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Landlord charged with hate crimes after Muslim boy killed in Illinois

Joseph Czuba, 71, is accused of killing Wade Al-Fayoume and seriously wounding his mother in Plainfield, Illinois.

The landlord allegedly targeted the pair, who were his tenants, because of their religion and the ongoing conflict between Hamas and Israel.

President Joe Biden said he was "sickened" by Saturday's attack.

"This horrific act of hate has no place in America, and stands against our fundamental values: freedom from fear for how we pray, what we believe, and who we are," he said.

Hanan Shahin, 32, was attacked by her landlord, who had a military-style knife, and ran to the bathroom to call the police, authorities said.

She suffered more than a dozen stab wounds but is expected to survive.

Her son, Wade, was stabbed more than two dozen times in the attack and later died in hospital. A funeral service and burial will be held on Monday afternoon in the town of Bridgeview, which is sometimes referred to as "Little Palestine" because of its large Palestinian-American population.

On Monday, a makeshift memorial - which included a stuffed spider-man figure and other children's toys - stood at the scene of the crime.

Several crosses, apparently put up by Mr Czuba sometime before the incident, were also visible, along with a sign telling passers-by to "pray therosary at 4:20".

Mediation.
 Watch: Palestinian resident in tears after killing of Muslim boy

He celebrated his sixth birthday just a few weeks ago. "He loved his family, his friends. He loved soccer, he loved basketball," the executive director of the Chicago office of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), Ahmed Rehab, said.

When officers arrived at the scene, about 40 miles (64km) south-west of Chicago, they found Mr Czuba on the ground outside the property with a scalpel in his hand.

The victims, who were Palestinian-Americans, were found in a bedroom.

Mr Czuba was taken to hospital for treatment before being questioned by detectives. He was later charged with first-degree murder, attempted first-degree murder, hate crimes and aggravated battery.

While he did not make a statement, detectives said they were able to determine potential motive.

"Both victims in this brutal attack were targeted by the suspect due to them being Muslim and the ongoing Middle Eastern conflict involving Hamas and the Israelis," the Will County Sheriff's office said.

The US Justice Department has also opened a federal hate crime investigation into the attack. In statements on Monday, both Vice President Kamala Harris and Homeland Security Secretary

With eight flights complete and two set for Monday, Canada assessing demand for continued military evacuations

Canada's ambassador to Israel says she and the increased staff working at the embassy in Tel Aviv are "coping" amid rocket sirens, and remain focused on airlifting as many as possible over the next few days, while a way out for those in Gaza remains uncertain.

"We're working through the list as fast as we can to get people assigned to flights," Ambassador Lisa Stadelbauer said in a Sunday interview with CTV's Question Period host Vassy Kapelos. "Two more today, two more tomorrow, and then after that we'll assess the need. We'll keep rolling as long as the demand is there."

Last weekend, Hamas militants attacked Israel and took hostages, leading to a barrage of retaliatory air strikes in Gaza. Thousands of people have been killed, injured, and displaced as a result of the ongoing war (opens in a new tab). So far, five Canadians have been confirmed dead, while three remain missing.

Canada began airlifting stranded citizens, their families and a small number of foreign nationals out of Tel Aviv on Thursday, and the military evacuations - using two CC-150 Polaris planes - shutting passengers to Athens - have continued through the weekend.

With two flights scheduled for Sunday (opens in a new tab), the ambassador estimates approximately 1,000 passengers will have been airlifted from the Ben Gurion International Airport by the end of the weekend. The latest Global Affairs Canada update as of Sunday afternoon indicated there are currently more than 6,800 Canadians registered in Israel with the Canadian government.

Others who lived nearby said the pair had moved into the home four years ago.

"It's sickening. I can't even imagine how anybody could do that to a little child," one neighbour said.

Alejandro Mayorkas condemned the attack and rising incidents of hate.

"There is no humane world that can and should tolerate the murder of an innocent child because of his identity," Mr Mayorkas said. "The tragic events in the Middle East... have brought ideologies of hate to the fore across the world - notably antisemitism and Islamophobia. This must end."

