Virtual Urban Thinkers Campus-North America Women and Urban SDGs
Media Release

The Urban Economy Forum (UEF), in partnership with the Commonwealth Association of Planners, is proud to host the Urban Thinkers Campus - North America Women and Urban SDGs: An Urban Paradigm Shift Towards Gender Equality on March 7th & 8th, 2022 on occasion of International Women’s Day.

The two-day North American campaign is an open dialogue for the exchange of ideas, actions and the sharing of innovative solutions and successful initiatives for the empowerment of women and girls in cities, towns and Indigenous communities in North America and globally. The event will focus on Women and Housing, Women Friendly Cities, Women’s Lived Experience and Local Community Participation, Women and Violence, and Women and Urban Inclusion. The aim is to facilitate an urban paradigm shift from a male-centric development model to a gender inclusive one where women and girls are given equal opportunities to succeed and become powerful agents of change in their communities.

Cities have a key role to play in promoting gender equality and equity and empower women and girls to actively participate in all aspects of society. This is critical to achieve the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 11 - sustainable cities and communities and SDG 5 – gender equality.

The campaign is based on the World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park (Pavilion) program, titled Canada: Pioneer of Urban SDGs and Canada, Women and Urban SDGs. The latter aims to develop inclusive cities by mainstreaming women and girls’ equality and equity in all facets of urban planning, design, development, governance, and overall city life. To support the program, a Global Secretariat on Canada, Woman, and Urban SDGs will be established. The Pavilion is a global knowledge exchange hub on sustainable urban development. It promotes peer-to-peer learning, and the sharing and development of wise and good practices in inclusive, equitable, just, and sustainable urbanization in Canada and worldwide.

We welcome all mayors, city leaders, non-governmental organisations, researchers, community leaders, champions of gender equality, and civil society to join us in this important dialogue to promote and advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. For more information please our website and register for free here.