



Women in Government

Ralph Groening, AMM President

Denys Volkov, AMM Executive
Director



In partnership with:



Presentation Outline

- Introduction & AMM Overview
- Women in Canadian Politics
- Gender Snapshot of Municipal Manitoba & Ukraine
- What is Gender Equality?
 - Benefits of Gender Equality
- Status of Global Gender Equality
- Promoting Gender Equality: Moving Toward Parity in Municipal Politics (FCM)
 - Understanding Barriers to Change
 - Addressing Barriers to Participation
- Considerations for Ukraine
- Questions & Discussion



AMM President & Executive Director



AMM History

- In 1999, AMM was created as a result of a merger between the Union of Manitoba Municipalities (UMM) and the Manitoba Association of Urban Municipalities (MAUM). However, the history of both preceding organizations date back to the early 1900s.
- In 2019, the AMM officially celebrated its 20th anniversary.



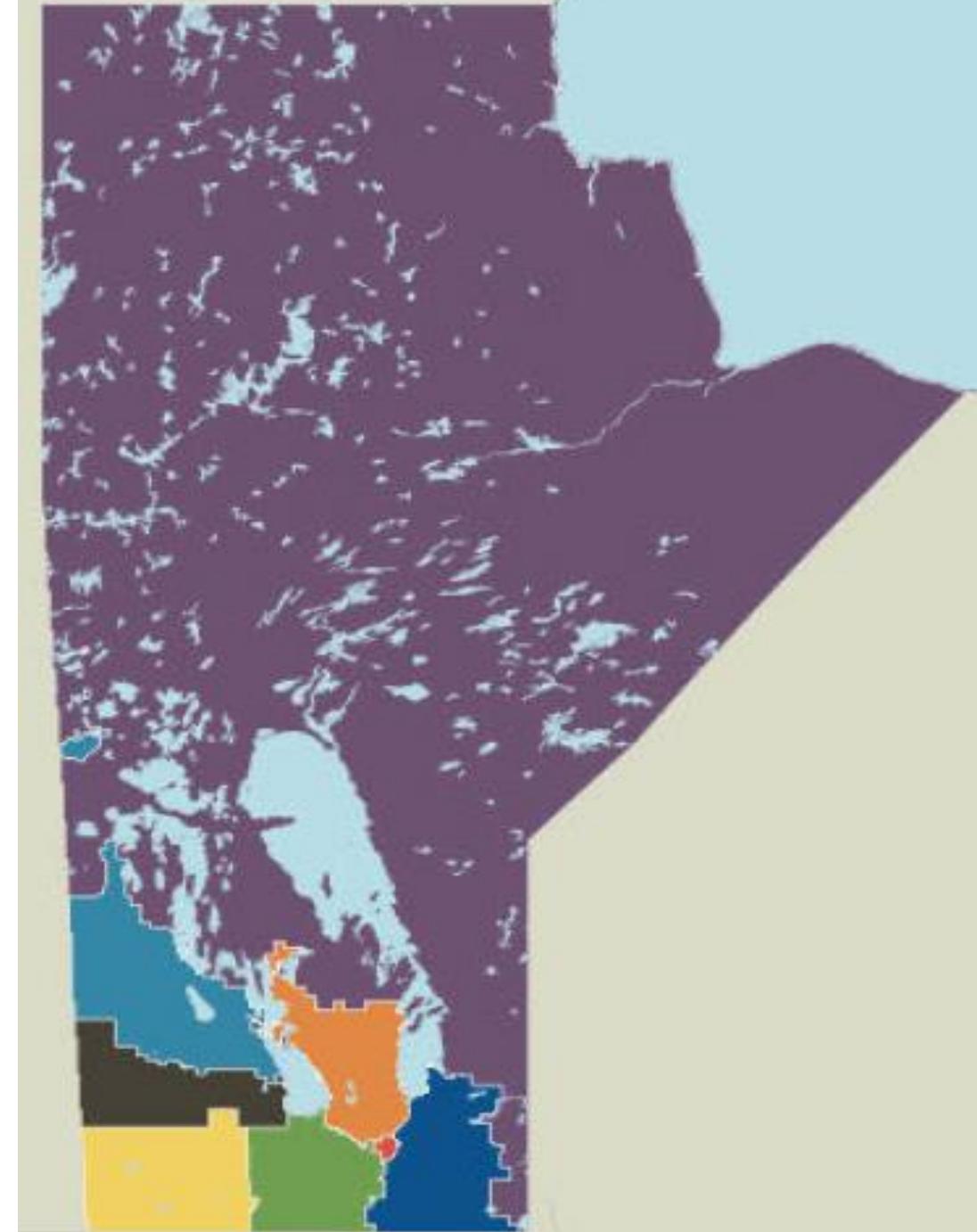
AMM Executive Team

- AMM Executive members are elected every second year during the AMM Annual Convention.
- AMM District Directors are elected every second year during regional June District Meetings.
- AMM and Manitoba representatives also serve on the **Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)** Board of Directors and attend FCM events throughout the year.



AMM Members

- While representing all of Manitoba's **137** incorporated municipalities, including the City of Winnipeg, the **AMM** is funded solely by its members and by its business arm, the [Trading Company](#).
- The AMM is divided into seven districts. Two Directors represent each of the following districts:
[Parkland](#), [Interlake](#), [Midwestern](#), [Central](#),
[Western](#), [Eastern](#) and [Northern](#).
- The [City of Winnipeg](#) is represented by one Director.



AMM Main Functions & Lobbying

- Support members and lobby on issues that affect Manitoba municipalities.
 - Many issues are raised by our members through resolutions or correspondence, which we then bring to the attention of the provincial or federal government.
 - Other issues are initiated by senior levels of government when they draft legislation or regulations that affect municipalities. The AMM monitors and responds to any legislation affecting municipal government.
- On an annual basis, the AMM meets with the Premier of Manitoba, Provincial Cabinet Ministers, and Official Opposition.



Women in Canadian Federal Politics

- UN Resolution #15-1990 called on governments and other stakeholder to have women hold at least 30% of leadership positions (*UN Economic and Social Council*).
- In the 2019 Canadian federal election, women won **29%** of seats.
 - 98 out of 338 seats (**NEW RECORD** for overall number and percentage!)

