

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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November 26 is declared National Day to End Economic Abuse across Canada

CANADIAN CITY MAYORS URGED TO INITIATE SYSTEM CHANGE POLICIES AND PRACTICES TO SUPPORT VICTIMS OF ECONOMIC ABUSE ON ECONOMIC ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

Saturday is Economic Abuse Awareness Day. A day calls to educate the survivors, financial institutions, credit collectors, private sectors, survivors, services providers, consumer lawyers, and policymakers about the different economic and systemic challenges faced by survivors of domestic violence, the prevalence of financial abuse, costs of recovery, stigma, unemployment, and debt.

Meseret Haileyesus is the Executive Director of the Canadian Center for Women's Empowerment (CCFWE); the goal is to create national awareness about the impact of economic abuse by empowering Domestic Economic Abuse survivors to improve their financial knowledge and educating policymakers, the business community, and financial institutions about how they can help.

She explains that Economic Abuse is less often discussed as a hidden form of domestic violence. Therefore, the Canadian government and financial institutions must implement inclusive policies and programs to protect victims and support survivors by allocating resources.

Economic Abuse Awareness Day is a national event marked in many major cities to raise awareness that economic abuse exists and educate financial institutions and policymakers about the need for change.

This year, the Government of British Columbia and other major cities such as Courteney, Squamish, British Columbia, Victoria, Surrey, St. John's, Niagara Falls, Windsor, Brampton, Kingston, London, Ottawa, Regina, Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Halifax have proclaimed **November 26** National Economic Abuse Awareness Day.

"About 95% of women who experience domestic abuse also experience economic abuse. It can also occur on its own. I want to thank the Canadian Center for Women's Empowerment for the hard work and for raising awareness about this important issue."

"Now more than ever, policymakers and the private sector must participate in removing barriers that affect a survivor's economic security. Intersectoral action is essential to address the structural determinants of inequities and the critical policy gaps preventing survivors from recovering and becoming economically secure and independent. We need clear, practical action on the National Action Plan of Gender-based Violence to address Economic Abuse," said **Meseret Haileyesus**, Executive Director of the Canadian Center for Women's Empowerment.

About Canadian Center for Women's Empowerment

The Canadian Center for Women's Empowerment (CCFWE) is the only national non-profit organization dedicated to addressing Economic Abuse through system change, education, and policy change. Our work is informed by a feminist economy recovery plan, groundbreaking evidence, and lived experience. The Economic Abuse system change project is funded by Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE).

For more information, press only:



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