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# MEMO

NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE  
on the status of women

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

S U M M E R 1 9 8 2

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## President's Letter

The NAC Executive met in June and a great deal of action was planned for a hard working summer.

After the May meeting we sent letters to the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the N.D.P., and provincial Premiers, pointing out in the strongest terms that any form of wage controls would freeze women's salaries at levels that are already imposing hardships. The majority of low-paid workers in the public service are women. In a period of runaway inflation and a rapidly falling dollar, any wage freeze means low paid workers - which means mostly women - take the brunt of the economic crunch.

NAC has almost finished the revisions of its pension brief to bring it in line with resolutions passed at the AGM. It will be ready in the fall, when the government brings out its green paper with pension proposals.

Government amendments to Bill C-53 on sexual assault were announced in mid-June. NAC's response is that government has now gone too far to appease rightwing moral majority objections. Although we still want Bill C-53 passed, we see problems with the section dealing with a woman's past sexual conduct and "honest belief". But the worst aspect of the bill is the increase in the first tier of sexual assault from 20 years to 14 years. We feel the higher penalty will only result in fewer convictions.

We are starting a study on fiscal arrangements between the provinces and the federal government to try to find out how money is allocated and why women's concerns get left out of the funding so often. Money for the study is to come from the NAC Trust.

Have a good summer.

Cheers,

Doris Anderson  
President

## CONSTITUTION

At the present time all of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms is in effect, except sections 15(1) and 15(2). The federal and provincial governments gave themselves a 3-year moratorium on the application of these sections. The 3-year moratorium was intended to allow the provinces and feds to examine their own laws and, we are led to believe, correct any that are discriminatory or deficient.

Sections 15(1) and 15(2) of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms cover equality rights and affirmative action.

The NAC Federal Constitution Committee would like to work with at least three women in each provincial and territorial capital to approach their respective Attorneys General and Justice Ministers to see what has been done.

If you are interested in forming such an investigative lobby, or can provide any assistance to the NAC committee, please contact the NAC office, a regional representative or a NAC Federal Constitution Committee member.

We need to get going on this as quickly as possible. 1985 is not far away, and we need to know what is being done or planned to ensure the proper application of these sections of the Charter when the moratorium is lifted.

## WOMEN

## NATIVE

*What We're Doing ...*

This summer, Lynn Beak will be drafting and the Committee will be reviewing a short educational paper to explain the current provisions of the Indian Act with regard to Native women's concerns. This paper will be distributed to the NAC executive before the September meeting -- after all, education begins at home!

IDEAS PLEASE ... If any NAC members have suggestions for topics to be addressed by the Committee, please let us know. We have thought about some possible topics such as Native Child Welfare/Adoption Reform ... but would like more ideas from the members.

## SERVICES

## SOCIAL

We are planning a national campaign for child care in response to the Annual General Meeting resolution calling for 1% of Defense Budget to be designated for these services. Watch for memo pads and buttons on sale through your regional representative. We will be attending the upcoming national conference in Winnipeg, and hope that many member groups will be represented.

If your group has a position paper or information on profit child care or home care of children, please send it in to us by September. We would also like information from the regions on welfare and service cutbacks to unmarried mothers.

Plans are underway for a national unity campaign in honour of battered women and their supporters. Watch for this in the September MEMO. We are also monitoring the efforts by the Federal government to implement the recommendations of the House of Commons Report on Wife Battering. An update will be given in September.

The Media Relations Committee has opened a "vile file" for the collection of bad articles, and an unnamed file for the collection of positive or well-presented articles on issues of concern to women.

We are asking member groups to send clippings to the NAC office with comments as to the accuracy of distortion in these articles, or in the banners and headlines. The Committee will collect these articles, select those which reflect our concerns about bad or good coverage for a sample collection, and a press release will be issued.



HELOISE'S HELPFUL HINTS- PRESS RELEASES

In an effort to increase our visibility in the media, and to ensure more accurate coverage, we are suggesting the following model be used for Press Releases made by member groups. Should member groups wish to have NAC issue a press release regarding a particular issue or concern, please contact the NAC office with your request and information.

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Whenever possible, use letterhead, or paper with a logo (so it looks official) .....

PRESS RELEASE

Date For Immediate Release  
(otherwise, date for release)

A CATCHY BANNER (underscored)

Example: EXTRA BILLING - EXTRA DISADVANTAGE FOR WOMEN

City ... include in the first paragraph who is issuing the press release and why, and what it is about.

Second paragraph, include more detail, and possibly a quote.

Other paragraphs, give information in descending order of importance, more quotes.

Last paragraph should give a short statement about the organization issuing the press release.  
(Example: The National Action Committee on the Status of Women is an umbrella organization of 200 women's groups working to improve the status of women in Canada.)

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For further information contact:

Name Telephone number, including area code

Second Name if possible

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PRESS RELEASE DISTRIBUTION

Make certain to deliver one press release to every local newspaper, radio station, T.V. Station, as well as one extra release for each individual member of the press you know, or who you know to be interested in your issue. Find out where the out-of-province press is centered, and include a press release for any major newspaper with an office in your city. Be sure to include Canadian Press in your route, and extra copies, again, to any CP reporters you may know personally.

From: Media Relations Committee

Presentation to Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs - June 1

Lorenne Clarke gave a presentation on sexual assault; Jillian Ridington spoke on soliciting. The latter's presentation was based on background paper given out at the last NAC executive meeting. The hearing lasted three hours; most of the member's questions were intelligent & informed.

Justice Minister Chretien has recently released amendment to C-53. Our objections to amendments do not seem to be strong enough to risk having the bill withdrawn and being stuck with the law as it is now for what could be a long time. We have therefore decided to issue a statement indicating reserved support, and stating our main objections. This would be worded as follows;

The National Action Committee on the Status of Women cannot give complete support to the bill as amended.

C-53

We have a number of concerns with the amended bill. These include;

Subsection 244(5): We are not convinced that the restrictions concerning the belief as to consent of the victim are sufficiently stringent to disallow evidence that would be prejudicial to rape victims.

Subsection 264.5/.6: This provision allows for the introduction of evidence about previous sexual activity in cases where it may relate to the accused's allegation of consent. The wording of this section is simply not specific enough to be valid only for those very rare cases where such evidence might in fact be relevant.

NAC's position regarding both these provisions continues to be that such evidence is not relevant and that to allow such evidence is inconsistent with our belief in the principle that "no means no".

## If the U.S. is frightened it may deserve subversion

The United States is the world's most powerful democracy. It claims to be a free society. It is therefore all the more shocking that the Americans closed their borders to Kay Macpherson and to hundreds of other peace activists anxious to be in New York for the United Nations session on disarmament.

Many of us have known and worked with Kay Macpherson for years. She has been a vigorous and forthright spokesperson for peace and women's rights. If the United States government is threatened by Macpherson's humane values, by her intelligence and by the force of her ideas, it is making a tragic statement of what the United States has become. The country which advertises itself as a beacon of free expression is telling us that it is afraid of our ideas.

Kay Macpherson is a member of our riding association. We share with her an abhorrence of war and a belief in human equality and freedom of expression. Any society that finds these ideas subversive probably deserves to be subverted.

MARTIN A. KLEIN  
President  
Spadina Riding NDP  
Toronto

**Kay Macpherson:** If the U.S. government is threatened by activist's ideas, it's a comment on what the U.S. has become, reader says.

*Toronto Star*

June 14, 1982

DISARMAMENT RALLIES, MARCHES, FESTIVALS AND MEETINGS marked the opening of the U.N. Special Session on Disarmament in New York. The huge demonstration and march of June 12th was attended by several of NAC's committee members and several thousand Canadians. Kay Macpherson was among the hundreds refused visas or turned back from the border (thus giving us a splendid opportunity to publicize the U.N. meeting and support for disarmament.) She was subsequently permitted to enter the U.S.

Millions of petition signatures were presented to the U.N. Secretary General including 120,000 from the Women's Petition for Peace organized in Canada by Voice of Women, which was also presented to Gérard Pelletier, Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations, and Arthur Menzies, Ambassador for Disarmament.

Receptions were held and two women's meetings organized by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom took place. Kay Macpherson had the honour of being asked to speak at the rally - the only Canadian. At least twenty women helped her compose her one minute speech!

