

Canadian Voice of Women for Peace-Adopted Resolutions 2025

****Amendments to be updated****

Resolution 1: Expanding Attention to Overlooked Global Crises

I ask that The Canadian Voice of Women commit to paying more attention to countries not in the media spotlight—like Sudan—that are experiencing devastating wars, and humanitarian crises.

While major news stories dominate headlines, many regions suffer in silence. Conflicts in places like Sudan involve mass displacement, violence, and famine, recruitment of child soldiers, yet receive little international attention or aid. No crisis should be ignored simply because it's not in the news. All human suffering deserves our attention and action.

We commit to:

Providing more exposure for Sudan, especially Sudanese women caught in this crisis.

Highlighting the conflict, as well as environmental impacts on Sudan.

Supporting organizations providing aid to Sudan and neighbouring refugee camps.

Advocating for more balanced media coverage and global response.

Resolution 2: Canada Withdraw from NATO & Reduce Military Spending

Be it resolved that VOW oppose the federal government's plan to increase military spending to meet NATO's 5% of GDP Defence Investment Pledge. It will mean the federal government increasing military spending from \$44 billion/year to \$150 billion/year by 2035. We call for Canada to withdraw from NATO and for military spending to be reduced and re-allocated to social, environmental and climate programs.

Resolution 3: Independent Audit of Canada's Funding & Weapons to Ukraine

Be it resolved that VOW oppose the federal government sending more public funding and weapons to Ukraine to prolong the war. We call for an independent audit of Canada's funding and weapons to Ukraine because of the high risk of corruption and the circulation of weapons on the black market. We advocate for negotiations involving all parties that adheres to UNSC Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace & Security to end the war.

Resolution 4: Respect Venezuela's Sovereignty & Non-Interference in Domestic Affairs of Other Countries

Be it resolved that VOW denounce the United States' assassinations of Venezuelans and the U.S.'s plan to overthrow the elected government of Nicolas Maduro. VOW opposes any Canadian support for the U.S.'s destabilization of Venezuela, which is illegal under international law. We say "Hands off Venezuela" and respect the sovereignty of Venezuela and the international legal principle of non-interference in the domestic affairs of other countries as articulated in the UN General Assembly Resolutions 2131 and 2625.

Resolution 5: Canada's Energy Future-Make it Renewable

WHEREAS the Canadian government under Prime Minister Mark Carney is planning to spend our tax dollars on a new nuclear technology 'Small Modular Reactors'

WHEREAS nuclear power is a contributor to nuclear proliferation, makes wastes that will be toxic for a million years, and uranium mining makes toxic tailings

WHEREAS Canada continues to expand reliance on oil and gas, resulting in rising CO2 emissions and negative health impacts.

WHEREAS the world exceeded 1.6C rise for the first time in 2024 The current rate of Increase in temperature is 0.3 to 0.6 C per decade, and it could be as much as two degrees by 2040 showing a great urgency in reducing our emissions

WHEREAS the most affordable and safe sources of energy are renewable sources and conservation/efficiency

BE IT RESOLVED that Canadian Voice of Women for Peace support an energy future based on expansion of renewable sources including solar, wind, geothermal, distributed energy systems, and conservation and energy efficiency.

BE IT RESOLVED that Canadian Voice of Women for Peace oppose expansion of nuclear power

BE IT RESOLVED that Canadian Voice of Women for Peace oppose expansion of oil and gas (fossil fuels) for domestic use or for export

BE IT RESOLVED that Canadian Voice of Women for Peace endorse and support the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty (FFNPT)

BE IT RESOLVED that Canadian Voice of Women for Peace call for national and provincial energy decision-making that respects free prior and informed consent by Indigenous nations.

Resolution 6: Debunk: adjective “CLEAN” to describe nuclear energy

PURPOSE: That Canadian Voice of Women engage in an active advertising campaign to address the deceptive use of the adjective “CLEAN” when news/advertisers/politicians describe energy from nuclear power.

WHEREAS advertising, corporate and political discussions commonly and misleadingly refer to nuclear energy as “Clean” Energy. Waste from nuclear energy is toxic to humans, water courses and the greater environment and with a shelf life from hundreds to millions of years.

THEREFORE be it resolved that Canadian Voice of Women actively advertise/campaign to debunk the common use (by advertisers, corporations and political entities) of the adjective “clean” to describe nuclear energy.

Resolution 7: Initiate a VOW campaign to lower the voting age to 16

Purpose: To initiate a call to action, beginning with a letter-writing campaign, from Canadian Voice of Women for Peace to elected officials to lower the legal voting age to 16.

Voting Rights: WHEREAS voting is a citizen’s right and youth have a stake in how Canada is governed. There are many countries that recognize this right - where children aged 16 and 17 are allowed to vote in all elections. These countries include Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Guernsey, Greece, Indonesia, Isle of Man, Jersey, Nicaragua, North Korea, and Timor-Leste.”

unicef.org

Voice: WHEREAS 16 and 17 year old Canadians are able to make informed decisions and therefore deserve to be empowered to work toward a better world by having a voice in matters that affect their generation. “While not specifically mentioning the right to vote, the Convention on the Rights of the

Child (CRC) recognizes the child’s right to express his or her views freely in “all matters affecting the child”, adding that those views be given due weight, in accordance with their age and maturity (article 12)”. [unicef.org](https://www.unicef.org)

Taxpayers: WHEREAS, while 16 and 17 year old Canadians hold the rights and responsibilities of eligible voters such as paying taxes, and are profoundly affected by and engaged in national and local issues, they are currently excluded from the right to vote.

Civics credit 0.5: WHEREAS, youth are often better informed than their parents or guardians on issues that affect youth directly such as **climate crisis, mental health and education**, many school boards and ministries currently provide minimal education in rights-based civic engagement and training (in Ontario - just half of one semester). Lowering the voting age to 16 would demand greater responsibilities on the part of educational institutions for teaching more comprehensive skills in critical thinking, advocacy and civic engagement.

Indigenous issues: WHEREAS youth may have greater knowledge of Indigenous issues than previous generations. “Education now is different about Indigenous issues from when my parents went to school. So adults can be less knowledgeable. ...Opinions between generations have changed on this topic and youth are educated on Indigenous issues.”
https://childrenfirstcanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/VotingAgeReport_ug28-1.pdf

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Canadian Voice of Women initiate a letter-writing campaign to Canada’s elected officials to lower the voting age to 16.