

FIRST CALL FOR DELEGATES

Ontario New Democrats Women's Committee 14th Delegated Conference

"WOMEN IN POLITICS"

April 25 - 26, 1992 Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Toronto

The Ontario New Democrats Women's Committee will be holding our 14th delegated conference at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute on April 25 - 26, 1992.

This year's theme will be "WOMEN IN POLITICS", and will focus on preparing women to take leadership roles in the political arena. Keynote speakers on Saturday and Sunday morning will outline what policies the Ontario and Federal New Democrats are pursuing that will be of benefit to women, and how the presence of women in our caucuses affects policies and the political climate.

On Saturday afternoon a panel of women cabinet ministers will share their experiences of life on the campaign trail and in the legislature. Workshops on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning will deal with making the decision to run for office. What are the realities of life as a candidate and as an elected member? What is involved in winning a nomination? What additional barriers do women from minority groups face?

Throughout the conference, we will present reports on the activities of the Women's Committee over the past two years, and will hold elections to our executive. We encourage women of colour, aboriginal women, and women with disabilities to join with women from all regions of the province to get involved. If you are interested in running for a position on our executive, or know of someone we should approach to run, please let us know.

On Saturday evening, April 25, we will be hosting a gala dinner celebrating women in our party, with our third annual Agnes Macphail Award presentation. The dinner, honouring women of distinction in the CCF/NDP, will also take place at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute.

We look forward to seeing you at the dinner and conference.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Saturday, April 25:

8:30 -	9:30	Registration
9:30 -	9:45	Opening Remarks
9:45 - 1	10:00	President's Report
10:00 - 1	10:30	Keynote Speaker
10:30 - 1	10:45	Break
10:45 - 1	11:15	Treasurer's Report & Questions
11:15 - 1	2:00	Discussion/Resolutions from the delegates
12:00 -	1:00	LUNCH
1:00 -	1:30	Election of Table Officers
1:30 -	2:30	Panel of Women Cabinet Ministers
2:30 -	3:00	Questions
3:00 -	3:30	Election of Regional Reps
3:30 -	5:00	Workshops
7:30	pm	AGNES MACPHAIL AWARD DINNER

Sunday, April 26:

9:30 - 10:00	Election of Members-at-Large	
10:00 - 10:30	Keynote Speaker	
10:30 - 12:00	Workshops	
12:00 - 12:45	Discussion/Resolutions from the delegates	
12:45 - 1:00	Closing Remarks	

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Observers are welcome at our conference, and are entitled to participate in all of the sessions. To vote at the conference, however, you must be a delegate from your NDP organization as follows: riding associations and campus clubs are entitled to 1 delegate for the first 100 members or less and one additional delegate for each additional 100 members; each advisory committee is entitled to 1 delegate; provincial executive and the women's committee executive have delegate status; affiliated labour organizations are entitled to 1 delegate for the first 2,000 members and 1 additional delegate for each additional 2,000 members; each labour council is entitled to 1 delegate and the Ontario Federation of Labour is entitled to 2 delegates.

Childcare and sign interpretation are available at the conference, and Ryerson is wheelchair accessible. Travel subsidies are available in cases of undue hardship. Please contact ONDP Provincial Office for information on travel subsidies.

<u>Please note</u>: Confirmations of registration will not be sent out. Inquiries can be made by calling ONDP Provincial Office at (416) 699-6637.

REGISTRATION FORM

Ontario New Democrats
Women's Committee Conference
April 25-26, 1992

please print		
Name		12391 (dec 16 - 20)
Address		
City	Postal Code	_
Home Phone	Work Phone	Aug of Comphet
please check one I will be attending as a delegate	alternate observer	
The above is a member in good sta	ed by president or other table officer of organization) nding of the New Democratic Party and was ele(date). They will be attending	as a delegate/alternate
NAME:	ORGANIZATION:	organia and a series
SIGNATURE:		
Execution process according to a recording	[over]	

WORKSHOPS

The following workshops will be offered twice during the conference, once on Saturday afternoon and again on Sunday morning. Participants attending both days of the conference will be able to register for two different workshops.

THE FIRST STEP

Balancing the pro's and con's of running for office and life as a politician; financial, cultural, and family barriers; balancing a private and political life.

THE NOMINATION PROCESS

Understanding the nomination process, and what it takes to run a successful nomination campaign; of interest to prospective candidates and managers.

THE DOUBLE BARRIER

Understanding the additional barriers faced by women of colour, aboriginal women, and women with disabilities who choose to run for office.

UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PHILOSOPHY

Everything you always wanted to know about NDP policy, but were afraid to ask.

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

please talk your workshop choices	order or pres	oronco		
	Saturday		Sunday	
The First Step				
The Nomination Process				
The Double Barrier				
Understanding Social Democratic Philosophy				
			or delegate/alternate/observer. alternate/observer on a fixed income	e
I will need childcare for			un.)	