MESSAGE TO DISARMAMENT RALLY - JUNE 12, 1982 - NEW YORK

I am Kay Macpherson from Canada. I am happy to be here. The U.S. Immigration Department did their best to keep me out. Thousands of Canadians are here to say:

- NO to Cruise missiles made in Toronto, tested in Alberta or anywhere else
- YES to making Canada a nuclear free zone
- NO to Canada exporting nuclear reactors and fuel
- YES to Disarmament NOW

Today we have started to turn the tide of the arms buildup. We the people must make our governments turn to disarmament. We women and men have the power to give the world a future. Thousands of Canadians say in the words of our Women's Petition for Peace -

WE SAY NO TO WAR. NON A LA GUERRE!  
WE SAY YES TO LIFE. OUI A LA VIE!

Sunday Spectator, B.C. June 13, 1982.



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In preparing our statement of principle and policy, the NAC Survival Committee would like your thoughts on Feminism, Militarism, Patriarchy, War. (We are reading: Psychology Today, June, 1982, an article "War as the Ultimate Therapy" - and others.)

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When not taking action during the summer, write us your thoughts.

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Grindstone Island's "Women and Militarism" Conference

June 30 - July 4

for more information: P.O. Box 564, Station P.,  
Toronto M5S 2T1  
(416) 923-4215

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## Hiroshima Day

Many communities will be marking this day with actions for disarmament.

Will there be one in your area? If not, how about starting something - films, vigil, meeting, etc.

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## If You Love This Planet

Material for speaker - or a speaker are available from NAC Discussion is important following a showing of the film.

available from:  
National Film Board  
(in Toronto: at  
1 Lombard Street)

### Canadian feminist

# Kay Macpherson barred from U.S.

A Canadian feminist and outspoken critic of nuclear arms is among some 500 people hoping to attend next week's special United Nations session on disarmament who have been denied entry to the United States.

Kay Macpherson, a former president of the Voice of Women who is scheduled to speak at a disarmament rally in New York June 12, was turned back from the U.S. border by immigration officials at Champlain, N.Y. Wednesday. She said no reason was given.

Duke Austin, spokesman for the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service in Washington, said Mrs. Macpherson "is on a list of people we will not admit to the United States unless they have a waiver, such as certain IRA types and certain members of Communist organizations." He said Mrs. Macpherson's case was being considered for a waiver.  
The New York Times report-

ed yesterday that about 500 people seeking to attend the U.N. session have been denied visas under the McCarran-Walter immigration and Nationality Act, legislation designed to prohibit undesirable aliens from entering the United States. These include a former president of Portugal, a former deputy commander of NATO forces in Italy, and a British Labor MP, spokesman for the disarmament rally said.

In the Commons yesterday, responding to a question from Toronto Liberal MP David Collette (York East), Justice Minister Jean Chretien said External Affairs was examining Mrs. Macpherson's case.

Mr. Collette said the U.S. action affronts the principles of the United Nations. "If they can turn Kay Macpherson away, what's that going to do to guys like us (MP's) who want to attend and who have been outspoken?"

TELEGRAM SENT TO:

NEW BRUNSWICK FEDERATION OF LABOUR:  
THE NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN SUPPORTS YOUR UNION'S REFUSAL TO LOAD NUCLEAR FUEL FOR ARGENTINA UNTIL HUMAN RIGHTS RESTORED.

SIGNED: DORIS ANDERSON  
PRESIDENT, NAC

CC TO: PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU  
MARK MACGUIGAN

THE GLOBE AND MAIL, FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1982



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA

## SECURITY AND DISARMAMENT: A MINORITY REPORT

April '82

### 1. NUCLEAR FREEZE.

Canada should put its full strength into the campaign now gathering strength in many parts of the world: a global freeze on the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery vehicles.

Such a freeze would forestall the further development of first strike or counter-force capability by one or both of the super-powers. A freeze is relatively easy to verify and could provide a crucial first step to substantial reductions of nuclear stockpiles. We do not accept the argument that a freeze would be impractical because there is an imbalance in tactical nuclear forces in Europe. What is the real effect of imbalance when both sides already possess the weaponry to destroy each other several times over? It is not unilateral disarmament that is being asked for. Rather, a practical policy is to promote mutual, balanced and verifiable disarmament by first of all freezing further growth. The Special Session should establish an international inspection organization to monitor disarmament and to establish immediately a workable and effective control system to detect violations of agreements.

### 2. NO CRUISE TESTING.

The Canadian government should deny the United States permission to test the new Cruise Missile system in Canada.

The advocates of this step hold that we have an obligation to our NATO partners to join in the strengthening of the Western defence system. We maintain, however, that Canada also has an obligation to humanity not to take an additional step — beyond where we

are today — in improving the technological capacity for nuclear war. By allowing tests of new nuclear weapons delivery vehicles, such as the Cruise Missile, which is patently attack-oriented, Canada risks its credibility as a voice for peace.

The Cruise Missile will only stimulate the Soviets to develop one of their own. The world will then become an even more dangerous place than it is today. Although the missile to be tested in Canada will be unarmed, the symbolic value of the testing is enormous. By denying the tests, we are protesting against the arms race. By allowing the tests, we aid the arms race. Who will take Canada's words at the U.N. seriously if our acts are the opposite?

### 3. PLEDGE AGAINST FIRST USE.

Canada should press all nations to pledge never to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

Such a stated policy would make it clear to all nations that their territories and peoples are safe from nuclear attack unless they use their own nuclear weapons first. This is one initiative that could be taken with a great increase in global security.

### 4. CANADIAN DISARMAMENT EFFORTS.

Canada should pledge that it will devote one-tenth of 1 percent (\$7 million) of its defence budget to disarmament efforts.

This was proposed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the first Special Session as a valuable step for nations to take in correcting the present huge imbalance in priorities. We recommend that Canada use such money to strengthen disarmament education, information and research activities. We particularly recommend the establishment by the Department of External Affairs of six Chairs on Disarmament at Canadian universities.

Among other disarmament efforts, Canada should consider such instruments as a U.N.-sponsored world referendum on multilateral, balanced disarmament. Such a referendum would be conducted by national governments with a ballot agreed upon in the United Nations General Assembly and with U.N. observers present for all national votes. We specifically note that the global referendum must also be conducted in the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact countries. Although not intended to be binding, a strong mandate for disarmament can be expected to emerge, which would be a powerful force for progress by the negotiating parties.

Canadian public opinion is moving in this direction. Already there are now 27 Canadian municipalities, representing two-and-a-half million Canadians, that will hold local referenda on general disarmament. It is clear that people are increasingly demanding a voice on disarmament as an issue that involves their survival.

• • •

We believe the question before Canada — and all mankind — is clear. What is more important: adding to the danger of the arms race or building future security by comprehensive disarmament measures? We have made our choice. We condemn the continued arms race.

*Pauline Jewett*

Pauline Jewett, M.P.  
New Westminster-Coquitlam

*Walter McLean*

Walter McLean, M.P.  
Waterloo

*Paul McRae*

Paul McRae, M.P.  
Thunder Bay-Atikokan

*Bob Ogle*

Bob Ogle, M.P.  
Saskatoon East

*Douglas Roche*

Douglas Roche, M.P.  
Edmonton South

*Terry Sargeant*

Terry Sargeant, M.P.  
Selkirk-Interlake

(David Collenette later publicly endorsed the report.)

