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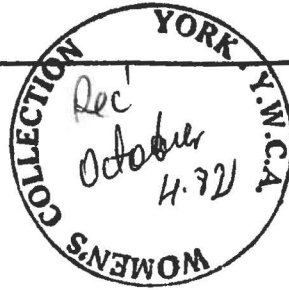
# MEMO

NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE  
on the status of women

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

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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We've had a very busy summer. All through July and August we were responding almost daily to changes and amendments being made to Bill C-53 on Sexual Assault. The bill squeaked through on the last day of parliament, although NAC still has concerns about the clauses that deal with past sexual conduct and the Pappajohn case.

Then, early in July, Bill C-124 was introduced, freezing public service salaries at six and five percent for the next two years. We protested about that because such a freeze is particularly hard on people at the low end of the salary scale --- and they are mostly women. But, even more important, we met with Judy Erola and pointed out that the bill would also prohibit all collective bargaining for the next two years --- which meant the progress women have made recently in getting maternity leave in contracts and equal pay for work of equal value judgements in court would be stopped cold. Don Johnston, President of the Treasury Board, conceded that he would honour any equal pay judgements which was a small victory for our side.

We also prepared and presented briefs on microtechnology to the task force and appeared before the committee on Bill C-124. We are presently working on a brief for the task force on part-time work. And, we finished a new paper on pensions which is ready for distribution

And, on into a full, full, fall.....

*Doris Anderson*  
Doris Anderson, President

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## NAC welcomes these NEW MEMBERS

Action Education des Femmes, Ottawa, Ontario  
 Women's Employment Counselling Service, Halifax, N.S.  
 North West Status of Women, Biggar, Saskatchewan  
 Howe Sound Women's Center, Squamish, B.C.  
 Options for Women, Edmonton, Alberta

(Memberships ratified September 1982)

## NAC COMMITTEES AT WORK...

### MEDIA WATCH

The CRTC Task Force Report on Sex Role Stereotyping was released September 1. Title: IMAGES OF WOMEN. One of the recommendations was that the report should be circulated to women's groups. Groups wanting copies should call or write their nearest CRTC office or CRTC Information Services, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N2, phone (819) 997-0303, and insist on getting a free copy. Otherwise, they are available from Renouf's Books (various branches) or Supply & Services Canada, Canadian Govt. Publishing Centre, Hull, Quebec K1A 0S9 (enclose cheque or M/O for \$3.95.... Catalogue # BC 92-96/1982E).

Judie Gushue of Cornerbrook, Newfoundland, has accepted our request that she critique the report. On the surface, it appears to have no teeth, although the separate recommendations by the public members are useful. The CRTC as a whole has yet to endorse the report.

The Report recommends the appointment of more women to CBC and CRTC boards. We are considering nominations, and encourage member groups to send their nominations to July Erola, Minister responsible for the Status of Women. It is our understanding that the CRTC commissioners are full-time people, and are paid; the CBC board members are voluntary (expenses and probably honorarium) and involve regular meetings.

### JUSTICE

The Committee spent most of the summer monitoring the many amendments to Bill C-53 (now C-127). Although the bill was much improved by the time it was passed by Parliament on August 4th, we still have several concerns about the bill. The defense of honest belief is still allowable, with judicial discretion, and past sexual history is allowed, although only in relation to that particular incident. In these specifics, C-127 does not conform to NAC policy. However, the bill does give three tiers of sexual assault, which are parallel to other assault provisions, and has a specific clause specifying that spouses can be charged with sexual assault.

Bill C-127 still has to be approved by the Senate. They will be hearing briefs in mid-October. We will be making a presentation to them, and reiterating our policy and our concerns regarding the new bill, and will request that the government provide funds to women's groups to monitor cases.

It is anticipated that the provincial Attornies-General will be meeting in October, in Halifax, to discuss divorce jurisdiction. We are trying to get further information on this and will be sending out information as and when we get it.

### FUTURIST

The Committee is drafting a questionnaire for high school students to encourage discussion on how they see themselves 20 years hence. The subject of women and Third World aid was discussed, but more information is needed. Suggestion that the AGM have a workshop on "Futures for Women - 20 Years from Now".

## PENSIONS

At last, NAC's revised 21-page pensions brief is ready and available. The four main recommendations it contains are:

- 1) That the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) be increased to bring the minimum income of all Canadian senior citizens to at least the Statistics Canada poverty line for large cities;
- 2) That the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans (CPP and QPP, or C/QPP) be expanded to provide benefits twice as large as those now provided - i.e. pensions would increase from 25% to 50% of earnings up to the average industrial wage;
- 3) That all homemakers be included in the Canada/Quebec Pension Plan. This should be done in two ways: a) for women who spend most of their lives full-time in the labour market, by implementing the child-care drop-out provision in the C/QPP; b) for full-time or long-term part-time homemakers, by a direct integration of these women in the C/QPP;
- 4) That pension credits earned by either spouse be split in equal shares between them on divorce (for the Canada/Quebec Pension Plan and employer-sponsored pension plans) or when the younger of them reaches retirement age (for the C/QPP only).

If you are interested in receiving a free copy of the pensions brief, and/or in taking part in a possible future campaign for pension reform which NAC is now contemplating, write to: NAC Secretariat, 40 St. Clair Ave East, Suite 306, Toronto Ontario M4T 1M9, or to: Louise Dulude, 29 Morris Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 4A6.

### Other Pension News:

- The federal government's Green paper on pension reform is now due to be released in early October. Count on this happening as a definite maybe.
- The Canada Pension Plan provision concerning the splitting of pension credits between the spouses after a divorce may be in trouble. Several ex-husbands have won a first-level appeal against the splitting by arguing that their wives had either a) renounced that right by signing separation/divorce agreements freeing their husbands from all future claims; or b) lost their right to splitting because the divorce court had taken it into account in dividing the property between the ex-spouses. NAC believes that the splitting of C/QPP credits on divorce is extremely important. No signing away of that right should be allowed, and no court decision should be able to jeopardize it.

Write to your MPs to let your views be known about this issue in particular and the necessity for pension reform in general. Also write to Monique Begin, federal Minister of Health and Welfare, and Judy Erola, Minister responsible for the Status of Women, and get these issues talked about in the media in your area.

