

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Participants of Voices of Olympia Canada School Competition will present their projects at the 66<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women!

**Montreal, February 8, 2022** - Voices of Olympia Canada (VOOC) is proud to announce that participants of the School Competition will present their work on Climate Change during events organized for the sixty-sixth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UN-CSW- 66), which will be held in New York March 14 to 25, 2022.

The round table organized by Voices of Olympia Canada will gather secondary 4 and 5 girls, representing their school teams: Florence Jeannotte from Collège Regina Assumpta; Élodie Roncière from Collège Sainte - Anne; Manon Depachetere from Escadron 96-Alouettes; Sarah Bergevin and Isabella Gualtieri from two teams from The Study; Milla Simm from Villa Maria, and Hanna Kordlouie from La Villa Sainte - Marcelline. Panelists Harmonie - Toscane, St - Pierre - Delhaye, from Université de Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne; Ms. Cheryl Hayles, president, International Alliance of Women and, Dre. Saôde Savary, VOOC Founder, will moderate the discussion.

« This is a unique opportunity for high school girls in Canada to join their voices to the global conversation on the intersections of climate change and the empowerment of women and girls », Ms. Hayles states.

## About Voices of Olympia Canada / Olympes de la Parole

**Voices of Olympia Canada (VOOC) is a global citizenship learning - based initiative**. Through a yearly school competition, we offer a safe and informed discussion space where high school girls in Canada grow as critical thinkers, reflecting on the central theme of gender inequalities and its impacts on the empowerment of girls and women, using a dual perspective of human rights and social justice. Launched in Montreal in 2017, VOOC is an NGO with charity status registered under the CRA. VOOC is a member of the International Alliance of Women.

## **About the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UN-CSW)**

The UN CSW is an entity entirely dedicated to gender equality. A global champion for women and girls, the UN-CSW was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide. The active participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) is a critical element in the work of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UN-CSW). NGOs have been influential in shaping the current global policy framework on women's empowerment and gender equality: the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. This year, UN-CSW-66 priority theme will focus on: "Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes".

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