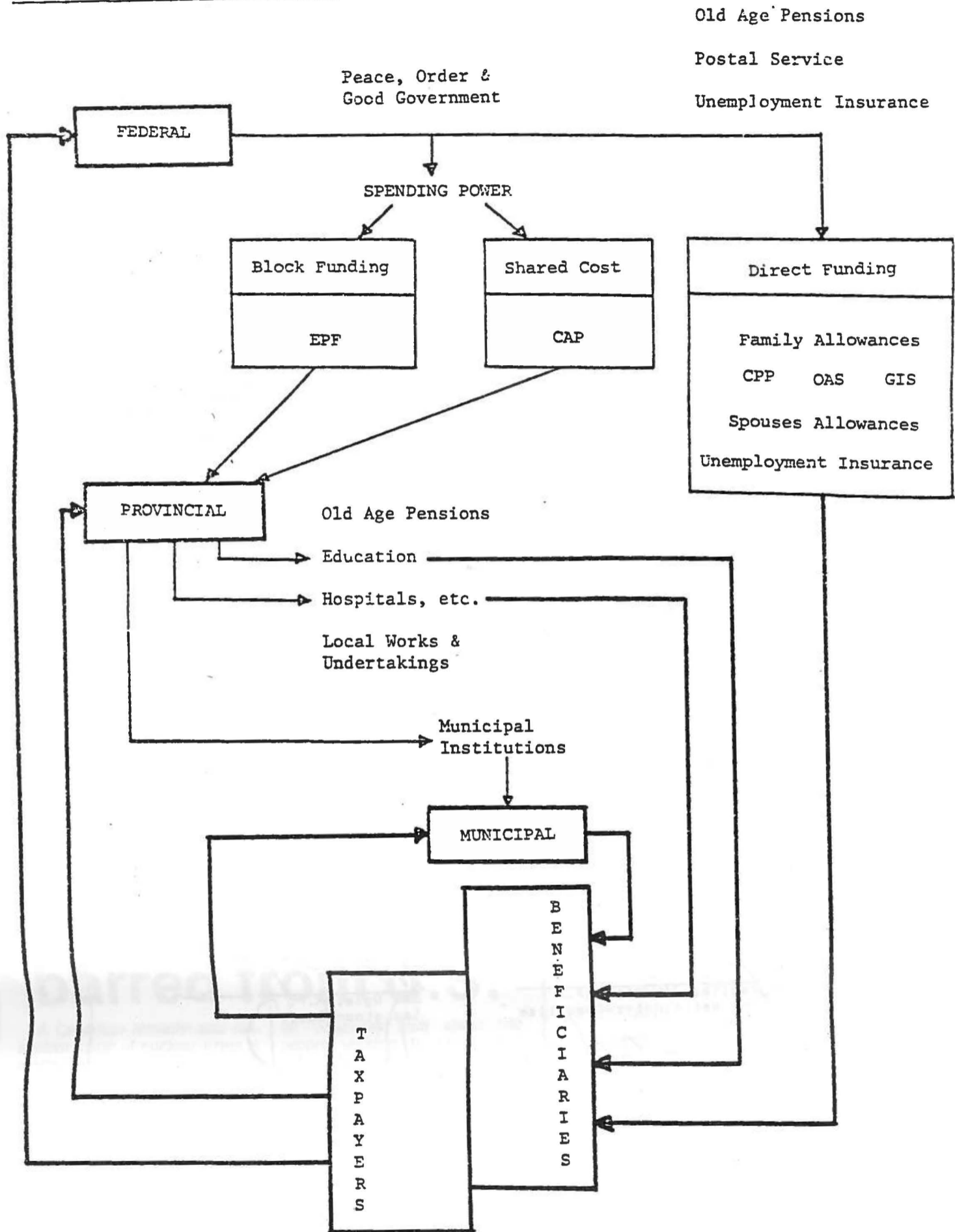
Before the House of Commons adjourns, write, telephone, or meet your own M.P. and others and ask them publicly to support these moves. Visit them during the summer.

Ask the Prime Minister to make a greater effort himself towards these objectives.

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# Federal - Provincial Relations -- Funding

## HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES FUNDING



KEY TO DIAGRAM

EPF = Established Programs Financing      CPP = Canada Pension Plan  
 CAP = Canada Assistance Plan              OAS = Old Age Security  
 GIS = Guaranteed Income Supplement

Words outside boxes indicate areas of responsibility and jurisdiction according to B.N.A. Act. Words inside boxes indicate funding mechanisms and actors (governments, tax payers, etc.)



## RELATIONS - FUNDING

FEDERAL / PROVINCIAL

This chart presents, in diagram form, the structure of funding for health, education and social services in Canada. Under the BNA Act, jurisdiction over health, education and social services rests with the provinces. Therefore they are responsible for the services and programs in this area which the people living in Canada can receive. At the same time, the federal government is charged with responsibility, under the BNA Act, for Peace, Order and Good Government, and allowed a Spending Power with which to help achieve these goals. Old Age Pensions, according to the BNA Act, are an area of shared jurisdiction between the federal government and the provinces. The provinces have primacy, so that they must be in agreement with whatever the federal government enacts in this area.

The federal government has used its Spending Power, in areas of provincial jurisdiction, in two ways:

- (a) It has given the provinces block funding, contributions to the budgets of the provinces which the provinces are to spend in the general areas designated under the Established Programs Financing Act (EPF). These are: health care, and post-secondary education.
- (b) It has supplied money to the provinces through shared cost programs - like the Canada Assistance Plan (CAP) which shares costs 50/50 between the provinces and the federal government for programs to "those in need or likely to be in need". The federal government also gives direct funding assistance to individuals, for example: family allowances and unemployment insurance.

Funding to municipal institutions such as transition houses, rape crisis centres, child care and many others, must come through the province, even if some, or even most of the actual dollars are donated by the federal government.

Money goes from taxpayers to the municipal, provincial and federal governments. The beneficiaries of services get money from the federal government directly (see direct funding), or from institutions under provincial jurisdiction, some of whose funding comes from cost shared programs with the federal government.

The strategy of block funding to Established Programs was instituted by the federal government in 1977. Until then the areas of Health (hospital insurance and medical services) and Post-Secondary Education, were shared cost programs. That means that the federal government paid a fixed percentage of the cost of certain services which they specified that they were going to support. They, for example, decided which medical services and procedures were going to be supported by them. If the provinces wanted or needed other services they funded them themselves. In 1977 the federal government agreed with the provinces that it would no longer target its funding in these areas, but rather contribute a certain block sum to the treasury of each province to cover part of the costs of Health and Post-Secondary Education. The federal government would not trace exactly where each dollar went and the provinces would not record the spending of those federal funds in relation to specific services. The federal government is now in the midst of deciding how it will fund its responsibility for Peace, Order and Good Government. The federal government argues the need for national standards, universality, portability and accessibility. It wishes to spend its money in a way that is targetted to specific programs. The provinces wish to continue to receive funding support in their areas of jurisdiction, while remaining free to make their own decisions about the content of programs.

Shelters for battered women and their children are just one of the services that suffer from the implementation of federal-provincial funding arrangements. In some provinces three levels of government have control over funds: municipal, provincial, and federal. In some areas, particularly poorer provinces, these are new services and 50% of funding is difficult for the province to contribute (CAP funding is 50-50). Another difficulty for shelters is the criterion of "need" used in distributing CAP funds - not all women who enter a shelter are considered to be in need of aid by current CAP criteria.

The following examples illustrate some of the problems that shelters are facing:

Houses operating on per diems face the problem of the different rates for adults and children. Shelters cannot limit the number of children versus adults that they take. This would mean turning away women with large families. There is no logic in the assumption that it costs less to care for a child than for an adult, though that is what the funding assumes.

In Kenora, Ontario, the Municipal Council has decided that the shelter duplicates existing services and will not pay per diems to them. Battered women, therefore, are being sent to other shelters, as far away as Winnipeg.

In Nova Scotia "there are sixty municipalities in the province, and the province argues that social assistance provided in the per diem rate to transition houses is a municipal matter. Consequently, when a woman comes to the transition house from an outlying area, the workers must contact the municipality of her husband's place of residence to find out if she qualifies for assistance. If the municipality cannot or will not pay, the choice is between sending the woman away or providing her with shelter without reimbursement. The house, of course, does provide refuge and support even without the assistance needed. However, this places the house in a financially precarious position. It also sets up a self-fulfilling prophesy: vacancies may sometimes occur in the house due to the reluctance of municipalities to pay the per diem rate. Vacancies are then used to argue that the transition house is not an essential service for women. In any case, one of the few resources for battered women is effectively undermined.

A related problem is the overall inadequacy of funds available, and the variation in per diem allowances even within the provinces and territories. Houses have reported per diem rates of \$3.75 to \$25.74. Long term planning is frequently impossible, since income generated may vary from month to month. Funds are not available for repairs or improvements, since the money allocated from welfare funds is for the support and shelter of the woman only. There are few other sources of funding available."

(Nova Scotia example from:

*A Brief on Wife Battering with Proposals for Federal Action,*  
Debra Lewis, Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women.)

