



Media Release

Public Invited to Vigil to Commemorate National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

YELLOWKNIFE (December 1, 2025) – On the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, the Status of Women Council of the NWT and YWCA NWT invite everyone to join a vigil to acknowledge and remember those who have been affected by gender-based violence.

Event Details:

- ***Date/Time*** = 3pm MT on Saturday, December 6, 2025
- ***Location*** = Café (2nd floor) in the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre

The vigil will include guest speakers, rose-laying ceremony, and moment of silence. Mental health supports will be available onsite, as well as light refreshments. This event is open to everyone.

The National Day of Remembrance was designated by Parliament to honour 14 young women murdered in 1989 at the Polytechnique Montréal in a violent act of misogyny. This year's vigil offers an opportunity to honour the lives of these women, and all those who have lost their lives due to gender-based violence.

“Sadly, the epidemic of violence against women and gender-diverse people is real and ever-present within the NWT. Communities continue to be deeply impacted by intimate partner violence, femicide, and the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. It’s troubling that the NWT has some of the highest rates of gender-based violence in the country. We hope it will not only honour those who have lost their lives but also shed light on the scope and depth of this problem and serve as a call to action,” said Hawa Dumbuya-Sesay, Executive Director, YWCA NWT.

“By coming together, we aim to truly see and acknowledge the scope and depth of this crisis. We gather to grieve, to support one another, and to demand the change that is long overdue. Violence in all its forms must end — and we believe that change is not only possible, but urgently necessary. Together, we can create a future where safety, dignity, and love are realities for everyone,” says Alisa Blake, Executive Director, Status of Women Council of the NWT.

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