

Calgary woman beaten at Mexican resort still in coma

Sheila Nabb, 37, is originally from Nova Scotia

[CBC News](#)

Posted: Jan 23, 2012 12:53 PM ET

Last Updated: Jan 23, 2012 5:48 PM ET

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A woman badly beaten in Mexico over the weekend has been identified by family as Sheila Nabb of Calgary.

The CBC's Brian Dubreuil spoke with Nabb's uncle, Robert Prosser, who lives in Kingston, N.S., on Monday to get more information on the woman.

Nabb is 37 years old and lives in Calgary with her husband, Andrew, but grew up in Lower Sackville, outside Halifax.

The pair were on vacation in Mexico at a five-star resort when the attack happened, Prosser told Carole MacNeil on CBC's *News Now*.

Prosser said the family doesn't know what motivated the attack or who did it. All the family knows is that Nabb was "attacked in an elevator, beaten severely, and just left there."



Sheila Nabb was vacationing in the Mazatlan area of Mexico when she was attacked, her family told CBC News. (Facebook)

There were no security cameras in the elevator, he said, adding that virtually every bone in her face was broken.

"As far as we know, every bone in her face has been shattered. So it's just all ... there's just no injuries anywhere else but her face."

Nabb is in a coma, and her family was told last night that it could be three to four weeks before they can move her to a hospital in Canada. They added that her cellphone is missing, but they aren't sure if it was missing before the attack.

"Right now, our biggest concern is to just get her well enough to get her home ... Apparently it's the best hospital in the area and they seem to be giving her good care."

Nabb's doctor, Juan Fernando Barasa, told CBC News that her husband, Andrew, was at the hospital today.

P.O.V.

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"Mr. Nabb is devastated like several of us ... The family is doing well, the family is being cared for," said Barasa, who runs the medical tourism department at Hospital Sharp in Mazatlan.

Mexican federal police told CBC News on Sunday that a woman, reportedly in her 20s, was found lying in an elevator early Saturday in a hotel in the Mazatlan resort region. The police officer would not provide his own name, nor reveal details about the victim's age or identity.

Consular officials pushing for an investigation

Consular officials said on Sunday they were in contact with the family of the Canadian woman and are pressing for an investigation into the incident, according to a statement.

"Our thoughts are with the badly injured Canadian and her family during this difficult time. Our officials in Mexico have provided, and will continue to provide, consular assistance to her and her family," said John Babcock, spokesman for Minister of State of Foreign Affairs Diane Ablonczy, on Sunday.



The Hotel Riu Emerald Bay in the Mexican resort town of Mazatlan has several five-star ratings on travel websites. (riu.com)

Mexican media reported Sunday that the woman was found at the Hotel Riu in Punta Cerritos and is said to be in serious condition.

Police statements say another tourist was trying to enter the elevator and discovered the woman lying on the floor in a pool of blood, according to a [Noroeste.com](#) report.

The report said investigators suspect she may have been assaulted in a hotel room, dragged down the hall to the elevator and then abandoned. The news outlet also reported that the woman was rejected by two private clinics before finally being taken to a hospital.

Donations for Sheila Nabb

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A trust fund has been set up by co-workers of Sheila Nabb and donations can be made at any TD Canada Trust branch.

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The Hotel Riu Emerald Bay in the Mexican resort town of Mazatlan has several five-star ratings on travel websites, and is a popular travel destination for both Canadian and American tourists.

The attack is the latest in a series of violent incidents involving Canadian visitors to Mexico in recent weeks.

Two Canadian men were shot dead in separate incidents earlier this month, while the body of a Mexican-born University of British Columbia student who disappeared in December was also found stabbed and strangled with her hands tied behind her back near a Mexican beach.