## C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

to

K A Y M A C P H E R S O N

"undesirable alien" (Ref. Globe & Mail article  
?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?) current MEMO)

Vigorous spokesperson for peace & women's rights,  
and now recipient of the ORDER OF CANADA for  
outstanding achievement. Appointed by Governor-  
General Ed Schreyer on the advice of an advisory  
council headed by Chief Justice Bora Laskin of  
the Supreme Court of Canada. June 25, 1982.

FROM NAC MEMBER GROUPS

From a Press Release issued by the CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETIES (CAEFS)

June 4, 1982 - Ottawa

Darlene Lawson, 32 was elected President of the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies (CAEFS) at the annual general meeting held last week in Vancouver.

Ms Lawson, M.S.W., who is Assistant Director of the Toronto Bail Program, has been active with the Toronto Elizabeth Fry Society and was a founding member of Toronto Interval House.

CAEFS is planning to launch a funding campaign to undertake a national study of the female offender.

A Committee on Health Care will address specific needs of female offenders, including drug and alcohol dependency, psychological/emotional problems, and the over-prescribing of drugs. CAEFS plans to submit the results of the study to the International Congress on the Health Care of Prisoners, to be held in Ottawa in 1983.

The Societies called for wide-reaching reforms and enriched programs for the female offender. One priority will be to look at the unique circumstances of Native women prisoners, who are the majority of inmates in prisons in some areas. "We will also encourage the development of resources for women in isolated areas, with a particular emphasis on the Atlantic region."

Plans for 1982-83 also include the establishment of a Law Reform Committee. This group will monitor the effect of the new Charter of Rights on women in conflict with the law, especially in areas such as bail, searches and prisoners' rights.

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Contact: Darlene Lawson, President, CAEFS (416) 965-5145

**WOMEN & PENSIONS**

**National Conference**

**May 15...**

with interpretation in nine languages, brought women from the western provinces, Native women, Quebecois, from the National Farmers Union, town and city women, for sessions led by NAC Executive member Cathy Devlin, Marie Corbett, Hilda Murray, Mary Prokop and Nadia Geith from the Research Department of the United Electrical Workers. Sponsored by the Congress of Canadian Women, it led a deputation to Ottawa to see M.P.s with the resolutions: "The Old Age Security is a right for everyone, a universal system.

The basic amount should be raised to \$600 a month in 1982; with annual increases based on COLA...the CPP to be broadened to include women during the seven years of raising each child, paid from general funds; the GIS to be gradually phased out, and its funds transferred to OAS." It asked government to provide information services in multiple languages especially to meet the needs of immigrant women.

On May 15-16, 1982, **National Convention - Congress of Canadian Women** with delegates from across Canada, and from 39 organizations, sent a deputation to visit M.P.s in Ottawa, with main emphasis on issues of peace and disarmament, day care, equal pay and jobs, the new technology, the economic crisis, and the Constitution, particularly with reference to the needs of Native People, French Canada and women. The CCW calls for Canada to be declared a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone, for Canada not to be a test-ground for Cruise or other U.S. weapons, and for Canada to reduce its arms budget in favour of providing funds for child care and other programs for human needs.

ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETIES

Congress of Canadian Women

From the newsletter of the ONTARIO COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN:

The Attorney-General of Ontario has announced that each ministry of the Government of Ontario has been directed to review the statutes and programs for which it is responsible to establish whether there are conflicts with the Charter. The review will encompass the "equality rights" provision of the Charter even though the Charter contains a three-year moratorium on its application.

Subsection 15(1) reads as follows:

Every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination and, in particular, without discrimination based on race, national origin, ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability.

It is important that women be heard in the review process. If you know of a law, regulation, government program or activity which you think discriminates on the basis of sex, complete and forward the attached questionnaire. As always, we must be prepared to state our own case.

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Do you know of a law, regulation, program or activity of the Government of Ontario that distinguishes between individuals on the basis of sex? Does it result in discrimination against women? Please describe.
2. Do you know of any law, regulation, program or activity of the Government of Ontario that, while it appears to be neutral, has a discriminatory effect on women? Please describe.
3. Name .....
- Address .....
- Telephone: Home: ..... Work: .....

Send to: Questionnaire, Ontario Committee on the Status of Women  
P.O. Box 188, Station Q, Toronto, Ontario M4T 2M1

NAC MEMBER GROUPS IN OTHER PROVINCES MIGHT TRY THE SAME THING

The Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women invites nominations for the second Marion Porter Prize, to be awarded to the best feminist article from a journal or an anthology published in 1981. The article must, in some way, promote the advancement of Canadian women. Articles must be brought to CRIAW's attention in order to be considered for the Prize. Photocopies would be appreciated. The winning article will be announced at the CRIAW annual general meeting and conference in Ottawa, November 19-21, 1982. Address: Chairperson, Awards Committee, c/o CRIAW, Suite 415, 151 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5H3. Deadline: Nominations must be received by August 31, 1982, to be eligible.

L'Institut canadien de recherches pour l'avancement de la femme vous invite à soumettre des nominations pour le prix Marion Porter, qui sera décerné au meilleur article féministe publié en 1981 dans une revue ou une anthologie. L'article doit de quelque façon promouvoir l'amélioration des conditions de vie des Canadiennes. Les articles doivent être soumis à l'ICRAF afin qu'ils soient examinés en fonction des critères de sélection du prix. Des photocopies seraient appréciées. L'article choisi sera annoncé à l'Assemblée générale et la conférence annuelle de l'ICRAF, à Ottawa, les 19-20-21 novembre prochain. Veuillez envoyer vos nominations à l'adresse suivante: Présidente du Comité des prix, a/s ICRAF, pièce 415, 151 rue Slater, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5H3. Echéance: Seront éligibles seules les nominations reçues avant le 31 août 1982.

- Federation of Alberta Students (Women's Portfolio)
- Carleton University New Democrats (Women's Caucus)
- P.C. Party, National Women's Caucus
- Borough of York Women Teachers' Association
- University Women's Club of Oakville
- Windsor Women Working with Immigrant Women
- George Brown College, Affirmative Action Advisory Committee
- South Peace Region Council of Women
- Toronto Women's Network
- Women's Committee, Student Union of Ryerson College
- Zonta Club of Burlington

Memberships Ratified  
May/June 1982

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## What they said in the house...

May 19 & 25 - June 23, 1982

Is your MP listed in the following review of Parliamentarians who have spoken up for women? If not, why not? If s/he is listed, find out what was said and let your MP know if you agree. Your MP can send you - free - the parliamentary transcripts (Hansard) for the days in question. Or your library may have copies. Letters to MPs sent to the House of Commons, Ottawa, do not need stamps.

Please note, although as comprehensive as possible, this listing may not be 100% complete. Also, the responses of government MPs to questions, etc. are not indexed unless they are telling us something new and positive.

### Battered Women

Jim Hawkes (PC)	May 25
Walter McLean (PC)	June 1
J. Robert Howie (PC)	June 1
P. E. Trudeau (Lib)	June 1
Joe Clark (PC)	June 1
Margaret Mitchell (NDP)	June 7
Jack Masters (Lib)	June 7

### Disarmament

Walter McLean (PC)	June 10
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### Employment

#### Equal Opportunity

Margaret Mitchell (NDP)	June 15
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#### Income Equity

Flora MacDonald (PC)	June 11
Judy Erola (Lib)	June 11
Cyril Keeper (NDP)	June 11

#### Technological Change

##### Bill C-115 Nat'l Training Act

Cyril Keeper (NDP)	June 4
Gilles Marceau (Lib)	June 4
Flora MacDonald (PC)	June 14
Warren Allmand (Lib)	June 14
Doug Lewis (PC)	June 14
Bill Domm (PC)	June 14

#### Unemployment

David Crombie (PC)	May 25
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### Farm Women

Gordon Taylor (PC)	June 17
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### Home Ownership for Women

Flora MacDonald (PC)	June 3
Paul Cosgrove (Lib)	June 3

### Income Support

#### Educational Assistance

Howard Crosby (PC)	June 14
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#### Maintenance & Support Payments

