

Teen suspected in Toronto murder: Police

By Brock Weir

A 17-year-old male, arrested by York Regional Police following a robbery at Yonge and Edward Street in the early hours of Friday, is facing murder charges related to a Toronto homicide earlier that morning.

According to Toronto Police Service, officers responded to a stabbing at 5 Bellevue Crescent, located near Weston Road and Lawrence Avenue West, at approximately 5.01 a.m.

Officers arrived to find a man, later identified as 30-year-old Kafi Abshir, with obvious trauma and he was rushed to the hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

A 17-year-old boy was arrested a short time later on an unrelated matter by York Regional Police Service, Toronto Police announced Saturday. He is believed to be responsible for this homicide.

York Regional Police say that at approximately 6.30 a.m. on Friday, August 24, officers were called to a robbery call at a gas station located at Yonge and Edward.

Two teens were charged in the incident: a 14-year-old male, who faces charges of robbery, possession of a weapon, and disguise with intent, and a 17-year-old who faced three counts of failing to comply with probation, robbery, and possession of a weapon.

When officers arrived, they spoke to the employee, who advised that a man had entered the store and made a demand for cash, said York Regional Police Constable Andy Pattenden. The employee did not comply and the suspect brandished a knife and threatened the employee. The employee then complied and the suspect fled with a quantity of cash. The employee was not physically injured during the incident.

Frontline officers, with the assistance of the Canine Unit, Emergency Response Unit and the York Regional Police helicopter Air2, searched the area for the suspect. Further investigation revealed that two men had been involved in the robbery and had left the area in a vehicle. Shortly after noon, the suspects were located at a nearby restaurant in the area of Yonge Street and Allaura Boulevard. They were arrested without incident.

The suspects cannot be named due to their age.

Anyone with information on the incident is asked to contact the York Regional Police Hold-Up Unit at 1-866-876-5423 x6631, or call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS. Anonymous tips may also be left online at www.1800222TIPS.com.