

In Montreal on unceded Kanien'kehá:ka [Mohawk] territory



Le Centre communautaire des femmes sud-asiatiques

YEAR END PARTY

Inside this issue:

Centre Update / Holiday Hours/White Rose Scholarship	2
Centre Update / Protest cont.	2
SAWCC follows up ...	3
12 Days of Action	4
Essay Writing Competition/Commemoration Event	5
SAY/JSA Update	6
Fight violence against sex workers	7
Calendar	8

The South Asian Women's Community Centre's

Year End Party 2015



On Sunday December 13th, 2015
From 12pm - 4pm
At CEDA (2515 rue Delisle)
near Lionel Groulx metro station

Qu'en pensez-vous?

What do you think?

- Let us know your thoughts about the bulletin.
- Que pensez-vous de notre journal?
- We encourage you to send in your stories and articles for upcoming newsletters in any language by the 25th of every month to:

sawccbulletin@gmail.com

- Écrivez -nous à

sawccbulletin@gmail.com

Fête de fin d'année

C'est avec un grand plaisir que nous vous annonçons notre fête de fin d'année, qui aura lieu le dimanche 13 décembre, 2015 de 12H à 16H au CEDA, 2515 rue Delisle (près du métro Lionel-groulx).

CENTRE UPDATE



Centre Hours/heure d'ouverture

Monday & Thursday/lundi & jeudi 9am—5pm

Monday & Thursday/lundi & jeudi 9am—9pm (as of September 7th, 2105)

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday/mardi, mercredi & vendredi— 9am-5pm

The Centre is wheelchair accessible

Le centre est accessible aux fauteuils roulants.

Volunteers

If you are interested in helping out at the Centre, please contact Homa (Ext. 102 or homa@bellnet.ca) to coordinate a meeting!

HOLIDAY HOURS



The Centre will be closed for winter break from December 21st, 2015 to January 1st, 2016.

The Centre will re-open on Monday January 4th, 2016.

WHITE ROSE SCHOLARSHIP

Tara Gholami grew up being encouraged to try new things and launch herself into any project, something she says was not a given in Iran.

The 23-year-old engineering student is the first recipient of the Order of the White Rose – a \$30,000 scholarship established by the École Polytechnique last year, to be awarded to a female graduate student of engineering enrolled at the institution of her choice.

Gholami was born in Iran and came to Canada when she was 11. She credits her parents with giving her the love of engineering.

"My dad, for example, would always include me in any project around the house that he wanted to do," she said.

WHITE ROSE SCHOLARSHIP CONT.

"I never grew up thinking that there was a difference between women and men in the engineering profession. My mom herself was an engineer. She was my role model."

Gholami is hoping to join the surgical robotics industry.

Respond to tragedy with kindness

Gholami has a mechanical engineering degree from the University of Calgary and is now pursuing a graduate degree at Stanford University.

"The thing that I think is the most important about the scholarship is that it showcases that we, humans, are able to take a tragedy and respond to it with kindness and generosity," Gholami told CBC Montreal's *Homerun*.

Gholami was in Montreal Wednesday to receive the scholarship. She said meeting the Order's "godmother," Nathalie Provost, who was injured in the 1989 shooting, was inspirational.

"It was such an honour to be in the presence of such a strong woman," said Gholami. Tara Gholami grew up being encouraged to try new things and launch herself into any project, something she says was not a given in Iran.

The 23-year-old engineering student is the first recipient of the Order of the White Rose – a \$30,000 scholarship established by the École Polytechnique last year, to be awarded to a female graduate student of engineering enrolled at the institution of her choice.

Gholami was born in Iran and came to Canada when she was 11. She credits her parents with giving her the love of engineering.

"My dad, for example, would always include me in any project around the house that he wanted to do," she said.

"I never grew up thinking that there was a difference between women and men in the engineering profession. My mom herself was an engineer. She was my role model."

Gholami is hoping to join the surgical robotics industry.

(Text taken from CBC.ca)

SAWCC FOLLOWING UP ON so-called “barbaric cultural practices”

SAWCC is writing to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould and Status of Women Minister Patty Hajdu to repeal the Act about so-called “barbaric cultural practices”.

