

# Ottawa shooting leaves two dead

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) — A Canadian soldier standing guard at a war memorial in the country’s capital was shot to death Wednesday, and gunfire then erupted inside Parliament, authorities said. One gunman was killed, and police said they were hunting for as many as two others.

The bloodshed immediately raised the specter of a coordinated terrorist attack, with Canada already on alert because of a deadly hit-and-run earlier in the week against two Canadian soldiers by a man who police say was fired up with radical Muslim fervor.

Witnesses said the soldier was gunned down at point-blank range by a man carrying a rifle and dressed all in black, with a scarf over his face. They said the gunman then ran off and entered Parliament, a few hundred yards away, where dozens of shots soon rang out.

People fled the complex by scrambling down scaffolding erected for renovations, while others took cover inside as police with rifles and body armor took up positions outside and cordoned off the normally bustling streets around Parliament.

Police gave no details on how the gunman died. But on Twitter, Member of Parliament Craig Scott credited Parliament sergeant-at-arms Kevin Vickers with shooting the attacker just outside the MPs’ caucus rooms.

Ottawa police spokesman Chuck Benoit said two or three gunmen were believed to be involved in the attacks. Gilles Michaud, assistant commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, called it a “dynamic, unfold-

ing situation.”

Ottawa Hospital said it received two patients, both listed in stable condition, in addition to the soldier.

Tony Zobl, 35, said he witnessed the soldier being gunned down from his fourth-floor window directly above the National War Memorial, a 70-foot, arched granite cenotaph, or tomb, with bronze sculptures commemorating World War I.

“I looked out the window and saw a shooter, a man dressed all in black with a kerchief over his nose and mouth and something over his head as well, holding a rifle and shooting an honor guard in front of the cenotaph point-blank, twice,” Zobl told the Canadian Press news agency.

“The honor guard dropped to the ground, and the shooter kind of raised his arms in triumph holding the rifle.”

Zobl said the gunman then ran up the street toward Parliament Hill.

Cabinet minister Tony Clement tweeted that at least 30 shots were heard inside Parliament, where Conservative and Liberal MPs were holding their weekly caucus meetings.

“I’m safe locked in a office awaiting security,” Kyle Seebach, another member of Parliament, tweeted.

The top spokesman for Prime Minister Stephen Harper said Harper was safe and had left Parliament Hill. The U.S. Embassy in Ottawa was locked down as a precaution.

Officials also canceled two events in Toronto honoring Pakistani teenager and Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai, including one in which she was supposed to receive honorary Canadian

citizenship. The teenager was shot in the head by a Taliban gunman in 2012 for calling for schooling for girls.

President Barack Obama condemned the attacks as “outrageous” and spoke by telephone with the prime minister, offering to help and reassuring him of the American people’s solidarity with Canada.

The attack came two days after a recent convert to Islam killed one Canadian soldier and injured another with his car before being shot to death by police. The killer had been on the radar of federal investigators, who feared he had jihadist ambitions and seized his passport when he tried to travel to Turkey.

Canada had raised its domestic terror threat level from low to medium Tuesday because of “an increase in general chatter from radical Islamist organizations,” said Jean-Christophe de Le Rue, a spokesman for the public safety minister.

In the hours after Wednesday’s attack, police warned people in downtown Ottawa to stay away from windows and rooftops.

Scott Walsh, 21, a construction worker working in a manhole right in front of Parliament Hill, said he heard the shots at the war memorial.

“We’re in construction and we’re used to loud bangs. When people started screaming and running, that’s when I clued, and I saw this guy running” with a gun, he said. “It was intense. I didn’t think it was real.”

He said the gunman had long black hair with a scarf covering the lower half of his face.

## FORUM

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of which have the utmost in integrity and ethics, said Whitbeck. In addition, a number of questions submitted by members of the public will also be posed to candidates, she said.

Whitbeck encouraged area voters to attend the free, public event intended to provide constituents the opportunity to learn more about local candidates and their views.

Rainy River Community College students are assisting with the forum, said Whitbeck.

