

Police renew \$50,000 reward in King cold case

By Mark Pavilons

York Regional Police have not given up hope of cracking a 44-year-old murder case.

They're offering a \$50,000 reward for information that helps them solve the 1972 murder of 16-year-old Yvonne Leroux.

The body of 16-year-old Leroux of Weston (Toronto), was located in King Township, on the 16th Sideroad, between Jane Street and Keele Street Nov. 30, 1972.

It was determined that blunt force trauma was the cause of death.

The investigation revealed that she was last seen the evening of Nov. 29, 1972, near the York Finch General Hospital (known today as the Humber River Hospital), at Finch Avenue and Norfinch Drive in North York.

She was a student at Toronto's Emery Collegiate and had been involved in the city's drug scene for about a year and a half. At roughly 7 p.m. that night, she left her parents' home on Topeka Road to attend a group therapy session. She left the clinic at roughly 10 p.m. and was expected home within half an hour, but never arrived.

Her body was found the next morning.

Leroux's killer has never been found. She's buried at Beechwood Cemetery in Vaughan.

At the time of the murder, officers conducted interviews and investigated information supplied by the public.

At the time, Leroux was described as approximately five feet three inches with a medium build; long, dark brown wavy hair; last seen wearing a navy-blue wool coat, a white shirt, blue jeans, a metal chain around her neck, and three-quarter-length tan boots with zippers and carrying a brown purse.

Despite the passage of time, investigators in York's Homicide Unit remain actively committed to solving this case. With the advent of new forensic techniques and input from members of the public, investigators are hopeful that they will be able to move the investigation forward.

The reward will be in effect until March 26, 2017.

Anyone with information on this case is asked to contact the York Regional Police Homicide Bureau at 1-866-876-5423, ext. 7865, or call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS, or leave an anonymous tip online at www.1800222tips.com or text a tip by sending TIPYORK and a message to CRIMES (274637).