



*"A healthy English-speaking community in a secure French-speaking Quebec.  
A strong Quebec in a united Canada."*

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Developing Skills of Young Women in Rural Areas**

The Regional Association of West Quebecers is taking part in a pilot project offered in three Quebec regions to develop the leadership skills of young English-speaking women in rural areas by supporting and training small groups as they carry out viable projects in their communities.

"Not only does the project give participants the opportunity to practice their new skills, but it also allows these women to create a real and meaningful experience as they make a difference in their communities," commented project coordinator Lise Palmer.

This is a unique pilot project by the Quebec Community Groups Network in collaboration with the Carleton Centre for Community Innovation (3ci) and funded through Status of Women Canada's Women's Program. West Quebecers is one of the regional partners.

Over the summer, a group of young women in the Pontiac will carry out a community project selected jointly by the participants and community representatives.

During their project, the young women will be calling on the community for mentorship, guidance, support and participation to ensure the project's success. As the project wraps up, community members will be invited to attend a community celebration, where the new skills and leadership capacities of these dynamic women will be showcased. "More importantly, community members will have an opportunity to invite these women to share their new-found expertise on advisory boards and project teams and within organizations as staff and volunteers," said Palmer.

If you would like to be a mentor/supporter of this project,

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*RAWQ is a community-based not-for-profit organization which serves and supports the English-speaking population of West Quebec by fostering an environment in which it can thrive. Its key activities are in health, education, culture and youth. RAWQ also plays a significant role in advocacy on behalf of the English-speaking community.*