

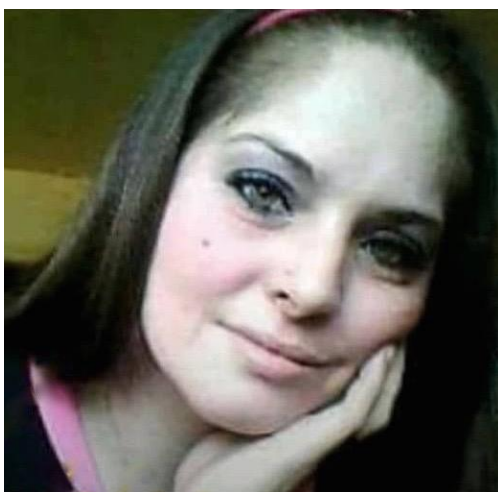


OAITH FEMICIDE LIST

November 26th, 2016 - November 25th, 2017

Section 1: Intimate Partner Femicides (IPF)

Femicide is commonly defined as the intentional murder of women because they are women¹. Broader definitions can include any killings of women or girls. Intimate partner femicide (IPF) is the murder of a woman by her intimate partner including (e.g. husband/ex-husband, common law spouse/ex-spouse, boyfriend/ex-boyfriend and date)². The women listed below are examples of IPF although some women were known to the male perpetrators e.g. familial relationships or acquaintances, but were not intimate partners. This list includes women killed in Ontario and is based on media reports and other available sources.



1. Tammy Avery, 39, November 14th, 2017 Sturgeon Falls West Nippising, ON

Tammy was known as someone who saw the positives in all situations she encountered. She was a mother, a daughter and a friend. She had a beautiful soul that will never be forgotten. Her boyfriend has been charged with first-degree murder.

Cause of Death: Unknown

¹ Garcia-Moreno, C., Guedes, A and Knerr, W. 2012. *Understanding and Addressing Violence Against Women*. http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/violence/rhr12_38/en/

² Sheehan, B., Murphy, S., Moynihan, M., Dudley-Fennessey, E., & Stapleton, J. 2015. Intimate partner homicide: New insights for understanding lethality and risks. *Violence Against Women*, 21(2), 269-288.



2. Wendy Boland, 63, May 26th, 2017
Bracebridge, ON

Wendy was an active member in the community and a known dog lover. Wendy was described as a happy and kind-hearted community member and will be remembered fondly by her family and friends. Her husband 67, has been charged with first-degree murder.

Cause of Death: Gun shot



3. Rosalyn Boyce, 30, August 6th, 2017
Wapekeka First Nation, ON

Rosalyn's friends and family described her as having a beautiful soul. Rosalyn of the Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation was found dead in her home. Her community was very saddened from her death. Rosalyn's husband, 34, has been charged with second-degree murder.

Cause of Death: Unknown



4. Weqiong Du-Sun, 46, June 28th, 2017
Leamington, ON

Weqiong was an entrepreneur, and owned a restaurant with her husband. Weqiong's murder was shocking to her community. Her husband, 51, has been charged with first-degree murder

Cause of Death: Unknown



5. Elana Fric-Shamji, 40, December 1st, 2016
North York, ON

Elena was a family physician. She was described by colleagues and friends as being family-oriented, and humorous. She is survived by her three children, and will be remembered as a beacon of light in her community. She was murdered in her family home, just days after filing for divorce. Her husband has been charged with first-degree murder. He had a previous history of violence against Elana.

Cause of Death: Strangulation and blunt-force trauma



6. Arianna Goberdhan, 29, April 27, 2017
Pickering, ON

Arianna is remembered by friends and family as a beautiful young woman. Relatives are heartbroken over the death of Arianna. She had been married for 6 months, and was 9 months pregnant at the time of her death. Her husband, originally charged with second degree murder, has now been charged with first-degree murder. She will be missed dearly by her friends and family.