Murder suspect Joseph Czuba is now awaiting his court appearance.

At a news conference on Sunday, CAIR said Wade was born in the US while his mother - originally from Belzunia in the West Bank - came to the country 12 years ago.

"[Wade] paid the price for the atmosphere of hate and otherisation and dehumanisation that frankly I think we are seeing here in the United States," Mr Rehab said.

The boy's father, Oday al-Fayoume, was in a state of shock, Mr Rehab said.

Neighbours such as Eva Case expressed disbelief at the violent attack. "I don't care what the situation was," she told the BBC's US partner CBS. "Don't take it out on somebody that innocent of life."

Others who lived nearby said the pair had moved into the home four years ago.

"With eight flights now under their wings, Canadian Joint Operations Commander Vice-Admiral Bob Auchterlonie wouldn't say how many more evacuation shuttles the

With eight flights complete and two set for Monday, Canada assessing demand for continued military evacuations

Canadian Armed Forces would provide, past the two scheduled for Monday.

"The duration of the operation will be determined in concert with our Global Affairs colleagues," he said.

While the majority of passengers transported so far have been Canadian citizens, they've also included some Israelis, Americans, Australians, Greeks and Brazilians, as federal officials have indicated a willingness to assist allied countries with evacuations if there is room aboard flights.

Stadelbauer said while hundreds more citizens have signalled an interest in an assisted departure as the Israel-Hamas war continues, the total number of Canadians that will be brought out remains a moving target.

"We thought there was about 1,800 affected people all together, so that's people who have signalled an interest. How that translates into people who show up at the airport, is a different story," she said. "That explains partially why there's some seats going vacant, because we think people are going to show up and then they don't."

When asked how intensified fighting may impact Canada's ability to continue evacuation flights, the ambassador said she didn't know.

"What Israel does with its airspace, it's impossible for me to say," Stadelbauer said. "We'll adapt with the current situation as it unfolds."

Stadelbauer said the staffing-up has

With eight flights complete and two set for Monday, Canada assessing demand for continued military evacuations

"It's really kind of day by day that we're assessing that, trying to see what's happening. If the conflict stays in the south and in Gaza, we're fine where we are. If the conflict in the south triggers conflict in the north, it becomes a slightly different calculation. But we have people here looking at it very closely, we have people in Ottawa looking at it very closely... We're getting to be a little bit light on our feet to make some of those decisions."

WHAT IS LIFE LIKE IN TEL AVIV?
 After the embassy faced criticism from Canadians who reported considerable difficulty getting consular assistance during the first weekend of the attacks, Global Affairs Canada sent a contingent of more than two-dozen staff to the region to help respond to what so far has been more than 4,000 inquiries.

Stadelbauer said the staffing-up has

"made a big difference," and will remain in effect as long as necessary.

While describing the environment at the embassy as a "humming hive of activity," just five minutes before the interview began, the ambassador said she was just in a bomb shelter after rocket sirens sounded.

"It's very quiet here right now. Maybe a quarter of the time that if you would normally see, people are staying very close to their homes, close to the shelters... People are being very cautious. There's a lot of anxiety, a lot of worry, a lot of tension," she said.

Asked if she feels safe right now, Stadelbauer said "moderately, yes."

"I have faith in the Iron Dome... And our shelters are good. The infrastructure here in Israel is such that people are never very, very far away from a bomb shelter," the ambassador said.

"There's a sophisticated system of sirens and so we know that when we're in Tel Aviv, if we hear a siren it's for us, it's that specific, and we have about 90 seconds to get to shelter. So we're coping."

WHAT ABOUT CANADIANS IN GAZA?
 As Israeli military forces prepare for an expected imminent ground invasion, millions of Palestinians are being ordered to find a way out. The Canadian government is still working to find a way (opens in a new tab) for the 450 registered Canadians in the West Bank and Gaza, to leave.

