



**WOMEN IN
LEADERSHIP
TEAM**

(WIL) REPORT

APRIL 2024

IMAGINE

PREPARED FOR THE 2024 FREE METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA
GENERAL CONFERENCE | APRIL 25-28 - TORONTO, ON

Women in Leadership (WiL) Team

Report to General Conference 2024

The role of the WiL team is to implement findings, develop resources and provide support and opportunity. Working from the insights and recommendations of an in-depth study done about women in leadership within the FMCIC, our aim is to develop a framework of resources for both local church bodies and individuals. The resources needed also include support. The sharing of stories and fostering of community. All of this together builds into the continued outworking of our Scriptural understanding, that men and women are equal before God, and so leadership is determined by giftings, skills and talents, not by gender.

In order to accomplish our role, we have been using these three words to remind ourselves that people need to be developed as leaders and thus require various types of mentoring: NOTICE, NAME, NURTURE. As you are reading this, think about your own journey – Who noticed you? Who called you by name? Who has nurtured you along the way? Now ask yourself: who are you noticing? Who are you naming? Who are you nurturing?

If we're not intentional about noticing, naming and nurturing those whom God directs to our attention, the church is in trouble.

The team members are also working on some individual projects such as collecting stories, gathering resources (in all formats) and inquiring of our pastors how the topic of women in leadership is communicated in membership classes. As we develop and collect these tools and resources, they will be made available at fmcic.ca website. The WiL hosts a zoom forum for anyone interested (men, women, pastors, lay leaders) twice a year. At the most recent forum, an interview with Rev. Dr. Jay Mowchenko and Ellen Duffield, who work together in Leadership and Management Studies at Briercrest SK, about women in leadership and women and men working together was recorded and is available at fmcic.ca. As a team we encourage you to listen to that interview!

If you have an idea, a resource to recommend, or a concern please reach out to one of us.

Respectfully submitted,

Submitted by: Kim Henderson (chair), with Tamera Goller,
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