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One dead in strip plaza shooting

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Madeleine White

A man in his 20s is dead after he was shot in the parking lot of a strip plaza in North York.

The man was found suffering from multiple gunshot wounds in front of a New York Fried Chicken restaurant at Keele St. and Wandle Ave., south of Sheppard Ave., just before 12:30 a.m.

Investigators believe that the shooting happened after the victim was in a fight with one or two men – possibly near a large group of people, said Const. Isabella Cotton.

The plaza is close to Downsview Park, where crowds had gathered for Canada Day festivities.

“Apparently the park was packed with people,” said Cotton, who added that officers are appealing to people to come forward as witnesses.

“The detectives don’t have much right now,” she said. “Even if it’s just small information, for us, it could help a lot.”

Police are also trying to determine whether there is surveillance footage to provide clues on the suspects, who were last seen fleeing the plaza.

The man’s death is the city’s 25th murder of 2010.

With files from Gloria Er-Chua