

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ottawa, ON – September 25, 2021

The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) congratulates Prime Minister Justine Trudeau and the Liberal Party of Canada for their third consecutive election victory, resulting in a Liberal minority government. CFUW is eager to continue working with the federal government on our shared goals of achieving gender equality in Canada and abroad.

Although the proportion of seats in the House of Commons remains largely the same as it was before the election, the circumstances of our country have changed drastically since the last time Canadians went to the polls.

The emergence of the global COVID-19 pandemic devastated our country's health care system, long-term care homes, and economy. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued a "code red for humanity" report amid record-breaking heat waves, floods, and wildfires in Canada. These converging emergencies deepened inequalities in this country, where women – particularly those who are racialized, low-income, live with disabilities, or are newcomers or refugees, were disproportionately impacted.

As Canada "builds back better," a feminist, socioeconomic recovery plan that addresses systemic inequalities and the disparate impacts of crises on women's lives must be at the core of our government's priorities. CFUW looks forward to working with this federal government to strengthen and enact policies that will bring about transformative change in the areas of early learning and child care, gender-based violence, the climate emergency, long-term care, Indigenous Peoples' rights, among other intersecting areas related to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

CFUW Clubs worked with other community groups to host all-candidates meetings and debates over the 36-day campaign to promote civic engagement and political discourse in their areas. CFUW thanks all candidates and parties for their participation in furthering democracy and gender equality in Canada.

For more information, contact Charlotte Akin, CFUW National Advocacy Coordinator at advocacy@cfuw-fcfd.ca