

January 19, 2012

The Right Hon. Stephen Harper, P.C., B.A., M.A.  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A0A6

Dear Mr Harper:

The National Council of Women of Canada [NCWC] at its 2007 AGM ratified a policy concerning Reform of the Canadian Senate which urged your Government, among other suggestions, to support the women of Canada by having women comprise 50% of the Senate within five years.

While we commend your Government for recently appointing three women out of seven new senators, the composition of the Senate remains woefully under the ideal of 50% female, reflecting approximately the ratio in the Canadian population. Studies have shown businesses whose management is comprised of this ratio are more successful than those not meeting this standard.

Once again we urge you and your Cabinet to consider seriously appointing female candidates until an equal representation of the sexes is met in the Senate. From across Canada women have much to offer “the Chamber of sober second thought” because their unique and broad range of life experience, expertise on many social, industrial, business and trade conditions. They are as knowledgeable on the most important concerns of the population as men are.

We look forward to your support in this matter.

Respectfully,

Denise Mattok,  
President NCWC