



November 25th 2017 to November 24th 2018



In Memory of Tania Cowell

Tania Cowell was a sister, an aunt, a daughter, a stepdaughter, a sister-in-law, a friend and most importantly a new mother. Her life was senselessly taken from her at the young age of 36 by the one person she trusted the most – her domestic partner. Her 5month old baby boy was left without his mother. Tania had dreams, aspirations and goals that she never got to pursue. Her dream of raising her son was ripped away from her. One person decided to take all of this away from Tania.

Tania loved life. She wanted to live life to the fullest and experience all that life had to offer. Tania loved her family and friends and spending time with the ones she loved was what she lived for. She was fearless and determined and she never hesitated to take on a new life adventure. Tania was a Personal Support Worker who cared for others on a daily basis. She would help anyone out at anytime and had the gift of making people laugh. Tania was a person with so many endearing qualities and this often gets overlooked and overshadowed throughout the judicial process. Tania lost her identity, her beautiful qualities and her voice the day she was murdered.

Tania was a victim of domestic homicide. A crime that is so heart-wrenching and life altering for families. Tania was loved by so many and had such a giving heart. She did not deserve to die. She did not deserve to die at the hand of the person she was sharing a life with. This tragedy speaks volumes about the need for change in society and in the judicial system. We need to speak for victims that can no longer speak for themselves. RIP Tania. Deeply missed, never forgotten. Xo

Written by – Julie Cowell





1. Wendy Allan, 51, August 19, 2018,
Lindsay, ON

Wendy will be remembered by friends and family as a caring, trusting, and loving woman. Wendy dedicated much of her life to helping others, specifically to animals. Throughout her life, Wendy rescued and cared for many animals in need, including fifteen dogs, six cats, and four rabbits. Wendy leaves behind her three children, who will miss her dearly. Her husband, the perpetrator, was found dead at the scene.

Femicide Type: IPV
Gunshot

Cause of Death:



2. Elizabeth Alma Alder, 57, December 25th, 2017
Elmira, ON

Elizabeth was a caring wife and mother whose whole world was her family, including her parents. Friends and family attended Elizabeth's memorial service with many loving memories. She will be missed by all who knew her. Her son, 17, has been charged with 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Family

Cause of Death: Unknown



3. Autumn Andy, 15, June 13, 2018
Mishkosiminiziibiing (Big Grassy River) ON

Andy was loved by those she surrounded herself with and was described as a young girl who loved music and the outdoors. She will be missed dearly by her family. The perpetrator, 24, has been charged with 1st-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Known Relationship Cause of Death:
Unknown



4. Essozinam Assali, 27, March 6, 2018,
North York, ON

Essozinam's friends and family described her as having a humble, generous and exceptional soul. She was a hard-working and dedicated student in the process of completing a bilingual marketing internship when she was killed by her boyfriend in a murder-suicide. Essozinam's death was a shock to the community and she will be deeply missed.

Femicide Type: IPV

Cause of Death: Trauma



5. Heeley Rae Balanga, 35, May 29th, 2018
Kawartha Lakes, ON

Heeley Rae Balanga was found after the Ontario Provincial Police and Ontario Fire Marshal investigated a fire at her home. She will be remembered by her parents, brother, and close friends. A 44 year old man was charged with 1st-degree murder and arson.

Femicide Type: Relationship Not Reported Cause of Death:
Unknown



6. Irene Barkman, 32, October 31, 2018
Thunder Bay, ON

Irene was a very creative person, who enjoyed designing, arts, and organizing her home. She also enjoyed interior design, and being outdoors. At the time of her death, Irene was enrolled in Confederation College and was studying business. Her family was very proud of her accomplishments. Irene was a very kind and gentle person, who was greatly loved by her family, and who will be deeply missed. A 25 year old man was charged with 2nd-degree murder, uttering death threats, and forcible confinement.

Femicide Type: Known Relationship Cause of Death: Unknown



7. Elaine Bellevue, 61, January 13, 2018
Mississauga, ON

Elaine is remembered as her two daughter's biggest advocate and a proud mother. She was well-known around her community for her generosity, constant involvement, and being the glue that held many people together. Elaine's husband was charged with 1st-degree murder following the incident which took place inside their family home.

Femicide Type: IPV Cause of Death: Stabbing



8. Danielle Big George, 23, August 30, 2018
Naongashiing First Nation, (Big Island), Morson, ON
Danielle was a kind and compassionate woman who will be greatly missed by her family. She was an amazing mother of two whom she loved dearly. Danielle embraced her culture and was an outstanding member of the Anishnaabeg of Naongashiing community. Danielle was loved by many, and will forever be remembered and missed. Her 26 year old boyfriend has been charged with the 1st-degree murder and indignity to a dead body.

