



# NAC

# MEMO

OCTOBER 1980

NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE  
on the status of women

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

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## WOMEN AND THE CONSTITUTION

The Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women (CACSW) Conference on the Constitution, planned for September 5-6, and for which NAC had prepared a paper and was organizing travel arrangements - was postponed, indefinitely. Their reason was the rotating strike of the Canadian Union of Professional & Technical Employees (CUPTÉ), many of whom are women, and to which the Committee sent a message of support.

This left NAC's MID-YEAR MEETING, planned in conjunction with the Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women, as the major conference on Women and the Constitution. Regional meetings are in the process of being planned by Alberta, Newfoundland, Ontario and Nova Scotia Status of Women groups.

Word then came through from government that NO MONEY was available for the Winnipeg Conference.

NAC IS NOW PLANNING A MINI (ONE-DAY) WOMEN'S CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE, FOR OCTOBER 18, IN TORONTO, AND OPEN TO ALL WOMEN IN THE AREA.

NAC WILL JOIN WITH WPA, WHOSE REGULAR DINNER WILL MARK PERSONS' DAY AND WILL INCLUDE WOMEN CANDIDATES IN THE FORTH-COMING ELECTION. LLOYD AXWORTHY, MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT & IMMIGRATION AND MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STATUS OF WOMEN, WILL BE THE SPEAKER. THE FORMAT INCLUDES QUESTIONS.

The papers from the CACSW will eventually be published in a book. In the meantime NAC's members may write to the NAC office for a copy of our paper "Overlapping Jurisdictions" (\$2.00 includes copying and postage).

For Mary Eberts's paper "Women and Constitutional Renewal", write to CACSW. This is a superb, concise, historical and practical document which clarifies the constitutional problems facing women. Available free from CACSW.

Doris Anderson, President of CACSW, has offered to pay travel expenses for any of the speakers scheduled for the postponed conference, to take part in any local or regional meetings organized by women's groups, on the constitution.

(CACSW, Box 1541, Station B.,  
Ottawa, Ontario. K1P 5R5)

Star Sept. 3/80



**Doris Anderson:**  
Fears being caught  
in union-government  
crossfire.

## Dispute scuttles meeting

By Pamela Wallin  
Toronto Star

OTTAWA — A dispute between federal government translators and the Treasury Board has helped scuttle a conference on women and the constitution scheduled for the weekend.

The sponsors of the conference, the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women announced the cancellation yesterday, citing both support for the translators' demand for paid maternity and paternity leave and fears the conference might be the subject of picketing.

The Canadian Union of Professional and Technical Employees, however, expressed surprise at the move, saying it notified the council that translation services would be provided and no picket line would be set up at the conference.

The translators began working to rule and holding rotating strikes across the country Aug. 26 after the Treasury Board rejected a conciliator's report which recommended 15 weeks maternity leave at 75 per cent of salary and up to two or three days of paid paternity leave.

## Union concerned

"A collective bargaining process is under way now and until this is settled the council must postpone the conference," said Doris Anderson, president of the council, in a press release.

But union lawyer Lynn Kaye says she is concerned the blame for the cancellation is being laid at the doorstep of the union.

"We appreciate the support of the council in the past on the issue of maternity leave but we are not now at the bargaining table. The only support we ask is that they not cross the picket lines and we informed them there would be no picket lines," Kaye said.

Anderson said she was sceptical the union could deliver on its promise to service the conference.

She said the government, not the union, decides who will be assigned to work at conferences and she fears management personnel will be sent in to do the job.

## Caught in crossfire

"We cannot risk getting caught in the crossfire between the union and the government," Anderson said. She said she feared that if the government assigned management personnel to the conference, the union would then mount a picket line. Because the council supports the union's fight, women would then be obliged to honor the picket, she said.

"We cannot risk bringing in all these women — more than 600 — and spending the travel and expense money only to have the conference sabotaged," Anderson said.

More than half of the 1,200 translators are women.

The conference was to focus on constitutional questions of particular concern to women, such as jurisdiction over family law.

The union has not yet announced whether it will boycott and refuse to provide services for the first ministers conference on the constitution which begins next week.

C O P E N H A G E N      C O N F E R E N C E

Lynn McDonald

As president of NAC I was invited to be a member of the Canadian delegation to the U.N. Mid-Decade Conference on Women, in Copenhagen, July 14-30, 1980. Vice-president Pat Preston attended the (unofficial) Mid-Decade Forum for Women, with Cathy Devlin, chairperson of the editorial committee. A number of representatives of NAC member groups were at the Forum, which gave us a good opportunity for informal meetings.

The fact of having representatives from voluntary organizations on the official delegation was new, and, I think, commendable. Gabrielle Motte represented the Fédération des Femmes du Québec, Norma Walmsley represented MATCH, and Mary Eady the Canadian Labour Congress. Doris Anderson was there for the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women. The delegation was headed by Lloyd Axworthy, seconded by Maureen O'Neil, Provincial cabinet ministers included Lise Payette, Lynn Verge and Mable Dewane. There were the women's critics for the PC Party (Walter McLean), NDP\*(Pauline Jewett) and two gentlemen from External Affairs. And please note that decisions were made by External Affairs in Ottawa, not by the delegation.

