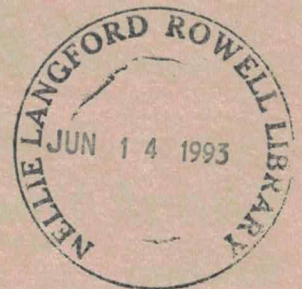


ACTION

MANITOBA ACTION COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN NEWSLETTER

March 1993

Vol. 20 No. 2



**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
MARCH 8
RISE UP AND FEEL YOUR POWER!**

**This Issue: Judy Rebick -- Horsewoman of the Year
Susie Scissorhands -- Night-Mayor on Main Street**

About MACSW

The Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women is a volunteer-based, non-profit feminist organization working through political action, public education and personal growth in order to improve attitudes, raise issues and remove inequalities affecting women today.

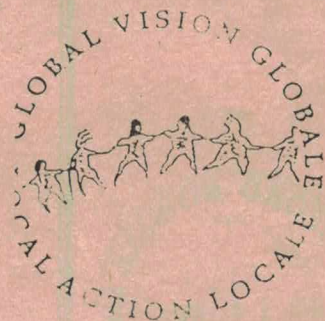
MACSW was formed in 1971 by a group of women who presented a brief to the federal Royal Commission on the Status of Women in 1967. MACSW has branches in Brandon, Dauphin, Thompson and Winnipeg.

About ACTION

ACTION is published 9 times a year by the Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women, with the assistance of the Secretary of State Women's Program. The purpose of *ACTION* is to inform MACSW members about MACSW initiatives, to encourage members to take action on a personal and political level, and to serve as a forum to discuss all issues affecting the changing status of women. Articles express the views of individual writers and do not necessarily reflect MACSW policy.

About ACTION Articles

News and feature-style articles, profiles, reviews, essays, letters to the editor, illustrations, cartoons and photographs are all welcome! Written submissions should be double-spaced and typed (2 pages max.) Material may be edited. Sorry, submissions will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. **Deadline for the next issue is the 15th of the month.**



Send stuff to:
ACTION Newsletter
MACSW
16-222 Osborne St.S
Winnipeg, Manitoba
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Phone 453-3879

This issue: MACSW staff, Kelly Logan, Pat Sadowy, Marion Foster, Doreen Wuckert, Allison Dewar, Pam Jakubec, Marjorie Turton, ruby reske-naurocki, Leslie Jackson, Joy, Paula Gunn & Newsletter Coordinator Fiona Muldrew.

Thank You New & Renewed Members!

Elaine Typliski
Marilyn Sabine
Marilyn Overand
Pamela Jakubec
Maureen Schwanke
Rosemary Miguez
Shirley Grosser
Margaret Treble
Doreen Plowman
Allyson Watts
Stacey Crooks
Gloria Matskiw
Kathleen Balya
Lottie Culham
Michelle VanHove
Carolyn Krebs
Andrhea Lande

Inga Bjomson
Mary Martin
Pat Sadowy
Paula Gunn
Gwen May
Judy Cook
Beverly Ridd
J.H.Kaminsky
Tina Alguire
Liz Sarin
Cindy Kelly
Kathi Callen
Wendy Wady
Audrey Myers
Cyril Keeper
Aneita Kogan
Sybil Shack

Jackie Sproule
Karen Johnson
Kim Bright
Lei Anne Sharratt
Joyce VanKoughnet
Virginia Jamieson
Helen Christofferson
SDB Homestead Co-op
Planned Parenthood
Sonia Kowalewich
Eliabeth Semkiw
Juliette Nadeau
Diane Sabourin
SNDT Women's
University-India
Maryann Edwardsvan Muijen
Cindy Stewart

Ken Emberley
Marion Foster
Donna Rose
Gio Guzzi
Miriam Fenster
Globe, Brandon
Maureen Miller
Muriel Adams
Ethel Jolley
Doreen Wuckert
Lois Brown
Marlene Colson
Lenore Albi
Mary Kardash
S. Kirby
Shelley Zeroth
Sandra Dufault

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: MARCH 8-CELEBRATE!

International Women's Day (IWD) has become a symbol of women's struggle to improve our world and celebrate our power. The roots of this historic day are based on a strike by female garment workers for better working conditions. The strike began in New York on March 8, 1857. Also, on March 8, 1908, the New York City Social Democratic Women's Society discussed women's right to vote. A year later, 2,000 people attended the first National Women's Day in New York. It was sponsored by the American Socialists with a focus on women's rights and suffrage. By 1911, the day was designated as International Women's Day and was celebrated in Europe as well as North America. (Info from The Womanist, Winter, 1991)

In Manitoba, women's groups will celebrate IWD from March 6-8. See back page for details.

Did you know?

* Women receive only one-tenth of the world's income and own less than one percent of all property.

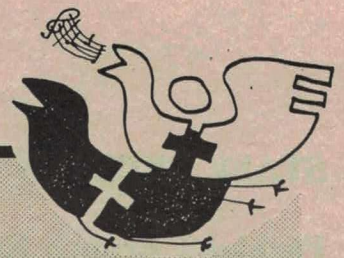
* It is estimated that women are responsible, on their own, for the support and care of about 75% of the world's children.

* In every country in the world, the work which women do is either not paid or paid less than men's work, regardless of what that work is.

* Women produce at least half of the world's food.

* Two out of three people who cannot read or write in the world are women. Female illiteracy is increasing despite the fact that overall global illiteracy rates are falling.

* Women and their children constitute 90% of all refugees in the world.



see me in the field
look again
i am not alone
when the cane cuts me
i see your hands bleeding
picking cotton and coffee
picking stones in the field
when the sun burns my neck
picking berries to sell
i feel the sweat on your brow
planting rice in the fields

when i lean over my steering wheel
ten hours on the combine
in the mud and the ruts
i think of you with your hoe
stooped over
with your baby on your back

when the mosquitoes show no mercy
i remember the Contras in the coffee fields
and the bullets in your back

see me in the House
look again
i am not alone
when the politicians and bureaucrats make me
crazy
with their twisted thinking and their lies
i think of your scars from the interrogation
and your sister missing

and when i stand at the sink
i think of you hauling water
i am not alone in my struggles
my sister is my strength
she is a part of who i am
we have each other
and they will never take us
from each other
they cannot
and that is our victory

remember these words sister
and celebrate
we are not alone
we have each other

ruby reske-naurocki, near Beausejour

STAFF REPORTS



Parkland Branch Report

Heather Dootoff, Administrative Co-ordinator

We started the New Year off right -- showed "Wisecracks" at our first meeting of 1993. I don't know for sure if laughter is the best medicine, but it sure was good medicine!

