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## UTFA's Statement on the Tragic Incident at the Lapu Lapu Day Festival

April 29, 2025

On April 26, a senseless attack on the [Lapu Lapu Day festival](#) in Vancouver left at least 11 people dead and injured many others. We are heartbroken that this vibrant celebration of culture and heritage was marred by such tragedy and violence. Our thoughts are with everyone who has suffered loss on this dreadful day.

UTFA recognizes and deeply values the countless contributions of the Filipino Canadian community, both within our university and across Canadian society. At this difficult time, we urge compassion and care for anyone impacted by this horrific event. Resources are available to [support members](#) of the U of T community affected.

Lapu Lapu Day, celebrated annually on April 27, honours the memory of Lapu Lapu, an inspirational Indigenous national hero who stood against Spanish colonization. This day serves as a powerful reminder of resilience, courage, and the enduring spirit of independence.

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