##### Bill C38

Judy Erola (Lib)	June 18
Mark Rose (NDP)	June 18

#### Maternity Benefits

Lloyd Axworthy (Lib)	May 28
Walter Baker (PC)	June 28
Gordon Taylor (PC)	June 28
W.C. Scott (PC)	May 28

#### Pensions

Flora Mac Donald (PC)	June 17
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#### Unemployment Insurance

Jim McGrath (PC)	May 28
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### Native Women

Jim Manley (NDP)	June 3, 16
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### Pharmaceuticals

Gary Gurbin (PC)	June 3
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### Prostitution

Celine Hervieux-Payette (Lib)	June 16
Jean Chretien (Lib)	June 16

## Bouquets

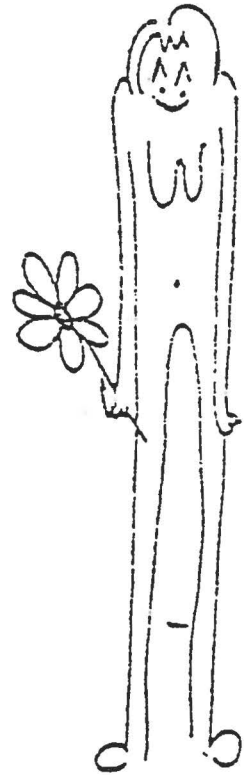
To Cyril Keeper (NDP) who on June 4 noted that "women want not just a one-line mention in a press release; they want some real guarantees ..." (with respect to training and employment opportunities).

To all three parties who on June 11 gave unanimous support to a motion calling for action to assure income equity to women (following the Statistics Canada report that Canadian working women's average income is half that of men's).

To Flora MacDonald (PC) for an excellent presentation on technological change on June 14 during which she drew heavily from Heather Menzies, Women and the Chip and from the NAC brief to the Allmand Committee.

To Gordon Taylor (PC) who introduced a private member's bill on June 17 which would remove provisions for discrimination on the basis of marital status from the Prairie Grain Advance Payments Act.

To Celine Hervieux-Payette (Lib) who spoke extremely well during the adjournment debate on June 17 on why the criminal code is not the appropriate vehicle for dealing with the problems caused by prostitution.



## Brickbats

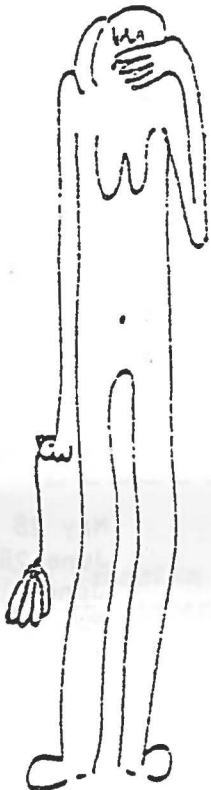
... only a few this time ...

To Jean-Guy Dubois (Lib) who said on May 25 that "Four people work in the student employment centre in Victoriaville, three girls and a young man". Click.

To Chuck Cook (PC) who on June 11, in a speech full of racing lore and sexist assumptions, entertained the house with his tale of meeting "the housewife who has lost the week's grocery money (by betting) and is going home to face an irate husband."

To J.R. Gauthier (Lib) who asked on June 15, for criminal code amendments to help the Ottawa police deal with local prostitution problems. (Note: in Ottawa, the community groups dealing with this problem have not asked for criminal code remedies for this issue but merely for the police to exercise their existing powers such as laws against trespass, property damage, etc.)

To Pierre Trudeau (Lib) who refused on June 16 to fund the Native Women's Association of Canada to attend the constitutional conference on native rights saying that "The official spokesmen (sic) of the Indian people speak for all Indian people."



A C T I O N	Oct. 18	<p>Persons Case Commemoration Day is coming up. Let's tell MPs that the women of Canada expect the government and the opposition parties to commit time on or about October 18 to a full debate on the status of women in Canada.</p>
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# Proposal to licence midwives may prove stillborn

By MICHAEL KIERAN

An inquest jury's recommendation that Ontario become the first province to licence midwives is heading for oblivion, if the provincial Health Ministry and the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons have their way.

A coroner's inquest in Kitchener, Ont., last week urged that the college, together with the College of Nurses of Ontario, "set standards for, and establish a program of study in midwifery, leading to a licence to practice midwifery in the province of Ontario."

The inquest was called to investigate the stillbirth of an infant whose parents had been assisted by a midwife. It received substantial attention from midwives, because of what they perceive as an effort by the medical establishment to curtail the growing popularity of giving birth at home.

If implemented, the recommendation would place Ontario squarely between British Columbia, where a task force is working on draft legislation to cover both nurse-midwives and lay birth attendants, and Alberta, where the College of Physicians and Surgeons last year passed a bylaw expressly prohibiting doctors from taking part in home births except in emergencies.

However, Michael Dixon, registrar of the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons, said in an interview he does not consider it proper for midwives to be involved in births, either at home or in a hospital. "It would certainly be our position that midwifery is part of obstetrics and is therefore part of the

practice of medicine as defined in the provincial Health Disciplines Act. It's an issue for the Minister of Health to decide."

Diane Rimstead, a spokesman for the Health Ministry, said yesterday there are "no definite plans at this time to change the (Health Disciplines) Act," although the ministry is reviewing a proposal from the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario that nurse-midwives be trained and certified to deliver babies.

Jean Dalziel, a spokesman for the College of Nurses of Ontario, said the college supports the idea of licensing registered nurses with special preparation as midwives, but that lay people should be allowed only a "supportive role — which absolutely would not include responsibility for delivering babies."

The Kitchener inquest was inquiring into the stillbirth of Jean Ritz, whose mother, Kathryn, was taken to Kitchener-Waterloo Hospital last Feb. 22 after going into labor at her home in nearby New Hamburg. The jury concluded the infant died of anoxia (a lack of oxygen), as the result of an infection.

Coroner Jack Burger said his hope that midwives be licenced was threatened by what he called "a big wall between doctors, nurses and midwives. It's time recognition was given and an attempt be made to reconcile the differences, but it's not my experience of the College of Physicians and Surgeons that they take a broadminded view on too many new or controversial matters.

"After all, the college is pretty rigid — they've preached defensive medicine all down the line."

In a letter sent in January to all Ontario doctors, the college warned: "It is professional misconduct for a member to permit, counsel or assist any person not licenced as a physician to engage in the practice of medicine."

The college also discourages doctors from attending home births "because it does not consider home births to be safe or in the patient's best interest."

The Alberta College of Physicians and Surgeons last month released an internal study backing its controversial anti-midwifery bylaw. Dr. Roy Le Riche, the college's registrar, said in an interview that passage of the bylaw was spurred by "one or two" deaths or stillbirths involving midwives.

"One or two deaths was enough, when we felt they were preventable. We remain confident that the best place for babies to be born is in the hospital."

The University of British Columbia school of nursing has recently proposed a pilot project for nurse-midwives at the new Grace Hospital in Vancouver. Spokesman Elaine Carty said the school also favors the licencing of trained midwives, who would require three years training but who would not have to be registered nurses.

Catherine Penz, a spokesman for the Ontario Association of Midwives, said the licencing of midwives would significantly increase the quality of care available to child-bearing couples.

Globe & Mail June 25, 1982

## NDP CAUCUS COMMITTEE ON WOMEN

Acting upon a recommendation from the Participation of Women Committee, the NDP has formed a Federal Caucus Committee on Women. The Committee, chaired by NDP status of women critic Margaret Mitchell, is open to all NDP caucus members, specifically those with critic areas relating to women. The Committee meets once a month to discuss women's issues in the context of current parliamentary debate and to plan priorities and research for future action.

After an organizational meeting in early February, the Women's Committee met formally on February 17th and March 10th. Both meetings concentrated on critics reporting on the relationship between their areas and women's issues. Discussion ranged from pensions to concerns of rural women to employment and environmental safety.

Margaret Mitchell stated that "this committee will not only provide a focus for dialogue regarding women's issues but

will also provide a valuable network for me as women's critic". She noted that "participation by male MPs has been consistent and enthusiastic" and that the topics raised at the first two meetings "indicate that our caucus has obviously not neglected the importance of women in Canadian society. With the Caucus Committee on Women, we now have a formal structure for exchange of ideas and encouragement."

