

## **Livia Stoyke Foundation hosts its first HealingArt silent auction of art and photography for the benefit of abused women and children in Edmonton**

**Edmonton, AB (November 1, 2006)** – The Livia Stoyke Foundation is hosting its first HealingArt silent auction of art and photography for the benefit of abused women and children in Edmonton on Wednesday, November 29, 2006 at the TELUS World of Science – Edmonton (11211-142 Street) from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m.

The festivities will include refreshments and a belly dancing show. Of course the main attraction of the evening will be a chance to support a great cause and own a piece of art and/or photography of well-known and up and coming Canadian artists. Celebrity artists include Robert Bateman, his wife, and Courtney Milne.

The HealingArt fundraising campaign is a timely event given that November is “FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH”. Speak out and take action against family violence! The existence of family violence in our community affects our safety, security, health and dignity. It affects our individual and collective ability to live free of fear. Violence related trauma destroys the trust relationship of the victim with themselves and the world. Family violence is everybody’s business and it’s every community member’s responsibility to seek change!

The Livia Stoyke Foundation offers an Art Therapy program which is a painting program provided to women who have left an abusive relationship and are now living in a women’s shelter. The effect of this program on these women is a powerful one. Scientific studies tell us that art heals by changing a person’s physiology and attitude. By giving the chance for the victims of abuse to immerse in creative activity and express themselves through art with the help of an artist/therapist to guide them, they can experience emotional healing, sense of well-being and spiritual growth.

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For further information please contact:

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