

Eastview Statement on the Murder of a Muslim Family in London, Ontario

Eastview Neighbourhood Community Centre is shocked and deeply saddened by recent events demonstrating clear examples of the systemic racism, oppression, Islamophobia, and discrimination that remain prevalent in our society.

On Sunday, June 6th at 8:40PM, a Muslim family was targeted in a hate inspired terrorist attack while on their evening walk. All family members, aside from a 9-year-old boy, have since passed away: Salman Afzal, 46; his wife, Madiha, 44; their daughter, Yumna, 15, and their 74-year-old grandmother. This attack has been confirmed by the London Police to be a premeditated hate crime against Muslims. The perpetrator was arrested and has been charged with four counts of first-degree murder and one count of attempted murder.

This horrific event underscores that much work is still needed to change the systems that enable, ignore and sustain these violent acts and continued oppression linked to Islamophobia. Eastview stands in solidarity with Muslim communities impacted by acts of hate and are committed to standing together against those who seek to divide us.