



Ottawa Coalition to End Violence  
Against Women

Coalition d'Ottawa contre la violence  
faite aux femmes

MEDIA ADVISORY — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## A Forum for National Victims of Crime Awareness Week

### SUPPORTING, CONNECTING, EVOLVING: OTTAWA'S RESPONSE TO INTIMATE PARTNER FEMICIDE

29 April 2009  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Pineview Municipal Golf Course  
1471 Blair Road

Last year, three women in Ottawa were murdered; two as a result of woman abuse. In 2007, seven local women were murdered; three as a result of woman abuse.

Across the province, 15 women and children were murdered as a result of woman abuse last year, while in 2007, some 21 were similarly murdered.

As part of National Victims of Crime Awareness Week, **The Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women (OCTEVAW)** will bring together over 130 participants from 40 agencies and organizations at this Forum. Participants will focus on recommendations from the **Ontario Domestic Violence Death Review Committee (DVDRC)**. \*

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## Some Highlights of the Forum:

9:00am **Erin Williams**, Executive Director, OCTEVAW and  
**Christine Culham-Keays**, Forum Chair and Executive Director of Ottawa  
Victims Services

9:30am **Keynote Speaker Myrna Dawson**, Member of the Ontario Domestic Violence  
Death Review Committee, Associate Professor & Canada Research Chair in  
Public Policy in Criminal Justice, University of Guelph

12:45pm **The Honourable Cheri Di Novo**, MPP, Parkdale-High Park with a perspective  
on Bill 133, which contains revisions to restraining order legislation in family  
law.

**Ottawa City Councillor Diane Holmes** (Somerset Ward) will also be in attendance.

Go to <http://www.octevaw-cocvff.ca/node/330> for the complete agenda and speaker  
list.

Go to <http://www.octevaw-cocvff.ca/node/17> to view past reports of the DVDRC.

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**OCTEVAW** is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated 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. The idea for this forum evolved from discussions at the OCTEVAW Justice  
Committee, where members expressed an interest in developing a community-wide  
response to the deaths last spring of two Ottawa women, as a result of intimate partner  
violence.

\* The DVDRC is a multi-disciplinary advisory committee of experts, established under  
the authority of the Ontario Coroners Act, that reports the results of domestic violence  
fatality investigations to the province's Chief Coroner.

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