



National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women: ending the culture of gender-based violence

OTTAWA (December 6, 2016) - Today we remember the fourteen women who were singled out and murdered because of their gender at the 1989 École Polytechnique massacre. The Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA) reflects on this tragic event and would like to bring attention to the issue of violence against women in our society. This day serves as a reminder for communities and individuals to speak out against all forms of violence against women and its impact on victims, their families, and friends.

“Today, let us first mourn and remember the women who have been affected by gender-based violence. Then, let us recommit to take action and confront all forms of violence against girls and women, wherever we see it.” said Dr. Natasha Caverley, CCPA President. “We need to consider concrete actions to eliminate all forms of gender-based violence. That means ending sexual violence, ending violence against indigenous women, ending domestic violence, and tackling violence and harassment in the workplace.”

CCPA encourages people to challenge the culture that allows gender-based violence to thrive. Gender-based violence grows out of an ethos that devalues women and femininity and creates excuses for the perpetrators. CCPA hopes everyone participates in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence from November 25 – December 10. You can participate by visiting the Status of Women website and participating in their #ActionsMatter campaign.

As a national bilingual association of professionally trained counsellors and psychotherapists engaged in the helping professions, CCPA has over 5,700 members who work in diverse areas such as violence and abuse, social work, mental health, education, employment and career development, public service agencies, government and private practice.

If you or someone you know is looking for therapeutic support, go to www.ccpa-accp.ca, where you can search for a Canadian Certified Counsellor in your region. Members of the public can also find authoritative information about the profession of counselling and psychotherapy by visiting CCPA's public website, www.talkingcanhelp.ca.

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The Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA) is a national bilingual association providing professional counsellors and psychotherapists with access to exclusive educational programs, certification, professional development and direct contact with professional peers and specialty groups. CCPA promotes the profession and its contribution to the mental health and well-being of all Canadians. For more information on the counselling and psychotherapy profession, please visit www.ccpa-accp.ca or www.talkingcanhelp.ca

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