

City of Commerce City, Colorado



Proclamation



WHEREAS, the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women is in remembrance of the 14 young women that lost their lives On December 6th, 1989 at Polytechnique Montréal, an engineering school in Montreal, Quebec, Canada in a tragic, misogynistic and horrific act of violence; and,

WHEREAS, as we mourn the deaths, we must also remember all those who continue to be victims of gender-based violence and that this violence against women is an obstacle to the achievement of equality, development and peace, as recognized by the Commerce City Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission; and violence against women constitutes a violation of the rights and fundamental freedoms of women and impairs or nullifies their enjoyment of those rights and freedoms, and the long-standing failure to protect and promote those rights and freedoms must be corrected; and,

WHEREAS, violence against women is particularly concentrated with some groups of women, such as women belonging to minority groups, indigenous women, refugee women, migrant women, women living in rural or remote communities, destitute women, women in institutions or in detention, female children, women with disabilities, elderly women, and women in situations of armed conflict, are especially vulnerable to violence; and,

WHEREAS, we are called to remember these 14 women, and the countless other women who have been victims of violence: Geneviève Bergeron; Hélène Colgan; Nathalie Croteau; Barbara Daigneault; Anne-Marie Edward; Maud Haviernick; Maryse Laganière; Maryse Leclair; Anne-Marie Lemay; Sonia Pelletier; Michèle Richard; Annie St-Arneault; Annie Turcotte; Barbara Klucznik-Widajewicz; and,

WHEREAS, the City is encouraged to wear a white ribbon the whole month of December in honor of women and to observe a moment of silence at 11:00 am on December 6th, and participate in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence (November 25th - December 10th) to add your voice to the conversation on social media and share the ways you are being part of the solution to end gender-based violence by using the hashtag #16Days; and,

WHEREAS, on a larger scale, we can promote meetings and seminars with the aim of creating and raising awareness among all persons on the issue of the elimination of violence against women and cooperate with non-governmental organizations in addressing the issue of violence against women.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of Commerce City hereby proclaims the 6th of December 2022, as the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women Awareness Month and encourages everyone to promote a Commerce City free from gender-based violence where everyone educates themselves, their families, and their communities on gender-based violence, centers the voices of survivors in our actions, and speaks up against harmful behaviors.



In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed on the fifth day of December 2022.

CITY OF COMMERCE CITY, COLORADO

Benjamin A. Huseman, Mayor