

LABOUR

Office of the Minister

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Also responsible for LABOUR RELATIONS BOARD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION WOMEN'S SECRETARIAT ADVISORY COUNCIL ON WOMEN'S ISSUES PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

November 22, 1991

Dear Friend:

We were numbed December 6, 1989, by the news that 14 female engineering students were massacred at the University of Montreal. Since then, this event has become symbolic of widespread violence against women in our society. In October, the Government of Canada passed legislation which made December 6 a "National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women."

The National Day of Remembrance Act notes that this day is "to be commemorated in a manner in which Canadians see fit, possibly including public education events on violence against women, donations to shelters for battered women and rape crisis centres, and quiet reflection and remembrance of the tragic results of violence against women."

Please take up this challenge as befits your organization or community. I have enclosed a copy of a media release being sent to all newspapers and all radio and television stations in an effort to draw attention to the first official National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

May we remain determined and active until all women are safe in the homes and on the streets of Canada.

Sincerely

ELAINE MCCOY, Q.C.

Minister Responsible for

Women's Issues

M.L.A. for Calgary West

Attachment

DECEMBER 6TH EVENTS

CITY	EVENT	PLACE	TIME	CONTACT
Calgary	Commemorative Ceremony	City Hall Atrium	5:30 p.m.	Nancy Miller, Status of Women Action Committee 233-0731
Calgary	Memorial Event	University of Calgary MacEwan Student Centre, South Courtyard	12:00 noon	Dana McDougall 220-7048
Calgary	Memorial Service and Public Screening of "After the Massacre"	Orpheus Theatre S.A.I.T. Campus	12:00 noon	Suzanne Trudel 284-8077
Edmonton	Commemorative Event	Canada Place	12:00 noon	Ann MacKay-Drobot 422-4927
Fort McMurray	Candlelight Vigil and Speech	City Hall	12:15 p.m.	Nicole Balmer 791-9210
Lethbridge	Montreal Massacre Memorial	University of Lethbridge Atrium	7:00 p.m.	Mirella Zappone 329-8338
Peace River	Public Screening of "After the Massacre"	Fairview College, Peace River Campus	7:00 p.m.	Jocelyn Bathgate 624-4817
Red Deer	Candlelight Ceremony	Provincial Building Rooms A and C	12:10 p.m.	Bess Rasmussen 347-2480
Red Deer	Minute of Silence Campaign	City-wide	9:00 a.m.	Bess Rasmussen 347-2480
Red Deer	Memorial Service	Red Deer College Library	9:00 a.m.	Linda Moreau 342-3315



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE NOVEMBER 26, 1991

EDMONTON - Communities around Alberta will mark December 6, the anniversary of the 1989 slaying of 14 female engineering students at the University of Montreal, with varied events. This coming December 6 is the first commemoration since Parliament declared this date "A National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women."

"I urge all Albertans to consider marking December 6 with both quiet reflection and concrete plans for positive action", said Elaine McCoy, Minister Responsible for Women's Issues. McCoy will attend the Commemorative Ceremony at the Calgary City Hall Atrium.

"Creating change requires changing attitudes," said McCoy. "Together we can pursue a vision for a society in which girls and women are safe in their homes and on our streets. All of us want to live in such a society. All of us-government, communities and individuals--are partners in creating the change that can make vision reality."

- 30 -

For further information:

Beckie Garber-Conrad Alberta Women's Secretariat Edmonton, Alberta Phone: 422-4927

Note: See reverse for list of events

December 6, 1989, a man entered the engineering school l'Ecole Polytechnique and shot dead 14 women 'because they were feminists'. So many women were murdered that day that it is difficult to remember them. Meanwhile, everyone in Canada knows the murderer's name.



A monument bearing the name of every woman who was killed is necessary to change this twisted pattern. Through our remembrance, this act of violence against women will be condemned for the rest of Canadian history.

This monument is dedicated to our fourteen sisters who died in the Montreal massacre on December 6th, 1989; to our sisters everywhere who have survived acts of violence; and to those who have not.

"Even if I had to wait ten hours [in line to pay my respects at the funeral] I would still be here" said...a resident of Montreal. "I wanted to show a sign so that maybe this will never happen again."

Dec.11/89 The Globe & Mail

Support the Women's Monument Project by spreading the word to your community and keeping in touch with the monument's development. On the back is a donation form.

All contributions would be greatly appreciated.

The Capilano College Women's Centre

is now fundraising for a monument to commemorate the 14 women who were murdered in Montreal.

Sonia Pelletier
Nathalie Croteau
Anne-Marie Edward
Maryse Laganière
Anne-Marie Lemay
Barbara Marie Klueznick
Annie St. Arneault

Hélène Colgan
Barbara Daigneault
Michèle Rivard
Maryse Leclair
Geneviève Bergeron
Annie Turcotte
Maud Haviernick

The funds collected will be used to sponsor a nation-wide design contest open to women students in Canada, and to build the monument.

We wish to acknowledge all donors by inscribing their names on a pathway to the monument. Also, names will appear on the donor's column of our future correspondence.

Make cheques payable to:

Capilano College/Women's Monument Project

Send to: Capilano College/Women's Monument Project
The Comptroller
2055 Purcell Way, North Vancouver, B.C. V7J 3H5

NameAddress			Phone		
\$10 🗌		\$50 []		\$100	
Willing to I	nelp				
	An	onymity wan	ted		

All donations five dollars or greater will receive a tax receipt.





Dear University of Alberta Women's Research Centre

14 women at the Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal were massacred by a man with a semi-automatic weapon December 6, 1989. The deaths of Sonja Pelletier, Hélène Colgan, Nathalie Croteau, Barbara Daigneault, Anne-Marie Edward, Michèle Rivard, Maryse Laganière, Anne-Marie Lemay, Geneviève Bergeron, Barbara Marie Klueznick, Annie St. Arneault, Annie Turcotte and Maud Haviernick was a tragedy of enormous proportions. Shock waves from the massacre of these women has profoundly affected women across Canada.

We are a group of women from Capilano and Langara Colleges in Vancouver, B.C. who want these women remembered. Our goal is to erect a permanent monument in Vancouver bearing the name of every woman killed. We see this as a concrete symbol of remembrance, a focus for healing. The monument's presence will say that we value these women and *not* the violent men who have received so much of the world's attention.

Working with the Capilano College Women's Centre and other women in our community, our goal is to collect \$300,000. to build the monument. We plan to hold a nation-wide design competition open to women students in Canada. The winning design will become the monument.

It's an ambitious project, and we need your help. Whether you are an individual, an organization or a corporation, your donation of any size will be appreciated. We plan to acknowledge all donors by inscribing their names on a pathway to the monument. If you'd rather be anonymous, please say so on the fundraising form.

The monument will stand as a challenge to our society to end violence against women. The success of this project depends on the good will of people like you.

Please help out by sending in your donation today.

Sincerely:

Women's Monument Project Member

THE WOMEN'S MONUMENT PROJECT

The Comptroller, Capilano College, 2055 Purcell Way, North Vancouver, B.C. VTJ 3A5