



## NEWS RELEASE

May 7, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Men Raise \$15,000 in Support of the Women's Sexual Assault Centre**

VICTORIA – On Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, over 150 people turned out for the first annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event held at Centennial Square in Victoria. Based on the old saying: “You can’t really understand another person’s experience until you’ve walked a mile in their shoes,” the event invited men to literally walk one mile in women’s shoes to raise awareness and funds for the Victoria Women’s Sexual Assault Centre.

“We are absolutely thrilled at the turnout for the event. This being the first year the event has been held in Victoria, the amount of money raised and the excitement generated by the event exceeded our expectations,” said Tracy Lubick, Resource Development Officer for the Women’s Sexual Assault Centre.

Over \$15,000 was raised and, after the event, Swiftsure Drywall announced that they would match 10% of the donations by giving \$1,500 and they have challenged other primarily male-staffed companies to donate as well in hopes that their support will push the total funds raised for the event to over \$20,000.

Patrick Weir, Victoria Crown Counsel, was the top fundraiser for the day bringing in almost \$3,400. Other notable participants included Hudson Mack of the A Channel and nine young men from Pacific Hockey Development who ranged in age from 16 to 19 and raised nearly \$1,400.

The Women’s Sexual Assault Centre would like to extend a thank you to all of the participants, volunteers, sponsors and donors for making the event a huge success.

To make a donation, contact the Women’s Sexual Assault Centre at 383-5545. Visit [www.walk-a-mile-in-her-shoes.blogspot.com](http://www.walk-a-mile-in-her-shoes.blogspot.com) for photos and additional information about the event.