

NEWS RELEASE



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Laurier to stage emergency lockdown exercise on its Waterloo campus

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University will stage a critical-incident simulation between 8:30 a.m. and noon on Wednesday, Jan. 18 so that police and university personnel can test Laurier’s emergency procedures. The exercise will involve an armed intruder who takes hostages inside the administration building at 202 Regina St. on Laurier’s Waterloo campus.

“We are committed to providing a safe environment for Laurier’s faculty, staff, students and visitors, therefore it is important for us as an institution to test our emergency response plans,” said Laurier President Max Blouw. “This simulation will allow us to review our procedures and make improvements as needed.”

The emergency exercise is a collaborative effort involving the university, Laurier’s Special Constable Service and the Waterloo Regional Police.

The exercise will be confined to the administration building at 202 Regina St. and will not affect other buildings or areas of campus. There will be a visible and well-marked police presence involving teams of tactical officers in full gear. They will operate from the parking lot behind 202 Regina St. The exercise will primarily involve the offices of the president and the vice-president: finance and administration, located on the second floor of the building. All other offices and services in 202 Regina St. will remain open and accessible throughout the exercise.

Members of the news media are invited to view the exercise from an observation area in the parking lot behind 202 Regina St. A news conference to discuss the simulation will be held following the exercise at 12:15 p.m. in Room R298 of 202 Regina St. Journalists interested in observing the exercise are asked to contact Kevin Crowley at 519-884-0710 ext. 3070, or kcrowley@wlu.ca, in advance.

Laurier recently updated its emergency response plans. For more details, including instructions on what to do in the event of an emergency lockdown, visit www.wlu.ca/emergency.