The National Council of Women of Canada

An educator, a voice and a catalyst for Canadians on issues affecting the common good

Working:

- locally
- provincially
- nationally
- internationally



The National Council of Women of Canada is an organization of organizations: a multi-tiered, multi-faceted association of groups working on matters of common interest to Canadian women and men of all backgrounds and origins.

The Council was founded in 1893 by Lady Ishbel Aberdeen, wife of the then Governor General. Non-partisan and non-sectarian, the Council represents approximately 750,000 Canadians of diverse occupations, languages, origins and cultures, with whom the Council exchanges information, obtaining a cross-section of public opinion. At present the National Council comprises 32 local councils in major cities across Canada, six provincial councils, and 24 nationally organized societies in federation. Over 1,500 organizations are federated at the local council level.

As an affiliate of the International Council of Women, an international non-governmental organization with Category 1 consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC), the Council is actively involved in human rights and economic issues world-wide. The International Council of Women is comprised of national councils in over 70 countries and on every continent.

Each member organization retains its autonomy, but together, our voices form a chorus on the crucial issues of our day.

Reflecting changes in Canadian society and helping women to gain skills for involvement in every domain, the Council and its member organizations have been working in a number of crucial areas, and presenting annual briefs expressing our concerns to the federal government.

Active committees are now at work educating and focussing opinion in these and other important fields:

- Abortion
- Affordable housing
- Child abuse
- Drinking and driving
- National day-care policy Peace and disarmament
- Pornography
- Poverty and tax reform

Acid rain

Battered women

 Child care assistance Fire safety

Achievements of the National Council of Women

The NCW has been instrumental in lobbying for such achievements as the designation of women as "persons" in 1928; the foundation of the Victorian Order of Nurses in 1897; the foundation of the Women's Bureau, Labour Canada, in 1954; pioneering the playground movement in the early years of this century; and the foundation of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women/ Advisory Committee on the Status of Women. In addition, our advocacy since the early 1950s on such issues as pension reform, no-fault divorce and enforcement of maintenance payments is now beginning to bear fruit.



We invite you to consider membership in the National Council of Women of Canada. If you share our firm conviction that only by studying the issues and speaking out will we improve conditions for our fellow Canadians and fellow human beings around the world, you and your organization can provide input, ideas, leadership and strength for this organization of organizations.

National Council of Women of Canada Head Office 270 MacLaren St., suite 20 Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0M3 telephone (613) 233-4953



Please send me further information on how my organization can become affiliated with the National Council of Women of Canada.

Name	
Organization	
Address	
Poet	al Code
1 050	ai Code
Telephone: Office	Home

Our special field of interest is

(Please include brochure or other information about your organization if available.)

"Our comprehension of one another's circumstances, needs and difficulties and methods of thought may be poor and weak at first, but it will surely grow and strengthen if we go forward grasping that magic wand of love, determined not merely to TOLERATE one another's opinions, but to UNDER-STAND one another and to understand the value that underlies each one's work."

- Lady Ishbel Aberdeen, 1895

"In this esteemed federation which forms the National Council of Women of Canada (today), we must remain steadfast, not merely to tolerate one another's opinions, but to understand one another and to understand the value that underlies the work of our diverse federated societies. We meld together a marvellous harmony of interests, uniting and merging into an alliance firmly supporting and educating on various measures viewed as urgent. The potential power in our hands is inestimable. It must be used wisely in bringing about continuing improvement for women, the family and the state."

Provincial Councils of Women Alberta.

British Columbia. Manitoba. Nova Scotia. Ontario. Saskatchewan

Local Councils of Women

Brantford, Ont. Burnaby, B.C. Calgary, Alta. Edmonton, Alta. Fort St. John, B.C. Halifax, N.S Hamilton, Ont. Kingston, Ont. London, Ont. Moncton, N.B. Montreal, Que. Nanaimo, B.C. New Glasgow, N.S. New Westminster, B.C. Niagara Falls, Ont. Oshawa, Ont. Ottawa, Ont. Peterborough, Ont. Regina, Sask. St. Catharines, Ont. St. John, N.B. Saskatoon, Sask. Grande Prairie, Alta. Swift Current, Sask. Toronto, Ont. Truro, N.S. Vancouver, B.C. Victoria, B.C. White Rock, B.C.

Windsor, B.C.

Winnipeg, Man.

Nationally Organized Societies - in federation — 1986-1987

Anglican Church of Canada Canadian Addictions Foundation Canadian Association of Elizabeth **Frv Societies**

Canadian Congress for Learning Opportunities for Women Canadian Council on Smoking and Health

Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs Canadian Home Economics Association

Canadian Mental Health Association Canadian Pensioners Concerned Inc. - National Board

La Fédération des Femmes Canadiennes françaises Federation of Junior Leagues of Canada

Girl Guides of Canada Hadassah-WIZO Organization of Canada Pioneer Women's Organization Inc.

The Palliative Care Foundation Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada Polish-Canadian Women's

Federation — Head Executive

Presbyterian Church in Canada Women's Missionary Society The Salvation Army Ukrainian Women's Association

of Canada Ukrainian Women's Organization of Canada

United Church of Canada Division of Mission Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada (VON) Young Women's Christian Association of Canada

Subsidiary **NCWC Development Organization** THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF CANADA LE CONSEIL NATIONAL DES FEMMES DU CANADA

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AREAS OF ACTIVITY DURING 1988-89

Current efforts are concentrated in the following areas:

Federal Government submissions of concern included: Child Care; Pension assistance for single persons age 60-64 years; sexual abuse of children; funding cutbacks in environment protection; irradiation of foods; armaments reduction; tax treatment of child care expenses; legislation to protect non-smokers; and acid rain.

Special Areas of Concentration included: Shelter for the Homeless; Income Tax reform; Canadian Constitution Accord; Free Trade; and Bio-Ethics.

We will focus on *Women and Reproductive Technologies* as an area of common concern throughout our national network this year.

Action taken on international issues - Resolutions forwarded to the International Council of Women: Progress Review on the Forward Looking Strategies; Women as Users and Producers of Statistics; Women and Reproductive Technologies; Participation and Representation of Women in the Work of the United Nations; United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (amendment to 1985 resolution).

Amongst conferences attended: Mont Ste. Marie Workshop on government consultation process: UNESCO Nordic Countries conference; Education; Communications; CIDA and NGOs.

Two new national federates welcomed: National Association of Women and the Law; and National Women's Liberal Commission.

Dialogues on issues with federal Ministers: Rt. Hon. Joe Clark, Hon. Barbara McDougall, Hon. Tom McMillan, Hon. Flora MacDonald, Hon. Jake Epp.