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# MEMO

NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE  
on the status of women

LE COMITÉ NATIONAL D'ACTION  
sur le statut de la femme

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OCTOBER 1983

## NAC Mid-Year Meeting Regina · 1983 'rural women'



### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

7.00 pm

Registration/Refreshments/Entertainment

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

8.00 - 8.45 am  
8.30 - 9.00  
9.00 - 9.30  
9.30 - 10.30  
10.30 - 10.45  
10.45 - 12.00  
12.00 - 1.00 pm  
1.00 - 2.30  
2.30 - 3.00 pm  
3.00 - 4.30  
6.00 - 7.00  
7.00

Breakfast  
Registration  
Welcome: Doris Anderson, NAC President  
Background, History, Achievements of Rural Women  
Coffee Break  
Issues Facing Rural Women Today (see registration form)  
Lunch  
NAC COMMITTEE WORKSHOPS (see registration form)  
Coffee Break  
NAC COMMITTEE WORKSHOPS (see registration form)  
Cash Bar  
Dinner/Speaker/Entertainment

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

9.00 - 10.15 am  
10.15 - 10.45  
10.45 - 12.00  
12.00 - 1.00 pm  
1.00 - 2.00  
2.00 - 3.30  
6.00

WORKSHOPS ON RURAL WOMEN  
Coffee Break  
WORKSHOPS ON RURAL WOMEN  
Lunch  
Strategy Planning Session  
Workshop Reports/ Recommendations/Discussion  
Potluck Supper

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Everybody is most welcome to attend the Mid-Year Meeting and it is with regret that we can only fund two delegates from each region. Applications from NAC member groups for funding should be made as follows:

SOUTHERN ONTARIO: Apply in writing to the NAC Office.  
ALL OTHER REGIONS: Please telephone your NAC Regional Rep as soon as possible. We are sorry about the short notice. Your rep can be contacted as follows:

Newfoundland/Labrador: Dorothy Inglis (709) 753-0494  
Maritimes Barbara MacDonald (902) 867-3906  
Quebec Francine Pelletier (514) 843-8366 (days)  
Northern Ontario Lynn Beak (807) 344-1304  
Manitoba/Saskatchewan Jean MacKenzie (306) 763-3344  
Alberta/NWT Janina Vanderpost (403) 427-5591 (evenings)  
BC/Yukon Jon Leah Hopkins (403) 668-3257

When choosing your delegate, please keep in mind the "rural" theme of the meeting

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See back page for registration details.....

## NAC office goes bilingual

At its September Meeting, the NAC Executive ratified the hiring of LYNNE HUNEFAULT who will be available in the Toronto Office on Wednesdays and Fridays to deal with calls and correspondence in French.

The Executive also ratified the appointment of MARYLOU MURRAY as NAC's Ottawa Liaison Officer. Marylou's responsibilities include monitoring legislation, committee hearings, questions in the house, etc., on women's issues.

## membership

We are pleased to welcome the following new member groups, bringing our membership to 256 women's groups across Canada:

Chetwynd Women's Resource Society, Chetwynd, B.C.  
 Golden Women's Centre, Golden, B.C.  
 Media Watch, Vancouver  
 Women In/And Planning, Toronto  
 United Auto Workers, Women's Department, Willowdale, Ontario

## fed-provincial relations · funding

Our kit is now available in English and French from the NAC Office. It contains a new paper on taxation & services to women, as well as information on CAP and the funding of services to women, on the structure of federal-provincial funding of services in Canada, and some NAC recommendations on CAP. Send requests for the "F-P Kit" together with \$3.00. Specify French or English.

-----Chaviva Hosek, Chair-----

## social services

NAC has again declared October 16 "UNITY DAY WITH BATTERED WOMEN" joining with U.S. women's groups in acknowledging the universal problem of wife battering. We have contacted federal and provincial politicians across the country, asking that questions concerning support for these women be raised in their respective houses of legislature on Friday, October 14, and we have issued a press release to this effect.

We have also alerted transition houses across the country, so that they may contact their local press and politicians.

Last year's UNITY DAY WITH BATTERED WOMEN started much discussion on the issue in legislatures and communities, and we hope to keep this awareness growing.

-----Barbara MacDonald, Chair-----

# native indian women

## ACTION ON INDIAN ACT AMENDMENTS

The Federal government will probably now (end of September) have the Report of the Sub-Committee on Indian Government. Once this report is available, Indian Affairs will know what recommendations will overlap, contradict, etc. between this Sub-Committee and the Sub-Committee on Indian Women and the Indian Act (their report was released September 1982).

We have assumed, upon good evidence, that the reason Indian Affairs has not yet tabled any draft amendments to the Indian Act is their desire to ensure that both sets of recommendations are available to them, and any contradictions discussed before any legislation is tabled. Therefore, if the recommendations of the Sub-Committee on Indian Government contradict or undercut the recommendations of the Indian Women Sub-Committee, we must be prepared to lobby and make clear our continuing support of these.

We anticipate the amendments will be tabled mid-October/November and we should also be prepared to address these amendments, particularly if they don't reinstate both Native Women and their first generation children.

