## Halton police increase patrols in wake of Quebec shooting

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The Halton Regional Police Service said it increased patrols around places of worship in the wake of last night's shooting at a mosque and cultural centre in Quebec City last Sunday (Jan. 29).

In response to (Sunday s) hate-motivated violence in Quebec City, the Halton Regional Police Service is assuring members of the public that it stands united with those impacted by the tragedy and is committed to ensuring the safety of all community members, wrote the HRPS in a release sent Monday (Jan. 30).

On top of increased patrols, the force also reached out to members of various faith communities in Halton.

We continuously monitor serious events around the world such as the Quebec attack/shooting. We also review situations of elevated risk when notified of any change to provincial or national threat assessments, said chief Stephen Tanner.

Police offered no timeline on how long the extra measures will be in place, but said there is no reason to believe there is an elevated public safety risk in Halton Region stemming from Sunday s events.

That said, we will continue to monitor events locally and abroad and should a risk be identified, our response will be coordinated, scalable and meet the needs of those we serve, added the chief.

The moves are in response to a brutal attack at the Islamic Cultural Centre of Quebec in the Sainte-Foy neighbourhood of Quebec City. The attack happened shortly before 8 p.m. Sunday.

Six people, all men between the ages of 39 and 60 are dead. As of Wednesday, reports indicated two victims remained in critical condition while three others have been upgraded to stable. Several others were sent home from hospital after treatment for non-life-threatening injuries.

Alexandre Bissonnette, who lived on rue du Tracel in Cap-Rouge neighbourhood, just a 15 minute drive from the mosque, is facing numerous charges including six counts of first-degree murder.

Recent reports from the *Toronto Star* indicate Bissonnette used two guns in the attack, a rifle and pistol.

His Facebook page also suggests he was fan of newly minted U.S. President Donald Trump and right-wing French politician and National Front party president, Marine Le Pen.







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