

PRESS RELEASE

WOMEN IN POLITICS, WHY NOT ME?

Prescott-Russell, October 27, 2020 – *Leadership féminin Prescott-Russell* (LFPR) is proud to announce its campaign “Women In Politics, Why Not Me?” and the launch of its new web page www.pourquoipasmoi.ca.



This campaign aims to encourage and support women of diverse backgrounds to participate in municipal politics and run for municipal office in the next election. The campaign hopes to achieve gender parity on municipal councils by motivating and inspiring women within the 8 municipalities to run for office in the next municipal elections on October 24th, 2022. LFPR aims to elect 22 to 30 women for the across the region.

LFPR and it's [Women In Politics Committee](#) are offering resources and supports in order to help future candidates:

- A tool kit [Trousse Politique au féminin](#)
- An opportunity to discuss with female politicians through our [Facebook Group Politique au féminin dans l'Est ontarien / Women in Politics in Eastern Ontario](#).
- A self-assessment questionnaire «[Ai-je ce qu'il faut pour faire de la politique?](#)» by Groupe Femmes, Politique et Démocratie.

According to Marie-Noëlle Lanthier, president of LFPR and councillor for Nation Municipality:

Women make up 51% of the population across the United Counties of Prescott-Russell yet only 21% of municipal officials are women. Municipal governments must reflect the demographics of the communities they serve in order to meet the needs of their constituents more effectively. Women bring a different

perspective on a variety of issues that should be expressed in debates and taken into account in decision making. I strongly believe that " where you stand on an issue depends on where you sit".

Finally, the campaign aims **to raise awareness about the importance of gender parity in municipal politics**. Some members of the electorate still believe that «women don't belong in politics» and are not ready to vote for them. LFPR hopes to change this and positively influence public opinion to consider women on an equal footing when it comes time to vote in the next election.

This project was funded through:

Federation of Canadian Municipalities, United Counties of Prescott-Russell, Association française des municipalités de l'Ontario.

A special thank you to all 8 municipalities of Prescott-Russell who gave their support to the campaign: Township of Champlain, East Hawkesbury Township, Russell Township, City of Clarence-Rockland, Nation Municipality, Town of Hawkesbury, Township of Alfred Plantagenet, Municipality of Casselman.

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Leadership féminin Prescott-Russell est un organisme à but non lucratif qui appuie le développement du leadership d'une diversité de voix féminines afin d'augmenter leur pouvoir d'influence sur l'évolution de la collectivité, vers une société égalitaire.

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