PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Speak Your Truth!”

2nd Annual Women’s Rights Rally and Walk, Saturday 10th March 2018, 2 PM

In celebration of International Women’s Day, commemorated globally on the 8th of March, numerous organisations will partner to host a Solidarity Rally and Walk for Women’s Rights at the Queen’s Park Savannah (Opposite Whitehall) on Saturday 10th March, 2:00 - 5:30pm, under the theme “SPEAK YOUR TRUTH!”

“Last year’s theme, ‘Women’s Rights are Everyone’s Responsibility’, highlighted equality and justice as foundational to our nation and region,” says Dr. Gabrielle Hosein, CAFRA T&T member and Head of the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, The UWI St Augustine Campus. “This year’s theme, ‘Speak Your Truth’, empowers girls and women to fearlessly say what realities need to change so the nation and region will collectively commit to press for progress and advance social and economic rights which are yet to be guaranteed.”

We will gather starting at 2pm, and the walk around the Savannah will begin promptly at 3:30pm. Resources such as counselling services, legal advice, health services, and more will be available. The gathering space will be wheelchair accessible and the rally will include sign interpretation. If you have any specific needs, please do contact us via email at womensrightsrally@gmail.com.

The rally will be hosted by Nikki Crosby and feature a short programme with dynamic speakers and musical performances. NGOs, CSOs and other organisations listed below have partnered to organise this event. All are invited to join us! We have a big bold dream of ten thousand persons one day celebrating International Women’s Day (IWD) in Port of Spain, at the Queen's Park Savannah. We build upon the movement started with last year’s Life in Leggings Solidarity Regional March which included over 20 organisations and 600 persons who brought their messages and walked around the Savannah in a daring coalition speaking out against violence and injustice.

For this year, we move towards this dream by asking all interested persons and organisations to do the following:

1. Encourage at least 20 persons to participate.
2. Make and walk with your message on banners, placards, flags and/or shirts - speaking your truth.
3. Find/bring something to make noise while we walk. (drum, shak shak, tamborine, whistle).
4. Be ready to push off at 3:30pm but feel free to begin to gather and mingle from as early as 2:00 pm. (We aim to start on time and end by 5:30pm.)
5. Plan and walk with your own snacks and water in portable, reusable containers. (Zero Waste is our goal.)

We invite organisations and individuals to bring your concerns and messages for action and change. If you are unable to attend in person, you are invited to share solidarity messages on the International Women’s Day Trinidad and Tobago Facebook Page @IWDTrinidadandTobago or the event page for the Second Annual Women’s Rights Rally and Walk. For further details surrounding the event, please contact: Angelique Nixon 868-732-3543 or Tricia Basdeo 868-347-2462 or via email at womensrightsrally@gmail.com.

PARTNERS

Republic Bank, First Citizens Bank, WINAD, Family Planning Association T&T, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, British High Commission, The UWI IGDS and Faculty of Law, UN Women, T&T Olympics Organizing Committee and The Caribbean Association of National Olympic Committees, UNESCO Associated Schools Network T&T (UNESCO ASPnet T&T), UN Women, Wholeness and Wellness Counselling Services

868 Change, Soroptimists International, 2 Cents Movement, CAFRA T&T, CAISO, Deaf Empowerment and Advancement Foundation (DEAF), Fire Circle TT, Friends for Life T&T, I Am One TT, InterClub, Mamamto Resource and Birth Centre, Mothers Union, Network of NGOs, Office of the Prime Minister, Powerful Ladies of Trinidad and Tobago, Say Something T&T, Silver Lining Foundation, T&T Transgender Coalition, The UWI, Faculty of Law, The UWI, IGDS Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS), T&T Patriots for Justice, UWI Student Socialist Conference, Wholeness and Wellness Counselling Services, WOMANTRA, Women Everywhere, Working Women, others.

#pressforprogress #pressforgenderjustice #iwdtt2018 #speakupforgenderjustice