



LEVERAGING WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP FOR THE 21ST CENTURY:

*****CHANGING THE GAME*****

Thursday March 10 – Friday March 11, 2011
Government Conference Centre,
2 Rideau Street, Ottawa, Ontario

PROGRAM (As of March 3rd, 2011)

THURSDAY MARCH 10, 2011

8:00am – 5:00pm **REGISTRATION**

8:30am – 9:00am **BREAKFAST & OPENING**

- Claudette Commanda, Elder
- The Minawashin Lodge Hand Drummers
- Donna Dasko, National Chair, Equal Voice

9:00am – 9:30am **LAUNCH OF *DEEP ROOTS STRONG WINGS***

- Nancy Peckford, Executive Director, Equal Voice
- Hon. Leona Aglukkaq, PC, MP Minister of Health (invited)
- Nancy Karetak-Lindell, Former MP, Nunavut

Equal Voice consulted Aboriginal women across the country to find out what could be done to help support community members seeking leadership roles. The result is *Deep Roots, Strong Wings* – an online campaign school customized for First Nations, Métis and Inuit women, that includes a guide to the requirements and demands of running for public office - from the Band Office to the Prime Minister's Office.

9:30am – 10:45am **TALES FROM THE BRINK**
Running for Office: The Top Ten Things Women Must Know about Running for Nomination and Being on the Campaign Trail

Moderator: Hon. Sheila Copps, PC Former Deputy Prime Minister

Panelists:

- Hon. Lisa Raitt, PC, MP Minister of Labour
- Françoise Boivin, Candidate, Gatineau, New Democratic Party
- Bernadette Clement, Councillor, City of Cornwall/Federal Candidate, Stormont Dundas and South Glengarry, Liberal Party
- Penny Priddy, Former Councillor, MP, Minister

Equal Voice has identified the nominations process as particularly challenging, if not perilous, for women seeking to become elected. This panel will explore - through a multi-partisan lens - the key elements that are essential for a successful nominations bid and will examine women's experiences on the campaign trail.

10:45am– 11:00am **BREAK**

11:00am – 12:15pm **ARE WOMEN FRAMED TO FALTER?**
Reflections on the Media: The Rise and Fall of Female Politicians

Moderator: Shari Graydon, Informed Opinions

Panelists:

- **Susan Delacourt**, Senior Writer, Toronto Star
- **Steve Paikin**, Anchor, The Agenda, TVO
- **Laura Peck**, Vice-President, McLoughlin Media
- **Prof. Joanne St. Lewis**, Associate Professor, University of Ottawa

This panel will examine, through the lens of news media veterans and critics, the role and impact of the media's portrayal and coverage of female politicians. The panel will also serve to delineate some of the key opportunities and challenges for women who are thrust into the lime light as they seek or serve in elected office.

12:15pm - 12:45pm **LUNCH**

12:45pm – 1:30pm **KEYNOTE REMARKS: *LEARNING BY EXAMPLE***

Trine Skei Grande, Leader, Liberal Party Norway

Trine Skei Grande is a widely known and well respected female political party leader from Norway, where women's political representation has been consistently over 40% during the last decade. Ms. Grande will speak about the impact of women's contribution in the public and private sectors.

1:30pm – 3:00pm **THE CULTURE OF POWER (AND POLITICS): *How to get things done***

Moderator: Jane Taber, Senior Political Writer, Globe and Mail and Co-Host of CTV's Question

Panelists:

- **Hon. Jean Augustine, PC, CM** Ontario Fairness Commissioner
- **Patty DuCharme**, Vice-President, Public Service Alliance of Canada
- **The Hon. Janet Ecker**, President, Toronto Financial Services Alliance, Former Minister, Government of Ontario
- **The Hon. Alexa McDonough, OC** Former Leader, New Democratic Party
- **Marie Wilson, Commissioner**, Truth and Reconciliation Commission

This panel will focus on political culture and how to meaningfully accomplish one's goals as an elected female official in a sometimes inflexible and rigid parliamentary and political context. Panelists will also explore the challenges faced by female representatives in advocating and building consensus on complex issues.

