



PCAWA
PEEL COMMITTEE AGAINST WOMEN ABUSE

Take Back
the Night

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 13, 2023

RE: Take Back the Night in Peel

The Peel Committee Against Women Abuse (PCAWA) is excited to share about our upcoming Take Back the Night (TBTN) event in Peel Region. Take Back the Night is an annual anti-violence rally and march that is held to increase awareness and support of women and gender diverse person's right to live without the fear of violence, focusing on ending sexual violence.

"We are looking forward to coming together as a community to Take Back the Night and reclaim space that continues to be dangerous for women and gender-diverse individuals. It's a powerful evening of support, solidarity and advocacy." Rebecca Pacheco, Development & Education Manager, Embrace: Agency to End Violence

Take Back the Night 2023

When: Thursday September 21th, 2023

Where: Burnhamthorpe Library, 3650 Dixie Road, Mississauga

Time: 5:00 - 8:00 PM

The event will begin with a community fair at Burnhamthorpe Library that will include over 15 booths hosted by PCAWA member organizations. This is an incredible opportunity to stop by and learn about the supports and services these organizations offer to survivors of violence in our community.

We are excited to share that this year we are welcoming the Blackwood Gallery and artist and facilitator Clara Lynas to the event. Participants will be invited to silkscreen print an originally designed poster of strength and solidarity to carry during the march. In advance of Take Back the Night, the Blackwood Gallery and Clara will also be facilitating a participatory sign making workshop on the University of Toronto Mississauga Campus.

Participatory Sign Making Workshop

When: Thursday September 14th, 2023

Where: Outdoors at CCT Main Entrance, University of Toronto Mississauga - 3359 Mississauga Road

Time: 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Women, trans and gender-diverse folks will be invited to march together, sharing messages of strength, outrage and the need for systemic change. Cisgendered men will be invited to stay back at Burnhamthorpe Library to participate in a facilitated allyship activity led by Jeff Perera (he/him). Jeff has been talking about helpful versus harmful ideas of manhood since 2008 through speaking engagements across North America / Turtle Island and his online platform Higher Unlearning (where you can find his written posts, videos and TEDx talks).

Jeff invites men and young men to draw new maps to manhood together, and engages men in helping end gender-based violence.

“Take Back the Night is an important advocacy event in speaking out against gender-based violence. Given that gender-based violence has been declared an epidemic in Peel Region, we know that this is a widespread issue that our community needs to be talking about. Take Back the Night is a chance to raise awareness about this issue, and share important community resources with survivors in our community.” Andrine Johnson, PCAWA Co-Chair & Embrave CEO

We want to share a call to action to our community to show up and speak out against gender-based violence. It is not until each and every member of our community recognizes their role in ending gender-based violence that any significant progress will be made in preventing gender-based violence at a systemic level.

We also want to share a call to action to our media partners and allies to join us and cover this important community event. Media plays a key role in knowledge distribution and community outreach in sharing information about the key supports and services that are available to survivors in our community. **We want survivors in our community to know that they are never alone, and we are always here if they need us.**

If you are a survivor of violence in need of support, please contact Embrave: Agency to End Violence’s 24-hour Crisis Line at 905-403-0864 or 1-855-676-8515. You can also seek support from any of the PCAWA member agencies. Visit our website at www.pcawa.net for more information.

CONTACT

Rebecca Pacheco
Development & Education Manager
Embrave: Agency to End Violence
rebeccap@embrave.ca

About PCAWA

Founded in 1984, PCAWA is a cross-sectoral community collaborative of community members and organizations in Peel that have a shared goal of ending gender-based violence. For more information about PCAWA and Take Back the Night visit www.pcawa.net