

NAC
16

NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE
on the status of women

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



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MEMO

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

APRIL 1981

The first meeting of the new Executive took place on April 11/12. We had been due to meet at the Annual General Meeting, but the business meeting ran over timetable. It was a successful meeting and we took decisions in the following areas:

1. Dates of Executive meetings
2. STATUS
3. Committee structure and chairs of these committees
4. Pensions Seminar Proposal
5. Constitutional meeting of Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women
6. NAC Trust
7. Roles and responsibilities of table officers, regional representatives, vice presidents, and past vice-presidents

Information on the content of these decisions is on the following pages.

Pat Preston, one of the Vice-Presidents of the organization, sent notice of her resignation to the meeting. She is joining the Hon. Lloyd Axworthy as his press secretary and considers the new job a conflict of interest with her role at NAC. The Executive agreed that "His Lloydship" needs all the help he can get and that Pat has a long and outstanding feminist record.

The Constitution decrees how a new vice-president is selected and the voting procedure brings Jill Porter into the role. Replacing Jill Porter as member-at-large is the next person in order of votes cast at the Annual General Meeting - Mary-Anne Nixon. She will be approached and asked to serve.

The contributions of all Executive members ensured that we got through an extremely busy agenda. The meeting was highly active!! To quote Flo Kennedy:

"There's no Movement if each one of us doesn't move. Personally, I'll support anything that's off its ass."

Well, the new NAC Executive is "off its ass".

Our next Executive meeting will concentrate on setting priorities for 1981-82. We have multiple committees, lots of resolutions, a fair amount of ongoing business and a number of very major policy issues to sort out. It will be a difficult session but I feel we will enter it with a good ability to work through the problems and get resolution.

Jean Wood
Jean Wood, President



DECISIONS MADE AT EXECUTIVE MEETING

1. Executive Meeting Dates: May 2/3 & June 20/21
The final dates for the remainder are not yet settled - Executive members are checking for conflicts with other major meetings, but we will meet in September, October, December, January, February.

Dates for these and the Annual General Meeting will be announced at the next meeting. Location of the meetings will be decided at the next Executive Meeting. Agendas for the meetings will be set by the Table Officers on April 21 for the May meeting, June 2 for the June meeting.

2. STATUS

Last year's Editorial committee spent most of its time getting funding for STATUS according to the direction of the Executive which was for a quarterly bilingual magazine of newstand quality. It managed to get a CEIC job creation grant and was ready to restart STATUS pending approval of the new Executive.

The meeting was overwhelmingly in favour of reinstating STATUS, but in a less glossy non-newstand quality edition.

The motion sums it up:

- "That we produce: (1) a quarterly magazine
- (2) non-newstand quality
- (3) approx. 2000 copies to member groups & subscribers
- (4) with one paid staff person
- (5) we appeal to other journals, eg. Chatelaine, Canadian Women's Studies, for a page to include NAC information
- (6) that we request services on a contributed basis from Doris Anderson, Shelagh Wilkinson, and others
- (7) spend as close as possible to \$30,000 in all

Amendment: Bearing in mind whatever growth opportunities may exist in this year for distribution purposes only."

In light of this changed format and direction, it was decided to reject the CEIC grant which had been obtained.

We wish the new Editorial board good luck. It is a very demanding role in the organization.

3. Committees

The following committees and chairs were established - if you want to see anything addressed in these areas, get in touch with the committee chair - through the NAC Office:

<u>Operations Committees</u>	Membership Editorial Friends of NAC AGM Finance	Lee Grills Cathy Devlin Lynn McDonald Dorothy Richardson Lynne Sullivan
<u>Policy Committees</u>	Employment *Social Services Pensions, Tax, etc. Justice Media Policy (communications) Constitution Permanent Fundraising	Kathy Moggridge Farida Shaikh Lynn Sullivan Mary-Anne Nixon Jill Porter Pat Hacker

* including health and reproductive rights.

The committees will first meet May 2 to establish priorities and start their work. At that time we will give you the full composition of each committee.

4. Pensions Conference Follow-up

The Executive approved the submission of a proposal to Monique Begin for a series of pension seminars to be co-sponsored by NAC and its regional member groups.

The purpose of the seminars is to educate women on the issues of pension policy as it relates to them and to build an aware lobby for change.

The proposal arises out of the concern felt by NAC Executive members who were delegates at the Pensions Conference. They felt that the level of awareness on the issues was extremely low.

We'll keep you informed on the progress of this.

5. Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women

NAC Executive passed the following motion re the Constitutional Conference to be held by the Advisory Council on May 29/30, 1981:

"Moved that NAC officially boycott the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women Conference on the Constitution in May, make this position public, and inform member groups of this action."

Jean Wood was interviewed by the press and we issued a press release on the subject:

"The National Action Committee on the Status of Women, at its Executive meeting on the weekend, decided to boycott the constitutional conference of the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women to be held at the end of May, 1981.

'The Council completely lacks credibility in the eyes of Canadian feminists,' said spokesperson Jill Porter, a Vice-President of the National Action Committee.

The CACSW has postponed two conferences on the constitution at a time when they were crucial to the debate. Canadian women organized substitute forums to ensure their views were heard by government.

NAC continues to urge the CACSW to have an external review of the role of the Council in representing the views of women to government."

The Executive also authorized a small committee to look at the terms of reference of an external review of the CACSW and how women should be represented to government, and bring back ideas on this to the May meeting.



6. NAC TRUST

We voted the NAC Trust members. Small - must include President, Past President, one Vice President and two other members:

- Jean Wood
- Lynn McDonald
- Kathy Moggridge
- Marilyn Keddy
- Betsy Carr

The Annual General Meeting of the Trust will take place May 1 at 8.00 p.m. at the NAC Office.

7. Roles & Responsibilities

Last year's Executive did very good work in defining the roles of the committees.

This meeting, we defined the role of the Table Officers and assigned the task of defining roles of the Vice-Presidents and Regional Representatives. When these are approved by the Executive, the intention is to bring them to the AGM for inclusion in the NAC Constitution.

This greater clarity will enable nominees for the NAC Executive to make realistic decisions about what tasks they would like to undertake on the Executive.

NAC ANNUAL MEETING 1981

NAC's Ninth Annual Meeting was held in Ottawa, March 13-16, 1981. This year we met at the Holiday Inn which coped ably with the 172 delegates and 38 observers from 104 member groups and 134 other observers. Friday night led off with Alexa McDonough, newly-elected leader of the Nova Scotia New Democratic Party, speaking on "Women as a Political Force", followed by an informal reception which gave everyone the chance to get acquainted.

Saturday started with a buffet breakfast and speeches from the candidates for the NAC Executive. Hugette Labelle, Under Secretary of State addressed the full plenary which then broke into workshops for the rest of the day. All delegates have received the Post Conference Mailing which includes minutes and resolutions from the meeting and they have been asked to share this information with their member groups.

Saturday evening was devoted to fun and games. These included the Red Rose Review - a great group of women performers (see excerpt), the presentation of the National Pacifier Award, a thank you to the outgoing President and Executive, and a surprise presentation to the oldest inhabitant of the Executive, the Past, Past President, Kay Macpherson.

On Sunday, discussion of Resolutions and the business meeting continued overtime, which meant shrinking the lobby workshop.

Nevertheless, Monday's lobby was one of the best ever, with about 100 women in attendance and a somewhat better than usual showing of the party caucuses (approx. 16 NDP, 18 PC and 20 LIB, including 3 Cabinet Ministers). Jean Wood, our new President, reviewed the responses of the Parties - 'playing them back' to get agreement. These responses will soon be available for publication.



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The New NAC Executive extends from coast to coast:

President:	Jean Wood	Toronto
Immediate Past President:	Lynn McDonald	Toronto
Vice-Presidents:	Lee Grills	Vancouver
	Kathy Moggridge	Halifax
	Jill Porter	Ottawa
Treasurer:	Lynn Sullivan	Toronto
Secretary:	Chaviva Hosek	Toronto
Editorial Chairperson:	Catherine Devlin	Toronto

Regional Representatives

Newfoundland/Labrador	Jill Schooley	St. John's, Nfld
Maritimes	Marilyn Keddy	Halifax
Quebec	Stella Baudot	Montreal
Northern Ontario	Mary Rakowski	Thunder Bay
Manitoba/Saskatchewan	Anna Bors	Marengo, Sask.
Alberta/NWT	Dorothy Richardson	Edmonton
British Columbia/Yukon	Alicia Lawrence	Vernon, B.C.

