



Canadian Labour Congress  
Congrès du travail du Canada

# Communiqué

For immediate release

Friday, February 19, 2010

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **Labour, women's groups release "reality check" on women's equality**

### **Canadian delegation to attend UN's Beijing plus 15 meeting**

OTTAWA – Barbara Byers, Executive Vice-president of the Canadian Labour Congress, along with leaders of labour and women's organizations will release a report on Monday, February 22 which they describe as a "reality check" on Canada's lagging performance in achieving women's equality. Byers and the others are delegates to the Beijing + 15 meeting being held at the United Nations in New York, March 1-12.

The UN meeting will evaluate progress, identify challenges, and recommend policies to promote gender equality and the advancement of women. This year holds special significance because it marks the 15th anniversary of the UN's Fourth World Conference on Women which was held in Beijing.

Byers says the Canadian government has provided a report to the United Nations that paints an unduly rosy picture of achievements in this country. "Women in Canada have lost ground in most of areas in the past 15 years. So we decided to write our own report and it provides a reality check on what the government is saying."

**WHO:** Barbara Byers, Executive Vice-President, Canadian Labour Congress (CLC)  
Mary-Lou Donnelly, President, Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF)  
Patty Ducharme, National Executive Vice-President, Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC)  
Kate McInturff, Executive Director, Feminist Alliance for International Action (FAFIA)

**WHAT:** Reality Check: Women in Canada and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action Fifteen Years On: A Canadian Civil Society

**WHEN:** 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Monday, February 22, 2010

**WHERE:** Room 130-S, Centre Block, House of Commons

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