



Assembly of Western Catholic Bishops (AWCB)

Assemblée des évêques catholiques de l'Ouest (AECO)

Message of Sympathy on Behalf of the Western Canadian Catholic Bishops

February 11, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With profound sorrow, we mourn the tragic loss of life in Tumbler Ridge. On behalf of the Western Canadian Catholic Bishops, I extend heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims, to those who were injured, and to all who have been deeply affected by this devastating act of violence.

In this time of anguish, we turn to prayer. We entrust those who have died to the merciful love of God, asking that He grant them eternal rest. We pray for healing for the injured, comfort for grieving families, and peace for the students and staff who endured such fear.

Sacred Scripture reminds us: “The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit” (Psalm 34:18).

May Christ, our hope and our peace, draw near to all who are suffering. We ask Our Lady, Queen of Peace, to intercede for this wounded community and for all of Canada.

Be assured of our prayers and solidarity.

+ Stephen A. Hero

¶Stephen A. Hero
Archbishop of Edmonton
On behalf of the Assembly of Western Catholic Bishops