\*(other countries seemed to have senior women diplomats - why not Canada?)

At the Conference Canada signed the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women. This required the approval of all the provinces, which, officials tell us, was given in record time. Sixty-two countries have now signed, but the convention does not come into force until twenty countries have ratified it, the next stage after signing. (Signing indicates an intention to ratify, but, or so it was explained, not until a country has eliminated discriminatory legislation can it ratify. We, for example, would have to amend the Indian Act).

The wording of the convention is tough, requiring entrenchment of equal rights in any constitution, the prohibition of discrimination in laws, with sanctions for violations, and the adoption of special measures to accelerate the factual equality of the sexes. Specifics include mutual responsibility of men and women for child rearing, adequate day-care so that both parents can combine paid work and public life with child rearing, paid maternity benefits, non-sexist education, equal pay for work of equal value, equal citizenship rights and access to cultural life and sports.

The main work of the conference was the amending and approval of a programme of action, of concrete measures to improve the status of women at the international, regional, national and local levels. The final document, although somewhat watered down at the conference, contains, on the whole, a very solid and well thought out series of proposals. Amendments denouncing Zionism as a form of racism, and recognition of the PLO, made it unacceptable to the Canadian government, and in the end Canada (with the U.S., Israel and Australia) voted against. Most of the western European countries abstained. The Canadian government has since announced that its voting against implies no less commitment to implementing the programme of action, and I'm inclined to believe it.

Women's groups can use both the convention and the programme of action to press for change. Both contain good principles and sufficient detail to be useful models. NAC, for example, has already pointed out to Treasury Board that its refusal to grant paid maternity benefits (or indeed even to negotiate them) is contrary to the convention, article 11.

Copies of both the convention and the programme will be available through the Status of Women Canada offices, when they get them from the U.N.

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FACT SHEET -- CASE OF SANDRA LOVELACE

prepared by Saint John, N.B. Women's Political Action Group, June, 1980

SANDRA LOVELACE, a Maliseet Indian woman from the Tobique Reserve in New Brunswick, married a non-Indian. Under the Indian Act of Canada an Indian woman who marries a non-Indian man is stripped of her rights and forced to leave her reserve. Sandra, as well as other women of the Tobique Reserve are outraged that Section 12 1(b) of the Indian Act bestows GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZED "STATUS" ON NON-INDIAN WOMEN WHO MARRY INDIAN MEN WHILE STRIPPING INDIAN WOMEN WHO MARRY NON-INDIANS OF THEIR STATUS.

Sandra attempted to regain her status through the Canadian courts - failed - and has petitioned the Human Rights Committee of the United Nations for a redress of her grievances. Canada, like any country alleged to be in breach of the United Nations Covenant on Human Rights, must submit written explanation to the committee within 6 months. The Canadian government completed its document April 9, 1980.

IN A STATEMENT released to the press on May 23, the national organization Indian Rights for Indian women, acknowledged that they had, on the day before, received a photo-copy of the document through informal channels. Indian Rights for Indian Women stated that this was the FIRST TIME that they, as one of the two recognized native women's organizations in Canada, had any knowledge of its contents.

IRIW has formulated two basic objections to the Canadian government's position:

FIRST, the paper was prepared without consultation with IRIW or any other official Indian organization, in spite of the fact that it is concerned with issues VITAL TO CANADIAN INDIAN WOMEN.

SECOND, it does not provide a fair assessment of the situation. The document contains serious historical and sociological inaccuracies. It nowhere mentions the most obviously discriminatory aspect of the Indian Act, that the status section applies to women, but not to men. IT DOES NOT acknowledge that the law was made to limit and reduce Indian rights and is contrary to the interests of Indians as a whole.

ACTION SHEET - W R I T E T O:

- Your member of parliament
- The Hon. Lloyd Axworthy
- The Hon. Mark MacGuigan
- M.P. for Saint John: Mike Landers
- The Prime Minister of Canada
- The Hon. Flora MacDonald
- The Hon. John Munro

HERE ARE SOME POINTS TO INCLUDE IF YOU WISH:

For more than 10 years Trudeau governments have promised to amend Section 12 1 (b) of the Indian Act. That this blatant statement of discrimination remains enshrined in the statutes of Canada, a country that signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, is a serious embarrassment to all Canadians. It makes a mockery of any sentiments the Canadian government claims to hold in favour of equality for women.

Sandra Lovelace has been forced by the Canadian government's apathy to appeal to the United Nations for redress of her grievances. Section 12 1 (b) is clearly a violation of the civil, political and human rights of a group of Canadian women. How can the Canadian government justify its inaction??

SANDRA LOVELACE IS FIGHTING FOR ALL INDIAN WOMEN. She is one of about 5,000 Indian women who have lost their status in the past decade. The effect of this lost status can mean -- expulsion from reserves, denial of burial rights, loss of benefits, and loss of status to their children.

If you belong to a group or organization, perhaps the letters to MPs could be signed on behalf of your group.

