



Access to Justice Family Violence Prevention

Linda Rothstein – Chair, the Law Foundation of Ontario
Public Awareness Campaign Launch in Iqaluit

Hello and good day from Ontario.

I would like to start by saying thank you for the opportunity to celebrate the launch of this very important public awareness campaign.

The Ontario Law Foundation was pleased to support the Nunavut Law Society and Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada in their effort to improve the lives of Nunavummiut and eliminate violence in the home. We are here today, at the launch of this public awareness campaign, to break the silence on family violence in Nunavut.

The Ontario Law Foundations' Access to Justice Fund is a national funding source that provides grants for projects that involve more than one province or territory. This creates new and exciting opportunities for collaboration. Through this fund, the Law Society of Nunavut and Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada were able to come together to conduct research to better understand the legal barriers and needs of Inuit women dealing with family violence in Nunavut.

Access to justice is an ongoing concern for women facing family violence in Nunavut. There is a need to improve such access. Building awareness of legal and other supports available to those experiencing family violence is an important first step.

The Access to Justice Fund also provides funding to meet the public's legal needs through public legal education. As such, the Ontario Law Foundation, through the Access to Justice Fund, was able to also support this public awareness campaign.

This public awareness campaign aims to empower survivors to break the silence. It will give them the information, tools and resources they need to make decisions about their lives. With this information, Nunavummiut will better be equipped to help themselves and to support family members, neighbours, co-workers and friends experiencing family violence.

Standing together, let's break the silence on family violence and abuse in Nunavut.