



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 6, 2024

Official Statement from Mayor Ken Sim on the Fatal Stabbing in East Vancouver

VANCOUVER, BC - Vancouver Mayor Ken Sim released the following statement regarding the fatal stabbing in East Vancouver yesterday near Chinatown:

“It is with heavy hearts that we grieve the tragic loss of Wataru Kakiuchi, a 32-year-old chef and beloved member of our city. Mr. Kakiuchi was fatally stabbed early Wednesday morning on Union Street, on the edge of Chinatown.

“I want to assure the public that the Vancouver Police Department is working tirelessly to bring the person responsible for this tragedy to justice. The VPD has increased uniformed presence in the neighbourhood, and we urge anyone with information, including video footage from the area, to come forward and assist the investigation.

“Wataru Kakiuchi was more than a talented chef at Hapa Izakaya in Yaletown - he was a positive presence and a cherished friend to many. His contributions to our community will not be forgotten.

“This senseless act of violence has our city in shock and mourning. On behalf of the City of Vancouver, I extend my deepest condolences to Mr. Kakiuchi’s family, friends, and colleagues. We stand with you in this time of sorrow and grief.

“Ensuring the safety and well-being of all who live, work, and play in our city is our top priority. We’re working closely with the VPD and our community partners to strengthen safety measures across Vancouver, making our community a friendlier and safer place for all.”

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