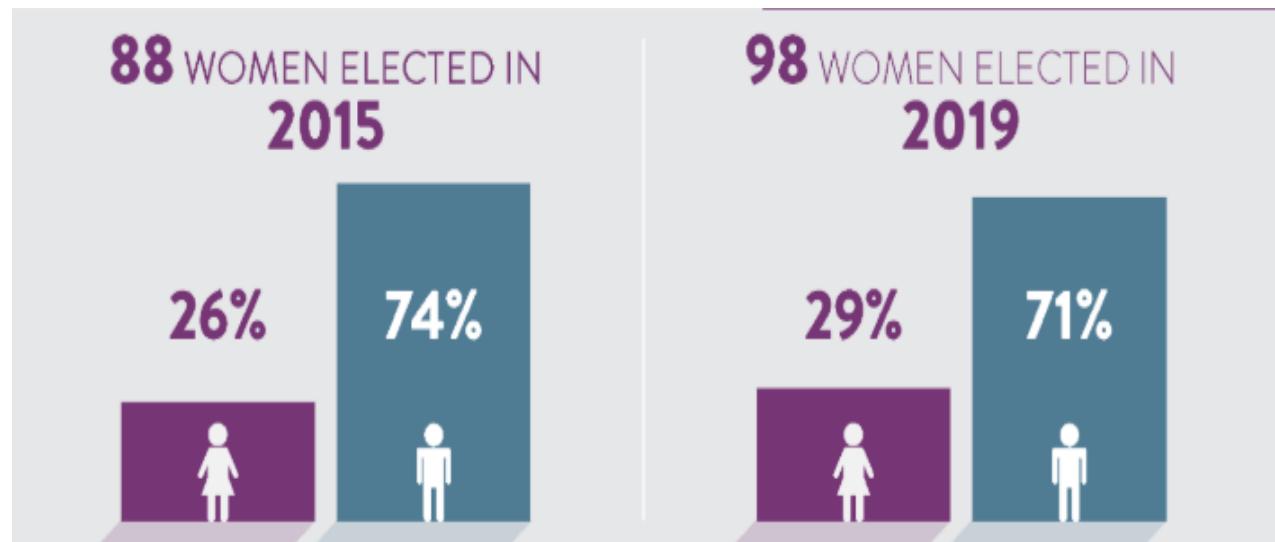
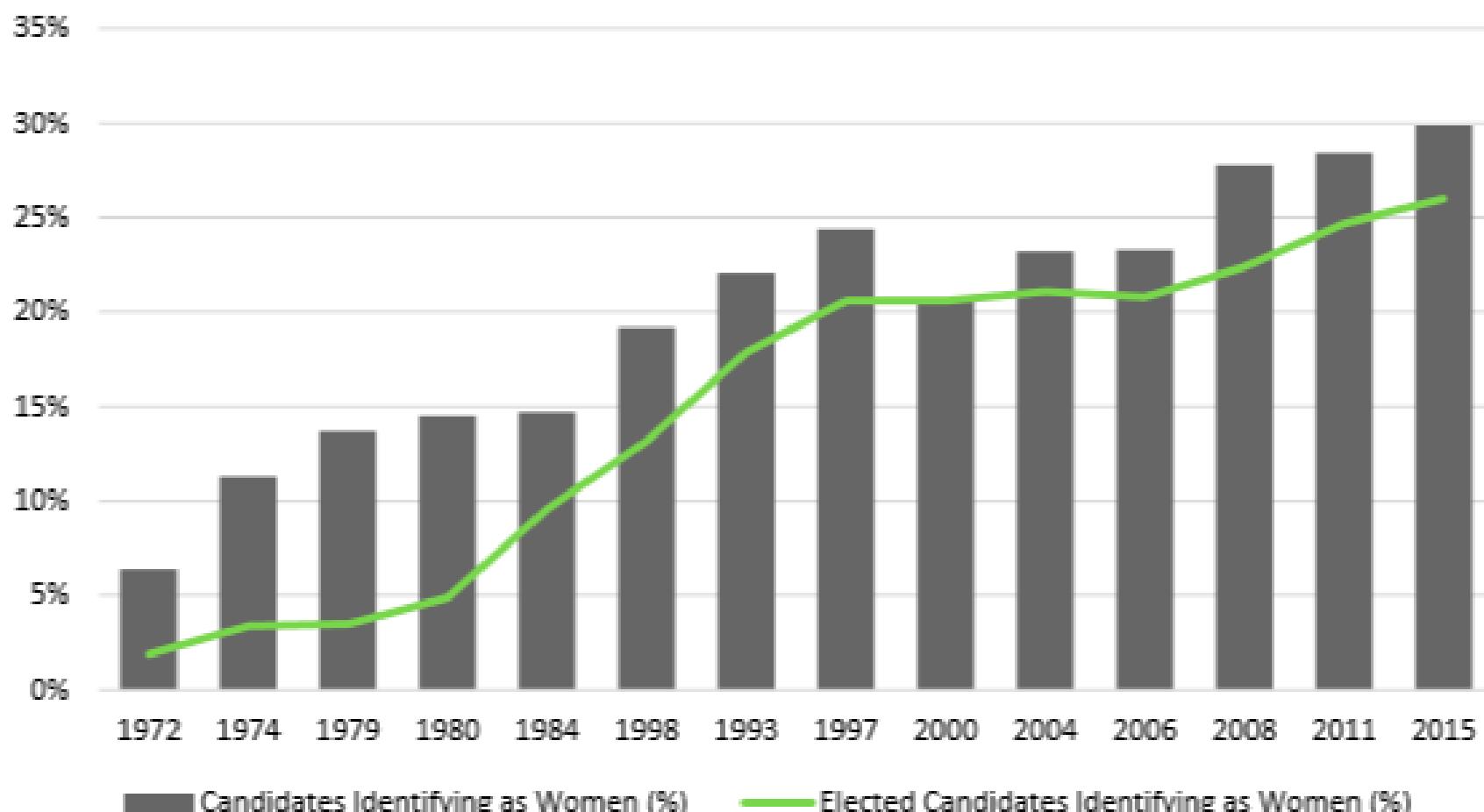


Figure 2—Percentage of Female Candidates and Women Elected in Federal General Elections

