



Alberta Council of Women's Shelters
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Media Advisory
For Immediate Release
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Throne speech promises mean nothing to Alberta on-reserve shelters

Sudden, dramatic funding cuts made to on-reserve women's shelters by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) leave Alberta on-reserve shelters wondering how they can keep their doors open. ACWS will be issuing a full release on the morning of the 19th.

Interview Availability:

Date: Friday March 19th

Location: Downtown Business Association Offices (10121 Jasper Avenue)

Time: 9:30am – 10:00am

Interviewees: Edna Willier, Sucker Creek Emergency Shelter
Sandra Ermineskin, Ermineskin Women's Shelter
Jan Reimer, Provincial Coordinator Alberta Council of Women's Shelters

Supporting documentation: INAC Releases, Johnston Report

Background:

On-reserve shelters in Alberta originally signed a funding agreement in 2007 based on the Cabinet Decisions of October 31, 2006 representing the Enhancement of Family Violence Prevention Program for First Nations. This five-year agreement (currently 3 years in) has an annual renewal - with this year's renewal three shelters have just been informed that their budgets are being dramatically slashed before the end of the 5-year commitment.

The recent Speech from the Throne committed to supporting Canadian's aspirations to live in a safe and secure country and the federal government's additional action to address murdered and missing Aboriginal women. On-reserve shelters provide a critical role in preventing the deaths of First Nation women killed by family violence.

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For more information, please contact:

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