FOR ADVOCACY ACTION

A consolidated summary of currently actionable CFUW adopted resolutions 1964-2023

What this is?

This is a summary of useful adopted resolutions that could be valuable for advocacy action at this point for club, provincial councils and national use.

This collection highlights current National Priorities and other relevant issues. As well the summaries might provide some suggestions for wording for letters and emails if this is needed.

This is **not** the complete collection of resolutions as found in the *CFUW Adopted Resolutions Book* which is the official listing of all adopted resolutions, since 1964. This is instead a summary of those adopted resolutions where action is needed.

The summary here is sufficient to give CFUW members direction for their action. If you require more information, please consult the *CFUW Adopted Resolutions Book* for the details of the adopted resolution, using the title and date that are included with the summary for searching purposes.

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General / Multifaceted

CFUW has adopted some resolutions that are comprehensive and interdependent and continues to support:

- The development of a comprehensive Post-Pandemic Socioeconomic Recovery
 Plans including specific interventions addressing women such as the care economy,
 racism, the shadow pandemic of domestic violence, small businesses. (PostPandemic Recovery for Women in Canada and Abroad 2021)
- Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations September 25, 2015
 (Sustainable Development Goals, also known as Global Goals 2016)
 - 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
 - 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
 - 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
 - 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
 - **4.4** increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.

UN Action Tracks for Education:

- 2: Learning and skills for life, work and sustainable development
- 4: Digital learning and transformation
- 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
- 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

- 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.
- The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women. (CEDAW - 1981)
- The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966 which came into effect in Canada 1976 (Homelessness and Poverty 1999)
- Multiple UN Conventions, including the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (UN Conventions – 1965)

Child Care and Early Learning

Child care and early learning is a fundamental core belief of CFUW, assisting parents, especially women, to return to work, and young children to develop fully. CFUW supports:

- quality, universally accessible and comprehensive early learning and child care
 program which emphasizes the development of the whole child. Funding for this
 initiative should involve all levels of government through cost-sharing
 mechanisms, as in other human services such as health, education and social
 programs. (Early Childhood Education and Care 2006)
- that provincial and territorial governments ensure increased financial support for quality day care, including day care for infants, private home day care, lunch and after-school programs, as well as licensed day care centres. (Child Care – Increased Financial Support – 1978)

including in its National Strategy on Child Care:

- national and well-defined standards and criteria:
 - a safe and healthy environment,
 - o parental participation in decision-making,
 - o approved child/staff ratios, and
 - inspection and licensing of all facilities; and

 Provincial / Territorial governments to ensure that salaries be consistent with professional training, experience and responsibility (Child Care – Standards and Criteria – 1988)

Children

The security of our children is fundamental to society, for that reason CFUW supports:

- the establishment of an independent federal Children's Commissioner with the necessary human, technical and financial resources to implement and monitor Canada's compliance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. (The Need for a Federal Commissioner for Canada's Children – 2013)
- the creation and enforcement of laws that prohibit the use of sexualized images of prepubescent and adolescent children in media, along with the allocation of resources to support:
 - a nation-wide education program designed to raise Canadians' awareness of the hyper-sexualization of children – especially girls – in advertising, commercial products, and mass media,
 - programs that expose the relationship between hyper-sexualization and gender inequality in society. (Hypersexualization: Countering Exploitative Child Images – 2013)
 - an amendment to the Criminal Code and the Department of Health Act (Security of the Child) to give children the same rights to personal security and protection from corporal punishment which society extends to other citizens in keeping with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the United National Convention on the Rights of the Child (Personal Security Children – 1999)

Culture and Information

CFUW supports:

- The funding and support of:
 - all libraries and archives allowing them to serve the public and the scientific and cultural communities in order to support information requirements and the preservation of historical records. (Improved Funding for Canadian Libraries and Archives 1993)
 - a strong independent national public broadcasting system which provides Canadians with a knowledge and understanding of one another and a vital sense of our Canadian identity and culture; which provides quality

Canadian programming in all regions of Canada, without excessive reliance on commercial sponsorship and control, and includes editorial freedom. (Public Broadcasting 1999)

 Legislation to prohibit monopolies within the print/electronic media safeguarding the diversity and freedom of expression in Canadian press; a ministry to monitor practices that violate the Canadian Copyright Act and the ownership of copyright by freelance contributors. (Print/Electronic Media Business Practices 1997)

Education

As education is one of CFUW's core values, CFUW supports:

