

October Newsletter

Updates, events, and recommended reading from Women
Transforming Cities



Do you have a plan to vote?

Last Friday was the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Our organization dispersed to various events around the city to honour the day and reflect on ways we can continue to work towards true reconciliation.

Some of us welcomed in a re-naming of Trutch Street with Musqueam Nation. Some of us attended a community garden gathering listening to the Indigenous Women Rise Drum Group as they sang about stolen land. Some walked from the Strathcona Community Centre to join the rally at Grandview Park and joined the Trout Lake rally later that afternoon.

All of us took time to reflect on the continued legacy of colonial violence on the unceded territories where we live and work.

Yesterday was the National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Gender Diverse people. It was another day to reflect on and plan the work we need to do.

With polls already open, we need representatives in office who will provide spaces for Indigenous women and Two-Spirit people to heal. We need representatives who [condemn the use of arms against vulnerable, racialized mothers](#). As per UNDRIP, we need representatives committed to protecting and strengthening the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations' rights to economic development and self determination.

We have shared our responses to Council motions through our [Watch Council](#) work over the past few years. We've showed you through our [Hot Pink Paper Campaign](#) and [Centering Equity](#), the candidate forum we held a few weeks ago, what a lot of these candidates commit to in their policy platforms. But these are just a few of the many resources out there to better understand who is running.

We encourage you to do some more digging, to really look into past voting records of incumbents and listen in on other candidate forums.

Tune in to the conversation between the City of Vancouver's Democratic Engagement Manager (Danielle Johnston), our Campaign Lead, Mahtab Laghaei, and Feminist Urbanist and SFU Senior Lecturer, Tiffany Muller-Myrdahl this **Wednesday from 10-11:00 AM on the IntraVenus Radio Program on [CJSF](#)** to learn more about voting, its importance, and resources that can help you decide who to vote for. Then get out to the polls now or on October 15 and exercise your democratic right.

Voting in this election matters. Having a Mayor and Council who support an equity lens on all Councillor motions can make this city a place where everyone can belong.

Updates from WTC



WTC presented Advancing the TRC Calls to Action at UBCM this past month.

Our Executive Director, Ash Peplow Ball, and Project Coordinator, Clara Prager, presented a clinic on how local governments can advance the TRC Calls to Action along with Barclay Pitkethly, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer of the City of Mission, and Janet Wark, a City Councillor from the District of Chetwynd. Read the summary of the event [here](#). Our full report will be launched soon with all the details on the barriers that local governments face in implementing these Calls to Action.



Thank you for attending our HPP launch!

We enjoyed meeting with many of you on the steps of City Hall to talk about our policy asks and why they are so important to equity seeking genders. For those of you who may have missed the launch, view our [full paper and policy backgrounders here](#).

We need your help to continue this important work in the City post-election. If you are able to, [please consider donating](#) to help us maintain our grassroots organizing.



Thank you for joining us at [Centering Equity](#).

Our incredible moderator, Ginger Gosnell-Myers guided us through 17 candidate responses to a variety of questions ranging from affordable housing, to the poisoned drug crisis, tenant protections, and the climate emergency. If you missed it, you can view [the video of the event](#).



WTC gave a workshop on Intersectionality + Leadership this past month.

Our community organizer, Diana Kamau, presented a workshop at Minerva's Face of Leadership - Inclusive Leadership Forum this past month. She broke down the meaning of intersectionality, the history of the term, and how it can be practically applied to leadership. If your own organization is interested in a workshop from WTC, [drop us a line here](#).

Upcoming Events



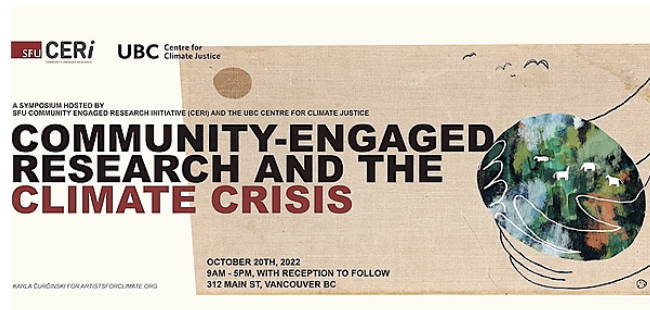
[Decolonizing Food Systems](#) w/ Indigenous Independent Cultural Facilitator Leona Brown

Head to the SFU Bennet Library on **Friday, October 7 from 12:30-1:30 PM PDT** to listen in on a conversation with Leona Brown, to explore "Indigeneity in our food systems, the healing nature of advocacy work, and learn how to support Indigenous food practices on the lands and waterways we call home." [Register here.](#)



[UBC Capacity & UBC Debate Society are hosting an Election Debate](#)

Don't miss your chance to continue to parse out the stances of Mayoral and City Council candidates on key voter issues on **Tuesday, October 11 at 5:30 PM** in the AMS Great Hall. This is a great opportunity to hear more from the candidates before voting day. [Register here](#) for this free event.



Community-Engaged Research and the Climate Crisis

Join this one day in-person symposium at 312 Main on **October 20**. The event will take place from **9 AM to 5 PM** and you don't want to miss it. Join in to the conversation around

1. Collaborative research and climate responses that advance Indigenous sovereignty;
2. Storytelling for community resilience and policy change; and
3. Youth-driven research and engagement for climate justice.

[Register here.](#)

Take Action

- Vote in this election! Visit <https://votemate.org/> for information on voter eligibility, voting locations, and candidate information based on your municipality.
- Indigenous organizations need your support well after September 30th. Head to [One Days Pay](#) to consider donating funds to Indigenous led organizations.

Read, Watch, & Learn

- Revisit our toolkit, [Organize!](#), to start your own version of our Hot Pink Paper Campaign in your municipality.
- Utilize [It's Not Gender as Usual: Guiding Questions for Transformative Intersectional Gender+ Research](#), written in collaboration and community with the Collective for Gender+ in Research by Hannah Sullivan Facknitz, Ieda Matavelli, Isha Mathur, Elaina Nguyen, and Claire Okatch.
- Share with your children this Warrior Kids Podcast [5 Things to Know About September 30](#).

- Explore [A Bumpy Ride](#) a full tracking of women's economic recovery amid the pandemic.

[Donate to support our work](#)



Women Transforming Cities acknowledges that our work takes place on the stolen, unceded, ancestral territories of the Sḵw̱wú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Səl̓ílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations.

Questions? Email us at:
info@womentransformingcities.org

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