We are also asking that the government revise the “Study Guide” for citizenship which in the section on “Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship”, sub-section “The Equality of Women and Men” also includes reference to “barbaric cultural practices” which it goes on to enumerate and includes so-called ‘honour’ killings and forced marriage.

We are making this request because the terminology is ideological, racist and xenophobic. Moreover it causes confusion between ‘arranged’ marriages which can be and are often consensual, with ‘forced’ marriage.

Federal and provincial laws already have sections that deal with violence against women and child abuse. Putting a racial slant on violence against women can also have a contrary effect.

Moreover, categorizing forms of violence against women as ‘honour’ crimes is dangerous as there is a subliminal assumption that the majority of Canadian women are safe. Statistics demonstrate otherwise; that interpersonal violence and violence perpetrated by intimates or former intimates are responsible for the majority of instances of violence against women. That the existing laws seem powerless to protect women should be the focus of attention. There needs to be education against the culture of violence against women. And the long gun registry should be reintroduced.

12 days of action for the elimination of violence against women

Friday, December 4

18h to 20h @ M.A.I. (Montreal, intercultural arts)

at 3680 Jeanne Mance Street in Montreal

For the campaign of 12 days of action for the elimination of violence against women, the FFQ provides space for exchange to address violence against Aboriginal women but also reflect on the links that you can do with other forms of racist and colonial violence in giving voice to women from immigrant, racialized and Muslim communities.

Women activists who will speak are all women from communities experiencing violence at the intersection of several systems of oppression. It will address the violence experienced by women from a feminist, anti-racist and anti-colonial perspective, to talk about the violence more invisibilisées.

Panel

Colonialism and struggles of women / feminist indigenous

- **ALANA Boileau, Quebec Native Women**

Racism and struggles of women / black feminists

- Name of speaker to be confirmed

Islamophobia and struggles of women / Muslim feminists

- **LEILA BENHADJOUJA**

Xenophobia, immigration policies and struggles of women / immigrant and refugee feminists

- **RITA ACOSTA**

Animation: MELANIE SARAZIN, president of the FFQ

In collaboration with : MAI (Montréal, arts interculturels)

The 12 days of action are taking place from November 25, International Day against violence against women on December 6, to commemorate the Montreal Massacre which took place on December 6th 1989. Over 25 years later, violence against women are real and unfortunately this campaign is to remind the importance of feminist struggles.

Support the donation campaign of 12 days!

<http://www.ffq.qc.ca/2015/11/12-jours-daction-contre-les-violences-lutttes/>

Vendredi 4 décembre

18h à 20h @ M.A.I. (Montréal, arts interculturels)

au 3680 rue Jeanne Mance à Montréal

[Événement Facebook](#)

Pour la campagne des 12 jours d'action pour l'élimination de la violence envers les femmes, la FFQ propose espace d'échange pour aborder les violences envers les femmes autochtones mais également réfléchir aux liens que l'on peut faire avec d'autres formes de violences racistes et coloniales en donnant la parole à des femmes issues de communautés immigrantes, racisées et musulmanes.

Les militantes qui prendront la parole sont toutes des femmes issues de communautés qui vivent des violences à l'intersection de plusieurs systèmes d'oppression. Elle aborderont les violences vécues par les femmes à partir d'une perspective féministe à la fois anti-raciste et anti-coloniale pour parler de ces violences davantage invisibilisées.

Panel

Colonialisme et luttes des femmes/féministes autochtones

ALANA BOILEAU, Femme autochtones au Québec

Racisme et luttes des femmes/féministes noires

À confirmé

Islamophobie et luttes des femmes/féministes musulmanes

LEILA BENHADJOUJA

Xénophobie, politiques d'immigration et luttes des femmes/féministes immigrantes ou réfugiées

RITA ACOSTA

Animation : MÉLANIE SARAZIN, présidente de la FFQ

En collaboration avec : MAI (Montréal, arts interculturels)

Les 12 jours d'action se déroulent du 25 novembre, journée internationale de lutte contre les violences faites aux femmes au 6 décembre, en commémoration de la tuerie de Polytechnique qui a eu lieu le 6 décembre 1989. Plus de 25 années plus tard, les violences faites aux femmes sont malheureusement bien réelles et cette campagne vise à rappeler l'importance des luttes féministes.

