

NEWS RELEASE

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Canadian parliamentarians join successful meetings on women's empowerment in Buenos Aires

Members of the <u>Canadian section of ParlAmericas</u>, led by the <u>Hon. Robert D. Nault</u>, P.C., M.P., Chair of the Canadian Section of ParlAmericas, recently attended meetings held in Buenos Aires, Argentina on empowering women in society and politics, from 22 to 24 May 2017.

Accompanying Mr. Nault were the <u>Honourable Mobina Jaffer</u>, Senator, the <u>Honourable Michael MacDonald</u>, Senator, <u>Ms. Julie Dzerowicz</u>, M.P., <u>Mr. Randy Hoback</u>, M.P., and <u>Ms. Brigitte Sansoucy</u>, M.P.

The delegation joined parliamentarians from countries across the hemisphere to share their experiences in advocating for gender equality. During the meetings, parliamentarians called attention to important gender-related topics such as working toward solutions for providing women with economic security and autonomy, and social and legislative strategies for ending gender violence.

Senator Jaffer, Vice-President of the Group of Women Parliamentarians, led a panel discussion on political representation. She commented to participants about the many challenges faced by women in their workplaces and called for harmony between sexes to allow both men and women to flourish.

The delegation also met with the Argentina-Canada Friendship group to further cement close ties and engage on shared priorities such as gender equality, social inclusion, human rights and the environment.

"Advocating for gender equality requires support from all corners of the globe," stated Nault. "Convening in Argentina with member countries of ParlAmericas is another significant step forward towards our common goal. Collaboration and idea sharing between countries will help us move forward in our effort to ensure the empowerment of women in both the public and private spheres."

Founded 15 years ago in Ottawa, <u>ParlAmericas International</u> is the only interparliamentary secretariat headquartered in Ottawa. Since the beginning, the Canadian section of ParlAmericas has worked closely with the ParlAmericas International and plays a key role in furthering dialogue by bringing together parliamentarians and hemispheric observers from across the Americas and the Caribbean.

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