

# ADVOCACY IN ACTION: OUR MISSION TO END INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



**JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup> 2022:** Culleton, Kuzyk & Warmerdam (CKW) Inquest is published, sharing 86 recommendations brought forth by a coroner's jury to address and end intimate partner violence (IPV). NOTE: YWCA Toronto was not part of the inquest process but followed along.

**JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup> 2023:** YWCA Toronto issues a statement condemning the province's rejection and a call to action for Mayor-elect Chow to declare IPV and GBV an epidemic in Toronto.



**JULY 10<sup>TH</sup> 2023:** Members of our YWCA Toronto team met with Mayor-elect Chow and discussed the urgency of declaring gender-based violence (GBV) an epidemic in Toronto, wherein she agreed to make this one of her first acts as Mayor.

**AUGUST 2023:** An IPV/GBV Working Group was struck, comprised of seven GBV organizations to support the needed action behind the City of Toronto declaration.

**DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> 2023:** On the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, we published an open letter signed by over 100 advocacy and service delivery organizations calling on the Ontario government to declare IPV and GBV an epidemic.



**SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> 2024:** The GBV/IPV Working Group co-hosted a GBV sector consultation at YWCA Toronto that brought together 70+ organizations, and City Council and City of Toronto staff representation to discuss the work that has been done to date and how we can ensure more meaningful action is taken to address this violence.

**NOW:** We remain committed in our efforts to address the epidemic of IPV and GBV and will continue to advocate for greater action from all levels of government.

**JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup> 2023:** The Ontario government rejects many of the CKW Inquest recommendations, including recommendation number one—declare intimate partner violence an epidemic.

**JULY 6<sup>TH</sup> 2023:** Endorsed An Urgent Call to Action for the City of Toronto to recognize IPV as an epidemic led by our GBV sector colleagues, Aura Freedom and Women's Habitat of Etobicoke.



**JULY 20<sup>TH</sup> 2023:** Toronto City Council unanimously passed a motion declaring IPV and GBV an epidemic in Toronto.



**NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> 2023:** YWCA Toronto hosted federal and provincial elected officials as they announced the federal government investment of \$162 million over four years to support the implementation of the National Action Plan to End Gender-based Violence in Ontario.

**APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup> 2024:** The Government of Ontario carried *Bill 173: Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic Act* through a second reading, recognizing what we have long known and been calling for them to name: intimate partner violence (IPV) is an epidemic. This bill was deferred to the Justice Policy Committee.

**DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> 2024:** On the 35th anniversary of the École Polytechnique Massacre, we brought together more than 150 gender-based violence sector and advocacy organizations to issue an open letter urging the Ontario legislature to prioritize and pass *Bill 173: The Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic Act, 2024*, without further delay.