I attended the conference "Let's Make Canada Work for People" in January. It was good to hear and meet Judy Rebick and other NAC members. I look forward to future networking and increased communication. I saw in NAC's last newsletter that they have a toll-free line, 1-800-665-5124. This will help communications immensely!

The murders of Sherry Paul and Terri-Lyn Babb were marked with a vigil. Letters have gone to Jim McCrae and Pierre Blais to condemn their foot-dragging on issues such as restraining orders, anti-stalking legislation and gun control. Why must women die before gaping holes in laws and procedures get the necessary attention? We must increase the pressure and see that required changes are made, not placed on the back burner and forgotten about until the next death.

Three reps from Parkland Status of Women visited MP Brian White's office, Valentine in hand. The message: "Here, Have a Heart...No more cuts!" We received good media coverage. Thanks Carri for the great card.

We are fortunate to have a visitor from Japan, Akiko Saito, for International Women's Day to talk to us about life in Japan, particularly women's lives. An ethnic potluck is planned and will be followed by the movie "The Company of Strangers." At our March 1 meeting we will have a presentation from a member of Amnesty International, who will update us on what they are doing around the world. We will also have a moment of silence to mourn the fact that we all could not be in Winnipeg to hear Gloria Steinem!

Brandon Branch Report

Jennifer Howard, Administrative Co-ordinator

Well, thanks for all the good feedback on "Jennifer's Journal". Unfortunately, being a feminist worker, I don't always have the time to be so creative.

The theme of the last month has been coalition-building. In January, Maureen Marsh and I attended the "Let's Make Canada Work for People" Community Forum. In addition to getting to have lunch with Judy Rebick, we also met our sisters and "brothers" from across the spectrum of popular movements and attended workshops on NAFTA and Fair Taxation. In February we attended the Brandon version of this Community Forum and participated in further discussion on the problems the corporate agenda has caused and the need for us to formulate alternatives. I got a crash course in Economics from Errol Black and had lunch with Len Evans, MLA for Brandon East. Who said being a feminist wasn't glamorous?

The theme of these conferences seemed to be that Canadians have lost control of their "democracy." The multi-national corporations have more influence over our medicare system than the electorate does. There was also much discussion about the necessity of building coalitions between organized labour, feminists, Aboriginal groups, environmentalists, socialists, church groups, development organizations, farmers, anti-poverty organizations and students.

As feminists, many of us have experienced the pain that coalition politics can bring as we watch our priorities (reproductive rights, childcare, affirmative action) get subsumed in "the big picture." However, we cannot fight the battle to regain democratic control over Canada alone. Somehow we have to find a way to work together while maintaining our integrity.

To this end, I hope to see a coalition formed in Brandon in the near future. One thing that became apparent at the Winnipeg forum was that the vision of many Winnipeg social activists ends at the Perimeter Highway. Anyone interested in this coalition is encouraged to contact me at the office (725-2955).

March is a fun month for feminists. International Women's Day, the Brandon Film Festival, and the UN End of Decade Conference all

Income Tax Services

Maureen Schwanke
Income Tax Services
(204) 562-3662

Box 23
Arrow River, Mb
R0M 2H0



promise to be interesting and rejuvenating. See the Calendar of Events for further info on all these events. I'm still looking for volunteers to help with the Brandon Career Symposium and IWD so give me a call if you have some spare hours.

Obscene News Item of the Month: It seems there's enough interest in war to start a 24-hour Military Channel. It will be "devoted entirely to battle, war machinery and fighting men and women" and is scheduled to be on the air in January, 1994. I wonder if they'll cover the war on women.

Special Women:

- The International Women's Day Organizing Committee: Inga Bjornson, Maureen Marsh, Cindy Hanson, Sheila Somers and Donna Cassels.
- Hari Dimitrakopoulou-Ashton, our regional NAC (National Action Committee) rep who's working very hard to involve the membership in their national women's organization.
- My personnel committee: Inga Bjornson, Mary Annis and Donna Cassels, who keep me from feeling like a forlorn feminist set adrift in a sea of misogynist sharks.
- All of you who have renewed or begun your MACSW membership.

Another "Helen-Betty Osborne"?

Twenty years later, another young Aboriginal woman, Kimberly Flett, age 24, has been brutally stabbed 17 times in the head. A white University of Manitoba student, Norman Andrushuk, age 20, has been charged with attempted murder. He was released on bail because he doesn't have a "record". After being stabbed in a car with 2 or 3 men, Flett was dumped near the edge of Winnipeg at 3:15 a.m. on January 31. A taxi driver found her near-death 35 minutes later. She recovered from a coma but has brain damage and half of her body is paralyzed. She can't speak and her writing is scrambled -- she hasn't communicated about the stabbing. The accused says that Flett (weighing a mere 90 pounds) pulled a knife on him first. Her family say she never carried a knife. The accused faces a screening on March 4, 2 p.m. at the Law Courts Building, 408 York Ave. at Kennedy St., Rm. 401. Please attend the hearing to show public concern for this brutal act. Phone Sandi Funk from the Aboriginal Council of Winnipeg Family Violence Circle at 942-2711 for more info.

Winnipeg Branch Report

Susan Banks, Administrative Co-ordinator

February was the month for political action! On February 2, we attended a meeting of the Planning and Community Services Committee at City Hall to protest their election of John Prystanski to the Safe City Committee, instead of Glen Murray who has shown ongoing commitment to ending violence. Councillor Sandy Hyman voted Prystanski onto the Safe City Committee in exchange for his nomination of her to the same Committee, but said that she would try to get Murray on the Committee. **Victory!** In a rare move, the City's Executive Policy Committee appointed Glen Murray to the Safe City Committee on Feb. 17, 1993. **Protests work!**

More protest news -- on February 15, as part of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women's national campaign, about 25 protesters walked from the Union Centre to the Secretary of State office on Main St. to protest cuts to the Secretary of State Women's Program by 20% over the next two years. Following a rally in the lobby, we marched up to the Secretary of State office to find that they had the doors locked and were hiding in their office in the back -- a typical government response to women's concerns! We left stale bread and dried roses at their doorstep as a symbol of the "dying commitment to the improvement of women's status in Canada by our federal government."

