

SUMMER
1988



BC Women's Secretariat

Newsletter

Secretariat Works for Women in B.C. and Across Canada



E

very year, senior status of women officials from B.C. and beyond accompany their ministers to a national conference.

There the ministers discuss a wide range of women's issues, exchange information and ideas, and take on responsibilities for various federal/provincial/territorial activities.

"We share information and work together on projects so that we don't reinvent the wheel," said Executive Director Chris Bullen of B.C.'s Women's Secretariat. "Knowing what is being done to help women in other jurisdictions also gives us an eye for what we might do here."

This year, the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women was held in Ste.-Foy, Quebec in June. Agenda items included women and health, Native women, access to credit, progress on **Towards a Labour Force Strategy: A Framework for Training for Women**, counselling, work and family responsibilities, national strategy on child care, and pay equity.

A key item on the agenda was B.C.'s report on women's access to credit. In 1987, British Columbia agreed to coordinate a national review. The Women's Secretariat developed a questionnaire and sent it to all senior status of women officials in Canada. According to the responses, legislation and regulations that govern credit-granting institutions are generally adequate. However, few jurisdictions or institutions have explicit policies guaranteeing equality for women in obtaining credit. Further, while there appears to be little hard evidence of discrimination against women applying for credit, there is a perception of discrimination.



Ministers attending the 7th Annual Conference of FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR STATUS OF WOMEN.

FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT

Hon. Joseph Ghiz, Premier, Prince Edward Island; Hon. Monique Gagnon-Tremblay, Minister Responsible for Status of Women, Quebec; Hon. Barbara McDougall, Minister Responsible for Status of Women, Canada; Hon. Len Sims, Minister Responsible for Status of Women, Newfoundland; Hon. Margaret Joe, Minister Responsible for Status of Women, Yukon.

BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT

Hon. Charlotte Olesen, Minister Responsible for Status of Women, Manitoba; Hon. Maxine Cohran, Minister Responsible for Status of Women, Nova Scotia; Hon. Stan Hagen, Minister Responsible for Status of Women, B.C.; Hon. Elaine McCoy, Minister Responsible for Status of Women, Alberta; Hon. Grant Schmidt, Minister of Human Resources, Saskatchewan; Hon. Andrea Landry, President of Exec. Council (Representing Premier Frank Moores), New Brunswick; Hon. Jeanne-Marie Jewell, Minister Responsible for Status of Women, North West Territories.

In its report, the Women's Secretariat suggested several possible follow-up activities, including:

- conducting a study to gather hard data on the difficulties that women experience in obtaining credit;
- encouraging credit-grantors to develop explicit policies on women's access to credit;
- developing an information campaign directed at credit-grantors and loans officers—regarding women's successful use of credit; and
- informing women about their rights, the importance of credit ratings and requirements of loan institutions.

The Secretariat has also been involved in a study of Native women and economic development. Officials in each jurisdiction across Canada have been consulting with Native women's groups to develop an action plan. Advanced Education and Job Training Minister Stan Hagen, who is the minister responsible in B.C. and the

Secretariat will set up an informal advisory group to help develop the action plan for B.C. The group will consist of representatives of the women who have been involved in the consultation.

On another front, B.C. is a member of a working committee to review counselling material for women and to recommend guidelines for counselling. The committee is establishing procedures to ensure that materials, training packages and publications concerning counselling for women are shared among jurisdictions, and that current labour market information and future projections are provided to all agencies offering training. The committee is also working to ensure that training and employment-related counselling is current and non-sexist.

"There is much to be done at the national level," commented Bullen. "The Women's Secretariat must focus on a few key issues and address those issues in depth." ■

Update on Secretariat Activities

The Women's Secretariat is actively contributing to long range planning within the Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training and within the government as a whole. In terms of the Premier's long-term planning initiative—the government's 10-year planning process—Chris Bullen, Executive Director of the Secretariat, is representing all women in government.

The Secretariat held a meeting of all Women's Programs Advisors in March. Participants received an update of Secretariat activities. They discussed their Action Plans and shared their ideas concerning workplace opportunities such as job exchanges, bridging positions, job sharing and mentorship.