Send this form with cheque made payable to Ontario NDP to: ONDP Women's Committee Conference, 184 Main St., Toronto, Ont. M4E 2W1



The ONDP Women's Committee invites you to celebrate the presentation of

The Third Annual

ERREBLEDEM 2021

at a gala fundraising

DIARCK

to be held on Saturday, April 25, 1992

Ryerson Polytechnical Institute:
7:30 pm
[cash bar starting at 6:30 pm]

TICKET ORDER FORM

Please r	reser	ve me	Student/Fixed Income tickets at \$20 each
			Guest tickets at \$40 each
			Host tickets at \$60 each
		1. 55. F	HOST TABLE for 8 people at \$600 per table
Hosts and	d host	tables will be	listed in the program. Please list my name as follows:
		1.240,25.,.	The figure of the first and the second of th
	. 7	. (1)	
			[over]

THE ACKES MACPHAL AWARD

Narch 24, 1990
iversary of the
acphail. Agnes was
woman MP, being
House of Commons in
first elec. on in which
vote or run for office.
become the first
the Ontar. office.
established in 1932.
being defeated federally
candidat for East York.
riding, and became one
two women to be elected
Legislature.



was the 100th birth of Agnes Canada's first elected to the 1921, in the women could She late. president of the CCI She won that of the Ontari

The Ontario New Democrats Women's Committee decided mark te 100th anniversary of Agnes' birth with the establish nent of an annual award in her name. The irpose the award is to honour women in our Party who ave made significant contributions to the advancement of women ar women's issues.

Come celebrate this year's winner with us, and thelp tribut to all he women who have worked so hard over the year to build our party and our movement. The Dinner starts at 7:3 pm. followed by entertainment and the presentation of the awar

If you know of someone who should be considered for the ir's award, please send their name and brief biography to to IDP Women's Committee, co 184 Main Street, Toronto M42W1. Make sure to include your name and phone number, so the we can contact you if we need more information. The deadline full street is a march 27, 1992.

TICK, T ORDER FORM

.			<i>(**.</i> *)						
Please	Hold	my ticket	for me.	I will	pick the	em un a	t the doo	T + 212	*
	Send	my ticket	s to the	followi	ng addre	ss			
		a subas	M. 44. 17	47.73	14 45 Kg		18 N. 18		•
			25 4 54	ng Alter St		1/2.17	21.53×21	- 為終	

Enclosed is my cheque for \$

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

THIRD ANNUAL AGNES MACPHAIL AWARD

PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

Women in the New Democratic Party follow in the footsteps of many distinguished political foremothers. Agnes Macphail was one of the earliest and perhaps the best known woman leader in Ontario.

In 1990, the ONDP Women's Committee established an annual award in the name of Agnes Macphail, to honour women in the Party who have made significant contributions to the advancement of women and women's issues.

This year's award will be presented at a fund-raising dinner to be held on Saturday April 25, 1992 at the Women's Committee Conference in Toronto.

ELIGIBILITY

- The award is open to individual women who are or have been members in good standing in the NDP or CCF.
- Nominations may be made by individual New Democrats, riding associations or affiliated bodies.
- Nominees must agree to their nomination and may be renominated in subsequent years.
- 4. Nominees must have been active in the province of Ontario.

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

The recipient will have worked for the advancement of women and women's causes both inside and/or outside the Party. She may be a Party activist or be working in the community. in a way that reflects commitment to Party policy and goals.

In the tradition of Agnes Macphail, the recipient of the award may also have been a role model for other women, by exhibiting leadership on issues that may not exclusively be seen as women's issues.

The Women's Committee is especially anxious to recognize those women whose work has been otherwise unrecognized publicly or by the Party.

