

weconomie

Women's Economic Council 2017 Annual Report



Board of Director's Message

2017 was a great year for the Women's Economic Council. We continued to partner on national initiatives while supporting partners to undertake regional work. Our national Weconomie.ca project created lots of excitement and engagement across the country. Our work focused on building partnerships and alliances so existing structures and service delivery models could be strengthened or augmented while providing new opportunities for women to be better supported towards their socio-economic goals.

Our engagement, discussions and collaboration with stakeholders on matters that affect women resulted in creating a stronger unified voice across the country for advocacy. Presenting to the House of Commons Standing Committee on the Status of Women was certainly a highlight. We raised challenges for women and solutions for the federal government to consider.

We celebrate the opportunities that emerged this past year as we explored new ways of partnering intended to create a greater win for funders and community. We listened to the struggle of long-standing women's organizations trying to maintain the status quo across the country. With gratitude, we recognized the gift we were able to give our board and collective as we gave ourselves permission to explore new and flexible ways of working and partnering so the collective good could be strengthened. We created space to pilot new, low cost project management and administration practices and we have positioned ourselves to be more resilient for the future.

Looking back, at the present and into the future, we will continue to empower and support partners and women so collectively we can continue making steady progress for women in Canada.



Melanie Conn,

President

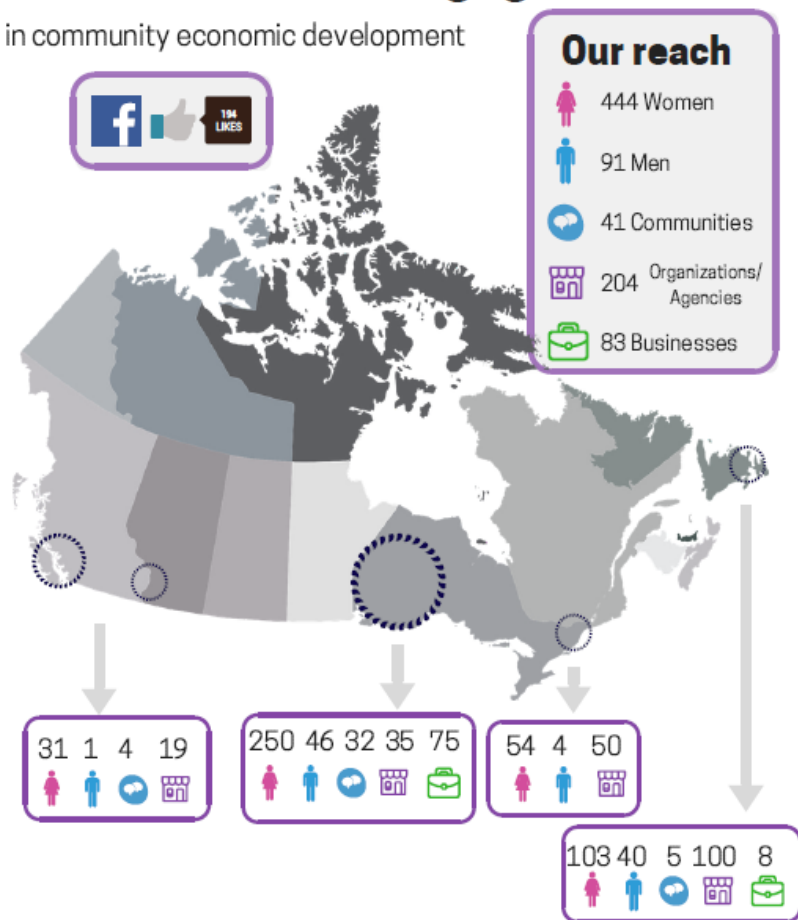
Projects and Initiatives

Engagement and Partnerships for National Weconomie.ca Resourcing Portal

The Women’s Economic Council partnered with key organizations across the country on this Status of Women Canada funded project aimed at resourcing underserved women. We invested significant time meeting with women not currently engaged in business development services. We sought out women who many would describe at Canada’s

A national voice engaged

in community economic development



most vulnerable. We celebrated the strength and resilience in the newcomers, indigenous women, multicultural women and French language minorities we spent time with.

