



PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

World March of Women Regional Action: "WE RESIST TO LIVE, WE MARCH TO TRANSFORM!"

Magog, October 17, 2021 – As we celebrate the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty today, it is with conviction, creativity and solidarity that women's groups throughout Estrie and their allies gather at the Plage des cantons in Magog for the closing activities of the 5th International World March of Women (Marche mondiale des femmes, MMF). For over a year, we have brought our shared demands in the fight against poverty and the elimination of violence against women, for the rights of migrant, immigrant, racialized and Indigenous women, as well as for climate justice.

"Women take on the majority of unpaid labour that is crucial to our communities, and yet they are most likely to experience extreme poverty. In a society as rich as ours, this is unacceptable. We have more than enough at our disposal to do better," declared Rosalie Dupont, Representative for our *Poverty-related demands*.

Through this collective action, the Comité MMF – Estrie, coordinated by ConcertAction Femmes Estrie (CAFE) and the Coordination du Québec de la Marche mondiale des femmes (CQMMF) continues the fight for the rights of all women that was catalyzed by the international feminist movement for social transformation that is the MMF.

"In 1995, the Bread and Roses March against poverty and violence was the starting point for the World March of Women. It is beyond time for our society to put an end to the patriarchy!" asserted Viviane Doré-Nadeau, spokesperson from the Comité MMF– Estrie.

Our demands on behalf of Indigenous women are organized under the theme, "Sexual Assault and Violence against First Nations Women: Enough is Enough!" Simultaneous actions have been organized under this banner in every region of Quebec. The event will conclude with a moment of commemoration for Indigenous women and a celebration of the strength of Indigenous communities led by the group Flying Sturgeons, a men's drum group from the Abenaki community of Odanak.

"Every year, women stand up to multinational corporations and lose their lives in the fight to protect their lands. Indigenous women especially are at the forefront of the fight against deforestation and extractivism, while their families often don't even have access to clean drinking water," added Dominique Forget, Representative for our *Climate-Justice-related demands*.

In these trying times for feminists, with the wave of femicides that rocked Quebec, and a marked increase in intimate partner violence, it is our duty to work together, to resist to live and march to transform our society for a more just, egalitarian and violence-free world. This is what we have done, what we are doing, and what we will do, until the day arrives when all women are free!

- 30 -

For more information and interview requests:

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The Comité MMF-Estrie is a broad committee made up of community groups and individuals, coordinated by ConcertAction Femmes Estrie (CAFE), a roundtable for collective advocacy for women's rights. CAFE is a network that was created in response to needs for connection, consultation and solidarity. With its member groups, CAFE intervenes in a wide variety of fields including health, education, the fight against poverty and violence, social development, and access to decision-making bodies.