

# Former Georgetown resident killed while walking in Brampton

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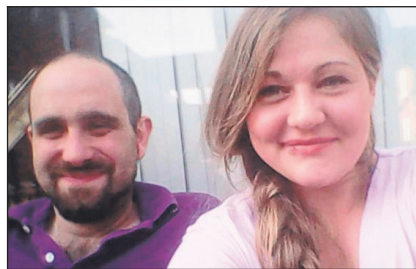
A young family has been left struggling after a Brampton father-of-three was killed on Queen Street West Monday night, Nov. 20.

Jeffrey Knowles, 30, died after being hit by a vehicle in a construction zone east of Mississauga Road around 9:30 p.m.

He leaves behind his fiancé, Gabrielle Lance-Brumsey, and their three children Joshua, 4, Serenity, 2, and Lucas, 9 months.

At 6:30 a.m. that same day, a 61-year-old woman was hit by a vehicle on that same stretch of Queen Street, prompting residents in the area to complain pedestrians are forced to walk on the road in some sections because of the construction, to get to bus stops or the store.

Lance-Brumsey told CTV that Knowles had taken his longboard and headed to a convenience store around 9:15 p.m. to buy some items for the kids, but as for exactly what happened after that, police have said it



GoFundMe photo

**Jeffrey Knowles, 30, and fiancée Gabrielle Lance-Brumsey. Knowles, a father of three young children, was the pedestrian killed on Queen Street West Monday, Nov. 20, 2017.**

will be a long time before those questions are answered.

Lance-Brumsey echoed the concerns of other residents in the area of newly-built subdivisions about pedestrian safety.

The construction on Queen Street began in July 2016 and was supposed to be completed this month, but doesn't appear to be on time.

"The entire area is a catastrophe,"

says resident Anthony Booth.

He said he has been complaining to construction crews for months about signs blocking sightlines and other safety concerns, but nothing has been done.

"I've witnessed several almost head-on crashes," he says.

He said it is frustrating that still nothing has changed after the two pedestrians were hit on the same day.

"I can't walk off my street," he says, noting there are no sidewalks, but there are bus stops.

He says one permanent bus stop that was installed during construction is in a location that forces transit users to walk on the road to get to it.

"You can't use it unless you put yourself in danger," he says. "It's just not safe to have buses running up and down that street."

The City of Brampton has not yet responded to The Guardian's questions about any planned changes in the wake of the two tragedies.

Meanwhile, a GoFundMe campaign has been set up for Knowles' family.

## NEWS

# Georgetown in top 50 most dangerous places to drive in Canada: report

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A recent report by Allstate Canada ranked Georgetown No. 44 out of 93 communities surveyed in terms of collision rates on Canadian roads.

The ninth annual Allstate Safe Driving Study is based on data collected on collision frequency among Allstate Canada customers in Alberta, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Ontario.

For 2017, Allstate reported collision rates on Georgetown roads as the 49th worst among those four provinces, with a 5.58 per cent collision claims frequency per 100 cars. That represented a 29 per cent increase over 2015, when Georgetown sported

the 14th best collision frequency at 4.32 per cent.

Burlington was ranked as the safest among communities in Halton Region at No. 40 with a 5.47 per cent rate.

Oakville ranked 53rd at 5.98 per cent, while Milton was last among its regional counterparts at 83rd and 7.26 per cent.

The lowest-ranked Ontario community was Ajax at 92 with a 7.77 per cent rate, followed by North York at 91 (7.67 per cent) and Scarborough at 90 (7.63 per cent).

Not surprisingly, the highest collision rates across the country came in the winter months.

On a provincial basis, collision rates across Ontario were up year over year.

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