

# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF CANADA.

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Meeting to inaugurate the formation of a  
Local Council at Halifax, August  
24th, 1894.

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The Academy of Music was crowded to its utmost capacity; never before was there such a gathering in that building. Not only was every seat occupied, but the aisles and passageways were packed with people, and, with the exception of the reporters, the audience was composed of ladies. The platform was exquisitely decorated with plants and flowers. Her Excellency was supported by Mrs. Daly, Hon. Mrs. Montgomery-Moore, Mrs. Courtney, Miss O'Brien, Mrs. W. S. Fielding, Mrs. J. W. Longley, Mrs. J. F. Kenny, Miss Henry, Mrs. M. E. Keefe, Mrs. Leonowens, Mrs. J. C. Mackintosh, Mrs. H. H. Fuller, Mrs. Richey, Mrs. R. L. Borden and others. Of the eighty societies in Halifax and Dartmouth invited to send representatives, 69 accepted the invitation and others sent letters of apology. The representatives of those organizations were invited to seats on the platform.

Before the proceedings formally commenced, Mrs. S. E. Whiston stepped to the front and presented the Countess of Aberdeen with a basket of beautiful flowers. Mrs. Charles Archibald was requested to act as Secretary, and then Her Excellency rose to address the gathering. She spoke as follows :