## Community Organizations Unite in March against Gun Violence on Saturday, September 23rd

**TORONTO [September 22, 2023]** – On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, several community organizations and supporters will march against gun violence and its multiple impacts on our City. The community march will start at Yonge and Bloor at 2:00 p.m. and will be led by members of the Out to Ride Motor-Cycle Club, proceed south along Yonge Street and north on University Ave. to Queen's Park.

The march is in honour of the National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Homicide. People in Toronto face gun violence every day. Most particularly, communities, families and children living in poverty, and victims of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence, suffer disproportionately from gun violence. In Toronto, there have been <u>98 recorded cases of gun violence that have killed or injured this year</u>.

Community organizations participating in the march include:

- YWCA Toronto
- Gabe's Red Balloon Foundation

- Mending a Crack in the Sky
- Communities for Zero Violence
- Mothers of Peace
- HOPE
- Develop Me YouthZero Gun Violence Movement

We invite media to attend the community march on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> starting at Yonge and Bloor at 2:00 p.m. Speakers will begin their remarks at Queen's Park at 3:30 p.m.

WHAT: Community March Against Gun Violence

WHEN: Saturday, September 23, 2023 – 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. WHERE: Yonge and Bloor Street to Queen's Park

WHO: Community organizations and supporters – including families impacted by tragic violence

**WHY:** To build healthy communities that are resilient, can respond to the needs of those impacted by gun violence, and can support an end to gun violence, greater support for community-based organizations is needed.

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