The Secretariat is taking an active role as a member of two new interministerial working groups—one that is examining the issues and concerns surrounding job sharing and another that is studying mentorship.

Other Secretariat activities are covered elsewhere in this newsletter: the Women's Grants Program; research and information exchanges involving federal, provincial and territorial jurisdictions; training programs; business and management conferences; provincial board and commission appointments; new publications; and the Vancouver Resource Centre. ■

Women and Management Seminar Held

In May, the Women's Secretariat sponsored a seminar for women working in senior management in the public service. The purpose of the seminar was to address the issue of under-representation of women at senior levels. Almost all ministries participated.

Advanced Education and Job Training Minister Stan Hagen opened the seminar; Deputy Ministers Isabel Kelly, Bob Plecas and Bob Flitton, and B.C. Transit Vice-President Dale Michaels addressed the participants.

Details of the seminar and its recommendations will be published in the next issue of this newsletter. ■

Resource Centre Receives Regular Use



Diane Painter, assistant in the Resource Centre, uses the Centre's computerized referral list.

The Women's Secretariat operates a Resource Centre in downtown Vancouver to assist government employees, community groups and the general public. The Centre offers a wide range of resources, including a reference library, audiovisuals, a data bank of community-based agencies and an agency referral service.

Staff at the Centre field requests for information on a wide variety of subjects. During the first week of May, for example, they helped 131 clients locate information and contacts relating to topics that ranged from employment, daycare and women's networks to wills, disability pensions and accreditations.

"One woman, who came in recently, represents a type of person we see quite commonly," said June Love, Coordinator of the Centre. "She came in one day, despondent. She was looking for a job. We gave her a few starting points, showed her some material on resume writing and told her about re-entry programs.

"She kept coming back, and as we talked to her, it became obvious that employment was not her only problem—her housing and her health were



June Love, Coordinator of the Resource Centre.

unsatisfactory. We tried to help her with both problems by directing her to appropriate information".

Other frequent visitors to the Resource Centre are businesswomen. They want information on how to set up a business plan and how to present themselves to a bank manager.

"Our Centre has many useful references for new or prospective businesswomen," said Love. "We also refer them to agencies like the Ministry of Economic Development for more help. Our agency referral is becoming more useful as our data bank grows, and we can identify resources according to the province's eight economic regions."

The Resource Centre is still at 800 Hornby Street, but it has moved upstairs to more appropriate space in Room 325. Drop in or call 660-6800. ■

Minister's Message



On May 6, 1988, I was pleased to open the Women and Management Seminar, organized by the Women's Secretariat in my Ministry, for senior women managers in the public service. For me it was an opportunity to meet women managers and discuss the issues women face as they advance in the public service. For the women in attendance it was an opportunity to meet and learn from one another, to hear from Deputy Ministers about what is needed to climb the public service ladder, and to work together in developing strategies which will address the current under-representation of women in the ranks of our senior managers.

I believe that the government, as a major employer in this province, has a responsibility to lead by example, ensuring that female employees have equal opportunities for employment and advancement. Participation by and input from senior women employees will also assist government in drafting laws and developing policies which enhance opportunities for all women.

The Women and Management seminar is one step toward our goal of increasing the number of women in senior management in the public service. During the year, the Women's Secretariat will be meeting executives of ministries and crown corporations, working with women's groups and committees within the public service, and participating in long range government planning - all with the aim of improving the situation for female employees. As the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women in British Columbia, I support the endeavours of the Women's Secretariat and urge you to communicate with them and find out more about what they are doing. ■

Stan Hagen
Honourable Stanley B. Hagen
Minister of Advanced Education and Job Training and
Minister Responsible for Science and Technology

Secretariat Recommends Women for Boards

The Women's Secretariat has undertaken a project to compile a list of qualified women who may be recommended as potential appointees to the various boards and commissions related to B.C. government ministries. Currently, there are 535 of these boards ranging from provincial park and hospital boards to the B.C. Hydro Board and the Board of Parole.

