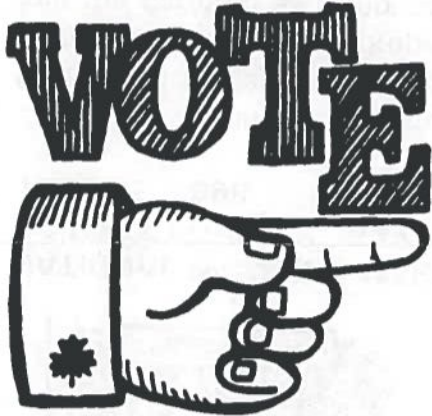


SISTERHOOD

WOMEN FOR
UNIONISM,
SOLIDARITY



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BRITISH COLUMBIANS GO TO THE POLLS ON MAY 28, 1996.

Women in BC are preparing to protect the advances made since the election of an NDP government in 1991.

It is important that women continue to fight to achieve economic and social equality. The question is which political party will be on our side in this struggle?

We know that the NDP is not perfect, but women's achievements under this government include the following:

- Improved minimum employment standards that benefit 220,000 unionized women and 590,000 non-unionized women in the paid labour force.
- Continues to work towards breaking the cycle of violence against women by investing in community-based services like counselling for children who witness abuse.
- Increased the amount of transition and safe houses by 40 percent.

- Invested \$100 million in childcare services and increased childcare space by 48 percent to more than 63,000 spaces.
- Provided for mandatory charging of offenders in cases of violence against women in relationships.
- Increased the minimum wages which benefited 80,000 minimum wage earners, about 70 percent of whom are women, and the list goes on.

What about Gordon Campbell and the Liberals? They have threatened to move the Ministry of Women's Equality to the Premier's office making Gordon Campbell the head of women's issues. This is a mockery and is simply not good enough for women of this province. The Liberals remain weak and divided on the question of choice. In fact, many of Campbell's Liberals are openly anti-choice. By advocating \$3 billion in cutbacks, the Liberals are setting this province up to offer two-tier Americanized health

care system. Women can't afford the massive tax cuts Campbell's Liberals have promised to his corporate friends. Not when the price is \$3 billion in cuts to childcare, Medicare, public education and community services that women rely on.

What can one say about Jack Weisgerber and the BC Reformers? They continue to advocate for drastic cuts in crucial public services. They believe the Federal cuts to BC Medicare, Education and Social Programs over the next two years don't go far enough. Women will be the casualties if this party is elected.

WOMEN: You have a choice on May 28, 1996. Make it a choice for a government who will have the leadership and politics that is supportive of, rather than destructive to women.



**NATIONAL WOMEN'S MARCH
AGAINST POVERTY, MAY 14 -
JUNE 15, 1996**

Women in communities across British Columbia are organizing rallies and events and preparing to join the caravan as it moves through the province on its way to Ottawa. The southern caravan will start from several communities on Vancouver Island on May 11, moving through Vancouver for the official launch on May 14 at the CLC Convention, and will travel on through Abbotsford to Kamloops

on May 15. The northern caravan will leave Prince Rupert on May 13, moving through Prince George, Quesnel and Williams Lake to Kamloops where it will meet up with the southern caravan. Both groups will then head on to Calgary, passing through Vernon, Trail, Cranbrook and Golden on the way to the Alberta border.

For more information on the National March and events in areas outside Vancouver, please call 430-5631. **Note: This is a Burnaby number.**

**WOMEN ON WHEELS
ROLLING FEMINIST LIBRARY**

On May 14, 1996, Women on Wheels: a rolling feminist library will leave Vancouver, captained by E. Centime Zeleke, Annthea Whittaker and Gretchen Zimmerman. W.O.W. will join the Canada-wide **Women's March Against Poverty**, organized by the National Action Committee on the Status of Women and the Canadian Labour Congress. The National March will focus on women's demands for economic and social equality, or "Bread and Roses; Jobs and Justice."

W.O.W. has been collecting books, letters of endorsement and gifts from NAC B.C., Vancouver Status of Women, Little Sisters' Bookstore, Women in Print, Co-op Radio, Harry's Off Commercial, Polestar Books, Arsenal Pulp, Womyn's Ware Inc. and other community and private donors. The truck has been donated by Diana Kilmury from the Teamsters' Union.

To donate books, drop off boxes are available at:
Little Sister's Book and Art Emporium, 1221 Thurlow Street;
UBC Women's Center, The Student Union Building; The Vancouver Status of Women, #301-1720 Grant Street; Harry's Off Commercial, 1716 Charles Street, Women in Print, 3566 West 4th Avenue. **Other locations. (call for location near you).**

MILLION-WOMAN MARCH PLANNED FOR LOS ANGELES

Black activists announced plans for the first multicultural "Million Woman March" through south Los Angeles on June 15, featuring the widow of Malcolm X. Organizers are planning a 3.2 mile walk that will begin at Crenshaw and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevards and end at Exposition Park with a series of speeches.

The event will focus on issues that affect families, including crime, gang involvement, teenage pregnancy and education.

For more information, please call CORE - 1-213-298-8777 or Zeni Maartman - Canadian Representative - 1-604-753-7255.

NEW PROGRAM TO HELP WOMEN AND MINORITIES GET ON THE ELECTRONIC HIGHWAY

Community agencies serving women and other minority groups unable to travel the electronic highway will gain Internet access and training under a new \$500,000 BC 21 program,

announced as part of the Electronic Highway Accord by Women's Equality Minister Sue Hammell.

"The ability to use electronic tools to communicate, network, research and share information will have many long-range positive effects for community agencies," said Hammell. The program will result in the training of 5,800 new Internet users from under-represented groups.

For further information, please contact Kris Aitken, Communications Division, Ministry of Women's Equality at 1-604-356-0828. Internet ID: kaitken@galaxy.gov.bc.ca

THE WOMEN'S CENTRE - DOUGLAS COLLEGE

Free Workshops for Women

Thursday, May 16, 2-4:00 pm
Introduction to Self-Esteem

Tuesday, May 21, 12-2:00 pm
Thinking of Upgrading? Training?

Wednesday, May 22, 2-4:00 pm
Are you planning to attend SFU?

Wednesday, June 5, 2-4:00 pm
Relationships

Thursdays, 2-2:30 pm
On-Going Support Groups: Mature Women's Support Group

Mondays, 1-3 pm starting April 22
Practising Assertive Communication

To register: Simply show up at the Women's Centre, Room 2720, New Westminster Campus, at the stated time. **There are no fees charged for any of these workshops.**

If you require further information, please call 527-5148.



Congratulations to Sister Cheryl Tellier, an TWU member from Nanaimo, who is the winner of the Marianne Gilbert scholarship to attend the Summer Institute for Union Women at SFU.

REMINDER

Summer Institute for Union Women **"Union Women Challenging the New World Order"**

Date: June 8-12, 1996

Place: Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, BC

ALL UNION WOMEN WELCOME!

For more information, please call Chris Dempster, Program Assistant, Labour Program, Continuing Studies, Simon Fraser University, 604-291-5842 or fax 604-291-3851