

July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010

We, the members of the Canadian Association of Sexual Assault Centres, stand in support of the call for public independent inquiry to review police conduct during the G20 Summit. We are deeply disturbed by the allegations made by women who were subject to police brutality and threats during the protests, and we believe that an investigation is crucial to upholding Canadians' rights and freedoms.

Women in Canada and in the world live with rape and the threat of rape, which is a universal reflection of the systemic inequalities and male power over women. As extensions of the Canadian government and law, the role of police is to protect citizens from men who use this tactic to control women, and violate women's rights and freedoms. We are disgusted with the reports that police used physical and sexual violence in their actions and threats against female protestors, and we view the abhorrent refusal for this inquiry into police conduct as a reflection of Canada's unwillingness to address women's equality and violence against women.

We too, urge the government to conduct a full review of police conduct in response to the public inquiry regarding police violence against women during the G20 Summit.

Yours respectfully,

Sarah Mah

Canadian Association of Sexual Assault Centres/

Association canadienne des centres contre les agressions à caractère sexuel (CASAC/ACCCACS )