

Membership Application & "Tools for Change" Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____
work _____
home _____

Membership Category

- NETWORK/SUPPORT—receive our monthly newsletter and stay informed about our projects.
- WORKING GROUP—join a working group attached to each WomenSkills project as well as receive the newsletter.

Membership Fees:

- \$10.00 INDIVIDUAL/employed
 \$ 5.00 INDIVIDUAL/unemployed
 \$25.00 ORGANIZATION

also enclosed:

- \$20.00 for Tools for Change package (includes "A Survival Guide for the Eighties")

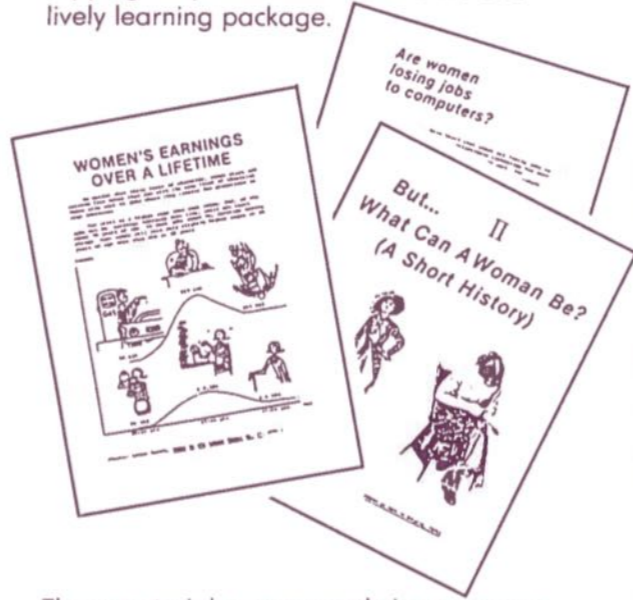
Make Cheque payable to WomenSkills and mail to:

#9-4443 Irwin Street,
Burnaby, B.C. V5J 1X8

Tools for Change and A Survival Guide to the Eighties

The **Tools for Change** package was developed to counteract myths about women's work, such as: "Women work for pin money," or "Women only work for a few years before marriage, and then their husbands take care of them."

Tools for Change examines patterns of women's work and training, along with barriers preventing women's greater participation in the economy. It combines articles, cartoons, graphs, and newspaper clippings to produce an informative and lively learning package.



These materials are currently in use across Canada in high schools and colleges, and by women's centres, unions, and community groups.

The **Survival Guide** included with **Tools for Change** is a leader's outline for a five session short course on women's work.

The combined package may be ordered at a cost of \$20 from **WomenSkills**. Postage and handling included. Please fill out the attached order form.

Women and Work

Women Need More Jobs

Unemployed

622,000 women in Canada are unemployed (StatsCanada, Oct. 1984)

Hidden Unemployed

In 1983, 36,000 women over 25 years were among the "hidden unemployed." (Economic Review, 1983)

Many women want and need to work. But they have given up the search, because there is no work, no daycare or no job training. These women are the "hidden unemployed." The above statistic refers to only a small fraction of the actual total.

Underemployed

In 1984, 500,000 Canadian workers had to take part-time work because no full-time work was available. (StatsCanada, 1984) The majority of these workers were women.

Women Need Better Working Conditions

3 out of 4 part-time workers are women. (StatsCanada, 1984) Part-time workers usually receive lower wages, fewer benefits, and have fewer chances for promotion than full-time workers.

60% of women work in only 3 occupations: service, sales and clerical work. Most of these are low-paying, dead-end jobs. (CACSW, 1984)

Women Need Better Pay

For every \$1.00 men earned, women earned 62¢. (Full time workers: CACSW, 1982)

2 out of 3 minimum wage workers are women. (Shifrin, 1979)

In the 20 highest paid occupations in Canada, women earned only 50¢ for every \$1.00 men earned. (ECC, 1983)

Women Need Day Care

Only one licensed day care space existed in Canada for every seven preschool children whose mothers were in the labour force in 1983. (CACSW, 1984)

WOMENSKILLS

MICRO-
TECHNOLOGY
RESEARCH

ECONOMIC
OPTIONS

LEARNING
RESOURCES

RESOURCE
CENTRE

WomenSkills

#9-4443 Irwin Street
Burnaby BC V5J 1X8
430-0450

A Background to WomenSkills

WomenSkills focuses on women's work, education and economic survival.

To take control of our future, women must understand the changing economic picture.

WomenSkills is committed to research, education and employment projects that:

- promote a better understanding of the present realities of women's work, paid, and unpaid;
- support a broad range of economic and educational alternatives for women.

We are currently working on four projects: Learning Resources, Economic Options, Microtechnology, and a Resource Centre.

Learning Resources Project

Women have been taught as girls to believe that men "will look after them."

But statistics tell a different story:

- 40% of marriages in 1984 ended in divorce; 1 out of 5 families are now single-parent families
- 6 out of 10 families depend on the earnings of wives to stay above the poverty line

Whether women live on their own, or in families, **women need to work.**

The Learning Resources Project will:

- **develop learning materials** such as the **Tools for Change** package (see reverse side of brochure)
- **publish materials** about economic alternatives for women
- **present workshops** on women's work and educational issues.

Economic Options Project

Unemployment dominates the current economic climate.

As individual women, our power is limited to change this critical situation.

WomenSkills encourages the participation of women in community-based collective solutions:

cooperative businesses where women are partners, worker-owners, or collective members.

Our Project involves:

- **information gathering** about funding possibilities, technical assistance, and public policy
- **research into existing cooperative businesses** which involve women
- **presentation of community workshops**
- **establishment of a network of women and community organizations**
- **development of strategies** to increase the participation of women in creating options for economic survival
- **sponsorship of economic enterprises** involving women.

Microtechnology Project

Many women work in jobs rapidly being changed or eliminated by microtechnology.

Women face increasing poverty and hardship if we cannot participate in or benefit from the changing structure of work.

WomenSkills is developing educational materials from the life experiences and everyday knowledge of women who live and work in communities throughout British Columbia.

Our research will describe and analyze:

- **the current economic crisis in B.C.**, and the technological solutions that are being proposed
- **job loss and areas of new growth** as a result of computerization
- **barriers to women's participation** in a wider range of computer-related jobs
- **alternative applications of technology** which support locally controlled worksites and improved services to the public.

Resource Centre

WomenSkills is developing a resource centre open to members of the public, students and researchers.

We are collecting books, periodicals, articles, clippings, and film/video lists. Our major topics of interest include: personal experiences of women in selected occupations, labour market information, technological changes, economic alternatives, worker co-ops and a feminist criticism of economic analysis.

Our Resource Centre is open on weekdays. Please phone ahead for assistance.

Membership

Become a Member

Join a Working Group

SUPPORT WomenSkills