



10665 JASPER AVENUE, SUITE 1400 | EDMONTON |  
ALBERTA  
T5J 3S9  
[info@ihse.ca](mailto:info@ihse.ca)  
[www.ihse.ca](http://www.ihse.ca)

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## Board of Directors Statement

The Iranian Heritage Society of Edmonton is shocked by the announcement of the secret execution of wrestler Navid Afkari in Iran. The board of Directors condemn the execution of Iranian champion wrestler Navid Afkari. It is deeply upsetting and horrifying contrast the ignorant act of the Islamic Republic of Iran in disregarding the pleas of athletes from around the world, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), United World Wrestling as well as repeated requests on stopping the execution from humanitarian activists and many international human rights groups including the general public.

The execution of champion Navid Afkari, on the early morning of Saturday, September 12, 2020, without prior notice to him, his family or his lawyer, after a grossly unfair trial, is a horrifying travesty of justice that needs immediate international action.



“The death penalty is a cruel and inhuman practice. It has no place in the 21st century”, United Nations Secretary-General, 2016.

Iranian authorities must respect human rights and the rule of law and stop the death sentence of protesters, political, social and women activists.

Peaceful protests and criticism of a Government is not a crime.

Our thoughts are with the family and friends of Navid Afkari.