



Hon. Tracy MacCharles  
Minister of Children and Youth Services  
Minister Responsible for Women's Issues  
56 Wellesley Street West  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M5S 2S3

December 7, 2015

Dear Minister MacCharles,

On behalf of Ontario Council of the Canadian Federation of University Women, I would like to express our appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the 2015 Summit "It's Never Okay" Sexual Violence and Harassment.

The provincial emphasis on issues that affect women and society at large, has been made clear through the spring consultations where CFUW Ontario Council clubs made submissions, to this Summit, which has brought together exceptional speakers presenting various perspectives and issues.

The voices of the women were powerful in the sharing of personal stories and challenges. What courage they have in the telling, feeling supported and secure in our presence. Too many stories and too many tears over decades, how can we not be moved to ensure Violence Against Women and Girls is stopped.

CFUW Ontario Council applauds the Ontario Strategy on Sexual Violence and Harassment and urges the provincial government to move swiftly to pass and implement these proposed pieces of legislation.

CFUW Ontario Council is composed of 54 clubs within Ontario, comprised of members living in urban and rural areas across Ontario. We are non-partisan, nonsectarian, a voluntary, self-funded, non-governmental organization. Our members are active in public affairs, advocating on public education, justice, health and environmental issues as well as the status of women and human rights. Ontario Council is part of the Canadian Federation of University Women which is the largest affiliate of the International Federation of University Women.

May we all work together as we strive to end Violence Against Women and Girls, improve the lives of people in Ontario, and create healthy communities.

Sincerely

Brenda Robertson  
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Canadian Federation of University Women  
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cc Premier Kathleen Wynne  
cc Hon. Minister Madeleine Meilleur Attorney General