- Public education and its funding as a key priority including the provision of high quality public elementary and secondary education (Public Funding of Public Elementary and Secondary Education – 2003)
- Funding at all levels of education also including:
 - Effective debt relief programs for post-secondary students (Student Debt 2008)
 - An approved development plan for universities in teaching and research including long term budget commitments (Planning for Universities – 1991)
- Equitable access to provincial and territorial curricula and social justice education for all children particularly in support of home schooling. (Equitable Access to Provincial Curricula and Social Justice for All Children – 2018)
- The promotion of information literacy and the fundamental role of school libraries, with qualified teacher-librarians, in the teaching of information literacy skills (School Libraries and Achieving Information Literacy – 2004)
- Inclusion of the following subjects in education curriculum:
 - HIV/Aids age-appropriate HIV/AIDS education (Promoting HIV/AIDS Education in Canada – 2007)
 - The development and implementation of a citizenship education curriculum in each province and territory. (Promoting Citizenship Education in Canada – 2006)
 - ESL/FSL The creation and funding of a national and equitable support for the integration of immigrant and refugee children and their families into the school system including dedicated ESL/FSL programs, including children born in Canada (Improving English/French as a Second Language through Dedicated Funding and Upgraded Support Services – 2006)
- Student well-being including:

- Public awareness of the negative effects of excessive hours of part-time work during the school year on students' health and well-being (Fatigued Students and Health – 2005)
- Placing a greater emphasis in school on the social impact of the electronic media in order that children obtain the greatest benefit and suffer the least harm from extensive exposure (Electronic Media and Schools – 1978)

Employment Equity

CFUW first called for Equal Pay for Equal Work in 1920. Since that time, CFUW has supported and continues to support:

- The principle of equal pay for work of equal value and the enactment of legislation, encompassing this principle. (Equal Pay – Work of Equal Value 1986)
- All levels of government strengthening of employment by, but not limited to, amending relevant legislation and agreements and broadening the application of equity policy and special measures to ensure equitable barrier-free workforce participation. (Strengthening Employment Equity – 2022)

And other employment equity concerns:

- Collaborative remedies to address the underrepresentation and lack of retention of women in skilled trades and non-traditional occupations by creating an inclusive workplace. (Retention and Promotion of Women in Skilled Trades and Non-Traditional Occupations 2012)
- Legislation that ensures employees the right to work in an environment free of psychological harassment; and requires employers to ensure that procedures are in place to prohibit and address all forms of workplace-related bullying or psychological harassment, (Psychological Harassment in the Workplace 2008)
- Equity within universities, by legislation, for hiring qualified women in tenured and tenure-track positions with gender bias removed from recruitment, promotion and tenure; with pay and benefits for sessional or adjunct faculty proportional to that paid to similarly qualified tenured or tenure-track faculty; with relevant statistics published annually. (Women Faculty 1991)

Environment and Climate Change

Environmental and climate change issues are of significant concern to CFUW members, and to the world as a whole. A summary of the environmental issues that CFUW supports is as follows:

That Clean, Healthy and Sustainable Environment as a Human Right, as adopted by the United Nations September 2022, should have constitutional recognition. (A Clean Healthy & Sustainable Environment is a Human Right – 2022)

• Climate Change including:

- The declaration of a climate emergency by provinces, territories, municipalities and other community groups and organizations. (Climate Emergency – Declarations and Actions Plans – 2020)
- The implementation of national, comprehensive and predictable carbon taxes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the adoption of carbon taxes as the centre of a robust Canadian climate action plan. (Reducing Climate Change Through the Use of Carbon Taxes – 2015)
- The development of mitigation and adaptation strategies to address the negative impacts of climate change on people and communities particularly vulnerable populations, including women (Climate Change: Mitigation, Adaptation and the Inclusion of Women – 2012)
- Controlling the idling of motorized vehicles for the protection of human health and the environment. (Reducing Idling of all Motorized Vehicles – 2011)
- The creation of a national climate action plan that sets strong short-term targets for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the provision of ongoing support for research and education concerning all aspects of climate change. (Addressing Climate Change: Greenhouse Gas Emissions – 2009)
- The protection of, and funding for this protection, wildlife species at risk, including their habitat. (Endangered Species – 1999)
- The sustainment of our forests and wilderness areas by enforcing the use of effective, sustainable methods of reforestation and rehabilitation of forest land and strengthening legislation regarding parks and protected areas.
 (Sustainable Forestry – 1997)
- The requirement for legislation that requires 10% content by volume of ethanol in all gasoline sold for motor vehicles. (Ethanol Blended Gasoline -1992)
- Government investment in public transportation that ensures frequent, reliable, convenient, affordable and universally accessible service; the

