

Brampton Man Held On Charge Of First Degree Murder

BRAMPTON: Investigators from the Homicide and Missing Persons Bureau have arrested a male in the region's 16th homicide of 2017.

On Sunday December 31, 2017 at approximately 1:45 a.m. Peel Regional Police responded to a pedestrian struck at a plaza on Torbram Road and

Peter Robertson Boulevard in the City of Brampton. Police arrived on scene and located the male who was rushed to a local hospital. The victim a 34 year-old male from Caledon succumbed to his injuries. The victim was struck by a pick-up truck which remained on scene.

The Major Collision Bureau

and Forensic Identification Unit attended the scene and due to the suspicious circumstance involving the incident Homicide and Missing Persons Bureau was contacted and attended the scene.

On Sunday December 31, 2017 Avtar Dhammi, a 38 year-old male from Brampton was arrested and charged with First De-

gree Murder. Dhammi appeared before the Ontario Court of Justice in Brampton on Sunday December 31, 2017 and remanded into custody. The victim is said to be a relative of the arrested individual.

Anyone with information relating to this investigation is asked to call investigators at the

Homicide and Missing Persons Bureau at (905) 453-2121, ext. 3205. Information may also be left anonymously by calling Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or by visiting www.peelcrimestoppers.ca or by sending a text message to CRIMES (274637) with the word 'PEEL' and then your tip.

Art Lovers Expected To Flock To Toronto For Amazing 'Infinity Mirrors' Exhibit At ROM

TORONTO: It's not typical to have to book months in advance to get mere seconds with a piece of art at Toronto's Art Gallery of Ontario.

But the much-Instagrammed contemporary art exhibition Yayoi Kusama: Infinity Mirrors is no typical attraction.

The gallery has been overwhelmed by the frenzy of interest in the exhibit, even though visitors will be expected to wait in long lines and then have only 20 to 30 seconds inside each of Kusama's famous mirror-lined kaleidoscopic rooms.

Infinity Mirrors was staged in Washington, D.C., in early 2017 and moved on to Seattle and Los Angeles. It will be at the AGO from March 3 to May 27 before heading to Cleveland in the summer.

Adelina Vlas, the AGO's associate curator of contemporary art, says the gallery is expecting to attract visitors from other parts of Canada, as well as outside the country.

"(People) are looking at the closest, next destination for the exhibition, and it's Toronto," says Vlas. "I think the exhibition will have an appeal to all northern coastal U.S. cities as well as Canadian cities."

Member pre-sales for the ex-



Yayoi Kusama, Infinity Mirrored Room – The Souls of Millions of Light Years Away, 2013. Wood, metal, glass mirrors, plastic, acrylic panel, rubber, LED lighting system, acrylic balls, and water, 287.7 × 415.3 × 415.3 cm. Courtesy of David Zwirner, N.Y. © Yayoi Kusama

hibit drew record interest, says Herman Lo, director of visitor experience at the AGO. The gallery's website can generally process about 1,500 tickets an hour but on the first day of the pre-sale event, the online queue approached 18,000 people.

Some gallery members complained of wait times of up to eight hours, but the museum has promised to simplify the ticketing

process for the next member pre-sale on Jan. 9. Tickets go on sale for the regular public on Jan. 16.

The exhibit's massive popularity "shows that there is a desire for those moments of wonder," says Vlas.

In the rooms that give the exhibit its title, Kusama fills the mirrored spaces with light and colour to create vibrant visions that seem to go on forever. Vlas

admits the rooms are "a perfect opportunity for selfies and for beautiful Instagram moments."

Vlas says Kusama, who is 88, has long been respected in modern-art circles.

But she didn't receive worldwide recognition until the 1990s, when she became the first woman to represent Japan at the Venice Biennale.

The Instagram following for

"Infinity Mirrors" has given Kusama a new kind of fame outside of the art world. Tens of thousands of Instagram photos have used the #infinitekusama hashtag, and Adele performed in front of a background of one of the artist's rooms at the 2016 Brit Awards.

In Vlas's view - as the curator planning the exhibit and as an audience member who has seen Kusama's rooms several times before - the estimated wait times of 20 minutes to get into one of the rooms are worth it. Up to four people will be allowed inside the rooms at once so visitors can fully appreciate the experience.

"As different as it sounds from other types of exhibitions, I think the reward of being in that environment for the amount of time that is allotted to each group of visitors - it's quite rewarding, and quite significant," she says.

Vlas says she welcomes the audience members who came to Kusama through Instagram, and hopes they'll stay to see the other works in the exhibit, including paintings, drawings, and sculptures by the artist.

"I think it's something that is quite important and that should not be lost in the hype about the exhibition: she is a really significant artist," Vlas says.



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