A reception with the candidates at Backus is planned following the forum. Whitbeck encouraged people to stay and visit with the candidates and learn more about their views on specific issues. Refreshments will be offered during the reception, she said.

## SCHOOL

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Grover admitted the timing of the question is “tough.”

Three seats will be vacated in January and are to be decided in the upcoming general election, but only one person has officially thrown their hat into the ring and whose name will appear on the ballot.

“We have some write-in candidates, which is good,” he said. “This is the first time since I have been here... that there are not at

“It’s not really more decisive, but it might not look like a fight. There is a decision either way.”

**Kevin Grover**  
Superintendent

least two candidates for two positions.”

Some current board members favored decreasing the

number to a five-member board.

“Realistically, that’s not an option,” Grover said.

Current law calls for at least six members on a school board. To have fewer members than six would require special legislation carried by the area’s state lawmakers and supported by the entire Legislature, he said.

“The smaller you get, the less views you have,” he said of the state view of decreasing the membership. Area officials indicated it was not an issue they would want to fight for, he said.

## SAFETY

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Visibility should be a priority when considering what to wear, he said.

“See and be seen,” Musich said. “Stay off the streets when possible, and watch out for car traffic.”

Car traffic is a big concern on Halloween, Musich said, and the department will have an extra officer on duty to make sure traffic in residential areas is moving slowly.

“We’ll be out and about patrolling and making sure traffic is moving slow,” Musich said. “There’s some areas in town that are heav-

ily populated with trick or treaters.”

Jespersen said drivers have a responsibility to be aware on Halloween, and realize there’s going to be increased foot traffic in residential neighborhoods.

“Drive slow down streets in residential neighborhoods,” Jespersen said. “Watch out for the little ones.”

Once trick or treaters return home, Musich said it’s important to let an adult sort through the candy first before youngsters dive into their haul. Make sure candy is safe by inspecting wrappers, and making sure they’re intact, and avoid unwrapped candy.


With Halloween falling on a Friday this year, adults will be wanting to kick off the weekend with holiday parties after the little ones have finished trick or treating. However, both officials cautioned against drinking and driving, and Jespersen said the county will have an extra shift on that night for that purpose.

“Eat some food before, call for a ride if you need one, there are plenty of taxi services around,” Jespersen said. “Don’t get behind that wheel.”

“There’s always parties, and hopefully people will catch a ride if they’ve been consuming alcohol,” Musich said. “Get a ride or call a cab.”


# Re-Elect Rob Ecklund

for District 4 County Commissioner



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It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your County Commissioner for the past four years. I value the faith and trust you placed in me and am Respectfully requesting your support for re-election Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.



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## NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 361 (INTERNATIONAL FALLS) STATE OF MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election has been called and will be held in and for Independent School District No. 361 (International Falls), State of Minnesota, on Tuesday, November 4, 2014, for the purpose of voting on the following questions:



### SCHOOL DISTRICT QUESTION BALLOT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 361 INTERNATIONAL FALLS SPECIAL ELECTION November 4, 2014

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice like this: 

To vote for a question, fill in the oval next to the word “YES” for that question. To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to the word “NO” for that question.

### SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION 1 APPROVAL OF SEVEN MEMBER SCHOOL BOARD

	YES	Shall the school board of Independent School District No. 361 consist of seven members?
	NO	

The polling places for this election and the precincts served by those polling places will be as follows:

East Ward-Kootasca Building  
Center Ward-Union Hall  
West Ward-Acquinas Hall  
Beaver, Meding, Ray - Mail  
Kooch Poll 1-Ranier  
Kooch Poll 2-Union Hall  
Kooch Poll 4-Acquinas Hall  
Kooch Poll 5-RRCC  
Ranier Community Building

Any eligible voter residing in the school district may vote at said election at the polling place designated above for the precinct in which he or she resides. The polls for said election will open at 7:00 o'clock a.m. and will close at 8:00 o'clock p.m. on the date of said election.

A voter must be registered to vote to be eligible to vote in this election. An unregistered individual may register to vote at the polling place on election day.

Dated: October 6, 2014

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

Willi Kostiuk  
School District Clerk



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