



**Ottawa Coalition to End
Violence Against Women**

**Coalition d'Ottawa contre la
violence faite aux femmes**

January 28, 2011

A message to our community

The Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women (OCTEVAW) would like to express our empathy towards the women who have been recently attacked in Ottawa by a man with a dangerous object. These incidents that women face are often ignored by the community because people fail to realize it is connected to a larger equality issue.

Violence against women should be everyone's concern. A woman has the right as everyone else to feel safe wherever she may travel. Therefore, women's safety is a community's responsibility and we encourage community members to speak up when violence is committed. As part of our community, men need to take a solid stand to help end violence against women. Men need to be more aware of the women around them and not hesitate to call police should an assault be in progress.

In addition, the 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day is closely approaching on March 8, 2011. It is a day when women celebrate feminism, and demand freedom and equality. Hopefully one day women and men can all celebrate the end of gender-based violence.

OCTEVAW is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedication to ending violence against women and, through leadership, education, advocacy and political action, to promoting a coordinated response to women and their children who have experienced abuse. It is important that the people of Ottawa take part to end abuse.

For more information on what you can do to help, please contact:

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