

For Immediate Release

## One of Calgary's Bravest Men Steps Forward

Generous Financial Support Launches new Domestic Abuse Initiative at  
Calgary Counselling Centre

**Calgary, AB – May 10, 2006** – Alberta has the highest rates of domestic abuse in Canada and one of Calgary's Bravest Men has stepped forward to help alleviate this problem. Through a generous financial gift of \$125,000 from W. Brett Wilson, Managing Director and Chairman, FirstEnergy Capital, and his family, the Calgary Counselling Centre has formed the Wilson Centre for Domestic Abuse Studies.

The announcement will be formally made tonight at An Evening with Calgary's Bravest Men, hosted by the Calgary Counselling Centre at the Westin Hotel. It is a special dinner and gathering of Calgary's male business and community leaders and their equally visionary partners to open dialogue on the issue of domestic abuse.

The formation of the Wilson Centre for Domestic Abuse Studies will build community knowledge to better understand and deal with the issue, as well as provide treatment to men, women and children who have experienced abuse or those that use abuse in intimate relationships.

"This tangible financial contribution is greatly appreciated and will build the Centre's capability to meet the increasing community need for accessible, affordable and effective treatment for domestic abuse," says Robbie Babins-Wagner, CEO, Calgary Counselling Centre. "It will also build our capacity to produce meaningful research results on domestic abuse and provide a better community response to the problem."

"I'm not sure I would call myself one of Calgary's Bravest Men but I do know that men need to come forward and begin talking about this issue," says Brett Wilson. "Through my involvement with Calgary Counselling Centre, I know that people who have experienced domestic abuse can get professional help and go on to lead healthy, productive lives as individuals and families."

"We've been providing counselling services in this community for 44 years. And in that time, we've had approximately half a million people come through our doors in search of a better life," says Babins-Wagner. "We were the first to provide counselling services for those dealing with abuse issues a quarter century ago and now, with the support of the Wilson family, we are positioned to provide opportunities to learn, to help, and to grow over the next quarter century."

For more information on the Calgary Counselling Centre, visit [www.calgarycounselling.com](http://www.calgarycounselling.com).

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