

## Media Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

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## Response to media enquiries into recent homicide investigation

The Prince George RCMP would like to respond to media enquiries regarding a post found on a Facebook page from July 3, 2021.

The Prince George RCMP can confirm that we received a complaint from Christin West in July 2021 and that a thorough investigation into the matter was conducted. Police spoke to all of the individuals identified through the course of the investigation. Ultimately, there was not enough evidence to support charge recommendations and, as an alternative, safety plans were discussed with all parties involved.

"We can confirm investigators identified a suspect in the July investigation and that he is not the same person arrested on August 7, 2021 for the murder of Christin West. The complaint from July was a completely separate occurrence and the incidents do not appear related," states Cpl. Jennifer Cooper of the Prince George RCMP.

We encourage anyone who was a witness or has further information on the murder of Ms. West or any other unrelated criminal matters to contact the Prince George RCMP to speak with an investigator.

Police take every complaint of intimate partner violence seriously and always give a prioritized response. These incidents often occur behind closed doors and independent witnesses may not be available. Our investigators are committed to high investigative standards and conduct thorough investigations into all allegations of intimate partner violence. Additionally, investigators in B.C. receive training specific to the investigation of Violence in Relationships.

If you or anyone you know is a victim of intimate partner violence, please take the following steps:

- Call 911 (if available in your community) or your local police station
- Go to a hospital emergency unit







 Call <u>VictimLink</u> 1-800-563-0808 VictimLINK is a province-wide 24-hour telephone help line for victims of family and sexual violence, and all other crimes.

Here are some further resources for more information regarding intimate partner violence:

- <a href="http://www.bcehs.ca/health-info/support-for-bcehs-family-members/critical-incident-stress/domestic-violence">http://www.bcehs.ca/health-info/support-for-bcehs-family-members/critical-incident-stress/domestic-violence</a>
- <a href="http://www.bcwomens.ca/health-info/violence/violence-against-women">http://www.bcwomens.ca/health-info/violence/violence-against-women</a>

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