ONGOING ACTION ... Write, telephone, telegraph our continuing support for the reinstatement of both Native Women and their first generation children. It's not enough for the federal government to simply cease taking the women off Band Lists. The government must reinstate all women and children who have been removed from the lists against their will! Our ongoing lobbying effort depends on YOU. Please make your concerns known.

## NATIVE CHILD WELFARE

Our research on this complex issue continues and a NAC position will be developed for the 1984 AGM.

----- Lynn Beak, Chair -----

## FAMILY BENEFITS ..WELFARE CHANGES

- UNWED MOTHERS DISQUALIFIED FROM BENEFITS
- HEATING ALLOWANCES CUT
- SHELTER ALLOWANCES CUT

DO YOU KNOW OF CHANGES IN YOUR PROVINCE.....????

The NAC Social Services Committee needs your input..... please telephone Barbara MacDonald, (902) 386-2585, or send written information to the NAC Office.

## pensions

A judgment was finally rendered in the half-dozen cases in which husbands had appealed the splitting of Canada Pension Plan credits on divorce. Here is the story and NAC's release reacting to it:

# Ex-wives who waive rights not entitled to pension

By DOROTHY LIPOVENKO

A divorced wife is not entitled to share her ex-husband's Canada Pension if she has surrendered all rights to his property or support, a federal tribunal of judges has ruled.

The Canada Pension Appeals Board reached a unanimous decision on four separate cases where the federal Government had awarded divorced wives a half share in the Canada Pension credits of their former husbands.

The board said that by agreeing in their divorce settlements to drop claims against their ex-husbands, the women "cannot now claim part of the property of their former spouses. They have waived their rights . . . and are precluded from applying for and receiving a division of pension benefits."

Under a scheme started by Ottawa in 1978, credits earned under the Canada Pension Plan by one or both spouses during a marriage can be split between them after a divorce.

About 6,500 spouses have applied to the program, which is aimed at improving the financial situation of divorced women who have never worked outside the home.

To qualify, a couple must have lived together for a minimum of 36 consecutive months during the marriage, the divorce must have taken place on or after Jan. 1, 1978, and the application for the credit division must be submitted within three years of the final divorce decree.

For example, a man who retired in 1982 and contributed to the CPP since it became mandatory in 1966, is entitled to a maximum monthly \$307.65. If his wife has not been in the labor force, and she qualifies for the credit split, she will get half that income to which he contributed while they lived together when she reaches age 65.

Since Ottawa began the program, some men have challenged the pension credit split because they had negotiated an agreement with their former wives to drop all claims against their property once the divorce was final. Women often agree to it because they want to speed the divorce along but later change their minds.

Health and Welfare Minister Monique Begin took a stand on the issue, saying the Government would not enforce agreements between estranged couples where a spouse — usually the wife — surrendered her rights to her husband's pension.

But the Government fought its case before the pension appeals board, after four husbands were successful in having a lower tribunal reverse Ottawa's award of half their CPP credits to their divorced wives.

"The board's ruling has left us in shock," John McCann, director of Health and Welfare's legislation application and appeals division, said in an interview yesterday. "We're meeting urgently with our lawyers tomorrow to find out what

other avenues are open to us."

He said the ruling has thrown into jeopardy an unknown number of applications to the program.

The board's decision is final and binding because CPP legislation is exempt from appeal to the federal courts, Mr. McCann said.

Lawrence Gelfen, a lawyer who represented one of the four women, said the board's ruling "is extremely important for couples who already made separation agreements where the wife released her right to property or support."

He said he is advising clients who draw up such agreements to insert a clause that allows a woman to retain her right to apply for a CPP credit division.

But Stephen Grant, a Toronto lawyer who brought the issue to Miss Begin's attention, said he agrees with the board's ruling. "They are quite right to recognize the sanctity of private domestic contracts. It brings a certainty to the settling of all claims."

THE GLOBE AND MAIL  
SEPTEMBER 13, 1983

Press Release..... September 19

The Executive of NAC, meeting in Toronto this weekend, expressed strong disappointment at the recent Pension Appeals Board decision which denies a share of husbands' Canada Pension Plan Credits to divorced wives who had signed waivers in separation agreements. "This confirms our belief that the CPP credit splitting provision is almost useless in its present form," said Doris Anderson, President of NAC. "Women's groups have been saying for years that the splitting of CPP credits on divorce had no chance of working unless it is automatic, mandatory and non-renounceable."

"Nobody else can renounce their rights to benefits from the Canada or Quebec Pension Plan," added Ms. Anderson. "It was always unfair and unrealistic to allow divorced wives to renounce or bargain away their rights to this benefit. The only satisfactory solution is to make the CPP pension entitlements of divorced wives as automatic and inalienable as everybody else's."

In addition to this change, said Ms. Anderson, the government has an obligation to do justice to those who are going to be affected by the Appeals Board decision. "As well as making splitting mandatory for the future, the government should adopt a retroactive amendment to make all waivers of CPP credits null and void whenever they were signed."

