

International

Women's Day

March 8, 2012



Equality

Empowerment

Progress

Achievement

Solidarity

**Celebrating the
achievements of women
across the globe**



International Women's Day

- International Women's Day is a global celebration of the economic, political, and social achievements of women past, present, and future.
- A global web of rich and diverse local activity - ranging from political rallies and business conferences, through to women's craft markets and theatre performances connects women from all around the world



History

- International Women's Day has been observed since the early 1900's, a time of great expansion and turbulence in the industrialized world that saw the rise of radical ideologies.
- The first International Women's Day events were held in Austria, Denmark, Germany & Switzerland in 1911.
- Today, it has become a global mainstream phenomena celebrated across many countries.



“ With more women in the boardroom, **greater equality in legislative rights, and an increased critical mass of women's visibility as impressive **role models** in every aspect of life, one could think that women have gained true **equality**.**



The unfortunate fact is that women are still **not paid equally to that of their male counterparts, women still are not present in **equal numbers** in business or politics, and globally women's **education, health and the violence** against them is worse than that of men.”**

Despite achievements and a
history of progress, globally
and locally women continue to
face gender-based
challenges and barriers.



**Rather than only serving as a
reminder of the negatives,
International Women's Day
focuses on the improvements that
have been achieved, striving to
celebrate positive change
and *inspire women.***



Women in Canada

- Women currently make up the majority of full-time students in most Canadian university faculties.
- The labour force participation rate for working-age women (15-64 years) has risen from 68.2 per cent to 74.3 per cent over the past decade (1997-2008).
- There has also been an increase in the share of women working in managerial positions. In 2007, 35% of those employed in managerial positions were women.



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