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CAUT Statement on International Women's Day 2026: Two calls to action

March 6, 2026

This International Women's Day, the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) celebrates the collective gains of our members towards gender equity and encourages the following actions:

Defend equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in post-secondary education

Across Canada and internationally, equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) efforts are facing intense backlash. Whether through legislation, policy change or political pressure, EDI efforts are being dismantled or curtailed.

CAUT and its academic staff associations commit to defending EDI as a core priority. When EDI is weakened, the workplace and and professional rights of all members are at risk.

Read and share resources on how to take action on equity.

Keep the child care promise

A national child care system based on the principles of universality, quality, affordability and quality employment enable parents and other care providers — most often women — to access post-secondary education and participate in the workforce.

Five years ago, the federal government promised $10-a-day child care to families across Canada. Today, affordable child care is at risk due to a shortfall in federal funding. This means the promise of quality child care has yet to be met, and fair employment for early childhood educators remains unfulfilled.

Tell Prime Minister Carney to keep the child care promise.

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