Members at Large:

Rosemary Billings	Ottawa
Betsy Carr	Toronto
Caroline Ennis	Fredericton
Pat Hacker	Ottawa
Bev LeFrancois	Oakville, Ont.
Mary-Anne Nixon	Windsor, Ont.
Farida Shaikh	Ottawa

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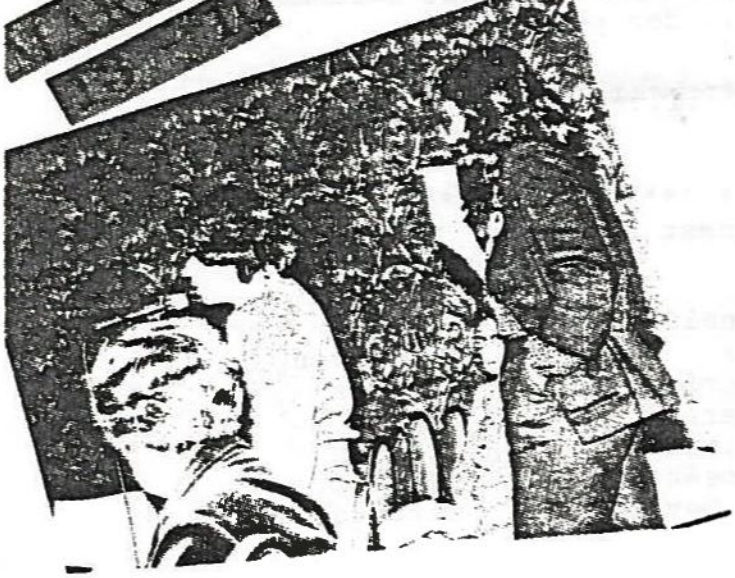


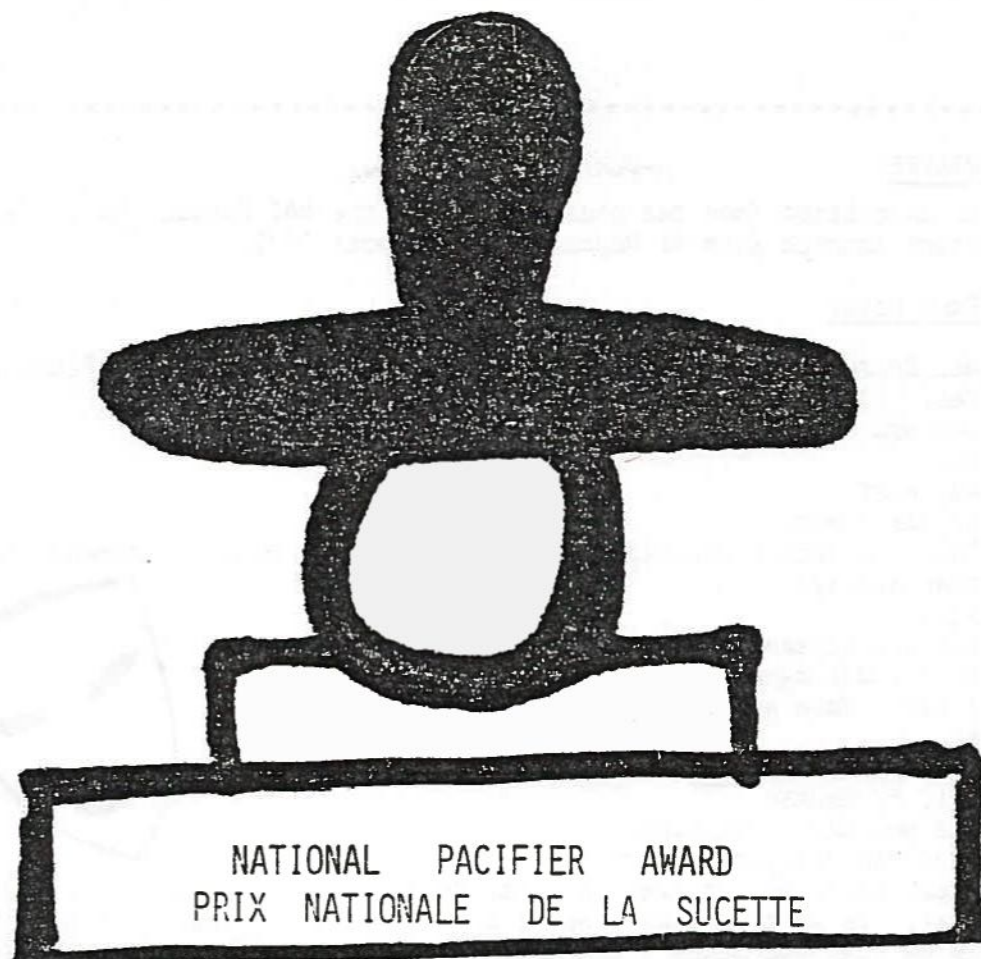
NAC

ANNUAL MEETING



1987





NAC'S AGM inaugurated a new national award with very specific qualification criteria.

