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# December 6, 2000

## National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women

### Information kit

On December 6, 2000, Canada will mark the **National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women**. Established in 1991 by the Parliament of Canada, this day commemorates the death of 14 young women who were tragically killed because of their gender at École Polytechnique in Montréal on December 6, 1989. It represents a time to pause and reflect on the phenomenon of violence against women in our society. It is also a time to remember all the women who live daily with the threat of violence or who have died as a result of deliberate acts of gender-based violence. Last but not least, it is a day for communities to reflect on concrete actions that each Canadian can take to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women.

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Once again this year, I am inviting all Canadians across the country to join me in observing a **minute of silence** at 11:00 a.m. on December 6 to remember those whose lives have been touched by violence and to consider what we can each do personally to make Canada a safer country for women and to help end gender-based violence. The silence will begin in Newfoundland and sweep across the country like a wave as the clock strikes 11:00 a.m. in each time zone.

To assist you in preparing activities to mark this special day, Status of Women Canada has developed this "easy to photocopy" Information Kit which I encourage you to reproduce and share with your colleagues, friends, family and/or community. This information is also posted on our Web site. Copies are available from Status of Women Canada at the address listed above.

I do hope you will join me in marking the **National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women** this year.

Yours sincerely,



The Honorable Hedy Fry,  
Secretary of State (Multiculturalism) (Status of Women)