

**National Council of Women of Canada
Media Release**

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In Remembrance

Words still fail us as we remember the tragic events that occurred on December 6th, 1989, at the École Polytechnique in Montreal. The anniversary of the massacre of 14 women is now commemorated as the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

That horrific event led to more stringent gun control laws in Canada and to changes in police tactical response. A survivor, Heidi Rathjen, organized the Coalition for Gun Control with Wendy Cukier.

At this time, we remember all women killed in violence and reiterate our call for stronger gun control. The National Council of Women of Canada firmly believe that all firearms should be strictly controlled. Unrestricted rifles and shotguns are most often used in domestic violence, suicide, and police killings. They include the powerful semi-automatics such as that used at the Ecole Polytechnique and the “elephant gun” used to kill Constable Gignac in Laval.

We, the National Council of Women of Canada, call for the Government of Canada to require all Canadian gun owners to achieve compliance with the Gun Control Laws and Gun Control Registry.

*Karen Dempsey
President
National Council of Women of Canada*