



Questions for Municipal Election Candidates – Parks

Preamble:

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) is an international bill of rights for women. Article 1 of CEDAW, explains discrimination is understood as "any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex."

The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms sets out equality rights. "Section 15 of the Charter makes it clear that every individual in Canada – regardless of race, religion, national or ethnic origin, colour, sex, age or physical or mental disability – is to be treated with the same respect, dignity and consideration. This means that governments must not discriminate on any of these grounds in its laws or programs."

1. In order to protect the dignity and safety of women and girls, washrooms and changerooms in all public venues must offer sex-segregated facilities.
2. Public venues should offer women-only programs such as women-only time in the gyms, girls-only sports, or teen girls-only activities.
3. Further, women have the right to request that some activities remain sex-segregated, when renting Park Board facilities for cultural, social, or sporting events.