**JOIN IN THE EFFORT FOR PENSION JUSTICE FOR WOMEN NOW! THE BATTLE FOR GOOD PENSIONS FOR OURSELVES, OUR MOTHERS AND OUR DAUGHTERS IS JUST BEGINNING!**

## HEALTH

Abortion There is grave concern about the numbers of hospitals across the country that are no longer doing abortions. The tactics of the anti-choice lobby are paying off in taking over hospital boards. We need to protest this at every step. NAC will continue to work in close contact with CARAL.

The Committee received replies from six provincial health ministers about the free standing clinics. No provincial government intends to set up a clinic to-date.

NAC received and endorsed the Planned Parenthood Ontario brief "Adolescent Birth Planning Needs in the 80's". You, too, can write to Premier William Davis, supporting the recommendations that the government should move immediately to introduce a consistent sex education program in all schools and that such a program should be in place and fully supported by family life courses which teach the changing role of women in Canadian society and their "right of access to these services.

The Committee endorsed a Bilingual Women's Health Conference to be held at Glendon College, Toronto, in May 1983. A member of the committee is working on the conference planning - further details will be supplied in future MEMOS.

# NAC TRUST

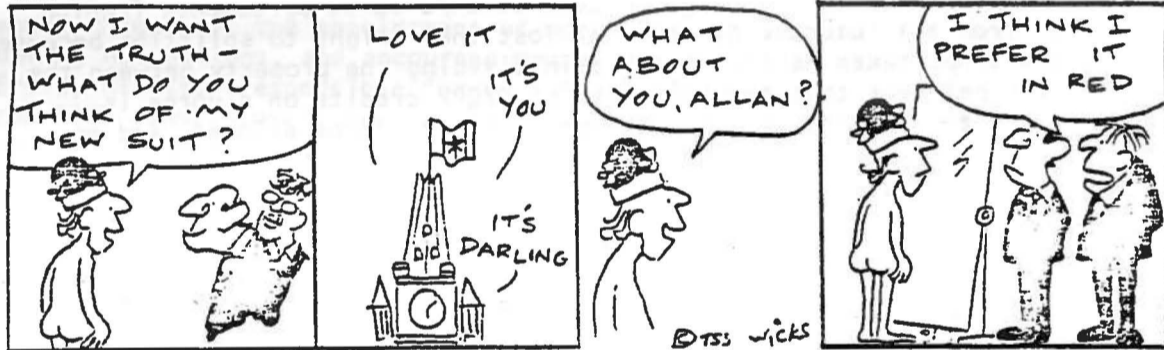
The Trust met and, apart from the usual financial business, the following projects were discussed:

- a) Sylvia Spring's slide-tape show. After some discussion re possible changes, it was agreed to present the show to the entire NAC Executive on Saturday morning.
- b) Chaviva Hosek outlined the progress being made on the Federal-Provincial Relations - Funding study. She stated that excellent cooperation has been received and the study will be completed on October 15th. Cost to-date is \$2500 and an additional \$2500 will be paid on completion.
- c) Pat Hacker presented a proposal for a NAC Trust project which would assist Penney Kome and Rosemary Billings in writing a book on the "Women's Constitutional Lobby for Equality Rights". NAC Trust would accept contributions for the project and make the contributions available to the authors.

# SPECIAL COMMITTEE

At the 1982 AGM, it was requested that a committee of the Executive examine the possibility of hiring a full-time liaison person to facilitate communication to and from member groups, to enhance and assist regional representatives. The table officers have been acting as such a committee and, as a result of their discussions, the entire "modus operandi" and even the location of the NAC Office are being examined. The committee will be discussing all alternatives, including a possible move to Ottawa, and will report to the Executive as a whole at the next meeting in Vancouver. Since any decisions will obviously affect the organization as a whole, we welcome input from member groups in this issue, and will report in the next MEMO regarding the proposals made at the Vancouver meeting.

The Outcasts



\$ NAC FUNDING \$  
 \$  
 \$  
 \$  
 \$ As you know, in 1980-81 NAC, in conjunction with other women's groups,  
 \$ successfully lobbied for the expansion of Secretary of State funding  
 \$ for women's groups. The funding was expanded from \$1.1 million in 1980-81  
 \$ to \$4.1 million in 1981-82 (\$3 million to women's groups, \$1.1 million to  
 \$ Secretary of State operations). All women's groups benefitted.  
 \$  
 \$ This year NAC was initially awarded a grant of \$190,000, an increase from  
 \$ \$175,000 last year. All other national women's groups received an increase.  
 \$ Then, without explanation, NAC's grant was cut back to \$175,000. The other  
 \$ national women's groups were not cut back.  
 \$  
 \$ Why NAC???? What does it mean for arbitrary cutting back of other women's  
 \$ groups? We did protect this cut-back and we managed to get, through the  
 \$ good graces of Judy Erola, \$10,000 restored, for a total of \$185,000.  
 \$ But we want to combine to protest this cut-back publicly.  
 \$  
 \$ WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT..... WRITE (postage free) TO THE HON. GERALD REGAN,  
 \$ SECRETARY OF STATE, HOUSE OF COMMONS, OTTAWA K1A 0A6.....  
 \$ ALSO WRITE TO YOUR OWN FEDERAL MP TO PROTEST THESE ARBITRARY DECISIONS!!!  
 \$  
 \$



## action ..... urgent ..... action

### WAGE RESTRAINTS HURT WOMEN AND THEIR UNIONS (THERE'S MORE TO 6 & 5 THAN MEETS THE EYE)

The so-called "government restraint" policy is having a serious impact on women's earnings and the power of women to improve their conditions of work through collective bargaining:

69.7% of female public service workers earn under \$20,000 a year

Since women are in these low wage categories, a limit of wage increases to 6% and 5% will cause them to fall even further behind men's earnings. The public service clerks who were forced to strike two years ago to win a decent wage increase were entitled to a 12.25% increase on December 12 of this year. Because of Bill C-124, they will receive only a 6% increase. This roll-back affects approximately 50,000 women directly.

