



National Project Launches Search for Canadian Women Visionaries

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Charlottetown, PE: Today in Charlottetown, *A Bold Vision*, a national visioning and leadership-training conference for Canadian women was launched.

In 2014, Canada will mark the 150th anniversary of the Charlottetown Conference, a meeting that resulted in a bold vision and the formation of Canada. To commemorate this meeting, where 23 men came together, *A Bold Vision* is launching a search for 23 Canadian women leaders to share their bold vision for the next 150 years.

The project will engage Canadians to nominate women from all walks of life to be one of the selected 23 Canadian women leaders that will complete their own vision for Canada and be part of a historic visioning session taking place in Prince Edward Island on September 24th, 2014 in the very building where the Fathers of Confederation met 150 years ago.

At today's launch the project also introduced six Island women leaders who are lending their support to the project. The members of the project Honourary Board include the Honourable Gail Shea, Senator Catherine Callbeck, the Honourable Valerie E. Docherty, Chief Matilda Ramjattan of the Lennox Island First Nation, Irene Dawson, Councillor for the Town of Cornwall and Jessie Inman, CEO of the Confederation Centre of the Arts.

"In 1864, twenty-three men came together in Charlottetown. In that day and age women were not a part of those kinds of discussions. Today, we are." remarked Senator Catherine Callbeck, Canada's first female premier. "Women are not only part of the discussion, but we are now leaders in our society and in our governments."

Also as part of the project, *A Bold Vision* will be hosting a Women's Leadership Conference from September 24th to 26th, 2014. The national conference will bring together the selected 23 visionaries and over 150 of Canada's most influential and aspiring women leaders at the Brudenell River Resort. During these three days, participants will share and learn with some of Canada's greatest known women leaders as well as and those yet to be known.

“Nominations are now open for the 23 visionary leader positions and we are encouraging everyone to get involved by putting forward the names of the amazing women they know.” said Sara Roach-Lewis chair of A Bold Vision steering committee. “We are already feeling the excitement for this project from partners across the country and are looking forward to seeing the nominations come in and have Canadian women leaders join us in Prince Edward Island in 2014.”

This first of its kind national project was brought together by a coalition of women’s organizations including the Women’s Network PEI, the PEI Coalition for Women in Government, PEI Business Women’s Association, PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women and the PEI Interministerial Women’s Secretariat, with support from the PEI 2014 Fund.

Nomination and project information is available on the project website at www.ABoldVision.ca and www.UneVisionIntrepide.ca

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