-----Louise Dulude, Chair-----



URGENT..

ACTION..

## Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value

..... The ongoing saga..... On September 27 NAC, together with the Equal Pay Coalition, called for the resignation of Sally Barnes, President of Ontario Status of Women Council, following Sally's appearance before an Ontario Legislature committee at which she refused to endorse a policy of equal pay for work of equal value.

BUT PRAISE BE, on September 29, Ontario M.P.P., Sheila Copps sent out the following communique:

"A legislative debate on equal pay for work of equal value will take place October 20th at Queen's Park as the result of a Resolution introduced last spring by Hamilton Centre Liberal Sheila Copps.

Copps tabled the Resolution June 15th, calling on the government to amend the Employment Standards Act to include equal pay for work of equal value. "I'm tired of the senior members of the Davis government hiding behind the skirts of Sally Barnes in an attempt to justify their hypocrisy on this issue," said Copps.

"Government members will finally be forced to quit waffling on this critical issue," said Copps. This debate will mean that elected members across Ontario will be forced into a vote on this issue." Equal pay has not been debated for four years and "it's time the government put it's money where its 'women's issues' minister" is," she said.

At Queen's Park, each member is allowed to debate the bill of their choice on a rotation basis. This will be the first time Copps has had a chance to debate her chosen legislation since she was elected in March, 1981.

This issue is too critical to let pass. The more time we wait, the more women are being subjected to discrimination pay rates. When a women earns 60¢ for every dollar earned by a man, we can't hide behind the inadequacies of present laws," said Copps."

ACCORDING TO THE RULES, THERE ARE ONLY TWO WAYS OTHER MEMBERS CAN PREVENT THIS RESOLUTION FROM COMING TO A VOTE. IF ONE-THIRD OF THEM (42) SIGN A PETITION OPPOSING THE MOTION AND PRESENT IT TO THE SPEAKER AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE THE DEBATE, THE VOTE WILL NOT BE HELD. BUT THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO SIGNED THE PETITION WILL BE RECORDED FOR PUBLIC SCRUTINY.

WHEN THE VOTE ITSELF IS CALLED AFTER THE DEBATE, IT MAY BE BLOCKED IF 20 MEMBERS RISE IN THEIR PLACES IN THE LEGISLATURE TO OBJECT. ONCE AGAIN THEIR NAMES WOULD BE RECORDED. RUMOUR HAS IT THAT THE LIBERALS WILL SUPPORT SHEILA'S RESOLUTION, AS WILL THE NEW DEMOCRATICS..... AS FOR THE CONSERVATIVES????????????

ONTARIO WOMEN..... LOBBY YOUR MPP NOW..... WE ONLY HAVE DAYS BEFORE THIS CRUCIAL VOTE COMES TO THE HOUSE.....AND WE ALL WANT EQUAL PAY NOW!!!

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN CONFERENCE WINDSOR, ONTARIO

Saturday, October 29

National Travellers Hotel, 675 Goyeau — 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Registration: \$12 (includes lunch).

**Keynote Speakers:** **Mary Cornish**, chairperson, Equal Pay Coalition; member, Charter of Rights Education Fund; lawyer, specializing in employment and labour relations, with her own firm based in Toronto.

**Robert Welch**, Deputy Premier, Provincial Minister responsible for the Status of Women.

**Lisa Avedon**, President-elect, Canadian Congress of Learning Opportunities for Women (C.C.L.O.W.)

These high-profile speakers will address the whole area of hiring and promoting women in the workforce, affirmative action and equal opportunity for women on all levels. Workshops will deal with sexual harassment, women in unions, equal opportunity, equal pay for equal work, affirmative action, employment rights, etc. There is much for you to gain at this dynamic conference. Don't miss it!

Sheelagh Conway, Executive Director of Windsor Women's Incentive urges that as many women as possible attend this event to tell Robert Welch what we want .....

Please travel to Windsor if you can, and use this opportunity to express our views directly ..... Friday evening events as well, and many other women's workshops October/November.....

FOR MORE INFORMATION PHONE THEM AT:

(519) 253-1117

## B.C. WOMEN UNITE

### TO FIGHT REPRESSIVE LEGISLATION

On July 7, 26 pieces of legislation were introduced by British Columbia's Social Credit government. Shocking as some of these bills were at first reading, closer study revealed even worse news; their passage will clear the way for discrimination on the part of employers, removal of protection for minorities, an increase in the wage gap between men and women and, most serious of all, with Bill 27, abolition of the Human Rights Commission and the drastic weakening of the Human Rights Act.

As Operation Solidarity (a coalition formed to fight the new legislation) suggests, employees can now be fired on the basis of political beliefs, sex, age, or whatever; there will be no redress for sexual harassment or other forms of discrimination. In future, complainants must go before a government appointed council to prove the basis of discrimination as well as the deliberate intent on the part of the employer (or other) to discriminate. It also appears that complainants will have to argue their own cases. Thus, those most frequently the victims of these offenses will be those least able to seek redress of wrongs.