There were plans on Saturday to get Canadians out of Gaza through a border crossing with Egypt, but that operation was cancelled due to violence in the area.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued a statement Saturday expressing his deep concern about the "dire" humanitarian situation in Gaza.

"The rapid and unimpeded access of relief via a humanitarian corridor is essential to address the urgent needs of civilians in Gaza. International law, including humanitarian and human rights law, must be respected and civilians, journalists, humanitarian workers, and medical personnel must be protected. The loss of civilian life is deeply disturbing," Trudeau said.

Asked Sunday morning if she was aware of any updated plans to get those Canadians out, specifically the estimated 70 Canadians registered in the densely populated Gaza Strip, Stadelbauer said she was not aware given her focus on what's happening inland.

"My colleagues... are working very, very hard, talking to partners, talking with Israelis, talking to Egyptians to try and get those folks out," she said.

As of Sunday's federal update, the federal government says it is still trying to find a safe window to facilitate their departure.

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Statement from Minister Miller on Canada's commitment to support migrants in the Americas

Ottawa, October 10, 2023—The Honourable Marc Miller, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, issued the following statement:

"Earlier this year, we announced that we will welcome 15,000 migrants on a humanitarian basis from the Western Hemisphere. We are providing a path to economic opportunities to help address forced displacement, as an alternative to irregular migration. Through this initiative, we are providing regular migration pathways to people in the Americas by leveraging permanent resident humanitarian and economic pathways, and temporary work programs.

"We are welcoming an additional 4,000 temporary foreign workers from the region this year, many of whom have already arrived in Canada. Based on current trends, we are on track to meet this target. In addition, we are connecting with non-governmental organizations in the region to leverage

the new Economic Mobility Pathways Pilot, which helps skilled refugees and other displaced people to settle in Canada.

"Today, I am announcing that, as part of this commitment to welcome 15,000 migrants from the Americas, Canada will welcome up to 11,000 Colombians, Haitians and Venezuelans through a new humanitarian permanent residence pathway.

"Starting this fall, Colombian, Haitian and Venezuelan foreign nationals located in Central or South America or the Caribbean who have extended family connections in Canada will be eligible to apply for this new pathway. To qualify, the principal applicant must be a child (regardless of age), grandchild, spouse, common-law partner, parent, grandparent or sibling of a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

"Successful applicants will be

offered enhanced pre-arrival services, including an employment skills assessment and a referral to a settlement provider organization in their intended community. More detailed information will be available closer to the launch of the new pathway.

"We are actively collaborating with the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to understand the regional context and humanitarian needs linked to migration in the Americas. We also support the work of the safe mobility offices in the region, whose objective is to consider individuals for humanitarian and other regular pathways.

"In addition to our commitment to welcome 15,000 migrants, we continue to be actively engaged in the Americas on migration and protection issues. We are on track to meet our goal to increase refugee resettlement from the Americas."

Five Canadians were killed in Israel. Here's what we know about them

Global Affairs Canada has confirmed the deaths of five Canadian citizens in Israel after a series of attacks by Hamas terrorists near the border with the Gaza Strip.

What is Hamas?

Three other Canadians who were in Israel when the attacks happened on Saturday are still missing, officials said Sunday.

Global Affairs did not provide details of the fifth person who died or those who are missing, citing privacy reasons.

"We are very focused on addressing the cases of the three missing persons, who we continue to try to locate and bring back to safety in Canada," Julie Sunday, an assistant deputy minister with Global Affairs Canada, said at a media briefing in Ottawa.

Canada considers Hamas a terrorist group, and Canadian leaders have declared the violence it waged last

yearly, "Sunday said, calling the arrangements to allow passage through the crossing at the Palestinian city of Rafah "incredibly complex."

Alexandre Levoque, another Global Affairs assistant deputy minister, said reaching Rafah could be a challenge in itself.

"Hamas is probably playing some obstruction inside of Gaza," he said.