Historically, women have been under-represented on boards. Now the Secretariat is working to correct that by recommending capable women with diverse talents to meet the wide-ranging needs of boards throughout B.C.

"I believe that if we can appoint women to membership on these boards, we will begin to see some real changes in policy development," said Advanced Education and Job Training Minister Stan Hagen.

If you know someone you would like to recommend, please contact the Secretariat. We will do the necessary followup with each individual. ■

Six Women Appointed to the First OLA Board

The provincial government has appointed six women to the 11-member Board of Directors of the newly-created Open Learning Agency (OLA). One of the four vice-presidents of the OLA, Lucille Pacey, is also a woman. She is the General Manager of the Knowledge Network, as well.

In cooperation with the province's colleges, institutes and universities, the OLA will plan, coordinate and direct the development of open learning in British Columbia. Among its responsibilities is the Knowledge Network and the continuing functions of the Open Learning Institute.

The women appointed to the board are:

- Dianne Kerr of Kamloops, an educational consultant and former Kamloops councillor;
- Donna Mackey of West Vancouver, a special assistant to federal Minister Pat

Carney and a former secondary school teacher;

- Jacqueline Riches of Invermere, president of Kari Lynn Holdings Ltd. and a former member of the East Kootenay Community College Board of Directors;

- Donna Barnett, mayor of 100 Mile House and a former member of the Cariboo College Board of Directors;

- Margaret Moran of Dawson Creek, a school teacher and librarian; and

- Margaret Vickers of Prince Rupert, a community development worker and former vice-president of the Professional Native Women's Association of B.C.

"I am very pleased that these individuals have agreed to provide direction to this extremely exciting field of education," said Advanced Education and Job Training Minister Stan Hagen. "Open learning is the fastest-growing sector of education." ■

Grants Further Women's Opportunities

The Women's Resource Society in Campbell River, the Immigrant Services Society of B.C., and the Indian Homemakers' Association of B.C. have something in common. During 1987-88, they all received financial support through the Women's Secretariat Women's Grants Program.

Last year, 48 projects received \$287 277. Of that amount, \$47 500 came from the Secretariat's Discretionary Grant and \$239 777 came from the Women's Non-Traditional Employment Program (WNTPE). In 1988-89, \$297 500 are available for grants.

This year, the Women's Secretariat will give priority to projects that:

- encourage women to become entrepreneurs and employers;
- increase training and employment;
- increase the range of occupations available to women;
- enable women to use new technologies effectively;
- target specific regional needs and have letters of support from recognized community groups, mayors for MLA's.

The Women's Employment Skills Training Program at Horizon College in Vancouver is one example of a program funded through the Secretariat. Many of the participants have at least a grade eight education but need to achieve functional literacy, greater self-awareness and confidence.

"It's a bridging program for women who have been out of the work force for an extended period," said Thelma Plecas who spearheads the program. "We provide academic upgrading and--even more important--a supportive environment. These women spend hours examining their values and identifying realistic career goals. When they leave here, we want them to be ready to take charge of their own lives. We've found that many of them also turn their families around--by being positive role models."

Deltassist's Women in Conflict with the Law Counselling Service also received financing through the Women's Grants



Recent successful graduates of the Women's Employment Skills Training class (WEST) at Horizon College

Top Right: Carol Fox, Linda McLean

Back Row: Kaili Mann, Liz Moorhouse, Christine Twyman, Ranny Euterman, Paddy Lang, Christine Weaver, Hannah Reinhart, Sherry Woodsford

Middle Row: Payy-Jo Otway, Marion Pick, Prem Singh, Margaretta Vaughan, Rosemary Klassen, Indranie (Carla) Singh, Evelyn Dumais

Front Row: (Staff) Marcy Green, Lois Dohel, Mindell Wilson, Thelma Plecas

Missing From Picture: Sally Allan, Deborah Miller and Suzanne Rutter

Program in 1987-88. The Deltassist program provides one-to-one counselling for girls and women over age 14, living in Delta and Surrey. Between August 1987 and April 1988 the service received 72 referrals.

