



Toward Parity in Municipal Politics Webinar-Based Consultation

Tuesday, March 5, 2019
10:30 am - 12 noon
Hosted by FCM and UBCM

Agenda

- 10:30 - 10:40 am ***Introductions and Purpose*** – Mayor Maja Tait, District of Sooke
UBCM First Vice President
- 10:40 - 11:00 am ***Overview of the Toward Parity Project*** – Stephanie Hoey, Project Manager,
Toward Parity in Municipal Politics, Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
- 11:00 - 11:40 am ***Facilitated Discussion*** led by Stephanie Hoey
1. Prioritization of critical barriers on women’s participation in municipal government
 2. What key actions or initiatives that can be undertaken to address the top one or two barriers on:
 - a. Individual level
 - b. Municipal / Local level
 - c. Regional level (Provincial or sub regional level)
 - d. National level (umbrella organizations such as FCM)
 3. Identification of tools, policies, training and other mechanisms to effectively support the proposed initiatives.
- 11:40 - 11:50 am ***Empowering Women for Political Action*** – Rebecca Bateman
- Report out from the *Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women* and *Women Transforming Cities* on a three-year project to identify and recommend solutions to barriers to the participation of women.
- 11:50 - 12 noon ***Next Steps and Concluding Remarks*** – Mayor Tait

Briefing Note: Toward Parity in Municipal Politics

Objectives of the Status of Women Canada – FCM Project:

Toward Parity is aimed at achieving parity in municipal politics (or at least 30% by 2026). Moving toward this goal requires the input of those within the municipal sector to help frame the key barriers to women in politics and exploring the opportunities for change. Consultation is a critical element to the project and are fundamental to the drafting of a pan Canadian action plan on where engagement, support or intervention will be important.

Objectives of the Consultation Phase:

- Hear from a broad representation of municipal representatives from diverse contexts about the barriers to women's participation
- Explore "what success might look like"
- Identify and elaborate on potential actions to address them
- Gather any local initiatives or activities that are complementary to the project's goal
- Explore and identify potential regional champions in the promotion of women in municipal politics

Background

Toward Parity in Municipal Politics, is a 30-month FCM project, funded by the Status of Women Canada. Implemented in partnership with the Provincial and Territorial Municipal Associations, Equal Voice and the Canadian Women Foundation is building on past projects and current momentum towards greater equality in the municipal sector.

The project has three main objectives:

- 1) Develop a pan-Canadian strategy to address some of the barriers face by women in municipal politics
- 2) Increase linkages between women's organizations and municipal councils to find locally grown solutions to issues in their communities
- 3) Develop a knowledge portal for tools supporting women's participation, involvement and understanding of municipal politics can easily be found

The project has three stages:

- 1) Broad consultation on the barriers
- 2) Refining the consultations down to draft a pan-Canadian action plan.
- 3) Mobilising support for change through action including small demonstration projects and initiatives that will be showcase how different communities can and have been addressing these issues using local flavour and expertise.