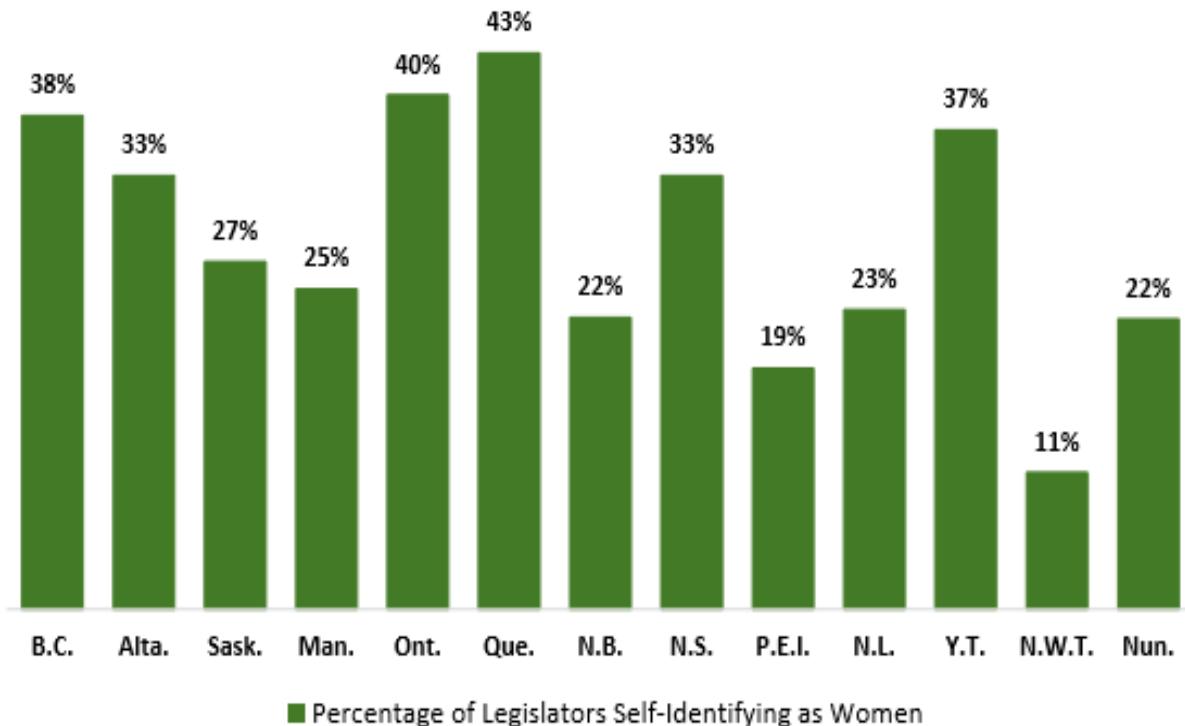


Source: Figure prepared by the Library of Parliament using data obtained from Parliament of Canada, "[Women Candidates in General Elections - 1921 to Date](#)" and from Elections Canada, [Past Elections](#).

Women in Canadian Provincial-Territorial Politics

- Several Canadian provinces and territories have reached the 30% threshold for women in their legislature.
- Only **2 out of 13** provinces/territories have reached the parity zone between 40-60%.
 - Quebec
 - Ontario

