

Office of the President

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A Message from President Lenton on the Tragic Incident in Greektown

On behalf of the York University community, I extend my deepest sympathies to all who have been affected by the senseless act of violence that took place Sunday night on the Danforth. Our thoughts are with the victims, as well as their friends and families, and we hope for a full recovery for those who are injured.

We also express our profound gratitude for the professionalism of our first responders, whose dedication, care and service embody the best of our city.

The name 'Toronto' originates from the Kanien'kéha (Mohawk) word *tkaronto*, which means "where there are trees in the water." This image of peace and serenity is also one of strength, and a reminder of the resilience of our community.

In Toronto, we take pride in our values of respect, inclusivity and diversity. Our commitment to these values is reaffirmed in our resiliency and in coming together at this difficult time to offer support to those who have been affected.

Dealing with crises and traumatic events can be challenging. Please know that a number of resources are available to community members, and you can learn more about these services below.

Sincerely,



Rhonda L. Lenton
President & Vice-Chancellor



Resources for York Students

We encourage any York student needing assistance during this difficult time to connect with the following supportive services:

[Student Counselling & Development](#) provides a professional and supportive environment in which you can discuss any challenges you may be having dealing with yesterday's events. If you need access on an urgent basis, students can be seen within 20 minutes of a request. Non-urgent appointments can be booked for an initial consultation within one to two days.

If you would like to speak to someone about your thoughts and feelings outside of regular business hours, we suggest contacting [Good2Talk](#), a free, confidential and anonymous 24/7/365 helpline providing professional counselling, information and referrals for mental health, addictions and well-being to postsecondary students in Ontario. You can contact Good2Talk at 1-866-925-5454.

You might also consider the [WellTrack](#) app, an interactive self-help tool available to all York students. WellTrack can help you assess your mood and practice positive self-care.

If you are an international student, feel free to reach out to York International at yiinfo@yorku.ca or 416-736-5177. You may also visit them in person: 200 York Lanes (second floor of York Lanes). The York International Office is open from Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm.

If you would feel more comfortable talking to someone in a language other than English, the Multilingual Distress Lines can help. They are open Monday to Friday, 10am to 10pm. This service is offered through Spectra Community Support Services.

Mandarin & Cantonese: 416-920-0497

Hindi, Urdu & Punjabi: 905-459-7777 ext. 2

Spanish: 905-459-7777 ext. 3

Portuguese: 905-459-7777 ext. 4

Resources for York Staff and Faculty

A number of resources are available to support the mental health and wellness of our staff and faculty members: <http://mhw.info.yorku.ca/resources/resources-at-york/staff/>

These include the [Employee and Family Assistance Program \(EFAP\)](#), which is available to you and your families during this difficult time. The EFAP services are accessible 24/7, and include additional information and tips on coping with traumatic events.

In addition, Morneau Shepell has launched a national crisis support line that is **available to anyone in need** of crisis counselling support and/or referral to community resources. The crisis line can be reached at: 1-844-751-2133.