Application to be an official Delegate to World Council 2023
(November 27 - December 1, 2023 - virtual)

Questions? Check out our guidelines, FAQ, or contact the Chair of the Nominating Committee at mst@ywccanada.ca

Guidelines for Applications

Background

The World YWCA Council is the largest gathering of YWCA members from all around the world. It is a time for membership engagement, decision-making, reflections and networking. There are usually around 500 voting delegates and observers from 108 YWCA associations - a unique mix of YWCA leadership, young women leaders, program officers, and leaders and influencers from across the movement, as well as representatives from partner organizations and donors.

Steps in the application process:

1. Confirm that your member association Board Chair or a member of the YWCA Canada Board of Directors is willing to nominate you.
2. Send the endorsement form to the person/association that has agreed to nominate you. Ask that they complete the application form by the deadline date (July 26, 2023 at 11:59 PM EST).
3. Complete the application form in Survey Monkey by clicking on the following link https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/V5W57K5. Please note that there are four sections. Section four refers to the endorsement form. Please upload the signed endorsement form in pdf-format to Survey Monkey. Please confirm in your application that you are willing to participate on the YWCA Canada World Council Committee.
Deadline for Applications and Nominations to be received is July 26, 2023.

The Nominating Committee originally announced the opening of the application process in May 2023 and has re-opened the call for applications. The deadline is now **July 26, 2023 at 11:59 PM EST**. The application consists of the completion of an online application form and the endorsement by the nominator.

**How to apply**
Applications are being accepted online through Survey Monkey. Should you have any accessibility requirements, please contact the National Office at mst@ywcacanada.ca.

**Format for submissions**
Submissions must be written in English or French and less than 1,000 words in total.

**Application Criteria**
YWCA Canada’s delegation will be reflective of the diversity of women in Canada. YWCA Canada is strongly committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in its policies, practices, and programs. YWCA Canada especially welcomes applications from young women, Black women; women of colour; First Nations, Métis, and Inuit women; women living with disabilities; LGBTQIA2s+ women and non-binary people; and others who may increase our delegation’s representation of a diversity of women and experiences.

At least one quarter of the delegation must be young women aged 30 or younger at World Council according to the bylaws of the World YWCA. Delegates may be volunteers or staff. Delegates will represent YWCA Canada in a responsible manner and be accountable to the National Board of Directors.

The CEO of the National Office and the National Board Chair are automatically part of the official delegation. We have four spots for official delegates available, two of whom need to be young women aged 30 or younger at World Council. Two alternates will also be selected, one of whom will be a young woman. Alternates will also be expected to participate in
preparation meetings. Alternatives who do not form the final delegation, can attend World Council as observers.

Other MA representatives or members who are interested in attending World Council as an observer are invited to contact the National Office at mst@ywccanada.ca.

**Basic Qualifications – Delegate Eligibility**
A delegate must be a member in good standing of a Member Association of YWCA Canada or a YM-YWCA in Canada and have demonstrated a commitment to its purpose.

Delegates must demonstrate the ability to be an active, contributing participant at World Council (e.g. as discussion leader, facilitator, and negotiator).

NOTE: Delegates MUST be available to attend a World Council orientation session on August 9, 2023, and available for an interview sometime between July 27th and August 1st.

**Delegate Requirements**
Must give a substantial time commitment prior to and following the World Council meetings, including:

Pre-Council participation in a preparatory program resulting in a good knowledge of the Canadian YWCA movement, its perspectives, its relationship to the World Council, and the level of its involvement in the issues supported by the Council. Included in the study program will be an anti-racism and anti-oppression (ARAO) training, thorough orientation to the culture, processes and activities of the Council meeting, as well as the anticipated roles that Canada’s delegates will take. There will be one or more mandatory meetings and several Zoom calls.

Post-Council work will include:
- Writing a post-Council report for the National Board and Member Associations on the World Council issues and their experiences as a delegate;
- Attending National/Regional/Local meetings or Training Events to talk about World Council issues;
• Presenting on World Council issues and their experiences to the International Cooperation Committee (either through a Zoom call or in-person meeting);
• Giving a minimum of two presentations to groups both inside and outside the YWCA movement, and;
• Acting as a resource person to YWCA Canada and member associations on matters related to the World Council meeting, and its results.

Criteria for Judging Submissions
Submissions will be judged according to the following criteria.

1. Demonstrated commitment to the movement and strong knowledge of feminist and gender equity issues, both locally and globally, and an interest in World Council
2. Knowledge in various areas of expertise, including community development, governance, finance and advocacy
3. Diversity. A strategic priority of YWCA Canada is to “effectively share power with, engage, and support young women of diverse communities, backgrounds and identities to participate as leaders, decision-makers and equals at all levels of an inclusive movement.” YWCA Canada especially welcomes applications from women of visible minority groups; First Nation, Métis, and Inuit women; women with disabilities; 2SLGBTQIA+ women; and, others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas. Applicants are welcome to self-identify as a member of any of these groups, or others.
4. Competency (written and spoken) in the three official languages (EN, FR, ES) of World Council. Please note that eligible delegates do not need to be fluent in all three languages.
5. Public speaking skills and experience in facilitating presentations, workshops and group discussions. This can be demonstrated through previous professional, academic, and/or volunteer positions
6. Experience participating in large conferences and/or meetings
7. Willingness and preparedness to bring information back from World Council to YWCA Canada
The Committee aims to create a strong delegation as a whole. The delegation should...

- Be reflective of the diversity of women in Canada.
- Be geographically representative of the movement across Canada
- Be fluent in languages beyond only English, and ideally in at least one of the two additional official languages of the World Council (FR and ES)
- Represent varying areas of expertise, including community development, governance, finance, and advocacy
- Have international experience (at World Council or otherwise)
- Have experience participating in large conferences and/or meetings, and be comfortable enough in this setting to participate energetically
- Demonstrate a strong commitment to the movement and interest in World Council
- Demonstrate a strong knowledge of and commitment to feminist, womanist, and/or gender equity issues, both locally and globally
- Be able to facilitate presentations, workshops, and group discussions
- Be able to represent YWCA Canada well
- Be able to bring information back from World Council to YWCA Canada and share this information across the country

Final decisions will be made by the Nominating Committee and in consultation with one volunteer member of the International Cooperation Committee (if available). If a conflict of interest arises for a member of these committees, that member is required to recuse themself from the selection process. The Nominating Committee will inform all applicants of its decisions, copying respective Board Chairs.

Confidentiality will be maintained throughout the application process.

**Notice: Deadline for all submissions is 11:59 pm ET on July 26, 2023.**

Please submit your entries:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/V5W57K5
FAQs

1. Where can I get more information about the application process and World Council in general?

Please contact the Chair of the Nominating Committee or the National Office by emailing mst@ywccanada.ca.

2. Who can nominate me?

You can either be nominated by the Board Chair of a member association that is in good standing with YWCA Canada or by a National Board member.

3. How will the delegates connect before World Council and what will be preparation look like?

The National Office will convene regular meetings of the World Council Leadership Committee where the delegates can connect and where the orientation for World Council will take place. In addition, the World YWCA will host virtual orientation sessions.

4. If I am unsuccessful, can I request feedback on my application and/or interview?

Yes, the Nominating Committee is happy to provide feedback. Please email the Chair of the Nominating Committee with this request. Additionally, if you are unsuccessful you can opt to request that the Nominating Committee consider you for additional future positions, including on YWCA Canada membership committees. Please email the Chair of the Nominating Committee with this request.