"We have received a lot of good feedback about our service from probation officers," said Irene McRae of Deltassist "and we have some success stories. For instance, one woman has given up working the streets in Vancouver and now has a regular job; another woman brought in her boyfriend for counselling -- they had both been robbing stores -- and they have turned around."

Hilda Ching of the Society for Canadian Women in Science and Technology (SCWIST) was involved in organizing science workshops for elementary school teachers in another project funded by the Women's Grants Program. One of the goals of the workshops was to increase teachers'

awareness of directing science instruction at girls. Training in sciences and mathematics is very important to career development--yet girls frequently bypass these courses.

"The teachers gained confidence in presenting science to students of both sexes," said Ching. "Women scientists at the workshops were subtle role models for the many female teachers. Further, many of the teachers took science packages from the workshop and used them directly in the classrooms."

If you are considering applying for a grant, or would like more information on the Women's Grants Program, contact the Women's Secretariat and ask for a brochure. An application form and a copy of the regulations can also be picked up or mailed to you on request (or obtained from your local Government Agent's office). ■

Women Entrepreneurs Capture Prizes



SFU New Enterprise Program 1988: Margaret Hoover, first prize winner; Paul St. Pierre, Director, Economic Development Programs, SFU Downtown Campus; Sylvia Gajdics, third prize winner.

Two women who received bursaries under the Women's Grants Program to study business planning at Simon Fraser University were awarded prizes for excellence this year. The prizes, awarded to the top three entrepreneurs in the New Enterprise Program, were provided by Ventures West Technologies, Van City Credit Union and Creo Electronics.

Margaret Hoover of West Vancouver won the \$500 prize given to the top student. A former personnel officer in the B.C. public service, Hoover recently took the early retirement option and studied business. In her new firm, Margaret Hoover and Associates, she will draw on her extensive experience in human resource management to offer services in recruitment, job evaluation and training.

"Taking this course really gave me the guidance and confidence that I needed," said Hoover, "and the government bursary helped me to do it."

The second bursary winner, Sylvia Gajdics of Kitsilano went on to win the \$100 third prize in the New Enterprise Program. Gajdics' company, Creative Lifestyles International, offers health, fitness and spa-oriented vacations in B.C. She has a degree in physical education and job experience with Fitness Canada and, more recently, with St. John Ambulance where she has been developing safety and first aid training programs for B.C. schools.

"As a market test, we are offering one weekend called the 'B.C. Spa Experience' in October. it will have fitness, nutrition, stress management, body/beauty treatments and cultural components," said Gajdics. "If that goes well, we may offer it on 12 weekends a year."

"Both of these women developed good business plans and have promising businesses," commented Paul St. Pierre, Director of SFU's Economic Development Program. ■

Courses for Women in the Public Service Prove Popular

As a first step towards meeting the training needs of women in the public service, the Women's Secretariat coordinated a series of six pilot courses in Victoria and the Lower Mainland this year. The courses focused on presentation skills, assertiveness training, stress management, conflict resolution, communication skills and dealing with difficult people. All six were fully booked, and some had to be run a second time to meet popular demand.

Next year, new courses will be offered in Victoria and the Lower Mainland; and selected courses will be available for the first time in Prince George, Terrace, Kamloops and Kelowna.

The Secretariat recently chaired a steering committee to revise and update the manuals for Taking Charge of Your Career, a training program in strong demand by women in the public service. Members of the committee included Brenda Knox, Ministry of Environment and Parks; Marg Sorensen, Ministry of Attorney General; and Janet Powell, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Relations. The new manuals will be available by September. ■

New Publications

The Women's Secretariat has produced five new brochures:

- The Women's Secretariat: Province of British Columbia
- Women's Grants Program
- Women And Pensions: What You Should Know
- Women In Business: How To Get Financing
- Women In Business: Where To Get Help

Contact the Vancouver office at 660-6800, the Victoria office at 387-3600, or the Government Agent's office in your community for copies ■

Advisors' Corner...