Another 250 Canadians, permanent residents and their relatives may be able to leave the West Bank territory by bus to Jordan next week, officials said. However, they warned that crossings, as well as Israeli-controlled checkpoints in Jerusalem, are in a state of flux.

"The gate has been opening and closing at different hours, based on what's going on in the region," Sunday said, referring to a key Jordanian crossing.

Sunday said Canadians should also avoid travel to Lebanon, where there have been violent clashes along the border with Israel.

More than 1,000 Canadians have already left Israel via military planes bound for Athens, officials said. Two planes departed on Sunday, with two more slated for Monday.



week near the Palestinian territory. The government is still working to get up to 300 Canadians and their relatives out of the 365-square-kilometer coastal stretch, Sunday said, as Israel gears up for an expected ground invasion. A plan to allow foreign nationals to leave the territory via the border crossing with Egypt fell through on Saturday. "Nobody got through that gate

Afghans waiting to come to Canada alarmed as Pakistan again threatens deportations

As Pakistan threatens to deport or jail undocumented migrants starting next month, the United Nations' migration agency is warning Afghans in the country looking to emigrate that they should inform their hotels of their whereabouts when they set out on errands.

The UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM) helps to settle migrants by arranging for things like food and lodging while they wait for permission to come to countries like Canada. The IOM told CBC News its workers in Pakistan are concerned about the status of Afghans in the country following Islamabad's recent threat of mass deportations.

"The IOM came over the hotels and they told us they cannot help us if [Pakistan] catches us," said Mohammad Younes Nasimi, a former military contractor who helped the Canadian Armed Forces. He has been waiting in Islamabad for two years to find out if he and his family will be able to immigrate to Canada.

Earlier this month, Pakistan's Foreign Affairs Department said migrants who do not possess valid documentation have until November 1 to get it. Those who fail to obtain documentation by then face deportation or jail time.

The warning was followed almost immediately by a joint statement from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the IOM urging Pakistan to "continue its protection of all vulnerable Afghans."

"The forced repatriation of Afghan nationals has the potential to result in severe human rights violations, including the separation of families and deportation of minors," the statement added.

Pakistan has seen an influx of Afghans fleeing Afghanistan since the Taliban takeover in August 2021. The country estimates some 1.4 million Afghans live within its borders.

No assurances provided to Immigration Canada

This isn't the first time Pakistan has threatened to deport or jail paperless migrants. Last year, it began posting social media and TV ads warning them to obtain visas by the end of December.

The Canadian government told CBC News at the time it had received



assurances from Pakistan that Afghans already on their way here would face only fines or bans on re-entry, not deportation or imprisonment.

Asked if the government of Pakistan provided similar guarantees on this occasion, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) said in an emailed statement it "is in constant communication with Pakistan."

IRCC said it could not provide operational details or get into the substance of bilateral conversations with other countries, citing the need to protect refugees.

"The IRCC said it provides its migrant clients with documents to show the government of Pakistan that they have an application in progress."

Nasimi showed CBC News a copy of a letter the High Commission of Canada in Pakistan issued to him in June. "The person bearing this letter and listed here under is being considered for Permanent Residence in Canada by the Immigration Section of the High Commission of Canada," it says. The letter names him and seven family members.

"Right now, even that paper is not working," Nasimi said. He added he showed the letter to IOM representatives in Islamabad and they told him they would be unable to protect him if the government decided to act.

CBC News spoke to another Afghan migrant in Islamabad waiting to find out if he will be able to move to Canada. CBC has agreed not to name this migrant, who still has family in Afghanistan and is in Islamabad without documents (he said he can't afford a visa).

He said his brother was arrested by police two weeks ago when he sent him out on medication.

"I got money, a lot of money, and after four or five days we were able to release him back from the jail," he said.

"My life is threatened"

Both migrants told CBC News they're anxious about the lack of news from Canada on the status of their immigration cases.

Immigration Canada told CBC News Nasimi is still undergoing security screening but would provide no further details. It said his spouse's security screening has been approved.