To protest cuts to the Secretary of State Women's Program write to Monique Landry, Minister of the Secretary of State: House of Commons, Ottawa, K1A 0A6; Ph. (819) 997-7788; Fax. (819) 994-5987, or in Winnipeg contact Michel Lagace, Regional Director, The Secretary of State of Canada, 201-303 Main St., Wpg, MB, R3C 3G7; Ph.983-3601. A national 'empty purse' campaign to protest cuts to women's programs has been planned for March 1-15. Please see page 11 for details.

Special thanks to Darla Tenold, Kara Bartley and Rosemary Miguez for much needed help in the office during these past months and to all other members and volunteers who have been helping with various projects. It's much appreciated! We raised over \$600 at the MACSW Fundraising Party! Thanks to the Welfare Starlets and Rachel Wall for great music, Marion Yeo for the use of her beautiful home, volunteers and people who donated prizes.

Thompson Branch Report

Debra McVittie, Administrative Co-ordinator

On January 26, Thompsonites were treated to a visit from Judy Rebick of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women. Following a luncheon at the Friendship Centre, Judy visited local women's organizations and was rather impressed with the facilities here in the north. A NAC regional meeting was held in the late afternoon with a number of members from affiliated groups in attendance. Judy was also on hand in the evening to give a major public speech at the Steel Centre. Topics covered were: preparing for the election - a women's voting guide; questions to candidates, women's demands, an election survey; policy work on violence, new reproductive technologies and electoral reform; the future of women's work; justice for women; action campaigns; lobby campaigns on violence, refugee laws, judicial reform, economic issues, cuts to Unemployment Insurance, NAFTA and a national childcare campaign. Following Judy's speech, a question / answer and discussion period took place during which time Judy was presented with an Eagle feather from Marguerite Sanderson, an Aboriginal woman and president of the Northern Women's Resource Service. On behalf of TACSW, Hari Dimitrakopoulou also presented Judy with a caribou tufting, earrings and a famous MACSW t-shirt to add to her collection. Approximately 60 women attended, a large audience considering the short notice of her arrival. The local paper gave Judy front page coverage, however CBC North Country did not cover her visit. A letter expressing our frustration was written to the Director of Radio (MB). Thanks to all who helped in the planning of this event and to all those TACSW members who attended -- it was good to see you there!

On January 28, TACSW met with members of the Northern Women's Resource Service to discuss their interest in establishing a satellite office in Thompson. Marguerite Sanderson and Judith Clayden gave an overview of NWRS and answered questions from those who attended. TACSW came to the conclusion that we will support, in principle, NWRS establishing an office in Thompson. If this is to become a reality, NWRS will address issues affecting women, offer support counselling, referral and advocacy.

With the AGM around the corner we have been keeping on our toes and meeting every Tuesday at the office from 12-1 p.m. Up to this point everything is going smoothly. If branches have new members needing orientation to the Provincial Co-ordinating Committee, please contact our office.



MACSW Annual General Meeting Agenda Saturday, April 24, 1993

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.: Registration & Coffee
Opening Remarks
Introduction to Feminist Process - consensus building
Adoption of 1992 AGM Minutes
Branch, Staff & Committee Reports
Approval of Provincial Co-ordinating Committee
Members for 93/94
Guest Presentation: Hari Dimitrakopoulou-Ashton --
Women in Northern Manitoba
Acceptance of Position Papers:
NAFTA --Hari Dimitrakopoulou-Ashton
Reproductive Choice -- Maureen Marsh

1:00 p.m.: End of AGM, lunch break. MACSW
Orientation for new members after lunch & Apr. 25.

All MACSW members are invited and encouraged to attend the Annual General Meeting & Orientation - April 24 & 25 in Thompson! You will be harassed to attend next month. Transportation and billeting will be provided. Let your nearest branch know if you have wheels and suitable road-trip sunglasses. We hear there's good fishing up thar. It's only a measly eight hour trip -- barely enough time to hear Ani DiFranco's tapes.

Frazzled Feminists Follow Federal Fiscal Frugality Formula

Due to budget cutbacks and constraints, the following policies have been established regarding those travelling on official Association business.

Transportation

Hitchhiking in lieu of commercial transport is the preferred choice. Fluorescent safety vests, safety flags and safety cones (fore and aft) will be issued to all Board members prior to their departure on Association trips. Bus transportation will be used whenever hitchhiking is not possible. Airline tickets will only be authorized for purchase in extreme circumstances and the lowest fares will be used. For example, if a meeting is scheduled in Moncton, but a low fare can be obtained by travelling to Sydney, then the meeting will be relocated to Sydney.

Lodging

All Board members are encouraged to stay with relatives, friends or mere acquaintances while on Association business. If weather permits, public areas such as parks, roadside rest stops and parking lots should be used for temporary lodging sites. Bridges and tunnels may provide shelter in periods of inclement weather.

Meals

Expenditures for meals will be limited to the absolute minimum. It should be noted that certain grocery chains such as Sobey's, often provide free samples of promotional items. Entire meals can frequently be consumed in this manner. Travellers should also become familiar with indigenous roots, berries and other protein sources available at their destination. If restaurants must be utilized, travellers should seek establishments offering "all you can eat" salad bars. This will be especially cost effective to those Board members travelling together, as a single plate can be used to feed an entire group. Board members are also encouraged to bring their own food while on Association business. Cans of tuna fish, SPAM and Beefaroni can be conveniently consumed at your leisure, without the unnecessary bother of heating or costly preparations.

