

# **2018 PCWO RESOLUTIONS**

With Summaries of Intent

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## 2018 RESOLUTIONS

### 1. PCWO RESOLUTION 2018-01

#### **Fragrance and Scent Free Policy for Schools and Child Care Facilities**

**Whereas #1** chemicals, including those found in many scented products used every day for cleaning and personal care can seriously affect people, especially those who suffer from environmental sensitivities, allergies, asthma and other respiratory disorders; and

**Whereas #2** many people, especially children, are reluctant or unable to speak up about their environmental sensitivity; and

**Whereas #3** people may not even be aware of the substances and chemicals being used around them or of the potential effects scented products, or combination of products, may have on them; therefore be it

**Resolved #1** that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy that all educational and daycare environments be fragrance/scent-free; and be it further

**Resolved # 2** that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario to enact legislation to provide an indoor environment in all child care, daycare, elementary and secondary school facilities that are as free from fragrances, perfumes and scents as possible by:

- a) not allowing the use of scented personal care products within these facilities at any time by faculty, staff, students and the public users of these facilities, and employees, and
- b) requiring all materials used for cleaning and decontamination to be fragrance/scent-free; and be it further resolved

**Resolved #3** that students, parents and visitors be informed of this policy through signs posted in school buildings, oral communication and promotional materials, and that employees receive a policy manual and training, and be it further resolved

**Resolved #4** that the facility's health and safety committee or representative conduct periodic verification of policy implementation and practice, and investigate reported incidents of allergic reactions.

## **2. PCWO RESOLUTION 2018-02**

### **Organic Regulation in Ontario**

- Whereas #1** the term organic refers to an ecological method of agricultural production that respects the natural environment; and
- Whereas #2** organic certification is the consumer's guarantee that all food products that use the term organic, actually are; and
- Whereas #3** the Canada Organic Standard is enforced for only products that carry the Canada Organic Logo or are traded across provincial borders, so consumers may be misled by the use of the term organic in provinces where no additional regulation exists; and
- Whereas #4** Quebec, Manitoba, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have all introduced provincial regulation, British Columbia will in 2018, and Alberta is moving toward regulation; therefore be it
- Resolved #1** that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario (PCWO) adopt as policy that organic produce in Ontario be regulated; and be it further
- Resolved #2** that PCWO urge the Government of Ontario to consult with Ontario's organic sector to produce and implement regulations that are in line with the Canada Organic Standard.

### **3. PCWO RESOLUTION 2018-03**

#### **The Impact of Precarious Employment / Non-Standard Work on Women**

**Whereas #1** many Canadians engage in non-standard/contingent work referred to as precarious work including part-time, contract or term, temporary or casual, temporary agency or any job that has a specific predetermined end date; and

**Whereas #2** Statistics Canada reported in November 2017 that Canadians in their prime working years were less likely to hold full-time, year-round jobs than at any time in the past two decades. This is a clear indication of the rise of precarious employment that carries implications for household income, retirement savings, consumer spending and tax returns; and

**Whereas #3** there is uncertainty of continued employment when engaging in non-standard work: risk of job loss, continuous job search, always facing new demands, lack of control over the labour process, little worker access to regulatory protection, a wage that may be insufficient to maintain the worker and dependents, and sometimes long periods of unemployment are the reality faced by those in precarious work; and

**Whereas #4** the shift away from full-time permanent employment has affected women and men differently as evidenced by women's continued over-representation in part-time work, therefore be it

**Resolved #1** that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario(PCWO) adopt as policy the that Canadians need an adequate income to support themselves and their families; and be it further resolved

**Resolved #2** that the PCWO urge the Government of Ontario to:  
a) undertake a comprehensive structural approach to the examination of non-standard work/precarious employment as it pertains to new labour laws; and  
b) collect data and do a gender-based analysis of non-standard work.

#### **4. PCWO RESOLUTION Update 2018-01**

##### **UPDATE: Alcohol Promotion and Protection of Children from Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and Child Developmental Delays**

- Whereas #1** PCWO 83.5 Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) policy asked the provincial government to emphasize an education program on FASD; and
- Whereas #2** mothers' milk can contain alcohol, which can impair a baby's motor development; and
- Whereas #3** there has been a significant increase in drinking by young women in recent years and many babies are born each year with FASD, because of women who drink alcohol while pregnant; and
- Whereas #4** the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) has greatly expanded alcohol marketing through an increased number of new outlets, internet listings, and promotional literature featuring incentives to drink, and drinking as a happy life style; and
- Whereas #5** LCBO and other government licensed outlets are required to prominently post warnings regarding the dangers of drinking while pregnant, but this is poorly enforced; and
- Whereas # 6** there should be on-going campaigns by the LCBO to educate the public; therefore be it
- Resolved #1** that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario (PCWO) adopt as policy the need to protect children from Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and developmental delays, and be it further
- Resolved #2** that the PCWO urge the Government of Ontario, specifically the Ministry of Children and Youth Services to ensure that:
- 1) there is an ongoing promotional, multi-media campaign in all liquor outlets to educate the public about the dangers of drinking alcohol while pregnant or nursing to protect children from FASD and developmental delays,
  - 2) the Liquor Control Board advertisements in all media cease featuring alcohol as a life style choice
  - 3) alcohol not be offered as a promotional reward
  - 4) Ontario's licensed liquor outlets post prominent warnings on the dangers of drinking alcohol while pregnant or nursing and that all promotional materials contain these same

warnings and there be enhanced enforcement; and be it further

**Resolved #3** that the PCWO urge the Liquor Control Board of Ontario to fund and support multi-media material providing information and tips for expectant parents about alcohol use in pregnancy and to work with organizations such as “Best Start” by Health nexus to produce them; and be it further

**Resolved #4** that there be support from the Government of Ontario for organizations that promote health and social services for pregnant women who need help/support to stop/reduce drinking during pregnancy, such as “breaking the Cycle” at Mothercraft in Toronto.

## **5. PCWO RESOLUTION Update 2018-02**

### **UPDATE 2015.01PU Cessation of the Use of Segregation in Ontario Correctional Institutions**

- Whereas #1** in 2012, the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urged the Government of Ontario to improve conditions in Ontario Correctional Institutions without delay by:
- a) Following the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules (UNSMR) for the Treatment of Prisoners and implementing the recommendations of respected Canadian bodies, including the Attorney General of Ontario, the John Howard Society and the Canadian Mental Health Association;
  - b) Reducing the need for overcrowding, and using programming and treatment based on credible research that reinforces the mandate of the Ministry of Corrections and addresses the crime-reducing potential of the program;
  - c) Ensuring that the physical and mental health needs of all inmates are met expeditiously in both jails and detention centres;
  - d) Working towards building smaller local prisons with the aim of closing super jails in the near future; and
- Whereas #2** segregation of inmates over undue lengths of time is being used as a disciplinary tool in Ontario's correctional institutions and increased over-crowding of these facilities will only exacerbate the situation; and
- Whereas #3** the World Health Organization considers segregation, which isolates and dehumanizes a person, to be a form of torture and many jurisdictions are moving away from its use; and
- Whereas #4** persons with mental health challenges are particularly at risk, and although there is a 100-bed secure facility for men, the Provincial Ministry of Correctional Services is only recently planning to study the need for such a facility for women; therefore be it
- Resolved #1** that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy that segregation of inmates not be used as a disciplinary tool in Ontario correctional institutions and that there be adequate secure facilities for persons with mental health challenges; and
- Resolved #2** that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario to cease using segregation as a disciplinary method in correctional institutions and that they act immediately to ensure a secure facility for female inmates with mental health issues.