UN CSW61, New York, March 2017, Parallel NGO Event

Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. (Belmont BEC | BEC Global), Textile Clothing Footwear Resource Centre of WA Inc. (TCF Australia | TCF Global), BPW Business Incubator Projects in conjunction with BPW Western Australia (BPW WA) will present at the NGO Forums during UN CSW61, New York, March 2017.

The sixty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women will take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 13 to 24 March 2017. Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world are invited to attend the session.

This year's themes will be:

- Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work
- Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls (agreed conclusions of the fifty-eighth session)
- The empowerment of indigenous women

Carol Hanlon will present a Forum entitled 'Economic Empowerment of Women Entrepreneurs through 'Online' Business Incubation'.

The Forum will showcase 'Online' Business Incubation projects delivering Business Training, Mentoring to women entrepreneurs; Retirement Income Planning for Women; Global Fashion Opportunities; Award Programs, Energy Efficiency and Social Enterprise Projects.'

Over the past 23 years, Carol Hanlon via the Belmont BEC & TCF Australia has assisted over 16,000 women entrepreneurs in Australia to develop their own small business or improve their existing small business through a wide range of 'online' business development projects, with many more thousands assisted through Carol's global networks.

CEO of Belmont BEC and TCF Australia Carol Hanlon said, "I am thrilled to be invited to present at this prestigious global event in New York. It's our chance to demonstrate how we in assist women in business, and how others can do the same in their countries.

"Some of the projects that we will be highlighting at the Forum will be our BPW Business Incubator 'Women in Business' Online Training & Mentoring Projects, BPW Business Incubator ONLINE Retirement Income Planning for Women Project, BPW Business Woman of the Year, MY Green Incubator - TCF Australia Online Energy Efficiency, and the TCF Global Fashion Incubator Network."

Forum Title: 'Economic Empowerment of Women Entrepreneurs through 'Online' Business

Incubation' Date: 13 March Time: 2:30 PM

Venue: The Church Center for the United Nations, 777 First Avenue, New York

Room: 2nd Floor

To find out about these projects log onto: www.belmontbec.com/empowering-women or www.bpwbusinessincubator.com/empowering-women or <a href="www.bpwbusinessincubator.com/empowering-women-

For further information please contact:

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<u>www.belmontbec.com</u> <u>www.mybusinessincubator.com.au</u> <u>www.bpwbusinessincubator.com</u> <u>www.tcfaustralia.com</u> <u>www.tcfglobal.com</u> www.fashionincubators.com

About:

Belmont BEC | BEC Global is a non-profit community organisation established in 1994, providing training and mentoring support services to over 20,000+ individuals in Australia to start or improve their small business and is a specialist in virtual business incubation.

<u>www.belmonbec.com</u> <u>www.bpwbusinessincubator.com</u>

TCFWA | TCF Australia | TCF Global is a non-profit community organisation established in 1998, assisting over 6,000+ designers and fashion industry small businesses with fashion business skill development, linkages in the global supply chain, International trade and industry networks.

www.tcfwa.com www.tcfaustralia.com www.tcfglobal.com

Australian Federation of Business & Professional Women (Western Australian Division)
Incorporated, (BPW) is a not for profit association that is part of the International Federation of Business & Professional Women with a 85 year history in advocating for women's empowerment, gender equity and leadership across 5 continents in over 100 countries with General Consultative Status at ECOSOC, United Nations. www.bpw.com.au/wa www.bpw.com.au www.bpw-international.org

Carol Hanlon, Founding Manager, Belmont BEC (BEC Global), Founder/CEO, TCFWA (TCF Global), Founder BPW Business Incubator Project & TCF Australia Energy Efficiency Project has an extensive 23 year record of delivering small business development programs for the benefit of women across Australia and Internationally. Carol was an Australian Government delegate at APEC Women Economy Forums, 2015 Philippines, 2013 Indonesia & 2012 Russia. Represented Australia in 2015 Iconograph Exhibition in 'Women Icons of APEC'. Facilitated and presented three NGO Forums at UN CSW 56, CSW 59 & CSW 60 New York to deliver Women's Business Empowerment Forums. Guest Presenter at UN CSW 55 & CSW 59 NGO Forums on 'Migrant Women', 'Micro Enterprise Projects in Asia', 'B+20: Economic Empowerment of Migrant Women in Asia and related issues'. Carol was inducted in the Inaugural 2011 WA Women's Hall of Fame for her passion and commitment with micro small business owners to achieve their business dreams and announced the '2015 Empowering women in a community or organisation in Australia' in the 'Sustaining Women's Empowerment in Communities and Organisations' Awards.

Statistics - Australian Small Business

96% of businesses in Australia are Small Business:

87% of these small businesses are micro small business (under 5 employees)

There are 1,646,344 small businesses in Australia; 32% operated by women (520,000+)

94% of all Australian businesses have an annual turnover of less than 2 million dollars.

One in every 10 houses in Australia has a home-based small business

Women own almost half of all home-based businesses and one-third of businesses operating from other locations.

46% of women run their businesses from home - a 20% increase in the last five years.

Women make or influence 80% of all purchasing decisions.