgary Police Service was called to the site of a violent incident where a woman had exited a moving vehicle and was then [run over by the man](#) driving the vehicle. The driver then attempted to put the woman back in the car but two courageous by-standers intervened.

While Calgary Police indicate concern regarding the severity of this particular incident, the continued prevalence of violence in our community in its many forms is extremely concerning. This is an issue that affects many people and can escalate over time to greater levels of violence. It is important that we as community advocates we take action, speak out and make support resources available to people during and after incidents of violence. The Calgary Domestic Violence Collective (CDVC) applaud the courageous efforts of this group of by-standers.

“The by-standers who intervened in this situation and likely helped to save the woman’s life, demonstrated the change in thinking that is starting in our community regarding domestic abuse. When we speak out or take action against abuse or violence we have a positive and lasting impact on our city.” says Kim Ruse, co-chair Calgary Domestic Violence Collective. “CDVC encourages bystanders to speak out against domestic and sexual violence in a way that is safe and appropriate for them.”

Calgary Domestic Violence Collective (CDVC) partner organizations provide and advocate for a community of care for anyone experiencing domestic or sexual violence, or who know someone in need of help. Calgary has numerous supports for people affected by the wide spectrum of related domestic and family violence affects. As informed and educated bystanders, we all have a responsibility to offer understanding and support. Regardless of who is showing abusive or violent tendencies towards another, reaching out for help can prevent a dangerous situation from escalating. Please contact the resources listed below for support if you or someone you know may be experiencing domestic abuse. If the danger is immediate, call 911.

If you or someone else is in immediate danger, please call: 911

If you are experiencing abuse or have questions about domestic abuse, please call: 403-234-7233 (SAFE).

If you are experiencing or have questions about sexual abuse and sexual assault, please call: 403-237-5888.

For additional support, please call:

Distress Centre	403-266-HELP (4357)
Calgary Counselling Centre	403-691-5991
Family Violence Information Line	310-1818 (Toll Free)



For Immediate Release
August 29, 2017

-30-

Media Contacts:

Andrea Silverstone, Executive Director, Sagesse

403.234.7337

Kim Ruse, Executive Director, Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter

403.472.0395

CDVC works with community partners to provide a coordinated response to violence prevention in Calgary. We strongly believe that increasing public awareness, providing education, and working to improve legislation can assist in prevention.

CDVC defines domestic violence as the attempt, act or intent of someone within a relationship – where the relationship is characterized by intimacy, dependency or trust, to intimidate either by threat or by the use of physical force on another person or property. The purpose of the abuse is to control and or exploit through neglect, intimidation, inducement of fear or by inflicting pain. Abusive behavior can take many forms including: verbal, physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, spiritual, and economic; as well as the violation of rights. All forms of abusive behavior are ways in which one human being is trying to have control and/or exploit or have power over another.