



November 5, 2020

The Honourable Doug Downey  
Attorney General  
Ministry of the Attorney General  
McMurtry-Scott Building  
720 Bay St  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2S9

Minister Downey:

On behalf of my 4,700 members of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Ontario Council, I wish to acknowledge and thank your office for the reinvestment of \$2.5 million in cash and proceeds seized from criminals to help fight human trafficking in communities across the province.

This is welcoming news as we continue to fight violence against women and children. This insidious crime of abuse and slavery is so prevalent here in Ontario. As you are aware, ..."sixty percent of all of Canada's human trafficking can be linked in some way to activities that occur along the 401 corridor. The 401 corridor is considered the 'gateway' to communities. In 2016, the rate of human trafficking in Ontario was more than one and a half times the national rate."

We hope with this additional funding available through the Civil Remedies Grant Program, that we will be able to see a significant decline in this heinous crime and allow the victims to regain their freedom and dignity.

CFUW Ontario Council is a voluntary, self-funded, non-profit organization with 49 clubs across the province, which is affiliated with the national Canadian Federation of University Women. Our mandate is to promote education and life-long learning, to encourage the participation of members in their communities and to enhance the status of women and girls. Our main concerns include high quality public education, universal health care, a clean safe environment, the economic security of women as well as the prevention of violence against women.

Thank you,

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