For further information contact:  
 Sharon Paul, Secretary,  
 Indian Rights for Indian Women,  
 Box 44, Maliseet Tobique Reserve,  
 Maliseet, New Brunswick. EOJ 1V0

or: Saint John's Women's Political  
 Action Group,  
 c/o 166 King Street East,  
 Saint John, N.B. E2L 1H1

NB:  
Sandra Lovelace will be at NAC Meeting, Toronto, October 18 (Persons' Day)



CUPTE STRIKE

THE CANADIAN UNION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL EMPLOYEES are on rotating strikes. The federal government (Treasury Board) has rejected the recommendations of the conciliation board. A Treasury Board spokesman commented, "The leaders of our government are not willing to accept paid maternity leave under any conditions. Despite pressure by women's groups all over the country, the government feels there is no justification for it." Maternity leave, cost of living protection and pay increases are all under consideration.

NAC has given support to the translation group which has a majority of women members and has written to the M.P.s urging support for settlement. The CACSW postponed the Constitutional Conference and supported the union.

WRITE - CALL - the President of Treasury Board and your Member of Parliament, in support of CUPTE.

Michele Landsberg  
Toronto Star Sept. 26/80

# Chamber makes obscene attack on rights of women

Now just hold on a minute.

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce's proposal to deny unemployment insurance benefits to the pregnant has been rightly brushed aside by almost all observers as both silly and offensive.

But the more I think of it, the angrier I become and the less inclined I am to let the chamber's idea shrink back into deserved oblivion. There are some assumptions there that are so deeply offensive that they should be lanced, drained and disinfected.

First, let's dispose of the chamber's hypocritical little idea that women should negotiate maternity benefits in their union contracts, instead of claiming UIC benefits to which they're entitled.

The chamber chaps know as well as I do that only a tiny percentage of Canada's working women are unionized. (And who would be the most implacable enemy of women trying to win first contracts? Chamber of Commerce-type businessmen). Even for those who have struggled to organize, the winning of paid maternity leave would be like getting blood from a turnip. I can just imagine the bitter laughter of the women from Fleck or Radio Shack or Fotomat or Blue Cross — women who fought so hard and long for the most minimal concessions — if they were told to get paid maternity leave from their bosses.

Now let's get down to the real stuff at hand.

### Equal rights

Do women have a right to work? Let me rephrase that. Do we live in a democracy? If so, then all citizens have an equal right to enter the labor market. Half of all Canadian women have exercised that right. If women did not have that equal right, then this would not be a society offering equal opportunity for all.

Is that what the Chamber of Commerce wants? Clearly, yes.

Because a man, who inseminates, can work without interruptions. A woman, who bears the child, cannot.

If you take away her financial protection during pregnancy, she does not have the same rights to job security and continuity as he does. A man has total freedom to choose both to parent and to work, a freedom he takes utterly for granted. Without maternity benefits, however, a woman is robbed of her equal footing in the marketplace and must choose between the right to work and the right to parent.

It took our society a long, long time to notice the rock-bottom indecency of punishing a woman financially because she's the one with the womb. It wasn't until 1971 that the federal government affirmed the right of new mothers to the same benefits enjoyed by any other temporarily unemployed worker.

It's no use burbling on, as a Chamber of Commerce spokesman did on local radio, that pregnancy should be penalized because it is a "voluntary illness." Hogwash. It is not an illness; it is a normal and natural state of adult womanhood. And does the chamber propose that male smokers, drinkers and sedentary heart attack victims be deprived of medicare benefits?

### Bland smugness

The incredible, high-handed, bland, imperious smugness of these chamber men is exactly what kindled the fires of feminism to begin with, and exactly what impels us to continue the fight.

Pause here for a few useful facts. A trifling 4.3 per cent of all UIC benefits paid out in 1978 were maternity benefits. And although 63 per cent of the working women in Canada are in their childbearing years, only between 1 per cent and 3 per cent get maternity benefits in any one year.

So we are not talking about a giant drain on the Canadian economy. We are talking about a pittance to the UIC, though a lifeline to new mothers.

Second point. Social policies are not woven of clouds and daydreams. Social policies are hammered out on the forge of political debate and ultimately they are expressions of society's values. One of society's values is that it is good that women should bear children.

If all Canadian women stopped bearing children or indeed, if they stopped working, those smart guys up at the Chamber of Commerce would be sick with fear, because there goes the ballgame. No children, no economy, no future, no country, no Chamber of Commerce.

But those Chamber of Commerce fellows are supposed to understand all this economic stuff. How could they make such ignorant statements?

Well, this is one instance when their emotionalism and bias swept them off their feet, and they ignored all logic and economic sense.

Their proposal is not only stupid but an obscene attack on the rights of women.

PUBLIC SERVICE ALLIANCE STRIKE -- the majority of clerks in the Public Service Alliance are women - NAC supports their efforts to increase pay and improve working conditions - we hope our member groups will wish to indicate their support.

FUNDING  
FOR  
WOMEN'S PROGRAMMES  
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DID YOU KNOW THAT FUNDING FOR ALL WOMEN'S PROGRAMS THROUGH SECRETARY OF STATE WAS ONLY \$700,000 IN 1980-81?