Femicide Type: IPV Cause of Death: Unknown



9. Carolyn Campbell, 52, July 11, 2018
Toronto, ON

Carolyn was a valued member of her Toronto community and will be greatly missed by her neighbours. She will forever be cherished as a retired nurse and her memory will continue to live on through her two grown daughters. Carolyn will be lovingly remembered by all her family and friends. Her common-law husband, 44, has been charged with 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: IPV

Cause of Death: Lack of oxygen



10. Betty Ann Cup, 72, October 12, 2018
Iskatewizaagegan Shoal Lake 39 (Kenora), ON

Betty Ann was a loving mother, grandmother, wife, and sister. She will be remembered as a kind and gentle person who loved her family and her native land. She enjoyed many activities such as crossword puzzles, camping, and cooking. She will be missed. The perpetrator, 27, has been charged with 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Relationship Not Reported Cause of Death: Unknown



11. Maria Desousa, 81, February 8th, 2018
Orléans, ON

Maria is remembered by her family as a devoted and loving mother, grandmother, and great grandmother and will be missed by her many nieces and nephews. Maria had moved from Kingston to Orléans to share a townhome with her son, 40, and his girlfriend, 36. The two were later charged with 1st-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Family

Cause of Death: Beaten



12. Abbegail Elliott, 21, May 23, 2018
Toronto, ON

Abbegail is remembered by friends and family as a beautiful woman with a love of animals and a big heart. She is remembered as a bright and vivacious woman with an interest in fashion. She volunteered her time to support those who were homeless and was a very giving individual. She had a very close relationship with her sister and her dog Bella. Abbegail was killed in a violent attack and two people involved in her death have been charged with 1st-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Known Relationship Cause of Death: Stabbing



13. Rhoderie Estrada, 41, May 26, 2018
East York, ON

Rhoderie is remembered by her family and friends as a hard working and loving person. She was highly respected in her work as a clinician and team leader. Rhoderie is survived by her three children and devoted husband. She was murdered in her home. Rhoderie's death came as a shock to both her family and the community. She will be missed immensely. Two men have been charged with 1st-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Relationship Not Reported Cause of Death: Trauma



14. Sandra Finn, 71, August 22, 2018,
Peterborough, ON

Sandra "Sandy" was described as a loving mother of two sons and a proud grandmother of five grandchildren. A retired secretary and insurance adjustor, Sandra was a long-time Lioness with the Omemee Lions club and an avid pickleball player. She enjoyed long walks with her dogs, spending time with a good book, and a glass of wine. Her 73-year-old husband was charged with 1st-degree murder at a Home Depot parking lot.

Femicide Type: IPV

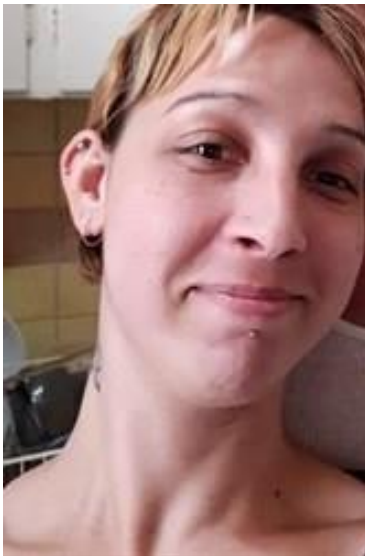
Cause of Death: Gunshot



15. Marian Fischer, 61, March 29, 2018
Wingham, ON

Marian was a loving parent to nine children, an affectionate grandmother to 10, and a valued member within her own community. She will be remembered by her family, friends, and other individuals who were lucky enough to spend time with her. Marian and her husband were both murdered, while another woman in the home was harmed. A 56 year old man has been charged with two counts of 1st-degree murder, forcible confinement and sexual assault with a weapon (rifle). There is a publication ban on this court case.

Femicide Type: Known Relationship Cause of Death: Unknown



16. Shelby Goldhar, 28, December 20th, 2017
Richmond Hill, ON

Shelby was a kind and loving daughter. She was born in Romania and adopted in Canada at the age of one and a half. Shelby's family is deeply saddened by this tragedy and will forever miss her beauty and kindness. Her ex-boyfriend, 27, an additional male, 24, and a female, 25, have been charged with 2nd-degree murder and indignity to a dead body.