"I have served you for so many years," Nasimi said, addressing his words to the Canadian government. "I mean, my life is threatened because of serving you."

The other migrant showed CBC News copies of lab results showing he and his family have completed DNA and fingerprint verification required by IRCC.

He also showed a copy of a letter from Canada's High Commission in Islamabad telling him it is still finalizing his application.

The IOM said the UN agency is not aware of undocumented migrants in Pakistan being imprisoned or deported.

The Canadian Council for Refugees, an advocacy group, said the IRCC should process migrants' paperwork faster.

"Canada should be doing everything it can to work diplomatically, to support that call, to urge Pakistan not to proceed with this mass deportation," said Gauri Steenvisman, the CCR's co-executive director.

The IRCC said it is working in close cooperation with the IOM.

Since August 2021, roughly 39,555 Afghans have come to Canada.

The government has said it intends to settle at least 40,000 by the end of 2023.

Two teens killed in downtown Windsor car crash, SIU investigating

The Ontario Special Investigations Unit is investigating a fatal three-vehicle collision Sunday on Riverside Drive that claimed the lives of two teenagers.

According to an SIU report, Windsor police witnessed a Dodge Charger go through a red light at Park Street and Ouellette Avenue at approximately 12:04 a.m.

Article content

Officers attempted to stop the vehicle but the driver of the Charger continued north on Ouellette Avenue and then eastbound on Riverside Drive.

A collision occurred at Glenagarry Avenue, involving the Charger, a Chrysler minivan and a Toyota SUV. A 19-year-old male was pronounced dead at the scene. Two of three other people in the Charger were taken to hospital. One, a 17-year-old male, succumbed to his injuries in hospital. A person in the Toyota was also taken to hospital with unknown injuries.


The Ontario Special Investigations Unit, an arm's length agency that investigates reports of sexual assault, death or serious injury involving police, was called in to investigate.

Four investigators, two forensic investigators and one collision reconstructionist have been assigned to the case.

Post-mortems were scheduled for Monday in London.

Anyone who may have information about the investigation, including video or photos, is asked to contact the SIU lead investigator at 1-800-787-8529 or online at <http://siu.on.ca/en/appeals.php>.

The crash scene was located just east of where Detroit Free Press Marathon runners only hours later would be turning off Riverside Drive to access the Windsor-Detroit Tunnel. Police re-opened Riverside Drive East between McDougall and Louis Avenue on Sunday night.



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Chinese military jet intercepts Canadian Forces plane in 'aggressive manner'

A Chinese military jet intercepted a Canadian Armed Forces Aurora aircraft in an "aggressive manner" on Monday in international waters off the coast of China.

"They became very aggressive and to a degree we would deem it unsafe and unprofessional," Maj.-Gen. Ian Huddleston told Global News.

Global News was on board the Canadian military aircraft reporting on the mission, which is part of Operation NEON, Canada's contribution to helping enforce sanctions against North Korea, when the aggressive intercept took place.

"It's a ramp-up of the aggressiveness that's really unexpected and unnecessary in the context of the mission that we're flying," Huddleston said.

At least two different Chinese jets intercepted the Canadian plane consistently for multiple hours during the more than eight-hour-long mission. The Chinese jets came

within about five metres of the Canadian plane.

Most of the intercepts were done in a matter CAF members told Global News they deemed professional. But the last jet, which was armed with air-to-air missiles, was aggressively flying back and forth in close proximity while appearing to target the Canadian plane in its blind spot, according to military descriptions and descriptions from Global News crew on the flight.

"I'm concerned when they do that. There's a heightened risk to those sorts of interactions and we'd like to avoid those as much as we can. We record these things up through the chain with the evidence we gather and then allow our diplomatic agencies to be involved," Huddleston said.

The Chinese jet also launched multiple firework-like flares near the Canadian aircraft. These aggressive intercepts took place shortly after the crew lost contact with their base due

to an apparent communications glitch with the equipment.

