



ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
CANADA

BUILD A BETTER WORLD
FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

CSW70 2026

MARCH 9 - 20

Nita McCown | 2026



CSW UN

NGO CSW

Two different but associated
groups

What is the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is an official commission of the United Nations, which focuses on the rights & empowerment of women and global gender equality. It's an intergovernmental body consisting of 45 member states.

Each year CSW takes place for two weeks in March in New York ,focuses on a specific topic related to gender equality, which is known as the “priority them”.

NGO CSW FORUM

Civil society gathering **parallel** to the UN CSW & outside of the UNHQ

Organized by NGO CSW/NY (a civil society organization)

Hosts virtual & in-person **Parallel Events** and other civil society-led events/activities

Recommendations prepared by civil society to include in the CSW outcome document

Free and open to the public

UN CSW

Official United Nations Commission at the UN Headquarters

Coordinated by UN Women (a UN agency)

Hosts official **Side Events** organized by UN agencies, Member States & CSOs

Outcome document negotiated by Member States

Only ECOSOC-accredited organizations can officially register

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NGO CSW FORUM AND UN CSW

NGO CSW/NY

- 99% volunteer organization with satellite groups around the world
- Pro-active in Advocacy
- NGO CSW/NY organizes the civil society side of the UN commission on the Status of Women. Groups from around the world apply to host a parallel events.
- In the past, Zonta has hosted or participated in parallel events.

MEETING FORMAT

- NGO CSW will be a hybrid format.
- Some parallel events will be only virtual and some will only be in person. This will be indicated when the parallel events are announced
- In the past some organizers of parallel events have uploaded their presentations to YouTube. At this point, we don't which presentations this might be

REGISTRATION:

- NGOs that are accredited to and in good standing with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) may designate representatives to attend the annual sessions of the CSW UN.
- Zonta is allotted a limited number of attendees and these must be approved by Zonta International
- Anyone can register for NGONY CSW

CSW70

- Registration for CSW is expected to open in late January or early February
- Parallel events will be announced in early February.

HOW TO BECOME INVOLVED

- Join NGO CSW NY
- They have monthly meetings attended by individuals from around the world
- Topics vary, but always pertain to women & children
- To learn more or to join CSW go to <https://ngocsw.org>