

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

For immediate release November 18, 2003

HELP US CELEBRATE THE STRENGTH OF ALBERTA'S WOMEN

Would you like the world to know about an Alberta woman you admire? Do you have a story to tell about a rugged challenge in your life that you managed to overcome?

We're looking for your original writing for the **Standing Together** project. Here's your opportunity to stand beside thousands of Alberta women who are trying to overcome family violence in their own homes or have struggled with personal adversities throughout their lives.

"Through my years in public life, I have met so many women who are heroes," said Children's Services Minister Iris Evans. "They have overcome a wide range of challenges including poverty, family violence and health problems. They are an inspiration to me and to women everywhere that perseverance and a will to survive will help get us through life's hardships."

The Alberta Council of Women's Shelters is planning to publish a book to celebrate the experiences of Alberta women who have struggled, and yet live rich and joyful lives.

We invite you to contribute your own original writing: a tribute to another Alberta woman, or a brief personal story about yourself. Each submission should be between 500 and 1,500 words and can take the form of personal story or poetry. Please provide a brief biography to accompany each submission. All submissions must be mailed and cannot be accepted electronically. Submissions should be typed and double-spaced on 8.5 x 11 paper. We will decline fiction, and writing that has been published before.

The book will raise funds for community projects for the prevention of family violence across the province. Each submission will be read but those not accepted for publication will not be returned. Authors will be notified in writing. With the permission of the authors, all submissions will be published on a Web site, and assembled in an archival collection as an enduring tribute to Alberta's women.

Authors will be paid an honourarium of \$100 for submissions published in the book. This honourarium can be donated back to the project for a tax-deductible receipt.

If your community organization would like to join the **Standing Together** project to help sponsor or sell the book, please contact the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters.

Deadline for submissions: March 30, 2004

Please send your submissions to:
Alberta Council of Women's Shelters
ATTN: BOOK SUBMISSIONS
9321 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, AB
T5H 3T7

**NOVEMBER IS FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH
FAMILY VIOLENCE IS YOUR BUSINESS**

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