



Teleconference Call
September 13th, 2015 10am

Members present: Rina Arseneault, Joanne Britton, Jody Dallaire (Co-Chair), Sylvie Morin, Kim Nash-McKinley, Jennifer Richard (Co-Chair), Noëlla Richard, Wendy Robbins, Paulette Sonier-Rioux

Members absent: Stéphanie Beaulieu, Line Doiron, Jewell Mitchell, Sue Pitman, Phylomène Zangio

Ex-Officio Members present: Jocelyne Mills

Staff: Beth Lyons (Recording Secretary)

Next meeting: Regular in-person meeting October 3 & 4th, Edmundston

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Additions to and approval of agenda**
- 3. Adoption of June minutes**
- 4. For Discussion/Decision**
 - Financial Policies
 - World March of Women
 - In-Person October Meeting
- 5. Closing**

MEETING

- 1. Welcome**
 - Co-Chairs welcomed the members, confirmed the length of the call and that rounds would be done to confirm consensus on decisions.
- 2. Additions to and approval of agenda**
 - Four items were added to the agenda at W. Robbins' request: Agencies, Boards and Commissions; an update on Forum work on the 2015 federal election; the Forum's website; and the \$10 000 designated in April for operationalizing the strategic plan.
- 3. Adoption of June Minutes**
 - J. Dallaire requested that Phylomène Zangio's name be added.
 - W. Robbins requested a change in language and an addition under item 5 on the topic of abortion access. Discussion ensued; there was consensus on the changes.
 - *Action:* B. Lyons to update and recirculate.
 - J. Richard explained that in the future minutes will be adopted in advance of meetings (i.e. via email) and will not appear not as a meeting agenda item.



4. For Discussion/Decision

- Financial Policies
 - N. Richard requested that a note about cost-savings be added to the beginning of the document and not repeated throughout.
 - S. Morin inquired if members representing organizations should claim per diems for work time spent on Forum business and then give the per diem to their organization. She indicated that the Voices of Women Working Group had intended for organizations to be able to receive some compensation for staff time dedicated to the Forum. Discussion ensued and consensus was reached that this should be the policy.
 - J. Britton noted that were she able to attend the October meeting, her travel would include a seven hour bus trip with compensation only for the price of the ticket. B. Lyons clarified that there is an allowance for members traveling more than 3 hours per direction for an in-person meeting to claim an extra half day per diem, but that this may be inadequate for a member travelling longer than three hours and not claiming mileage.
 - *Action:* B. Lyons to make changes and re-circulate.
- World March of Women
 - J. Dallaire provided an overview of the requests received from the World March of Women organizing committee to: support the event financially; sign on to their demands of government; have J. Dallaire participate in the roundtable portion of the event. J. Mills provided some additional information on a similar funding request submitted to the Women's Equality Branch.
 - Consensus reached to offer up to \$5 000 for costs relating to the roundtable by paying invoices sent directly from good/service providers for the event. B. Lyons noted that the Operational Standards document to be discussed in October includes establishing criteria to review opportunities such as this in the future.
 - Members reached consensus on accepting the invitation for J. Dallaire to participate in the roundtable.
 - Members reach consensus to not sign on to the demands of the March.
- October Meeting
 - B. Lyons provided an overview of the planned agenda and requested feedback.
 - Discussion ensued; B. Lyons will revise agenda to place issue-focused discussion before Strategic Planning discussion on the 2nd day, add staff hiring as an item.
- Agencies, Boards, Commissions (ABCs)
 - J. Mills provided information on Women's Equality Branch's approach to supporting appointments of women to ABCs given privacy concerns. Discussion ensued. Some Forum members interested in encouraging women to put names forward for ABCs, others are not interested; some are interested in the Forum tracking names resulting from Forum member encouragement. Systemic barriers to women's participation identified as an area where further research and work would be needed.
- Federal Election Tool



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- J. Dallaire noted the time and asked if other items could be tabled. W. Robbins requested we proceed with an update on the Forum's work on the 2015 Federal Election. B. Lyons shared that the Forum is working with the National Coalition of Advisory Councils on a tool to support conversations with candidates on issues with a gender lens and noted she and J. Richard will be meeting with the Coalition September 17th and 18th in Halifax.

End of Meeting, 11:55am.

Circulated to Members for revision: September 23rd, 2015.

Adopted by members _____, 2015.