Femicide Type: IPV Cause of Death: Unknown



17. Edra Haan, 58, August 22nd 2018
Kitchener, ON

Edra is remembered as a loving soul, a proud mother of two, and was a cherished daughter and sister. She will be fondly remembered by her many relatives and friends. Her dedicated work at Sun Life Financial for 38 years will not be forgotten. Edra's husband, 58, was charged with 1st-degree murder in connection to Edra's death and the house fire that impacted their neighbourhood.

Femicide Type: IPV Cause of Death: Unknown



18. Holly Hamilton, 29, January 17th, 2018
Hamilton, ON

Holly was a kind, generous, loving, and good-hearted woman. She was very family orientated, and was a great mother, sister, and daughter to her family. She would have done anything for her daughter, and always made sure she was safe. Holly will be remembered by her family and friends and will be greatly missed. Her ex boyfriend, 30, has been charged with 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: IPV

Cause of Death: Stabbing



19. Ninon “Nina” Hardie, 72, December 6th, 2017
Toronto, ON

Ninon “Nina” was a resident in Scarborough’s east end who generally kept to herself. Neighbours described her as a “wonderful lady” and “a nice woman” and were all shocked to hear of her death. The perpetrator, her son, 40, has been charged with 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Family

Cause of Death: Trauma



20. Avtar Kaur, 60, January 12, 2018
Brampton, ON

Avtar will be remembered as a loving mother and grandmother. She enjoyed spending time with family and would often be seen outside going for walks with her daughter and young grandchild. Avtar and her daughter, Baljit Thandi (#42), were murdered by her 29-year-old son-in-law. He has been charged with two counts of 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Family

Cause of Death: Stabbing



21. Barbara Kovic, 76, January 2nd, 2018
Etobicoke, ON

Barbara's friends and family described her as a wonderful and caring woman. She was cherished as a mother, grandmother, and sister. Barbara was found dead in her home. Barbara's husband, 81, has been charged with 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: IPV

Cause of Death: Trauma

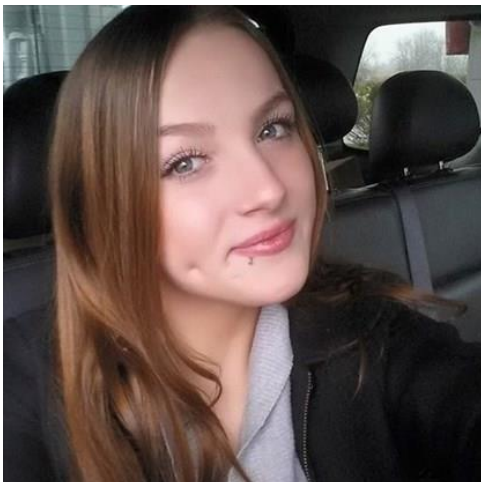


22. Alicia Lewandowski, 25, March 5, 2018
Mississauga, ON

Alicia was a student at Humber College in her 2nd and final year in an esthetician and spa management course. She has been described by friends and family as a beautiful, kind, and a gentle soul. Alicia was a daughter, sister, and friend who will be dearly missed by many. Her boyfriend, 39, has been charged with 1st-degree murder.

Femicide Type: IPV

Cause of Death: Gunshot



23. Alyssa Lightstone, 20, July 21, 2018
Newmarket, ON

Alyssa is described as a young, smart, and beautiful woman. She made people laugh and always had a smile on her face. Alyssa is missed by her friends and family who wrote tributes to her on Facebook. Her 25-year-old ex-boyfriend turned himself in and is has been charged with second degree murder.

Femicide Type: IPV

Cause of Death: Gunshot



24. Emilie Maheu, 26, October 2018,
South Glengarry Township, ON

Emilie was a wonderful mother who loved her child deeply. She will be remembered by friends as being full of life and talkative. She was known to be a loving and courageous person. Her parents and aunts and uncles will miss her dearly. A former boyfriend has been charged with 1st-degree murder.

Femicide Type: IPV

Cause of Death: Unknown



25. Elena Marcucci, 84, August 18th, 2018
Etobicoke, Ont.

Elena was a loving and devoted wife, mother and friend who was taken suddenly. Elena was described as a very sweet woman who will be missed deeply by her husband, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, sister-in-law's and brother-in-law's. Elena was killed in an attack within her home. Elena's Grandson, 31, has been charged with 1st-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Family
Stabbing

Cause of Death:



26. Safaa Marina, 53, February 5th, 2018
Ottawa, ON

Safaa will be remembered as a loving mother of three sons as well as a beloved sister and daughter. She was raised in a large family with seven siblings. She devoted her time to taking care of her family and attending to the needs of her children. She will be deeply missed by friends and family. Safaa was murdered by her husband in their home in a murder-suicide.