"The first flare incident, the fighter released two flares off our wing. So, that's not particularly concerning because the fighter was stable, it moved away from us. [...] But then the pilots reported it fired flares thereafter from near the front of the plane so that's much more concerning. In terms of escalation that's a very unsafe act," Huddleston said.

The 13-member crew on board the Canadian mission is tasked with helping to stop illegal oil shipments to North Korea. During this mission, senior CAF members said the crew identified a listed "vessel of interest."

"We're here enforcing a United Nations resolution. We are not here acting against the Chinese. We don't want to have anything untoward happen that would result in loss of life," Huddleston said.

Huddleston said that the reason for

the aggressive activity from the Chinese jets is unknown and that the Canadian crew remained in international waters, relaying by radio to the Chinese pilots who they were and what they were doing.

The incident comes after a Chinese warship came within 150 yards of hitting American destroyer USS Chung-Hoon during a rare joint Canada-U.S. mission sailing through the Taiwan Strait in June 2023.

Global News had been travelling on HMCS Montreal, the Canadian frigate participating in the mission, since May 23 in the South China Sea and witnessed the near collision from the bridge wing of the ship.

A People's Liberation Navy ship picked up considerable speed and cut in front of the bow of the frigate. The ship, a manoeuvre HMCS Montreal's commander, Capt. Paul Mountford, at the time called "not professional."

Several months prior to that, Chinese military jets intercepted a Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) surveillance plane during Operation Neptune.

An official within the department told Global News at the time that there were multiple interceptions, and that they happened "regularly" over the course of the operation.

Do Canadians believe Trudeau's claims India is tied to a Sikh leader's death?

A majority of Canadians believe Prime Minister Trudeau's statement about intelligence that alleged India was involved in the death of a Sikh leader in British Columbia, a new poll suggests.

According to a Nano Research poll commissioned by CTV News, three-quarters of Canadians "believe" or "somewhat believe" that the prime minister (opens in a new tab) has obtained intelligence that suggests there are ties between the Indian government and the June death of a Canadian citizen.

Trudeau announced last month that national security agencies were investigating "credible allegations" surrounding the shooting of Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Surrey, B.C.

The statement sparked outrage from the Indian government, which denied the allegations.

At home, Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre demanded to see the evidence that heightened tensions between the two countries, alleging

that the prime minister "hasn't provided any facts."

However, specific details were shared to those with the proper security clearance. NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh said he received a briefing from national security officials on the matter, later telling reporters he concurred with Trudeau's assessment, that there was "clear intelligence" of India's alleged involvement.

Despite not seeing these details themselves, given the top-secret nature of the intelligence, most Canadians do believe that intelligence ties India to the killing, a new poll suggests.

Respondents were asked: "Do you believe... Prime Minister Trudeau when he says the government has obtained intelligence that indicates India may be behind the killing of this Canadian citizen on Canadian soil?"

Only one in five Canadians polled said they "do not" or "somewhat do

not" believe Trudeau's allegations, while the rest said they either believe or "somewhat believe" the prime minister. Eight per cent said they were unsure.

The survey was conducted online and over the phone between Oct. 1 and 4, 2023, as part of a random poll of 1,008 Canadians. According to Nano research, the results were then weighted based on census information to be representative of Canada. The results are considered accurate within 3 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

Canadians aged 55 and older were more likely to say they believe the prime minister, based on the poll data.

Additionally, residents of B.C. (78.2 per cent) were most likely to say they believed Trudeau's statement.

Adults aged 34 and under, as well as residents of the Prairies were less likely to take his word on the subject.

POLL QUESTION: WHAT SHOULD CANADA DO?

The fallout from Trudeau's statement jolted already rocky relations between Canada and India.

Nano Research asked respondents how they thought things should move forward, and found that they were more likely to want Canada to engage in diplomatic talks than the other options given.

The poll suggested more than half (57 per cent) of Canadians said they would prefer the country decrease tensions and engage in diplomatic talks about the murder.

About one in four respondents said they want Canada to further investigate the allegations.