All women workers in the federal jurisdiction will also be affected by the Bill's elimination of collective bargaining. The introduction of microtechnology, particularly word processors (into government) raises dangers to women's health and safety at work, and may result in layoffs and the elimination of jobs. Women in the public service have been struggling for paid maternity leave, affirmative action and protection against discrimination through their unions. The contracting of work to unprotected workers is rampant in the public sector. However, Bill C-124 extends all current collective agreements for two to three years. Women will therefore not be able to negotiate protection on any of these issues and we can expect the position of women workers in the government to worsen under this Bill.

The government has been selling the "6 and 5%" to society as a solution of Canada's economic problems. Meanwhile, it continues to spend billions on the military and give-aways to large private corporations. A saving of \$500 million, much of it from the pockets of women workers, will actually make no difference to the economy, and is giving the government the opportunity to ignore the worsening plight of Canadian workers, employed and unemployed.

Bill C-124 will have a very serious impact on the union movement and is clearly part of a long-term "union-bashing" policy of the federal government. Such an attack on union rights will also diminish the rights of women workers, and we must continue to fight against this policy. The first version of Bill C-124, introduced on June 30, would have even suspended the Canadian Human Rights Act provision for equal pay for work of equal value. This would have prevented women workers from making complaints in order to eliminate discrimination. NAC lobbied all parties on this issue, beginning immediately after the bill was proposed. We can report that the final version, passed in August, contains an amendment which will permit equal pay cases to continue. Having intervened strongly and continuously for a solid month, we believe this is a good example of the value NAC can have as a lobbying organization.

We would be pleased to provide information to member groups about the Bill, and urge you to protest to federal and provincial governments against these policies

..... AND THERE'S MORE!!!!!!

Up till now, indexation of government benefits has meant a full movement of these benefits annually according to the level of increase in the Consumer Price Index. This has meant that the buying power of the \$ you receive this way remained the same. The June 1982 budget began to tamper with that principle as it imposes the 6% and 5% rule on indexation of benefits. So, if inflation exceeds 6% and 5% in the next few years, we will all be worse off!!!

.... AND MORE....

The Old Age Security pension will be decreased only slightly by 1983. The Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) (which goes to low-income citizens) has been indexed to compensate for this. At first glance, this looks like good news; however, GIS is not available to the many poor and near-poor senior citizens. By January 1983, a single pensioner with a total income as low as \$9,200 will not be eligible.

..... AND MORE.....



## ANOTHER FEDERAL REPORT GATHERS DUST.....

The Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women is concerned that the House of Commons Report on Violence in the Family: Wife Battering, which was greeted with laughter in the House of Commons, is in danger of being shelved. The report, the result of lengthy hearings, recognized the seriousness of this problem. "We have found that wife battering is not a matter of slaps and flying crockery. Battered women are choked, kicked, beaten, punched, subjects to sexual assault, threatened and assailed with weapons. We have found that such behaviour is far too common. Society should not expect or tolerate such behaviour."

In June, NAC wrote to relevant ministers regarding the report's recommendations and asked for a timeflow of steps to be taken for their implementation. These recommendations included two suggestions for the training of RCMP officers specifically related to the answering of calls in cases of wife battering. Another recommended an affirmative action hiring program to increase the number of women RCMP officers. When the Solicitor General, Robert Kaplan, was contacted by NAC, he chose not to respond. The CRTC was called upon to develop guidelines for its licenses in relation to the depiction of violence in the mass media. Minister of Communications, Francis Fox, also declined to respond.

To date, only the Minister of Health and Welfare, Monique Begin, has indicated that her department has made definite plans. They will be following up a recommendation of the NAC membership that an insert be placed in Family Allowance cheques discussing the nature and extent of wife assault and directing women to contact local resources. In addition, Ms. Begin said that she would meet with the Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women, Justice and the Solicitor General "to discuss issues and proposals that might be raised with our respective provincial colleagues at upcoming federal-provincial conferences." The National Clearinghouse on Family Violence, under her department, will be doing a survey of transition houses across Canada and will be producing a directory. The survey is expected to be completed in October.

These are promising steps, but NAC feels they fall far short of what is necessary to improve the lot of battered women in Canada. It is estimated that at least one in ten women who live with men as a couple are battered. The response to our enquiries indicates to NAC that the majority of government members are continuing to treat this matter far too lightly.

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**action ..... urgent**  
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**DO YOU KNOW?**

- \* that at least 1 in 10 Canadian women is battered by her husband?
- \* that almost half of Canadian women live in areas without access to transition houses or emergency shelters?
- \* that existing shelters turn away hundreds of women and children each year?
- \* that the response of a significant number of Canadian Members of Parliament to a question about battered women was to laugh?

WIFE BATTERING IS NO LAUGHING MATTER!!

Support the

UNITY DAY WITH BATTERED WOMEN

OCTOBER 16, 1982

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:**

- \* wear a purple ribbon armband on the day to demonstrate your support for battered women
- \* Write your MP to ask about the action being taken on the Report on Violence in the Family - Wife Battering of the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs, and if s/he supports the Unity Day
- \* Write your member of the provincial legislature demanding more funding for transition houses and shelters
- \* Contact your local transition house, support services or women's centre to find out more information on battering.

..... action

NAC CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

It's time for constitutional renewal, NAC internal style. All member organizations are invited to participate.

What follows is our preliminary report outlining the areas in our constitution where change is advisable, and the nature of the changes being considered by NAC's Constitutional Review Committee. The Committee will hold a meeting at 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 23 in Vancouver, for the next round of discussion. All members of NAC member organizations attending the Vancouver meeting are invited to sit in on the discussion. If possible, an "ideal" constitution in rough draft form may be discussed.

