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The Record.com

Body in river identified

Investigators call the death of 28-year-old Erin Howlett of Elmira suspicious

Linda Givetash, Record staff

KITCHENER — The body of a woman pulled from the Grand River on Friday afternoon was identified as that of a 28-year-old from Elmira, police said.

The body of Erin Howlett was recovered from the river near the Walter Bean Trail next to Riverbend Drive in Kitchener by Waterloo Regional Police on Friday after teens swimming in the river reported something suspicious in the water, police confirmed Sunday.

Investigators are calling the death suspicious.

Cause and time of death and how long the body was in the water have yet to be determined. An autopsy was conducted Saturday and police were still awaiting results Sunday.

Police released an image of the victim's tattoo on Friday, hoping the public would help identify the woman.

Kaleigh Mason, a friend of the deceased, said that when she saw the image of the tattoo, she feared the worst.

"The tattoo of the woman who was found (Friday), it has the same star," said Mason, a friend of Howlett since childhood.

She added that Howlett had been missing since June 27 and that her family notified police at that time.

Information circulated by friends and family over social media indicated Howlett was believed to be travelling to Toronto with an unknown person the day she was last heard from.

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Erin Howlett's body was pulled from the Grand River on Friday, police confirm.

5 dead, 40 missing, 30 buildings levelled in train explosion



RYAN REMIÖZ, THE CANADIAN PRESS

The downtown core in Lac-Mégantic, Que., lies in ruins on Sunday as firefighters continue to spray down the smouldering rubble.

Train carrying oil derails, ignites

The Canadian Press

LAC-MEGANTIC, Que. — About 40 people were declared missing amid a rising death toll in a Quebec town that saw its downtown core obliterated by the fiery explosions of a runaway train.

Five people were announced dead one day after explosions and fireballs razed much of Lac-Mégantic, as tanker cars filled with crude oil hurtled down a hill and derailed in the middle of town.

Authorities warned Sunday

that a higher death toll is inevitable.

After viewing the devastation, Prime Minister Stephen Harper likened what was once the heart of Lac-Mégantic to a "war zone."

The incident has also shone the spotlight on the contentious political debate over oil transportation, and Canada's rapidly expanding oil-by-rail industry.

The search for victims in the charred debris has been hampered by the fact that two of the train's cars continued to burn Sunday morning, creating a

no-go zone and concerns of other potentially fatal explosions.

Provincial police were initially hesitant to estimate the number of people unaccounted for and offered a figure Sunday for the first time since the derailment.

"We have to be careful with that number because it could go up or down," Quebec provincial police Lt. Michel Brunet told a news conference.

Brunet said two bodies were found overnight and another two on Sunday morning. The first body was discovered Saturday.

Two pathologists have arrived in the town and more have been called in to take on the grim task of identifying human remains.

About 30 buildings were destroyed, including Le Musi-Café bar where partygoers were enjoying themselves in the wee hours of a glorious summer night.

The multiple blasts over a span of several hours sent people fleeing as the explosions rocked the municipality of 6,000, about 250 kilometres east of Montreal.

► Train continued on page A4

Family looks for answers in teen's death in Mexico

Linda Givetash, Record staff

KITCHENER — Racked by grief over the sudden death of a daughter, a family is preparing a lawsuit and looking for answers as to how their vacation turned into a nightmare.

Maria Camila Lopez Mora, 16, was killed in a water sport collision while vacationing with her family in Mexico on June 29.

The teen, known as Camila Lopez, was kayaking in the waters by the Now Jade Riviera hotel in Puerto Morelos, less than 40 kilometres south of Cancun, when she was hit by a 16-year-old from London, England, who was driving a rental personal watercraft.

Visitations were held at the Westmount Funeral Chapel on Saturday and Sunday.

Her father, Camilo Lopez, expressed his grief and shared words of caution for travellers heading to popular vacation spots.

A close family friend, Maria Laguna, helped translate Camilo's story, which he told, in part, in Spanish.

It was the second day of the family's vacation when tragedy struck. Camila was out on the beach getting a kayak with her brother-in-law while the rest of the family was in the hotel.

Camilo said he was changing his clothes and getting ready to head out to take pictures of the pair in the kayak.

"When I came out and I looked out from the hotel, I saw a lot of people yelling and screaming. I thought someone had drowned or something had happened."

