

For immediate release
September 2, 2020

Take back the night, women without fear!

Casselman, September 2, 2020 - On the occasion of its 13th "take back the night, women without fear" march, the Francophone Novas-CALACS Center of Prescott-Russell underlines the importance of fighting against sexual assault for the women and girls who are victims.

As you know, the COVID-19 situation is preventing certain activities from taking place in a safe manner. The organizing committee of the 2020 Women's March has therefore decided to present a new format. We suggest to the women and girls of Prescott-Russell to walk in their street, their neighborhood, alone or according to the groups they have formed in order to maintain the physical distancing required by public health.

We invite all women and girls in the community to take part in the 13th Prescott-Russell Women's March which will take place on **September 16, 2020 at 7:15 p.m.**

This march is an invitation to reclaim public space at night, in order to protest against the violence, fear, sexism and sexual exploitation of which women are too often victims.

Particularly, in this year of the pandemic, violence against women and girls takes different forms on a daily basis, and is often minimized or overlooked. Yet sexual assault, street harassment, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, ordinary sexism, and even femicide are a reality across Canada.

Everyone has a role to play in ending violence against women, for example by intervening when you witness street harassment, or by believing and supporting a survivor.

In Canada, one in three women will experience sexual assault as adults. Yet the vast majority of sexual assaults go unreported to police, and an estimated 0.3% of abusers are held accountable (Figures from the Ontario Women's Directorate).

By registering here <http://centrenovas.ca/> before September 13, 2020, participants have access to a wealth of information, advocacy tools and a chance to win a participation prize!

**The 2020 Prescott-Russell Women's March organizing committee:
The Nation Municipality, the Municipality of Russell, the Centre de santé communautaire de l'Estrie,
the Maison Interlude House and the Francophone Novas-CALACS Center of Prescott-Russell.**

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