- creation of incentives to encourage greater use of mass transit and discourage the use of private vehicles. (Public Transportation 1992)
- The implementation of a moratorium on the sale and use of the neonicotinoid class of pesticides and the conducting of scientific studies on the effects of the neonicotinoid class of pesticides to be made available for public review. (Saving Our Pollinators and Our Environment – Moratorium on the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides – 2015)
- The establishment by government of a standard system of identification of wetlands worthy of preservation and statutory protection. Increased support for research on wetlands and public awareness of the vital importance of wetlands. (Preservation of Wetlands 1990)
- Waste management including:
 - The implementation and follow-up of the Canada-wide Action Plan on Zero Plastic Waste. (Single-Use Plastics and Plastic Packaging – 2021)
 - The creation of "right to repair" legislation, making the repair of large household appliances used in Canada easier. ("Right to Repair" for Large Household Appliances – 2021)
 - The protection of the health of Canadians by reducing their exposure to environmental toxins by strengthening and enforcement of regulations, by producer responsibility at every stage of product life, and the promotion of public awareness and education regarding toxins. (Protecting the Health of Canadians by Reducing Environmental Toxins – 2009)
- Managing our Water Resources including:
 - The protection of our water resources, belonging to the Canadian public, and that water use be regulated in the long-term public interest to promote conservation and more efficient use of surface water and groundwater. (Canadian Water – 2001)
 - The enactment of legislation to establish quality standards for ground and surface drinking water, to require immediate public notification of instances of water contamination and to require the inclusion of safe water provisions in Emergency Planning Canada. (Drinking Water Quality – 1988)

Finance and Pension

In order to have sufficient funds for retirement, as well as knowing how to handle those funds and general finances, CFUW supports:

Encourage the chartered banks, and credit unions to facilitate short-term loans.
 (Payday Loans – 2020)

- The creation of additional CPP/QPP policies compensating those whose pension contributions are reduced due to child rearing and/or care giving of family members. (An Enhanced Canada Pension Plan – 2014)
- A national strategy for financial literacy that recognises "Financial Literacy" as an essential life-skill. (Promoting Financial Literacy in Canada – 2009)
- Non-profit, co-operative and affordable housing programs and the establishment of comprehensive plans for land use which guarantees affordable housing within community developments. (Affordable Housing - 1992)
- A program which would enable persons who personally care for a sick, aged or disabled dependent to be able to pay into the Canada Pension Plan (with the Government of Canada contributing the employer's portion) and allow for a modified income tax to pay for these contributions. (Caregivers Pension Remuneration – 1992)
- Amendments to the Canada Labour Code to ensure that permanent part-time
 workers have access on a pro-rated basis to all fringe benefits and pension plans
 provided to full-time workers including the ability to draw partial pensions while
 working part-time. (Permanent Part-Time Workers 1981)

Food and Food Security

CFUW supports the creation of a national food security policy:

 to ensure an affordable, accessible, nutritious, safe, and sustainable food supply for all, and the development of urban and rural food production opportunities, including the preservation of agricultural land for food production (*Ensuring Food Security in Canada 2012*)

Gender-Based Violence

CFUW supports taking appropriate steps to prevent violence against women and children (*Prevention of Violence Against Women – 1992*)

- Including:
 - The funding, development and implementation of action plans to end Violence against Women in Politics. (Violence Against Women in Politics – 2022)
 - → Amendments to the Criminal Code of Canada to protect victims of Intimate Partner Violence by strengthening bail laws. (Strengthening Bail Laws to Protect Victims of Intimate Partner Violence – 2022)

- The provision of exit strategies in the form of safe housing, health services, trauma counselling, and all the other services required for successful exiting for prostituted and trafficked women and girls. (Enforcement of the Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act – 2020)
- The development by governments of a coordinated strategy on Bullying and Cyberbullying by: raising awareness and training educators and counsellors, providing educational programs for parents regarding antibullying strategies and by urging the government to implement the recommendations of the December 2012 Standing Senate Committee on Human Rights report on "Cyberbullying Hurts: Respect for Rights in the Digital Age". (Bullying and Cyberbullying 2013)
- Protecting against sexual exploitation by: supporting the World Declaration Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Stockholm, Sweden, 1996, enforcing legislation to prohibit international sex tourism to foreign destinations from being organized in Canada and developing and supporting educational programmes to raise public awareness of sexual exploitation (Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children – 1997)
- Ensuring Women's Safety on Post-Secondary Campuses by: conducting safety audits, establishing close links with equity offices and women's committees and by urging government grants for violence research and safety measures. (Women's Safety on Post-Secondary Campuses – 1993)
- Violence prevention education to promote zero tolerance to violence for Canadian women that includes: a multimedia education campaign; working with relevant professions and community groups and with services for abused women and children and ensuring that the community has adequate resources to accommodate the demand for services for abused women and children resulting from the increased education on violence. (Violence Prevention Education – 1992)
- Decreasing pornography by
 - Developing effective policy to limit children's ability to view pornography using internet or mobile technologies. (Protecting Children from Exposure and Access to Pornography and Sexual Violence on the Internet – 2020)
 - Urging the Government of Canada to implement the 52 recommendations of the Report of the Committee on Sexual Offences Against Children and Youth, better known as the Badgley Report (Badgley Report on Pornography – 1985)