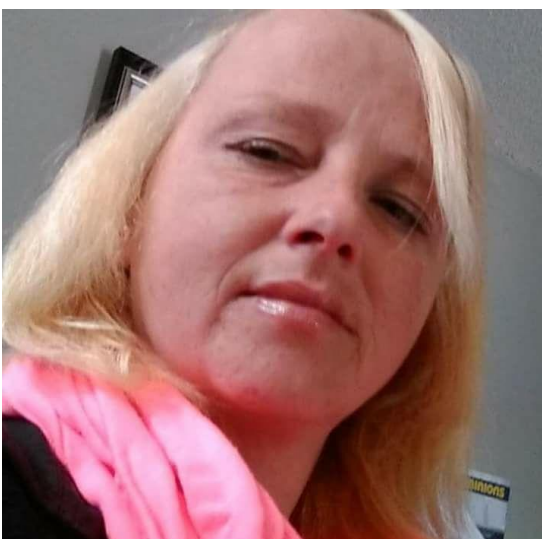
Cause of Death: Stabbing



7. Angela McAdorey, 39, February 10th, 2017
St. Catherine's, ON

Angela was a devoted mother to her two young daughters, who were her passion. She was known for sharing her love of reading, baking and crafting with her daughters. Angela sought adventure and loved the outdoors, which was evident by how active she was in her neighbourhood, often seen doing landscaping projects and yard work at her home. Her husband, 44, who was not living at the home, plead guilty to second-degree murder. He had a history of assaulting Angela.

Cause of Death: Stabbing and physical trauma



8. Beata Paciorek, 35, May 19th, 2017
Brampton, ON

Beata was described as a funny, caring and a selfless individual. Her friends say that she was someone “who would even give, when down to her last dollar”. She leaves behind two children, a boy and a girl. Friends and family will remember her as someone who was always willing to help and do right by her children. Beata was on a trip from Brampton to Sudbury when she was killed. Her 32 year old boyfriend and two others have been charged with first-degree murder.

Cause of Death: Unknown



9. Bodwatie Persaud, 70, July 27th, 2017
Pickering, ON

Bodwatie was found by police without vital signs in her home after having moved to the area only months prior. Neighbours left colourful flowers on the property in her memory. A 71 year old man with the same name, was charged with her murder. Police are calling it a “domestic incident”.

Cause of Death: Unknown



10. Helen Ryan, 76, October 27th, 2017
Cobourg, ON

Helen was born and raised in Campbellford and studied Opera at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. She lived in Ontario during the summer months, and travelled to Texas for the winter. Helen is described by her cousin as a dear, sweet woman, who had an operatic soprano voice and sang beautifully when she was younger. She will be missed. Helen’s husband murdered her in the emergency area of the Coburg Hospital. Helen’s friends reported that there was a history of domestic violence.

Cause of Death: Gun Shot



11. Natasha Thompson, 36, November 6th, 2017
Hamilton, ON

Natasha leaves behind her two daughters, aged 11 and 16. A flood of condolences came though, where many people described Natasha as a loving and dedicated mother. She was a well known social justice advocate and will be remembered fondly by friends and family. Natasha's boyfriend, 41, has been charged with second-degree murder.

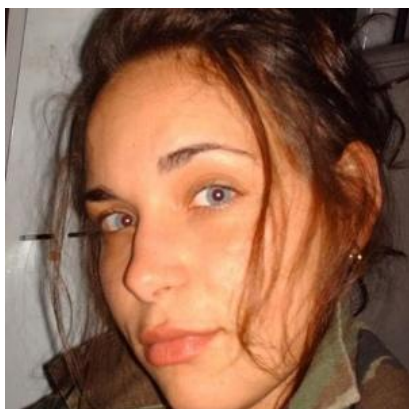
Cause of Death: Gun shot



12. Melinda Vasilije, 22, April 28th, 2017
Kitchener, ON

Melinda is remembered as a kind, beautiful, family orientated individual, whose inspiring personality made everyone around her happy. The community has rallied around the tragedy by helping to raise money in support of Melinda's family, and to recognize her outgoing personality. Her ex-boyfriend has been charged with second-degree murder after her body was found in her apartment.

Cause of Death: Stabbing



13. Cotie Weekley, 31, January 23rd, 2017
Oshawa, ON

Cotie was a mother to an 8-year-old girl, and a beloved employee at a local restaurant. She has been described as happy, kind, and generous. As a sister, daughter, and friend, she will be missed by many. Cotie was found dead in her home in Oshawa, and her boyfriend has been charged with first-degree murder.

Cause of Death: Stabbing

Section 2: Femicides

Femicide is commonly defined as the intentional murder of women because they are women.³ Broader definitions can include any killings of women or girls. Historically, OAITH's work has focused primarily on the intentional murder of women, by men, where there has been a known relational connection and a criminal charge laid.

In 2016, there were women we learned about through media reports that either did not indicate a relationship, OR, where it was reported a woman did not know the person who killed them, AND unsolved cases of women who've been murdered. We wanted to ensure communities are aware and have an opportunity for them to be remembered. This list is only partial.



1. Asma A-Noor, 32, December 18th, 2016 Ottawa, ON

Asma has been described as compassionate and full of life. She was a prominent figure in her community, and her mosque. Both Asma, and her sister Nasiba, were found dead in their home. Their brother has been charged with both murders. Asma's death has impacted her family and friends in addition to her close knit community, who say she will be deeply missed.

