

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Jean Collective, a Woman in Politics Initiative Announces

Women's Leadership Conference: Inspire. Empower. Connect.

London, Ontario, June 6, 2023 — The Jean Collective, a Woman in Politics Initiative, is thrilled to announce its upcoming Women's Leadership Conference, taking place on Saturday, September 16, 2023, at the Stoneridge Inn & Conference Centre, 6675 Burtwistle Lane, London, Ontario.

This highly anticipated event aims to inspire, empower, and connect women from various backgrounds and professions, with a focus on supporting their growth in politics and leadership roles.

We are excited to welcome Christine Elliott, former Deputy Premier and Ontario Minister of Health, as the keynote speaker. We are thankful to all sponsors including Event Sponsor, Siskinds, The Law Firm, who add credibility and prestige to this our first annual conference. Panelists include MP Karen Vecchio, Joanne Vanderheyden, former mayor of the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc, Anne Marie Gillis, Sarnia City Councillor, Cathy Abraham, Ontario Public School President, and Christine Elliott, former Deputy Premier of Ontario, and Minister of Health.

The Women's Leadership Conference offers a unique opportunity for attendees to:

- Network with like-minded individuals and established female leaders.
- Gain knowledge and skills through insightful panel discussions, World Café discussions, and keynote presentations.
- Grow in confidence as they consider careers in politics and leadership roles.
- Discover opportunities and pathways to contribute to their communities.
- Enhance their skill set and learn from experienced professionals.
- Encourage the development of future leaders.
- Collaborate and foster meaningful connections with others.

With an exciting lineup of speakers, panelists, and World Café discussions, the Women's Leadership Conference promises to be an exceptional experience for those looking to elevate their careers and make a lasting impact in their communities.

Register here: <https://thejeancollective.ca/leadership-conference>

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to connect with, learn from, and be inspired by an extraordinary group of women in politics and leadership, including the organizing committee.

- Cathy Burghardt-Jesson, Middlesex County Warden & Mayor, Lucan Biddulph
- Aina DeViet, Mayor, Middlesex Centre
- Sharron McMillan, Mayor, Thames Centre
- Debbie Heffernan, Councillor Middlesex Centre
- Sue Cates, Councillor, Thames Centre
- Michelle Smibert, Deputy Mayor, Thames Centre
- Arlene Morell, TVDSB Trustee
- Joanne Vanderheyden, Former Mayor Strathroy-Caradoc
- Allison Warwick, Former Middlesex County Warden
- Helen Cole, Founder, The Jean Collective, a Woman in Politics Initiative, and former St. Thomas City Councillor 1991-2000.

For more information about the Women's Leadership Conference contact the following

- **Middlesex County Warden and Mayor, Lucan Biddulph, Cathy Burghardt-Jesson – 519-615-0751**
- **Event Organizer Helen Cole- 519-330-1734.**

About The Jean Collective

The Jean Collective is a trailblazing Woman in Politics Initiative dedicated to advancing the representation of women in political and leadership roles. Through workshops, conferences, and mentorship opportunities, the organization empowers women to pursue their goals and create a positive change in their communities. **The Jean Collective, a Woman in Politics Initiative, workshop series will be delivering a seven-session program entitled '7 Steps to Winning' focusing on the essential steps necessary to run for public office, such as assessing your suitability, crafting a platform based on your values, understanding your community, developing visibility and credibility.**

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If you would like more information about **'7 Steps to Winning'** visit <https://thejeancollective.ca/7-steps-to-winning-1> or contact Helen Cole- 519-330-1734 or thejeancollective@gmail.com