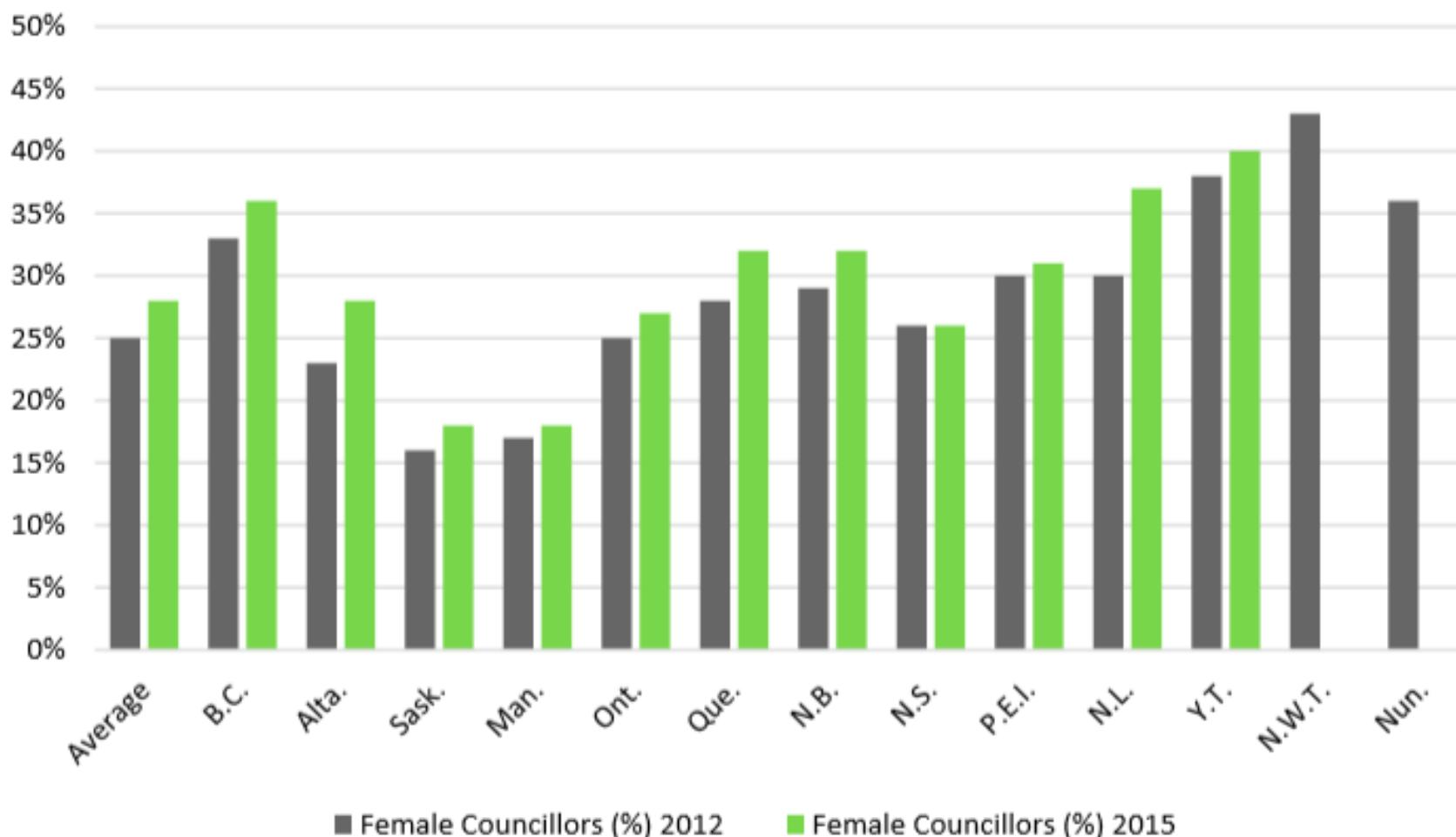
Figure 3—Percentage of Female Legislators in Provincial and Territorial Legislature (2018)



Women in Canadian Municipal Politics

- In Canada, women occupy **18%** of mayors' positions and **28%** of councillors' seats.
 - The minimum benchmark for making sure that women are adequately represented in legislatures is a minimum of **30%** (UN Women).
- The proportion of women elected at the municipal level has increased over the years.
- However, women remain under-represented as elected municipal officials.