These activities also engaged service delivery organizations that resource women who desire or need to work in enterprise for a variety of reasons. Both women and agencies helped us shape the look, feel and functionality of Weconomie.ca. We ensured that the voices of diverse stakeholders were heard. Our on the ground consultations in St. John’s Metro area, NL, Ottawa

area, Thunder Bay and Northern ON, Calgary, AB and Metro Vancouver, BC helped WEC identify the resourcing needs and various contexts women and agencies must work in. We are proud that this national portal is being designed by women for women. We hope in time that this resource will be the “go to” hub for women and organizations focused on women’s economic security.

Projects and Initiatives

National Advisory Committee and Technical Working Group

futurpreneur
canada



FAMILIES
CANADA FAMILLES
CANADA
THE POWER TO THRIVE • LE POUVOIR DE S'ÉPANOUIR

Great River Consulting

alterna savings

Ccg Marketplace

CWCF
FCCT

inclusionNL
...FOR EVERYONE

eco
equitable

COADY
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY

HumanIT PROJECT

CCEDNet

Countable Web Productions

SOUTH VANCOUVER
NEIGHBOURHOOD
HOUSE

B LAB Canada

eco
equitable

Newfoundland and Labrador
Association for Community Living

WEC is very appreciative of the expertise, guidance and connections our National Advisory Committee and Tech Working Group provided our projects as we collaborated on key issues impacting women.

Thanks to video conferencing and icloud technology, we were able to meet regularly without travel and have lively discussions that allowed us to co-create plans and follow-up on actions supporting our national work.

Regional Boots on the Ground Partners

This past year, WEC through its Collective, partnered with PARO Centre for Women's Enterprise, Collective Interchange Co-operative and JK Associates. This dynamic team worked collaboratively with WEC and its board of directors. Through these partnerships, WEC was able to extend its in-person reach with women and women's organizations in the country.



Advocating for Change Supporting Women's Participation in Canada

WEC was very busy advocating for systemic change. On February 7, 2017 Rosalind Lockyer, Valerie Carruthers and Janet Kranz presented at the House of Commons Standing Committee on the Status of Women. Issues raised included women's limited access to Employment Insurance and EI funded training, public service government funded contracts that fail to require gender diversity targets and equity seeking practices and the limited finances that incubators and innovation hubs have available to invest in many women's business initiatives while male dominated STEM investments take priority.



WEC is also very proud of one of its regional partners, Collective Interchange, who championed more inclusive board recruitment practices in Newfoundland and Labrador. As a result, a male dominated provincial board positioned to impact other member organizations agreed to approve an initiative aimed at more inclusion and diversity on its board. As a result, this organization anticipates more women nominated for upcoming board vacancies and other leadership positions in the economic development sector as this organization leads by example.

WEC ended 2017 by contributing funding to support the transportation and childcare needs of women attending the Haida Gwaii Women's Dialogue Sessions Project on December 2-3, 2017 focused on indigenous women's finances and economics. WEC continues to advocate for the provision of these supports and urges projects in the planning stage to budget resources to help women participate in initiatives. In addition, WEC connected the event co-ordinators with the Women's Enterprise Centre in Vancouver so they could secure resources and information on existing services for women in the province. WEC loves connecting women with business development services and we certainly love collaboration!

2017 Financial Summary

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC COUNCIL / CONSEIL ECONOMIQUE DES FEMMES

Statement of Operations

Year Ended December 31, 2017

(Unaudited)

	2017	2016
REVENUE		
Grant - Status of Women Canada Jigsaw Project	\$ 168,535	\$ 97,143
Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation	13,923	-
Miscellaneous	87	1,611
	<u>182,545</u>	<u>98,754</u>
EXPENSES		
Administration costs	7,599	7,470
Contracted services	126,400	66,527
Equipment costs	986	1,247
Insurance	1,431	1,330
Professional fees	3,378	3,556
Project supplies and resources	1,831	5,092
Publicity and promotion	7,968	909
Salaries and wages	19,179	52
Travel	17,024	10,960
	<u>185,796</u>	<u>97,143</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$ (3,251)</u>	<u>\$ 1,611</u>

*Women's Economic Council
prides itself on investing time,
expertise and assets in
community for the collective
good*



Board of Directors

Melanie Conn – President

Gulalai Habib – Vice President

Heather Leeman – Treasurer