



*Updates, events, and recommended reading from Women Transforming Cities.*



At WTC we are constantly asking questions. Sometimes those are internal questions, like what does our community need and how can we better meet those needs? Sometimes those are external questions, like what is our role within our growing network of community organizations to create impact on a particular issue?

With the National Day of Awareness for Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people earlier this week, we've been asking ourselves what more municipalities can do to advance the [MMIWG2S Calls to Justice](#). We urge you to take on this question too. Consider reaching out to your elected leaders to ask:

- Are you prioritizing or adequately resourcing commitments to justice for MMIWG2S in your municipal budgets? Do you have funding allocations to Indigenous-led organizations, affordable housing initiatives, harm reduction services, and culturally-affirming health care, including Indigenous-led healing lodges for Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ peoples?
- Is your municipality co-creating community and peer-led crisis management initiatives, non-police mental health interventions, and social support programs with and for Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirit folks?

- How are you ensuring that the agency and human rights of Indigenous sex workers are upheld? Are you meaningfully collaborating with sex workers and sex worker-serving organizations to create relevant, inclusive, and accessible services?

Local governments have an important role to play in the Calls for Justice and we have an important role to play in shaping our local decision-making.

In solidarity,

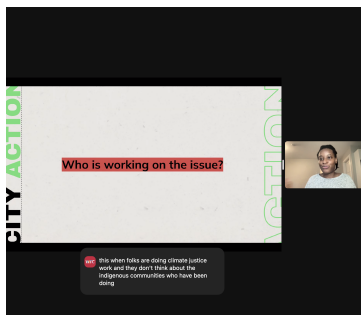
Women Transforming Cities

## Monthly Highlights

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Last month we:

- Celebrated the introduction of legislation that aims to address systemic racism in BC. The new legislation will hold public bodies accountable for gaps and barriers identified through the anti-racism data act. WTC was one of many community organizations that facilitated consultations on both the anti-racism data act and this new legislation.
- Built shared knowledge alongside our Community Coordinated Response Network, DTES residents, and policymakers.
- Launched our [fee-for-service workshop model](#) to help non-profits, businesses, and municipalities embed equity into their organizations!
- Presented and moderated the panel [The TRC Calls to Action: A Roadmap to Right Relationships](#) at the AVICC's 75th AGM & Convention
- Hosted our *How to Organize for Change* learning series workshop and discussed creating campaigns.
- Wrote a letter in support of concerns about the gender impacts of a proposed 'floatel' in the District of Squamish
- Launched a whole new series of learning workshop opportunities that you should check out on our [Events page](#)!



## Updates from WTC

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## Understanding Local Government with a Focus on: Food Justice

If you missed our February learning series, here's your chance to learn all about local government! This workshop will cover

- Responsibilities of municipal governments
- How local governments make decisions
- How to engage & influence local government around food justice

Workshops are \$10, but free for our members so sign up to [become a member](#) today. *Members can access the free code via Slack or in our past Member Dispatch.*

[Register](#)

## WTC tours Vancouver City Hall

We're going on a field trip! Join us **Wednesday, May 29** at Vancouver City Hall from **9:30-12:30 PM** to learn all about how our city council operates & what happens in a council meeting. [Fill out this field trip form](#) if you're a WTC member interested in coming. We'll get a tour of the building by the City of Vancouver's Democratic Engagement Manager, Danielle Johnston, and a live viewing of a council meeting with city staff available to answer any questions you may have. Join us as we demystify local government and [become a WTC member today!](#)



Fill out this interest form!

## A Sustainability Scholar, Radhika, has joined our team!

Give a warm welcome to [Radhika Sing \(she/her\)](#) our summer intern. She is an Indian architect and a graduate student of community & regional planning at UBC. She passionately works along the lines of climate action, environmental sustainability, & community engagement. She is skilled in applying sustainable solutions to real-world challenges and simplifying complex urban knowledge for the public. With a diverse experience in research and practice, she wants to create a sustainable, inclusive, and equitable urban future!



## Putting an Equity Lens on Community Engagement

If you've ever wondered how your organization can build relationships and develop reciprocal community engagement practices that are rooted in equity, you won't want to miss this! Join us at next month's learning series workshop on **June 13 from 12-1:30 PM (PDT)** on Zoom.

Our learning workshops are \$10, but free for our members so sign up to [become a member](#) today. *Members can access the free code via Slack or in our past Member Dispatch, or email us!*

A promotional graphic for a workshop. At the top left is the WTC logo with the text 'WOMEN TRANSFORMING CITIES'. The main title 'PUTTING AN EQUITY LENS ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT' is in large, bold, blue letters. Below the title is an illustration of a diverse group of people sitting around a table, engaged in a discussion. To the right of the illustration, it says 'A WTC LEARNING SERIES' and 'A workshop that explores community engagement practices &amp; challenges using an intersectional framework.' At the bottom right, a box contains the date and time: 'JUNE 13 12:00-1:30 PM (PDT) ON ZOOM'. The background is a light yellow with blue and red geometric shapes at the corners.



