

HelpFindEmma.ca

HELP FIND EMMA FILLIPOFF Press Release

(For release -- Immediate)

Where is Emma Fillipoff?

As the fourth anniversary of her mysterious disappearance from Victoria, BC approaches, the question remains despite an ongoing police investigation, widespread public interest, and extensive online reports about the case.

The Help Find Emma Fillipoff [Facebook](#) page now has an estimated 10K followers.

Emma's story has been featured on several online sites including: [Where is Emma Fillipoff Blog](#); CBC The Fifth Estate's [Finding Emma](#); the ongoing Canadian podcast series, [The Night Time Podcast](#); and the American podcast, [True Crime Garage](#).

Growing public interest does not surprise Emma's mother, Shelley Fillipoff, who said her daughter's kindness and gentle spirit appeals to people. "In person, she was always able to draw people to her," she explains. "The same thing is happening through telling her story. People hear her story, they see her photos and her smile and they are drawn to her."

A team of volunteers works diligently with Emma's mother to handle tips, follow up on sightings, conduct interviews, create graphics, and communicate with the public and police. They have also created a Facebook discussion group, [helpfindemma.ca](#) which has a growing number of supporters.

The team recently created a detailed timeline (see attachment), outlining the days leading up to Emma's disappearance and general overview of her year in Victoria, BC. The timeline should correct misinformation and include facts culled from research, interviews, and tips from the public.

Emma disappeared on the night of November 28, 2012, from downtown Victoria, BC. During the week prior to her disappearance, the 26-year-old recently unemployed chef made several phone calls to her mother in Perth, Ontario, voicing a wish to come home. Increasingly distraught, she would ask her mother to come to Victoria to help with the move, then would change her mind. Shelley finally boarded a plane when she learned Emma was staying in the Sandy Merriman women's shelter.

That evening, an acquaintance concerned about Emma's erratic behaviour by The Fairmont Empress Hotel phoned Victoria police. It was the second call police received about her that day. Two officers located Emma and questioned her to determine her mental state, then allowed her to leave. By the time Shelley arrived at the shelter hours later, Emma was gone. Her whereabouts remains unknown.

Police have not been able to ascertain the identity of a man caught on surveillance in 2014, in a clothing shop in Gastown, BC, claiming Emma was his girlfriend and hiding from her family.

Shelley Fillipoff is haunted by the last conversation she had with her daughter. "I don't know how I can face you," Emma told her.

"We love you, we miss you, we need you," Shelley wishes she could tell her. "Please, please get in touch with us. There is nothing to face, nothing you can do or have done that could keep us from loving you and wanting you home with us."

Mrs. Phillipoff, suffering from Post-Traumatic Syndrome, admits it is more and more difficult to keep going. She spends her days working with her volunteer search team, going through photo albums and Emma's journals, responding to people who write into the Help Find Emma Phillipoff page and discussion group, and circulating information on other missing individuals on Facebook. She has to believe Emma is alive in order to function.

She does have a message for those who know what happened to Emma. "Please, please get in touch with her family; no matter what the news is, let us know what is going on."

For information or an interview contact:

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NOTE: On the advice of legal counsel, Shelley Phillipoff is unable to answer questions regarding her pending court case.

ATTACHED: Overview & Timeline of Emma Phillipoff's Disappearance, PDF of Press Release, Poster Graphics.