Since 1982, Women's Advisors have been appointed in each ministry and one Crown corporation to advise government on issues affecting women within the public service. Annual Action Plans are submitted to the Women's Secretariat, and the implementation of approved initiatives is regularly assessed. Advisory committees in each ministry/Crown corporation contribute to the development of these Action Plans and coordinate Women's Program activities. Communication among the Women's Advisors, the Women's Secretariat, regions and districts is an essential part of the Women's Secretariat's mandate to coordinate initiatives for women in the public service.

Advisors are encouraged to submit summaries of their activities to be included in the Women's Secretariat Newsletter. This issue contains reports from two Advisors. If you have any questions regarding activities in your ministry, please contact your Ministry Advisor.

Ministry of Education

Membership in the re-established Advisory

Committee is now voluntary and flexible, and informal monthly breakfast meetings have been well received. Advisor and committee activities include:

- helping to update the career library;
- helping to establish a bridging position;
- encouraging the inclusion of statistics, in the annual report, on female participation in the school system;
- offering Taking Charge of Your Career in Vancouver this summer;
- investigating the possibility of including a counselling program for girls in the new provincial Health and Guidance program; and
- studying the feasibility of providing day care services when staff move to new facilities.

Recent promotions of women include:

- Florian Pangka from a coordinator's position in National and International Education to a management position in Budget Development and Analysis;
- Janice MacRae from a secretarial position

in Educational Programs to a coordinator's position in National and International Education and

- Connie Clark from Manager of Budget Development and Analysis to Executive Coordinator in the Deputy Minister's office.

Ministry of Finance and Corporate Relations

The Women's Programs Committee has initiated a mentorship program to help employees develop their careers by drawing upon the experience of those already well-established in their fields. Twenty employees (including 18 women) have applied for personnel, accounting, securities and research. Matched mentors/mentorees have agreed to meet every four to six weeks for six months, then review their progress.

The program is continuing to accept applications.

Interested employees should contact Helen Ranson, Manager, Revenue Operations at 387-1510 in Victoria. ■

Government Action Strengthens Family Support Orders

New legislation and a province-wide Family Maintenance Enforcement Program, initiated by the Ministry of Attorney General, have brought new hope and support to thousands of single parents and former spouses without children. The Family Maintenance Enforcement Act (March, 1988) has strengthened the B.C. government's ability to enforce family support orders.

The need for more effective enforcement is clear. Estimates of the rate of non-compliance with support orders, nation-wide, range from 50% to 85%. Most debtors, that is, those responsible for making family maintenance payments, default within the first six months. Up to 75% of all support orders are ignored completely after 10 years.

Single parents and women's groups have identified the emotional and financial stress that arises from an individual's attempts to enforce orders. Previously, the only available means of enforcement were convoluted, intimidating, expensive and time-consuming. Most frequently, they were also unsuccessful, despite the fact that non-payment of maintenance is rarely due to a debtor's inability to pay.

"Enforcement remedies, including imprisonment, will rarely work if the debtor is absolutely determined not to pay," said Sandra Edelman, Director of the Family Maintenance Project in the Support Services Branch,

Ministry of Attorney General. "But for the majority of debtors, effective enforcement legislation and a state-funded program to monitor and initiate enforcement action have proven successful—even with the most recalcitrant of debtors."

Manitoba was the first province in Canada to introduce an automatic and universal enforcement program in 1980. Since then, Quebec, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario and Yukon have introduced similar legislation and programs. In 1985, the B.C. Ministries of Attorney General, and Social Services and Housing administered a pilot project to evaluate ways of enforcing and monitoring maintenance orders. Conclusions from that project helped to produce the province's new Family Maintenance Enforcement Act.

The Act consolidates and streamlines existing enforcement legislation, introduces new remedies, and commits government to establishing an enforcement program. Below are some of the major provisions of the Act:

- Regardless of whether or not a creditor participates in the program, the Act will provide for enforcement of maintenance orders.
- Under amendments to the GAIN legislation, income-assistance clients will be enrolled in the program as a condition of receipt of welfare.
- A Director of Maintenance Enforcement

monitors and enforces enrolled orders.

