

GIRL, 5, STRANGLLED BY HER OWN CLOTHING ON PLAYGROUND SLIDE

Edmonton A five-year-old girl is dead after being strangled by her own clothing while playing on a slide in Strathcona County on Monday evening. The RCMP said officers were called to a residence near Elk Island Park, east of Edmonton, just before 5 p.m., where the child had been playing on a

slide before an article of clothing became entrapped near the top and wrapped around the girl's neck. The child's mother discovered her shortly after, lying on the slide. When the child wouldn't respond, the mother called 911 and attempted CPR. Am-bulance airlifted the child to hospital, where she was pronounced dead on arrival. A cause of death has yet to be determined. The RCMP will continue to investigate and has called in the victim service unit to help the family. In 1999, two-year-old Cindy White died after being strangled by the drawstring of her jacket while playing on a slide in Edmonton. Strangulation is the most common cause of playground death, and more than 15 children have died from strangulation on playgrounds in Canada since 1982 according to the Children's Health Centre. On average, one Canadian child dies each year on playgrounds, and most of those deaths are caused by strangulation. *CanWest News Service*