Miscellaneous

All Directors are encouraged to employ innovative techniques in our team effort to save Association dollars. One enterprising individual has already suggested how money can be raised during

airport layover periods. In support of this idea, "red caps" will be issued to all Board members prior to departure so that they may earn tips for helping other travellers with their luggage during such periods. Small plastic roses will also be made available so that sales may be made as time permits.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Regards,

Scrooge (Tory advisor in search of a like-minded new boss)

reprinted from The County Crier, Nov., 1992.



Letter to ACTION:

Thank you for including an article about KIDS FIRST in your November, 1992 issue of ACTION. Thank you also to Cindy Kelly regarding her letter in the December issue. I want to make it clear that KIDS FIRST is a registered non-profit, national organization concerned with the care and well-being of children. We recognize the right of families to CHOOSE the form of child care that best suits their needs. We believe that any government funding should be non-discriminatory as to whether parents choose parental care, informal child care or formal day care. KIDS FIRST is lobbying for a child care program with equitable benefits to all parents. These benefits should be based on financial need.

The new Child Tax Benefit package in the Federal Budget was a major victory for KIDS FIRST. Sources in government have credited KIDS FIRST with directly influencing this policy change. The issue of the Child Care Expense Deduction still needs to be addressed. This issue will be dealt with in our Tax Challenge.

Pat McLaughlin,
KIDS FIRST, Manitoba

Letters to ACTION do not necessarily reflect MACSW policy.

JUDY REBICK - Horsewoman of the APO*Calypso (*Anti-Politically Offensive)

Fiona Muldrew

Judy Rebick, President of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC), rode her "horse" into Winnipeg for the *Let's Make Canada Work for People Conference*, Jan. 22-24, sponsored by the Winnipeg Labour Council, NAC, CHOICES and the Council of Canadians. She also spoke at the University of Manitoba's "Celebration of Life & Learning" on *The Backlash against Feminism*.

She spoke about the need in Canada to develop economic alternatives that include equality and justice for all people, to oppose offensive right-wing policies that place the needs of corporations above the needs of people. Canadian women now have more in common with women around the world who are suffering from unbridled free market policies or "savage capitalism" which results in disappearing jobs and social programs.

NAFTA - Corporate Bill of Rights

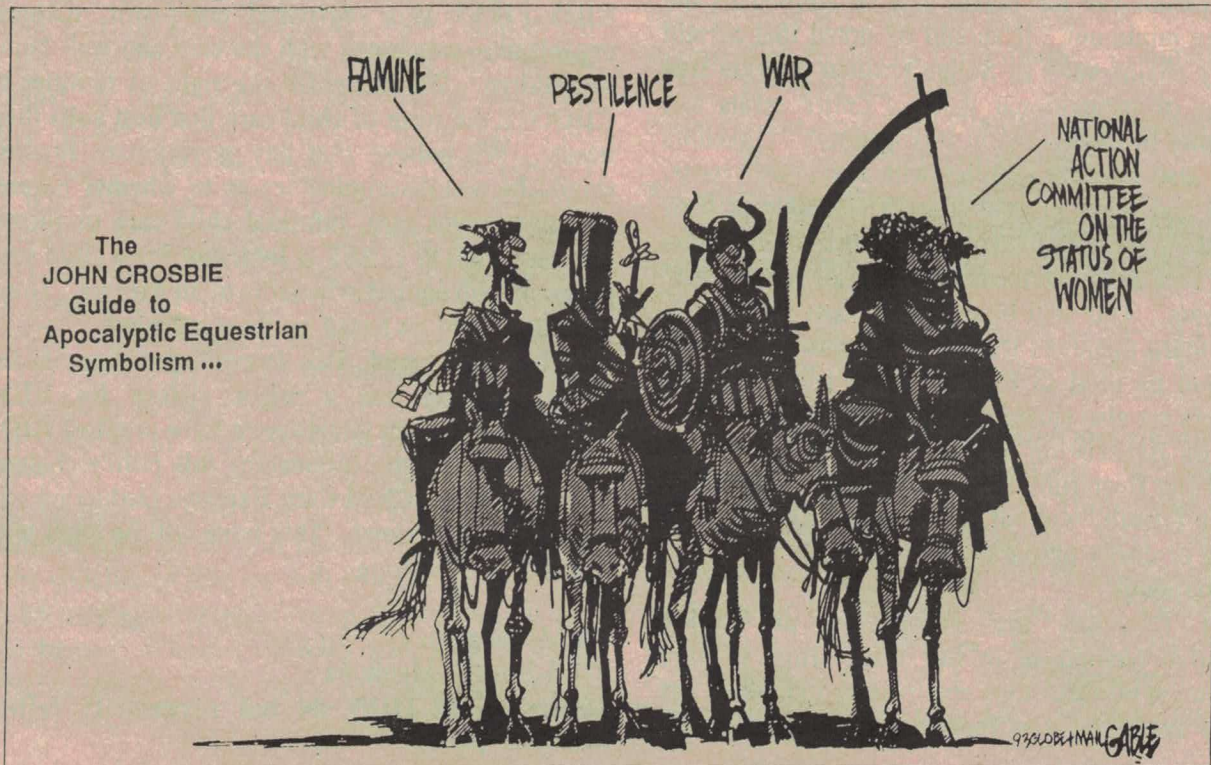
While business leaders gloat about the "efficiency" of new technology that allows a cheaper global workforce, Judy sees that NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) and the push for globalization is bringing us back to working

conditions during the industrial revolution. North American companies now take advantage of their power to close down plants and move to places where there are poor working conditions, less job security, no unions, little or no environmental protection, child labour and much lower wages. People's jobs and social programs become secondary to a competitive industrial climate that favours the free flow of money regardless of human costs. Judy suggested that we need more radical laws to prevent plant shutdowns or enforcement of certain criteria for plant shutdowns.

"NAFTA is a Bill of Rights giving corporations complete mobility for capital and almost no rights for labour. We need alternatives to the politics of fear that threaten catastrophe if we do not accept deals such as the Free Trade Deal or the GST which punish the poor and the middle class."

