



Third Letter to the Editor - Regarding Globe and Mail's Lysiane Gagnon

The visionary men and women of this country who have taken steps to ensure that women have a place in the cabinet room do not deserve a 'Bah, humbug' from Lysiane Gagnon (Humbug to Sex Parity in Cabinet, Dec. 22), but instead a stirring round of 'Halleluiah'.

Canadian academics, politicians, international parliaments, as well as the general public recognize that a variety of measures are needed to ensure that a greater number of women are nominated, elected and ultimately appointed to federal and provincial cabinets. Waiting for this to happen naturally has not worked. Canadian women and men should ask themselves just how long must they wait before enlightened practices like that of Premier Charest take root? Equal Voice, an organization dedicated to electing more women in Canada, does not want to wait any longer and we are confident that many Canadians share our determination to do something about it.

Yes, there are many considerations in selecting a cabinet and gender is one. The fact gender is a consideration at all acknowledges that Canadian feminists – men included – believe that 52% of our population deserves better representation. Yes, there are more numbers of women as graduates and in various fields as Ms. Gagnon states, but there is no disputing that the political arena is one that contains historically systemic obstacles for women.

Cheers to Premier Charest and cheers to other Canadian leaders who have the courage to recognize that talented political women need an 'equal voice' in cabinet.

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