



December 6, 2016

## **December 6 - National Day of Action Against Violence Against Women**

On December 6, we join members of the University of Toronto and broader community in marking the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. December 6 marks the anniversary of the 1989 l'École Polytechnique de Montréal massacre of fourteen women, as well as to acknowledge the ongoing violence against women in our society.

The act of violence against women is the largest widespread and persistent human right violation in the world. In Canada alone, more than 50% of women will experience gender-based violence at a point in their lives, most prior to the age of 25. This rate is even higher for women from marginalized communities, including women with disabilities, racialized, indigenous, immigrant, queer, trans and low-income women.

We must also recognize the diverse and intersectional manifestations of violence against women on our campuses and in our communities. In 2016, the federal government of Canada finally launched a two-year, independent inquiry into the over one-thousand known cases of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls. The violence against indigenous women and girls is ongoing.

We all need to challenge the heteropatriarchal society that we navigate. We all need to be work towards the end of all forms of oppression and discrimination and build safer campuses and communities. Today, and everyday, we have a collective responsibility to end rape culture, sexism, gender-based violence and misogyny.

We invite members of the campus community to attend vigils on campus and in the community to mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women:

### **UofT Student Life December 6 Vigil**

December 6, 2016 | 11:45 am - 2:00 pm  
Hart House  
University of Toronto

### **Women Won't Forget December 6 Vigil**

December 6, 2016 | 6 pm  
Philosopher's Walk  
University of Toronto