Inequalities:

Judy stressed that any alternative economic strategy must address the deep inequalities in our system. "Unless we integrate equality for women, people of colour, Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, gays and lesbians into all our demands and strategies we will be divided. In coalitions there have been differences over the referendum, but we shouldn't allow the government to further divide us and prevent us from working together. When times



John Crosbie named Judy Rebick, Dawn Black, Sheila Copps & Mary Clancy the "four horsewomen of the Apocalypse" for criticizing him for saying, if he was sexually harassed, "I would certainly want to make it known that I had been so favored."

are tough the easiest thing to do is to blame somebody else -- blame the immigrants, blame the feminists, instead of blaming the government which is so hard to fight."

The business community has succeeded in convincing most Canadians that the deficit is the main problem and there should be no tax increases because it will reduce competitiveness, with no explanation for the connection. The government easily states there can be no more spending on social programs and that government spending on Unemployment Insurance should shift from income support to training. The impact of these economic policies on people is never discussed.

Conservative policies are not a failure for big business because they want to destroy what the labour and feminist movements have built over the years. They will turn Canada into a place that none of us will want to live in. Even though Bush and Thatcher have been thrown out, their ideology is still solidly in place. Many people still believe what's good for General Motors is good for us. We had dreams of poor countries being "brought up" to the level of industrialized countries. Now it's the other way around because of the common big business assault on the poor worldwide. Immigrant women in Canada are being pushed into homework or piecework, mostly textiles or communications work in their homes with a sewing machine or a computer. There is no minimum working hours, no way to check on working conditions and no job security. Our common suffering is the basis of an international strategy of solidarity. This strategy should be based on the needs of people and what people value -- the environment, peace, social justice, equality.

Childcare -- Economic Necessity

Childcare is an equality issue as well as an economic issue. Childcare is an investment in the future. Having children in unlicensed childcare with no training, no accountability, with who-knows-who is a terrible thing for our families and our communities. Fifty-two percent of single mother families are living in poverty -- the majority could be in the workforce contributing to our society, buying things and participating in our economy. They would be in the workforce if they had access to childcare.

Married women earn 67% of married men's

wages. Single women earn 91% of single men's wages so having children is the single greatest barrier for women's equality in the workplace. Society has not taken its responsibility for childcare. Seventy percent of part-time workers are women in low wage jobs with no benefits. Most want to work full time but can't because of a lack of childcare.



Judy as Mary Poppins

"The Women's Movement has had some victories lately with the defeat of the Abortion law, reversing cutbacks to women's centres, and the new rape law but mostly we have faced defeats with Free Trade, GST, and the prescription drug law. I've been feeling depressed lately and I'm like Mary Poppins -- the optimist who always sees the silver lining. Some say I should be happy our side won with the Referendum, but it didn't feel good because we didn't gain anything -- we were just maintaining the status quo. More people were protesting out on the streets a few years ago. Now there's a sense of despair. It's hard to get the energy up to fight back but we need to be a visible movement of popular resistance that's loud and militant, a voice for people that are pissed off. If we had any doubts about that we saw that in the Referendum. It doesn't make sense that people hate these guys so much and still accept some of the things they say. Mulroney is the most hated Prime Minister of all time and it's quite a contest. We need to mobilize ALL of our resources: women, labour, environmental groups, the peace movement, anti-poverty groups, and the anti-racist movement against this government and this notion that our future belongs to the multinational corporation. We need to take back democratic control of governments that are ramming through NAFTA, U.I. cuts and other assaults on working people. We have to integrate public participation in policy development and democratic control of decision making into everything we do. We need to have a cross-Canada movement to say we're united and we're not going away."

(Tapes of Judy's speeches available at the MACSW Winnipeg office.)

Stop Susie Scissor-Hands: Night-Mayor on Main Street!



Spot the Criminal – Susan Thompson – The Best Mayor Money Can Buy!

City Cutbacks Will Hurt Women!

What ever happened to "Vote for a Woman -- Vote for Change"? We won't accept this kind of change. The closing of libraries & swimming pools in the core area will hurt many low income women and all mothers who have the majority of responsibility for child care. Increased bus fares and fees for Zoo admittance will add economic hardship to women, who make up 60% of the poor. Proposed 18% cutbacks to welfare payments will hurt 3,353

families with 8,366 dependants, reducing their monthly payment by up to \$240 (giving them only 44% of the poverty line salary). The city is stalling again on urgent measures needed to halt violence against women. At least 70 of the 113 recommendations from the Urban Safety Report will not be implemented because of city cutbacks.

Protest Effects of Cutbacks on Women: Phone MACSW at 453-3879 to help us prepare presentations or to give moral support at the following Hearings on City Cutbacks:

March 4, 9 a.m., Planning & Community Services - responsible for Planning, Libraries, Social Services (Welfare rates) Health & Land Development - West Committee Rm., City Hall, Ph. 986-2483.

March 5, 9 a.m., Works & Operations - responsible for streets & traffic matters (\$90,000 cuts to street lighting will hamper implementation of Urban Safety Report recommendations), snow removal, refuse collection, sewer & water utilities, Winnipeg Hydro & Winnipeg Transit. West Committee Rm., City Hall, ph. 986-2758.

March 17, 9 a.m., Executive Policy Committee - considers recommendations of standing committees and has overall responsibility for recommendations to city council. Ph. Ted Pomes at 986-2136.

March 22 - City Council deals with the overall budget in City Council Chambers, ph. Dorothy Broughton at 986-2436.

