INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY PROJECT 2016/2017

CFUW participates in the International Women’s Day Project to highlight progress towards women’s equality in Canada and world-wide. It raises awareness about ongoing challenges and gives opportunity to celebrate women’s achievements.

Two IWD project applications were received by CFUW. The International Relations Committee recommended and the Board supports the Inter Pares project for 2016, and MATCH for 2017. In that fashion, we will have two consecutive years 2016 and 2017 published.

OUTLINE OF PROJECTS:

1. Inter Pares 2016. Its request is to support Salvadoran Feminist Collective for Local Development to reinforce and build on previous successful efforts in the struggle to end violence against women in El Salvador by:

* Providing immediate and follow up care to women experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, situations of violence.
* Enhancing the capacities and resilience of front-line workers who attend to situations of violence against women.
* Enhancing municipal level awareness on the relationship between violence against women and citizen security, and strengthening efforts by municipal authorities to develop and implement municipal action plans to prevent VAW.

Adherence to CFUW Criteria

* The project is in alignment with CFUW policies with particular reference to CEDAW, the work of UNCSW and the Beijing Platform.
* Inter Pares is a Canadian social justice organization working in Canada and around the world to support people's struggles for peace, justice, and equality.
* For women experiencing violence it addresses legal assistance, psychological support, and animating peer support groups; teaching self-care for front line workers; training of municipal authorities to implement action plans to prevent VAW, and facilitates other direct benefits to El Salvadoran women and girls.
* The project meets the criteria of responding to a deep seated and pervasive problem in all societies around the world, for example increased femicide.
* Inter Pares is requesting $7,000 from CFUW of which all is to go directly to the Feminist Collective’s program.
* CFUW’s contribution will be recognized by mention in the list of institutional donors in their 2015 Annual Report. Inter Pares will provide a report to CFUW on the impact of CFUW’s contribution to the Feminist Collective work.

1. MATCH International Women’s Project 2017. Its request is for funding to allow the MATCH Fund, which is Canada’s only international women’s fund to support grassroots organizations in the global South. MATCH is 37 years of age and partners with over 650 women's groups in 75 countries and in current “hot spots. It funds grassroots women’s organizations in developing countries by:

* Focusing on dismantling barriers, changing systems, challenging perceptions and transforming society and address the needs of their communities.
* Providing women and their families with basic support and services, from keeping the lights on at women’s shelters, to workshops that empower women about their rights, and helps women hold the ground they have gained as well as assisting women in breaking new ground to support new ways to bring about social change.

Adherence to CFUW Criteria

* The project aligns with CFUW policies, for example CEDAW, the work of UNCSW and the Beijing Platform.
* Invests in innovative women's organizations to end violence and discrimination against women and girls.
* MATCH funds projects that support safer communities, strengthen reporting mechanisms re VAW, enhance women’s leadership skills by enabling women and other community groups to better support survivors of violence and encourage them to stand up for their rights - all actions which influence police and other officials to take notice.
* MATCH is requesting between $10,000 and $20,000, which would allow them to provide an additional grant to a women’s organization in the Global South.
* The MATCH Fund will allocate 10% to administrative costs.
* MATCH will recognize CFUW’s contribution through:
  + - Featuring an article in their newsletter, circulated to more than 1,700
    - Profiling CFUW in their biennial newsletter mailed to 1,000 donors
    - Listing CFUW as a supporter in their online/printed Annual Report
    - Taking suggestions on how our contribution would be recognized

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE? National office accepts donations from clubs and individuals. All amounts are totalled and disbursed in one lump sum to the organization. Contributions timeline for InterPares is June 22, 2015 to May 1st, 2016 and for MATCH it is May 2, 2016 to May 1, 2017.