



Yellowknife Catholic Schools

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Date: October 19, 2026

To: Yellowknife Catholic Schools Families, Students, Staff, and Community

Subject: In Remembrance, Prayer, and Support Following the Tragedy at CFB Wainwright

Dear Yellowknife Catholic Schools Community,

It is with profound sorrow and heavy hearts that Yellowknife Catholic Schools reaches out to all our families, staff, and community members. We are deeply saddened by the tragic military training exercise that occurred at CFB Wainwright, Alberta, resulting in the heartbreaking loss of dedicated members of the Canadian Armed Forces and injuries to many other soldiers.

As a Catholic school community bound by faith, compassion, and care for one another, we stand in solemn solidarity with the military community, the families, and loved ones of those who lost their lives. We offer our most heartfelt condolences to the families and regiments of the four brave soldiers:

- **Sgt. Morgan Wong** – The Loyal Edmonton Regiment
- **Pte. Aidan Goulding** – 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry
- **Pte. Shaun Farrell** – 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry
- **Pte. Hayden Lykkemark** – 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

We also hold close in our thoughts and prayers those soldiers who sustained injuries during this exercise. We extend our warmest wishes for their full physical and emotional recovery, strength, and healing in the days ahead.

As a visible mark of respect, remembrance, and gratitude for their service and ultimate sacrifice, flags at all YCS school buildings have been lowered to half-mast. They will remain lowered as our community pauses to reflect on the profound dedication of those who serve our country.

WHERE LEARNING LIGHTS THE SPIRIT

Où l'apprentissage reflète l'Esprit

Yedàı Nezıı T'à Haghàts'eetq

Events of this nature can evoke a wide range of emotions, grief, and questions within our homes and classrooms—particularly for military families and children who feel a deep connection to the Canadian Armed Forces community.

Please be reassured that our staff, educators, and pastoral care are actively present and prepared to assist our students. We encourage parents and guardians to reach out directly to your school administration or classroom teacher if your child requires extra support or someone to speak with during this difficult period.

In moments of tragedy and pain, our Catholic faith reminds us that we do not walk alone. We are called to lean on one another, offering comfort, patience, and love. *"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."*

— Matthew 5:4

We invite all members of our community to join together in prayer for the repose of the souls of Sgt. Wong, Pte. Goulding, Pte. Farrell, and Pte. Lykkemark, for the swift recovery of the injured, and for peace and comfort in the hearts of all who mourn.

May God grant strength and solace to the grieving families and shield our military members and emergency personnel serving at home and abroad.

In faith, prayer, and community support,



Adam Murray
Superintendent, Yellowknife Catholic Schools