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MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

2025-2026

CFUW Policy Session Booklet 2026

JULY 24, 2026, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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Policy Session Booklet 2026

CFUW 2026 Policy Session July 24, 2026

Presiding: Linda Sestock, National President Co-Chair: Barb Gustafson, Deputy

President Parliamentarian: Elizabeth Haynes

Tech Parliamentarian Team: National Office & Elizabeth Haynes

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CFUW 2026 Policy Session July 24, 2026

Presiding: Linda Sestock, National President Co-Chair: Barb Gustafson, Deputy

President Parliamentarian: Elizabeth Haynes

Tech Parliamentarian Team: National Office & Elizabeth Haynes

Proposed Agenda

Call to Order

Land Acknowledgement

Introduction of Platform

Assembly Formation Motions

Credentials Report

Consent Agenda

Standing Rules

Adoption of Agenda

Committee to Verify the Minutes

Report of the Resolutions Committee

Resolution 1: Canadian Response to the Education Crisis for Women and Girls in Afghanistan

Resolution 2: Countering Disinformation in Canada

Adopted Resolutions In Action

Thanks to Resolutions Committee

Adjournment of Policy Session

Report of the Resolutions Committee 2026

Margaret Therrien and Wendy Taylor Co-Chairs CFUW Resolutions Committee

Committee Members: Maggie Buchanan, Bonnie Jensen, Bilkies McKen, Jane Young, Heather Oxman and Linda Sestock

Consultant: Camila Taipe, CFUW National Advocacy and Policy Specialist

Resolutions adopted since June 2025 Report:

At the 2025 Policy Session eight resolutions were adopted. Those were: Addressing Period Poverty and Menstrual Inequity in Canada, Expanding Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services, Supporting 2SLGBTQ+ Rights, Strengthening the Awareness and Safekeeping of Individuals and Their Animals Experiencing Domestic Violence, Equitable Phase-Out of Fossil Fuels, Archiving Select CFUW Adopted Resolutions and Affirming Housing as a Human Right and Social Good.

September – November 2025:

In early September, the Resolutions Information and Guidelines was revised and submitted for Board approval prior to publishing. The primary change was updating the Guidelines schedule. Also, during this timeframe Resolution Committee members were surveyed regarding the value of retaining resolution background material with the response to this survey being forwarded to the Advocacy Committee Chair.

Throughout the Fall the Club Action News published an article for Clubs indicating that Resolution Intents were due by October 23rd.

Committee members met by Zoom on October 30th to discuss the five resolution Intents. These were reviewed to ensure CFUW did not already have policy on the topic and that the Intent aligned with the CFUW Mission and Goals. One Intent on the topic of TRC Calls to Action did not go forward to the Resolution drafting stage because CFUW already has a Resolution covering this topic. The four other Intents were accepted however two of the Proposers were requested to liaise with each other regarding their resolutions because the proposals appeared very similar. Proposers were advised by email of the outcome of the Intent review and were also advised that the Resolution Committee members were available to answer questions and to provide assistance when requested.

2026 Resolutions:

The four intents that were accepted to move onto the Resolution writing phase of the resolutions process are:

Resolution 1 – CFUW Ottawa - Canadian Response to the Education Crisis in Afghanistan

Resolution 2 – CFUW North Bay – Supporting Our Canadian Economy
 Resolution 3 – CFUW Northumberland – A Strong, Equitable Canadian Economy
 Resolution 4 – CFUW Guelph – Countering Disinformation in Canada

In mid-November, CFUW North Bay advised the Resolutions Committee Chairs that they were withdrawing their Intent.

February – April 2026:

Resolutions including Resolved Clauses, Background, Implementation and Bibliography from the three remaining resolutions were received by the Resolutions Committee by February 2. The Committee met by Zoom on February 12 to discuss these resolutions. The CFUW Northumberland resolution was not approved to go forward as the resolved clauses suggested advocacy action for which CFUW already has policy. The CFUW Guelph and CFUW Ottawa resolutions were approved to go forward in the resolutions process.

On March 6, a Special Newsletter on Resolutions was made available to Clubs requesting a review of each of the two resolutions and recommending emphasis on the Resolved Clauses. Clubs were able to submit amendments using an online form until April 30.