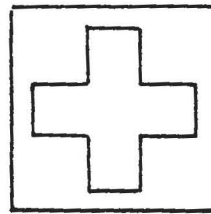
### The Women's Report

THE WOMEN'S REPORT: A Federal Perspective, is a new publication of the NDP Caucus. This newsletter will highlight NDP MPs' concerns about women's issues. The first edition was devoted to parental leave.

If you wish to receive the newsletter, drop a line to Margaret Mitchell, MP, or Pauline Jewett, MP, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6. They'd also appreciate receiving your comments, ideas and suggestions. No postage is required.



Canadian Health Coalition  
Coalition canadienne de la santé



2841 Riverside Dr.  
Ottawa, Ont. K1V 8X7  
Tel. (613) 521-3400

### Canada Health Act Sabotaged -

The heaviest blow fell at the recent Health Minister's Conference when the provincial health ministers "ganged up" against Monique Bégin and forced her to abandon her proposals to ban extra-billing and user fees. General press comment is characterized by the Winnipeg Free Press which described Ms Bégin as "the Medicare lion turned into a lamb". Regrettably, due to the Federal Government's abolition of revenue guarantees, the Federal Health Minister went into the conference without any means of leverage. Thus, control - a totally inadequate measure - not abolition, of the discriminatory practices of extra-billing and user fees is now one of the common goals of the federal and provincial health ministers, as they work towards the development of the new "Canada Health Act" which will probably be legislated early in 1983. This will replace the current Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act and the Medical Care Act.

The target date for the conclusion of inter-governmental negotiations on the proposed legislation is the Fall of 1982. Members of the Canadian Health Coalition (CHC) must become involved in a national campaign which will result in persistent pressure on federal and provincial politicians to eliminate extra-billing and user fees. Against the present increases in salaries demanded by doctors in Manitoba (32.8%) and Quebec (38%) and the recent 17% increase gained by Ontario doctors, extra-billing is ever more iniquitous. We will be contacting you on this issue in the very near future. Please let us know of any pressure tactics which you have found particularly effective in past endeavours.

### Premiums Increase -

The three provinces which use premiums as a means of financing health care recently increased their rates. Unfortunately, subsidies for low-income people did not rise accordingly. The following table shows the percentage increase and the new annual rates.

Province	% Increase	Individual	Couple	Family
Ontario	17	\$324.00	-	\$648.00
British Columbia	30 (individual) 22 (couple) 11 (family)	\$180.00	\$336.00	\$384.00
Alberta	10	\$114.00	-	\$228.00

Ontario residents have been invited by Treasurer Frank Miller to respond to a discussion paper prepared by his staff which looks at a payroll tax as an alternative to premiums. We urge our member organizations to ensure that their Ontario groups seize this opportunity to voice their opinions on the inequitable system of premiums. The Ontario Health Coalition (OHC) under its coordinator, Michèle Harding, will be responding to Mr. Miller's request. Plan your activities in conjunction with the OHC by contacting Michèle at 95 Milverton Blvd. Toronto M4J 1T7 (416) 465-6438. The CHC intends to work closely with the OHC on this issue.

### Hospital Cuts in B.C. -

The B.C. Health Ministry has allowed only a budget increase of just less than 10% to the province's 115 hospitals, of which it will pay 7.6% with user fees covering the rest - this is a province where the inflation rate is 14.5%. These budget restrictions have resulted in staff cuts and bed closures everywhere. Of course, the B.C. Health Minister does not believe the level of service will be impaired, but the B.C. Hospitals Association sees no alternative but a reduction in services.

## Medical Rationing & Penalties for Poor Personal Habits —

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) offers rationing as one solution to underfunding of the health-care system. It is unfortunate that the CMA cannot devote its energies to reducing the monopoly which doctors have over medicare, which is in part responsible for the under-funding crisis. It would be far more appropriate if they were to advocate the use of nurse practitioners, community health centres and other such cost-saving measures rather than setting up a study group to consider the ethical and legal implications of priority listing. First indications are that priority rating would be given to those considered essential to society, with the CMA acting as God. The Alberta Medical Asso. (AMA) also has a new "prescription" for reducing hospital costs - higher medical fees for those hospitalized because of improper personal habits such as alcohol abuse. Of course, the polluters of the environment, who should be penalized for their sins, are ignored by the AMA.

These CMA and AMA proposals are alien to a democratic society, and calls for their condemnation should be strident. The CHC will vigorously oppose these repulsive concepts and will be looking for your support in its effort.

**NAC** urges your **SUPPORT** of **CHC**

Toronto Star, Friday, June 18/82



**I protest:** Toronto resident and U.S. citizen Lyla Bendsen is furious over the exclusion of Canadian peace marchers from the United States.

RON BULL/TORONTO STAR

In addition to writing letters to the editor, Lyla is also a devoted volunteer at the NAC office. Grateful appreciation to Lyla for her viewpoints, and her help in getting this MEMO to you, and whatever else has to be done at the NAC office.

## U.S. exclusion reeks of McCarthy

Following is the text of a telegram I have sent to United States Ambassador to Canada Paul Robinson:

"As a United States citizen temporarily living in Canada, I strongly protest the exclusion of Kay Macpherson from my country. She is 'suspect,' it seems, because she advocates peace. The

stench of McCarthyism emanating from this act makes me sick."

To this I would only add that the most noble principles of the United States of America are violated by such acts. The perpetrators of such garbage are the true subversives.

LYLA BENDSEN  
Toronto

## CHILD CARE FOR PROFIT ... who benefits?

As a result of effective lobbying by CUPE, Great-West Life Assurance Co. of Winnipeg has decided to dispose of its stock in Kinder-Care Learning Centres, Inc., Alabama, the largest day care chain in North America. Kinder-Care owns three centres in Manitoba and 13 in Ontario; the subsidiaries in Canada are known as Kinder Canada Ltd. and Mini-Skools Ltd. and have been dubbed "Kentucky Fried Children" by some. A fast growth, profit-oriented chain, Kinder Care operates with high child/staff ratios, untrained day care workers, low child/space ratios, packaged programs, and poverty wages for employees - in short, nothing which NAC recognizes as contributing to quality child care.

Mini-Skools have been the subject of many scandals already: falsified attendance records in Toronto; violation of staff/child ratios; chronic food shortages; and poor health conditions. Two deaths have occurred in Mini-Skools in Canada.

Kinder Care is aimed at accommodating middle income families - those sadly neglected by government. In the U.S., it has majority representation on a private operator's national lobby (the National Association for Child Development - NACDE) which maintains an office and staff in Washington and has succeeded in delaying implementation of new federal regulations for day care. A similar effort to achieve lower standards in Ontario, made by the founder of Mini-Skools, failed due to the opposition of the Ontario day care community. The objectives sought in this lobby included: higher child/staff ratios, lowered staff qualifications, reduced health and safety standards, and increased government grants to commercial operators.

The Kinder Care marketing concept does not stop at child care services; toys, T-shirts, tote bags and photos are promoted as well as life insurance policies. The latter is warned against by the U.S. Consumers' Union, in the following way: "The death of a child is a personal tragedy but not a financial one ... "

Finally, Kinder Care's profit motive is reflected in its attitude towards personnel as well. In the words of the company president,

" ... we don't apologize for the minimum wage ... You must remember that we're dealing primarily in day care with the young female ... There are many that take jobs in day care solely to get into some other field. When you have above average turnover, you are going to find that this situation will exist for many years to come."

Profit day care - do we want it? CUPE passed a resolution opposing it at its annual convention, 1981. Given the experience of Kinder Care and Mini-Skools, we must be on our guard for the incursion of such centres in our communities. Quality care for our children is their right and our demand.

(Thanks to Larry Katz, Senior Researcher, CUPE for information on Kinder Care and Mini-Skools.)

### "The Omitted Reality - Husband/Wife Violence in Ontario and Implications for Education"

is a paper by Dr. Pat Kincaid, Family Violence Research Project, Willowdale and also, Administrative Assistant Curriculum and Program Division, Board of Education, City of Toronto.

