CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN

11 October 2023

Mayoral Message



Dear Residents

My heart goes out to our Meals on Wheels family.

They've been delivered a terrible blow with the devastating news that one of their own was killed in an apparent domestic violence related incident.

Katherine Safranko, 67, was one of our tireless Bankstown Meals on Wheels volunteers who dedicated her time to helping the most vulnerable in our City.

Each week, these selfless volunteers deliver more than 1,000 meals to the frail, aged and people with disabilities – all without seeking recognition or thanks.

I've had the privilege of joining them on delivery runs and watching how they are embraced and loved by those they serve.

The tragic news has left many in our community numb with shock and in disbelief.

It's hard to fathom how this could occur only a month after I held a Domestic Violence Summit, following the deaths of two innocent women, Amira Moughneih and Christine Rakic.

The recommendations from the Summit show that there is so much more to be done when it comes to stamping out this scourge on our society.

This November, Council is continuing its campaign against domestic violence by hosting the annual Tug O' War Cup.

Local businesses, schools, organisations and residents are encouraged to enter a team of six in the contest and show their support for the important cause. For more details, visit **cb.city/TugOWar**

I will be picking up the rope and pulling my weight, and I hope everyone in our City does the same when it comes to saying NO to domestic violence and YES to healthy relationships.

Regards

Bilal El Hayek

Clr Bilal El-Hayek
MAYOR

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