Verdict of Coroner’s Jury
Office of the Chief Coroner
The Coroners Act – Province of Ontario

Surname: Duda
Given names: Wieslaw
Aged: 49

Held at: 25 Morton Shulman Avenue, Toronto
From the: 15th of September 2014
To the: 8th of October 2014
By: Dr. John Carlisle, Coroner for Ontario
having been duly sworn/affirmed, have inquired into and determined the following:

Name of Deceased: Wieslaw Duda
Date and Time of Death: April 19, 2010 at 1:52 am
Place of Death: Cherry Street and Commissioners Street in Toronto
Cause of Death: Multiple gunshot wounds to the torso.
By what means: Homicide

This verdict was received on the 8th of October 2014
Coroner's Name: Dr. John Carlisle
(Original signed by Coroner)

We, the jury, wish to make the following recommendations:

Inquest into the death of:
Wieslaw Duda
Jury Recommendations

1. Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services and Ontario Police College. Examine the feasibility and utility of having officers undergo a course in mental health first aid as part of the recruit training at the Ontario Police College.

2. Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, the Ontario Police College and Ontario Police Services. To the extent possible, police training should emphasize the benefit of identifying a lead officer on scene to voice commands/directions and instructions to a subject.

3. Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Ontario Police College and Toronto Police College. Determine what, if any, additional information and training can be provided to assist officers in responding to situations where a motor vehicle is used against them as a weapon or presents as the sole threat of bodily harm or death and implement judgement training concerning such a situation.

4. Ontario Police College and Ontario Police Services. Train recruits on the role of police apprehension under the Mental Health Act with focus on collection of collateral information, delivering information to the assessing physician and strongly recommending family to attend hospital.

5. Police Services in Ontario shall continue to ensure that an alert for a person that is suffering from a mental illness or in crisis is entered as soon as possible into the SIP category of CPIC and shared jurisdictionally.

6. Toronto Police Service shall consider implementation and incorporation of the most current technological judgement simulators to enhance current police training in scenarios as high risk motor vehicle stops involving a person in mental health crisis or where a vehicle can be used as a weapon.

7. Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Local Health Integration Network(s) responsible for Peel Region. Consider increased funding to allow Peel Regional Police to operate the COAST program on a full-time basis, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

8. Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Review health promotion strategies regarding communication to families and caregivers of persons suffering from mental illness. The communication could clearly outline the legal options available to assist in treatment and care if the person becomes ill, such as Power of Attorney.

9. Government of Ontario and Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Review the existing Form 2 under the Mental Health Act and consider amending it to allow section 16 applicants to indicate a past/present treating hospital that might be an appropriate place for the ordered assessment.

10. Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care in conjunction with all Schedule 1 designated psychiatric facilities under the Mental Health Act. Co-ordinate to create and implement a mandatory standardized assessment form that shall be used as both a best practices checklist and record of assessment for patients brought to hospital pursuant to a Form under the Mental Health Act.

11. College of Family Physicians of Canada and Royal College of Family Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in conjunction with all Schedule 1 designated psychiatric facilities under the Mental Health Act. Co-ordinate to develop and implement mandatory standardized training and refresher training of emergency room physicians in respect of their duties and responsibilities under the Mental Health Act as well as best practices for assessments made under the Act.

12. Toronto Police Service and RCMP National Policy Service. Review and consider amending CPIC protocols to include individual’s address to provide officers with maximum amount of information relating to individuals who are “flagged”.