Dr. Kincaid has looked at the statistics on violence in Ontario and their implications for the educational system. Applying the estimate of one in ten women as victims of violence in the home, Dr. Kincaid has concluded that at least 89,000 women in Ontario are victims and that they have at least 61,000 children in the Ontario school system; she believes, however, that 30% is a more realistic estimate of the number of women victims of violence. At one conference, Dr. Kincaid learned that 36 out of 100 teachers had been victims of physical violence in the home.

Recommendations for the educational system include: in-service training for teachers and school boards; inclusion of wife assault in relevant curricula; provision of information on services available.

For more information to share with your Ministry of Education, write:

Dr. Pat Kincaid, Family Violence Research Project,  
P.O. Box 853, Station B  
Willowdale, Ontario M2K 2K1

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FAMILY VIOLENCE

# Wage curbs would hurt equality fight: Feminists

OTTAWA (CP) — The country's largest women's group has warned against wage controls, saying they will only hurt women struggling for equality in the work force.

Any wage freeze will only aggravate the hardship of women already trapped at the bottom of the pay scale, Doris Anderson, president of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, said.

The wage gap between men and women narrowed slightly in 1980, but there is still a long way to go to equality. Statistics Canada figures show the average income of women was less than half that received by men last year.

The committee, which represents more than 207 women's organizations and 2 million women, also opposes any controls freezing salary increases at, for example, 7 per cent. "Seven per cent of \$350 is a lot different to 7 per cent of \$150 — often the difference between what men and women earn — and would increase the wage gap even more."



A4/TORONTO STAR, TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 1982 ★★★★★

# Women's wages gap widening, report says

By Rick Haliechuk Toronto Star

Women employees of the Ontario government earn an average about 72 per cent of what men employees earn. And the wage gap is widening, according to a report tabled in the Legislature.

The report of the Women Crown Employees Office, details wage discrepancies in the civil service for the 1980-81 fiscal year.

It says women earned an average \$1,657, or 11.5 per cent, more in 1980-81 than the year before, while men earned an average \$2,331, or 11.6 per cent more.

Women's average salary was 72 per cent of men's compared with 72.1 per cent in 1979-80, the report says.

At the same time, the report noted that women form a growing percentage of the government work force. In 1979-80, women made up 40.8 per cent, but last year the figure was 41.2 per cent.

The report suggests women have made steady but slow inroads into the high-paying executive jobs, such as deputy minister, assistant and associate deputy and program manager.

## Wage gap

Last year, 41 of the 608 people in this executive category were women, 6.3 per cent — up from 5.6 per cent the year before, the report says.

Only 508 women employees (1.8 per cent of the total) earned \$32,000 or more last year, compared to 4,448 men (10.9 per cent of the total), the report says.

In a statement released with the report, Labor Minister Russell Ramsay conceded that the continuing wage gap raises some concerns for government.

But, he said women in the government's employ earn more compared to men, than women in the entire Canadian workforce. Latest figures say women workers earn

just 60 per cent of what men earn.

The government's Affirmative Action program has produced gains for women in eight under-represented categories, Ramsay said.

The report breaks down salary levels by each government ministry and by some of the crown agencies, such as the Liquor Control Board.

## Promote women

New Democratic Party deputy leader Jim Foulds called the widening wage gap "simply unacceptable in today's world."

The government simply must move to ensure more women are promoted within the civil service, he said.

The widest gap appears to be in the Ministry of Energy, where men earn an average of \$34,952, while women earn just \$16,695.

The narrowest gap is in the executive level, where men earn \$46,311 on average and women \$42,956.

But Ramsay noted that there has been a decrease in the number of women in the lower-salaried jobs and an increase in the higher-paying categories.

The report says more than half of the 28,605 women employees last year worked in just two broad categories — clerical services, and office services — euphemisms for clerks, typists and secretaries.

Ramsay referred in his statement to the slow progress in improving the occupational distribution of women, but said more study on the government's Affirmative Action program is needed.

"It seems realistic to expect that two or three years of consistent reporting and analysis must be completed before the impact of the new directive can be fully tested and any major modification be considered," he said.

There were 40,881 men in the civil service last year, the report said.



## Graves, Inc...



## By Pat Brady

# Women: the best entrepreneurs

Why are so many women succeeding in business? Turns out it's because they know they can't do it without really trying.

From: *Canadian Business*, June 1982

By: Jane T. Cook

The phenomenon is already sparking unusual interest in government, academic and big business circles. These days, the U.S. and Canada are awash with surveys that not only agree women are currently taking the entrepreneurial plunge at a far faster clip than men are doing, they also seem to be following the yellow brick road to sole proprietorship for different reasons.

When a team from Queen's University questioned 275 Ontario women proprietors for a paper called *Canadian Women Owner/Managers* that was released last January by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce's Small Business Secretariat, "challenge" was ranked as the most significant reason for striking out on one's own. The next most important was "being one's own boss" and there were only scattered votes for "monetary reward".

But even if the prospect of fat profits is not a potent lure, a recently released study of sole proprietorship by the chartered accountancy firm of Thorne Riddell shows that women entrepreneurs are likely to end up with healthier bank accounts than their male counterparts anyway.

Of the 486 firms with male owners, just 123 or approximately 25% had survived the three-year period. Of the 1,364 led by women, 644 or around 47% were still in business.



## WESI

### Women and Education Summer Institute

Department of Educational Foundations, College of Education  
University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada S7N 0W0



#### NEWS RELEASE

#### WOMEN BENEFIT FROM SECRETARY OF STATE BURSARIES

The Women and Education Summer Institute at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, recently announced that over \$13,000.00 has been received from the Secretary of State of Canada.

Most of the money will be awarded to women who wish to attend seminars or workshops being offered this summer. First consideration in the distribution of bursaries will be given to women who are native, immigrant, senior citizens or rural.

This year the Summer Institute will run from July 5 to August 13. During that time workshops and seminars, of varying length, will explore issues related to women in the areas of rural life, trade unions, aging and self-defense.

For further information on the bursaries or on the courses, workshops and seminars women are urged to contact Joyce Gwilliam, Coordinator, Women and Education Summer Institute, College of Education, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Sask. S7N 0W0. (Phone: 343-5327)

# LESBIAN MOTHERS' DEFENCE FUND

The Lesbian Mothers' Defence Fund is a resource for women facing child custody battles. It was founded in 1978 by gay women from the Wages for Housework campaign in Toronto.

## The Lesbian Mothers' Defence Fund Provides:

- Pre-legal advice, and information on successful battles in Canada, the United States and England
  - Referrals to sympathetic lawyers and other professionals
  - Financial assistance in building a strong court case
  - Personal and emotional support
  - Monthly pot-luck get-togethers for mothers, lovers, children and volunteers
- *These services are free and confidential* —
- Literature, including Grapevine, the newsletter of the Lesbian Mothers' Defence Fund (\$5/year)
  - Speakers for schools, conferences and special events

## The Lesbian Mothers' Defence Fund's Aims Are:

To help gay women keep or win custody of their children

To promote the rights of lesbian mothers and all gay women through media interviews, political lobbying and regular contact with women's and community groups

To mobilize public support for all lesbian mothers' struggle against discrimination and economic hardship

To speak out about how many thousands of lesbian mothers there are, while putting no pressure on any individual woman to make her name public

### We Need Your Support

Community and public support of the Lesbian Mothers' Defence Fund are crucial to its success. There are many ways individuals and groups can help the LMDF —

- Become a sponsor by making a contribution:
- Individual      \$10
- Group            \$25
- Sustaining      \$50 or more

Or make a monthly pledge.

Make cheques or money orders payable to the Lesbian Mothers' Defence Fund or 'LMDF'

P.O. Box 38, Station E  
Toronto, Ontario M6H 4E1

## Fighting Against Odds . . .

Lesbian mothers wage an uphill fight against serious disadvantages when they set out to keep their children:

— Constructing solid court cases may cost money and time that many lesbians do not have.

— The courts tend to want to 'save' their children from an 'unnatural' home and penalize gay women for not wanting to live with men.

— Even if they are not automatically labelled 'unfit' because they are lesbian, the courts can award the children to the father on the basis of his ability to provide a secure home and a promising future. How many women can measure up to financial criteria in court when we earn half men's wages in our jobs, and nothing at all for the work we do in the home?

— If a woman hides her lesbianism to improve her chances of winning, she faces years of anxiety, since a custody decision can always be reopened if new evidence comes to light.