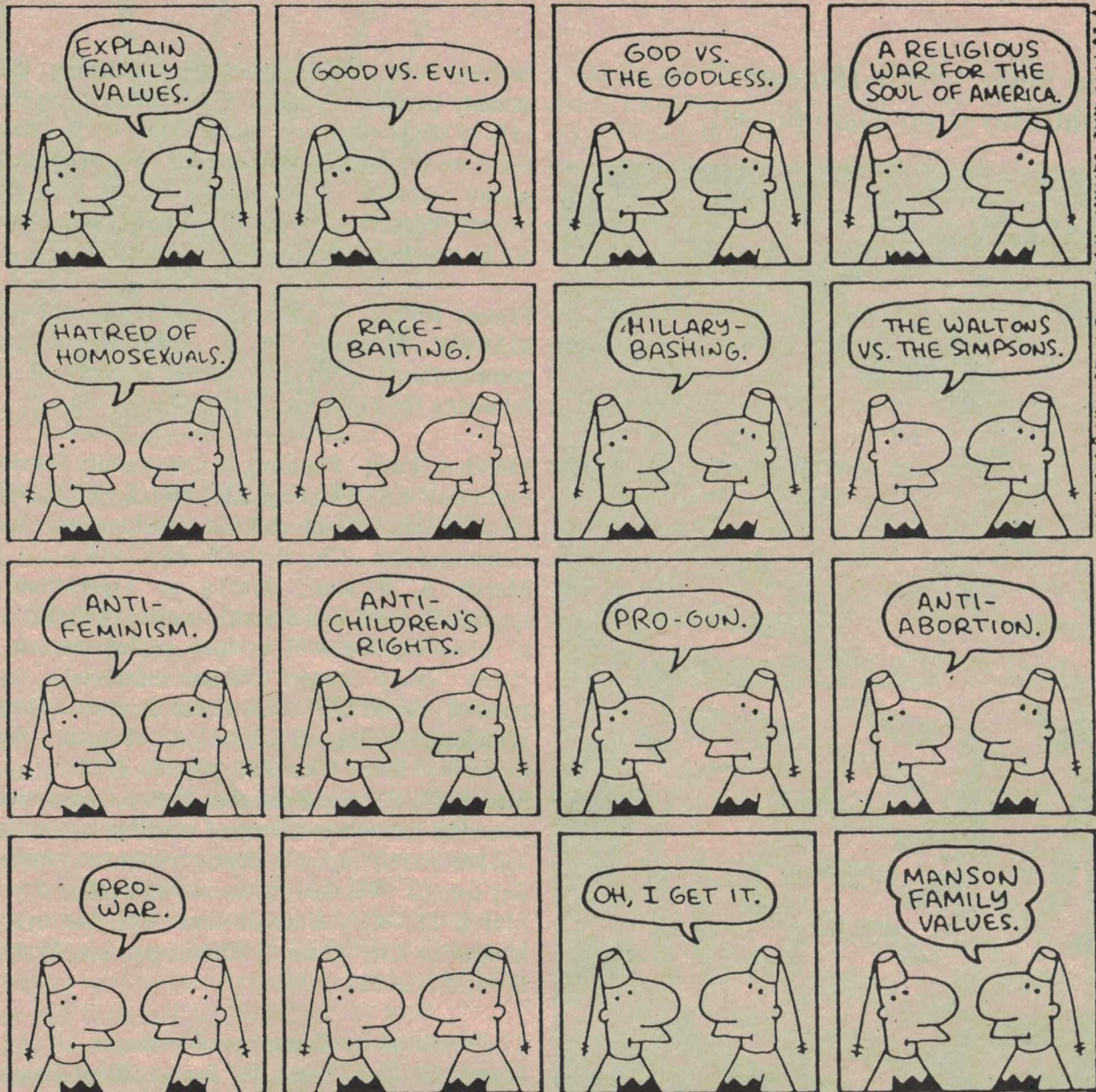
City Community Committee Meetings:

March 16: City Centre (Ft. Rouge, River Heights, & Daniel McIntyre wards), 300 Assiniboine Ave.

March 16: Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan (Pt. Douglas, Old Kildonan, & Mynarski wards); East Kildonan-Transcona (North Kildonan, Elmwood, & Transcona wards), 1760 Main St.; & Assiniboia (St. James, Charleswood-Ft. Garry, & St. Charles wards), 2000 Portage Ave.

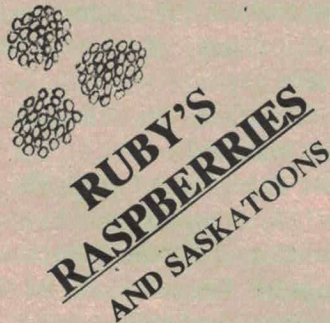
March 17: Riel (St. Boniface, St. Vital & St. Norbert wards), 604 St. Mary Rd.

All meetings are public & begin at 7 p.m. Ph. the Mayor's office at 986-2196 to protest cuts to social programs and city services. **Phone calls work! Mayor Susan Thompson keeps track of the number of supportive or critical calls.**



URBAN & RURAL WOMEN

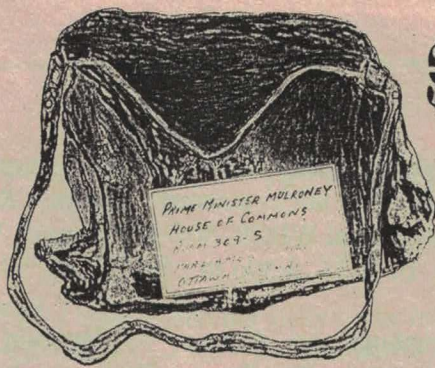
MAKE THE SUMMER CONNECTION !



- ♀ Ruby Reske-Naurocki is a rural feminist hoping to link up with 4 urban feminists to work as a team on her U-Pick Raspberry farm.
- ♀ Pickers are needed to supply berries for Neechi Foods (Aboriginal co-op) in Winnipeg and other orders.
- ♀ Picking will last 5-6 weeks starting mid-July.
- ♀ 45 minutes from Winnipeg, near Beausejour.
- ♀ Proceeds from the farm go back to: Victims of Violence, the Women's Circle at Hope Clinic & the Jessie Saulteaux Resource Ctr.
- ♀ To make your rural connection this summer **Ph. 1-268-3549** ♀

SENSELESS CUTS

EVENTS



March 1-15, Empty Purse Campaign - Protest recent federal cutbacks for women's groups & the economic hardships suffered by Canadian women.

- Select an old worn-out handbag.
- On a piece of paper, write a meaningful message such as "Senseless cuts make empty purses!", "Investing in women is not a write-off", "Cutting funding to women is not the bottom line",
- Glue the message directly on one side of the handbag to ensure its safekeeping on Parliament Hill.
- Wrapping the handbag is optional. Your return address must appear on the left hand corner.
- **Mail the handbag postage free March 1 - 15 to:**

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney

Centre Block, Rm. 309-S

House of Commons, Ottawa, ON

Ph. (613) 992-4211, FAX (613) 957-4211

- This action is part of the National Awareness Campaign sponsored by the Federation nationale des femmes canadiennes-françaises (FNFCF), ph. (613) 232-5791 or your local women's organization.