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Sweet victory
Murray ends 77-year
British Wimbledon curse
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HIGHER OUTSIDE
THE REGION

Pinehaven seniors residence proposes major expansion for Waterloo site

Paige Desmond, Record staff

WATERLOO — A major expansion proposed for Pinehaven Nursing Residence will provide local seniors with the opportunity to age in place.

Independent living, assisted living and long-term care accommodations would total a combined 691 units. The expansion would double the number of buildings, and add more than five times as many

beds at Pinehaven, which currently accommodates about 37 people in a nursing home and 84 in a retirement residence.

The expansion plan will be presented to the public at a Waterloo council meeting July 15. No decisions will be made at that time.

"I think the more options, the better as our population is aging," said Coun. Angela Vieth, a member of the city's

55-plus advisory group.

The plan proposes tearing down the existing two structures and building three new, six-storey buildings which would eventually connect to form one linked building. A separate six-storey building is also planned.

Current residents wouldn't be displaced during construction.

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On the web



Running of the Bulls

Look for our photo gallery of thrill-seekers testing their bravery Sunday by dashing alongside fighting bulls through Pamplona. www.TheRecord.com

Quote of the day

"Find joy in everything you choose to do. Every job, relationship, home ... it's your responsibility to love it, or change it."

Chuck Palahniuk

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Lotteries

Sunday (evening)

Encore: 5352948

Pick 2: 0 2

Pick 3: 3 9 0

Pick 4: 4 8 4 7

Poker: 8-C, 7-C, 8-D, 7-D, 3-D

Keno: 2, 4, 5, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 21, 27, 31, 36,

39, 40, 45, 50, 52, 61, 66, 67

Saturday: (evening)

Encore: 5199331

Pick 2: 5 7

Pick 3: 2 2 4

Pick 4: 4 0 0 4

Poker: 2-S, A-H, 9-C, 5-D, 7-H

Early Bird: 22, 26, 32, 45

Keno: 2, 3, 4, 11, 14, 23, 27, 31, 32, 33, 39,

40, 43, 44, 45, 48, 49, 59, 60, 65.

Ontario 49: 2, 10, 22, 41, 45 & 47 Bonus: 32

6/49: 21, 23, 24, 33, 38 & 44 Bonus 45

Lottario: 4, 6, 20, 27, 29 & 39 Bonus 36

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By Dave Green

	6	5	3	7	1	4	
7			9	1			2
			5				
5	3					6	4
		8	9	7			
4	9					5	8
			4				
1		5	2				3
	7	4	1	3	6	2	

Difficulty Level ★

7/08

Previous solution

6	3	1	8	5	7	4	9	2
2	7	8	9	6	4	5	1	3
5	4	9	3	1	2	6	7	8
4	6	3	5	9	1	2	8	7
9	8	5	7	2	3	1	6	4
1	2	7	6	4	8	9	3	5
3	9	2	4	7	6	8	5	1
7	5	4	1	8	9	3	2	6
8	1	6	2	3	5	7	4	9

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

How to play

The object is to place the numbers 1 through 9 in empty squares so that each column, row and 3x3 box contains each number only once. The difficulty level of Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Father warns of resort safety



MARTA IWANEK, RECORD STAFF

The family of Camila Lopez, from left, brother-in-law David Avellaneda, sister Pilar Lopez, father Camilo Lopez, mother Esperanza Mora de Lopez, sister Laura Lopez and brother-in-law Carlos Valero at Westmount Funeral Chapel in Kitchener on Sunday.

► Mexico continued from A1



Camila Lopez

He ran down the beach, uncertain of what happened but hoping he could help. "When I arrived, I saw my son-in-law screaming, and that's when I knew something happened to my daughter," he said. Staring ahead, keeping his voice steady but revealing pain in his expression, Camilo recounted the events from the moment Camila was pulled from the water to the time she arrived at hospital.

A nurse and an American doctor, guests at the hotel, tried to help. Camila had been hit in the head by the personal watercraft, Camilo believes.

He said an oxygen tank brought from the hotel was empty and the defibrillator didn't work. An emergency service worker from the hotel who brought the equipment then

tried CPR, but Camilo said he was doing compressing under the girl's shoulder, not in the centre of her chest.