SECRETARY OF STATE IN THE SAME YEAR GAVE THE FOLLOWING OTHER GRANTS:

Native Peoples	\$25 million
Multiculturalism	\$6.1 million
Bilingualism	\$11 million

So we get a SMALL PIECE of the pie and that small piece has been decreasing over the past few years. The biggest amount ever awarded to women -- surprise surprise -- was in International Women's Year:

- 1975 - \$2.5 million
- 1976 - \$500,000.
- 1977 - \$500,000.
- 1978 - \$500,000.
- 1979 - \$700,000.
- 1980 - \$700,000.

Of this small piece NAC gets the biggest -- \$50,000. \$50,000. to run a grass roots organization which connects 150 member groups, to lobby for issues and ideas which they consider important!

In searching for a comparison we thought that, on paper, the structure of our organization is similar to that of political parties, i.e. local riding committees working on local issues, connecting with the central organization. The similarity ends there. The budget of the Federal Liberal Party machine is about \$700,000 - the total budget for all women's programmes funded by Secretary of State.

WHY SHOULD WE GET MORE?

The role of Secretary of State is to encourage the participation of citizens in the political life of the country. Thus Native peoples are funded as are multicultural groups.

In a sophisticated democracy the government has recognized the principle that certain groups do not have the resources to participate fully and thus they have funded them. In so doing they are ensuring that these groups will contribute to and enrich Canadian society.

Obviously the funds for this participation are distributed on the basis of current government priorities. Thus native peoples and bilingualism have had a lot of money; women, needless to say, have not.

WE THINK IT IS TIME TO RE-ASSESS THE PRIORITIES OF SECRETARY OF STATE. THE GOVERNMENT'S THRONE SPEECH IN THE SPRING IDENTIFIED MANY WOMEN'S ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED -- WE THINK THAT THIS IS RECOGNITION OF THE PRIORITIES -- NOW WE NEED THE MONEY TO FINANCE THE CHANGES NECESSARY.

Of course there are lots of other reasons:

- we deserve it
- we are 52% of the population
- our issues are not being dealt with
- our publications are collapsing (see editorial note) through lack of money
- as full time workers we earn 57% of full time male workers' earnings
- we are not well represented in positions of power
- add your own favourite reason

W H A T   Y O U   C A N   D O

CALL OR WRITE YOUR LOCAL MP -- give him/her this information -- does he/she really know what is going on with women's funding; does he/she know ANYTHING ABOUT WOMEN'S FUNDING.

REMEMBER...NAC GETS THE BIGGEST SLICE OF THAT \$700,000, so it sets the cap for all other grants -- it is important to establish more for all women's groups.

...quote from Donald Johnston's letter - September 8/80

*"... I must first say that I sympathize with you, knowing full well how difficult it must be to try to operate your organization in the face of rising costs. I can fully appreciate the decisions you face when it becomes necessary to cut back your budget.*

*As I am sure you know, the Secretary of State is doing his utmost to allocate the funds available to him for granting purposes as equitably as possible. A review of this area is underway at this very moment and the Secretary of State will make public any applicable decision in this field at the appropriate time.*

*In the interim, please be assured that both the Secretary of State and I will keep your views in mind when this subject is being considered."*

...we do have some friends in Ottawa. They need support.... WRITE TO THE MINISTERS IN THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ENVELOPE.

...THE WHAT!!!

Well, the federal government budgets on the envelope system. That means that certain programs are grouped into one package or envelope and then the ministers in that "envelope" have to argue the merits of their particular program since the "envelope" has a fixed amount of money. Obviously some programs will have to get less than others.

Women's programmes fall into the Social Development Envelope.

The Ministers are:

- The Hon. Lloyd Axworthy, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women and Minister of Employment & Immigration
- The Hon. Jean Chretien, Minister of Justice
- The Hon. Monique Begin, Minister of Health and Welfare
- The Hon. John Munro, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
- The Hon. Francis Fox, Secretary of State

WRITE - CALL

THEY ARE CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ENVELOPE. LET OTTAWA KNOW THAT WE THINK 52% OF THE POPULATION NEED MORE THAN \$700,000 PER ANNUM.

LET'S ASK FOR AT LEAST \$5 MILLION. STILL PEANUTS COMPARED TO NATIVE PEOPLES AND TO MULTICULTURAL GROUPS.

We will continue to keep you up to date on this.

...that is - if we don't run out of you know what.....

NOTES from the NAC Executive Meeting, September 13

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- Two members of the Translators section of CUPTÉ appealed for support for their strike. The government refused to consider paid maternity leave and rejected the conciliators' recommendations. Maternity leave would add .64% to the total payroll of the public sector. NAC sent telegrams and urges member groups to write to the President of Treasury Board, Donald Johnston.
  - Ontario Status of Women Council sent telegrams to Provincial Premiers, expressing concern over proposal to transfer Family Law to jurisdiction of the provinces, as it may cause inequities for women.
  - REPORTS FROM NAC POLICY COMMITTEES TO THE EXECUTIVE

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE:

met with Minister of Employment & Immigration Lloyd Axworthy. The committee did not feel their concerns were responded to. Some information from that meeting:

- 10 week provision in maternity leave might disappear by 1982
- Axworthy distressed at Sandra Lovelace case; trespass charge
- Human Rights Commission Review of UIC will be completed by end of 1980

MEDIA COMMITTEE:

Research being done in areas of:

- advertising
- editorial decisions affecting news handling and coverage
- presentation of news
- women within the mass media organizational structure, i.e. employment, hiring, salaries, promotion, attitudes.