Appuyer la campagne de don des 12 jours !

<http://www.ffq.qc.ca/2015/11/12-jours-daction-contre-les-violences-luttes/>

Sadeqa Siddiqui Essay Writing Competition

To honour Sadeqa Siddiqui who worked as the coordinator of our centre and was and still is committed to the mission of SAWCC, an essay writing competition will be held each year. This is our very first competition and we look forward to hearing from HIGH SCHOOL and CEGEP students aged 16 to 18 years of age.

The contest runs until **THURSDAY JANUARY 14, 2016 AT 12:00 NOON.**

The topics for the essay are:

1. *Redefining of Women's Role in Today's Global World*

OR

2. Use the verse below, written by Maya Angelou, to inspire your essay

When we come to it

We, this people, on this wayward, floating body

Created on this earth, of this earth

Have the power to fashion for this earth

A climate where every and every woman

Can live freely without sanctimonious piety

And without crippling fear.

The length of the essay is **750 words.**

The essay must be submitted by e-mail to : sawccbulletin@gmail.com

Your name must only appear on the entry form. IF your name appears on the essay you submit, it will be disqualified.

Anniversary of 6th December 1989 – École Polytechnique Massacre

Join South Asian Women's Community Centre as we mark the anniversary of 6th December 1989 – Ecole Polytechnique Massacre

All members, friends and allies are welcome to attend and share texts, poems, etc. in languages that are close to you, on the theme of violence against women, with a focus on realities such as sexual assault on aboriginal women, war and displacement, targeting difference, Islamophobia...

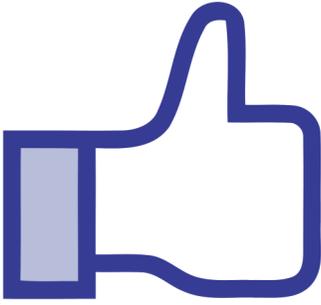
Saturday 5th December 2-4pm at the Centre (1035 Rachel East 3rd floor, front. Near metro Mont Royal)

Joignez-nous au CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE DES FEMMES SUD-ASIATIQUES dans notre commémoration de l'anniversaire du 6^{eme} Décembre 1989 - le massacre de l'École Polytechnique

Tous les membres, amis et alliés sont invités à assister et de partager des textes, des poèmes, etc. dans des langues de votre choix, sur le thème de la violence contre les femmes, avec un accent sur les réalités comme les agressions sexuelles sur les femmes autochtones, guerre et le déplacement, la différence de ciblage, l'islamophobie ...

Samedi 5 Décembre 2-4pm at Centre (1035 Rachel est, 3e étage, avant. Près du métro Mont Royal)