Figure 4—Representation of Women as Municipal Councillors in Canada

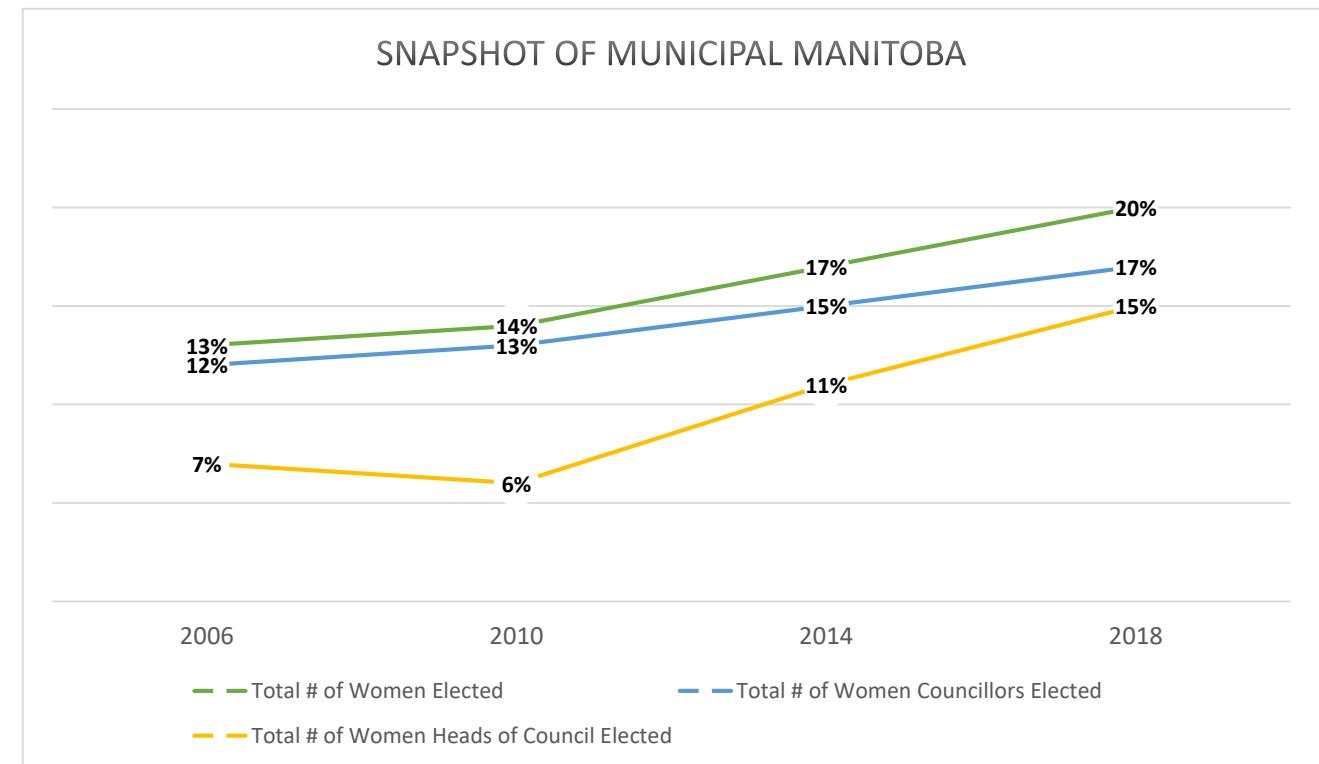


Source: Figure prepared by the Library of Parliament using data obtained from Federation of Canadian Municipalities, [2015—Municipal Statistics: Elected