B.C. women's groups are in the forefront of the struggle against this repressive government action. Two groups of Women Against the Budget have been formed, one in Vancouver and one in Victoria, and they are working to organize women and supply information on action. As representatives from NAC member groups are providing a lot of the energy for this struggle, it seemed to us that MEMO could be a valuable source of information on what is being accomplished. So far, actions include:

- \*\*\* Many telegrams and letters of protest to Ministers and MLA's.
- \*\*\* Speeches and consolidation action by women involved.
- \*\*\* Press release protesting hypocrisy of presence of Minister of Labour, Bob McClelland as provincial representative at Federal Human Rights Conference.
- \*\*\* Telegram to United Nations on the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Changes in B.C. Human Rights Legislation mean that Canada's report on compliance with CEDAW is incorrect and will have to be revised.
- \*\*\* Media event of great fun and useful publicity in front of Grace McCarthy's residence in Shaughnessy. McCarthy is a Socred Minister and is utterly unsympathetic to feminists; Shaughnessy is an opulently wealthy section of Vancouver and the event involved about four to five hundred women and children (and a few men) who set up stoves and cooked 'stone soup', a reminder of pre-war depression days. The soup was then served to all by women wearing white gloves and extremely lady-like hats.

These are only a few of the effective measures taken by our B.C. women in this fight. As usual, almost all of the work is volunteer and money must be obtained by donation. We must consolidate our efforts. Above all, don't despair. Write for information to the address below and, remember, all donations will be welcome -- money is greatly needed.

WOMEN AGAINST THE BUDGET  
P.O. BOX 56366, STATION F  
VANCOUVER, B.C. V5N 5P3

N.B. Several groups have written saying they are starved for information on what's happening. In addition to the above summary, don't forget that we have very good publications coming out of our women's groups:

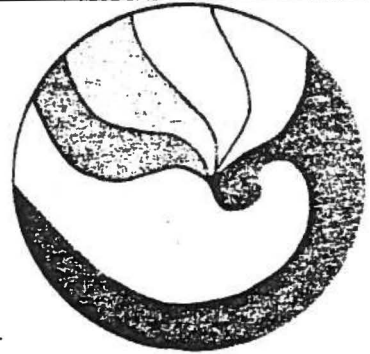
Kinesis (Vancouver Status of Women). Excellent political analysis  
Tapestry (Okanagan Women's Coalition)  
Images (Kootenay Women's Organization)  
North Shore Women (North Shore Women's Centre)..... and many more.

-----Jane Evans, B.C. Vice President-----

# REFUSE THE CRUISE

International Day of Protest

"Women must speak out against a system that is violent in its public manifestation - militarism, economic exploitation, capital punishment, and its private manifestations - domestic violence, rape, job discrimination and pornography... The leadership of women is essential to making peace. And peace is essential to human survival."



Kathy Brickmore  
Reweaving the Web of Life

PEACE IS A WOMEN'S ISSUE... Join with others with 25 major cities across Canada to say:

NO - to cruise testing  
NO - to cruise production  
NO - to cruise deployment

For further information on Day of Protest in your city, contact:

Yellowknife (403) 873-3361 (John)	Vernon (604) 545-1204	Peterborough (705) 748-1554
Victoria (604) 386-0186	Thunder Bay (807) 683-3144	Kingston (613) 549-7422
Vancouver (604) 736-2366	Sudbury (705) 673-8654	Ottawa-Hull (613) 230-7285
Regina (306) 337-1918	Sault Ste. Marie (705) 253-2116	Montreal (514) 392-3008
Edmonton (403) 488-3356	Waterloo/Kitchener (519) 885-0891	Halifax (902) 423-9998
Calgary (403) 261-4879	Hamilton (416) 684-1634	P.E.I. (902) 892-3790
Winnipeg (204) 786-1535	Windsor (519) 252-9716	St. John's Ploughshares 122 Military Road St. John's, Nfld ALC 2C9
Prince Albert Coalition for Peace & Nuclear Disarmament 227-19th Street West Prince Albert, Sask. S6V 4C5	Niagara Falls (416) 262-5072	Toronto (416) 977-0732
	London (519) 434-1368	

# OCTOBER 22

## A-bombing of city means \$500 fine

### survival

CHICO, Calif. (UPI) — Anyone who drops a nuclear bomb on the city of Chico faces big trouble — a maximum \$500 fine and six months behind bars, under a by-law being considered by officials.

If adopted, Chico would file a misdemeanor complaint against anyone caught violating the proposed ban on "research, testing, or use (detonation) of nuclear weapons within the city limits."

Two years ago, NAC established a Survival Committee whose main interest has been peace and disarmament. The Committee would like to hear from you on any peace activities you have organized or participated in. We will share your activities with others. Please fill in the following questionnaire and return it to the Survival Committee, NAC Office.

-----

NAME OF MEMBER GROUP \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

GROUP CONTACT PERSON \_\_\_\_\_

HER ADDRESS/PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SURVIVAL CONTACT PERSON \_\_\_\_\_

HER ADDRESS/PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

GROUP'S MAIN FOCUS \_\_\_\_\_

PRIORITY ISSUES THIS YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR ACTIVITIES ON PEACE ISSUE \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT INFORMATION OR COMMUNICATION WOULD BE HELPFUL TO YOUR GROUP?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Thank You.

