

We Are Not Done Yet

The Fight to End Gender-Based Violence



December 6 marks the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

On this day 33 years ago, a gunman walked into a classroom at the École Polytechnique de Montréal, killing 14 women and injuring 13 others in an anti-feminist attack.

On this day we remember and honour the lives that were cut short:

Geneviève Bergeron, Hélène Colgan, Nathalie Croteau, Barbara Daigneault, Anne-Marie Edward, Maud Haviernick, Barbara Klucznik-Widajewicz, Maryse Laganière, Maryse Leclair, Anne-Marie Lemay, Sonia Pelletier, Michele Richard, Annie St-Arneault and Annie Turcotte.

Gender-Based Violence is Still Occurring

In honour of the 33rd anniversary of the National Day of Remembrance and Action against Violence against Women, RESOLVE Alberta would like to highlight that ending gender-based violence continues to be an important fight. On the same day, a Manitoba community mourns the deaths of four women at the hands of a suspected serial killer. This is a constant reminder of the continued violence against the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) in Canada. As we mourn the loss of four more beloved Indigenous women and community members and while standing with their families, we also hold in our memories and thoughts the 14 women who were killed by violence in Montréal 33 years ago.

Violence against women, girls, and gender-diverse peoples continues to be a disturbing reality across the Prairies and across Canada. According to the [Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability \(2020\)](#) report, a total of 160 women and girls were killed by violence in Canada in 2020; meaning that one woman or girl was killed every two and a half days. One in five of these victims were Indigenous women or girls, who are more likely to be victims of lethal violence ([Department of Justice, 2022](#)). Also, according to [Statistics Canada](#), women in Canada are more likely than men to experience intimate partner violence; women accounted for almost 8 in 10 victims (79%) of intimate partner violence.

Our Goal Remains the Same

Today RESOLVE honours and remembers not only the 14 young women who were killed in Montreal 33 years ago, but **ALL** the women, girls and gender-diverse individuals who have tragically lost their lives—across the Prairies and across Canada. We recognize women and 2SLGBTQ+ individuals worldwide who live daily with the threat of gender-based violence, and those who work tirelessly to make the world a safer place for them, especially during these unprecedented times.

The goal of RESOLVE is to continue to reduce the incidence and impact of violence and abuse by:

- creating and evaluating strategies to address violence and abuse;
- communicating our research results to the public and policymakers;
- promoting education, awareness, and social change.



4 Steps Everyone can Take Towards Ending Gender-Based Violence in Canada

1. Educate yourself and others

Education is key to combatting gender-based violence. This includes education on harmful gender norms and stereotypes, the patriarchy, consent and bodily autonomy, healthy relationships, the warning signs of abuse, and available resources and services for survivors of gender-based violence. Additionally, supporting research initiatives that seek to better understand issues of gender-based violence can help inform and improve responses to these issues.

2. Believe Survivors

Unfortunately, survivors of gender-based violence are not always believed when they share their experiences. It is important to create safe and supportive spaces for survivors to speak up and refrain from using victim-blaming narratives or harmful stereotypes in the process.

3. Interrupt harmful language or behaviours

Taking a stand against harmful language, such as catcalling, inappropriate comments, and sexist jokes can help hold others accountable and create safer environments for everyone. Resources for bystander intervention techniques can be found [here](#).

4. Donate

Donating to organizations that empower and support women, and those of all gender identities/sexual orientations, can aid the response to gender-based violence. A directory of organizations for women and 2SLGBTQ+ individuals can be found [here](#).

Seek Help

Resources for Albertans

Family Violence – Find Supports – 310-1818

Distress Centre Calgary Crisis Line (24 hours): **(403) 266-HELP (4357)**

Kids Help Phone – 1-800-668-6868 or text CONNECT to 686868
Crisis Text Line – Text CONNECT to 741741

Resource list for women in Alberta: [Click here to view.](#)

Community Links

Community Resources – [211Alberta](#)

[Alberta Association of Sexual](#)

[Assault Centres](#)

[Alberta Council of Women's](#)

[Shelters](#)

[Calgary Domestic Violence](#)

[Collective \(CDVC\)](#)

[Ending Violence Association of](#)

[Canada](#)

[Healthy Relationships Public](#)

[Education On-line on Domestic](#)

[Violence](#)

[HomeFront](#)

[Rainbow Ready at Sagesse](#)