

Greeting for the Society for Canadian Women in Science and Technology (SCWIST)

I am pleased to extend my heartfelt greetings to each and every one of you. When everyone – including women, youth and gender diverse individuals – have an equal and fair opportunity for success in any field they choose, it is good for equality and good for the economy. Yet, too many Canadians still have to deal with systemic barriers in their fields that prevents them from reaching their full potential.

Tonight, we are recognizing your significant contribution to helping advance gender equality and inclusion in science, technology, engineering, and math, and at many other levels too. We have already achieved so much with the representation of women leaders steadily climbing across the board. Yet, there is still hard work ahead.

It's up to us to be better. To do better for the future generations.

As we emerge from the pandemic, we need to create the conditions to help women, youth and gender diverse individuals enter and re-enter the workforce.

As the new Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth, I will continue to support those who need it most and drive systemic change that promotes a fairer and more inclusive society for all. Women and gender-diverse individuals strengthen our economy; they spark innovation; and they inspire the growth of our society. Upholding this commitment means we all must continue to empower and advocate for women and people of all identities and expressions in the face of continuing adversity.

Thank you again for everything that you do to champion gender equality around you. You are role models for your peers, but also for the future generation of girls and boys looking up to you as you build a better society for all of them.

I look forward to continuing to work with all of you.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Marci Ien
Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth



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