..... WATCH CBC-TV 8PM.... NEXT SIX SUNDAYS..... A SERIES ON WAR.....  
HISTORY OF THE VIETNAM WAR, THURSDAYS.....PBS

## REGIONAL REPORTS

### bc/yukon

As a result of cutbacks by the B.C. Provincial Government many services to women are suffering. Two transition homes have closed and the Vancouver Women's Health Collective, a valuable resource for B.C. and Yukon women, has lost its funding. The Fort Nelson Transition House is kept open solely by the efforts of volunteers. Our women's centres and transition houses are supporting "Operation Solidarity" (see Jane Evans' report, p. 6 ).

Several very successful women's festivals were held over the summer by rural B.C. groups, and the fall looks just as interesting. Many centres are holding training sessions and workshops on abuse, alcoholism, assertiveness, and the Yukon has just held its 5th Women's Conference.

-----Jon Leah Hopkins-----

### newfoundland/labrador

St. John's will open the first "second stage housing" in October, to be called Kirby House in memory of Iris Kirby who died in February. Iris was the women's coordinator at Secretary of State and beloved by all.

Pornography... Over 70 delegates from around the province attended a conference in St. John's. Dorothy Inglis, representing NAC, lunched with Dr. John Meisel, other members of the CRTC and representatives of the television industry. The discussions were informal, but the message is clear. Women must keep up public pressure, we are being heard. Pornography forums are planned for Grand Falls with CFUW, employees of CMHC, and the Women's Resource Centre, Memorial University.

Women's Network had Maud Barlow as their September speaker; Alexa MacDonough will speak in November; discussion and study into the problem of incest suggests that women's groups everywhere should be turning their attention to this topic.

Newfoundland groups are considering a provincial lobby with their House of Assembly immediately following the 1984 NAC AGM lobby.

-----Dorothy Inglis-----

### northern ontario

Sudbury... a successful forum on Pro-Choice in September featured Norma Scarborough, CARAL President, as speaker; a pension brief will be presented to the Parliamentary Task Force on Pensions; the Women's Centre is developing a Caregiver's Registry and on October 22, an employment issues forum will be followed by a "Jive to Survive" Peace Dance.

North Bay... Summer project has prepared an a/v on "1900-1930 - a History of Women in North Bay" available from the North Bay Women's Centre. The is planning a fall Teen conference and has developed a Caregiver's Registry.

Sault Ste Marie ... a legal clinic is being developed and a single mothers' group is being set up.... focus on peace & environment issues, and Margaret Randall will speak on October 31 on Nicaragua.

Thunder Bay... A women & health project has been funded for the second year and funding has been received to respond to the government's green paper on pensions, at the regional level. A women's Unemployment coordinating group is being set up.

-----Lynn Beak-----

## québec

In Montreal, 21 women, 15 of whom are single parents, succeeded in obtaining \$84,000 from Canada Employment & Immigration for a ten month full-time course in horticulture and landscape gardening. Their training was to have been offered at the Botanical Gardens, but in early September the Quebec Ministry of Education decided to award the training contract to the Chateauguay School Commission, 24 miles outside Montreal. This arbitrary decision meant that the 21 women who conceived the project would be effectively excluded from participation. With the help of a massive mobilisation of women's groups in Quebec (and the support of NAC) the Conscience Verte is now close to winning a second course for their group, to be offered in Montreal. Their fight underlines the need for retraining programs which are not only open to women, but which are accessible.

Under Bill 86, which received final reading in June, the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms was amended in order to permit affirmative action programs (programmes d'accès à l'égalité). However the draft regulations which will be submitted to a parliamentary committee this fall make it virtually impossible to have affirmative action programs imposed by the courts even after discrimination has been proven. Women's groups, visible minorities and some unions will be mounting a fall offensive to force changes which will make the regulations meaningful.

The Quebec council on the status of women (Le Conseil du Statut de la Femme) has announced a forum on Women & the Economic Question, October 29 and 30.

Women & Sport... women's sports events receive short shrift from the Canadian media, probably because there are few women in sports journalism. Liz Kennedy, Rank and File's NAC liaison, would like to hear from other women who would be interested on this issue. Contact her C/o Rank and File, 1015 Ste. Catherine East, Montreal, Quebec H2L 2G4

----- Carole Wallace -----

## saskatchewan/manitoba

Jean MacKenzie attended her first Executive meeting in June, and went home with the onerous task of organizing the NAC Mid Year meeting in Regina... Since then she, together with Saskatchewan Action Committee and others, have worked furiously to make the conference happen..... it sounds as though it's going to be highly successful.... Meanwhile she brings the following news from Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women:

Their Violence Against Women Committee has:

- together with the provincial advisory council, prepared a presentation on pornography to three levels of government, the police department, fire department, etc.
- surveyed hotels to find out which offered non-pornographic entertainment, and announced their findings at a press conference
- featured speaker Bonnie Diamond on 'Ending the Silence on Pornography' at their first of a series of 'Women Together' events
- helped organize the 'Take Back The Night March' in September

Their Political Action Committee will present a brief to the Pensions Commission in October, and are planning a lobby for 'safe' houses for battered women, MACSW also plans a 'Women in the Workplace' Committee to deal with work related issues. A Pensions for Women workshop will be held in Winnipeg, October.