Femicide Type: IPV

Cause of Death: Gunshot



27. Colleen Maxwell, 73, August 29th, 2018
Toronto, ON

Colleen was a resident of downtown Toronto. Neighbours of Colleen are truly saddened by her death and recall her being a pleasant woman who was willing to strike up a conversation with anyone. Her son, 37, has been charged with 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Family
Trauma

Cause of Death:



28. Amanda McClaskin, 36, August 11th, 2018
Muskoka, Ontario

Amanda is remembered as a loving mother. Her children were her proudest achievement. She had a huge heart and cared deeply for her friends and family. Amanda was a much loved aunt to many little ones during her life. She will be forever missed by everyone who loved and knew her. A 39 year old man she was in relationship with has been charged with 2nd-degree murder and indignity to the body.

Femicide Type: IPV

Cause of Death: Unknown

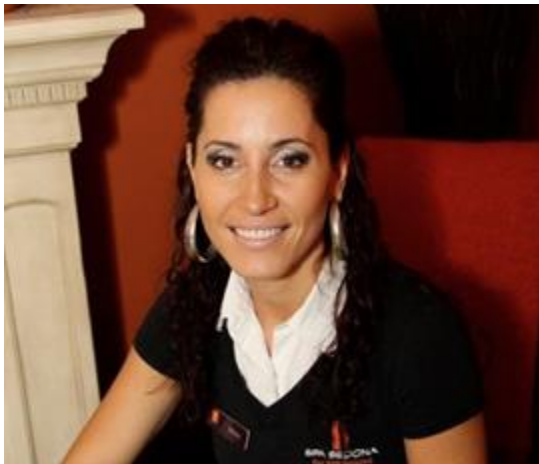


29. Diane McLeod, 67, November 17th 2018
Elliot Lake, Ontario

Diane was found inside her home. Diane's 64 year old husband has been charged with 1st-degree murder. There is a publication ban.

Femicide Type: IPV

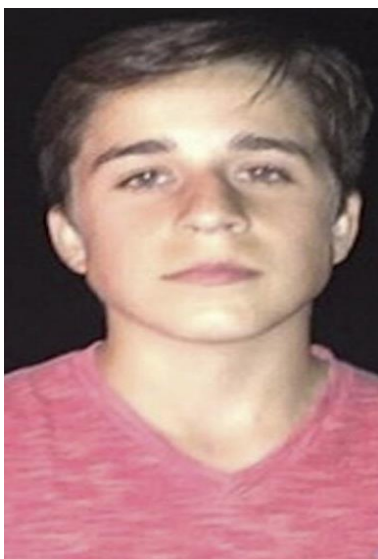
Cause of Death: Unknown



30. Krassimira Pejcinovski, 39, March 14, 2018
Ajax, ON

Krassimira “Krissy” is remembered as a kind, friendly and warm-hearted woman. She worked at a salon in her community as an aesthetician. Krassimira was a devoted mother who radiated positivity throughout her social, personal, and professional life. Friends, family members, and the community will dearly miss Krassimira and her son (Roy #31) and daughter (Venellia #32) who were all murdered in their home. Krassimira’s ex-boyfriend, 29, has since been charged with three counts of 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: IPV Cause of Death: Trauma or Asphyxiation



31. Roy Pejcinovski, 15, March 14, 2018
Ajax, ON

Roy is remembered by family, friends, and classmates as a truly exceptional boy who was taken from the world far too soon. Roy was heavily involved in the hockey community and was described as a “star goalie” for the Don Mills Flyers Bantam AAA team. He was a dedicated young man with the drive and motivation to become a truly extraordinary hockey player. Roy was killed alongside his sister (Venellia #32) and mother (Krassimira #30). The mother’s ex-boyfriend has been charged with three counts of 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Child Victim of IPV Cause of Death: Unknown



32. Venellia “Vana” Pejcinovski, 13, on March 14, 2018
Ajax, ON

Venellia was known by friends and family as one of the most beautiful people inside and out. She was noticed to be always smiling and polite. Vana was raised in a kind, caring family and is remembered by her shared laughter with her older brother (Roy #31). She was a daughter (Krassimira #30), sister and a friend. Her mother’s boyfriend was charged with three accounts of 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Child Victim of IPV Cause of Death: Unknown



33. Anne Marie Rainville, 61, April 5th, 2018
Marathon, ON

Anne Marie is fondly remembered by her many loved ones who were lucky enough to spend time with her. After Anne Marie had been found dead in her home in Marathon, her common-law partner, 62, has been charged with 1st-degree murder.