NOMINATION FORM

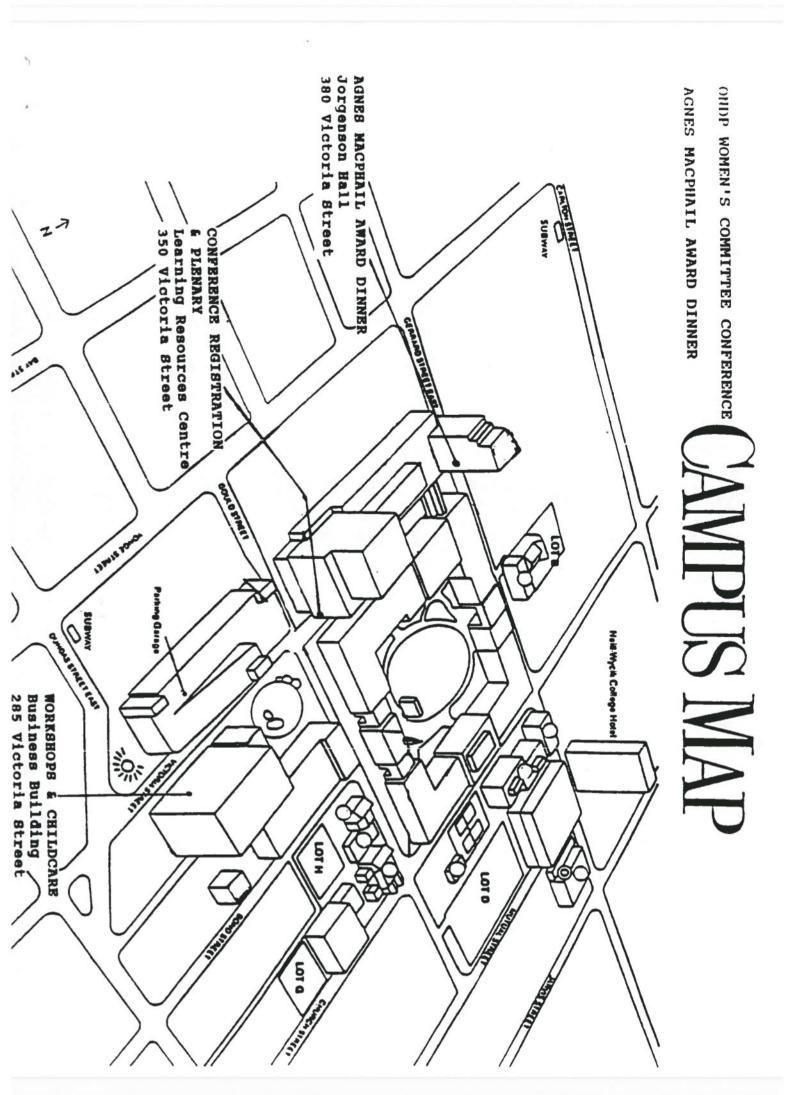
NAME OF NOMINEE	:		
ADDRESS:		A 47 7 7 W	
	ALL THE STATE OF T		70.0
	(home)		
RIDING/AFFILIAT	E:		10 H (12 12 T)
	ING BODY OR INDIVIDUAL:		
ADDRESS:			121 - 163
PHONE NUMBERS:	(home)	(work)	or to live
	A 41011		

Why do you believe that this nominee is a worthy recipient of this award? (please include a statement not more than two pages in length)

ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MARCH 27, 1992

PLEASE FORWARD TO: AGNES MACPHAIL AWARD

ONDP WOMEN'S COMMITTEE C\O 184 MAIN STREET TORONTO, ONT. M4E 2W1







Minister Responsible for Women's Issues Ministre déléguée à la Condition féminine 480 University Avenue 2nd Floor Toronto, Ontario M5G 1V2 (416) 597-4500

480, avenue University 2ª étage Toronto (Ontario) M5G 1V2 (416) 597-4500

THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT ON WOMEN'S EQUALITY: PROGRESS AND PROMISE

(Winter 1991/92)

The Ontario government is promoting women's equality on many fronts. This is a summary of 15 months of commitment. It will continue to be updated for your information.

ABORIGINAL WOMEN

- O Inter-Ministerial Committee on Aboriginal Family Violence, established in January 1991 to work in partnership with the Native community. This partnership includes a steering committee of representatives from Aboriginal associations and the Ontario government. Consultations to be carried out and reported upon by the Aboriginal members will help shape the anti-violence strategy.
- \$5 million in capital funding this fiscal year to create 400 child care spaces on reserves.
- O See also EMPLOYMENT EQUITY, EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS AND WORKPLACE RIGHTS, POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION and REPRESENTATION.

ABORTION

Full funding of the province's free-standing clinics.

O Amendments to the Northern Health Travel Grants Program to help cover abortion-related costs for women in outlying areas.

CHILD CARE

- O February 1991 announcement of new subsidies for 5000 child care spaces.
- O November 1991 announcement that non-profit daycare workers will get \$2000 each in wage enhancements, while \$75 million will be invested over the next five years to encourage for-profit child care services to become non-profit.
- Proposal of, and public consultations on, child care reforms that will encourage affordable yet flexible services, enhance parent participation, provide options for funding, standards, licensing and service planning and promote quality care by improving staff training and salaries.

 Public consultations are scheduled for March-June 1992. Expect legislation by fall 1993.
- O See ABORIGINAL WOMEN and POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.

CONSTITUTION

O Proposal of, and public consultations on, a Social Charter to protect universal entitlements and to encourage cooperative federal-provincial social policy planning. A tour on the Social Charter, to be taken by the Premier's representative for inter-governmental affairs, will seek the input of women from every region in Ontario. Public consultations are scheduled for Dec 1991-Feb 1992.