We also welcome any suggestions and comments from NAC member organizations. Please send them to the NAC Constitutional Review Committee, via the NAC office -- the sooner the better. We are especially anxious to hear from NAC's member groups which have comments and suggestions on:

- \* size and composition of the Executive  
This is the thorniest question we face. Should we develop a smaller Executive structure that would ensure representation from all parts of the country while keeping travel costs at a reasonable level?  
Some suggestions that have been made so far:
  - The Executive might consist of a smaller steering group that would meet mainly to direct NAC's operations as well as to head and co-ordinate the work of issue committees. Committees might do the major work on issues and have their leaders meet with the steering group less frequently.
  - To provide some continuity, Executive terms could be 2 years, with half of the Executive retiring each year. A President-elect could be designated.
- \* redefining types of member organizations
- \* increasing the minimum number of members in a group from 10 to 15
- \* revamping the fee scale (to provide fewer levels) and increasing the membership fees
- \* reducing the number of voting delegates at the Annual General Meeting from two to one per group
- \* format of our constitution  
Would a simpler one be an improvement?

The Committee will prepare its final recommendations and the amendment proposals to implement them, for consideration by the NAC Executive and circulation to member organizations in December. Those with other suggestions will be able to submit their own proposed amendments within the time frame required for the 1983 Annual General Meeting.

Please note that we have not finalized recommendations yet, and our earlier pleas for suggestions from member groups have not generated much response.

How would your organization be affected by the proposals under consideration?  
Do you have experience to share about organizational principles and structures?  
Do you have a well-written constitution that our committee could benefit from reading?

CONTACT US NOW -- BEFORE OUR IDEAS BECOME ENTRENCHED!

.....read on....



NAC CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

I -- RECOMMENDED CHANGES

The Committee is considering recommending changes to the existing Rules and Regulations in the following ways:

- 1) ADD new sections covering these areas not now dealt with:
  - resolutions at the Annual General Meeting  
(The changes proposed in 1982 by the Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women provide a good basis for policy resolutions; a further category for emergency resolutions is required, together with procedures for dealing with each type.)
  - descriptions of the duties of Executive offices
  - grounds and procedures for severance (censure, expulsion, withdrawal) of member organizations and Executive members
  - procedure for ratifying a member organization's wishes (e.g. re-representation at the AGM, nominations for Executive office, decision to apply for or withdraw from membership, size of group)
  - NAC Trust and its relationship with the Executive
  - disposal of assets in case of wind-up of the organization.
  
- 2) CHANGE certain existing arrangements:
  - Purposes of NAC: revise these to suit the evolution of the organization. (In essence, however, they are sound.)
  - composition of the Executive: reconsider its size and structure, taking into account adequate representation regionally but also the travel costs of a large Executive
    - remove Executive's ability to appoint non-voting members to itself
    - reduce number of members-at-large by 2
    - re-assess regional representation boundaries
  - member groups: redefine types of member organizations, allowing for those which cannot officially affiliate to co-operate with NAC
  - increase the minimum number of members in a group from 10 to 15
  - delete group eligibility to be Friend of NAC
  - AGM: expand the description of its activities to reflect these more accurately
    - reduce the number of voting delegates from 2 to one per group
    - specify quorum in terms of groups represented, not delegates
    - allow one person to vote on behalf of no more than 2 organizations, if she has registered as the official delegate for each
    - add procedures for registration and establishing credentials
    - add reference to attendance by observers and the public
  - committees: revamp the description, and add reference to the responsibilities of chairpersons
    - remove some of the restrictive elements of the Editorial Committee
  
- 3) ELABORATE some topics which should have more detailed treatment:
  - meetings: procedures for notification of, and conduct at, all types of meetings -- Executive, committees, AGM, special
    - special meetings: set out qualifications to call, and procedures for withdrawal of a request and cancellation of a meeting
  
- 4) DEFINE certain terms and principles more precisely:
  - resolution (policy and emergency)
  - member organization
  - delegate to AGM
  - group in good standing
  - campaigning for Executive positions
  
- 5) TRANSFER some items between Rules and Regulations:
 

This would clarify the respective roles of each. Rules contain the basic principles and structures of the organization, while Regulations are guidelines for implementing them. (Regulations are set by the Executive, although the AGM has the power to review and disallow them.)

...cont'd...

- 5) TRANSFER some items between Rules and Regulations (continued)
- move from Regulations into Rules:
    - sections on Membership, including composition, eligibility, severance. (Note: further detail in definitions and procedures is also required on this topic.)
  - lack of membership rights for Friends of NAC
  - parts of Duties and Powers of the Executive (Most of this would be more appropriate in an expanded section of the Rules; see #1 above.)
  - description of duties of committees

6) "FINE-TUNING"

These changes would remove ambiguities arising from areas where the Rules and Regulations are now silent, or they would prevent having to amend the constitution because of minor alterations in routine matters.

- remove references to titles of NAC publications
- make references to employees general in nature, to allow flexibility in staffing
- consolidate procedures for filling Executive vacancies, which are unduly repetitive
- make the President's voting powers more explicit
- make policy on the availability of membership lists more explicit, and expand it to include Friends of NAC list
- clarify procedure for amending Regulations and Rules (Note: if a clearer distinction is made between the respective functions of rules as opposed to regulations, there should be less dissatisfaction with the Regulations; see #5 above.)

II - FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The following topics require further study:

- format and organization of the re-written constitution
- membership fee structure and amounts
- Executive composition, including staggered terms of office
- incorporation
- official rules of order: Bourinot or Roberts?
- possible additions:
  - procedures for polling the membership or establishing its will between AGMs (e.g. mailed ballots, phone canvass)
  - job-sharing or another form of representational flexibility, perhaps on a revolving basis by region
  - outlining some types of operating guidelines (e.g. conflict of interest, dealing with press or correspondence) in Regulations
  - the principle of shared travel funds re the AGM

-- Wendy Lawrence  
Committee Chair

action ..... urgent

EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

ACTION ----- ONTARIO MEMBER GROUPS----- ACTION

Recent statements by Ontario's Minister of Labour make it quite clear that Ontario is going to ride out the recession on the backs of women - AGAIN!! Russell Ramsay (yes, he's the Minister of Labour) says that Ontario can't afford to pay for work of equal value - women will have to wait until things get better!

The Toronto Pink Ribbon Committee is clear that this is not acceptable to the women of Ontario. We are planning a series of protests for the week of October 11.

NAC now has 102 member groups in Ontario. We want you to join us in this protest. Send this telegram to Premier Davis during the week of October 11, 1982:

EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE IS A BASIC RIGHT OF EMPLOYED WOMEN AND WE WANT IT NOW.

