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From: mzscream@yahoo.ca
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Workers Day Dec.17
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Moulin Rouge Masquerade Fundraiser Invitation

On **Wednesday December 17, 2008** in celebration and solidarity of *International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers* the West Coast Co-op is hosting a Moulin Rouge Masquerade Fundraiser at the Royal Unicorn Cabaret located at 147 E. Pender in Vancouver.

Doors are at 7:00pm. Tickets are: \$20-\$200 and are available at: Pivot Legal Society—678 East Hastings, Flaming Angel Boutique—677 Seymour, or online at www.stilettostorm.com

Dress is Spectacular! Costumes and masks are encouraged. Come allow yourself to be enchanted by the Moulin Rouge! Where dance inspires and costumes dazzle and music pulls you into a fantasy world of masquerades and magic. The event will include Burlesque performances, dance by Stiletto Storm, a Bachelor Auction of some of Vancouver's Finest, a silent auction, and much more!

Sex workers face a disproportionate amount of violence due to current prostitution laws that criminalize sex workers. In Canada, an enormous number of

sex workers have been exploited, beaten, raped and killed. We believe that it is time for this kind of violence to stop.

On Feb.5, 2008, Canadian Sex Industry Workers made history and took control of their collective destinies as the West Coast Cooperative of Sex Industry Professionals officially became incorporated - Canada's first sex industry worker cooperative. "We hope this will be the beginning of healing for the sex industry community here in Vancouver and movement towards localized stabilization of sex industry workers through our cooperative model."-Susan Davis- Co-op Development Coordinator.

An application to the Cooperative Development Initiatives Fund (federal cooperatives secretariat) for start-up funding has been rejected and as a result Co-op plans have been put on hold. Once again we are the last in line and the first to be cut. As a result, the WCCSIP has decided to take matters into our own hands and raise the money the old fashion way. We have a great advisory board and structure and governance in place. We will treat the money and project as if we are accountable to an official/ government funding body.

Proceeds from Moulin Rouge will go to the **West Coast Cooperative of Sex Industry Professionals** for start-up costs for the following cooperative enterprises: Arts, Consulting, Publishing, and Catering. The other recipient will be **Pivot Legal Society** in their representation of a group of sex workers who are challenging the criminal laws relating to adult prostitution because the laws create discrimination, exploitation and danger for sex workers. Pivot is a human rights organization that takes a strategic approach to social change for those most marginalized.

We hope we can count on your support for these plans and invite you to attend our Moulin Rouge Masquerade Fundraiser to celebrate International End Violence Against Sex Workers Day. We will be launching our website and presenting two awards. For more information, to donate or volunteer please contact Ryann Rain at 778-847-3746 or ryann@stilettostorm.com.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Ryann Rain
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