

Local Woman to attend United Nations Commission on Status of Women in New York City, March 2019

Lynn Bird our Vice- President of CFUW Aurora / Newmarket and resident of Schomberg will be a delegate for the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York City taking place from March 11-22, 2019. The CSW is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The discussion at this year's session will primarily focus on:

- **Priority theme:** Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;
- **Review theme:** Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development (the agreed conclusions of the sixtieth session);

The active participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) is a critical element in the work of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). NGOs have been influential in shaping the current global policy framework on women's empowerment and gender equality: the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. They continue to play an important role in holding international and national leaders accountable for the commitments they made in the Platform for Action.

As a Non-Government Organization with Consultative Status with the United Nations, the CFUW delegation will be actively participating in the discussions at CSW63. It is the hope of CFUW that States will reach an agreement on how developed and developing countries can work together to accelerate progress and ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment remain central to the post 2016 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as both standalone goals and an Intersectional theme.

CFUW is a non-partisan, voluntary, self-funded organization with over 100 CFUW Clubs, located in every province across Canada. Since its founding in 1919, CFUW has been working to improve the status of women, and to promote human rights, public education, social justice, and peace.

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