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Applications are open to join YWCA Canada's delegation for the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in March 2024 and YWCA Canada's 2024 Annual Member Meeting in June 2024.

Young women and gender-diverse folks who are YWCA staff, board members or volunteers and 30 years of age or under are eligible to apply for bursaries to cover their travel, accommodation, and expenses.

The sixty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women will take place from March 11 to 22, 2024, in New York. Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world are invited to contribute to the session. YWCA Canada's delegation will join YWCA colleagues across the world to advocate for gender equity. **This year's priority theme is** Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective. **YWCA Canada's delegation will arrive on Sunday, March 10th, 2024, and leave on Saturday, March 16th, 2024.**

YWCA Canada's Annual Member Meeting is hosted by YWCA Muskoka. This three-day event, from Wednesday June 5th to Friday June 7th, is a forum for YWCA leaders to make critical decisions. It includes a full program of incredible speakers, workshops, panels and activities that will build capacity to strengthen the YWCA. We will honour the accomplishments and contributions of volunteers and staff who have worked toward the advancement of the YWCA movement and the betterment of women's lives. This year, the theme is *Nurturing community, Envisioning our future*.

Applications are due **January 3rd, 2024, at 11:59 PM EST**, and should be completed online at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UNCSWAMM24>

Please note that up to **three successful applicants** will be selected to receive the bursary for each event.

- Applicants interested in **UNCSW** will be contacted with a response on January 12th, 2024.
- Applicants interested in the **2024 AMM** will be contacted by mid-February.

This Application is to apply for the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women **OR** YWCA Canada's Annual Member Meeting in 2024. Please only apply for one or the event. Details about the two events are available below.

Applicants must acquire approval of an MA's CEO/ED or Board Chair/President. Upon completion of the application, applicants will receive a PDF of their completed application. This should be forwarded to the CEO/ED or Board Chair/President for their records and sign-off.

We know the application window is closing soon after the new year, and some people might be on vacation. We suggest completing the application for CEO/ED or Board Chair/President endorsement as soon as possible, or, if necessary, sharing your CEO/ED or Board Chair/President endorsement with us before completing the application.

There are three ways that they can endorse the application.

1. Applicants can email projects@ywcacanada.ca a copy of the email from CEO/ED or Board Chair/President with the completed form and indication that they approve.
2. Applicants can print this form and get a hard copy signature and email a copy to projects@ywcacanada.ca. Please email projects@ywcacanada.ca if you would like a copy of your application.
3. You may request that YWCA Canada send a DocuSign link to CEO/ED or Board Chair to confirm that they endorse the application.

Information about the Fund:

The YWCA Young Women's Leadership and Engagement Committee (YWLEC) is a group of dedicated young women committed to 25% participation of young women at meetings and events in leadership and decision-making, locally and globally. We believe that the voices of diverse young women are integral to the YWCA movement in Canada and around the world. The YW Leadership Miles Fund was established at the 2006 Annual Membership Meeting (AMM) to facilitate young women's leadership development in the YWCA in Canada. The fund's purpose is to subsidize the travel and accommodation costs of young women 30 years old or under at YWCA events across Canada and internationally. Member Associations can access this fund by nominating young women within the movement. The committee fundraises each year to grow the YW Leadership Miles Fund with the intention of funding more young women to participate in various leadership development opportunities along with regional, national, and international YWCA events.

Please direct all inquiries about the YW Leadership Miles Fund to Jenny Cloutier at jcloutier@ywcacanada.ca.