"He seemed like he didn't know what he was doing," Camilo said.

Ambulances arrived about 40 minutes later, he said.

Camilo said paramedics were forced to bring the stretcher through an out-of-sight route around the hotel.

Taking Camila to the ambulance, the wheels of the stretcher continually got caught in the sand and grass along that route.

Finally, after about a 30-minute drive, they reached a Cancun hospital.

"When we arrived at emergency, the doctors were prepared to help her, but two minutes later they said that she was dead," Camilo said.

The family has hired lawyers and is preparing a lawsuit against the hotel. They're also investigating the role the personal watercraft rental company played in the incident.

Camilo said the hotel offered no support prior to them taking legal action.

He is sharing the details with the media, he said, to warn others about safety issues at resorts that may be far away from hospitals or lack adequate emergency services on site.

"In an emergency situation, they don't have the capacity to appropriately respond," he said.

Now Jade Riviera and a private watercraft rental company located in the vicinity of the resort did not respond to media inquiries on Sunday.

Meanwhile, family and friends grapple with their grief in losing a bright young woman.

"She was an angel. She showed a lot of love to everyone. ... That's why everyone is here for her," Camilo said about the dozens of people at the visitation on Saturday.

Camila is survived by her parents, Camilo Lopez and Esperanza Mora de Lopez, and sisters Laura, 25, and Pilar, 28.

A funeral mass will be held today at the St. John's Roman Catholic Church in Kitchener at 1:30 p.m.

lgivetash@therecord.com

Police seeking public's help

► Howlett continued from A1

Sgt. Dave Reibel could not confirm details related to Howlett's disappearance. He added that there are no suspects under investigation at this time.

Despite Mason's suspicions about the tattoo, hearing the news of her friend's death was shocking.

"This is the biggest tragedy that our town has ever seen," Mason said. "When someone is killed like this, it's horrible."

Howlett was well-known in her community, having an outgoing personality. She also worked as a waitress at the popular family restaurant Sip 'N Bite in Elmira.

"... She loved meeting new people," Mason said. "She was very outgoing, always talking to everybody."

Growing up together, Mason recalled the two of them playing at the St. Teresa of Avila Catholic School playground, singing and dancing and sharing a secret handshake.

"She was always having fun," Mason said.

Police are continuing the investigation and encouraging the public to help.

"We're trying to gather as much information as we can as to what she was doing in the weeks and days leading up to July 5," said Reibel.

Anyone with information about Howlett's whereabouts, companions or activities during that time is asked to contact the Homicide Branch at 519-650-8500, ext. 8642 or Crime Stoppers.

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WATERLOO REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE PHOTO

A photo of Erin Howlett's tattoo was released to help identify her body.

Residence will undergo construction in phases

► Age continued from A1

Located on Lexington Road at the intersection with Davenport Road, the residence will undergo construction in phases.

"We are a lifestyle community built for older adults," said Sheri Maynard, director of marketing for construction company Maxion Management Services Inc., which brought the rezoning application with Deem Management Services Ltd.

Planned amenities include a large swimming pool, movie screening rooms and multiple gathering spaces including a large patio. As residents age, they can move to a different area of the development and receive addition-

al services or care, she said.

"It's a fabulous lifestyle," Maynard said. "We provide healthy aging-in-place strategies."

Ward Coun. Mark Whaley said the idea of aging in place provides some stability for older adults.

"When my mom was going through these years we had to take her to three different facilities and it was really traumatic for her," Whaley said. "You're bringing calm, your family knows how to get there, you're familiar with the area and the people."

An original proposal called for making additions to the two existing buildings instead of building new. But a change in the city's Official Plan, which regulates development, allowed developers



PHILIP WALKER, RECORD STAFF

A massive expansion is planned for Pinehaven Nursing Residence.

to provide more bedrooms.

"This is a great new approach

which will benefit the residents,"

city planner Trevor Hawkins said.

"They'll benefit from new construction."

There are 137 above-ground parking spaces proposed and 201 underground.

The site does pose some challenges, however.

Hawkins said a steep grade on the currently undeveloped portion of the site is what has prevented full use of the property to date. The property's proximity to the expressway is another issue the city will be looking for the proposal to address.

Due to noise concerns from traffic, a noise study recommends warning clauses be included in tenant agreements.

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