

A Message on International Day of Women and Girls in Science

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The International Day of Women and Girls in Science is celebrated on February 11 and was implemented by UNESCO and UN-Women. This day is an opportunity to promote full and equal access to and participation in science for women and girls.

We recognize the importance of this day for the historic contributions women have made—whether recognized or unrecognized—in science, technology and medicine. From Marie Curie to Rosalind Franklin, to Jennifer A. Doudna, women have always played an important role in new discoveries. Here in Manitoba, we can look to scientists such as Dr. Leigh Murphy, a distinguished professor at the University of Manitoba. Her important contribution in breast cancer research has led to international collaborations and established the Manitoba Tumour Bank, breast tumour banking, and the importance of biobanking.

There are more women in science and research than ever before. We are seeing historic enrollment in all levels in academic training and this will only benefit society as a whole. Mentorship and training of women in STEM continues at CancerCare Manitoba and the University of Manitoba to inspire women to lead now and in the future.

We need more women in science and we encourage racialized women, including Indigenous, Métis and Inuit women, to add their voices and perspectives to science.

Female scientists make extraordinary contributions to cancer research and here at CCMB we hope to continue to inspire future generations to pursue STEM careers.

Let's all join in recognizing the International Day of Women and Girls in Science and the important contributions women make each day in Manitoba and globally.

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