



October 17, 2021

The Honourable Stephen Lecce
Ministry of Education
5th floor
438 University Avenue
Toronto, On M5G 2K8

Minister Lecce:

In this very important month of October celebrating Canadian women, including the International Day of the Girl Child and on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Ontario Council, I am very pleased to read of the Ministry's decision to ensure equitable and free access for menstrual supplies for young women.

Young women need to feel secure and confident about their physical and mental health – free of any barriers to succeed. This agreement with Shoppers Drug Mart over the next three years offers the encouragement and support - and hopefully reduces unwanted stigma.

Again, our congratulations on this forward thinking and desperately needed program. Let us hope it is the beginning of open and honest dialogue on women's health.

Ontario Council of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) is a voluntary, self-funded, non-profit organization with 48 clubs across the province, which is affiliated with the National CFUW, having 96 clubs from coast to coast. 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 universal health care, high quality public education, a clean safe environment, the economic security of women as well as the prevention of violence against women.

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cc Hon. Christine Elliott, Minister of Health
Hon. Jane McKenna, Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues
Robin Martin, Parliamentary Assistant, Minister of Health