MACSW's Brandon office has been making video tapes on feminist issues for use by other groups and for discussion, and will hold a rural conference in Minnedosa late October.

-----Jean MacKenzie-----



## alberta/nwt

Louise Swift (who has been involved with Voice of Women, Alberta Human Rights and Civil Liberties Association, ASWAC) is a candidate for Councillor at the Edmonton municipal elections, October 17.... Alberta Hospital User Fees implementation has been delayed until the new year..... the Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter in Red Deer officially opened in August.

The NAC rep, along with members of CLOW, Alberta Chapter, will be meeting with CEIC personnel and their Regional Director to discuss the impact and implications of the National Training Act programs on women.... She also gave a presentation on Pensions to an Equal Opportunities for Women workshop run by Supply & Services Canada.... As well, wrote to Alberta's Minister of Education and the newly created Minister's Consultative Committee on Tolerance and Understanding.

----- Janina Vanderpost -----

For those who may have missed this announcement in the press, here is a belated alert.... We are sorry the deadline is now so close, but they are available by phone. Please call them if you need to request extensions.

Commission of Inquiry on  
Equality in Employment



La Commission d'enquête sur  
l'égalité en matière d'emploi

On June 27, 1983, the Government of Canada established a Commission of Inquiry to study discrimination in the workplace against women, native people, disabled persons and visible minorities. The Commission is to report by the end of the year on the most efficient, effective and equitable ways to promote equal employment opportunities, eliminate systemic discrimination, and assist all individuals to compete for employment opportunities on an equal basis.

Interest organizations, groups or individuals are invited to make written submissions to the Commission by October 15, 1983. Please address inquiries to:

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON EQUALITY IN EMPLOYMENT  
264 Adelaide Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5A 1N1  
Telephone: (416) 369-4722

Judge Rosalie S. Abella  
Commissioner

## collectors' item

NAC HAS 'ALMOST' COMPLETE SETS OF STATUS OF WOMEN NEWS, DATING BACK TO 1973, VOLUME 1#1..... MORE THAN A DECADE OF VALUABLE INFORMATION DEALING WITH NAC, ITS HISTORY AND ROLE IN LEADING THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT IN CANADA, AND PERSPECTIVES ON MANY TIMELY AND VITAL ISSUES THAT CONCERN ALL CANADIAN WOMEN.

FOR THE COST OF POSTAGE, WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO SHIP A COLLECTION TO GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS..... PLEASE SEND \$3.00 AND ASK FOR THE "STATUS ARCHIVAL SET"



## sexual assault

The Calgary Sexual Assault Centre has received funding from the Alberta Law Foundation to monitor the effects of the new sexual assault legislation (one intention of the new legislation is to encourage survivors of sexual assault to report by making the court process a more humane experience). If your centre hears of or is directly involved with a case that is being prosecuted under the new legislation, the Calgary Sexual Assault Centre would appreciate receiving completed forms (see below) or even a newspaper clipping detailing the case. Only through close monitoring of the first cases prosecuted can we determine if the legislation is fulfilling its intent. It has taken over 100 years to alter legislation; hopefully we will not have to wait another 100 years for effective change.

-----

CASE/INCIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_

NATURE OF \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

WEAPON INVOLVED: \_\_\_\_\_ (yes (specify), no, unknown)

PHYSICAL INJURIES: \_\_\_\_\_ (yes, no, unknown)

AGE OF SURVIVOR: \_\_\_\_\_ ASSAILANT: \_\_\_\_\_

SITE OF ASSAULT: \_\_\_\_\_

### COURT HEARING/TRIAL

JUDGE/S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ QUEEN'S BENCH \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF ASSAILANT: \_\_\_\_\_ PROVINCIAL COURT \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF SURVIVOR: \_\_\_\_\_ PLEA \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_ TRIAL BY JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_

CONVICTION: \_\_\_\_\_ (yes, no) TRIAL BY JUDGE  
AND JURY \_\_\_\_\_

SENTENCE LENGTH: \_\_\_\_\_

SOURCE OF DATA: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRAL: \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

\_\_\_\_\_ (address)

\_\_\_\_\_ (phone)

RETURN TO: JUDY WALLER/MORGAN PRICE, 1725-12TH STREET S.W. CALGARY, ALBERTA T2T 3N1

# Freedom of Choice is under attack!



- From fanatical anti-Choice groups, who want to force women to bear children against their will
- From the police, who conducted "cops and robbers" raids on the Toronto and Winnipeg clinics
- From the Ontario and Manitoba Provincial Governments, which have helped to inflame anti-choice sentiment through their visible harassment of the clinics and their staffs

