



**“You know your Facebook status...do you know your HIV status?”
World AIDS Day is December 1st – It’s time to update your status.**

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(Calgary, AB) – Every day people in Calgary use Facebook to share daily reports on the status of their lives, but do they know the status of their health?

The Calgary Coalition on HIV/AIDS (CCHA) encourages people to do their part to stay safe and healthy by updating their HIV status on World AIDS Day. On December 1st, 2010, confidential HIV testing will be offered from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Sheldon Chumir Health Centre, 1213, 4th St. SW. An Alberta personal health number is not required. HIV testing is a simple blood test offered free of charge.

“The Public Health Agency of Canada estimates that one-third of Canadians living with HIV are unaware of their HIV-positive status. We can’t make assumptions about who is living with HIV/AIDS and who is at risk. The changing face of HIV in our community includes everyone” says SHARP Foundation Executive Director Floyd Visser.

Since 2005 new HIV diagnoses in Alberta have risen by more than 30%. The majority of these new infections were in the Calgary region.

“HIV/AIDS is still an issue in our community” comments AIDS Calgary Executive Director, Simonne LeBlanc. “Getting tested for HIV on World AIDS Day is an opportunity to do your part in helping Calgary and the world to fight this 100% preventable illness.”

Help to fight HIV related stigma and prevent HIV transmission in our community by getting your free and confidential test on December 1st, 2010.

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The Calgary Coalition on HIV/AIDS (CCHA) is a community network of governmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in the Calgary region. Together, the coalition works towards a healthy community response to HIV and AIDS.

For more information, please contact:

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