



MPA Society
Empowerment in Mental Health since 1971

MEMORANDUM

To: All Staff
From: Executive Director
Date: April 27th, 2025
Re: Lapu-Lapu Tragedy

To all MPA staff, members, family and friends,

I am deeply saddened to hear about the tragic and unimaginable incident at the Lapu-Lapu Festival in Vancouver on Saturday night. The festival is a time to honour the bravery and resilience of Datu Lapu-Lapu, a national hero who symbolizes the strength and unity of the Filipino people. It is devastating that such a meaningful event was marred by this senseless act.

The Filipino community will be changed forever, Vancouver will be changed forever.

The Filipino community in Vancouver, the lower mainland and around the world is known for its warmth and compassion and I am sure they stand united and remain strong.

To all MPA Filipino staff members, family and friends, on behalf of MPA, I want to extend our condolences as we share in your grief and remembrance of those injured and killed. So often, we are focused on supporting others that now, we will support, comfort, listen and be there for you in your time of need.

I am learning many MPA staff were at the event or had friends and family in attendance. We are checking in on each program to find out further details. It doesn't feel real right now, but as the days go on, the reality of what should have been a celebration will turn into heartbreak and overwhelming loss. MPA will be there to support you in any way needed and listen.

MPA will provide further updates as we get reliable, factual information.

With condolences.

Nick

MPA Family Services Employee Assistance Plan: www.fseap.bc.ca 1-800-667-0993

Hotline for Filipino Nationals: 1-604-653-5858

VictimLinkBC: A 24/7, free, confidential, multilingual service offering information and referrals for victims of crime and trauma. Call 1-800-563-0808.

Crisis Centre of BC: Provides 24/7 confidential support and resources. Call 310-6789 (no area code needed).