Government

Canada's system of government, along with the Constitution, is important to CFUW members therefore CFUW supports the following:

- The end to provincial and territorial contracts with the Canadian Services Border Agency for the purpose of detention of immigrants in correctional facilities and the collaboration among all levels of governments to develop, fund, and utilize alternative options of monitoring immigrants that treat them with dignity and respect. (Immigration Detention in Canada – 2023)
- An increase in the number of vetted refugees and asylum seekers accepted into Canada supported by an efficient and effective refugee claims system and the suspension of the Canada/US Safe Third Country Agreement. (Fair and Non-Discriminatory Management of Refugees and Asylum Seekers – 2018)
- Electoral reform by adopting a proportional representation model to ensure that each party's share of the seats in Parliament reflects the popular vote. (Electoral Reform – Changing the First Past the Post Electoral System to Proportional Representation in Canada – 2016)
- Electoral reform for federal elections, in consultation that guarantees fairness and impartiality in voting and encourages more voter participation. (Fair Elections for Canada – 2014)
- The promotion of activities and programs to educate all Canadians about the importance of participating in our democratic system of government.
 (Preservation of Democracy: Increasing Voter Turnout – 2014)
- The unique character of Quebec society in Canada and that Quebec remains a province of Canada. (Renewed Federalism – 1997)
- The deletion of Section 33 (1-5), better known as the notwithstanding clause, of the 1982 Constitution Act, or the provision of any other, which may override the fundamental freedoms, legal rights and equality rights of the Charter. (Human Rights -1982)

Health

CFUW supports quality health care and preventive health care programs which are universal, accessible, comprehensive, portable and publicly administered and that all reforms to the health care system incorporate these five principles of Medicare as outlined in the Canada Health Act (1984). CFUW supports the following:

 a model to collect and analyze consistent disaggregated and anonymized data about maternal deaths and close calls, and to share those data in confidential form with relevant groups and the development of a comprehensive maternal

death prevention strategy. (Towards a comprehensive maternal death prevention strategy – 2023)

- Action by governments to address Canada's opioid crisis as outlined in the December, 2020 Government of Canada document, "Federal Actions on Opioids to Date". (Canada's Opioid Crisis – 2021)
- National standards for "medically necessary care" in order to maintain the integrity of the Canada Health Act. (Canada Health Act and National Standards for Medically Necessary Care Across Provinces and Territories 2020)
- Universal Pharmacare, a publicly funded and financially sustainable drug plan that would cover medically necessary prescription drugs for all Canadians, regardless of their ability to pay. (Universal Pharmacare - 2017)
- a mental health strategy for Canada that promotes mental health, prevents mental illness and responds to the needs of those suffering from mental illness through access, research, training, support, funding and accountability (Mental Health Strategy for Canada – 2012)
- an individual's right to physician assisted death while simultaneously protecting individuals identified as vulnerable (Physician Assisted Death - 2015)
- The adoption and enforcing regulations to ensure that all persons with disabilities can participate in society to the fullest possible extent and enjoy full equality under the law. (Full Accessibility and Barrier-Free Environments for Persons With Disabilities – 2012)
- mandatory infection prevention, control and hygiene programs (with standardized guidelines) in acute care (hospitals), long-term care, continuing care facilities and community health clinics, with sustained dedicated funding, infrastructure, human resources, and incentives (Preventing Healthcare Facility Acquired Infections 2008)
- extending home care services to individuals beyond those identified in the Romanow Report 2002, to include the elderly, the chronically ill and/or disabled as an integral part of the Canada Health Act (Inclusion of Home Care Services under the Canada Health Act - 2005)
- a high standard of hospice/palliative care available and accessible to all eligible residents of Canada that ensures continuity of care, as well as unpaid leave for caregivers. (Hospice/Palliative Care - 2000)
- public policy that women are able to choose whether they wish to give birth in a hospital, birthing centre or at home. (Midwifery - 1991)
- comprehensive counselling and follow-through services for pregnant women seeking advice and assistance in making a decision to continue or terminate a pregnancy. (Birth Planning: Counselling 1977)
- research into drug addiction, the effects of addictive drugs, and the most effective

