

**The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women is December 6th
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Southeast Saskatchewan – The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women is December 6th, 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 29 years ago, we know 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, but Saskatchewan continues to have the highest rate of police-reported intimate partner violence among the provinces.” Intimate partner violence happens among legally married, separated or divorced persons, current and former common-law partners, dating partners and other intimate partners.

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

Daku also emphasized that intimate partner violence 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 for those experiencing instances such as intimate partner violence. Individuals looking for more information can find it on Envision’s website at www.envisioncounsellingcentre.com.

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For more information, or interview requests, please contact:

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