- Information on the debtor's source of income can be gathered, as well as information on the location, employment and assets of the debtor.
- Financial information can be demanded within 10 days; imprisonment can result from failure to provide the information.
- If administrative proceedings are unsuccessful, hearings are provided in much the same manner as currently exists.

"With few exceptions, the proposed legislation and program have received positive commentary," said Edelman. "Probably the most controversial issue is the plan to operate the program in the private sector. However, the Director of Maintenance Enforcement is a public service position that retains the power to delegate duties and authorities to the private program, and to monitor and evaluate services to ensure that standards are met. It is also important to note that access to confidential data banks to trace debtors will not be given to a private contractor."

By taking responsibility for enforcing family maintenance orders, the province is making gains both financially and socially. It will likely achieve substantial savings in welfare dollars by offsetting direct payments and minimizing subsidies; and it will help relieve many needy individuals of serious financial and emotional burdens. ■

Trailblazers...

Women Excel in Male-Dominated Career

"When you walk into a beer parlour alone at midnight, you have to make eye contact with the men. Traditionally, that's unacceptable behaviour for a woman, but you can't allow yourself to feel intimidated," said five-foot-two Bonnie Comeau of Cranbrook. She was discussing her job as the first female liquor inspector in the history of B.C.—a position she has held for more than a year now.

"You definitely have to be assertive in this line of work," she said, "but it's no handicap being a woman. If anything, it can be an advantage when you want to make a quiet entrance. People don't expect a woman to be the liquor inspector."

Six months ago, another woman joined the team of 20 liquor inspectors and three senior inspectors who are stationed around the province. Lynn Tryon became the inspector at Terrace with an area of responsibility stretching from the Queen Charlotte Islands to Smithers. She brought with her nine years of experience as a liquor inspector in Alberta where she was the only woman working in that field.

"In this job, you must be able to put your foot down once in a while," said Tryon. "It also helps to have an open mind and some public relations skills." Like Comeau, she thinks that being a woman is no disadvantage in her work.

Inspectors in the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch really do two kinds of jobs. One is administrative, such as handling licensing documentation, renewals and transfers for all kinds of liquor establishments; the other is enforcement—overseeing methods of operation and conduct wherever liquor is sold.

"The most important criterion for the job is previous experience in the regulating field," said Ed Owsianski, Deputy General Manager for Enforcement. "Inspectors must know how to investigate with tact and diplomacy—yet they must be firm. Lynn Tryon was already an inspector when she came to us, and Bonnie Comeau had worked 10 years in

the Rentalsman's office. They were both well-qualified and are working out very well."

Both women said they feel accepted by their male colleagues who offer a great deal of support and encouragement. The work is very satisfying, and Comeau and Tryon recommend it to other women.

Still, few women apply. In a recent competition for an inspector's position in Burnaby, the branch received only 14 applications from women—out of a total of 100. "That's fairly typical," said Owsianski.

Comeau stresses that women frequently have the administrative background, but not the enforcement experience they need to be an inspector. She says that women need to build up their confidence to do this kind of work.

If you would like to know more about working as a liquor inspector, contact the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch at 387-1254 for an information package about the job. ■



Lynn Tryon checks plans with Tom Keitch, owner and chef at the Quarterback Restaurant in Terrace.

Multicultural Association in New Centre

The Greater Victoria Multicultural Women's Association has a new home in Market Square in downtown Victoria. During Multicultural Week in February, the centre was officially opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony performed by Isabel Kelly, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training; Pat Crofton, wife of MP Pat Crofton; and Enrico Diano, Cultural Heritage Advisor, Province of B.C.

The Volunteer association offers a drop-in centre and educational programs—including language, sewing and crafts classes—to women of all cultural backgrounds.

"Mrs. Kelly has given us support ever since 1982 when she opened our first centre," said Buncy Pagely, founder and president of the Association. ■

Bulletin Board...

