

VOTE NOV. 15

HOT PINK PAPER CAMPAIGN



MUNICIPAL ELECTION GUIDE 2014

For background on these issues
go to womentransformingcities.org

Women Transforming Cities (WTC) is an organization of women, girls and allies working together to make our cities work for everyone. In organizing over 20 Cafés in neighbourhoods across the Lower Mainland, we have heard the key priorities for women and girls living in cities.

We have learned, with our community partners, event participants, and through our national conference that cities must put an equity/intersectional lens on their policies, programs and finances. Our goal is to transform our cities through community engagement, inclusive policies and equitable representation.

Join us!

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www.womentransformingcities.org

Intersectionality. Another word for equity and diversity.

When we talk about equity and intersectionality in policy making, we are talking about recognizing women and girls as a diverse group who have distinct and varying needs. (Because we are, and we do!) For example, policies may impact women and girls differently based on their education, age, race, income, class, immigration status, ability or sexual orientation.

We ask candidates and parties to make a commitment to:

- Create and use an equity/intersectional lens framework for policy development and evaluation.
- Collect data that reflects the diversity of women and girls and their needs.

Aboriginal Initiatives. Transforming the Experiences of Aboriginal Women and Girls.

We ask candidates and parties to make a commitment to:

- Require leaders and all those who interact and work directly or indirectly with Aboriginal women and girls to develop culturally safe approaches to services.
- Review the core funding requirements of services specifically for Aboriginal women and girls and enhance their compatibility with Aboriginal approaches to social development strategies. Ensure funding requirements emphasize program sustainability.
- Award grants to increase the number of culture, community, identity and capacity building projects run by Aboriginal women and girls.

Partnered with Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House.

Environment. Making 'green' work for everyone.

Green initiatives, such as recycling, composting, buying local and reducing energy consumption, are important to the earth and future generations. In the home, much of that 'green' work is done by women and girls. Out in the community, the interests of girls and women are often overlooked.

We ask candidates and parties to make a commitment to:

- Review green policies through an equity/intersectional lens that includes all women's work and responsibilities.
- Increase women's and girls' access to recreation and community centres, and playing fields, including dedicated spaces and programs.

Immigrant women. Strengthening the commitment to diversity and inclusiveness for newcomer women and girls.

Having access to essential social services is crucial to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of non-status, refugee, and immigrant girls and women.

We ask candidates and parties to make a commitment to:

- Make Vancouver a Sanctuary City for all women and girls regardless of immigration status
- Appoint an immigrant advocate to highlight important issues and solutions for newcomers and engage their participation in the decision-making process.

Partnered with Pacific Immigrant Resources Society
& Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House

Violence against women and girls must stop. Zero Tolerance.

Vancouver is known internationally for the prevalence of violence against women, particularly against Aboriginal women. Anti-violence policies and programs are critically needed to keep women and girls of all ages safe.

We ask candidates and parties to make a commitment to:

- Develop and implement a comprehensive Violence Against Women and Girls Civic Action Plan.
- Provide a fully accessible, centrally located Women's Hub.
- Work collaboratively and effectively with both the Provincial and Federal Government to end violence against women and girls.

Partnered with Remember Our Sisters Everywhere,
& Women Against Violence Against Women

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Commit to making this city better for everyone.
Vote Saturday November 15, 2014.



Authorized by Women Transforming Cities International Society
registered sponsor under LECFA, nfo@womentransformingcities.org

Thank you to our volunteers, partners, Café participants,
Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House and Flipside
for your contributions and passion to transform cities.

Adequate, affordable housing. A basic right.

We ask candidates and parties to make a commitment to:

- Generate a housing strategy that addresses the distinctive and diverse housing and homeless circumstances of women and girls, such as vulnerability to violence, income inequality and family responsibilities.
- Implement sustainable low-income housing options that focus on women and children.
- Request that the federal and provincial governments reinvest resources toward housing strategy development, and housing supply and maintenance, with a focus on supporting the diverse housing needs of women and girls.

Partnered with Housing Justice Canada

Transit. Yes. We want to go there.

Women and girls rely on public transportation. Transit planning models neglect the safety, accessibility and affordability needs of women and girls.

We ask candidates and parties to make a commitment to:

- Create and maintain safe, accessible, affordable public transit.
- Make Vancouver a free transit zone after dark.
- Improve transit in off-peak hours, including late night transit service.

Partnered with SFU Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies

Quality, affordable child care. Everybody Benefits.

Families, particularly women, and young children need and benefit from full and part time child care, preschools, and after school care. But we're in a child care crisis. Fees are too high, caregivers' wages too low and spaces too few. There are only licensed spaces for about 20% of children.

We ask candidates and parties to make a commitment to:

- Work with communities to promote the \$10/Day Child Care Plan.
- Tell the provincial and federal governments that Vancouver expects the \$10/Day Child Care Plan to be implemented in BC.

Partnered with Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC

Women, wage and work.

We ask candidates and parties to make a commitment to:

- Make the City a living wage employer, requiring that all contractors hired by the City pay a living wage. Amend the City's Ethical Purchasing Policy to make living wages a selection factor.
- Expand public transit services and provide safe transportation to all workers at times when there is no public transportation.
- Hire, train and maintain women for jobs where they are under-represented.
- Formally recognize unpaid and volunteer work.

Partnered with Vancouver and District Labour Council Women's Committee

Electoral reform. It's time to change the system.

Women and girls work for cities; why don't cities work for women and girls? Only 16% of Canadian Mayors and 26% of City Councillors are women, and the diversity of women on municipal Councils, Park Boards and School Boards does not reflect that of the general population.

We ask candidates and parties to make a commitment to:

- Run at least 50% women representing the diversity of our cities and ensuring Aboriginal candidates.
- Establish a ward system (elected representation by neighbourhood)
- Establish campaign spending and donation limits and disclosure of all campaign donations.

More information at the Status of Women Canada website.

Young women and girls. Key voices.

We ask candidates and parties to make a commitment to:

- Create a young women's committee to address gender-specific barriers to leadership and promote active civic engagement.
- Establish Youth Hubs to provide better access to services, information and safe spaces to gather; reinstate the CitizenU program so youth can combat discrimination and oppression in their communities.
- Lower the municipal voting age to 16 to establish and maintain youth representation and civic engagement.

Partnered with Young Women Civic Leaders