

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

**RED UMBRELLA MARCH FOR SEX WORK SOLIDARITY
SEX WORKERS, ALLIES, FAMILY AND FRIENDS STAND TOGETHER**

Sex workers and their allies, families and friends are asked to come out and support sex workers in their Supreme Court challenge, *Bedford v Canada* that will be heard on June 13.

This event has been organized to show public support for Bedford, Lebovitch, and Scott in their courageous fight against Canada's unjust prostitution laws. In March 2012, The Ontario Court of Appeal upheld Ontario Superior Court Justice Himel's 2010 decision that the Criminal Code's bawdy house provisions are unconstitutional. Justice Himel also struck down Canada's pimping and communicating laws.

The rally will take place at the Vancouver Art Gallery (Robson St. at Hornby) at 2:30 p.m. and the march to Victory Square (Hastings & Cambie Sts.) will begin at 3 p.m. Participants are asked to bring a red umbrella or parasol: the symbol of the global sex workers' rights movement. You can dress up, wear a sexy costume, or wear red. Media camera crews are expected.

The march will be followed by a book launch at 5:30 p.m. (*Selling Sex: Experience, Advocacy and Research on Sex Work in Canada*) and a film screening at 7 p.m. (*Testimonial Cultures: Visibilité & Sex Work*) hosted at Pivot Legal Society (121 Heatley Ave.).

The Red Umbrella March is part of a national day of action, with similar events taking place in cities across Canada, including: Kingston, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver and Victoria.

Partners in organizing: Triple-X Workers' Solidarity Association of B.C., Downtown Eastside Sex Workers United Against Violence, Pivot Legal Society, Providing Alternatives, Counselling and Education Society, B.C. Coalition of Experiential Communities, FIRST: Feminists Advocating for the Decriminalization of Sex Work.

Visit TRIPLE-X.ORG or our Facebook event page for more details. Speakers will be available before the rally to answer questions from the media. To speak to a Triple-X spokesperson, call 604-488-0710.

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