

**44th ANNUAL MEETING OF FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL-TERRITORIAL (FPT)
MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

July 15-16, 2026
Moncton, New Brunswick

Wednesday, July 15 – 44th Annual FPT Ministerial Meeting, Day 1

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast (60 minutes) • <i>Official photo of FPT Ministers (8:15 a.m.)</i>
8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Opening remarks (15 minutes) • Elder Jean Bartibogue welcome • Opening remarks by New Brunswick and Canada Co-Chairs • Adoption of the agenda
8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Senior women in the economy – New Brunswick (60 minutes) • Bilingual panel of diverse senior women who will speak to their lived experiences with economic insecurity, caregiving, health challenges, and the realities of aging
9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Supporting women’s entry and retention in high-growth industries and non-traditional sectors (75 minutes) • A discussion of actions that ministers may take to support women’s economic equality, with a focus on emerging and non-traditional sectors; introductory comments by a non-governmental expert
11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Break (15 minutes)
11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Economic impact of AI on women (75 minutes) • A discussion on AI-related harms, challenges, and opportunities in relation to women in the economy, beginning with a presentation from the OECD
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch (60 minutes)
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Gender-based violence initiatives: Reflecting on progress and collective impact – Part 1 (60 minutes) • Part 1: Panel of ministers and regional stakeholders on PT implementation of GBV initiatives
2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Break (15 minutes)

2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. **Gender-based violence initiatives: Reflecting on progress and collective impact – Part 2 (60 minutes)**

- Part 2: Ministers will speak to progress, impacts, promising practices, and work ahead in addressing GBV in their jurisdictions; session will open with a high-level overview of the preliminary findings of the Evaluation of the National Action Plan to End GBV and conclude with a discussion focused on impacts

3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **FPT Forum business (15 minutes)**

- Update on the FPT funding complementarity process

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **SO meeting to review official documents (90 minutes)**

Thursday, July 16 – 44th Annual FPT Ministerial Meeting, Day 2

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast (60 minutes)**

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Ministerial roundtable (90 minutes)**

- Dedicated time, supported by discussion questions, for FPT Ministers to share updates on 1-2 innovative initiatives/best practices being implemented in their jurisdiction

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Media announcement (60 minutes)**

- Announcement of extended funding for crisis lines

11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. **Break (15 minutes)**

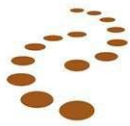
11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Decision on official records (60 minutes)**

12:15 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Closing remarks (15 minutes)**

- Confirmation of 2026-27 Forum Co-Chair
- Elder closing

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Lunch (60 minutes)**

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Senior Officials Meeting**
Separate agenda



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44th Annual Meeting of Federal, Provincial and Territorial (FPT) Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women

Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers Reaffirm Commitment to Advancing Gender Equality at Annual Meeting in New Brunswick

July 16, 2026- Moncton, New Brunswick

Today, the Federal, Provincial and Territorial (FPT) Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women concluded their 44th Annual Meeting in Moncton, New Brunswick.

Co-chaired by the Honourable Rechie Valdez, Canada's Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Secretary of State (Small Business and Tourism), and the Honourable Chantal Boudreau, Minister of Seniors and Minister Responsible for Women and Gender Equity in the Government of New Brunswick, this year's meeting focused on concrete solutions to strengthen economic participation, safety and opportunity for women across Canada.

The meeting began with a panel discussion with women from diverse backgrounds who shared their experiences with economic insecurity, caregiving responsibilities, health issues and aging. Ministers were presented with barriers that limit women's full participation in the economy and community life, as well as the importance of putting in place supports that are adapted to these realities.

Ministers also had the opportunity to discuss ways to improve women's access and retention in high-growth sectors, particularly in emerging, well-paid fields that have traditionally been dominated by men. They highlighted the importance of removing barriers, strengthening pathways and expanding opportunities for more women to pursue careers in the industries that will shape the economy of tomorrow. Ministers agreed to continue discussions on approaches to women's participation in the changing labour market.

Ministers discussed the economic impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on women, in light of a presentation from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Discussions focused on the opportunities and risks associated with AI, including labour market impacts and challenges that could disproportionately affect women. Governments highlighted different approaches to ensure that women can take advantage of the opportunities created by new technologies, while removing barriers that limit their participation in the development of AI and its economic benefits.

Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to continue efforts to prevent and end gender-based violence. They emphasized the importance of continuing to take action to better support victims and survivors, improve access to services, and address the root causes of this violence, with the goal of creating safer communities for all Canadians.

