



March 8, 2017

MEDIA ADVISORY

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2017

Strength and Resilience of Women | #BeBoldForChange

WHAT: International Women's Day Celebration 2017 | *Strength and Resilience of Women*
Official Date was March 8th and this celebration is on March 12th.

Part 1) (Women Only) Participants will meet at the MacKenzie Art Gallery at 1:00 p.m. for a tour of the exhibit *Across the Turtle's Back: The Kampelmacher Collection of Indigenous Art* with Curator Michelle LaVallee. Join us for stories and creating braids that represent all women and all cultures. Materials will be available but if you would like to bring materials or mementos to donate to the decorating of the braids, please do. This part of the event is not for media but it provides context for the day's events.

Part 2) (Open to everyone and Media) At approximately 3:15 p.m. everyone will meet on the Albert Street Bridge for the *International Join Me on the Bridge Movement*, portion of the event. At the bridge, we will be connecting with each other with red colored scarves to show freedom and empowerment. This part will finish around 3:45 p.m.

WHEN: Sunday, March 12, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Media invited at bridge at 3:15 p.m.

WHERE: Part 1) 1:00 p.m. at MacKenzie Art Gallery, 3475 Albert Street, Regina SK (women only)

Part 2) 3:15 p.m. on Albert Street Bridge (between Regina Ave & College Ave) (media are welcome at the bridge)

WHO: **Project Partners:** Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan, MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina Immigrant Women Centre, University of Regina Life Long Learning Centre - Intercultural Grandmothers Uniting, Amnesty International, Saskatchewan Writers Guild, Theatre Saskatchewan, Sâkêwêwak Artists' Collective Inc. and Daughters of Africa.

WHY: International Women's Day is celebrated in many countries around the world. It is a day when we recognize women for their achievements without regard to divisions, whether national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political. It is an occasion for looking back on past struggles and accomplishments, and more importantly, for looking ahead to the untapped potential and opportunities that await future generations of women.

In 1975, during International Women's Year, the United Nations began celebrating International Women's Day on March 8. Two years later, in December 1977, the General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming a United Nations Day to observe Women's Rights and International Peace on any day of the year by Member States, in accordance with their historical and national traditions.

About the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan (MCoS)

The Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan is a charitable, non-profit organization committed to promoting, fostering, improving and developing multiculturalism in the cultural, economic, social and political life of Saskatchewan while working to achieve equality of all residents. We support member organizations in a variety of ways, including workshops, investments in their activities that implement our mission, aims and objectives, networking and information, and being the lead voice on multiculturalism in the province.

We also support anti-racism and multicultural education activities in schools. We celebrate and raise public awareness of significant dates such as Saskatchewan Multicultural Week in November, Black History Month in February, International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 21st, Hispanic Heritage Month in April, Asian Heritage Month in May, National Aboriginal History Month in June, and Celebrate Canada from June 2 to July 1. For more information, please visit www.mcos.ca and follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

About the MacKenzie Art Gallery (MAG)

The MacKenzie Art Gallery is located in the heart of Regina's expansive Wascana Park. From ambitious beginnings at what is now the University of Regina, the MacKenzie of today is Saskatchewan's largest public art gallery and one of Canada's most beautiful. An interactive hub of cultural activity, the Gallery provides award-winning educational programs, unique community events and free public tours for people of all ages.

The MacKenzie spans over 100,000 square feet of space on three levels including an exhibition floor with eight environmentally controlled galleries and a state-of-the-art art conservation lab. The Vault is home to more than 4,500 works of art in the treasured MacKenzie Permanent Collection. For more information, please visit, www.mackenzieartgallery.ca.

About the Regina Immigrant Women Centre (RIWC)

The Regina Immigrant Women Centre (RIWC) is a non-profit community based organization that provides programs for the education, integration, enrichment and empowerment of immigrant women and their families. More than 700 adults and youth access programs in Language and Skills Training, Pre-employment, Settlement Advising, and Support Services for women and seniors. The Centre moved in September 2016 to 11th Avenue, and is located conveniently near bus access in downtown Regina. Some of the most popular programs are Drop-in Conversation and Sewing for Newcomer Women (SEWNEW), which provide a chance for participants to socialize, improve language skills, and learn or refresh a valuable skill to facilitate integration into the community in Regina.

The Centre is always looking for volunteers to work with newcomers in the Drop-In program. For more information, visit www.reginaiwc.ca or call Savanna at (306) 359-6514.

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