



Maryam Monsef

Founder and CEO of ONWARD

MARYAM HAS BEEN NAMED ONE OF THE TOP 20 GLOBAL INFLUENCERS ON GENDER EQUALITY, ALONGSIDE NOTABLE FIGURES SUCH AS RUTH BADER GINSBURG, MICHELLE OBAMA, AND MALALA YOUSAFZAI.

Inspirational Influencer

Maryam Monsef is recognized for her resilience as a new Canadian, the first Afghan Canadian Member of Parliament, and visionary entrepreneur dedicated to women's empowerment and equity for all.

Serving the Peterborough and Kawartha Riding from 2016-2021, Maryam held several portfolios as the Minister for Democratic Institutions, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister of International Development and Minister of Rural and Economic Development.

She established the Department for Women and Gender Equality (WAGE) and rolled out one of the largest investments in high-speed internet. Under her stewardship, Canada was recognized as a world leader in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.

Maryam's commitment to domestic and international grassroots women's organizations and her drive for an intersectional response to COVID-19, introduced The Feminist Response and Recovery Fund. The Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women, (BPW Canada), tapped into this funding and launched a project titled, "Strategic Partnerships for a COVID-19 Response to Promote the Full Participation and Economic Recovery for Women". This work led to the IDEAS4GE Strategy and impactful series of collaborative solutions free and readily accessible to stakeholders committed to integrating Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access into the workplace, marketplace and communities across Canada.

This evening, we commend the collective contributions throughout Maryam's remarkable lived experiences, political career, community service and current entrepreneurial endeavours as the Founder and CEO of ONWARD.



Women
Offering
Resources and
Knowledge

**Women's
W.O.R.K.**

