

Build a Dream Receives Federal Funding to Strengthen Partnerships and Advance Gender Equality

Windsor – January 15, 2025 – Build a Dream is proud to announce its selection as a recipient of funding through Women and Gender Equality Canada, as part of the Honourable Marci Ien's announcement of \$40 million for 170 women's and Indigenous women's organizations. This funding will empower Build a Dream to enhance its capacity, build partnerships, and advance initiatives that support women and gender-diverse individuals across Canada.

Women in Canada continue to face significant barriers to success, including persistent pay equity challenges, underrepresentation in high-paying jobs, disproportionate caregiving responsibilities, and limited pathways for career growth. Through this funding, Build a Dream will strengthen its ability to address these systemic challenges by:

- Establishing and improving regional and national partnerships with organizations and industries aligned with its mission.
- Conducting outreach and engaging leaders in male-dominated sectors to foster collaboration.
- Launching initiatives that create opportunities for women to thrive in careers critical to Canada's economic future.
- Developing policies and practices to address barriers to women's equality.

"This funding provides a critical boost to Build a Dream's mission to unlock pathways into meaningful careers, particularly in male-dominated industries," said Nour Hachem, Founder and President of Build a Dream. "It allows us to build partnerships, engage with communities, and develop solutions that help women realize their potential. When women succeed, our economy and society are stronger for it."

The Honourable Marci Ien emphasized the importance of supporting organizations like Build a Dream:

"Breaking down barriers to advance gender equality demands collective action that values diverse voices and experiences. Women's and Indigenous women's organizations are at the forefront of this work, driving transformative change. By giving them the support they need, they can tackle systemic barriers so that everyone can meaningfully participate in Canada's economic and social growth."

This funding will enable Build a Dream to address the growing demand for skilled trades and leadership roles, fostering a workforce that reflects the diversity and talent of Canada. By removing barriers and creating opportunities, Build a Dream is contributing to a more inclusive, equitable, and prosperous future.

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