Give us the means to fight this attack  
Support the **Pro-Choice Defence  
Fund**

Mail donations to: **PRO-CHOICE DEFENCE FUND**  
Box 935, Station Q, Toronto, Ontario M4T 2P1

*Sponsored by the Canadian Abortion Rights Action League*

## COUNTER CHEQUE

BANK \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

BRANCH \_\_\_\_\_

Pay to the order of **PRO-CHOICE DEFENCE FUND** ----- \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ACCOUNTNUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
address

## Support needed

BRIDGE HOUSE is a non-profitable charitable organization founded by women for women. The House offers low cost, short term accommodation for women and children visiting the nine federal institutions in the Kingston area, and help alleviate the loneliness and alienation these families experience. Opened in August 1982, they have since accommodated 756 women and 375 children. However, they survive solely on donations and contributions and are in danger of closing if they do not receive crucial base funding. If you can help, or suggest sources of funding, please contact them: Jacky Evon, Executive Director, Bridge House 26 Rideau Street, Kingston, Ontario K7K 2Z6. Ph: (613) 549-6303.

\*\*\*\*\*

KRIS FURLOUGHT is researching and writing a book on 'sentencing alternatives' specifically relating to the female offender. She needs more funding -- and would appreciate hearing from anyone who has ideas or sources of funds. Please contact her at 11-33 Hazel Street, Ottawa K15 0G1. Ph: (613) 234-6278.

\*\*\*\*\*

CONCERNED FARM WOMEN are preparing a booklet on farm women and the law in Ontario, intended to better inform women about the property and credit laws which affect them and to help them make informed decisions. Their most recent project was a survey of stress in farm families released last winter. They would like to hear from any women with relevant personal experiences, concerns or questions to contribute to the book. Please write them at Box 457, Chesley, Ontario N0G 1L0. Ph: (519) 935-2534 Susan Glover.

\*\*\*\*\*

TORONTO WOMEN'S BOOKSTORE, which was deliberately destroyed by fire in July, is rising again. They are open for business, Monday-Friday in temporary premises at 296 Brunswick Ave (at Bloor), and are looking forward to moving into their new premises at 73 Harbord in January/February. As well, they will hold a Christmas Sale at Harbourfront on December 11. Their fundraising campaign to cover the costs of relocating is coming along well, but they still need more \$\$\$.... Send to 296 Brunswick Ave, Toronto M5S 2M7..

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## Films...

I WANT TO BE AN ENGINEER, National Film Board. This 28 minute documentary film directed by Beverly Shaffer was produced by Studio D and responds to the need to increase the number of women engineers in Canada. Contact your nearest NFB Office for a preview....

GETTING THERE (Producing Photostories with Immigrant Women) is a story of immigrant women surviving in and adapting to a new culture; social obstacles, language barriers, lack of decent work, the dominant, distorted images of women seen everywhere. Essays accompany the photostories. \$8.95 (+10% postage & handling)... bulk discounts available. Write: Between the Lines, 427 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1X7. Ph: (416) 964-6560

# publications

AT LAST...the indepth story (by a woman who was there) of how thousands of (we) women rallied in suport of Clause 28, addition to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms that would for the first time assert equality of the sexes as a basic tenet for Canada.

## The Taking of 28

Women Challenge the Constitution

by Penney Kome

AVAILABLE FROM: THE WOMEN'S PRESS, 16 BALDWIN STREET, TORONTO M5T 1L2 AT \$6.95 (165 pages)..... Please send orders, stating how many copies you want, enclose cheque (add \$1.00 for postage & handling) or VISA or MASTERCHARGE number. Telephone Enquiries: (416) 598-0082.

\*\*\*\*\*

CORRECTION .... We advertised in July MEMO that LA VIE EN ROSE was available, from 3963 St. Denis, Montreal H2W 2M4 at \$24 subscription. It is \$11 subscription. French Only. Nous regrettons.

\*\*\*\*\*

OptiMSt, published quarterly by the Yukon Status of Women Council, reaches not only 400 women in the Yukon, but also women, newspapers and governments across the country ... this newspaper focuses on sharing ideas with and supporting women .... get your subscription now from The OptiMSt, 302 Steele Street, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C5.... only \$3.00.

\*\*\*\*\*

WHAT WORKS? An Exploratory Examination of Court Enforcement Efforts and Payment Levels of Maintenance Orders Monitored by the Vancouver Family Court, by Andy Wachtel, 78 pages. Available for \$4.00 from the Social Planning and Research Department, United Way of the Lower Mainland, 1625 West 8th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 1T9. Ph: (604) 731-7781.

\*\*\*\*\*

A REPORT ON SELF-HELP GROUPS IN CANADA, by Jean-Marie Romeder. Health & Welfare Canada 1983. 96 pages. Examination of social currents which have contributed to the growth of movements in Canada & categorization of groups. Contains suggestions to assist development of groups. Free from Room 734, Brooke Claxton Building, Ottawa K1A 1B5.