Federal funding for the next phase of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence*, as well as continued support for provincial and territorial crisis hotlines, was announced earlier today. This funding will complement provincial and territorial investments to help victims and survivors of gender-based violence across Canada. Through sustained and coordinated action, these bilateral agreements will strengthen efforts to prevent gender-based violence, improve supports for victims and survivors of gender-based violence and their families, and build safer communities for everyone.

The ministers concluded their 44th Annual meeting by reiterating their commitment to continue working together to advance gender equality, women's economic empowerment and the elimination of gender-based violence across Canada. They also highlighted the importance of data to inform decision-making. Ministers agreed to continue to work together to advance shared priorities and look forward to continuing this important work at the next FPT Ministerial Meeting in Nunavut.

The FPT Ministers' Meeting was preceded by a separate meeting with national Indigenous spokespersons and leaders. Discussions focused on several topics such as preventing violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people; combating trafficking in persons; understanding the impacts of major projects on Indigenous communities; and the importance of protecting women and girls in digital environments. Indigenous advocates and leaders at the national level reiterated the importance of Indigenous perspectives in developing strategies that take into account the unique realities, histories, and needs of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people. Ministers agreed to continue to work with Indigenous partners to support community-based and culturally appropriate approaches to help advance gender equality.

Quotes

"Canada remains firmly committed to advancing gender equality. Through ongoing collaboration between federal, provincial and territorial governments, as well as the sharing of perspectives and best practices, we are strengthening supports and opportunities for women and girls across the country. Together, we are creating the conditions for women to fully participate in our economy and communities, while removing barriers and strengthening safety in all regions of Canada."»

The Honourable Rechie Valdez, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Secretary of State (Small Business and Tourism)

"We are very proud to host this year's meeting in New Brunswick. Hosting this event in our province reflects our deep commitment to advancing gender equity and strengthening the voices of women, girls, and gender-diverse people across Canada. By listening to those with lived experience, including older women, Indigenous leaders, and survivors of violence, we are building a society based on respect, inclusion, and empowerment.

Together, we are working to break down systemic barriers and create new opportunities. We make the invisible visible, empowering women and girls to lead, innovate, and reach their full potential. This work goes beyond the boundaries of public policy; It's about creating lasting change that will inspire and uplift generations to come."

The Honourable Lyne Chantal Boudreau, Minister of Seniors and Minister Responsible for Women and Gender Equity for the Government of New Brunswick

Quick facts

- FPT Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women have met annually since 1982 to gather information, discuss key issues and provide direction related to the status of women and gender equality.
- Meetings between federal, provincial and territorial governments are an important opportunity for Ministers responsible for Status of Women from coast to coast to coast to discuss shared priorities, strengthen collaboration and work together to improve the lives of all Canadians.
- The work of FPT Ministers has led to the development of resource guides, tools and reports that have supported initiatives in Canada to prevent and end gender-based violence and human trafficking, promote gender-based analysis (GBA) Plus, and promote economic equality.
- Since 2017, FPT Ministers have held separate meetings with Indigenous advocates and leaders at the pan-Canadian level.
- In January 2021, FPT Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women endorsed the Joint Declaration for a Canada Free of Gender-Based Violence**.
- During the 40th At a meeting in November 2022, FPT ministers, with the exception of Quebec*, announced the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence, reaffirming the governments' long-standing commitment to preventing gender-based violence and advancing gender equality for all Canadians.

** The fight against gender-based violence is a priority issue for the Government of Quebec, which has invested significant amounts of money to end violence against women. Although it subscribes to the general objectives of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence, the Government of Quebec cannot adhere to them since it intends to maintain its full responsibility in this area on its territory. The Government of Quebec has entered into a bilateral agreement with the federal government that respects its autonomy and its existing and future initiatives to address the needs and priorities in its territory in the fight against gender-based violence. It expects to receive its fair share of any additional federal investment to implement this action plan.*

***Quebec supports the general principles of the joint statement and will continue to be active in addressing gender-based violence by prioritizing its own actions and measures. It also intends to continue to share information and best practices with other governments on this issue.*

Associated links

- [Federal, Provincial and Territorial \(FPT\) Forum of Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women](#)
- [Monitoring of results as part of the National Action Plan to End GBV](#)

Contacts

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Conference

[44th Annual Meeting of Federal, Provincial and Territorial \(FPT\) Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women](#)

(831-644)

July 14, 2026 - July 16, 2026

Moncton, New Brunswick

**44th ANNUAL MEETING OF FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL-TERRITORIAL MINISTERS
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

RECORD OF DECISION

MINISTERIAL PARTICIPANTS

CANADA (CO-CHAIR)

