

Remembering the Montreal Massacre

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The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women is Dec. 6, which marks the anniversary of the murders of 14 women in 1989 at l'École Polytechnique de Montréal.

Envision Counselling and Support Centre would like to acknowledge those women who lost their lives in a grievous act of gender-based violence.

This day is also a chance to focus on women and girls who are experiencing violence in their everyday lives and come together to end violence in our communities; both in Canada and around the world.

"While the Montreal massacre happened 26 years ago, the need to remind people of violence against women continues," says Christa Daku, executive director of Envision Counselling and Support Centre. "Things have changed since we began counselling women in the southeast - such as a flat-line of national rates of self-reported spousal violence - but we're seeing some disturbing trends."

She says that statistics show more women are experiencing violence after they leave their abuser. But organizations such as Envision are working closer with police and other agencies to deal with the aftermath of domestic violence.

Daku also emphasized that partner abuse has a profound impact on children. Each year in Saskatchewan approximately 24,000 children will be exposed to male violence against their mother in their own homes. Children are present during 80 per cent of these assaultive incidents.

Envision Counselling and Support Centre provides innovative programming and diverse counselling and support services to individuals, couples, and families. Counselling services are available, free of charge, for those experiencing partner abuse, stalking and harassment, dating violence, older person abuse, couples or marital relationship breakdowns, or various other family challenges. Individuals looking for more information can find it on the website: www.envisioncounsellingcentre.com

For more information, call 306-637-4004.