3:00pm – 3:15pm **BREAK**

3:15pm – 4:45pm

HOW TO HAVE A LIFE (OR SAVE IT) WHILE IN POLITICS: *Lessons from the Trenches*

Moderator: Raylene Lang Dion, Chair, Equal Voice National Capital Region Chapter

Panelists:

- **Martha Hall Findlay**, Member of Parliament, Willowdale
- **Jen Hunter**, Candidate, Green Party of Canada
- **Lisa MacLeod**, Member of Provincial Parliament, Nepean-Carleton
- **Nancy Karatek-Lindell**, Former MP, Nunavut

This panel will explore the delicate balance between work and family for elected female representatives. Panelists will share their strategies for maintaining a life outside of politics, particularly when it comes to nurturing friendships, raising children and being supportive to one's family.

5:30pm – 8:00pm

EQUAL VOICE RECOGNITIONS RECEPTION

In honour of its tenth anniversary, Equal Voice will recognize individuals from across the country that have been pivotal to paving the way for women's current political engagement.

MCs: **Gwen Madiba Moubouyi & Shaneen Robinson**

FRIDAY MARCH 11, 2011

8:00am – 1:00pm

REGISTRATION

8:30am – 9:00am

BREAKFAST

9:00am – 9:45am

KEYNOTE REMARKS

Introduction: Clare Beckton, Executive Director, Centre for Women, Politics and Public Leadership, Carleton University

Jennifer Lawless, PhD, Director, Women & Politics Institute, Associate Professor, American University

An expert in women's experiences running for office, Jennifer Lawless will address the gender dynamics that pervade North American politics and deeply affect the beliefs and perceptions of women politicians. Lawless is Co-Author of *It Still Takes a Candidate: Why Women Don't Run for Office*

9:45am – 10:00am

BREAK

- 10:00am– 11:30am** **DOING IT DIFFERENTLY (and why it matters)**
Moderator: Adrian Harewood, Co-Host, CBC News Ottawa
- Panelists:
- **Hon. Michael Chong, PC** Member of Parliament, Wellington – Halton Hills
 - **Françoise David, CQ**, Spokesperson, Quebec Solidaire
 - **Deborah Gillis**, Senior Vice President, Membership and Global Operations, Catalyst
 - **HE Mohau Pheko**, High Commissioner of South Africa to Canada
 - **Suzanne Gallant**, Political Leadership Initiative, Samara
- This panel will examine, through a multi-partisan, multi-sectoral lens and international lens, how innovative and inclusive approaches in the private and public sectors systems can result in the transformation of the political and economic landscapes- for both women and men.
- 11:30 am – 11:45pm** **BREAK**
- 12:00 pm – 1:00pm** **KEYNOTE LUNCH**
Hon. Rona Ambrose, PC, MP Minister of Public Works and Government Services, Minister of State for Status of Women (invited)
- Minister Ambrose will reflect on the importance of women running for elected office and her experience serving for successive terms as an elected official and Minister of the Crown.
- 1:15pm - 3:00pm** **YOUNG WOMEN DEMAND AN EQUAL VOICE:
Youth Forum (Reserved for young women 30 years of age and under)**
Moderators : **Amy Kishek and Courtney Bragg, Regional Youth Coordinators, Experiences Program, Equal Voice**
- Panelists:
- **Roxanne Dubois**, National Chairperson-Elect, Canadian Federation of Students
 - **Jessica Yee**, Founder and Executive Director, The Native Youth Sexual Health Network
 - **Tatania Fraser**, Co-Founder and Executive Director Girls Action Foundation
 - **Shaneen Robinson**, Journalist, Former candidate
- The forum is intended to engage and motivate young women to consider the contribution they can make to democratic life in Canada, which includes the option of running for elected office. Participants will have a chance to “host” panelists at each table to further discuss political participation and representation.
- 3:00pm– 3: 15pm** **BREAK**

3:15pm – 4:15pm

STRATEGY SESSION

MODERATOR:

Chi Nguyen, Recipient (2004), Governor General Awards in Commemoration of the Person's Case

4:15pm – 4:30pm

CLOSING REMARKS

Nancy Peckford, Executive Director, Equal Voice