

## Canadian Socialist Rifle Association 101-1983 Commercial Drive, Vancouver BC V5N 4A8 Canadian SRA.ca

Official statement from the central committee of the Canadian Socialist Rifle Association Date: September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024

Re: The Unjust Killing of Hoss Lightning by RCMP

On August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 15 year old Hoss Lightning, of the Samson Cree Nation, called 911 for help. He was afraid for his life. RCMP claim that two responding officers confronted the teen nearly an hour later in the nearby town of Wetaskawin AB, where they found Hoss with "weapons", and proceeded to peacefully confiscate them. Once Hoss was disarmed, the RCMP say that an altercation occurred that resulted in both RCMP members discharging their firearms at the 15 year old boy. Despite life saving efforts, Hoss Lightning died in the hospital hours later.

We at the CSRA are outraged by the actions of the RCMP and demand a full release of all information concerning the unjust killing of Hoss Lightning. This act as well as the recent police killing of Mathios Arkangelo demonstrates a disturbing pattern of racism and violence that has been prevalent since their creation. The RCMP continue to oppress and terrorize our communities while at the same time, requesting an ever increasing budget from the tax payer. As the federal, provincial and municipal governments collaborate to boost police spending, the police departments purchase token "less lethal" options to calm voters while they organize corrupt investigation processes to forge accountability.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police was built on the building blocks of hate, discrimination, and racism. Reduction in police spending and reform will not stop the killings, and we will not continue to tolerate the abuse of our family and friends at the hands of an unaccountable policing system.

## NO MORE STOLEN CHILDREN

Our condolences to the family and friends of Hoss Lightning and to the grieving community of the Samson Cree Nation. Our hearts bleed for your loss.

From the central committee of the Canadian Socialist Rifle Association