



November 17, 2017

Hon. Melanie Joly
Minister of Heritage
House of Commons
Ottawa ON, K1A 0A6

Re: Museum of History of Women

Dear Ms. Joly:

On behalf of the National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC) I encourage you to support initiatives to establish a Museum of History of Women. This idea is long past due. NCWC urge you without delay to institute a commission to explore what is needed to ensure that this happens.

The vacant P4W at Kingston has been suggested as a location. This building in a city that was the original suggested capital of the new country would certainly be an appropriate venue and would honour the many women confined there who experienced discrimination while imprisoned. We all remember vividly the investigation carried out by Justice Louise Arbour.

Established in 1894 by Lady Aberdeen, whose husband was Canada's Governor General Earl Aberdeen, NCWC itself has a long history of advocating for women's rights. Lady Aberdeen was intent on ensuring that women had a voice and brought women's issues to the world stage using her role to influence and establish a number of key organizations serving women including the Victorian Order of Nurses, and the May Court Club. She became president of the international Council of Women inspiring others to aspire to leadership.

NCWC recognizes that indigenous women, women who arrived in New France with the men, the nuns who brought health care and education to the new colony, the homesteaders who settled the prairies, the immigrant women who have shared their culture with us and contribute to the diverse country Canada has become, the universities that accepted women, those who worked so diligently to allow women to have the vote and those who defied all odds to have women recognized as persons, the scientists, sports figures, journalists/broadcasters, academics, entrepreneurs, and those like yourself who entered politics and so many others in numerous fields all deserve to be honoured.

NCWC members look forward to hearing that this initiative has become a reality.

We wish you many good wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Cohen-Rose". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sandra Cohen-Rose
President, National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC)
www.ncwcanada.com
presncwc@gmail.com
[613-712-4419](tel:613-712-4419)

The National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC) has been the leading national voice of women for the past 124 years. A plaque has been erected in Allan Gardens in Toronto recognizing the establishment of NCWC as a National Historic Event. NCWC's initiatives have contributed significantly to the establishment of Canada's social welfare system, and the Council continues to work to improve the lives of women, children and society.

cc
CFUW
Zonta
BPW
Minister Status of Women Maryam Monsef
Senator Kim Pate
Senator Marylou Macphedran
Elizabeth Renzett
President of Queen's University