



For Immediate Release
June 7, 2012

Reported Domestic Violence Incidents on the Rise – Community Resources are Available

CALGARY – City police have discovered there has been a 13 per cent increase in reported domestic violence incidents within the last five years. This does not necessarily indicate domestic violence is on the rise but possibly that more people are willing to report domestic abuse and access the resources available to help them.

The Calgary city police work with many partners to address the issue of domestic violence including the Calgary Domestic Violence Collective (CDVC). The CDVC is a non-profit organization that collaborates with social non-profit agencies, funders, and governmental bodies that work together to end domestic and sexual violence.

Domestic and sexual abuse does not discriminate. It happens to both heterosexual and same sex couples. Victims can be young, old, of different ethnic or economic backgrounds, women, men and people with disabilities. There are many forms of abuse including: physical, emotional, psychological or sexual. Abusive behaviour is not acceptable. No one deserves to be treated badly.

Some signs of domestic abuse include:

- Controlling behaviour and ownership – eg: constantly phoning, or answering questions on behalf of victim.
- Short tempered –especially when jealous)
- A refusal to accept the end of the relationship.
- Hitting, punching and slapping.

There are many community resources to available. If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic abuse, please call the following 24-hour help phone numbers:

Connect Family & Sexual Abuse Network	(403) 237-5888 (Toll Free:1-877-237-5888)
24-hour Family Violence Helpline	(403) 234-SAFE (7233)
Family Violence Information Line	310-1818 (Toll Free)
Distress Centre	(403) 266-HELP (4357)

Media Contacts:

Lisa Falkowsky, Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter: (403) 589-4044

Kevin McNichol, HomeFront: (403) 206-2100 Ext. 223

Jean Dunbar, YWCA Calgary: (403) 294-3662

Andrea Silverstone, Peer Support Services for Abused Women: (403) 616-7673.

The CDVC works with community partners to provide a coordinated response to violence prevention in Calgary. Representatives include:

Peer Support Services for Abused Women, Discovery House, Brenda Stafford Chair in the Prevention of Domestic Violence, Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary
United Way of Calgary and Area, CONNECT Family and Sexual Abuse Network, Calgary and Area Child and Family Services, Alberta Child and Youth Services
HomeFront, Community Action Committee, Alberta Employment and Immigration, Alberta Mental Health, Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission, Alberta Council of Women's
Shelters, YWCA of Calgary, YWCA Banff, Brenda Stafford Society, Youville Recovery Residence for Women, Aventa Addiction Treatment for Women, Servants Anonymous Society
Sonshine Community Services, Awo Taan Healing Lodge, Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter, Community Crisis Society of Strathmore: Wheatlands Shelter, Rowan House Emergency
Shelters, Calgary Communities Against Sexual Violence, Kerby Centre, Chinese Community Response to Family Violence, Calgary Chinese Elderly Citizens' Association, Calgary Immigrant
Women's Association, Ethno-Cultural Council of Calgary, Jewish Family Service Calgary, Multiple Sclerosis Society, Calgary and Area Chapter, Legal Aid Alberta, Calgary Legal Guidance
Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family, Edan Counseling Associates, Calgary Counseling Centre, Distress Centre, Calgary Police Services, Community Corrections and Release
Programs Branch, Alberta Solicitor General, Calgary Sexual Health Centre, Developmental Disabilities Resources Centre of Calgary, AIDS Calgary Awareness Association
Women's Centre of Calgary