



**FEDERATION OF MEDICAL WOMEN OF CANADA**  
**Women, Peace and Security Committee**

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**FÉDÉRATION DES FEMMES MÉDECINS DU CANADA**  
**Comité sur les femmes, la paix et la sécurité**

**FMWC WPS committee minutes - Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**1. Introduction** and welcome

In attendance: Nahid Azad (Chair), Karen Breeck, Anne Niec, Kathee Andrews, Bev Johnson, Victoria Gerber, Shelley Ross  
Guest: Veronique Pronovost

**2. Minutes** of July 10th meeting were approved without change

**3. FMWC WPS committee ABM report** – approved without change for submission

**4. Myths and Stereotypes Abortion Fact Sheet** – Veronique joined the meeting.

- Overall people were happy with the document. Veronique offered to review the document once more to ensure consistent terminology/definitions for the various types of abortion. Surgical/induced/medication/medical etc.

-Discussion about what to do once fact sheet was finalized.

It was felt that it could be a FMWC branded educational tool/resource for providers and patients.

It could be put on the FMWC website – blog? downloadable?

It could be sent out to all FMWC members/other medical organizations

Being federal election shortly, it could be sent out to all political candidates

It could be co-endorsed with SOGC /CAPS/CART other like-minded medical groups.

Hopefully will have it approved and in a version to distribute/announce at AGM.

**ACTION:** Veronique to update fact sheet

**ACTION:** FMWC Office to work with updated fact sheet to develop a branded product and approve it at ABM for announcement/distribution at AGM

**ACTION:** Distribution to other like-minded groups for possible co-endorsement.

**5. Dr. Wendy Norman** Invitation (conducting study on medical abortion implementation in Canada).

-The initial reach out to Wendy was positive. Wendy stated that CAPS and CART have always counted the FMWC among their friends, and MWIA has provided support letters for them and related projects in the past. Wendy is very interested to further expand our collaborations.

**ACTION:** Nahid & Kathee to organize a teleconference with Wendy to discuss the options and mutual benefits we can devise. This includes possibly adding "FMWC" to the CAPS list of supporting organizations and associations for advocacy for abortion in Canada.

<http://cart-grac.ubc.ca/about-us/collaborating-organizations/>

**6. Gun Violence and Physicians blog.** (cross-posting with WPSN-Canada)

<https://fmwc.ca/gun-violence-and-medicine/>



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-WPSNetwork-Canada is calling to members to consider writing a blog during the election period on various topics with the focus being “3 specific action requests for the new government” and around a 900 words maximum. Spots are still available for blogs. Karen is doing one for 9 Oct blog on uniformed women’s health issues on UN deployments. Our cmte will do a blog on gun violence.

**ACTION:** Sign up with WPS-N to do a blog for their website prior to election. Interested members please contact Nahid ASAP.

**ACTION:** Encouraging FMWC to endorse and collaborate with other organizations that are active against gun violence.

**ACTION:** Nahid and Anne to submit a motion to AGM on this topic.

### **7. Climate Change and Women**

[https://www.criaw-](https://www.criaw-icref.ca/images/userfiles/files/Women%20and%20Climate%20Change_FINAL.pdf)

[icref.ca/images/userfiles/files/Women%20and%20Climate%20Change\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.criaw-icref.ca/images/userfiles/files/Women%20and%20Climate%20Change_FINAL.pdf)

- Bev mentioned about other opportunities in social media to promote e.g. tweet and facebook

- Karen suggested the FMWC can endorse/support other well-established medical groups ie. Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE). It can also focus on what it can uniquely bring to this discussion.

<https://cape.ca/campaigns/climate-health-policy/climate-change-toolkit-for-health-professionals>

Resources such as “drawdown” <https://www.drawdown.org/solutions-summary-by-rank> identifies “physician” and some “health” specific activities ie. limiting food waste, plant-based diets, education of girls, family planning access. The family planning focus is directly a FMWC mandate area to support so perhaps this is where the FMWC specific climate change focus could be. This maybe the best FMWC/MWIA focus area to help climate change.

<https://www.drawdown.org/solutions/women-and-girls/family-planning>

- Sept. 20-27, Global Action: one week of citizens’ peaceful demonstration/strike around the world in support of actions for Climate change. CAPE is encouraging all Canadian doctors to get involved especially as federal elections looms near.

**ACTION:** If in Toronto, meet at Confederation park at 11am on Friday September 27th. We will march to Parliament starting at 11:30. If in Ottawa meet at City Hall 12-1 pm. Find your city at <https://fridaysforfuture.ca/event-map/> Wear your white coat and stethoscope!

**ACTION:** Consider a FMWC AGM motion of support about climate change

**ACTION:** Free online course on climate change based on “drawdown” science research <https://landing.pachamama.org/climate-change-solutions-course>

### **8. Physician Mothers of Canada Petition.**

- FMWC has circulated the link previously - but as Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> deadline more reminder needed.



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**Physician Mothers of Canada**, call upon the **Government of Canada** to (a) act upon the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment “Call to Action on Climate Change and Health” report (February 5, 2019), which has clearly outlined specific measures towards zero emissions; (b) prioritize the elimination of emissions and preservation of a healthy environment as part of every portfolio and in every decision made by our federal and provincial parties; (c) implement a nationwide carbon pricing strategy; (d) commit to the rapid elimination of fossil fuels and coal from our economy; (e) commit to rapid incorporation of green energy and net-zero infrastructure across the country; and (f) eliminate single use plastics.

**ACTION:** Please Sign petition at

<https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-2180>

**9. Canadian WPS Ambassador: Jacqueline O’Neill**

<https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2019/06/12/prime-minister-names-first-ambassador-women-peace-and-security>

- Jacqueline O’Neill Canada’s first Ambassador for WPS – appointed on June 2, 2019. Ms. O’Neill will help advance Canada’s feminist foreign policy by championing the WPS priority commitments at home and around the world. She will also work across all federal departments and with partners to advise on the implementation of C-NAP on WPS. Ms. O’Neill will also recommend actions that can take place to protect the rights of women facing insecurity and violence and promote their meaningful participation in the government development, humanitarian, peace and security efforts around the globe.

**ACTION:** Karen will circulate the positions terms of reference

**ACTION:** Ottawa branch to consider approaching Jacqui to speak to the group

**10. Annual review of the committee ToR**

<https://fmwc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/FMWC-Women-Peace-and-Security-Committee-Terms-of-Reference-2018.pdf>

**ACTION:** For review next meeting.

**11. Updates – Members Reports**

a. MWIA centennial in July 2019 NYC

- Many FMWC members attended a successful MWIA100 conference including Drs. Azad, Andrews, Johnson, Niec, Patricelli from this cmte. Our abortion related poster was presented as FMWC Advocacy Action Plan to improve Domestic Services for Unwanted Pregnancy. The 2 resolutions brought forward to MWIA by our committee were accepted. The new MWIA President (Clarissa Fabre) is interested to move forward with establishing a WPS cmte and needs help from us in doing so.

**ACTION:** Consider a FMWC AGM Motion on abortion support

b. FMWC AGM Sept 20-22 Ottawa Art Gallery – please promote attendance.

c. WPSN-Canada meeting update - Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>



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**ACTION:** Karen will draft a FMWC AGM Motion for uniformed women's health support on UN missions