



THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF CANADA
LE CONSEIL NATIONAL DES FEMMES DU CANADA

Honourable Ginette Petitpas-Taylor
Minister of Health
Government of Canada

Dear Minister Petitpas-Taylor

Re: Support for Access to Abortion Services

On behalf of the members of the National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC), I wish to express our thanks for your continued support of women in accessing timely abortion services across Canada. Your decision to eliminate the clause requiring an ultrasound in the guidelines for the use of the abortion pill Mifegymiso, along with your recent request to provinces to remove any barriers related to policies and fees that are "out of step" with federal law, are applauded. We are all aware that abortion must be accessible in a timely manner and that any restriction or barrier, including a fee payment, must be removed.

For those of us who believe that human rights are women's rights, any barriers can be interpreted as abuse. A woman's right to control her own body, including the right to choose whether to bear a child, must be respected. At a time like this, women need non-judgemental support and accessible services, and not the worry of carrying out their plan in a timely manner.

We appreciate your ongoing support.

Sincerely

Patricia Leson, President
National Council of Women of Canada