



PACT-Ottawa

Persons Against the Crime of Trafficking in Humans
Personnes en Action Contre la Traite des Personnes

Media Advisory

Writing contest encourages youth to understand human trafficking

PACT-Ottawa launches **Writing Contest** for **End Slavery Day 2013** to engage students in talking about modern day slavery on a global scale

OTTAWA, Ontario, 15 October, 2013 – Young people in the National Capital Region are being encouraged to use their creativity to produce a written piece about the issue of human trafficking globally. The Writing Contest is launched today by PACT-Ottawa as a part of **End Slavery Day** being held on **December 2, 2013 at The Bronson Centre, Ottawa**. The aim is to raise awareness amongst students and young people of the realities of modern day slavery around the world, and to provide them with a platform to express themselves. The winner will be invited to perform his or her written piece at End Slavery Day 2013 in front of the audience.

Contestants are invited to submit a written piece on the topic of modern day slavery in a global context by **5pm, November 20, 2013**. The creative piece can be in the form of a poem, letter, song, short story, personal essay/memoir or film script/play and there is no word limit. The submissions will be judged by a committee who are looking for an original and sensitive approach to the topic. PACT-Ottawa believes that education amongst young people is crucial in the battle against human trafficking:

“We know that crime prevention through education is a major element in the fight against human trafficking. We want to harness the creativity and energy of young people in order to raise awareness of this issue and thereby contribute to combatting this crime.” *Spokesperson, PACT-Ottawa.*

As well as the opportunity to read their piece aloud, the winner will receive free entrance to End Slavery Day, and a gift from *Ten Thousand Villages*. The first runner-up prize consists of complementary admittance to the event and a gift from *Bridgehead*. The second runner-up will receive a gift basket of *Camino* chocolates and a complementary ticket for End Slavery Day.

Contestants are asked to submit their written piece in the form of a Word document attached to an email to events@pact-ottawa.org with the subject line “ESD 2013 Writing Contest”.

Tickets for End Slavery Day 2013 on Monday, December 2, 7pm are available from events@pact-ottawa.org.

Ends/

For more information please contact:

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End Slavery Day Coordinator

PACT-Ottawa

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About PACT-Ottawa

PACT-Ottawa is a registered non-profit organization committed to entrenching the protection of trafficked persons in Canadian law, and to securing the essential services that trafficked persons require to take back control of their bodies and their lives. Our organization's mission is to network with other groups to prevent the trafficking of persons and to increase the protection of those who have been trafficked.

For more information visit www.pact-ottawa.org, e-mail info@pact-ottawa.org, or call 613-875-PACT (7228).