



October 30, 2020

Anglophone North School District, City of Miramichi and the Miramichi Police Force would like to thank all citizens who have showed their support and sent messages of condolence following the terrible loss in our community this past week.

The death of this young person has affected people in many different ways, and we know it will continue to have an impact as we all move forward.

Unfortunately, this tragedy has also resulted in many negative and hurtful messages being shared on social media. We want to advise the public that a great deal of misinformation is circulating on social media and in the community. A lot of it is opinion, speculation and/or false information. We have also been made aware of people exhibiting threatening and bullying behaviour. Please know that negative talk and posts have a terrible impact on our vulnerable students and populations. It elevates the risk for them and their well-being. Please give careful thought before you speak or post; be kind and considerate to one another.

Bullying is a serious **societal issue**, and it happens in many different environments within our community. It is up to all of us to collectively address this problem in a constructive manner. Some individuals have been targeted and victimized as a result of a growing number of negative comments on-line and in the community. Our schools and student bodies are being impacted by all the negative comments and posts. They are dealing with much more than anyone can imagine, on top of this latest tragedy. Again, it is time for all of us to show compassion, patience and caring towards all those involved.

You can be assured that we are taking this case and all cases of bullying very seriously. **If you are aware of someone being threatened or bullied, report it to the police or school principal immediately.**

Our region has been through so much tragedy in recent weeks. Now more than ever, we need to come together as a community and look after one another. The long heralded adage, "It takes a village to raise a child", is especially poignant at this time.

For anyone seeking support services, we want to share the following options:

- Counsellors have been on site all this week and will continue to be available for JMHS students.

- Counsellors have been on site all this week and will continue to be available for Nelson Rural School students

- Kids Help Phone
Confidential Telephone, Texting and On-line Counselling Services (Available 24/7)
1-800-668-6868
text CONNECT to 686868
kidshelpphone.ca

- Chimo Helpline
1-800-667-500
Live Chat from 5pm–12am at chimohelpline.ca

- Mobile Crisis Unit
Miramichi
623-3333
Monday – Friday 12pm-8pm
Saturday, Sunday & Holidays 12pm-8pm

- Child and Youth Team
Self-Referrals – Contact the team in your area
Miramichi: 778-6111

Sincerely,



Mark Donovan
Superintendent
Anglophone North School District



Adam Lordon, Mayor
City of Miramichi



Paul Flander
Chief of Police
Miramichi Police Force