

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

UPDATED: Hon. Bob Nault and Hon. Kellie Leitch travel to Mexico to discuss women's economic empowerment

On June 18–20, 2019, the <u>Honourable Bob Nault</u>, P.C., M.P., President of ParlAmericas and Chair of the <u>Canadian Section of ParlAmericas</u>, will travel to Mexico City, Mexico to take part in ParlAmericas' 11th Gathering of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality and in a Board of Directors meeting. Mr. Nault will be accompanied by the <u>Honourable Kellie Leitch</u>, P.C., M.P., who will make a presentation during the session on laws to close the gaps on women's economic rights. Dr. Leitch will also participate in discussions to advance the cause of gender inclusiveness.

"Gender-inclusive sustainable economic growth will benefit every individual throughout the Americas and the Caribbean," stated Mr. Nault. "Legislators have a responsibility to learn about the changing nature of work, and then to develop and implement legislation aimed at ensuring that women are positioned to benefit from evolving labour markets in the region."

During the gathering, which will focus on *Achieving balance in the world of work*, delegates from across the Americas and the Caribbean will examine factors that restrict gender-inclusiveness. In particular, delegates will learn about: legislative frameworks and codes of conduct designed to prevent and address sexual harassment in the workplace; how legislation and government policies can both foster gender equality in the workplace and play a role in valuing and redistributing the unpaid work that is often performed by women; and share ideas about how legislators can help to ensure that women can take advantage of the changing nature of the world of work.

Founded in 2001 in Ottawa, <u>ParlAmericas</u> is the only interparliamentary institution with its International Secretariat headquartered in Canada. The <u>Canadian Section of</u> <u>ParlAmericas</u> works closely with the Secretariat to advance parliamentary diplomacy and political dialogue throughout the Americas and the Caribbean.

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