

Secretary of State
(Multiculturalism) (Status of Women)



Secrétaire d'État
(Multiculturalisme) (Situation de la femme)

MAR 8 1994

RECEIVED MAR 10 1994

Ms. Lucie Laliberté
Organization of Spouses
of Military Members
c/o Pothier et Gahrns
116 Albert Street
Suite 305
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5G3

Dear Ms. Laliberté:

I am pleased to share my recent discussions with the President of the Treasury Board, the Honourable Arthur Eggleton, who is responsible for the application of our government's National Infrastructure Program. I am delighted that the program could include building of shelters and day care facilities, as well as improvements to the safety of our environment, for example street lighting, in the interest of the well-being of our communities.

In this regard, I invite you to play a leading role in carrying out "safety audits" of your streets and public areas, and take the opportunity offered by this program to improve the safety of your communities. You may also wish to look into the availability of and improvements to existing shelters and safe houses that assist women and children who must find refuge from abusive situations.

The Canada Infrastructure Works was launched on January 14, 1994. The purpose of the program is to accelerate economic recovery by creating short- and long-term employment through investing in the physical infrastructure needs of local communities. It is a cost-shared program between governments that is designed to allow municipalities to set out their own priority needs in these areas. The allocation of federal and provincial funds to local municipalities is to be administered by Management Committees that will be co-chaired by a federal and a provincial or territorial official.

.../2

I can assure you that the federal co-chair of each Committee is requested to consider the equity impact of all projects in assessing the proposals. Provincial or territorial governments will consult with local governments who will provide advice and feedback on project identification and management.

Women have a role to play in encouraging municipal infrastructure projects that improve the safety of their streets, parks and homes. I would encourage you to assess your community's needs and contact your mayors and municipalities to encourage their acceptance of these projects as their priorities if possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheila Finestone". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Honourable Sheila Finestone, P.C., M.P.