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UWC MONTREAL INC

University Women's Club of Montreal, Inc.
#7 - 1200 avenue Atwater
Montréal, QC H3Z 1X4
uwcmtl@gmail.com

December 8, 2025

Jennifer Maccarone, MNA
1134, rue Sainte-Catherine Ouest
8e étage, Bureau 801
Montréal (Québec)
H3B 1H4
By email: Jennifer.Maccarone.WSL@assnat.qc.ca

Dear Ms. Maccarone,

Re: Gender and Equity Impacts of Bill 2

On behalf of the University Women's Club of Montreal, Inc. (UWCM), whose mission is to promote social responsibility and growth of women through education, I write to express our position on Bill 2.

First, we wish to acknowledge the devotion and high quality of Quebec physicians' work. They care for residents of our province, including refugees, and for patients from across Canada and beyond who need specialized care.

Second, we recognize the urgent pressures on Québec's health system and commend government efforts to improve access. However, credible sources have raised concerns around potential inequitable effects of the Bill that merit attention. In a November 5th *Montreal Gazette* article, a geriatrician warns that volume-driven targets would endanger seniors' well-being. An October 26th *Journal de Montréal* report states that women physicians spend more time per patient and risk being penalized under such targets. Statistics from the Collège des médecins du Québec show that women make

up the majority of Quebec doctors, especially for younger age groups. A November 3rd Interim Statement of the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada indicates that Bill 2 was developed without consulting Indigenous stakeholders and that it risks undermining care in Indigenous communities.

UWCM urges a fair and collaborative approach to health care reform. This aligns with the adopted resolution of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW), with which UWCM is affiliated, on Health Care Standards (2024). It calls on governments “to ensure quality health care and preventive health care programs which are universal, accessible, comprehensive, portable and publicly administered and that all reforms to the health care system incorporate these five principles of Medicare as outlined in the Canada Health Act (1984).”

Therefore, with regard to Bill 2, we respectfully recommend:

- Inclusive consultations with physicians, including women and Indigenous practitioners and those serving vulnerable populations;
- Performance metrics that take into account the quality of patient-centered care.

Thank you for considering these recommendations. UWCM stands ready to support dialogue that ensures equitable healthcare outcomes.

Sincerely,

Lorraine O'Donnell, PhD
President
University Women's Club of Montreal, Inc. (CFUW Montreal)
uwcmtl@gmail.com

Cc: Mr. Christian Dubé, MNA, Minister of Health and Social Services
(ministre@msss.gouv.qc.ca)