



PACT-Ottawa

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

Media Advisory

PACT-Ottawa celebrates its 10th Anniversary

OTTAWA, Ontario, May 9, 2014 – PACT-Ottawa is proud to recognize 10 years of fighting against human trafficking in Ottawa, Canada and across the world. The celebration, along with the Annual General Meeting, will be held on Monday, May 12th at 7 p.m., at Shopify Inc. located at 126 York St. There is no entrance fee and the general public is welcome to attend.

“PACT has grown and flourished over the past decade, and we continue to be motivated to create awareness and educate about modern day slavery in our community in an effort to abolish it”, said Nikki Lewandowski, Chairperson of PACT-Ottawa. “It is a remarkable thing, to celebrate a milestone of an organization that was built out of nothing but the dedicated and persistent efforts of a group of passionate volunteers.”

Every year, thousands of men, women and children are victim to traffickers in their own countries and abroad. From the kidnapping of almost 300 girls in Nigeria sold into “marriage”, to teenage girls being trafficked right here in Ottawa and forced into prostitution; human trafficking is a grave violation of human rights.

PACT-Ottawa was formed in 2004, following an educational workshop in Ottawa called "Trafficking in Women and Children: A Lucrative Multinational Business. What is Our Response?" Since then, PACT-Ottawa has been working to raise awareness, prevent the trafficking of persons and to increase the protection of victims through education, advocacy, networking and support services.

PACT-Ottawa conducts a wide variety of education and public awareness initiatives at the local and national levels. These include presentations to school and faith groups, media interviews and commentaries, public events, and an extensive campaign targeting the ground transport industry. It also monitors and influences legislative and policy developments relating to human trafficking, through participation in parliamentary committees, conferences and workshops across Canada.

Ends/

For more information please contact:

Mike Redan

Associate Director, Communications

PACT-Ottawa

communications@pact-ottawa.org

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).