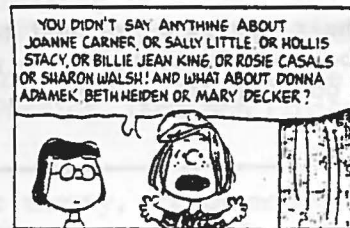
Or send a letter (postage free) if you don't have the cash. Members of the Toronto Pink Ribbon Committee will be calling you to follow up on this - we want all NAC member groups in Ontario to send a telegram, and to ask their friends to do the same.

WE WANT EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE NOW!!!!!!!

WOMEN IN SPORTS

Jean Wood & Lynne Sullivan are continuing to pursue a Human Rights Case against the organizers of the Robbie Soccer Tournament.....

You may remember that that tournament banned girls from playing, even though they had been selected by their own countries as representatives.



THIS SUBSTANTIVE, ACTION-PACKED MEMO HAS BEEN BOUGHT TO YOU BY JEAN WOOD & JILLIAN RIDINGTON & JAN PORT

## FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS - FUNDING

Probably one of the greatest difficulties that we encounter in trying to comprehend federal-provincial fiscal arrangements is understanding the terminology used. The individuals involved in writing government reports and legislation tend to use a great deal of technical jargon. It is important to understand these terms because they are often used in federal-provincial negotiations respecting the transfer of funds. This report will provide an explanation of tax-related terms that you may encounter in reading material on federal-provincial fiscal arrangements, and illustrate the context in which they might be used.

Transfer of Tax Points: When mention is made of the federal government transferring tax points, reducing its tax on incomes, or giving up tax points, reference is being made to the same thing. Basically the federal government makes tax room available to provincial governments by lowering its entire rate schedule and, hence, the amount of money that they collect from basic federal tax.

Tax Abatements: The purpose of a tax abatement, like that of a transfer of tax points, is to give the provincial governments more tax room. Unlike the transfer of tax points, however, the federal government does not lower its entire rate schedule. Instead, a special deduction from income taxes otherwise payable by individuals or corporations is allowed by the federal government. In the case of the personal income tax, the value of an abatement is measured in percentage points of federal basic tax. An abatement of one point of personal income tax is a reduction of one percent of federal basic tax. In the case of corporate income tax, the value of an abatement is measured in percentage points of the taxable income of corporations.

Tax Credits: The end result of a tax credit is identical to that of a tax abatement. However, they are used for different purposes. A tax credit can be used by either the federal or a provincial government. It is a dollar for dollar reduction in the taxes payable of a corporation or an individual. It is given for a specific reason, i.e. the child tax credit, the investment tax credit, the foreign tax credit, and it is for the direct benefit of the taxpayer, not to provide tax room to another level of government.

Tax Rental Agreements: In effect, the federal government 'rents' tax room from the provincial governments through a tax rental agreement. The provinces agree to refrain from collecting personal and/or corporate income taxes. In return, the federal government agrees to pay to them a rent - a certain amount per capita - for the exclusive occupancy of the personal and/or corporate income tax fields. Difference in provincial fiscal capacities are minimized because the per capita yield of the taxes that were rented to the federal government can be very uneven between provinces, while the formula for computing 'rental' payments incorporate an important equal per capita component for all provinces. Thus, the payments contain a substantial element of implicit equalization.

Tax Collection Agreements: These differ from rental agreements in that the provinces have their own legislation on taxes determining the rates and the base, and the federal government simply agrees to collect the taxes for the province at no charge.

These agreements and other arrangements are made because both the federal and the provincial governments constitutionally have the power for direct taxation, and both levels of government recognize that the combined rate of taxation on corporations or individuals must be regulated. Both levels of government need revenues to provide the services which fall under their jurisdiction and therefore revenue sharing arrangements such as these can be used in combination with or to the exclusion of direct grants from one level of government to another.

### The Outcasts





..... action

# day care

According to the Prime Minister, in a letter to NAC, "a major study has been initiated by the government which will identify and analyze the options open to the federal government to stimulate a more adequate supply of quality child care services. The study will take into consideration the views of many women's organizations and groups and other experts in the field of child care, early childhood education and social service delivery, as well as such factors as the current economic and fiscal climate and Canada's future economic and social development."

WRITE TO: HEALTH & WELFARE CANADA, Brooke Claxton Bldg, de la Colombine Blvd, Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa K1A 0K9, indicating your group's wish to participate in this study.

## THE CARING FUTURE: AN ONTARIO CONFERENCE ON DAY CARE

Opening Friday, October 29 at 7 p.m., continuing through Saturday, October 30 from 9 a.m., the ONTARIO CONFERENCE ON DAY CARE will be held at the Education Centre, 155 College Street Toronto, sponsored by the Ontario Coalition for Better Day Care, of which NAC is a member.

Friday's program includes a panel of day care activists from Native Women, Windsor, Ottawa and possibly Sault Ste. Marie, the plan being to hear from various points the perspective on day care from local coalitions, the effects of unemployment, the drive for better pay and working conditions, the issues in working with municipal governments.

Saturday's program includes workshops on Quality Care, Economics of Day Care, Administration, and Strategies for both local and provincial work. Workshops will be brought back to a final plenary to discuss strategies.

Registration is \$40 by October 1, \$45 after, Indicate hotel or billet preference. Other Info: Coalition for Better Day Care, 1260 Bay Street, Toronto, C/o Federation of Women Teachers' Associations of Ontario. Telephone: (416) 966-3424.

## NATIONAL PACIFIER AWARD

\*\*\*\*\* PRIX NATIONAL DE LA LOLETTE \*\*\*\*\*

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY to contribute nominations for the 1983 Award. We receive this one from Marie Patrick, Outreach Project Pro Feminae, Fredericton:

"The primary fallacy of economic theory, for my money, is the assumption man is rational. Anyone who has ever monitored a women's spending habits will soon realize such an assumption has little place in the real world."

Jim White, Associate Editor, Telegraph Journal, N.B.

\*\*\*\*\*

STATUS OF WOMEN NEWS/LA  
REVUE STATUT DE LA FEMME

"Status" is NAC's quarterly magazine. Articles focus on political, economic and social issues of concern to Canadian women.

