



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
May 15, 2003

Mission, B. C. – The Safe OnLine Outreach Society is happy to announce that Executive Director, Merlyn Horton, was awarded the Myrtle Evertt, 2003 Outstanding Woman of the Year Award last night at the Club's Gala Dinner. This Award recognizes Horton's contribution to youth work, community education and activism regarding the sexual exploitation of children and youth.

The Myrtle Evertt Award is handed out by the Business and Profession Women's Club of Abbotsford and Mission each year to women who work towards the improvement of economic, employment and social conditions for women. The Club was established in 1987 and is part of the International Business and Professional Women's Club.

The Safe OnLine Outreach Society (SOLOS) is a charitable non-profit society that is attempting to respond to the alarming issue of child pornography and online sexual exploitation through education and awareness initiatives aimed at youth serving professionals, parents and youth.

During the first year of operation, Horton traveled to Scotland, Ireland and within Canada to deliver presentations and workshops to a wide variety of audience. Over 800 professionals saw presentations based on the "Introduction to Online Sexual Exploitation" curriculum.

Ongoing efforts of the Society include the development of youth focused material about life online and presentations to community groups, parents and the public. The SOLO Society is urgently seeking funding to continue working on this vital issue.

For more information:

Merlyn Horton, Coordinator
SOLO Project
(604) 832-0046
info@safeonlineoutreach.org
<http://www.safeonlineoutreach.org>

