

Media Statement

December 19, 2025

South Riverdale Community Health Centre (SRCHC) continues to mourn the tragic loss of Karolina Huebner-Makurat. Her death was a devastating blow to her family and to our community, and we recognize the profound grief, anger, and pain that continue to reverberate – both across the local community and within our own walls. As the legal process concludes, our thoughts remain firmly with her loved ones and all those impacted.

In the years since, SRCHC has taken meaningful and measurable steps, including: increasing security and staffing, improving visibility and safety on the adjacent church property, and enhancing staff training and oversight to ensure our team could respond with both compassion and vigilance.

SRCHC is not law enforcement and is limited in what we can do to prevent criminal activities, but guided by the voices of our neighbours, clients, and staff, we hope that these measures have strengthened safety at and around our Queen Street East location.

For almost 50 years, we have been delivering high quality, coordinated and compassionate care – expanding across seven sites in East Toronto – to provide a wide range of programs and services to more 15,000 clients in every corner of our catchment. The people we serve often have complex needs and are negatively impacted by the social determinants of health, including lack of affordable, supportive housing and food insecurity.

Even though the KeepSix Consumption and Treatment Service was legislatively required to close in March 2025, the SRCHC leadership team continues to monitor the ongoing developments in the mental health and substance use care space and is working diligently to ensure our workplace remains responsible, supportive, and resilient. We are taking deliberate steps to help people who live, work, and receive comprehensive health care in this area feel as safe, supported, and heard as possible.