On September 17, the City of Toronto launched a new initiative, the Toronto Regional Champion Campaign: Increasing Women's Participation in Regional Government.

Canada ranks 51 out of 188 countries in terms of elected women. Only 22% of people elected to municipal office are women.

Mayor David Miller and Toronto Regional Champion Chair, Councillor, Pam McConnell introduced the 26 young women who will spend the next year learning the job of a municipal councilor.

These 26 young women were part of a city wide search to choose outstanding candidates. There were four CHFT Diversity Scholarship winners among those chosen:

Cyesha Forde, David B. Archer Co-operative

Haminat Kehinde, Perth Avenue Housing Co-operative

Yan Yen Loo, Atkinson Housing Co-operative

Yan Si Loo, Atkinson Housing Co-operative

From left to right:  Jessica Hewlett, Councillor Sandra Bussin, Haminat Kehinde, Toronto Mayor David Miller, and Yan Si Loo.

From right to left: Yan Yen Loo, Toronto Mayor David Miller, Husnia Hakimy, and guest.

From left to right:  Councillor Pam McConnell, Ishanie Perera, Cyesha Forde, Toronto Mayor David Miller