



Dear fellow Zontians,

Welcome to your district conference! It is wonderful that you could be here to celebrate the Zonta Spirit and recognize the vital role we all have in achieving Zonta's mission. This time together is a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow Zontians beyond your club, engage in discussions about important topics and share insights. I thank you for making the time for Zonta.

What makes these conferences special is the opportunity to share and listen to one another about what women's rights mean in your lives, clubs and communities. Even while ongoing counter-movements against DEI and gender-equity occur across the globe, Zontians are standing strong in our unwavering commitment to our values. As we look forward, it is important to realize that while the journey ahead still holds many obstacles, we will not be alone.

I am always encouraged for the future when I read about the actions being taken with your local service and advocacy initiatives, especially in our Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women and Zonta Says NOW to gender-equal climate action campaigns. We all resonate with the understanding that real change for more sustainable and equal future begins at the local level, and it is heartening to see so many of you making a real difference despite how easy it would be to look the other way.

But Zontians do not run from the conflicts that threaten to tear down the world we are building. We stand strong in defending the hard-earned advancements in gender equity that we, alongside many others, have tirelessly worked to achieve over the past century.

Let us look ahead with excitement knowing that you will continue to amplify Zonta's presence and participation in the global dialogue on women's rights and gender equity. Let us keep standing for education equality, women in decision-making, climate justice and for ending gender-based violence. Let's continue to speak up for human rights of women and girls and let's continue to take actions!

Until we meet again at the 2026 Zonta International Convention in Vancouver next July, please accept my warmest wishes and heartfelt thanks for your invaluable contributions to Zonta. I wish you all a fulfilling uplifting conference and look forward to the wonderful work that lies ahead as we build a better world for women and girls.

In Zonta Spirit,



A handwritten signature in blue ink. The signature is stylized, starting with a large 'S' and 'T' that are connected, followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that extends to the right.

Salla Tuominen  
President, 2024-2026  
Zonta International & Zonta Foundation for Women