

Please check off any of the following:

mailing list (enclose \$3.00)

I would like to become involved by sending:

News clippings from my area

photographs

donations — financial

— material

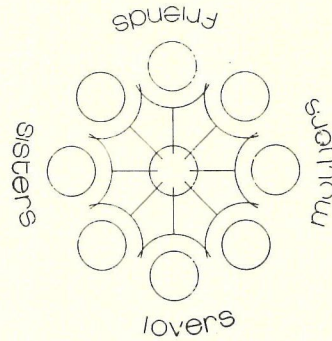
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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**DON'T THROW THIS  
AWAY!**



**WOMEN'S MOVEMENT  
ARCHIVES  
P.O. BOX 928, STATION Q,  
TORONTO, ONTARIO  
CANADA**

# **CANADIAN HERSTORY PROJECT**



## **Women's Liberation**

## BACKGROUND

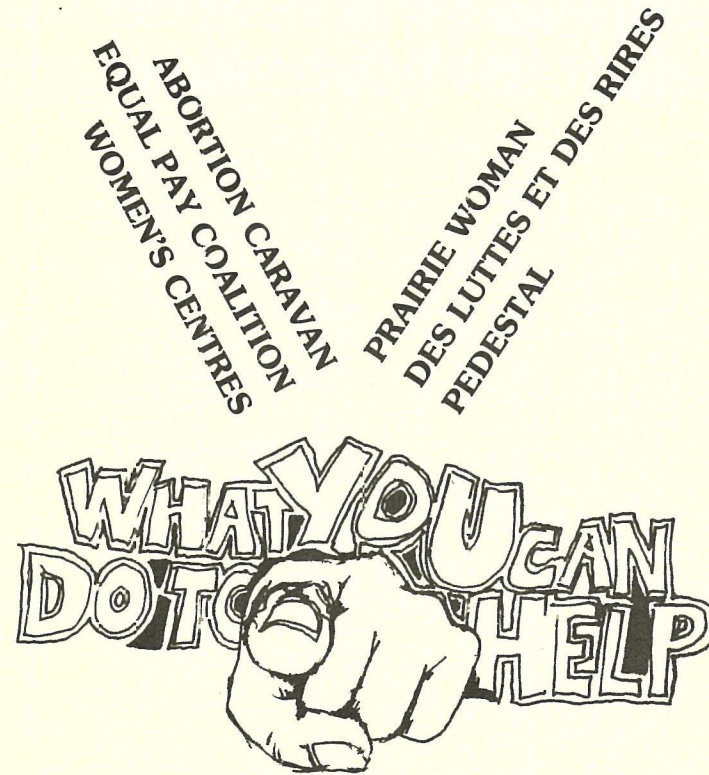
From 1972 to 1977, the feminist newspaper called *The Other Woman* received and actively collected much information on a growing women's movement in Canada. Unfortunately, the publication had priority over the archival project. It was not until the summer of 1977, after the demise of the newspaper, that all of the boxes were systematically filed for permanent storage. The material includes activity from the earliest point of the current women's movement and stretches from sea to sea. It is now an organized archival collection maintained through consultations with other movement archivists. At the present, no institutional funds support it.

## WHY AN ARCHIVES?

Ask Laura X who initiated the California-based Women's History Research Project. Ask the women from ISIS in Europe. Ask also the women from the Lesbian Herstory Archives in New York City. As movement historians, we will give the same answers. The process of communication does not lie in one collective in one city or even in one country. Archives are established for at least two reasons: research and preservation. Must we suffer the same mistakes over and over again in our work with no sense of direction? Future generations of activists must have access to all aspects of our lives. Both the present and the future need a link to provide continuity. Let there never be such a gap again as occurred during the period between our suffragist foremothers and ourselves. It might be exciting to rediscover the lives of strong women activists but it is also hard work.

## WHO IS IT FOR?

The Archives has grown out of, and is part of, the women's movement in Canada. It is ours. It belongs to those women who are working in the anti-rape movement, the health movement, labour movement, lesbian movement, day care movement and every other struggle which gives us more autonomy over our lives. It is accessible and open to all unless donations have specific conditions to be closed to the public. A list of holdings is available on request.



## GROUPS

1. **MAILING LISTS:** Add the Archives free of charge.
2. **PAPERS:** Send all papers, i.e., flyers, briefs, constitutions, newsletters, etc.
3. **EVENTS:** Take minutes of all meetings, tape important discussions and photograph events.
4. **PROMOTION:** Take free ads from the Archives in your publications, reprint archival documents which highlight various periods in the movement, help distribute this brochure. Make it your Archives.

## INDIVIDUALS

1. **CLEAN OUT** your basements, boxes, attics. The Archives will accept photocopies of material. Your correspondence with women active in other cities is also needed. Keep your almanacs and your journals. Nothing which relates to our movement should be thrown away.
2. **SPREAD THE WORD** of the archival project and send to the Archives names of women who should be contacted for collection of material.

## WHAT DOES IT COVER?

\* As of the end of 1980, the main holdings in the Archives consist of:  
122 groups (44 inactive)  
44 publications (18 inactive)  
88 newsletters (54 inactive)  
23 centres (8 inactive)

The above figures include those held in the separate lesbian section, and breaks down into five major sections: Montreal (French and English), Toronto, Vancouver, East and West. The other holdings include national groups, national conferences and subject files, cassette tapes, photographs and news clippings.

\* Other related sections are from the international women's movement, the gay movement, the left and the government. All of these categories record the women's movement from another perspective and also show the political arena in which the women's movement has found its allies.

## FUTURE PLANS

- irregular newsletter
- publication and newsletter index
- cross-reference of subject titles
- microfilming
- oral herstories of individual women active over the last ten years on how their lives were integrated with that of the movement.
- oral herstories of groups as viewed through the development of structure and process.