A Zoom meeting with the Resolutions Committee and Resolution Proposers was held on March 26 to provide clarification regarding the amendment responses required by the Proposers. This meeting was well received with all having a better understanding of how Amendments would be accessible on Google Docs to each Proposer and the Resolutions Committee, and the action required.

May – July 2026:

Preparations are underway for the Proposers and Amenders Workshop scheduled for May 28. Each Resolution has had over 35 proposed amendments for the Proposers to consider. A Special Newsletter on the Revised Resolutions is scheduled for release on May 22 with the final Resolution versions completed by June 5 for publishing in the Policy Session Booklet. On July 9 there will be a practice session for the Proposers and Resolutions Committee in preparation for the July 24 Policy Session.

Acknowledgements:

Thanks to all Proposers and Clubs who became involved in the Resolutions process this year and to all members of the Resolutions Committee.

Proposed Resolutions for 2026

Resolution 1: Canadian Response to the Education Crisis for Women and Girls in Afghanistan

Proposers: CFUW Ottawa

Original Wording	Amended Wording
RESOLVED, that CFUW urge fellow Canadians and governments at all levels to strengthen strategic partnerships with networks in both Afghanistan and the Afghan diaspora so as to amplify their voices in support of the women and girls in Afghanistan.	RESOLVED, that CFUW urge Canadians and governments at all levels to strengthen strategic partnerships with networks both within and beyond Afghanistan, amplifying voices in support of regular post- primary education for Afghan women and girls.
RESOLVED, that CFUW urge the federal government of Canada, in collaboration with other nations, to increase support for international justice mechanisms and to hold the Taliban accountable for their violations of human rights.	RESOLVED, that CFUW urge the government of Canada, in collaboration with other national governments, to increase support for international justice mechanisms such as United Nations conventions to hold the de facto authorities in Afghanistan accountable for their violations of human rights, in particular the right to education for women and girls.
RESOLVED, that CFUW urge national and provincial governments, in accordance with Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, to increase their support for women and girls in Afghanistan by removing barriers for Afghans at risk who wish to pursue their education in Canada, and by funding or continuing to fund online learning and virtual teacher-training programs.	RESOLVED, that CFUW urge Canadian governments at all levels to increase their support for the women and girls of Afghanistan: by funding or continuing to fund virtual learning and teacher- training programs; and by removing barriers, such as denial of study permits, to their pursuit of education in Canada.

Resolution 2: Countering Disinformation in Canada

Proposer: CFUW Guelph

Original Wording	Amended Wording
RESOLVED, that CFUW urge the federal government to develop and implement stronger regulation of social media platforms to require them to be accountable for (a) disinformation on their sites and (b) for implementing mechanisms to limit the circulation of such disinformation and to report that disinformation to users.	RESOLVED, that CFUW urges the Government of Canada to establish an independent regulatory board, created by statute, with authority to identify, monitor and impose sanctions on the spread of disinformation across digital platforms, including the distribution and amplification of disinformation, while complying with the Charter right of freedom of expression.
RESOLVED, that CFUW urge provincial governments to develop, as part of the school curricula on media literacy, mandatory course material for each school grade (Kindergarten through to Grade 12) that is specifically focused on disinformation and its dangers.	RESOLVED, that CFUW urges provincial and territorial governments to develop, as part of the school curriculum, mandatory media literacy courses for each grade (grades K-12) that are specifically focused on disinformation, including critical thinking skills, manipulation techniques and mechanisms of dissemination.
RESOLVED, that CFUW urge all levels of government to develop extensive information awareness campaigns to educate the public on the dangers of disinformation, how to recognize it and confirm the validity of the information that is found on social media platforms.	RESOLVED, that CFUW urges all levels of government to develop and implement extensive and ongoing information awareness campaigns to educate the public on the dangers of disinformation, how to recognize different categories of disinformation, and how to assess the accuracy of information that is circulated on social media platforms
RESOLVED, that CFUW calls on all levels of government to continue to fund and support legacy broadcast and print media to ensure reliable information sources remain available.	RESOLVED, that CFUW calls on the Canadian government to fund and continue to provide various forms of financial support for legacy journalism, including both broadcast and print media, to ensure reliable information sources remain available for all Canadians.

MOTION from the CFUW Resolutions Committee Chair

Motion to permit the Chair of Resolutions to make grammatical corrections.