Our magazine is read world-wide. Subscribers live in England, China, Africa, France and in several Scandanavian countries. Feminist news travels fast. Why not subscribe to "Status" and help us spread the word?

WRITE TO "STATUS" c/o the NAC OFFICE. SINGLE SUBS - \$8.00.

\*\*\*

"Status" is looking for contributors. If you have an idea for an article, submit an outline to our editorial committee. If you know any struggling feminist writers, please put them in touch with us. Even if you don't want to write an article, send your story suggestions to "Status", c/o of the NAC office, 40 St. Clair Avenue East, #306, Toronto.

\*\*\*

"Status" is interested in publishing notes from "herstory". If you have an old clipping of an incident or story about Canadian women, send a copy to Status. We'll publish it in our glancing back column.

\*\*\*

Do you have a resource which might be of interest to other women? Is your group sponsoring an event? Why not list it in our BRIEFLY/RESOURCES column? Send short items of approximately 30 words to "Status" at the NAC office.

\*\*\*

Is your group hosting a meeting or conference? We would like to put "Status" in the hands of as many women-as possible. We will be happy to supply your group with both current and back issues for your participants. Contact Maxine at the NAC office for more details. We need your support.

\*\*\*

*\*It's  
About  
Time...*

\*It's about time to recognize the rights of Indian Women.

\*It's about time to give welfare mothers a chance.

\*It's about time to change court procedures for rape cases.

\*It's about time women pensioners had a decent income.

\*Isn't it about time you subscribed to *Status of Women News*?



*Subscription/Abonnement*

Rate: \$8.00 for 4 issues

Institutions: \$12.00

Overseas and U.S.: \$15.00

Tarif: \$8.00 pour 4 numéros

Organismes: \$12.00

Outre-mer et États-Unis: \$15.00

# PERSONS CELEBRATE



The NAC Media Relations Committee is asking that member groups participate in a media blitz to promote the commemoration of the Persons Case.

We are asking that, between now and October 18, local talk-shows in your area be called with the request that a local feminist, suggested by you, be invited to participate in a discussion which would include The Persons Case, the issues and concerns of the women's movement in Canada today, and your own group's local concerns.

We are asking further that you notify, either by mail or telephone, the newspapers, tv and radion stations to give coverage to The Persons Case, and the same concerns and issues previously mentioned. To be of greater assistance to the press (and to get the coverage) provide them with a "press kit".

To be included in the press kit are:

- 1) a press release about The Persons Case, etc. (sample included in this issue of MEMO, use it as a guide to writing your own)
- 2) a hand-out on The Persons Case (see over)
- 3) any information you have about your group
- 4) a NAC brochure or information about NAC
- 5) a list of your group's concerns

We are exploring the possibility of having Doris Anderson on Cross-Country Check-Up on Sunday, October 16.

Please send us copies of any newsclippings, or other records of coverage you receive during this period.

..... action

## SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

(date)

### FIFTY-THREE YEARS OF PERSONHOOD FOR CANADIAN WOMEN

Canadian Women are celebrating 53 years of personhood!

On October 18, 1929, The Persons Case was decided by the Privy Council in London, England, granting Canadian women the status of "Persons". This action was the result of the determined and courageous efforts of five Canadian women and suffragists.

The efforts of these women led the way to the appointment of women to the Senate of Canada, and the fuller participation of women in all aspects of Canadian life.

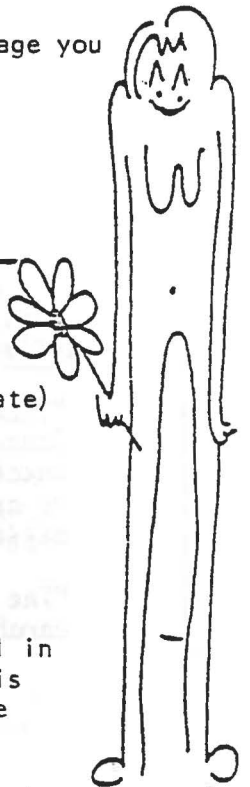
53 years later women still face many struggles and challenges to achieve equal rights and full access to opportunity and power.

(add a blurb about your organization, and any particular issues you want to mention, and a quote by some member of your group).

(Add any events that honour or celebrate The Persons Case.)

- 30 -

For further information contact: (NAME) (TELEPHONE)



## THE PERSONS CASE

On October 18, 1929, the "Persons Case" was decided by the Privy Council in London, England, in favour of Canadian women being eligible for appointment to the Senate of Canada. This landmark decision reversed a previous ruling by the Supreme Court of Canada, and brought a decade of campaigning by five Alberta women to a successful conclusion.

Emily Murphy, the leader of the "famous five" women was a social reformer, journalist, best selling author, lecturer and suffragist. The persons campaign began when her authority as the first women magistrate of the newly created Women's Court was challenged on the grounds that the British North America Act, 1867, was to be interpreted so that the word persons meant only men. Section 24 of the Act states that only, "qualified persons" may become senators, and thus, in the early decades of this century, requests from many parts of Canada for women in the Senate were being denied.

After repeated requests to parliament for a reinterpretation of the BNA Act to include women as persons, Emily Murphy exercised her legal right to present a petition from five Canadians for an Order in Council directing the Supreme Court of Canada to make a ruling on a constitutional point in the Act.

The women who joined with her in this petition were already deeply involved in the struggle to improve the situation of women in Canada: Nellie McClung was a writer, social reformer, suffragist and Canada's only women representative at the League of Nations; Henrietta Muir Edwards was a writer and crusader for social and legislative reform; Irene Parlby was the first president of the United Farm Women of Alberta, a suffragist and Alberta cabinet minister for fourteen years, and Louise McKinney was a leader of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, a suffragist and independent member of the Alberta legislature.

On April 24, 1928, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that women were not eligible for appointment to the Senate on the grounds that the authors of the BNA Act had not intended women to be included in the definition of persons. The five women then obtained permission to take their case to the Privy Council in London, England, and after four days of deliberation, Lord Sankey, Chancellor of the day, pronounced in favour of women:

"Their Lordships do not think it right to apply rigidly to the Canada of today the decisions and the reasonings, therefore, which commended themselves, probably rightly, to those who had to apply the law in different centuries, to countries in different stages of development."

