

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**[free-them]**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Chatelaine Nominee Finalist for Canada's Women of the Year 2011 - Shae Invidiata, Founder of [free-them]**

Toronto, September 6th - Today, non-profit organization [free-them] announced that founder Shae Invidiata had been nominated by Canadian Women's Fashion Magazine Chatelaine as a Top Finalist for "Canada's Women of the Year 2011."

The award presented honours Canadian women under 30 years old for their achievements, influence and involvements in society in previous years, and recognizes the nominees as "the next generation of leaders in their fields".

Invidiata's nomination comes as a result of her imitative and dedicated work in bringing awareness of Human Trafficking - slavery today - and Sexual Exploitation in Canada and around the world. In October 2010, Invidiata directed the 1st Annual Walk for Freedom in Toronto. The monumental event was a great success drawing in over 300 participants, including Member of Parliament Joy Smith, who is Canada's leading politician that fights human trafficking in Canada, who marched through downtown Toronto in support of ending slavery today.

In Invidiata and her efforts through [free-them] support Mrs. Smith and her tireless efforts to strengthen Canada's Human Trafficking laws to protect our women and children. Invidiata and [free-them] helped to see Mrs. Smith's Bill C-268 receive Royal Assent in June 2010 which amended Canada's Criminal Code to prosecute traffickers caught trafficking minors with a mandatory minimum sentence of five years.

Again Invidiata is directing the [free-them] 2nd Annual Freedom Walk presented by Oliver & Bonacini Events at Toronto Board of Trade Sunday, September 18, 2011. "The Freedom Walk" is a part of a national and global campaign to bring awareness to the injustice of human trafficking.

This year [free-them] once again welcome honorable attendees: Member of Parliament Joy Smith, Sex Trafficking Survivor Timea Nagy, Constable Lepa Jankovic, Sex Trafficking Survivor Katarina MacLeod, Leading Founding Member of EVE Trisha Baptie, Sex Trade 101 Founder Natasha Falle, Miss Canada 2011 Tara Teng, and Canada's Women of the Year 2011 Chatelaine Nominee and [free-them] founder Shae Invidiata.

### **About Shae Invidiata and [free-them]**

Invidiata moved to the United States at 18 to pursue a degree in Advertising at Hawaii Pacific University, which is where her journey began in her fight against human trafficking. Seven years later, with an associates in Marketing from HPU and a BA in Religious Studies from The University of British Columbia, Invidiata works fulltime as a Sales Representative at The Invidiata Team - #2 RE/MAX Team worldwide 2010. In 2010, Invidiata officially founded [free-them], an initiative dedicated to raising awareness and funds to abolish human trafficking in Canada and abroad by partnering with people, organizations, & businesses to fight human trafficking - slavery today. Most recently Invidiata has been nominated by Canadian Women's Fashion Magazine Chatelaine as a Top 20 Finalist for "Canada's Women of the Year 2011". For more information about [free-them] and their ongoing efforts please visit their website at [www.free-them.net](http://www.free-them.net). For additional information about Invidiata's Chatelaine nomination, please visit [www.chatelaine.com/womenoftheyear](http://www.chatelaine.com/womenoftheyear)  
[www.freethem.ca](http://www.freethem.ca)  
[www.forfreedomssake.ca](http://www.forfreedomssake.ca)

### **About Freedom Relay Canada:**

Freedom Relay Canada is a nation-wide journey for justice organized by the Chrysalis Anti-Human Trafficking Network and Stop the Traffik in collaboration with NGO's across the country. It's objective is to raise awareness and funding for survivors of human trafficking and strengthen inter-provincial cooperation on this vital issue. For more information, please visit their website [www.freedomrelaycanada.com](http://www.freedomrelaycanada.com)

### **About SCTNow:**

Stop Child Trafficking Now is a non-profit 501(c)3 grassroots organization. SCTNow's innovative approach to shutting down the demand side of child sex trafficking has been as "the missing piece that is finally being put into place" to end child sex slavery. SCTNow's efforts will provide freedom for hundreds of young children who are ensnared in a life of slavery. The last two weekends in September walkers around the world, in over 50 cities, will also be walking to stop child trafficking with SCTNow. [www.sctnow.org](http://www.sctnow.org)