



University Women's Club of Montreal Inc.

Club des Femmes Universitaires de Montréal Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Montreal February 10th, 2019

The University Women's Club of Montreal Inc. (UWCM) landmark project *Les Olympes de la Parole* school competition has been nominated for one of the prestigious World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Prizes 2019 in the category Action Line C10 and is among only 2 Canadian projects listed in this category.

ABOUT THE WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY (WSIS)

The WSIS Forum is a global United Nations multistakeholder platform facilitating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This platform is co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP and UNCTAD, in collaboration with several UN organizations such as: UNDESA, FAO, UNEP, WHO, UN Women, WIPO, WFP, ILO, WMO, ITC, UPU, UNODC, UNITAR, UNICEF and UN Regional Commissions. WSIS has established 11 categories of *Action lines* that strengthen the impact of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for sustainable development. **Category Action Line C10** addresses the Ethical dimensions of the Information Society.

ABOUT LES OLYMPES DE LA PAROLE COMPETITION

Les Olympes de la Parole is an academic competition named after Olympe de Gouge, a French playwright and activist who authored *La Déclaration des droits de la femme et de la citoyenne* in 1791. Because of her writings, she was convicted of treason and was guillotined in Paris in 1793.

In 2017, the UWCM has launched the First North American Edition of this competition with the purpose of engaging secondary school girls in the global conversation on the central theme of gender inequalities and its impact on the empowerment of women and girls, based on the principles of human rights. UWCM's competition aligns with the goals of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. For the first edition, participants were invited to reflect on how the use of technology can contribute to the empowerment of indigenous girls and women in Canada.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CLUB OF MONTREAL INC.

The UWCM was founded in 1927 in Montreal by women university graduates involved in promoting quality education for girls and women. UWCM is a member of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW), a non-partisan, voluntary, self-funded organization with over 100 Clubs and 8,400 members, located in every province of Canada. Since its founding in 1919, CFUW has been working to improve the status of women and girls, and to promote human rights, public education, social justice, and peace in Canada. CFUW holds special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and belongs to the Education Committee of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. CFUW regularly sends a delegation to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. CFUW is affiliated with Graduate Women International (GWI), located in Geneva; and is also member of the International Alliance of Women.

For more information:

S. Savary, Chemist, Ph. D., President
University Women's Club of Montreal Inc.

Email: saodesavary.uwcm@gmail.com

Website: <https://uwcm.com/olympes-de-la-parole/what-is-it/>