"The award is to be given to the Canadian male who publicly and with literary flair, in either of the two official languages, demonstrates his understanding and appreciation of Canadian women."

As you can imagine, it was a difficult year to choose from. There was Lloyd, who added new meaning to the words "tiresome" and "cadillac", but although he said the words in public, they hardly constitute literary flair - he has got to learn to string them together in a sentence.

So -- Near miss, Lloyd -- try again new year!!!

1980/81 winner was undoubtedly Senator Harry Hayes. We sent him the following letter and a large 3 inch pacifier (in pink, of course, with a string to hang around his neck):

"Dear Senator Hayes:

At the recent Annual Meeting of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, we instituted a new annual award: "The National Pacifier Award".

The award is to be given to the Canadian male who publicly and with literary flair, in either of the two official languages, demonstrates his understanding and appreciation of Canadian women.

Our organization feels that your phrase, stated below, uttered after NAC's presentation to the Senate-House of Commons Special Joint Committee on the Constitution of Canada, deserves the award for this year:

"I'm just wondering why we don't have a section in here (in the proposed Charter of Rights) about babies and children. All you girls will be out working and we're not going to have anybody to look after them."

The award is a bronzed and mounted pacifier. As this year's winner, we enclose a replica of the award for your use. We trust, rather "tongue in cheek", that no instructions are required!!!

*Sincerely yours,
Jean Wood, President*

HARRY - NEXT TIME YOU OPEN YOUR MOUTH - STOP & SUCK ON IT!

PLEASE SEND YOUR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 1981/82 WINNER OF THE NATIONAL PACIFIER AWARD/PRIX NATIONALE DE LA SUCETTE TO THE NAC OFFICE -- STATE WHO SAID IT, WHAT WAS SAID AND WHEN IT WAS SAID. YOUR NOMINEE MIGHT WIN THE 1981/82 AWARD!!

RED ROSE THEATRE

Following is an excerpt from the presentation at the NAC Banquet March 14, 1981. Original script adapted from Ms Magazine - September 1975.

Scene X - Rape Scene

LAWYER: Mr. Smith, you were held up at gunpoint on the corner of First & Main?
 SMITH: Yes.
 L: Did you struggle with the robber?
 S: No.
 L: Why not?
 S: He was armed.
 L: Then you made a conscious decision to comply with his demands rather than resist?
 S: Yes.
 L: Did you scream? Cry out?
 S: No. I was afraid.
 L: I see. Have you ever been held up before?
 S: No.
 L: Have you ever given money away?
 S: Yes, of course.
 L: And you did so willingly?
 S: What are you getting at?
 L: Well, let's put it like this Mr. Smith. You've given money away in the past. In fact, you have quite a reputation for philanthropy. How can we be sure you weren't contriving to have your money taken by force?
 S: Listen, if I wanted ----
 L: Never mind. What time did this alleged 'holdup' take place?
 S: About 11 p.m.
 L: You were out on the streets at 11 p.m.? Doing what?
 S: Just walking.
 L: Just walking? You know that it's dangerous being out on the street that late at night? Were you aware that you could have been held up?
 S: I hadn't really thought about it.
 L: What were you wearing?
 S: Let's see now. A suit. Yes a suit.
 L: An expensive suit?
 S: Well yes. I guess it was relatively expensive.
 L: In other words, Mr. Smith, you were walking around the streets late at night in a suit which practically advertised the fact that you might be a good target for some easy money, isn't that so? I mean, if we didn't know any better, Mr. Smith, we might even think that you were asking for this to happen, mightn't we?



TWO NEW BUTTONS AVAILABLE FROM THE NAC OFFICE:
 40 ST. CLAIR EAST #306
 TORONTO, ONTARIO M4T 1M9
 \$1.00 EACH, PLEASE INCLUDE 50¢ FOR MAILING.



