



February 10, 2026 – **Safer Internet Day 2026** “Smart Tech, Safe Choices”

The National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC) joins partners across Canada and around the world in marking **Safer Internet Day 2026**, a global initiative to promote the safe and responsible use of online technology. This year’s theme, **“AI Aware: Smart Tech, Safe Choices,”** invites everyone—children, youth, and adults—to engage thoughtfully and securely with artificial intelligence and other digital tools. As AI becomes increasingly woven into everyday life, shaping what we see, learn, and share, Canadians are encouraged to approach technology with awareness and critical thinking.

Committed to the well-being of women, families and society, the NCWC supports initiatives that help families, educators, and communities build skills to protect privacy, counter cyberbullying, manage screen time, and recognize and challenge misinformation.

This Safer Internet Day comes at a critical moment for digital safety in Canada. NCWC welcomes the progress of Bill S-209 in the Senate, legislation designed to protect children and youth from exposure to age-inappropriate sexual content online. Details including references to the support from the NCWC can be found via this link: [Bill S-209](#). A final vote in the Senate is expected soon, after which the Bill will move to the House of Commons. NCWC will update members as this process advances and encourages all Canadians to urge their MPs to support the Bill so that it can move swiftly to Royal Assent. We firmly believe that protecting children from harmful content online must be treated with the same seriousness as protecting them offline, and must be accompanied by broader measures that ensure a safer, more respectful digital environment for all.

NCWC’s advocacy on digital safety and children’s protection is grounded not only in our national policy positions, but also in the long-standing global commitments of the [International Council of Women \(ICW\)](#). As an affiliate of ICW, NCWC’s calls for stronger protections for women, children, and families online are aligned with international policies that promote human rights, the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence, and the development of safe, inclusive societies.

We also encourage members to check out guidance from the [UK Safer Internet Centre](#), which encourages safe and inclusive participation across platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Bluesky. When sharing photos or posts, members are also reminded to prioritize privacy, seek consent, and safeguard the identities and wellbeing of young people.

On this Safer Internet Day 2026, NCWC reaffirms its commitment to a digital world where innovation and protection go hand in hand—empowering individuals and families to make smart, safe, and responsible choices online.

Penny Rankin  
NCWC President