McMaster Annual Memorial Service

Every year, on or near December 6th, the Anti-Violence Network (AVN) hosts a commemoration service for the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

For more information on this service, and for more information on the AVN, please visit avn.mcmaster.ca

Joan Heimbecker Memorial

Location: Ivor Wynne Centre Lobby

Purpose: In remembrance of Joan Heimbecker (1968-1994) who was a graduate student in Department of Kinesiology and was a victim of domestic violence on campus. In addition to the plaque/photograph, there is an annual charity hockey game and a memorial scholarship.

Dedication date: 1994
Nina de Villiers Rose Garden

**Location:** Rose garden in the circle in front of University Hall

**Purpose:** On August 9, 1991, Nina de Villiers was abducted and murdered while jogging in Burlington by Jonathan Yeo, a man out on bail who had a long history of violence. The rose garden and commemorative stone were planted in memory of Nina de Villiers, a student at McMaster. It is a living and lasting tribute to Nina and others whose tragic and untimely deaths have touched the hearts of the McMaster community.

**Dedicated date:** September 15, 1993

**Initiated by:** the University, the MSU, and Nina’s mother, Priscilla de Villiers

Inscription on plaque reads:

The Nina de Villiers Garden. Dedicated on September 15, 1993 to Nina de Villiers, McMaster Student 1990-91. A joint effort of McMaster University, McMaster Students Union, and many friends, this Garden is a symbol of our commitment to harmony and respect of all. As the Garden renews itself, let it remind us of what we can do to make the world a better place.

Montreal Massacre Commemorative Stone

**Location:** Commemorative stone in front of the John Hodgins Engineering building (JHE)

**Purpose:** To commemorate the 14 female engineering students who were shot and killed by a gunman at l’École Polytechnique in Montreal on December 6, 1989

**Dedication date:** December 6, 1990 at the one year anniversary of the Montreal Massacre

**Initiated by:** The McMaster Engineering Society

Inscription on plaque reads:

The engineering community at McMaster University remembers the following:

Geneviève Bergeron, Hélène Colgan, Nathalie Colonna, Barbara Daigle, Anne-Marie Edward, Maud Haviernick, Barbara Marie Klucznik, Maryse Laganière, Maryse Leclaire, Anne Marie Lemay, Sonia Pelletier, Michelle Richard, Annie St-Arneault, Annie Turcotte.

Who lost their lives on December 6th, 1989 at École Polytechnique, Montreal.

Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women Memorial

**Location:** Stirling Avenue Entrance, Plaque and three white pine trees

**Purpose:** In remembrance of Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women across Canada.

**Dedication date:** December 6, 2016

**Initiated by:** McMaster Anti-Violence Network

Inscription on plaque reads: “In honour of our missing and murdered Indigenous mothers, grandmothers, daughters, sisters, aunties, nieces, cousins, partners, and friends. Your families, communities, and nations will tell your stories…”

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In honour of our missing and murdered Indigenous mothers, grandmothers, daughters, sisters, aunties, nieces, cousins, partners, and friends. Your families, communities, and nations will tell your stories…”