Cause of Death: Stabbing

³ Garcia-Moreno, C., Guedes, A and Knerr, W. 2012. *Understanding and Addressing Violence Against Women*. http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/violence/rhr12_38/en/



2. Nasiba A-Noor, 29, December 18th, 2016
Ottawa, ON

Nasiba will be remembered as a young, talented, and compassionate woman. She is acknowledged for playing a huge part in her community and mosque. Nasiba was an enthusiastic teacher of the Qur'an, at both her mosque and local school. Nasiba is additionally described as a talented photographer, who was full of life. She will be missed dearly by her family and friends; as well as her mosque and community.

Cause of Death: Stabbing



3. Dana Camber, 50, March 14th, 2017
Barrie, ON

Dana was cherished by her family. She was deeply loved, and is missed by her mother, brother, daughter, and three grandchildren. Dana was murdered in her home by three men, and they have been charged with first-degree murder. It is believed that the men were known to her.

Cause of Death: Gun shot



4. Nicole Dragisic, 37, October 16th, 2017
Hamilton, ON

Nicole was a very loving woman who was known for inspiring others with her courage and strong will. She was described as a woman with a heart of gold. Nicole is lovingly remembered by her many friends and family. Nicole was targeted and killed by two men who have not yet been found by the police. Nicole will be dearly missed by her friends, family and her five children.

Cause of Death: Gun shot



5. Elsa Giovannelli - Macciachera, 82
October 20th, 2017
Toronto, ON

Elsa was described as being a very loving woman, especially when it came to her large family. Elsa was a beloved wife, mother and Nonna to 5 grandchildren. A 60 year old man has been charged with manslaughter in Elsa's death.

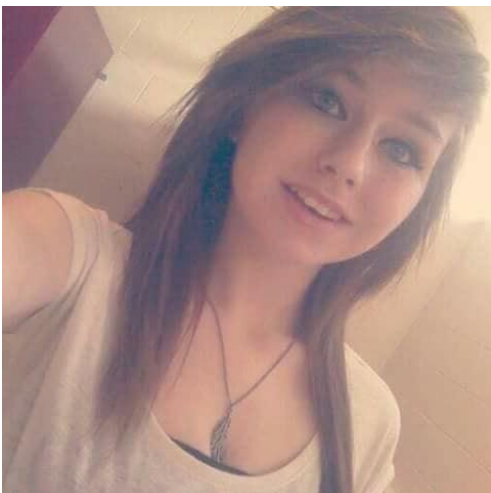
Cause of Death: Trauma



6. Josephine "Josie" Glen, 26, October 27th, 2017
London, ON

Josie was known to the people who loved her as a bubbly, happy, kind and "nice to a fault" sort of woman. She was an incredible singer, and enjoyed going out with friends. She adored all animals, especially her dog, Luna. She will be remembered by her friends, family and the community. The man charged with her murder was reported as having an extensive history of assault against women. Previous charges on another woman included sexual assault, choking, forcible confinement and assault.

Cause of Death: Unknown



7. Rori Hache, 18, September 11th
(found), 2017
Oshawa, ON

Rori is remembered as a bright, beautiful, strong and extremely smart young woman. Rori's body was discovered in Lake Ontario. So far, no charges have been laid, but the investigation is still ongoing.

Cause of Death: Trauma



8. Rachelle Mair, 66, August 18th, 2017
Ottawa, ON

Rachelle was a well-respected woman, who volunteered her time at the Catholic Centre for Immigrants. She is remembered by colleagues and friends as a beautiful woman and an extraordinary person. Her son, 29, has been charged with second-degree murder.

Cause of Death: Trauma



9. Cheryl McVarish, 43, March 13th,
2017
Port Credit, ON

Cheryl will be remembered as a loving mother, grandmother, and friend who will be very dearly missed by her family and community. She was found dead in her driveway a week after she was reported missing. Cheryl's partner's father was charged with second-degree murder.

Cause of Death: Blunt force trauma



10. Michelle Riley, 36, February 9th, 2017
Toronto, ON

Michelle was described by friends as fiercely loyal and caring, with a heart of gold. She cared about homeless youth, and often invited them to stay with her. Michelle was also a volunteer at the Knox Presbyterian Church and Young Street Mission. Michelle's friend plans to use "Riley" for her sons' middle name in remembrance of Michelle. Michelle was found unresponsive in her apartment, and her roommate, a 51 year old man, has been charged with second-degree murder.

