



**Press Release for Immediate Release
Coalition Against Family Violence
c/o Status of Women Council of the NWT
December 2, 2011**

Annual Vigil for the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women and Girls

YELLOWKNIFE - The Coalition Against Family Violence is preparing for the December 6th National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women and Girls.

On December 6, 1989, armed with a semi-automatic rifle, ammunition and knives, a man walked through the halls of L'Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal, separating the males from the females, and then proceeded to shoot and kill 14 women while making violent gender-based statements against them. Thirteen others were wounded.

December 6, 2011, marks the 22nd anniversary of what came to be known as the Montreal Massacre. Events are held throughout the country to remember the 14 women who were killed and all women who have suffered violence in their lives because they were women. We welcome you on this day to join us in remembering those we have lost and take action by declaring that violence against women will not be tolerated.

We need to stand up against those who wish to harm our communities through violent actions. Members from the White Ribbon Campaign will be handing out ribbons asking men to come take the pledge of non-violence towards women. Donations, monetary or other, will be accepted on behalf of local shelters

The vigil will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 6th at the Salvation Army. The 2011 December 6th Vigil is sponsored by the Status of Women Council of the NWT, Public Service Alliance of Canada North, Northern Territories Federation of Labour, Regional Women's Committee Public Service Alliance of Canada, Yellowknife Co-op, the Salvation Army and the Yellowknife Food Rescue.

For more information, please contact Lorraine Phaneuf, Executive Director for the Status of Women Council of the NWT, at 920-8929 or lorraine@statusofwomen.nt.ca.