



**Regular In-Person Meeting
April 29 & 30, 2017**

Members present: Rina Arseneault, Lyne Chantal Boudreau, Joanne Britton, Line Doiron, Madeleine Nickerson, Jennifer Richard (co-chair), Noëlla Richard, Paulette Sonier Rioux, Constance Sewell, Madhu Verma, Phylomène Zangio

Members absent: Jody Dallaire (co-chair), Jewell Mitchell

Ex-Officio members present: Beth Lyons (Executive Director), Jocelyne Mills (ADM – Women's Equality)

Guests present: Nadia Losier, Accueil Sainte-Famille

Staff present: Linda Landry-Guimond (Recording Secretary), Erin Whitmore, Brit Mockler

Next meeting: October 2017

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome / opening round**
- 2. Adoption of agenda**
- 3. Adoption of minutes**
- 4. Items for discussion / decision**
 - 4.1 Executive Director's report
 - 4.2 Presentation from Accueil Sainte-Famille
 - 4.3 Annual Work Plan
 - 4.4 Violence in the Workplace
 - 4.5 Sexual Violence
 - 4.6 Selection of Co-chair
 - 4.7 Communications Strategy
 - 4.8 Operating Standards
 - 4.9 Membership Guiding Document
- 5. Other business**
- 6. Closing**

MEETING

1. Welcome/opening round

- J. Richard welcomed members, acknowledged the meeting is taking place on Mi'kmaq land and in the heart of Acadie, held a moment of silence in memory of Wendy Robbins, and led an opening round.



2. Adoption of agenda

- Consensus to adopt agenda with a roundtable of member updates added under Other business.

3. Adoption of Minutes

- Consensus to adopt minutes of February 2017 meeting.

4. Items for discussion / decision

○ 4.1 Executive Director's report

- B. Lyons provided a summary of work accomplished and ongoing since the February 2017 meeting.

○ 4.2 Presentation from Accueil Sainte-Famille

- Presentation given by Nadia Losier, Director.

○ 4.3 Annual Work Plan

- Consensus to adopt annual work plan with changes (remove reference to working on party platforms for the 2018 election; add developing and issuing a gender equality and/or women's platform for the 2018 election). Additional decisions: council co-chairs and executive director may meet with individuals or groups (including Members of the Legislative assembly and their staff, as well as other political party staffers) to discuss the platform the council releases; the council will not do analysis of party platforms and will simply reiterate its own platform; further decisions to be made regarding format of a leaders forum/debate on gender equality/women's equality issues for the 2018 election. **ACTION:** B. Lyons to update document and recirculate.

○ 4.4 Violence in the Workplace

- E. Whitmore shared information from meeting with NB Nurses Union in March. Consensus to support adding violence in the workplace to New Brunswick's *Occupational Health and Safety Act*. **ACTION:** B. Lyons and E. Whitmore to identify and further research occupations that are predominately staffed by women and present an elevated risk of violence.

○ 4.5 Sexual Violence

- J. Richard presented "Preventing and Responding to Sexual Violence in New Brunswick: A Framework for Action." Consensus that the council would support the framework if it is publicly released and is similar to current version and advise that next steps focus on resourcing and timelines. **ACTION:** If the framework is publicly released, staff and co-chairs to consult with the Fredericton Sexual Assault Centre before responding.



○ **4.6 Selection of Co-chair**

- Consensus for J. Mitchell to serve as co-chair (replacing J. Richard as the primarily English-speaking co-chair) until spring 2019.

○ **4.7 Communications Strategy**

- Beth L. and B. Mockler shared the council's communications strategy. Consensus that the council is not opposed in principle to participating in government media releases and entrusts the staff team with decision-making on such opportunities.

○ **4.8 Operating Standards**

- Consensus to adopt updated operating standards.

○ **4.9 Membership Guiding Document**

- Consensus to adopt updated membership guiding document.

5. Other business

- Members provided updates on issues in their regions, communities, and/or being addressed by organizations they represent.

6. Closing

- B. Lyons reviewed a summary of decisions and actions arising from the meeting and J. Richard led a closing round. Meeting adjourns at 12pm.

Distributed to members for review July 14th, 2017.

Adopted (i.e. members notified that no changes were requested): August 21st, 2017.