Femicide Type: IPV Cause of Death: Unknown



34. Brenda Richardson, 77, February 26, 2018
Kenora, ON

Brenda is remembered by many as a friendly, loving, and caring individual who enjoyed gardening, knitting, and being surrounded by nature. She loved hosting friends and family at her farm and would welcome them in for coffee and baked goods. Her hospitality and generous spirit knew no limits and she will dearly be missed by those she leaves behind. Her assaulter, 26, has been charged with 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Family Cause of Death: Trauma



35. Tess Richey, 22, November 25, 2017
Toronto, ON

Tess was a college graduate from both George Brown and Seneca, where she studied Assaulted Women's and Children's Counselling and Advocacy, and Flight Services. Tess spent her free time advocating for animals' rights and tree planting. Those who knew Tess described her as a kind and passionate person. Her mother, sisters, nieces, and friends will miss Tess dearly. A 21 year old man has been charged with 1st-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Relationship Not Reported Cause of Death: Strangulation



36. Hoden Said, 30, January 27th 2018

Brampton, ON

Hoden is missed dearly by her friends and family. Hoden was found dead in her apartment. A 46-year-old man who was the key suspect of a 2nd-degree murder charged was found deceased.

Femicide Type: Relationship Not Reported Cause of Death: Trauma



37. Elisabeth Salm, 59, May 25, 2018

Ottawa, ON

Elisabeth will be remembered by friends and family as a loving, caring, and compassionate individual. Whether it was for a Canada Day celebration party for the neighbourhood or a community meeting about the environment, Elisabeth's doors were always open, providing a welcoming and safe environment for those in need. Elisabeth leaves behind her husband, whose favourite term of endearment for Elisabeth was "little stealer of hearts." Elisabeth left an impact on many and will be dearly missed by friends and family. The 18-year old man responsible for her death has been charged with 1st-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Relationship Not Reported
Cause of Death: Physical and sexual assault



38. Linda Santos, 47, November 1, 2018

Mississauga, ON

Linda will forever be remembered as a loving and caring mother, sister, and daughter. She deeply cherished her son and daughter, who was pregnant at the time of Linda's death. Linda had a kind soul that will forever be missed by everyone she knew. Linda's husband, 56, has been charged with her murder.

Femicide Type: IPV Cause of Death: Strangulation



39. Jayanthi Seevaratnam, 46, December 14th, 2017
Scarborough, ON.

Jayanthi was a loving mother, wife, and friend. She will not only be remembered by her friends and family, but also her students and colleagues of the Scarborough elementary school where she worked. Her husband, 45, has been charged with 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: IPV

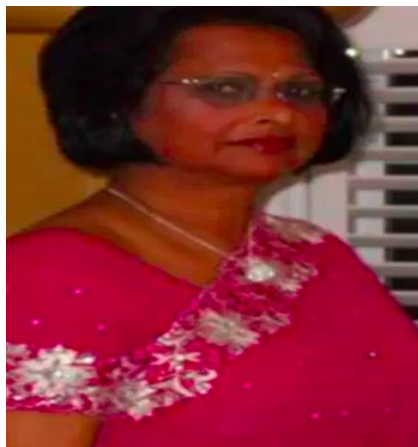
Cause of Death: Trauma



40. Victoria Selby-Readman, 28, June 10th, 2018
Caledon, ON

Victoria was described by her friends as having incredible ambition and a love for life. She was a daughter, granddaughter and friend. She was an independent spirit with a love for writing, who wanted to make her place in the world creatively. She will be missed by many. A 41 year old man, who was her roommate, was charged with 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Known Relationship Cause of Death:
Trauma



41. Jan Singh, 70, January 17th, 2018
Oakville, ON

Jan was a loving mother to her recently married daughter, as well as a respected and well-liked neighbour and friend. Jan co-owned a popular toy and furniture company until it closed in 2016. Her neighbors described her as very kind. Jan's husband shot her and then himself in a murder-suicide.

