



Press Release

For Immediate Release

March 17, 2021

Calgary, AB- *Act2endracism condemns the murders that stole the lives of eight people in Atlanta, six of the victims were Asian women. We offer our sympathy and thoughts to the victims' families and loved ones who mourn such unspeakable loss.*

We watch with incredible sadness as investigators try to piece together the motivation behind the mass shootings in Atlanta.

We stand with the Japanese American Citizens League statement, "Whether these murders were intended to target the victims because of their work, gender, or their Asian ethnicity, they come at a time when our community is already feeling exposed and vulnerable. The impacts of discrimination and outright racism have been brought to the forefront by COVID-19. We continue to be worn down and on guard."

Act2endracism offers support to Asian Canadians on how to deal with racism. The national network comprised of more than 50 communities was created to educate families experiencing racism and discrimination at a heightened rate during the pandemic.

Former Alberta MLA and Act2endracism founder, Teresa Woo-Paw offered her condolences to the families. "This tragic loss of life will compound pain and apprehension in our community. Violent acts are always beyond comprehension. We hope to find out the motivation behind the crimes to see how it can prevent tragedy from happening again."

In Vancouver, hate crimes against Asians have escalated by an alarming rate of more than 700%. And in Montreal, hate crimes are significantly on the rise. The network created an online reporting tool to capture stories. Most targets are women and most incidents, such as verbal harassment, occur in public spaces like grocery stores. More than half request mental health supports.

If you see racism or are a target, we urge you to report it to the authorities or by going online to our website act2endracism.ca.

For information and to arrange an interview:

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