Cause of Death: Trauma



11. Mirella Roncato, 54, July 18th, 2017
Guelph, ON

Mirella is remembered by her friends as a great person, with a big smile and an even bigger heart. Mirella Roncato is remembered for her dedication to her family, and always placing their needs in front of her own. Her son has been charged with first-degree murder for his mother's death.

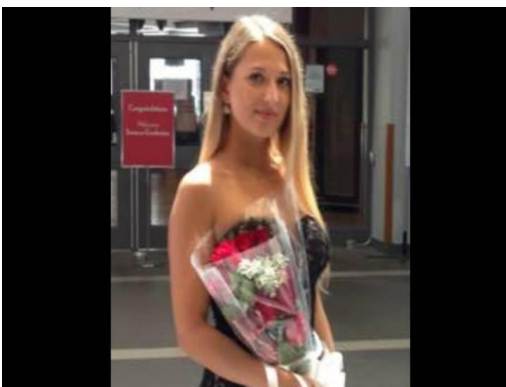
Cause of Death: Unknown



12. Angela Skorulski, 56, March 8th, 2017
Oakville, ON

Angela was a family woman who was loved by her two sisters and her brother. She was known to be very caring and loving. Angela will be remembered by her many friends and family. Angela was murdered in her home, and one man has been charged. Angela and the murderer were known to each other.

Cause of Death: Gun shot



13. Julia Sokolov, 24, September 19, 2017
Scarborough, ON

Julia was a second-year human resources management and organizational behaviour student at Ryerson University. She was known for her carefree, energetic, and joking personality. Julia will be missed dearly by her family and friends, and will always be remembered as a caring and loving individual by all she met. A 24 year old man has been charged with first-degree murder.

Cause of Death: Stabbing



14. Sarah Vermelhudo, 38, December 16th, 2016
Toronto, ON

Sarah was an aspiring life coach. She was described as a wonderful woman by colleagues and friends. Sarah's family also described her as a beautiful person who was always looking to help and inspire others. Sarah was murdered in her home. Her nephew was charged with second-degree murder.

Cause of Death: Stabbing



15. Donna Walc, 73, October 4, 2017
Collingwood, ON

Donna enjoyed an active lifestyle and was a vibrant participant in tennis clubs, Probus Club, book clubs and sporting events. She will be remembered as a respected educator and a joyful, thoughtful and kind individual who sparkled and enjoyed life to the fullest. Donna was found dead in her home, and police are still investigating her death as suspicious.

Cause of Death: Unknown



16. Marite Zala, 69, October 20th, 2017
Toronto, ON

Marite was a loving mother of two, who was described as an avid learner, champion for mental health, volunteer and vivacious bibliophile. Marite was a very involved community member, working towards reducing crime levels and cleaning up the neighbourhood in order to make positive changes for her community. A 31 year old man identified as having some connection to the family has been charged with first-degree murder.

Cause of Death: Stabbing

(publication ban)



(name never released)



(publication ban)



17. Unknown, 35, March 11th, 2017
Ottawa, ON

During a routine fire inspection, the body of a woman was found, along with her living 2 year old son. A 31 year old man with a history of violence against women has been charged with first-degree murder in connection to the case. The unidentified victim was considered to be a “good person and good mother” by her friends.

Cause of Death: Unknown

18. Unknown, 60, September 13th,
2017
Toronto, ON

An unidentified woman was found murdered by police in her apartment. Police charged her 24-year-old son with first-degree murder. She will be remembered as a warm, personable, family oriented and caring woman.

Cause of Death: Stabbing

19. Unknown, April 3, 2017
Webbwood, ON

A woman was found dead in her home after the Ontario Fire Marshal's office investigated a suspicious fatal house fire. No information about the woman is available at this time. A 30-year-old man has been charged with murder.

2016-2017 OAITH Femicide List

In collaboration with Dr. Mavis Morton and her students from Advanced Topics in Criminology SOC 4030, University of Guelph. We thank you for your tremendous contribution.

Arianna Amaral-Bertozzi

Kassidy Anderson

Shelby Anderson

Jessica Barbosa

Bradley Becker

Gina Broad

Alivia Carvalho

Stefanie Cipriani

Alexandria Culham

Kevin Franklin

Lauren Hancock

Shelby Kisliuk

Katherine Knighton

Carrigan Lee

Royce Lee

Emma MacFarlane

Kirsten MacZko

Zachary Meyer

Kathryn Nairne

Robyn Nazione

Jessica O'Donnell

Rachel Peters

Melissa Phan

Joelle Proctor

Anna-Marie Reiner

Kyle Sephton

Chloe Slack

Laura Smith

Laura Sumner

Madison Turpin

Taylor Ward

Kayla Westervelt