INCEST: THE LAST TABOO
 This is a 30 minute documentary on incest produced by Dee Gibney, CBC, Vancouver. This documentary can be ordered by your local CBC Station from:
 CBC,
 P.O. Box 4600
 Vancouver, B.C.
 V6B 4A2

NAC EXECUTIVE MEMBERS, SINCE THE AGM, ATTENDED & SPOKE OUT FOR NAC AT:

Micro Electronics Conferences - Ottawa, April 1981
National Pensions Conference - Ottawa, April 1981
Women & Sports Conference - Hamilton, March 1981
Women & Aging Conference - Moncton, N.B. March 27-29, 1981
Immigrant Women's Conference - Toronto
Ontario Schools Debating Union - Appleby College, Toronto

Meetings with: Undersecretary of State, Huguette Labelle
Assistant Deputy Minister, Jean-Paul Lefebvre
Nancy Lawand and Jane Taylor, Women's Programmes, Secretary of State

REPORTS

Micro Electronics Conferences

Members of the NAC sub-committee on Impact of Technology attended two conferences on the Impact of the New Technology of the Work Force. The first conference was a one-day seminar organized by Women's Programmes, Secretary of State, to give women's groups an opportunity to gear up for the following three-day international conference hosted by the Women's Bureau, Labour Canada.

Consensus reached in both forums was that:

- 1) Women are facing massive structural unemployment because the jobs displaced by technological change are the jobs that women do. As yet, neither government nor industry is considering corrective action on the scale required.
- 2) The fact that so few women are unionized discourages the development of the policies and programs required to protect women's interests when the new technology is introduced.
- 3) The potential exists for the development of cottage industry jobs, micro-chip base, and linked by telecommunications. While potentially liberating (especially for information generators) controls must be introduced to ensure that home-work is not used as a cop-out for daycare, as a way of discouraging unionization, alienating workers, or fragmenting the workforce. Such negative outcome are particularly likely for information processors (such as word processing and data entry operators, the vast majority of whom are women).
- 4) Health and safety issues associated with the new technology are largely unknown.

NAC's brief on Micro-Electronics, presented to the Allmand Committee on Employment Opportunities in the 80's, is available from the NAC Office. Cost: \$1.00.

NATIONAL PENSIONS CONFERENCE

Jean Wood and Lynn Sullivan of NAC's Pensions Committee attended the National Pensions Conference, March 31-April 2, in Ottawa. The conference included delegates representing the pension industry, employers, unions, women, people with handicaps, and pensioners.

The conference agenda highlighted four major issues: Pensions coverage, Vesting, Locking-In, and Portability, Indexing, and Women and Pensions. NAC stressed that improvements in the first three areas are all important for women. NAC also raised a number of issues of specific concern to women.

These include coverage during periods of pregnancy leave and child rearing, pensions for part-time workers, changes to public plans - Canada Pension Plan, Old Age Security, and Guaranteed Income Supplement, and improvements in Survivor Income Benefits. The last point was initially the only issue raised by business representatives. NAC representatives expressed disappointment with this.

NAC's Pension Committee has already received input on pension reform from some members. Further input and ideas would be welcome.

NAC will be revising its discussion paper on pensions based on this input, as well as the discussions that took place at the Pensions Conference.

We will be pursuing ways of disseminating information on women and pension reform, and facilitating lobbying on this issue.

UPCOMING EVENTS

<p>PUBLIC DEBATE - April 23 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>Sponsored by NAC Harbourfront - Toronto</p> <p>"WILL WOMEN IN POLITICS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE?"</p> <p>Moderator: Jean Wood NAC President.</p> <p>Free Admission Information Ph:364-5665</p>	<p>BRITISH COLUMBIA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION</p> <p>Public Meeting - April 23 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>"FRUIT PICKERS & TRANSIENTS"</p> <p>Royal Ann Hotel Vancouver</p>	<p>WOMEN IN TRADES & INDUSTRY CONFERENCE - April 24-26</p> <p>Hamilton Public Library</p> <p>Info: WITAI, c/o c/o 2000 Balmoral S. Hamilton</p> <p>Ph: 522-1378 523-7451 547-9140</p>
<p>INDIAN HOMEMAKERS ASSO. OF B.C. - April 27-May 1</p> <p>17th Annual Conference</p> <p>Topic: "OUR NATIVE FAMILY"</p> <p>Info: #102-423 W. Broadway Vancouver V5Y 1P4</p> <p>Ph: 876-4927</p>	<p>LA FEDERATION DES FEMMES DU QUEBEC - May 1,2,3</p> <p>Annual General Meeting</p> <p>Windsor Hotel Montreal</p>	<p>NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN - May 14</p> <p>"FAITH & HUMANITY - WE CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE"</p> <p>Queen Elizabeth Hotel Montreal</p>
<p>INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MATRIMONIAL & CHILD SUPPORT</p> <p>May 27-30</p> <p>Edmonton, Alta.</p>	<p>WOMEN'S SECTION OF THE CANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY</p> <p>June</p> <p>York University Toronto</p>	<p>CANADIAN HOME ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE</p> <p>June 6 - 9</p> <p>Toronto</p>