Officials Gender Statistics](#) and Federation of Canadian Municipalities, [2012—Municipal statistics: elected Officials Gender Statistics](#).

Gender Snapshot of Municipal Manitoba

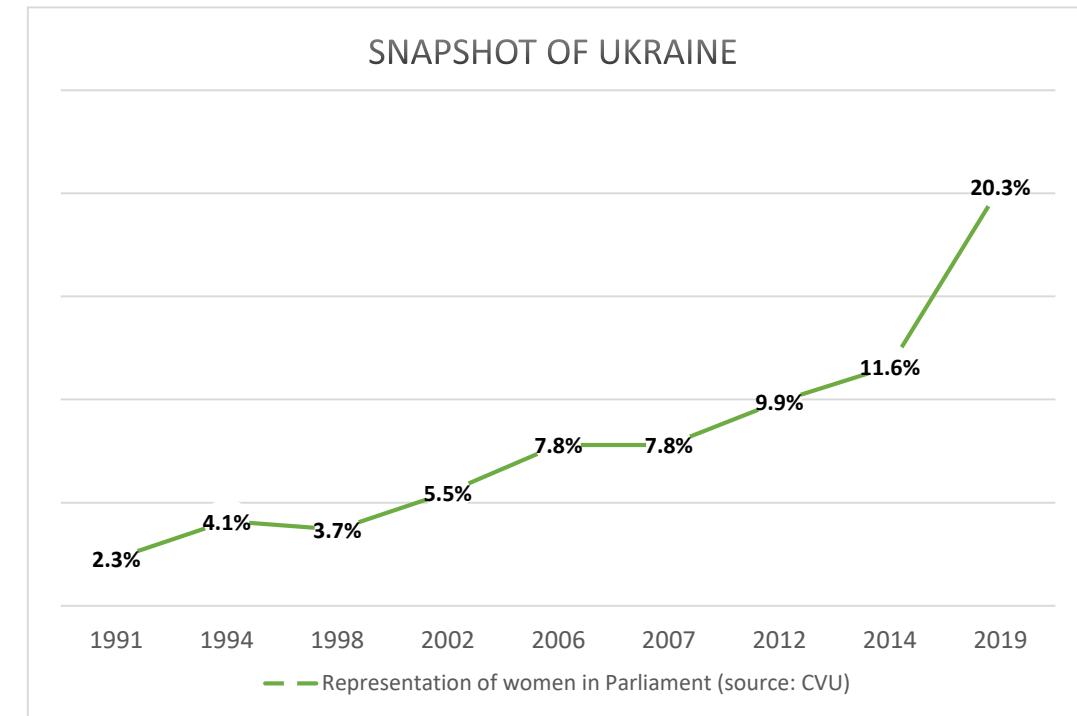
Key figures (based on 2018 elections):