JUSTICE COMMITTEE:

preparing position papers on rape, pornography and prostitution. Papers may be ready by October 18th.

PENSIONS COMMITTEE:

NAC will participate in a spring Conference on Pensions - Lazar Report.

The next Executive Meeting will be held December 6-7, in Ottawa, and will recognize the 10th anniversary of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women.





REPORTS FROM THE REGIONS

Saskatchewan: Anna Bors, NAC Executive Member, represented Saskatchewan Action Committee and the National Action Committee at the 1980 seminar of the National Farmers' Union, August 2-6. The theme of the seminar was "Women Hold up Half the World" and 35 NFU women from across Canada addressed the challenges facing women in the 1980s, particularly their involvement in leadership. Women's historical position in society was the focus of guest speakers, and workshops centered around how women can improve their position by speaking out and becoming involved in decision making areas.

Halifax: NAC will co-sponsor a meeting on Women and the Constitution, at Mt. St. Vincent University in Halifax.

Toronto: Women for Political Action continues its very successful monthly dinners at the Hotel Plaza II, on the 18th of each month. The October dinner combines with NAC's MINI MID-YEAR MEETING, and has Lloyd Axworthy as speaker. For tickets call: WPA daytime phone services - 960-5860.

WPA held a campaign school in September in preparation for municipal elections.

QUEBEC

L'Association Féminine d'Education et d'Action Sociale

A l'Université Laval de Québec, les 18 et 19 août 1980, l'Association Féminine d'Education et d'Action Sociale s'est réunie pour son congrès. Plus de 1,000 membres ont assisté à ce congrès.

La pornographie demeure pour la deuxième année consécutive une priorité d'action et la pollution des eaux a été retenue comme autre priorité.

Mme Solange Gervais, présidente générale, qui a terminé un mandat de cinq (5) ans laisse la gouverne de l'Association à Mme Christiane Gagné de la Région de Rimouski. C'est par ovation de quelques minutes que les congressistes lui ont manifesté leur reconnaissance.

Comme autres membres du Conseil Exécutif on retrouve Mmes Lucille Bellemare, Ginette Voyer-Gagnon, Marie-Claire Lussier, Louise Joly et Rita Villeneuve.

Les déléguées au nombre de 160, sensibles aux besoins des femmes désirent que des pressions soient faites pour réaliser l'égalité homme-femme. Pour les victimes de viol, l'AFEAS demande le maintien de l'accroissement des Centres d'aide et de lutte contre les agressions à caractère sexuel comme organismes autonomes en leur garantissant le versement de subventions permanentes.

La santé physique et mentale demeure une préoccupation constante à l'AFEAS. On demande qu'une campagne d'information sur la santé mentale et sur l'abus des médicaments à l'intention du grand public soit faite par les média d'information.

...Devant l'extrême pauvreté des personnes âgées, les membres ont aussi adopté la proposition suivante que soient élargis les services d'aide à domicile à travers tout le Québec et que ces services soient gratuits.

Afin d'assurer une plus grande participation des femmes en politique, l'AFEAS demande que ce ne soit pas seulement les usagers mais tout le monde qui ait droit d'être représenté sur un conseil d'administration dans un établissement public de santé et de services sociaux. L'AFEAS recommande aussi que les commissaires d'école soient élus pour trois (3) ans et ne puissent être en fonction plus de deux (2) mandats consécutifs.

...L'AFEAS désire que plus d'information soit dispensée aux professeurs et aux parents sur l'intégration des enfants en difficulté d'apprentissage.

C'est avec grand intérêt que les membres ont suivi les délibérations et ont écouté le compte-rendu de Mme Micheline Villemure qui a représenté notre mouvement lors de la Conférence internationale des femmes tenue à Copenhague. La femme collaboratrice du mari a retenu beaucoup l'attention lors de ces assises.

Lynn McDonald, Présidente du CNA a assisté à la conférence.



During the last session of Parliament, only the following 46 (out of 281) members spoke up in the House of Commons to support issues of concern to women. This is certainly better than previous sessions, but a pretty poor showing overall. MEMO readers are urged to pat your MP on the back if she/he has spoken up (enough) for us. If your MP has been (relatively) silent, find out why. Tell them to do better next session. (Free subscriptions to Hansard are available on request from your MP.)

