



October 31, 2008

Albertans encouraged to reach out to victims of family violence

Info Line offers support and information in 170 languages

Edmonton... End the Silence. Stop the Violence. That's the focus of this year's Family Violence Prevention Month encouraging Albertans to call the info line at 310-1818 and help those affected by family violence. The 24-hour line is toll-free and available seven days a week.

"Family violence has devastating consequences and deserves our continued attention," said Janis Tarchuk, Minister of Children and Youth Services. "If Albertans have questions about family violence or believe someone they know may be dealing with family violence, they can call the info line to find out how they can help. Every Albertan deserves to feel safe, and we all share a responsibility to ensure Albertans can live abuse-free."

As part of Alberta's commitment to safer communities, this year's strategy focuses on providing Albertans with an increased awareness of the resources available to them. Radio ads will run during the month highlighting examples of the help people will get when they call the info line. The info line offers help in 170 languages through an interpreter service, which improves access to programs for Albertans affected by family violence, in particular immigrant families. The "Fight Circle" commercial will air on television, and postcards are being mailed to all Alberta homes to raise awareness of the info line. Throughout the month, a number of events are being held around the province to raise awareness of family violence.

Family Violence Prevention Month takes place every November in Alberta. For more information about what you can do to "*End the Silence. Stop the Violence*," and to see a listing of events happening across the province visit www.familyviolence.alberta.ca

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To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

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