Recommended Reading

Put Work in Its Place: How to Redesign Your Job to Fit Your Life, by Bruce O'Hara. Victoria: Work Well Publications, 1988.

If you would like to change your work schedule to better fit your life, this may be the book for you. A human services counsellor and founder of Work Well (Canada's first Work Options Resource Centre), O'Hara takes you through seven steps to redesigning your job. The book also includes profiles of Canadians who use flexible work schedules in a variety of different jobs.

Orientation to Trades and Technology: A Curriculum Guide and Resource Book with Special Emphasis on the Needs of Women. Victoria: Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training, 1987.

This guide was developed by the College of New Caledonia in Prince George. It includes three main course units, each covering several topics and listing relevant resources:

- Life Skills - personal growth and development, women and work, and survival skills;
- Work-Related Skills - health and safety, academic skills, hands-on trades and technology skills, and work experience; and
- Career Development - career options and decision-making, functioning in the workplace, and rights and obligations.

Copies can be ordered for \$6.70 each (plus postage) from the Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training, Provincial Curriculum Publications, c/o Open Learning Agency, Order Desk, Box 94,000, Richmond, V6Y 2A2. Phone: 660-2190

The Book For Women Who Invent Or Want To, by Elizabeth Wallace. Waterloo: The Women Inventors Project, 1987.

The premise of this book is an important one: There are few female inventors in Canada, not

because women lack creativity, but because they lack "the knowledge and encouragement needed to develop their ideas." If you have a concept for a new product, service or technological process, Wallace can guide you through the stages from assessing your idea to manufacturing and marketing your product. Helpful appendices list publications, associations and agencies (including field advisory offices of the National Research Council). ■

Materials

Women Can't Be Beat! An information Kit on Wife Assault, Yukon Public Legal Education Association, 1987.

"Women Can't Be Beat!" is a crime prevention strategy designed to assist victims of wife assault and change public attitudes about this crime. It provides practical information for victims and, at the same time, presents a positive attitude, affirming the right of women to live without violence. The kit contains general information, theoretical background, tools to assist the victim, information for offenders and promotional aids. Copies may be ordered (at \$10.00 per kit) from the Yukon Public Legal Education Association, Box 4490, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2R8. Phone: 667-4305. ■

References to Mrs. Isabel Kelly in this newsletter relate to her work as Deputy Minister of Advanced Education and Job Training. As announced by the Premier on June 6, 1988, Mrs. Kelly is now Deputy Minister of Social Services and Housing. The new Deputy Minister of Advanced Education and Job Training is Mr. Gary Mullins. ■

Upcoming Events

Women In Celebration

Purpose: To celebrate the achievement of women, to learn more about each other and to form networks

Date: September 10, 1988

Place: Hastings Community Centre 3096 East Hastings Street, Vancouver

Contact: Dorothy Newman

Phone: 525-7246

National Conference On Women In Trades & Technology

Purpose: To share experiences and discuss issues of common concern with educators, private sector employers and government officials

Date: October 1 - 4, 1988

Place: Naramata Centre, Penticton

Contact: Marcia Braundy

Phone: 226-7624

Single Mothers' Weekend Conference

Purpose: To examine the stages through which women pass when they become single mothers, and provide help and support for each stage

Date: October 14 - 16, 1988

Place: YWAC, 580 Burrard St., Vancouver

Contact: Single Mothers' Services

Phone: 683-2531 (after August)

12th Annual Conference of the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women

Purpose: To focus on women and development

Date: November 11 - 13, 1988

Place: Laval University, Quebec City

Contact: Service des Communications

Faculte des sciences sociales

Bureau 3446, Pavillon Charles-De Koninck

Universite Laval, Quebec, G1K 7P4



BC Women's Secretariat

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To add your name to the mailing list for the Newsletter, contact:

The Women's Secretariat, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C., V8V 1X4. Phone 387-3600. If you have changed your address, please notify us and return your old address label.

We welcome letters to the editor, story ideas, photographs, and pertinent news from your community. ■