Register

## Upcoming Events

### **CONNECTING OUR MOVEMENTS PALESTINE, ACROSS TURTLE ISLAND & THE WAR ON DRUGS**



WHAT EMPIRES  
MUST CRUMBLE FOR  
US ALL TO LIVE?

### **Webinar: Connecting our movements: Palestine, across Turtle Island, and the war on drugs**

Don't miss this free webinar on **May 14 at 3:00 PM (PT)** as organizers working in the anti-colonial and anti-imperial hard reduction space come together to discuss questions like, "What could solidarity between the movements for the liberation of people who use drugs and the liberation of Palestinians and Indigenous people of Turtle Island look like?"

Register



### **See a film at DOXA!**

The folks behind the Documentary Film Festival (DOXA) have made some incredible selections for this year's festival. There are screenings up until the 12th at a variety of locations around Vancouver, so get out to a film while you still can! From examinations of residential schools ([Sugarcane](#)) to following transgender performer Jackie Shane's music and life ([Any Other Way: The Jackie Shane Story](#)) the program is brimming with story-telling we don't want to miss.

[View the Program](#)



## Join the On to Ottawa Peace Caravan on Sunday, May 12th

WTC founder [Ellen Woodsworth](#) is leading a month-long caravan across the country with Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) and Canadian Voice of Women for Peace (VOW) rallying together folks from coast to coast for peace. The caravan launches at a peace rally this **Sunday, May 12 at 11:00 AM** at Grandview Park on Commercial Drive. To donate, endorse, or join them in this cause email [wilpf.canada@gmail.com](mailto:wilpf.canada@gmail.com)

[More Info](#)

SHAKE UP THE ESTABLISHMENT PRESENTS

### Towards Collective Liberation: Dreaming Of Thriving Futures

Arts-Based Community Gathering & Fundraiser for Gaza

Join us as we delve into critical topics from our new book, *Practicing Rest, Recovery, Resistance*, while gathering with community for a dreamy and crafty evening! Art supplies and refreshments provided.



Massy Arts Society  
23 E. Pender St.  
So-Called Vancouver, BC  
@ 6:00 - 8:00 pm

**16 MAY 2024**

Entry by Pay What You Can (\$10 minimum) Donation  
ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO ISLAMIC RELIEF FUND

**RSVP NOW AT [TINYURL.COM/3RSVAN](https://tinyurl.com/3RSVAN)**

@ShakeUpTheEstab ShakeUpTheEstab.org

## Towards Collective Liberation: Dreaming of Thriving Futures

Massy Arts Society and Shake Up the Establishment are putting on an arts-based community gathering and fundraiser for Gaza on **Thursday, May 16 from 6-8:00 PM (PT)** at 23 E Pender St (Massy Arts Society). For a \$10 donation to Islamic Relief Canada, join a beautiful community event of crafting, connecting, and listening to excerpts from Shake Up the Establishment's book [Practicing Rest, Recovery, Resistance](#).

[RSVP Here](#)



[More Info](#)

## Rallie for Rainbow Equality

Queer Momentum is leading rallies for National Rainbow Week of Action from May 11-17th all across the country.

Head down with friends to the Vancouver Art Gallery (750 Hornby St.) on **Friday, May 17 at 5:30 PM** to support 2SLGBTQQIA++ advocates and allies calling out for inclusive policies, and safe and joyful spaces for all of our queer community.



[Register](#)

## Cultures of Belonging an event by SFU Centre for Comparative Muslim Studies

Join author, educator & human rights activist Dr. Monia Mazigh, in conversation with SFU scholar-in-residence Dr. Aryn Sajooman Rights Campaign on **Sunday, May 26 at 2:00 PM (PT)** at the Ismaili Centre Vancouver (4010 Canada Way, Burnaby) as they question "the promise of citizenship in an age of nativist populism and polarization."

## Read, Watch, & Learn

- Explore and share a new resource from the Hua foundation [Reorienting Our Trauma: A Workbook for the Asian Diaspora](#)

- Write to your officials in support of 2SLGBTQIA ++ rights on the National Rainbow Week of Action by [using this template](#)
- Read this Jay Pitter article The Cultural Geography of [Cowboy Carter](#) that talks Beyonce's *Cowboy Carter* as a way to explain place-based policies that have historically divided communities.
- Subscribe to [Playground Talk](#) a substack on parenting and policy written by our amazing WTC member Brittany Hopkins
- Revisit [By Us, For Us: A Needs and Risks Assessment of Sex Workers in the Lower Mainland and Southern Vancouver Island](#)



[www.womentransformingcities.org](http://www.womentransformingcities.org)

[Donate to WTC](#)

Women Transforming Cities acknowledges that our work takes place on the stolen, unceded, ancestral territories of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations. Questions? Email us at: [info@womentransformingcities.org](mailto:info@womentransformingcities.org) Want to change how you receive these emails? You can unsubscribe from this list.