One in 10 said they want Canada to "take the patient" and do nothing for now.

Quebec residents were more likely to say they want Canada to engage in tension-reducing measures (65 per cent) than in B.C., where 50.3 per cent chose diplomatic talks.

On the West Coast, one-third of those polled said they want Canada to further investigate the allegations — the highest rate of all regions.

Sources had told CTV News last week that the Canadian government was given an Oct. 10 deadline to considerably reduce its diplomatic footprint in India.

Canadian home sales slumped again in September - and benchmark price went down, too



Canada's housing market continued to cool last month, new numbers from the Canadian Real Estate Association show Friday, as the number of homes sold has now fallen for three months in a row and benchmark prices slipped lower, too.

CREA, which represents more than 100,000 realtors across Canada and publishes monthly statistics based on sales on its Multiple Listings Service, said the trend of slowing sales that started with the rapid escalation in interest rates continued during the month, with sales volume inching lower every month since June.

CREA's national price index slipped by 0.3 per cent during the month: its first decline since March—mostly because of a sharp slowdown in Ontario. In most other provinces, prices are still inching higher, albeit a lot more slowly.

Buyers "seem content to stick to the sidelines until there's more evidence that interest rates are indeed finally at the top," CREA president Larry Cerqua said. "This, combined with sellers who, by and large, do not need to sell, means the market will likely remain on the slower side until next year."

Benjamin Reitzes, an economist with Bank of Montreal, agrees with the assessment that the housing market is in for a bumpy ride as long as interest rates remain at their current level.

"The current level of interest rates and prices don't mix well. One of the two needs to come down, and it doesn't look like the Bank of Canada is poised to cut rates any time soon," he said. "Housing could be in for a rough winter, though as usual, location matters a lot, with some provinces likely to struggle more than others."

Across the country, the average selling price of a home that sold last month was \$655,307. That's an increase of 2.5 per cent from where it was this time last year, but CREA says the average figure can be misleading because it's easily skewed by what's happening in the big, expensive markets of Toronto and Vancouver.

Vassil Staykov, a realtor in Toronto, says the only reason the average selling price isn't a lot lower than it is at present is a shift in the market. "We're selling a lot more detached homes than condos, which skews the median price," he told CBC News in an interview.

Big gaps between buyers and sellers Staykov says the main theme of the housing market right now is a vast disconnect between sellers who are stubbornly trying to get the high prices they have their hopes pinned on, and buyers looking for a bargain.

"We're coming off of three years of skewed data that have changed our perception of everything, but the real story is lack of absorption - stuff is just not selling."

Staykov says buyer fatigue is

RCMP searching for man allegedly involved in Nova Scotia shooting

Police in Nova Scotia say they are searching for a man believed to have been involved in a targeted shooting at a motel in Brookfield.

An emergency alert issued late Sunday evening said 52-year-old Darren Trevor Jackson is wanted in connection with a shooting at a motel on Highway 2, where a woman known to Jackson was injured.

The alert was cancelled later Monday morning. RCMP said investigators determined it was a targeted incident and there was no threat to the public.

In an update earlier Monday on X, the platform previously known as Twitter, RCMP said investigators believe Jackson may be driving a dark 2016 GMC Sierra pickup truck, possibly with the Nova Scotia licence plate GYD 193.

"The vehicle is described as a crew cab model with a cracked windshield, a grey metal tool box in the bed of the truck and an airbag and cover missing from the steering wheel," the post said.

The original alert said Jackson was believed to be armed with a shotgun and asked people not to pick up hitchhikers.

Jackson is described as a white man, five feet 10 inches tall and weighing 205 pounds with brown hair and brown eyes.

Marshall said the public should call 911 if they spot the suspect.

Jackson has a lengthy criminal record dating back to 1989.

He's been convicted of 53 charges over the years including assaults, aggravated assaults, theft, break and enter, impaired driving and uttering threats. His most recent conviction was in April 2020 for firearms offences.

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