



## Press Release

### Beyond Ourselves: Girls and Young Women Dialogue

**Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup> 2013**

The federal minister for Public Works and Government Services, Hon Rona Ambrose will this Saturday launch a major project aimed at empowering girls and young women in Edmonton. Dubbed "Beyond Ourselves", the two-year project is a partnership between the government of Canada and Edmonton Multicultural Coalition. The project will be launched at the Grant MacEwan University at 2.30 pm. Mrs. Lynn Mandel (wife of City of Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel) and Multicultural Coalition president, Rosslyn Zulla will grace the occasion.

Prof Philomena Okeke of the University of Alberta will give a presentation entitled: *"The importance of working with and supporting girls and young women as a process of promoting their integration and social inclusion."*

"This project will help many girls overcome barriers of culture, language or gender inequality to fully take part in the socio-economic development of Edmonton," said Mrs. Dianna Mbari-Fondo, the Executive Director of Edmonton Multicultural Coalition.

**After official speeches, all delegated will be invited to participate in a very exciting rhythmic cultural dance.**

**Date:** February 9<sup>th</sup> 2013

**Time:** 2.30 – 5.00 pm

**Venue:** Grant MacEwan University

#### **Purpose of the event:**

- Create an opportunity for **Hon. Rona Ambrose, Minister of Public Works and Government Services to meet and greet girls/young women as she listens to the issues facing them**
- Discuss the challenges faced by emerging immigrants and refugee girls/young women and how these challenges affect their integration in Canada
- Discuss the importance of working with and supporting girls and young women as a process of promoting their integration and social inclusion

**This event is one of the activities in the Girls and Young women project funded by the Status of Women Canada grant.**



**For further information, please contact:**

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