"The British North America Act planted in Canada a living tree capable of growth and expansion within its natural limits."

".... their Lordships have come to the conclusion that the word "person" in Section 24, includes members both of the male and female sex and that therefore the question pronounced by the Governor General must be answered in the affirmative, and that women are eligible to be summoned to and become members of the Senate of Canada, and they will humbly advise his Majesty accordingly."

CARINE WILSON WAS THE FIRST WOMEN TO BE APPOINTED TO THE SENATE OF CANADA IN 2932. IN ALL, EIGHTEEN SENATORS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED SINCE THAT TIME AND THERE ARE CURRENTLY NINE WOMEN SENATORS.



# SURVIVAL



Action suggestions from the NAC Survival Committee:

- 1) The petition on the next page (based on the Minority Report - see last MEMO) can be used to gather signatures and support and to start discussion. Copy it and keep one in house and take one when you are shopping, visiting or at meetings. When you have collected signatures, there are several actions you may wish to take:
  - a) Send to the Prime Minister with a covering letter. Note how you collected names and add your own opinions. Keep copies.
  - b) Send a copy to your own MP, asking for her/his commitment to one or more points. Copies can go to other MP's and to those who signed the Minority Report.
  - c) We would appreciate hearing about the responses you get.

## 2) October 30th Rally Against the Cruise Missile

This rally (noon on Saturday, October 30th, Parliament Hill) will have a Women's Contingent, and is being supported by disarmament coalitions across the country. (Support: money, telegrams, letters, and attend in person this important occasion). Buses are being organized from various centres: Voice of Women Office, Toronto (Ph: 922-2887 for information), Oakville, Montreal, etc.

On Sunday 31st, there will be 'Women & Militarism' workshops. Info: Helen Durie, Ottawa Committee, 436 Lisgar, Ottawa Ph: 238-4629)

Lemmings  
Choose  
CRUISE



- 3) Readings: Non Nuclear Way: Creative Energy Alternatives for Canada, by Simon Rosenblum, available from Energy Probe, 100 College St, Toronto....\$5.00..... and Nuclear Madness, Helen Caldicott.... \$3.75.....

## 4) CBC Radio Important October Programmes

Massey Lectures: Week of October 11, 8pm  
(CBC/FM in Toronto, check your local CBC.  
"Indefensible Weapons - the Psychology of Nuclearism"  
Robert J. Lifton - Princeton University

"Ideas": October 18th-28th nightly, 8-9pm (check local programming)  
"Nuclear Peace", (adviser to the programme, Ursula Franklin)  
Speakers range from pro to anti-nuclear experts, with some input on women's perspective. An excellent opportunity for group listening and discussion.  
Tape the programmes and discussion for future use.

- 5) Referendum: There may still just be time to get the question on disarmament on to the ballot of your community before the municipal elections (83 communities accross Canada have already put the question on their ballots). Telephone or Write (time is short) Operation Dismantle, Box 3887, Station C, Ottawa, K1Y 4M5, Ph: (613) 722-6001.

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The City of Toronto is circulating a pamphlet to every household on the hazards to health of radiation. The report of the Board of Health to the city is filled with very useful information and could provide a model for action in other communities. Alderperson Anne Johnston, City Hall, Toronto, or the Toronto Board of Health can supply copies.

- 6) NAC's Survival Committee hopes to have a discussion kit ready soon. We have had NO response from our request for your thoughts on War, Women, Feminist Perspectives on Peace and Disarmament, Women & Non-Violence, War as the ultimate in oppression. Let us hear from you. There will be a Disarmament Workshop at the NAC October 23rd Executive Meeting in North Vancouver, and a workshop on "Women in the Peace Movement" at the Status of Women Conference in Whitehorse (September 25/26).

# PETITION

To: Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau  
House of Commons,  
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0A2.

● We, the undersigned, urge you to take immediate and concrete action towards achieving nuclear disarmament before, by accident or design, we face an end to this planet.

● Specifically, will you

- 1) Actively support a global freeze on testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems;
- 2) Deny the United States permission to test the new Cruise Missile system in Canada;
- 3) Press all nations to pledge never to be the first to use nuclear weapons;
- 4) Immediately set aside one tenth of one per cent of Canada's defence budget (\$7 million) for disarmament efforts.

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Publications, Films... AND OTHER NOTES

THE FAMILY BENEFITS WORK GROUP is a Toronto based organization of sole support mothers and other people who share our concern about the quality of life for women trying to live on Family Benefits and General Welfare. Currently they are organizing against the proposal by Frank Drea, Minister of Community and Social Services, to transfer sole support parents from Family Benefits to Welfare. If that happens, women will be forced to look for work when there is inadequate daycare, inadequate training programs and massive layoffs.

For more info: 33 Charles St.E., Toronto M4Y 1R9 (416) 960-0258

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THE NAC SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE HAS PRODUCED NOTE PADS BEARING THE SLOGAN:  
 "IT WILL BE A GREAT DAY WHEN DAYCARE IS UNIVERSEALLY AVAILABLE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE MUST HOLD BAKE SALES/ BENI SERA LE JOUR OU LES GARDERIES SERONT DISPONIBLES A TOUS, ET OU LE MINISTERE DE LA DEFENSE SERA FORCE D'ORGANISER DES BINGOS POUR POUVOIR SE PAYER DES BOMBES."

Cost: \$1 each..... order through Norma Scarborough, NAC Office.....

