



Who are we?

Integrity

Cooperation

Ownership

Responsibility

Simplification

Peer Support

Are you ready?

- **Not-for-profit registered charity**
- **Founded in January 1995 in Thunder Bay**
- **Works to *Empower women, Strengthen small businesses and promote community economic development* across Ontario.**
- **PARO is Latin for “*I AM READY*”**



Do You



- **Have an idea, passion, talent, skill, and product or service that you want to earn a sustainable income with, but not sure how?**
- **Want to be or are you already an entrepreneur looking for supports and/or services?**
- **Want to be able to Network with other like-minded women**

Approach of the EI Lens

Equity & Inclusion Lens Handbook

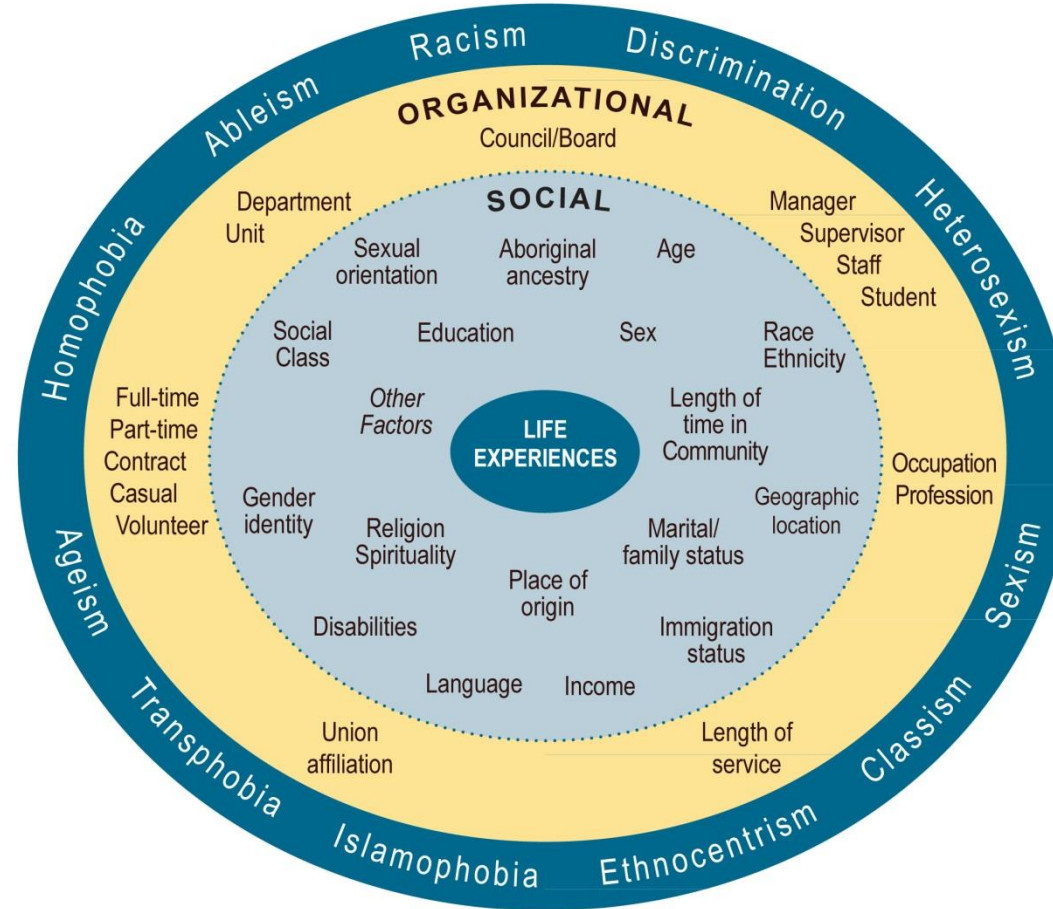


**Who is not included
in the work you do?**

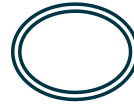
**What could contribute
to this exclusion?**

**What can you do differently
to ensure inclusion?**

How does PARO applies Ottawa Equity and Inclusion Lens



PARO Peer Lending Circles



**A Women's Micro-loan Program
For Entrepreneurial Woman
at all Business Stages**

By joining or starting a Circle,
you may be eligible
for a non-repayable portion (NRP) of your
small business loan
through PARO Peer
Lending Circle Program



PARO Peer Lending Circles Support Women



- No or poor credit history
- No collateral or cash equity
- Amount of loan is too small for a bank to consider
- Apprehensive about approaching a traditional financial institution
- PARO provides financial literacy training through weekly workshops





Contact Us



PARO Centre

For Women's Enterprise
pour l'entreprise des femmes

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Thunder Bay

110 - 105 May St. North
Thunder Bay, ON P7C 3N9

Tel: (807) 625-0328

Toll-Free: 1-800-584-0252

Fax: (807) 625-0317

Email: circles@paro.ca

Valerie Assoi

Eastern Offices Ottawa

Impact Hub (Central) 123 Slater St +
CoWorkly (East) 261 Montreal Road

parobizeast@paro.ca