Femicide Type: IPV

Cause of Death: Gunshot



42. Glenda Spetz, 78, December 5th, 2017
Kingston, ON

Glenda was a mother of two sons and described as a private but friendly neighbour. Glenda was recognized for walking her labrador and gardening in her yard. Glenda will be remembered for her fascination with Elvis Presley, advocating to have her street name changed from Ward Street to Graceland in honour of Elvis' mansion 31 years prior to her death. Glenda's husband shot her and then himself in a murder-suicide.

Femicide Type: IPV

Cause of Death: Gunshot



43. Autumn Taggart, 31, June 10th, 2018
Windsor, ON

Autumn was a loving mother, daughter, and sister. She loved animals, especially cats, and her greatest joy in life was her son. She will be missed by many. The perpetrator, 27, has been charged with 1st-degree murder and aggravated sexual assault.

Femicide Type: Relationship Not Reported Cause of Death: Trauma



44. Baljit Thandi, 32, January 12, 2018
Brampton, ON

Baljit was a loving mother and daughter who will be remembered kindly by her family and friends. She was known to be very family oriented, always out with her son, and having a close relationship to her mother who was described to be her best friend. Baljit's 29 year old husband has been charged with two counts of 2nd-degree murder of her and her mother, Avtar Kaur (#20).

Femicide Type: IPV
Stabbing

Cause of Death:



45. Ulla Theoret, 55, February 23, 2018

Burk's Falls, ON

Ulla is remembered by friends and family as a sweet and generous woman who got along with everyone. She was a loving sister, mother, daughter, and friend to many. Recently, she moved back to Canada to care for her parents. She was found in her parent's home in a triple homicide suicide along with her mother (# 46) and adult son who was 28 years old. The perpetrator, a former friend was reportedly stalking Ulla, and was also dead at the scene of the crime.

Femicide Type: Known Relationship Cause of Death: Gunshot



46. Raija Turunen, 88, February 23, 2018

Burk's Falls, ON

Family and friends throughout Canada and her homeland of Finland will remember Raija fondly. They describe her as having an incredibly sweet personality and being an extremely hard worker. The community is shocked and will miss her immensely, along with her daughter (Ulla #43) and grandson, who were murdered in a murder-suicide that took place in Raija's home. A neighbour, 58, who knew the family has been accused.

Femicide Type: Known Relationship Cause of Death: Gunshot



47. Janice West, 61, March 6, 2018

Warton, ON

Janice lived in a rural area for nearly 40 years. Neighbours described her as a quiet, kind and reserved woman. Janice is greatly missed by her friends and family. Janice's neighbour, a 60-year-old man, has been arrested and charged with 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: Known Relationship Cause of Death: Unknown



48. Laura Wigelsworth, 27, May 10th, 2018
Vanastra, ON

Laura is remembered by friends and family as an amazing mother, daughter, sister, and friend. She was loved by many and would help anyone in need. Laura was excited to begin her life with her fiancé. Her children, who she leaves behind, were her entire world. Laura loved being involved with her parents' lives, assisting them as they were beginning a new chapter. Laura will be missed by many. Her fiancé, 29, has been charged with 2nd-degree murder.

Femicide Type: IPV

Cause of Death: Unknown

In Partnership with:



IMPROVE LIFE.

OAITH's work on Femicide in Ontario began in 1990, with our efforts becoming more formalized in 1995. Every year we release our Annual Femicide List based on media reporting of women murdered by men in Ontario. Sadly, our work is more important than ever, as we continue to see staggering numbers of women murdered in Ontario by men closely known to them. Our work on Femicide Reporting is done in partnership with Dr. Mavis Morton University of Guelph. Remembering the lives of these women wouldn't be possible without the support of the students taking SOC 4030 F18 Advanced Topics in Criminology. We greatly appreciate their commitment and care in ensuring these tragedies and acts of horrific violence are not forgotten:

Simon Ainsworth-Wiebe, Ruvi Atukorala, Rowan Barron, Paige Benham, MacKenzie Consitt, Evangeline Elston-Pearce, Emma Faubert, Nicholas Florus, Brianna Henderson, Kristela Jorgji, Annalise Kennedy, Keith Kolodziejczak, Julianna Ligotti, Alora Nykoluk, Jeremy Preston, Jasmine Quintanilla-Juarez, Sevdie Rama, Emily Robertson, Tayah Ryan, Francesca Sama, Juliette Schouler, Megan Smalley, Jackson Smiley, Sabrina Sousa, Ashleigh Tennis, Kevin Toste, Emily Vignola, Shannon Vocino, Megan Wasley, Vanessa Zuliani

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