



Abbotsford Police Department

2838 Justice Way, Abbotsford, B.C. V2T 3P5 Phone (604)859-5225 Fax (604)859-2527

Bob Rich
Chief Constable

"Protecting with Pride"

NEWS RELEASE

APD NEWS RELEASE:

APD FILE # 13-38645

RELEASE # 3

DATE OF RELEASE: January 2, 2014

Incident: Final Update to Missing Person – Erica Grace SCHMIDT

Abbotsford – January 2, 2014

Just before 9:00 am on Wednesday, January 1st a Patrol Division Officer from the Abbotsford Police Department located a body in an area of dense brush in the 2100 block of Whatcom Road. It appeared that the deceased person had been there for some time. APD Patrol, Forensic Identification Unit and Major Crime Unit members attended the scene and gathered evidence. There was no indication of foul play but there were signs that the deceased was missing person Erica Schmidt. Investigators met with the family and continued working toward a positive identification.

It has now been confirmed that the deceased person is Erica Schmidt. This tragically ends an investigation that began in early October 2013.

The missing person investigation involved search and rescue deployments, media and social media appeals and tireless work by friends and family. The community demonstrated amazing levels of support, and caring citizens throughout the province posted photos and news releases from Vancouver Island to the BC Interior. The Abbotsford Police Department and the Schmidt family would like to thank everyone who showed support and provided assistance along the way.

Finally, the Abbotsford Police Department would like to extend condolences to all of Erica's family and friends. You have all been remarkable, resilient, strong and courageous. We are deeply sorry for your loss.

Update of October 17, 2013:

The Erica SCHMIDT missing person investigation is continuing. Abbotsford Police Department officers continue to speak with witnesses and explore all possible sightings. The APD has obtained a security video that captures Erica walking northbound in the 2400 block of McCallum Road at 3:15 pm on Saturday, October 5, 2013 (the day she was reported missing). In the video she is observed wearing a light blue jacket, a long dark skirt, flat shoes and carrying a large

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black purse. We hope that this video will assist witnesses who might have been in that area on that day to recollect something that will further the investigation. It also provides an updated clothing description for all to consider. To this point, there have been several reported sightings of Erica SCHMIDT in Abbotsford and other communities in British Columbia. We continue to investigate each of these and we encourage anyone with information to immediately call the APD at 604-859-5225.

Link to security video and additional photo:

<http://youtu.be/FCCiAoDEvjo>



Initial Release of October 6, 2013:

The Abbotsford Police Department is currently attempting to locate 59 year old Erica Grace SCHMIDT. She was reported missing at 12:20 pm yesterday afternoon. Erica likely left the family home on Timberlane Drive sometime between 8:30 am and 10:30 am on Saturday, October 5th. It is believed that she walked away from the residence as family vehicles are accounted for.

SCHMIDT is 5'4" tall and weighs 140 pounds with short brown hair and blue eyes (see photo). She may be wearing a red hoody. Erica SCHMIDT did not pack belongings and she does not own a cell phone. Friends and family are extremely concerned about her.



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Anyone with information about Erica SCHMIDT should call the APD at 604-859-5225 or text 222973 (abbypd).

Cst. Ian MacDonald	Phone: (604) 864-4721
Abbotsford Police Public Information Officer	Cell: (604) 835-6070
2838 Justice Way, Abbotsford, BC V2T 3P5	Fax: (604) 859-2527
E-mail: imacdonald@abbypd.ca	

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