

From: **President National Council of Women of Canada** <presncwc@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Dec 18, 2019 at 2:15 PM
Subject: Re: Introduction from Karen Vecchio
To: <Karen.Vecchio@parl.gc.ca>

Dear Karen

Thank you for reaching out to the National Council of Women of Canada! First of all, congratulations on your election as the MP for Elgin-Middlesex- London, and your appointment as the Conservative Shadow Minister for Women and Gender Equality.

Your email notes your desire for politicians to be dedicated to listening to all views in order to focus on alleviating the myriad of issues facing Canadian women, children, and families. This is especially gratifying to learn as during the autumn election campaign, the NCWC emailed each of the major political parties a questionnaire asking for their comments directly related to these very concerns. We received completed documents from all the parties except the Conservatives. I have attached a copy of the questionnaire; we would appreciate your response. Your answers will then on be placed on our website along with those from the other political parties.

I have also attached a page of information on the NCWC. As you will note, the NCWC has a rich history and is part of the international community advocating for improved societal conditions for women here in Canada and in all parts of the world.

Thank you for the kind invitation to meet with you; it is with pleasure I accept it and look forward to our conversation on topics of mutual interest. I shall be in touch in the New Year to make arrangements for a date and time that is convenient for each of us.

Sincerely
Patricia Leson, President
National Council of Women of Canada

On Tue, Dec 17, 2019 at 12:48 PM <Karen.Vecchio@parl.gc.ca> wrote:

Dear Sandra,

I have recently had the honour to accept the role as the Conservative Shadow Minister for Women and Gender Equality in the 43rd Parliament.

During the 42nd Parliament, I was grateful to have held the position of Shadow Minister for Families, Children and Social Development. That role provided me an in-depth background on many issues relating

to women including poverty, housing, seniors' benefits, family benefits and social issues impacting gender equality.

Throughout the previous parliament, I saw that conversations around the topics of women and gender often divided people. I believe that it is essential to focus on the key issues that unite Canadians while addressing our differences in a truly respectful and balanced approach.

As the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Status of Women from 2017-2019, I became more aware of the broad views on issues impacting women and the passion that drives these convictions. I believe that politicians must be dedicated to listening to all views in order to move forward and work together for all Canadians.

I would like to begin my services in this role by welcoming any future meetings either in my constituency office or my Ottawa office. Please feel free to reach out to my staff at any time to set up a meeting to discuss the significant issues facing Canadians and in particular issues facing women and gender-diverse individuals.

Sincerely,

Karen Vecchio

Member of Parliament

Elgin-Middlesex-London

Shadow Minister for Women and Gender Equality

Bonjour,

J'ai récemment eu l'honneur d'accepter le rôle de ministre du cabinet fantôme conservateur pour les femmes et l'égalité des genres durant la 43^e législature.

Au cours de la 42^e législature, j'ai eu le privilège de servir comme ministre du cabinet fantôme pour les familles, les enfants et le développement social. Cela m'a permis d'acquérir une connaissance approfondie de nombreux enjeux touchant les femmes, notamment la pauvreté, le logement, les prestations pour les aînés, les prestations familiales et les questions sociales ayant une incidence sur l'égalité des genres.

Tout au long de la précédente législature, j'ai constaté à quel point les débats sur les femmes et les genres pouvaient être clivants. Je crois qu'il est essentiel de se concentrer sur les grands sujets qui unissent les Canadiens tout en abordant nos différences de façon véritablement respectueuse et équilibrée.

En tant que présidente du Comité permanent de la condition féminine de 2017 à 2019, j'ai pris davantage conscience de la diversité des points de vue sur les questions touchant les femmes et de la passion qui anime ceux qui portent des convictions. J'estime donc que les politiciens doivent se faire un devoir

d'écouter tous les points de vue pour que nous puissions aller de l'avant et travailler ensemble pour tous les Canadiens.

Enfin, en ma qualité de ministre du cabinet fantôme, je tiens d'ores et déjà à vous assurer que je serai heureuse de vous rencontrer, que ce soit à mon bureau de circonscription ou à celui d'Ottawa. Si vous souhaitez prendre rendez-vous pour discuter avec moi de problèmes importants auxquels font face les Canadiens, et plus particulièrement les femmes et les personnes de diverses identités de genre, n'hésitez pas à communiquer avec mon personnel en tout temps.

Sincères salutations,

Karen Vecchio

Députée

Elgin-Middlesex-London