\*\*\*\*\*

LEGALLY SPEAKING, a regular publication of Community Legal Education Ontario (CLEO), a non-profit organization aiming to educate the public on legal matters through programs, courses and this publication, which is distributed to community newspapers in Ontario. Recent articles include matters relating to family law and marriage contracts. Anybody interested in receiving these columns for your newsletter may contact: CLEO, 62 Noble Street, Toronto M6K 2C9.

\*\*\*\*\*

MAKING CHANGES: EMPLOYMENT ORIENTATION FOR IMMIGRANT WOMEN... a student's book and teacher's guide. Includes Life Skills, career planning & job search programs for immigrant Women. student's book \$7 (+10/\$5), teacher's guide \$8.00. This and other books and videos from: Cross-Cultural Communication Centre, 1991 Dufferin Street, Toronto M6E 3P9 Ph: (416) 653-2223

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## Attention: Member Groups

The NAC Constitution says that:

### "VIII MEETINGS

#### 2. General Meetings: Annual Meetings

- c) The Annual Meeting shall elect the members of the Executive Committee; receive the audited financial report; appoint auditor(s); receive reports from the President, Treasurer, committees and the NAC Trust; approve policy resolutions, approve amendments to the Constitution, and ratify changes to the Regulations, as provided in the Constitution; and transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.....

#### 4. Procedures at General Meetings

- a) The voting body shall consist of:
  - i) one voting delegate designated from each member organization in good standing, or in her absence an alternate. A delegate/alternate shall be a member or the organization she represents, and duly selected as its representative in advance of the meeting;
  - ii) the members of the Executive Committee.
- b) No delegate shall be designated to vote on behalf of more than one member organization. There shall be no proxy voting.
- c) One delegate in attendance from not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the member organizations in good standing shall constitute a quorum.
- d) Voting at elections shall be by secret ballot; voting on other matters by voting card.
- e) General meetings shall be open to representatives from member organizations, cooperating organizations, Friends of NAC and the public. The public may be excluded by a majority vote of the delegates.
- f) When there is no provision for procedure in the Constitution and Regulations, Roberts' Rules of Order shall apply."

IN PREPARATION FOR THE 1984 AGM, WE CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING:

### "XIII POLICY RESOLUTIONS

#### 1. Authorization by Annual Meeting

- a) Policy resolutions may be enacted at the Annual Meeting by a majority of the delegates present and voting, to take effect immediately following the meeting at which they are approved.

#### 2. Source

- a) Policy resolutions may be proposed by a member organization in good standing, by the Executive Committee and by a NAC Committee. Each may submit up to three (3) resolutions which shall receive priority at the Annual Meeting.

#### 3. Notice

- a) Notice calling for policy resolutions shall be communicated to the member organizations at least ninety (90) days before the scheduled time of the Annual Meeting.
- b) Policy resolutions shall be received by the NAC Office at least sixty (60) days prior to the scheduled time of the Annual Meeting.
- c) Policy resolutions received at least sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Meeting shall be sent by the Secretary to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Those policy resolutions not received at least sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Meeting shall not be circulated and shall not be considered at the Annual Meeting."

NOTE: COPIES OF THE REVISED NAC CONSTITUTION, AVAILABLE FROM NAC OFFICE. GET YOURS NOW BEFORE AGM.

# Registration

NAC MID-YEAR MEETING  
 NOVEMBER 4, 5, 6, 1983  
WESTWATER INN, REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN

Registration: \$40 (includes Friday wine & cheese, 3 Saturday meals and  
 2 Sunday meals ..... and all coffee breaks)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF MEMBER GROUP \_\_\_\_\_

NAC COMMITTEE WORKSHOPS (circle one in each column please)

Native Women	Justice
Health	Survival
Employment	Pensions
Education	Social Services

WORKSHOPS ON "RURAL WOMEN" (please circle two which interest you)

Employment Practices	Violence
Organizing for Change	Legal Rights

\*\*\*\*\*  
OUT OF TOWN REGISTRANTS

- Hotel rooms are \$41 single or double. \$7 each additional person. Please book directly with the Westwater Inn. Ensure you say you are with NAC.
- Child care available only for requests received by October 24. We suggest you telephone, and confirm in box below.
- Limited billeting available for delegates of member groups.

Please send registration form and payment by OCTOBER 24 (sorry it's soon) to:

SASKATCHEWAN ACTION COMMITTEE, STATUS OF WOMEN  
 2204 McIntyre Street  
 Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 2R9 Ph: (306) 525-0644



REGINA'S  
**WESTWATER INN**

1717 Victoria Avenue  
 Regina, Sask., Canada  
 (306) 527-0663

Hotel Reservation \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

For: \_\_\_\_\_

No. in Party \_\_\_\_\_ Rate \_\_\_\_\_ \* of nights \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Accom. \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_

Company NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Category \_\_\_\_\_

Special Requests & Other Information \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete if you need:

Billet \_\_\_\_\_

Child care \_\_\_\_\_

How are you \_\_\_\_\_  
 Arriving?

Approximate time \_\_\_\_\_