



Ottawa, 8 September 2022

The Most Rev. Stephen A. Hero
Bishop of Prince Albert
1415—4th Avenue West
Prince Albert, SK S6V 5H1

Your Excellency,

It is with great horror and sadness that Canadians learned of the murder this past Sunday, 4 September, of over 10 people in the James Smith Cree Nation and in Weldon, Saskatchewan. I am writing to you to convey on behalf of the Bishops of Canada our closeness in prayer to you and to all the people of the Diocese of Prince Albert during this tragic time.

We join with you in offering our prayers for the deceased, whose lives were unjustly taken from them, as well as for the wounded and the surviving members of the surrounding community.

May you and the Catholic community under your care be strengthened by the Holy Spirit to live out the spiritual works of mercy, in particular the comforting of the sorrowful, during this moment of great pain and suffering.

In solidarity, in the service of the Church,

✠ Raymond Poisson
Bishop Saint-Jérôme-Mont-Laurier
President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops