

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Deputy Commissioner
Pacific Region

Sous-commissaire
région du Pacifique



Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding
Officer

Commandant
divisionnaire

Guided by Integrity, Honesty, Professionalism, Compassion, Respect & Accountability

Apology and Statement to Zofia Cisowski

On behalf of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), I wish to express our deepest regrets for the loss of your son, Robert, who died at Vancouver International Airport on October 14, 2007 on his arrival to Canada from Poland. Robert came to Canada eager to start a new life here.

Your son's death is a tragedy and for the role the Force played in this tragedy, we offer our sincere apology.

We have learned much from this tragic incident and since then, numerous changes have been made to strengthen the RCMP's policies, practices, training, and reporting requirements in relation to the use of Conducted Energy Weapons (CEWs), commonly known as tasers. These include restricting the use of CEWs to incidents involving threats to officer or public safety, the requirement that RCMP officers be re-certified annually on the use of CEWs, enhanced reporting on all use of force by members of the RCMP including the deployment of CEWs, and an increased emphasis on the risks associated with CEWs. The RCMP encourages, and will continue to cooperate with, independent research being done on the effects of CEWs use on the human body and the RCMP is committed to independent testing of RCMP CEWs. We believe the actions taken by the RCMP are positive steps in strengthening our ability to ensure public safety while providing effective policing.

There are no words to express how sorry the RCMP is about your son's death and the pain this has brought. We hope that this letter and the actions taken by the RCMP will provide some small comfort and contribute to your healing process.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "GDB".

Gary D. Bass, O.O.M.

Deputy Commissioner - Pacific Region &
Commanding Officer, "E" Division