Indigenous Peoples

In support of our Canadian Indigenous population, CFUW supports:

- The timely implementation and monitoring of the 94 actions recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action report. (Achieving the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action – 2020)
- Access to safe, clean, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation for all residents of all First Nations Reserves and Communities. The development of inclusive national water standards including future plans of action to ensure funds allocated are adequate and utilized for sustainable solutions. (Right to Safe, Clean, Accessible and Affordable Drinking Water and Sanitation on First Nation Reserves in Canada – 2017)
- Ending the marginalization of Indigenous women in Canadian society by:
 Adopting and implementing the recommendations of the Amnesty International 2004 report: Stolen Sisters: Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada. (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Ending the Marginalization of Indigenous Women in Canadian Society 2017)
- The honouring of Crown commitments and to develop and adequately fund, in collaboration with Indigenous organizations, balanced and holistic solutions to the discrepancies in standards of living between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians. (Closing the Gap in Living Standards for Indigenous Canadians 2008)

Justice and Legal System

CFUW has been concerned about and involved in gun control since the death of 14 young women at the École Polytechnique in 1989:

 A cost effective national registry of all firearms and of Firearms Acquisition Certificates (FAC) including periodic review of the latter, regulations regarding safe storage, display, handling and transportation of firearms and a total ban on assault weapons, large capacity magazines and handguns, and the importation of prohibited weapons. (Gun Control – Comprehensive - 1994)

CFUW supports:

- The exclusion of family law disputes from arbitration legislation, ensuring the rights of an individual under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms are respected, and that all residents of Canada are cognizant of this and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. (Equality in Family Law - 2005)
- "Access to justice" legislation ensuring that adequate legal aid is an integral component of the Canadian justice system, with regulations, standards and funding which guarantee effective, accessible civil legal aid throughout Canada. (Legal Aid Provision in Canada - 2003)
- Action concerning police and race relations involving the teaching of a common code of ethical standards for police, that upholds the equality provisions of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, independent investigation of criminal allegations against an officer and the establishment of a race relations training program that forms an integral part of police education at all levels (**Policing and Race Relations - 1993**)

Long-Term Care and Elder Rights

CFUW supports:

- Quality long-term care to ensure that elderly and vulnerable Canadians can live in safety, comfort and dignity. (Long-Term Care Under the Canada Health Act -2020)
- Care that includes among others, evidence-based standards that ensure sufficient, well-trained supportive and supported staffing, quality care and infrastructure with the ability to care through sickness or health, aggression and harassment; and infection control (Long-Term Care: Protect the Vulnerable – 2020)

Peace, Security and Trade

As part of our international work, CFUW supports:

- The use of international trade agreements and related policies as tools to maximize efforts to promote and thereby to reaffirm and accelerate achievement of the 2015 United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). (Advancing sustainable development and gender equality through International Trade Agreements – 2023)
- The strengthening of policies and programs that support a culture of peace by ensuring the participation of women in non-violent conflict prevention and resolution and by respecting Canada's international commitments to human

- rights. A culture of peace including monitoring global small arms trade, ensuring humanitarian needs and re-instating a program of peace and security training. (Culture of Peace -2014)
- The continued implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, Women, Peace and Security and the incorporation of women's voices in conflict resolution processes. The provision of reports to the public on the number of women's groups consulted and represented in the government's work on Resolution 1325. (Women: Essential to Peace – 2003)

Poverty

CFUW supports measures intended to reduce and prevent poverty, especially child poverty, including a re-evaluation of the situation creating poverty and the resources available to fight poverty. (*Poverty - 2000*)

- A basic income program that ensures all adult residents of Canada, as defined for tax purposes, receive an income adequate for the necessities of life. (Moving Canadians Out of Poverty - 2013)
- The taking of action on Canada's commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1949) article 25.1 by defining and ensuring access to an adequate standard of living for all Canadians to maintain health and well-being. (Homelessness and Poverty – 1999)

Violence and Exploitation

CFUW supports:

- The identification and support for appropriate international measures to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings and the conducting of research to obtain the necessary information to document the current and developing situation in Canada in issues relating to human trafficking, and identify areas of required policy, program and legislative reform. (Trafficking in Human Beings – 2001)
- The protection of victims of human trafficking by enacting legislation to protect victims of human trafficking that includes being respectful of the human rights of trafficked persons and funding provisions to allow supportive services (Protection of Victims of Human Trafficking – 2006)