SAY/JSA UPDATE



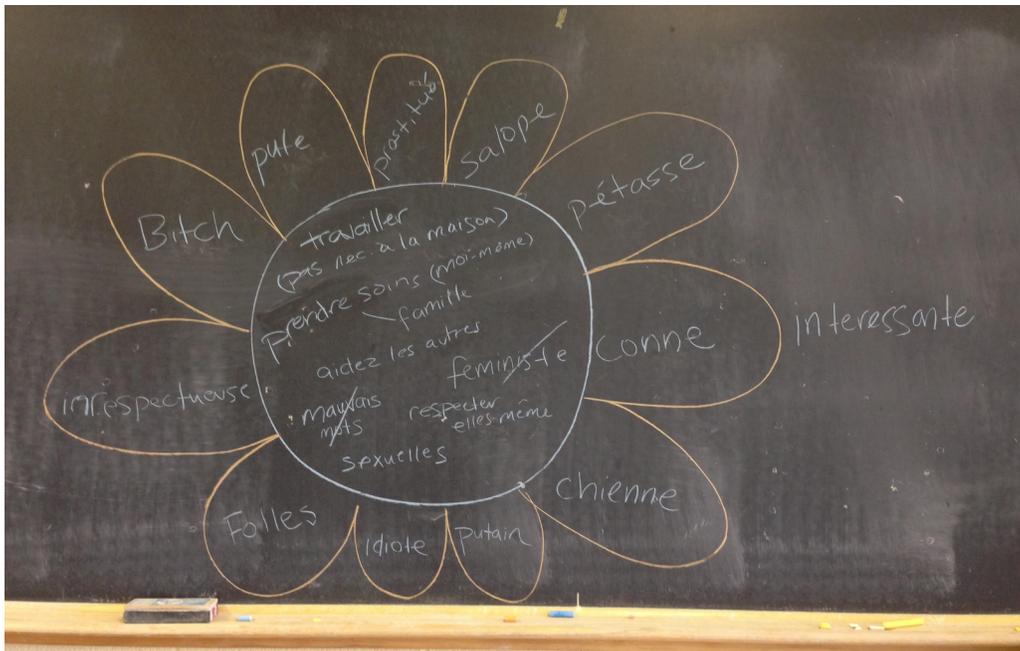
Log on to Facebook and check out: Don't Touch Me: An Anthology for more information on our new anthology project!

We're still accepting submissions, please send them to sayanthology@gmail.com

Stay tuned for our upcoming online presence! More details to come in the new year!

COOL WORKSHOP!

This past week we led a very interesting workshop on gender roles at a local high school. The purpose of the workshop was to engage young women in a conversation about the various gender roles (what women/girls should do as well as what women/girls shouldn't do) as portrayed by the media and people around us. These words went into the centre of the flower. The petals represented the words that are then used to describe women/girls who do not "follow the rules" (as defined by the contents inside the flower). Then we began describing the women who do not "follow the rules" (words outside the petals) - as you can see, they are the interesting people in our lives.



ON THE LOOKOUT!

There a small library located in the Youth Space in the back and we're on the lookout for a bookshelf! If you have any leads, please let us know at sawccyouth@gmail.com

TO FIGHT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

WE MUST FIGHT VIOLENCE AGAINST SEX WORKERS

because arrest and prison are a form of violence

because more policing of public space is dangerous for those of us that are already targets of police violence (black, indigenous and trans sex workers)

because displacing street-based sex work by criminalizing clients doesn't make it go away, but it makes us more vulnerable to predators

because workplace raids put those of us without citizenship in danger of deportation

because everyone deserves a safe workplace

because working in illegal worksites with no labour rights increases our vulnerability to gendered violence and wage exploitation

because those of us who turn to sex work out of limited options need more options! (a decent wage, affordable housing, citizenship), not lost income or prison

because the new laws (Bill-C-36) put in place to 'abolish the sex industry' will put our lives at risk and because we value women, men, trans and two-spirited peoples no matter how they make money...

WE SUPPORT THE INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST VIOLENCE AGAINST SEX WORKERS THIS DEC. 17th!



**South Asian Women's Community Centre
Centre communautaire des femmes sud-asiatiques**

1035 Rachel East (3rd floor A)
Montreal, Quebec
H2J2J5

Phone: 514-528-8812
Fax: 514-528-0896
Email: sawcc@bellnet.ca

www.sawcc-ccfsa.ca

Dec 5th—Commemoration event at SAWCC 2:00-4:00PM
Dec 8th—Info session on Family Budget (10:30AM)
Dec 13th—Year End Party
Dec 15th—Info session on cyber security (10:30AM)
Centre closed from Dec 21st, 2015 to Jan 1st, 2016

5 dec—commemoration au CCFSA 14-16H
8 dec—Session d'information sur le budget familiale (10H30)
13 dec—Fete fin d'année
15 dec—Session d'information sur la securité sur l'internet (10H30)
Le Centre sera fermé du 21 dec, 2015 au 1 jan, 2016

December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 
6	7	8 	9	10	11	12
13 	14	15 	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		