Margaret Laurence Feminist Speakers Series:

March 18, Stephanie Kane, "AIDS and the Discourse of Sexuality", 7 p.m., Centennial Library Auditorium, Wpg., ph. 474-6233 for tickets (free).

April 19, bell hooks, "Race, Gender and Representation", 7 p.m., Riddell Hall Cafeteria, Univ. of Winnipeg, Ph. 474-6233 for tickets (free).

March 11, Tools for Peace & the Brandon Film Festival present "When the Mountains Tremble", a film about Rigoberta Menchu, 1992 Nobel Peace Prize winner; Guatemalan Speaker: Leonzo Barreno of the Maya-Quiche Nation, Little Theatre, Educ'n Bldg., Brandon Univ., 7:30 p.m. Refreshments & childcare available, \$5 or Festival Pass.

April 7, **Canada Council Reading: Heather Spears**, Science Fiction writer, author of Moonfall, will read at Bold Print, 478 River Ave., Wpg., 7:30 p.m., ph. 452-9682.

Birth Storying: This one-day workshop will empower you to write or share your birth stories with other women -- for yourself, your child(ren), your friends or possible publication, for posterity.

Saturday, April 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Women's Centre, 4th fl. Centennial Hall - by library, Univ. of Wpg., 515 Portage Ave., \$40 or barter credit.

Facilitators: Tanya Lester teaches creative writing at the U of W & life story courses for Age & Opportunity. Her son was born in a hospital with midwifery & labour companion support.

Eunice Lavell is a labour companion, counsellor, educator & mother of three children, one born in hospital and two at home. She loves journalling, writing, telling stories & listening.

Limited registration. Ph. 774-4372 or 269-2788 by March 31. Please bring one ready-to-serve dish for a potluck lunch. Wheelchair accessible.

Women Healing for Change Social - April 17, 8 p.m., Robert Steen Community Centre, 1 Ruby St., Wpg., Music: Welfare Starlets, \$10/\$8 low-income. (Proceeds for the Women Healing for Change Conference in May, 1994), for info ph. Myra Laramee, work: 786-5631, home: 783-2450.

Sorrow & Strength: The Process - 3rd annual conference about childhood sexual abuse for adult survivors, professional helpers, teachers & other support people, April 28 - May 1, 1993, International Inn, 1808 Wellington Ave., Wpg., with Sandra Butler, Louise Wisechild & Marilou McPhedran. Ph. 786-1971 or write "Learning Networks", 160 Garfield St. S., Wpg., MB, R3G 2L8. Programs available at MACSW-Wpg. office.

NAC's AGM in SASK! PACK YER BAGS!

Translation: the National Action Committee on the Status of Women's Annual General Meeting is in Saskatoon! NAC will move its AGM out of Ottawa for the first time to the University of Saskatchewan from **June 4-6, 1993**, preceded by a one-day conference. Ph. your nearest branch to join the feminist caravan. Yeeha! Will this be the living sequel to Thelma & Louise we've all been waiting for? Haven't you always wanted to be on a feminist road trip? Now's your chance!



Announcements

March - Women's Video Art Show at the Uof W Gallery, main floor, Centennial Hall. Ph. 786-7811.

March 5, "Party of the Left" Social, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., \$7, Park Community Ctr. 15th St. & Louise Ave., Brandon, Music: Armchair Radicals. Ph. 725-2955

March 7, Women's Voices Heard through the Goddess, Unitarian Church Women's Group IWD service, 10:30 a.m., 790 Banning at Sargent.

March 8, Party with Bonnie Mitchelson, Rosemary Vodrey & Gary Filmon at the Leg! - the only free lunch you're going to get. The Government of Manitoba IWD Luncheon celebrates "Women and Education & Training - Expanding Choices, Creating Opportunities", 11:45-1:30 p.m., Rm. 254 at the Legislature. All are invited!

March 8-9, Brandon Career Symposium, Keystone Ctr., 6:30 - 9 p.m. Hundreds of booths will be set up on various careers & other issues. Volunteers needed to staff MACSW booth. Ph. 725-2955

March 13 & 14, Evolve Counselling & Communication Skills, Thompson Crisis Centre, ph. Liz Lychuk at 778-7273.

March 19, Biblical Basis for Pluralism, Dr. Virginia Ramey Mollenkott, feminist theologian will speak at the Univ. of Wpg., Rm. 3C01, 3rd fl., Centennial Hall, 12:30 p.m., ph. 786-8911 for info on above & workshop March 19 & 20.

Videos on Palestine, IDEA Centre, 60 Maryland St. at Wolseley, Wpg., ph. 786-2032.

Workshops on Career Planning for Women, by Women's Employment Counselling Services, WECS, ph. 949-5300, FREE, 1122 Henderson Hwy., Wpg.:
March 2, 7-9:30 p.m., The Hidden Job Market, Time Management & the Juggling Act.

March 9, 7-9:30 p.m., Personal barriers & strategies, short & long-term goal setting.

Women, Work & Stress Workshops - people interaction, environmental factors, &/or sexual harassment at WECS, 503-352 Donald, Wpg., Mar. 2, 9, 16 & 23, 5:30p.m., FREE, ph. 949-5323.

Workshops on Career Exploration (Steps to Employment, Building on Skills, the Juggling Act, Making Choices), Resume Writing, Job Search (Assertiveness for Employment, the Hidden Job Market, Interview Skills), Unemployment: Loss, Change & Challenge, & Steps to Self-Marketing, at WECS, Wpg., ph. 949-5323.

Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre Events: 104-3100 Pembina Hwy, Wpg., ph. 269-6836 (TDD) FREE, women only events. Register for childcare. Community Drop-in for Mothers, Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m. & the first Thursday of every month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., play area for children.

Clothing Exchange, First Thursday of every month, 9:30-11:30 a.m. & 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Examining Childhood Behaviour, March 16, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Part 1, "How to Talk to Kids" series. Skills on Positive Discipline, March 30, 9:30-11:30 a.m., "How to Talk" series, Part 2.

Dealing with Racism in a Multicultural Society, March 24, 7:30 p.m., 1910 Pembina Hwy.