<u>Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women (Appointments)</u>		<u>Pension Equality for Women</u>	
Pauline Jewett (NDP)	April 18	Stanley Knowles (NDP)	April 13,16,18 21, May 26,27 June 2,3,7,20
<u>Canadian Broadcasting Corp'n ("Ombudsman")</u>		Donald Munro (PC)	May 12
Mark Rose (NDP)	May 29	David Crombie (PC)	May 21
<u>Constitutional Reform (Family Law)</u>		Neil Young (NDP)	May 26
Ray Hnatyshyn (PC)	July 10	Robert Howie (PC)	May 26
<u>Day Care</u>		Peter Lang (LIB)	May 26
Walter McLean (PC)	May 15	Gordon Taylor (PC)	May 26
Neil Young (NDP)	May 29	Vince Dantzer (PC)	May 27
<u>Employment Programs for Women</u>		Bob Corbett (PC)	May 27
Bob Orlikow (NDP)	April 22/June 18	Flora MacDonald (PC)	June 16
Bob Rae (NDP)	May 7	<u>Pensions for Widows of Veterans</u>	
Pauline Jewett (NDP)	May 8/May 22	Daniel MacDonald (LIB)	July 9
Walter McLean (PC)	May 15	Allan McKinnon (PC)	July 9
Joe Clark (PC)	May 15	Stanley Knowles (NDP)	July 9
Jim Hawkes (PC)	June 2,3,5	Joe Reid (PC)	July 9
Bruce Lonsdale (LIB)	June 4	Gordon Towers (PC)	July 9
Doug Anguish (NDP)	July 2	<u>Property Rights for Veterans' Spouses</u>	
<u>Equal Opportunity</u>		Allan McKinnon (PC)	July 9
Cyril Keeper (NDP)	June 4	<u>RAPE</u>	
Pauline Jewett (NDP)	July 3	Svend Robinson (NDP)	June 4/July 3,7
Margaret Mitchell (NDP)	July 15	Pauline Jewett (NDP)	July 3
<u>Equal Rights</u>		<u>Sexual Harassment</u>	
Stanley Knowles (NDP)	May 8/July 17	Svend Robinson (NDP)	June 16
Pauline Jewett (NDP)	July 22	<u>Tax Deductions for Spouses Working on Farms and Unincorporated Businesses</u>	
<u>Maternity Benefits</u>		Roch LaSalle (PC)	April 15
Charles Caccia (LIB)	June 6	<u>Unemployment Insurance for Part-Time Workers</u>	
Cyril Keeper (NDP)	June 6	Neil Young (NDP)	June 18
<u>Native Women's Rights</u>		David Orlikow (NDP)	June 19
Flora MacDonald (PC)	July 7	Sid Parker (NDP)	June 26
Jim Manley (NDP)	July 9	Coline Campbell (LIB)	June 26
<u>All Women MPs and Senators</u>	July 17	Howard Crosby (PC)	July 2
<u>Outreach Programs for Women</u>		Svend Robinson (NDP)	July 2
Pauline Jewett (NDP)	June 3/June 17	Margaret Mitchell (NDP)	July 2
<u>Public Service Discrimination</u>		<u>Unemployment Insurance and Wives Working Outside the Home</u>	
Pauline Jewett (NDP)	April 18/June 12	David Crombie	May 27
Rod Murphy (NDP)	May 20	<u>Unemployment Insurance for Fisherwomen Married to Fishermen</u>	
Bruce Lonsdale (LIB)	May 22	Dave Dingwall (LIB)	July 11
Walter McLean (PC)	May 27	Lloyd Axworthy (LIB)	July 11
Lorne Nystrom (NDP)	May 29		
Sid Parker (NDP)	July 11		

THE FOLLOWING MP'S MADE ANTI-WOMAN PRESENTATIONS

<u>Anti-Choice on Abortion</u>	Thomas Siddon (PC)	May 9
	Albert Cooper (PC)	May 28
	Gordon Taylor (PC)	May 28
	Jesse Flis	May 29
	D.M. Collette (LIB)	June 13

SOME BILLS WERE BROUGHT TO THE HOUSE WHICH WERE/ARE OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO WOMEN:

BILL	WHOSE BILL	IMPORTANCE FOR WOMEN
C3 - U.I. AMENDMENTS	Government (Lloyd Axworthy)	Return to 1978 status quo for eligibility for U.I. benefits for part-time workers. <u>PASSED JUNE 18</u>
C16 - OLD AGE SECURITY	Government (Monique Bégin)	Increased GIS to \$35 a month for single and married pensioners. <u>PASSED MAY 27</u>
C38 - GARNISHMENT ATTACHMENT AND PENSION DIVISION	Government (Jean Chrétien)	Permits attachment of public servants' salaries (i.e. for maintenance orders) <u>INTRODUCED JUNE 27</u>
C40 - MILITARY AND CIVILIAN WAR PENSIONS, COMPENSATIONS AND ALLOWANCES	Government (Daniel MacDonald)	Increases pension eligibility for veterans' widows <u>PASSED JULY 9</u>
C205 - U.I. AMENDMENT RESPECTING MATERNITY BENEFITS	Private Member (Charles Caccia) (Liberal)	Eliminates "magic 10" rule and other nonsense <u>TALKED OUT JUNE 6</u>

THE GOVERNMENT HAS STILL NOT INTRODUCED LEGISLATION OR ANNOUNCED PROGRAMS TO RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING THRONE SPEECH PROMISES:

- Employment program for women
- Training programs for women
- New forms of cooperation with volunteer groups in community service programs
- Affirmative Action in the Public Service
- Violence against women (Criminal Code amendments, support to services)

UNINFORMED M.P.s

MEMO Readers are urged to give the facts to the following MP's:

- PAT CARNEY (PC) and DONALD MUNRO (PC) who on June 11 asked for Criminal Code amendments giving more anti-prostitution powers to local police. Local authorities now have - but do not exercise - the power they need to curb prostitution. Far more attention should be paid to the more serious and prevalent program of harassment of women by men who think -- or want to pretepd -- they have found a prostitute or prostitute-surrogate.
- EVA CÔTE (LIB) and JIM HAWKES (PC) who on June 6 spoke unknowledgeably to oppose Bill C205 (Maternity Benefits). HAWKES wanted to wait for a general U.I. review (same old song). CÔTE appeared to agree, made a few strange statements about "the fair sex" and the 'flexibility' (!) of current maternity benefits provisions.