- 137 municipalities
- 293/1535 (19%) total female candidates
 - 2014: 267 (+26 ↑ in 2018)
- 174/879 (20%) total elected women
 - 2014: 154 (+20 ↑ in 2018)
- 153 (17%) elected female councillors
 - 2014: 139 (+14 ↑ in 2018)
- 21 (15%) elected female Heads of Council
 - 2014: 15 (+6 ↑ in 2018)
- 88/137 (64%) CAOs are women



Gender Snapshot of Ukraine

- As of 2019, women made up:
 - 3% of Cabinet Ministers (total of 6 out of 17)
 - 17% serving as Heads of Parliamentary Committees (total of 4 out of 23)
 - 4% of Oblast Governors (total of 1 out of 24)
- In 2015-2017, women made up:
 - 5.6% of City mayors
 - 9.6% of Town mayors
 - 19.3% of Village heads
 - 32.1% of Settlement heads
- In local city councils, women represent 18% of elected representatives and 15% of seats in oblast councils.



What is Gender Equality?



-
- Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.
 - UN Sustainable Development Goal #5: Gender Equality
 - [UN Women](#) explains gender equality as “equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities” for all genders. It doesn’t mean that everyone should be the same. It means peoples’ rights, responsibilities, and opportunities shouldn’t depend on their gender. It implies that the interests and needs of everybody, in all their diversities, are important.
 - It is not a women’s issue. It is a societal issue to make life better for everyone and all communities
 - Many advances have been made, significant equality gaps remain.

Benefits of Gender Equality

- Gender parity has a fundamental bearing on whether or not economies and societies thrive.
 - Contributes to greater fairness, economic prosperity, health and happiness, peace and security.
- A more balanced distribution of men and women at all levels of decision-making is essential to a fair and democratic society.
- Gender Equality leads to:
 - Better decision making
 - Better management
 - Increased availability of skilled employees
 - Stronger employee engagement
 - Higher productivity

Status of Global Gender Equality



-
- According to the 2020 Global Gender Gap Report (World Economic Forum), the average distance completed to parity is at **68.6%**. To date, there is still a **31.4%** average gender gap that remains to be closed globally.
 - Overall 2020 Report Rankings:

#1 Iceland	#19	Canada
#2 Norway	#59	Ukraine
#3 Finland		
 - Projecting current trends into the future, the overall global gender gap will close in **99.5 years**.
 - It has been estimated that achieving gender equality around the world could increase global GDP by **\$12 trillion over 10 years** (McKinsey Global Institute).
 - In Canada, we celebrate the fourth week in September as **Gender Equality Week**.

Western Europe and North America

Country	Rank		Score
	Regional	Global	
Iceland	1	1	0.877
Norway	2	2	0.842
Finland	3	3	0.832
Sweden	4	4	0.820
Ireland	5	7	0.798
Spain	6	8	0.795
Germany	7	10	0.787
Denmark	8	14	0.782
France	9	15	0.781
Switzerland	10	18	0.779
Canada	11	19	0.772
United Kingdom	12	21	0.767
Belgium	13	27	0.750
Australia	14	34	0.744
Portugal	15	35	0.744
Netherlands	16	38	0.736
Luxembourg	17	51	0.725
United States	18	53	0.724
Italy	19	76	0.707
Greece	20	84	0.701
Malta	21	90	0.693
Cyprus	22	91	0.692

Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Country	Rank		Score
	Regional	Global	
Latvia	1	11	0.785
Albania	2	20	0.769
Moldova	3	23	0.757
Estonia	4	26	0.751
Belarus	5	29	0.746
Lithuania	6	33	0.745
Slovenia	7	36	0.743
Serbia	8	39	0.736
Poland	9	40	0.736
Bulgaria	10	49	0.727
Romania	11	55	0.724
Ukraine	12	59	0.721
Croatia	13	60	0.720
Slovak Republic	14	63	0.718
Bosnia and Herzegovina	15	69	0.712
North Macedonia	16	70	0.711
Montenegro	17	71	0.710
Kazakhstan	18	72	0.710
Georgia	19	74	0.708
Czech Republic	20	78	0.706
Russian Federation	21	81	0.706
Kyrgyz Republic	22	93	0.689
Azerbaijan	23	94	0.687
Armenia	24	98	0.684
Hungary	25	105	0.677
Tajikistan	26	137	0.626



Moving Toward Parity in Municipal Politics

- Pursuing both gender parity and greater diversity in political leadership is a matter of balance, fairness and justice.
- There is a clear general trend towards increasing numbers of women running for office over the last three elections, but the numbers are still low – electing and maintaining 30% women remains a challenge.
- Local governments can change communities. It is now more urgent than ever before for municipalities to join in the movement towards gender equality and equity.

Moving Toward Parity in Municipal Politics

- November 2018: FCM's launched its latest initiative to encourage and support women in local government: **Toward Parity**.
- The goal of **Toward Parity** is simple—to work toward equal representation of women in local office. It is a continuation of the more than decade-long partnership between FCM and Status of Women Canada. That partnership has focused on increasing the representation of women serving and engaged in politics, providing leadership in areas of inclusion and gender equality, and developing tools and resources for municipalities.
- Website: <https://fcm.ca/en/programs/women-in-local-government/toward-parity-in-municipal-politics>

Understanding Barriers to Change

- Lack of information, leadership training, resources and tools about municipal governance and women;
- Lack of ability to share strategies for engaging women in local government decision making and best practices (i.e., a central clearinghouse for information on women and municipal government);
- Lack of disaggregated data on gender and diverse people in elected leadership and senior management levels;
- Lack of established working relationships between municipalities and women's and feminist networks and organizations;
- Lack of women's involvement in municipal consultation processes;
- Lack of practical support for women (e.g., childcare, transportation, timing of and location of municipal meetings) when running or in office;

Understanding Barriers to Change

- Lack of encouragement by authorities (i.e., mentorship and sponsorship opportunities);
- Lack of inclusive policies and practices;
- The burden of family responsibilities that women face;
- The fact that marginalized women face more barriers to participation such as systematic discrimination, racism, sexism, ableism, ageism, homophobia, hatred and bigotry, economic discrimination (racialized and/or young women tend to become stuck in low-waged jobs) as well as lack of language appropriate services/tools;
- Perception of municipal politics as an “old boys club” and the prevalence of institutional gender-based violence, sexism and intimidation conveyed by political actors, social media;
- Intimidation against women working for local governments, running for or elected into office.

Addressing Barriers to Participation

Gender-responsive practices, strategies, and tools:

- ✓ Shift perspectives
 - Examples: Mandatory training, educational programs, citizen advisory groups
- ✓ Empower women as leaders and decision-makers
 - Examples: Mentorship/sponsorship opportunities, civic education programs, training (fundraising/campaign management)
- ✓ Implement gender inclusive policies/support
 - Examples: Employment equity, inclusive selection processes, accountability mechanisms
- ✓ Create safe and participatory spaces
 - Examples: Forums to promote dialogue (City representatives, municipal staff, leaders/residents)
- ✓ Build partnerships
 - Examples: Focus on empowerment/civic engagement, marginalized/minority groups

Considerations for Ukraine



-
- Gender equality is an important goal. All countries, including both Canada and Ukraine, must take decisive action to close the gender gap and promote greater equality.
 - Municipalities represent the closest form of government to the public, leading the way in promoting gender equality. As every municipality is unique, there is no “one-size-fits-all” strategy to fix the gender gap. However, there are a variety of approaches that can be considered in order to improve local communities for all individuals.
 - Ukraine public opinion surveys show higher levels of trust toward local officials.
 - Partnership for Local Economic Development and Democratic Governance (PLEDDG) / Проект міжнародної технічної допомоги «Партнерство для розвитку міст» (Проект ПРОМІС)
 - Website: <http://pleddg.org.ua/>
 - Resources/Tools: <http://pleddg.org.ua/ua/genderna-rivnist/>

Questions & Discussion

Щиро дякуємо Вам за можливість провести цю презентацію!

Ми сподіваємося, що наша співпраця буде продовжуватися у майбутньому!