Worldwide Vigil for Women of Bosnia to protest rape as a war crime - March 7. Phone your local women's group. In Winnipeg ph. the U of W Women's Centre at 786-9788 for location and time.

Assault Prevention Workshop for Women - YWCA Women's Resource Centre, Saturday, March 13, 20 & 27, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. in Meeting Rm. A, 301 Vaughan St., Wpg., ph. 989-4144. Techniques for Self-Defence & personal safety.

Partners for Child Care, Manitoba Strategy Convention, April 22 & 23, Wpg., Keynote: Penny Priddy, Minister of Women's Equality, B.C., ph. Manitoba Child Care Association at 586-8587.

The Elizabeth Fry Society is offering community-based programs for women to meet their identified needs and issues. Ph. Kathleen Walsh at 589-7335 to tell her what you'd like. Free sessions will begin as soon as 8 participants are interested in any theme.

MACSW MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes! I want to add my voice to the hundreds of Manitoba women who belong to MACSW.
Please indicate if you want to receive the MACSW newsletter in a plain envelope without the MACSW identifier. _____

NEW MEMBERSHIP

RENEWAL

Name _____

Address _____ City/Town _____

Postal Code _____ Phone _____ (H) _____ (W) _____

INDIVIDUALS Regular \$25
(or what you can afford)
Sustaining \$40

ORGANIZATIONS - \$50

Your membership includes a subscription to the ACTION Newsletter, published 9 times a year.

Make cheques payable to MACSW and send this form to:

MACSW Winnipeg Branch
16-222 Osborne St. South
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1Z3

I'm interested in getting involved with the following issues: (please check)

ISSUES

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Childcare/Parenting | <input type="checkbox"/> Media Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Prostitution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equal Pay/Workplace | <input type="checkbox"/> Midwifery | <input type="checkbox"/> Women of Colour/Racism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal Women | <input type="checkbox"/> Reproductive Health Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farm/Rural Women | <input type="checkbox"/> Trades & Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Women |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Pensions | <input type="checkbox"/> Violence Against Women |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Women's Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Pornography | <input type="checkbox"/> Women & Poverty |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Women/Disability |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Young Women's Group |

ACTIVITIES

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Political Action | <input type="checkbox"/> Lobbying |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office Duties | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Education | |

NEAREST MACSW BRANCH

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> WINNIPEG 16-222 Osborne St. S Winnipeg, R3L 1Z3 453-3879 453-4157 | <input type="checkbox"/> BRANDON 202-107-7th St Brandon, R7A 3S5 725-2955 | <input type="checkbox"/> PARKLAND STATUS OF WOMEN 118 Main St. S. Mail: Box 23 Dauphin, R7N 2T9 638-3599 | <input type="checkbox"/> THOMPSON Box 722 Thompson R8N 1N5 778-8549 |
|--|--|---|--|



CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MARCH

- 3 **MACSW Winnipeg Branch Meeting**, 6 p.m., YWCA Mtg Rm.C, 2nd fl., 301 Vaughan St.
- 4 **Winnipeg Women & Words**, 7:30 p.m., 16-222 Osborne St. S. , ph. Pat, 488-0988.
- 6 **IWD Potluck/Program**, 4:30 p.m., 33 Tulip Crescent, Dauphin, bring an ethnic dish & guests. Akiko Saito will speak about life in Japan. "The Company of Strangers" will be shown.
- 6 **Women Sharing in Celebration Dessert Potluck**, 7 p.m., Park Community Ctr. 15th St. & Louise Ave., Brandon. Bring your favourite dessert & come celebrate IWD. No charge.
- 6 **LEAF fundraiser** with Welfare Starlets, Carman High School Auditorium, ph Jocelyn 745-6321
- 7 **International Women's Day**, 1 p.m., March from the Legislature to the UofW for storytellers, food & music until 3:30p.m., Riddell Hall, free childcare, wheelchair accessible, sign interpreted.
- 8 **IWD Celebration & Potluck**, Fish & Game Bldg., Thompson, 6:30 p.m. ph. 778-8549.
- 9,16,23 **TACSW Business Meetings**, 3rd floor, YWCA, 39 Nickel Rd, 12-1 p.m., Thompson.
- 11 **Parkland Branch Regular Meeting**, 5:30 p.m., bring your own lunch. Andrea Bayne will speak on Amnesty International & concerns of women worldwide, 118 Main St. S., Dauphin.
- 11 **Gloria Steinem**, Walker Theatre, 8 p.m., \$10, tickets at McNally Robinson , ph. 453-2644.
- 12-13 **Women & Poverty**, UN End of Decade for Women Conference, Delta Inn, 288 Portage Ave., Wpg. Fri., 6:30-9:30 p.m. - International speaker from UNIFEM, panel and music: The Welfare Starlets. Sat., 9 a.m.-4 p.m. - Hon. Mary Collins, Workshops: welfare rights, living below poverty, barriers to education, rural women & strategies for change. Ph. Lydia at 889-1197.
- 12-13 **Women's Music Festival**, West End Cultural Centre, Wpg., **March 12**, The Wyrd Sisters, Heather Bishop, Shawna Dempsey & the Welfare Starlets, \$15, only \$1.67/performer!!, 8 p.m., ph. Robin at 783-6918 to volunteer, **March 13**, Ani DiFranco!! & Jennifer Berezan \$15, 8 p.m.
- 13 **"Forbidden Love: The Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Lives"**, presented by NFB & the Brandon Film Festival, 7:30 p.m., Little Theatre, Education Bldg., Brandon University.
- 14 **Manitoba women networking!** - organizing meeting to help improve networking among Manitoban women's groups and with NAC, 10 a.m.-noon, UofWpg., ph. 453-3879.
- 16 **Brandon Branch Meeting**, 7:30 p.m., 160 McDiarmid Dr. We'll be talking about the future of MACSW in light of the upcoming AGM & persistent underfunding.
- 19 **Fundraising Social for Susan O'Soup's Custody Battle** for her son, Indian Metis Friendship Centre, 45 Robinson St. at Dufferin Ave., ph. Leslie at 957-7930.
- 26-27 **Immigrant Women's Association 10th Anniversary Conference** - Keynote: Rosemary Brown, International Inn, Wpg., ph. 989-5800.