WOMEN IN MEDIA: Shaping our Future

North American Consultation of Christian Women in Media

May 28 - 31, 1981

Southern Methodist University

Dallas, Texas

Participants: Elizabeth Bettenhausen, Boston Univ. School of Theology
Rosemary Brown, Legislature - Vancouver, British Columbia
Joan Ohanneson, Author, Columnish, Media Producer, San Jose

Information: Kathy Kurtz, Coordinator, 9215 Springwater, Dallas, Texas 75228

THE OUTCASTS by Ben Wicks



MEMBER GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS

Please check your mailing address on the envelope and advise us as soon as possible if there are any changes.

We would be grateful if you could send us copies of your newsletters, interesting publications or commentaries. We would like to stay informed on your activities.

Women in media

DEMYSTIFYING THE MEDIA, a concise comprehensive manual highlights who does what, terminology and techniques; how to prepare for interviews, conferences, coverage of meetings and events; how to write news releases, fact sheets, Public Service Announcements (PSA's); how to plan/evaluate media coverage. It delves behind-the-scenes to identify how technology is changing the world of media and what the new media demands from public relations practitioners. An invaluable guide for every public relations desk.

Author - Jean Wiley Huyler, former head of the National Federation of Press Women.
Copies - \$8.70 from Jean Wiley Huyler, c/o Jan Fader, PO Box 2862, Olympia WA 98507

CWONC - CANADIAN WOMEN OF NOTE COMPUTERIZED, the "ultimate women's network"

Lists more than 1,000 names of Canadian Women who have made a notable contribution to Canadian society since Confederation.

A project of the Media Club of Canada and the Women's Press Club of Toronto.

Plans are to update the projects annually. To contribute additional suggestions for biographies or further information contact Marjorie McEnaney, Marjorie McEnaney, 3282 Tallmast Cres. Mississauga, Ont. L5L 1H5

For information or access to CWONC at nominal cost contact:
Jean Janes, York University Institute for Behavioural Research
4700 Keele St. Downsview, Ont. M3J 2R6

WOMEN'S STUDIES: A VIDEO RESOURCE CATALOGUE

Over the past several years, there has been a growing demand for women's studies courses in educational institutions, social service agencies, government, and industry.

The demand has seldom been met by positive action. The reason that women's studies have been neglected is that educators have found assembling a curriculum too time-consuming, and finding pertinent resources in this new educational field much too difficult.

The OECA has sought to remedy this problem. We have developed a **Women's Studies Video Resource Catalogue**. Designed in conjunction with leading educators in this field, a collection of video programs available from TVOntario and related film and print

resources have been formed into a package to help educators find the necessary resources to form their courses.

This catalogue contains:

- ◆ A reference chart that will aid teachers in choosing videotape programs for the appropriate educational level and subject area.
- ◆ Discussion topics for each program, designed to help teachers plan curriculum.
- ◆ A list of over 120 videotape programs selected from a wide range of subject areas with complete program descriptions.
- ◆ A complete bibliography of related films, books, articles, and other publications.

To order your copy of the WOMEN'S STUDIES VIDEO RESOURCE CATALOGUE , please send cheque or money order for \$5.00 to:	TV Ontario Customer Service Box 200, Station Q Toronto, Ontario M4T 2T1 (416) 484-2608
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AN IDEA FROM THE
NEWFOUNDLAND STATUS OF WOMEN COUNCIL

** FUND RAISING **
** RAFFLE **

SUPPORT THE WOMEN'S CENTRE!!!
BUY A TICKET
WIN ... THE PREMIER'S SALARY!

**NEWFOUNDLAND STATUS OF WOMEN COUNCIL
DRAWING FOR SALARIES**

First:	Premier's Salary/Day	\$103.34
Second:	Cabinet Minister's Salary/Day	86.86
Third:	MHA's Salary/Day	36.82
Fourth:	Average Male's Income/Day	27.44
Fifth:	Average Female's Income/Day	12.69
Sixth:	Single Parent's Welfare/Day	8.27

DRAWING — March 8, 1979 - International Women's Day
TICKETS — — — \$1.00 Each

or .. \$8.27 .. Single Parent's Welfare