



Abbotsford Police Department

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Bob Rich
Chief Constable

"Protecting with Pride"

NEWS RELEASE

APD NEWS RELEASE:

APD FILE #

RELEASE # 1

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Incident: Five Fatal Overdoses in Less Than 10 Hours

Abbotsford – October 28, 2017

There were five fatal overdose deaths in the city of Abbotsford between 10:15 am and 7:20 pm yesterday. This week, first responders and healthcare providers have seen dozens of overdoses which, regrettably, has become the norm with the proliferation of fentanyl and carfentanil in street drugs. But five tragic deaths in such a short period of time is absolutely alarming.

Of those who died yesterday three were men and two were women. Four of the five died indoors. All of them died alone. The Abbotsford Police Department continues to warn people of the inherent dangers in the use of street drugs. Today, we are amplifying that warning and suggesting that the drugs currently on our streets are even more deadly than usual. In addition, a person's risk is exacerbated by using full doses of the unknown drugs and using alone.

While it could take some time for the toxicology exams to definitively determine that the causes of death were fentanyl or carfentanil, first responders in Abbotsford have seen enough evidence to know what we are dealing with. Everyday another fatal overdose is added to the record number that is being established for the province. Yesterday, we lost five citizens, and family and friends lost five loved ones.

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*Our Mission:
To make Abbotsford the safest city in B.C.*