NB: *This assessment of performance of MP's during the last session was prepared by Rosemary Billings, member NAC Executive Committee.*

PENSIONS CONFERENCE

The Federal Pensions Conference to be hosted by Monique Begin has been postponed until late winter/early spring. The Conference is waiting for the report from the Ontario Commission on Pensions.

Ed Tamagnos\* is Begin's special assistant on this topic. He has told us that women's issues will be thoroughly covered at the conference and that NAC will be invited!!!

If you get a chance and you are interested in this topic, get a copy of the Lazar report -- the insurance companies are certain that this is going to be used as the major document in the debate on pensions.

\* Department of Health & Welfare  
House of Commons,  
Ottawa, Ontario. K1A 0A6



PAPERS

FILMS

PUBLICATIONS

HEALTHSHARING: a publication for women concerned about health issues.

available from:  
Women Healthsharing  
P.O. Box 230, Station M.,  
Toronto, Ont. M6S 4T3

MACLEAN'S MAGAZINE...

NAC has responded to 2 recent columns in MACLEAN'S magazine, by Barbara Amiel, which name NAC's President, and others, and provide erroneous facts and anti-women opinions.

Dates of the columns are: July 14 and September 8, 1980. On file in the NAC office : NAC's (unpublished) response - the work of NAC Executive Member Rosemary Billings - to the July 14th column, and contains good information on the Equal Rights Amendment.

Barbara Amiel, in the Sept. 8 column, calls supporters of the Equal Rights Amendment "a tiny hysterical band of militants, and makes some negative comments on the CBC's guidelines on "The Portrayal of Women".

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE papers on the CONSTITUTION:

- Speeches by: Jean Chretien:
- Opening Statement
  - Supreme Court-Charter of Rights & Freedoms
  - Patriation- Statement of Principles
  - Power over the Economy

available from: Advisory Council on the Status of Women,  
51 Sparks St., Ottawa, Ont.  
(Donna Greenslade: 995-8284)





The following is the text of a press release issued by the Minister of Employment and Immigration, which the Minister has asked NAC to circulate:

'New Government Employment Program is Directed at Voluntary Groups

Through Canada Community Services Projects, the federal government will enter into new partnership arrangements with voluntary organizations.

Canada Community Services Projects makes funding available to established non-profit organizations, to enable them to hire unemployed persons, particularly women, Native people, youth and the disabled, and to increase and improve social service activities dealing with the serious problems faced by women, Native people and immigrants.

Established non-profit organizations are considered to be those which have been in operation for at least six months, are involved in a community activity and have a community-based membership with elected officers. Individuals and government departments or agencies are not eligible to become employers under the program.

Organizations may apply for funding for periods of up to one, two or three years. Proposals for more than one year will be subject to a diminishing funding formula (66 and 33 per cent of year one support in years two and three). The funding will consist of a contribution to wages, wage-related costs, overhead and, where applicable, certain capital or material costs.

An organization interested in Canada Community Services Projects funding should develop a proposal that would employ one or more people in full-time jobs, that are in addition to normal, ongoing or planned responsibilities. They should also include evidence that employees will receive necessary supervision, training and/or support.

Proposed activities should not stimulate needs that will not be met when program funding ends. If needs are ongoing, organizations should include concrete plans to meet needs after program funding is exhausted.

Persons employed in jobs supported by the program must be referred from a Canada Employment Centre and will have been unemployed and actively seeking work for eight weeks.

For more information and application forms, contact your nearest Canada Employment Centre or Employment Development Branch Office, Employment and Immigration Canada.

Proposals will be accepted from September 1st, 1980, until funds are exhausted.'

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français au verso

NOUVEAU PROGRAMME FEDERAL A L'INTENTION DES GROUPES BENEVOLES

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Grâce aux Projets de services communautaires du Canada, le gouvernement fédéral va pouvoir conclure des accords de collaboration avec des organisations bénévoles.

En effet, la Programme mettra des fonds à la disposition d'organisations établies à but non lucratif, pour leur permettre d'engager des chômeurs, particulièrement des femmes, des autochtones, des jeunes et des handicapés, et pour accroître et améliorer les services sociaux s'occupant des problèmes sérieux au'affrontent les femmes, les autochtones et les immigrants.

Les organisations sans but lucratif admissibles doivent être établies depuis au moins six mois, s'occuper d'activités communautaires et être composées de membres de la collectivité et d'un conseil élu par ces derniers. Les particuliers et les ministères ou organismes gouvernementaux ne sont pas admissibles au programme.