The Honourable Rechie Valdez, Minister of Women and Gender Equality and Secretary of State (Small Business and Tourism)

Gail Mitchell, A/Deputy Minister of Women and Gender Equality and Youth

NEW BRUNSWICK (CO-CHAIR)

The Honourable Lyne Chantal Boudreau, Minister responsible for Women and Gender Equity and Minister of Seniors

Nicole McCarty, Assistant Deputy Minister, Office of Women and Gender Equity

ALBERTA

The Honourable Rajan Sawhney, Minister of Indigenous Relations

Roisin McCabe, Executive Director, Status of Women and Inclusion

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Jennifer Blatherwick, Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity

Asha Bhat, Assistant Deputy Minister, Gender Equity Office

MANITOBA

The Honourable Nahanni Fontaine, Minister of Families, Minister responsible for Accessibility, and Minister responsible for Women and Gender Equity

Lindey Courchene, Executive Director, Women and Gender Equity Manitoba

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

The Honourable Lela Evans, Minister of Health and Community Services, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Minister responsible for Newfoundland and Labrador Health Services, Minister of Women and Gender Equality, Minister of Labrador Affairs, and Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Sharlene Jones, Deputy Minister, Women and Gender Equality

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Tisha Heron, Director, Gender Equity Division, Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs

NOVA SCOTIA

The Honourable Leah Martin, Minister of Communications, Minister responsible for L'nu Affairs, Minister responsible for the Advisory Council on the *Status of Women Act*, and Minister responsible for Youth

Jeannine Jessome, Executive Director, Nova Scotia Status of Women Office

NUNAVUT

The Honourable Gwen Healey Akearok, Minister of Family Services, Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Minister responsible for Homelessness, Minister responsible for Poverty Reduction, and Minister responsible for the Status of Women

Amber Aglukark, President, Qullit Nunavut Status of Women Council

ONTARIO

The Honourable Charmaine Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity

Taunya Paquette, Assistant Deputy Minister, Office of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, Gender Equity Division, Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Michelle Harris-Genge, Director, Interministerial Women's Secretariat

QUEBEC

Mme. Martine Biron, Minister of Higher Education and Minister responsible for the Status of Women

Mme. Catherine Ferembach, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Secretariat for the Status of Women

SASKATCHEWAN

Bernadet Hamill, Executive Director, Status of Women Office, Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport

YUKON

The Honourable Laura Lang, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Minister responsible for the French Language Services Directorate, Minister responsible for the Women and Gender Equity Directorate, and Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Board

Sierra van der Meer, Deputy Minister, Department of Economic Development, Department of Tourism and Culture, and the Women and Gender Equity Directorate

Senior women in the economy

Ministers agree to:

- direct Senior Officials to explore opportunities for knowledge sharing and possible collaborative actions on issues affecting aging and senior women, with particular consideration given to the cumulative impacts of gender inequity.

Supporting women's entry and retention in high-growth industries and non-traditional sectors

Ministers agree to:

- direct Senior Officials to identify areas for cooperation towards a strategy¹ to increase women's entry, retention, and leadership in high-paying and high-growth industries. This could include engagement with industry and civil society and analysis of early actions, informed by Ministerial priorities.

Economic impact of AI on women

Ministers agree to:

- direct Senior Officials to continue examining the gendered impacts of AI, with the possibility of developing actions for future work within the Forum. To undertake this work, they can consider creating a new task team or sub-group of an existing task team.

Gender-based violence initiatives: Reflecting on progress and collective impact

Ministers agree to:

- direct the GBV and Access to Justice Task Team to review the Expected Results Framework of the National Action Plan to End Gender-based Violence,² including conducting a data gap analysis.
- direct the GBV and Access to Justice Task Team to map current initiatives that contribute to GBV prevention and, if possible, identify data to measure impacts.

¹ Although Quebec shares the concerns of other governments regarding these topics, it does not endorse or participate in pan-Canadian approaches in areas within its jurisdiction, and intends to continue to fully assume its responsibilities. Quebec will continue to contribute to this Forum by sharing expertise, information, and best practices, and expects to receive its fair share of any federal investment for the implementation of this strategy.

² Gender-based violence is a priority for the Government of Québec, which has invested significant funds to end violence against women. However, although it supports the overall objectives of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence, the Government of Québec cannot adhere to it because it intends to retain its full responsibility in this area on its territory. Through an agreement that respects its autonomy, the Government of Québec receives federal funding to support the programs, initiatives, and services to end gender-based violence that it puts in place based on the needs of its territory.