

BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN

January 6th, 1978

Dear Sisters,

International Women's Day is, once again, approaching. What are we going to do this year? European women have been meeting to co-ordinate their organizing efforts for March 8th. We would like to see our sisters across Canada join in action to express solidarity with women internationally and to once again use this day to mark our continuing struggle.

At our recent B.C.F.W.* convention the following motion was passed:
WHEREAS the economic crisis has severely affected women in the form of a falling living standard and heightening unemployment - because we are the last hired and the first fired,
WHEREAS wage controls have further pushed the burden onto working women,
WHEREAS there exists a growing right-wing offensive against women's rights - in particular abortion and sexual orientation,
WHEREAS the present abortion laws continue to deny women free and accessible abortion,
WHEREAS rape and violent crimes against women continue and increase,
WHEREAS these issues deeply affect the mass of women in Canada,
WHEREAS women in European countries are responding to similar situations with a co-ordinated response,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

B.C.F.W. endorse International Women's Day of Protest called for March 8th and that this convention urges all B.C.F.W. member groups to actively support this action in whatever ways possible.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

This convention appoint an ad hoc committee composed of the action facilitator, 1 member-at-large and members from B.C.F.W. groups to co-ordinate B.C.F.W.'s part in this international protest. This committee is to:

- a. call on all women's organizations in Canada to organize on a national level and to take part in the international protest;
- b. call on women in labour and political organizations as well as organizations of the oppressed (such as native and immigrant organizations) to endorse this day of protest;
- c. be responsible for communicating with B.C.F.W. member groups, the standing committee and B.C.F.W. sub-committees in order to effectively co-ordinate this day of protest.

In order to have more impact on a national level it is important that every women's group across Canada organize something on this day.

Here in B.C. we are organizing provincially and planning to put together a mini-newsletter to co-ordinate our actions and give each other support. We would love to know what you are doing so we could include your news in our newsletter for further inspiration. If you'd like some further inspiration we'd be delighted to send you a copy of the newsletter.

In struggle and sisterhood,



send future correspondence to;

B.C.F.W.

March 8th Committee

#4 - 45 Kingsway

Vancouver, B.C.

attention: Ellen Frank, Action Facilitator

for the B.C. Federation of Women

* The B.C. Federation of Women is an umbrella organization of women's groups in B.C. whose objective is to bring about the liberation of women through fundamental change in our society. The intent of the Federation is not only to mobilize women around specific issues, but also to provide a network of full support for women's diverse struggles.