Les organisations doivent soumettre des projets qui dureront un, deux ou trois ans, s'ils sont acceptés, les projets de plus d'un an seront financés selon une proportion décroissante, soit 66% la deuxième année et 33% la troisième. Ils recevront une contribution au titre des salaires des participants, des frais connexes, des frais généraux d'exploitation et, s'il y a lieu, des coûts d'immobilisation ou de matériel.

Toute organisation intéressée à participer doit présenter un projet prévoyant le recrutement d'au moins un travailleur à plein temps dont les activités s'ajouteront aux responsabilités régulières ou prévues. La demande de participation devra également indiquer de quelle façon concrète elles comptent poursuivre ces activités après le programme.

Les organisations participantes seront présentées aux Projets de services communautaires du Canada par un Centre d'Emploi du Canada. Il devra s'agir de chômeurs qui cherchent activement du travail depuis au moins huit semaines.

Pour obtenir plus de renseignements ou des formulaires d'inscription, on peut s'adresser à n'importe quel Centre d'Emploi du Canada ou bureau de la Direction du développement de l'emploi d'Emploi et Immigration Canada. Les projets seront étudiés à compter du 1er septembre et seront acceptés jusqu'à épuisement des ressources financières prévues.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Canadian Research Institute  
for the Advancement of Women

**Fourth Annual Meeting**  
**Women and Power during the Eighties**

November 14 to 16, 1980  
Holiday Inn, Toronto - Downtown  
89 Chestnut Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5G 1R1

for additional information write to: Dr. Norma V. Bowen, Conference Co-ordinator  
Dept. of Psychology, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario. N1G 2W1  
or Register with: Marguerite Maxwell, 100 Maitland St. Apt. 302, Toronto. M4Y 1E2

Advance Notice

The Education  
Connection

A conference for and about women

October  
17-19  
1980

Mount Saint Vincent University  
Halifax  
Nova Scotia  
Canada

for further information:  
Mary Corkery,  
National Co-ordinator, CCLOW  
29 Prince Arthur Avenue,  
Toronto, Ontario.  
M5R 1B2 (416) 924-6607

Exploring the connection between  
learning opportunities for women in  
The Workplace  
Poverty  
Home and Society

Marking the mid-point in  
the United Nations decade for women  
with keynote speakers:

Dr. Berit Ås:  
Norwegian Member of Parliament  
Feminist  
Social Psychologist  
United Nations delegate  
Assistant Professor at  
the University of Oslo

Dr. Margaret Fulton:  
President of Mount Saint Vincent  
University  
Reporting from the United Nations  
conference, July 1980  
in Copenhagen

Conference sponsored by  
The Canadian Committee on Learning  
Opportunities for Women (CCLOW)  
and Mount Saint Vincent University

# Feminists upset about pageant

By Donna Balkan  
Citizen staff writer

Several regional councillors agree with local feminist groups that the region should not provide \$2,000 for a beauty contest at this year's Ex.

Rosemary Billings, an executive member of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, said Wednesday she has written a letter to Ottawa Mayor Marion Dewar protesting a regional executive committee decision recommending the grant to the Miss World Canada pageant.

The feminists' views have already received support from several regional councillors, including Ottawa alderman Toddy Kehoe.

"There's no way I'm going to be voting in favor of that sort of thing," she said Wednesday.

Other councillors, including Ottawa Controller Brian Bouris, have also indicated they will probably oppose the grant when it comes before regional council next week.

Dewar, a member of the executive committee, voted in favor of the grant Tuesday, after pageant organizer Jennifer Hosten-Craig argued the Aug. 30 Civic Centre event would not be a typical beauty contest. Only one committee member, Ottawa alderman Rolf Hasenack, voted against the grant.

"Support of this proposal is an unnecessary insult to the women of this region," Billings said, adding that she is planning to write to other regional councillors as well. "I think the committee has been conned."

Although Hosten-Craig stressed the pageant would

include seminars and that the contestants would be judged on "personality and deportment" rather than mere looks, Billings said the event is still a beauty contest.

"This is the typical kind of window dressing that beauty contests are having to do these days to show that they're something more than a meat market," she said. "But a meat market is a meat market, no matter how you slice it."

If the Miss World organizers really wanted to recognize women's achievements, Billings said, they should "give awards for real achievement, not just how well you shave your legs."

Billings added that when regional chairman Andy Haydon was reeve of Nepean several years ago, he proposed that a regional grant to the feminist-oriented Ottawa Women's Centre be reduced to "\$1 and some shuttlecocks."

Jan Mears, an active member of the Ottawa Women's Lobby, said her group will also be lobbying councillors to oppose the grant.

Mears disputed Hosten-Craig's argument that the winner of the pageant would tour the world as an "ambassador" for Canadian women.

"Whoever they're going to elect in that kind of procedure is certainly not my idea of someone who represents Canadian women," she said. "Someone who comes from a modelling school or a finishing school doesn't represent me or any of the women who have contributed to social change in Canada."

*Citizen Aug 7/80*

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" Update - Ottawa City voted not to give funds "