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Canadian Federation For Citizenship

Accelerating Progress by Addressing Barriers to Leadership and Democratic Participation

#CSW69

# Canadian Federation For Citizenship



## Mission

The Canadian Federation for Citizenship (CFC) is a non-partisan, non-sectarian and non profit organization which aims to engage citizens of Canada to develop homegrown leadership through active citizenship.

## Vision

To be a prominent voice on active and inclusive citizenship as one of Canada's civil society leaders

# Parallel Event Topic and Description



## **Accelerating Progress By Addressing Barriers To Leadership And Democratic Participation**

In a democratic society, it is necessary to display a fair distribution of men and women at all levels of decision making to yield better outcomes.

**Evidence shows that barriers such as limited access to mentors and networks, lack of flexible work arrangements, harassment and discrimination, have limited women's participation and advancement in leadership roles.**

Examples of programs and policies that have promoted inclusion to speed up advancement.

**These initiatives, when applied in workplaces, boardrooms, and in society have upheld human rights and created safe spaces for newfound ideas to take root.**

**"We Can Accelerate Progress"**

# **Gender Inequalities Remain Deeply Rooted In Every Society**



**Women lack access to decent work and face occupational segregation and gender wage gaps.**

**Women are too often denied access to basic education and health care.**

**Women suffer violence and discrimination.**

**They are under-represented in political and economic decision-making processes.**

**Lack of Access, Being Treated Unequally, Living with Pain, Suffering and Loss of Control causes one to feel excluded and contributes to disengagement.**

**It is this disconnection that leads to withdrawal leaving one in a weak position.**

# The Current Context that We Live In...



**We are highly unlikely to meet the global goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030.**

**Almost 600 million people are still living in extreme poverty.**

**The global pandemic affected access to health care and forced us to focus on our fragile systems, exhausted infrastructure, and highlighted the necessity for innovation.**

**Humanity has always been on the move. However today, more people than ever before live in a country other than the one in which they were born in.**

**When one cannot meet their basic needs and institutional mechanisms are failing to protect them, then one feels ignored and mistreated.**

**Trust is eroded in the very systems and institutions that are supposed to protect and defend them.**

**Trends in global mobility have evolved but international rules and definitions have not changed since World Wars I and II**

# Upholding Human Rights Requires Coordination



**Gender equality, as a basic human right cannot be attained independently.**

**It requires a whole of society approach, a whole of government approach, and a whole of business approach.**

**There needs to be a universal approach to achieving equality for all genders and for all peoples.**

**Where is the leadership that is calling for coordination and collaboration?**

**Coordination requires bringing people together, managing them, and listening to new ideas.**

**How can governments, businesses and civil society organizations merge based on universal values and belief systems to protect basic human rights?**

# Can We Organize? Can we Unify.... In this Chaos?



**Reaching our fullest Human Potential requires Organization.**

**This means that we need to be unified across the board in the belief that:**

**Every Human has the Right to reach his or her Full Potential, and that,  
Together we can Systematically Create and Normalize Opportunities to Participate and Lead.**

**Levelling the playing field creates a sense of belonging and invites participation.**

**Participation leads to opportunities to lead.**

**True leaders will create more leaders.**



# Organization and Coordination



## Scenarios

**How Organization and Coordination can come Together**

# **Decades of Hard Work have Included New Actions**



**Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action**

**Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**

**In 2010**

**The United Nations General Assembly created UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, to address such challenges.**

# **Multiple Perspectives Are Needed to Rise Collectively**



**Safe and Inclusive spaces must be created for newfound ideas to take root.**

**Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have the power to bind people together in a common aim.**

**CSOs have proven skills and talents, formed important partnerships, carried out numerous projects successfully and have experience in fundraising.**

**They have done this across industries, sectors, cultures, races and religions.**

**We know what it means to organize and coordinate with multiple views and outlooks.**



**Thank You!**  
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