## And Winning!

In spite of these problems, more and more gay women are refusing to leave their children behind when they leave marriages. There have been a score of important court victories in the United States, Canada and England in the last few years. And hundreds of gay women have won custody out of court.

Each success helps many more women to win. It becomes better known every day how many lesbian mothers there are, and how determined they are to have both their sexual freedom and the children they love. The more visible they are, the harder it is for the courts to deem them 'immoral,' 'unnatural' and 'different' from other women. What is in 'the best interests of the children' must be decided by those women and children themselves.

- Help publicize the existence of the LMDF by inviting us to speak to your class or organization
- Help organize fund-raising events such as dances, raffles, rummage sales, benefit concerts, lotteries, etc. Or if your organization holds such events, contribute part of the proceeds to the LMDF
- Put us in touch with lawyers and mental health professionals who are sympathetic and interested in helping lesbian mothers
- You don't have to be a mother to volunteer time with the LMDF!

Toronto (416) 465-6822

Alberta (403) 264-6328

Vancouver (604) 876-0953



Events



\*\*\*\*\*  
 A meeting of Nova Scotia NAC Member Organizations and Friends of NAC will be held in Halifax at  
 A WOMAN'S PLACE  
 TUESDAY, SEPT. 21  
 7:30 p.m.  
 There will be a discussion of NAC projects, proposed changes to NAC Constitution, Media Watch, etc. We would like to hear from volunteers who would like to assist in monitoring Federal/Provincial Funding and its effect on women.  
 \*\*\*\*\*

The Canadian Council on Social Development and Health and Welfare Canada are sponsoring  
**The 2nd Canadian Conference on Day Care to be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba on September 23rd, 24th and 25th, 1982**  
 A preliminary program and registration form will be circulated later this spring  
 For further information, please contact:  
 Lyse Teasdale  
 Conference Co-ordinator  
 Canadian Council on Social Development  
 55 Parkdale Avenue  
 Post Office Box 3505, Station C  
 Ottawa, Ontario  
 K1Y 4G1  
 613-728-1865  
 (Secretary of State Women's Programmes may have travel funds for this. Contact them.)

#####  
 # VINIE BURROWS, dramatic artist, cultural #  
 # worker, and representative to the United #  
 # Nations for the NGO Women's International #  
 # Democratic Federation, and also Vice- #  
 # President of the U.S. Women for Racial #  
 # and Economic Equality, is to tour Canada #  
 # during Disarmament Week, October 23-31, #  
 # giving dramatic performances at #  
 # universities and colleges, under the #  
 # Programming Service of the Canadian #  
 # Federation of Students, and speaking on #  
 # "UNSSD II and women's peace actions", #  
 # under the sponsorship of the Congress #  
 # of Canadian Women, together with local #  
 # peace and disarmament groups. #  
 #  
 # Described by New York Post as "funny, #  
 # gutsy, diverse" and by AP Press as "an #  
 # actress of superb virtuosity... who fills #  
 # the stage with joy, fear, anguish, hate, #  
 # mirth and defiance," Vinie Burrows #  
 # performed at the 1980 Women's Decade #  
 # Conference, has toured Europe and Africa, #  
 # and comes for the first time to Canada. #  
 # For schedule, contact: #  
 # Congress of Canadian Women, #  
 # Box 188, Station E., Toronto #  
 #  
 # or call: #  
 # Hazel Wigdor (416) 767-7330 #  
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 # #####

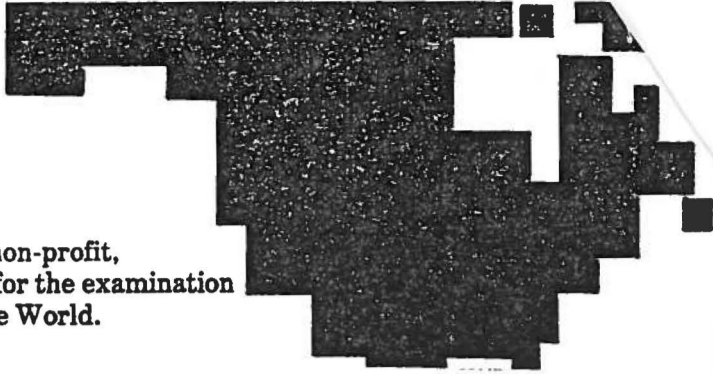


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 JOB COUNSELLING FOR WOMEN seeks to meet the particular needs of women in finding employment in a tight job market.  
 Two-week workshops designed to increase confidence in skills & potential. Resume writing, interview skills and creative job search techniques, information on day care and job market trends are among the topics covered. Free child care.

More information: JOB COUNSELLING FOR WOMEN  
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 291 Charlotte Street, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 2V6 748-9877

# COUCHICHIING INSTITUTE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Founded in 1931, the Couchiching Institute on Public Affairs is a non-profit, non-partisan organization whose goal is to provide public forums for the examination of diverse views on issues of concern to Canada, Canadians and the World.



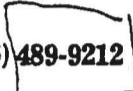
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## Political and Military Options for East and West

The 1982 Couchiching Conference will explore what is undoubtedly the most pressing issue of our time; the accelerating tensions in east-west political and military relations which many believe are drawing us all closer to nuclear war.

**BERIT AS** will speak at the Couchiching Conference, (details above).

*Excerpted from Michele Landsberg's column, Toronto Star, November 12, 1979 - "Feminists' Vision Refreshing" -*

**Berit As**, the lucid and down-to-earth Norwegian MP about whom I wrote earlier this week, set the tone with her keynote speech in the morning. Her sheer scope is terrific; I settled back in my seat with the happy awareness that I would hear no rhetoric, no fund-raising, and no trendy burble about How To Get Ahead in Business. Berit, like the other speakers, focussed instead on the tough adult stuff, the environmental and economic challenges ahead, and how women might understand and try to tackle them.

In Sweden, she said, 70% of the female population is adamantly opposed to the use of nuclear energy, though only 30% of the men object. "The response of the government is to commission 1400 in-depth interviews by an advertising agency," As said wryly, "to find out why women have such deep-seated irrational anxieties about nuclear power." Meanwhile, 50,000 normally conventional Swedish women are quietly stitching anti-nuclear flags which will soon flutter from their rooftops...

BERIT AS and PAULINE JEWETT, MP, are the two women speakers (out of 27).

Members of NAC's Survival Committee will be attending this conference.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* THANK YOU, THANK YOU TO CHAVIVA HOSEK (NAC VICE-PRESIDENT) \*  
\* FOR THE SUMMER 1982 NAC MEMO \*  
\*\*\*\*\*



## Publications ...

# What is happening to women in Canada?

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LE COMITÉ NATIONAL D'ACTION SUR LE STATUT DE LA FEMME  
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### WRITERS NEEDED...

STATUS is interested in receiving proposals for articles from writers. All submissions will be considered. Writers are asked to submit one page outlines along with short biographies. Forward to the NAC office.

### TWO CANADIAN FEMINISTS

who have begun to collect material for -  
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### A BOOK OF QUOTATIONS BY CANADIAN WOMEN

- it will be a collective work produced with the cooperation of women across the country
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Quotations are wanted that:

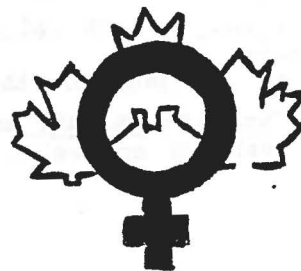
- fight stereotypes
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From:

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All contributors will receive credit in the publication.

Send fully-referenced quotations to: 2424 Grand Blvd. Apt. 7, Montreal



# PARENTAL RIGHTS & DAYCARE

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- Please sign me up as a 'Friend of NAC'. (One year subscription to Status and the NAC MEMO is included.) I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$20 minimum). (Make cheque payable to "National Action Committee").
- Please send a subscription to Status of Women News. Rates: Individuals in Canada — \$8/yr.; Overseas, U.S.A., Institutions — \$12/yr. I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ year(s). (4 issues/year).
- I wish to contribute to NAC's Charitable and Educational Trust with a tax-deductible donation. I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_. (Make cheque payable to "NAC TRUST").
- I am interested in working on a NAC Committee. Area of Interest \_\_\_\_\_

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