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THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETIES' NATIONAL SURVEY CONCERNING FEMALE INMATES IN PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL INSTITUTIONS. Information is based on questionnaires completed by provincial & territorial governments, re facilities & programs for female offenders. Also, a national analysis of age, marital status, employment, length of sentence, offence and Native/Non-Native comparisons. Survey finds that data is severely inadequate and CAEFS is launching a funding campaign to undertake a thorough national study. \$4 copy from CAEFS, 302-151 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5H3. Ph: (613) 238-2422

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VANCOUVER WOMEN IN FOCUS SOCIETY has films and videotapes relating to women's issues, women relating to women, and violence against women: women's suffrage movement in Canada, mothers and daughters, sexual harassment, pornography, and many more topics. For information on rentals or sales contact: Vancouver Women in Focus, 204-456 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 1R3

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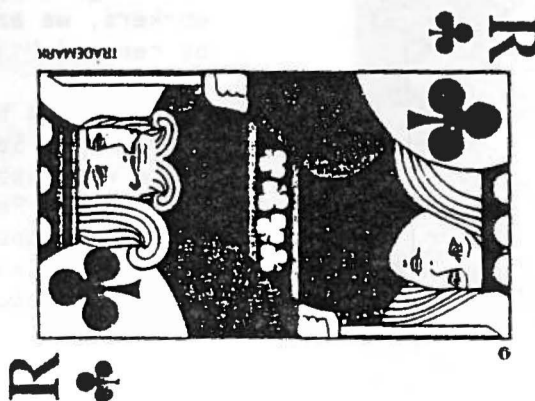
CANADIAN GOVERNMENTAL REPORT ON AGING which was prepared to serve as the major document to guide the Canadian delegation to the U.N. World Assembly on Aging, July-August in Vienna, has been released. The report indicates that: "The first results of the 1981 census, just released by Statistics Canada, show a "rapid population-aging". If present trends continue, Statistics Canada predicts that by 2031 there could be one pensioner for every two workers, down from the current ratio of about one-to-five. Women make up the majority of the aged, and within ten years women over 80 will outnumber men over 80 by two-to-one. These trends will have powerful repercussions on Canada's economy and social fabric."  
 The report is available from Public Affairs Directorate, Health & Welfare Canada, Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9. Ph: (613) 995-8465.

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TRANSITION HOUSE - HOW TO ESTABLISH A REFUGE FOR BATTERED WOMEN by Flora MacLeod, United Way of the Lower Mainland, Vancouver..... Available from NATIONAL CLEARING HOUSE ON FAMILY VIOLENCE, 924 Brooke Claxton Bldg, Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1B5  
 Contents: Discovering the Need, House Objectives, Steps in Establishing a House, Public Education & Publicity, Administration & Management, Record Keeping, Operating, Resource & Referral Network, Trends & Long Term Considerations

\*\*\*\*\*

NON-SEXIST PLAYING CARDS  
 Only .. Days till Xmas...  
 Only .. Days till Chanukah..  
 Don't be caught without your stocking stuffers, party favours  
 These cards are terrific... (they are going like hotcakes and potato latkes)  
 ORDER NOW!!!  
 Send \$5.50 (includes postage)  
 to:  
 NAC  
 40 St. Clair Ave E. #306  
 Toronto, Ontario  
 M4T 1R9



# UPCOMING EVENTS

EXPLORING THE OPTIONS:  
birth in a small town

OCTOBER 14,15,16, 1982  
TERRACE, B.C. CANADA

birth planning\*midwifery  
emotions in birth\*etc\*\*

INFO: NORTHERN CHILDBIRTH  
CONFERENCE, 2127A Hemlock,  
RR#2, TERRACE, B.C. V8G 3Z9  
Ph: (604) 635-2942

"BREAST IS BEST"  
INFACT RALLY

OCTOBER 2, 1.30-3.30  
OFL BLDG, 16 GERVAIS  
TORONTO, ONTARIO

Nestle Boycott/WHO  
Breastmilk substitute  
marketing code

INFO: INFACT TORONTO  
Ph: (416) 967-9195

"WOMEN HOLD UP HALF THE SKY:  
Perspectives on Women and  
Development"

OCTOBER 15 AND 16, 1982  
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

Women's Work and Health  
Here & Third World

INFO: M.C.I.C, 418 WARDLAW  
WINNIPEG R3L 0L7 PH:475-4169

OCTOBER 15, 1982

"HOLLY NEAR"

Feminist-singer from U.S.

Convocation Hall, U of T

\$7.50 (advance)  
\$8.50 (at door)

Sponsored by:  
Womynly Way Productions  
Info: 925-6568

OCTOBER 16, 1982

UNITY DAY WITH BATTERED WOMEN  
(see page 7)



OCTOBER 18, 1982

PERSONS CELEBRATION DAY  
(see page 15)

THE CARING FUTURE: AN  
ONTARIO CONFERENCE ON  
DAY CARE

Education Centre  
155 College Street,  
Toronto

OCTOBER 29, 7PM  
OCTOBER 30, 9AM

INFO: (416) 966-3424

FINDING LESBIAN HERSTORY  
A SLIDE SHOW  
BY FRANCES ROONEY

NOVEMBER 5, 7.30 PM  
730 BATHURST STREET

Ph: 487-8534

"WOMEN ORGANIZING" IS A NINE DAY SUMMER SCHOOL  
TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED JUNE 4-12-1983. DEVELOPMENT  
OF TECHNICAL SKILLS: ORGANIZING YOURSELF, HOW TO  
RUN A MEETING, BUILDING ALLIANCES, FUNDRAISING

.....  
AND: WOMEN IN TRADES (ORGANIZING), PENSIONS FOR WOMEN,  
SEXUAL HARRASSMENT, WOMEN AND HEALTH

INFO: JANET MAHER, 10936-87 AVENUE, EDMONTON, ALTA T6G 0X3  
PH: 433-3229, 432-5288(b)



VINIE BURROWS ..... IN ..... SISTER! SISTER!

"Sister! Sister!" is a one-woman show on the status of women throughout the world. Vinie Burrows uses the raw materials of women's experiences to create compelling theatre. She documents women's struggles and celebrates women's joy, using material from such diverse writers as Carl Sandburg, Sojourner Truth, Winnie Mandela. "We are daughters, we are lovers, we are mothers, we are workers, we are sisters, we are women - look on us and be renewed."

Co-sponsored by Canadian Federation of Students' Programming Service and Congress of Canadian Women, Vinie will appear on campus and public meetings speaking on Peace and Disarmament. She appears in Toronto October 24, University of Toronto, York University, then on to Carleton, McMaster and Saskatoon, Edmonton, Regina, Vancouver..... watch for details in the press.....