



# Media Advisory Avis aux médias



For immediate release

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## **GRANDMOTHERS RINGING THE BELL FOR DEMOCRACY; URGE SENATE TO QUICKLY PASS BILL C-393**

*Liberal Senator Roméo Dallaire and Conservative Senator Nancy Ruth call on colleagues to do the right thing in support of accessible medicines for all*

The campaign to fix Canada's Access to Medicines Regime — so that more affordable life-saving medicines can get to developing countries — has one more round to go. But time is running out. MPs voted in favour of Bill C-393 (172 for and 111 against) at third reading on March 9th. Bill C-393's passage in the House of Commons means it must now be passed by a majority vote in the Senate — and this must happen before Parliament is dissolved, which could happen within days. If an election is called before Bill C-393 passes through the Senate and receives Royal Assent, the bill will die on the order paper — for a second time.

Fortunately, the Senate's procedures allow for it to pass Bill C-393 this week. It is up to the Senators to pass this humanitarian legislation quickly.

### **Who:**

- **Andrea Beal, National Advocacy Committee, Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign**
- **Senator Roméo Dallaire (Liberal Party of Canada)**
- **Senator Nancy Ruth (Conservative Party of Canada)**
- **Richard Elliott, Executive Director, Canadian HIV/ AIDS Legal Network**
- **Rachel Kiddell-Monroe, President, Universities Allied for Essential Medicines**

**What: Press conference to highlight the moral and political responsibility of Senators to deal quickly with Bill C-393**

**Where: Charles-Lynch Press Conference Room, Centre Block of Parliament**

**When: Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 a.m. EDT**

**Why: To urge Senators to quickly pass Bill C-393**

***Note: Additional photo opportunity Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1 pm in front of Centre Block on Parliament Hill as grandmothers carrying large bells signal to Senators that time is running out for Bill C-393 and for those who are dying for lack of affordable medicines in developing countries.***

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For additional information on Bill C-393: [www.aidslaw.ca/camr](http://www.aidslaw.ca/camr)