

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

Official statement from the central committee of the Canadian Socialist Rifle Association Date: September 5th 2024 Re: The Tragic Death of Tammy Bateman in Winnipeg MB

Greeting Comrades,

Just a few days after the death of Hoss Lightning in Wetaskawin AB, we are once again shocked by the tragic death of Tammy Bateman. Tammy, an Indigenous homeless woman was killed when a police vehicle struck her near the homeless encampment where she was living in Fort Rouge Park in Winnipeg. Those whose mandate it is to protect and serve have once again killed a member of our community. As the cost of living continues to rise and housing becomes more insecure, it is important that we stand strong to protect marginalized members of our communities. Time and time again, we witness homeless people being forced out of public view, degraded, and actively criminalized, and these types of tragedies often get swept under the rug. We will not ignore this. The forced relocation of our most vulnerable community members by the police, and the public's acceptance of the horrific treatment of them has to stop. How many more need to die?

The officers who struck and killed Tammy Bateman need to be brought to justice. We at the CSRA are tired of seeing injustices go unpunished through crooked investigations, and discriminatory court processes. All levels of government need to take immediate action to address homelessness and the factors that lead to them. We call upon the Winnipeg police to immediately and permanently cease operating any motor vehicles within public parks, and demand that the officers responsible are brought to justice. We demand that all levels of government divert police funding towards providing for our communities.

One death is too many and tragedies like this happen every day, whether it's a police vehicle or sub-zero temperatures, members of our communities are dying and they need our help. Our sisters are not disposable, and we will not stand for this.

Our condolences to the friends and family of Tammy, and everyone who is affected by this horrible tragedy.

From the central committee of the Canadian Socialist Rifle Association