DISABLED WOMEN

O April 1991 introduction of the Advocacy Act to help vulnerable people exercise their fundamental rights, including the right to speak out for change in the way services are delivered. An Advocacy Commission, controlled by the consumers of services in the disabled and seniors' communities, will be set up to design and administer the advocacy system. This Act is part of a larger legislative package aimed at protecting disabled adults from abuse and neglect by service providers.

O See also EMPLOYMENT EQUITY, EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS AND WORKPLACE RIGHTS, HEALTH, POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, REPRESENTATION and VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: WIFE ASSAULT.

ELDERLY WOMEN

See DISABLED WOMEN and HEALTH.

EMPLOYMENT EQUITY

- O Proposal of, and public consultations on, mandatory employment equity legislation for the public and private sectors. The designated groups are women, Aboriginal Peoples, racial minorities and persons with disabilities. Public consultations are scheduled for Dec 1991-Feb 1992. The bill will be introduced in 1992.
- O See also REPRESENTATION.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS AND WORKPLACE RIGHTS

- Introduction of the Employee Wage Protection Program to help workers recover owed income -- back, vacation, severance and/or termination pay.
- O Cooperation with the Federal Business Development Bank to launch STEP UP a business expansion training program for women.

Fact: Women represent 57 percent of minimum wage earners.

O 60-cent increase of the minimum wage to \$6/hour.

Fact: Half of all employees in the retail and hospitality sectors are female. Without legislation, about 40 percent would have to be on the job at least part of every Sunday.

Common Pause Day legislation that gives retail workers the absolute right to refuse Sunday and holiday work. It also guarantees employees thirty continuous hours of rest in every seven-day period, whether or not they work on Sundays. Proposal of, and public consultations on, reforms to the Ontario Labour Relations Act (OLRA). The proposed amendments aim to improve the terms and conditions of employment, ensure that workers may organize freely, increase employee participation in the workplace through collective bargaining, provide effective ways to settle disputes and enhance the ability of managers and unions to adapt to change. Public consultations are scheduled for Nov 1991-Feb 1992.

Fact: By the year 2000, 85 percent of workforce entrants will be women and racial minorities.

- O Proposal of, and public consultations on, the Ontario Training and Adjustment Board (OTAB). One objective of creating community training boards responsible for identifying and responding to local training needs is to improve the representation of Aboriginal, immigrant, racial minority and disabled women in the workforce. Women who need a flexible upgrading of skills to re-enter the job market will also benefit. Public consultations are scheduled for Dec 1991-April 1992.
- See also EMPLOYMENT EQUITY and PAY EQUITY.

GAY AND LESBIAN RIGHTS

- O Effective June 1991, extension of family benefit coverage to same sex spouses of Ontario public servants. Pension benefits have yet to be extended because the federal government, which registers pension plans, refuses to recognize gay and lesbian couples.
- See also HEALTH.

HEALTH

- O October 1991 announcement that Ontario's AIDS strategy is to be expanded by improving public education, implementing anonymous testing and broadening needle and wringe exchange programs. As well, a newly created AIDS Bureau within the Ministry of Health will be accompanied by an Advisory Committee on HIV and AIDS.
- O Proposal of, and public consultations on, new directions in long-term care so that more community-based services let seniors, disabled adults

and their families gain independence by remaining at home. Related goals include coordinating and integrating health and social services, and the agencies — staffed primarily by women — that deliver them. Public consultations are scheduled for Nov 1991-March 1992.

O See also ABORTION and MIDWIFERY.

HOUSING

O Legislation to protect tenants from sudden and high rent increases, as well as to ensure good repair of their apartments.

Fact: 87 percent of those who use public, non-profit and cooperative housing are women.

- O February 1991 announcement of a \$10 million pilot project to house low-income single people.
- O 39 percent increase, this fiscal year, of monies to operate existing projects or to create new housing.
- O December 1991 announcement of the full delivery of three provincial non-profit housing programs, and funding within the original budget for an extra 1800 homes.

IMMIGRANT, REFUGEE AND RACIAL MINORITY WOMEN

O See EMPLOYMENT EQUITY, EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS AND WORKPLACE RIGHTS, PAY EQUITY, POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, REPRESENTATION and VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: WIFE ASSAULT.

JUSTICE

- O June 1991 release of, and public discussion on, a draft bill to remove limitation periods in certain cases of sexual assault.
- O Directives for Crown Attorneys to fight attempts to make a victim's sexual history admissible evidence in assault trials. The directives are a response to the Supreme Court's striking down of the federal "rape shield" law.

Fact: In 1989, 46 percent of women murdered by their husbands were shot to death.

- O December 1991 announcement that Crown Counsels are to prosecute, to the full extent of the law, suspects in gun-related crimes. This could mean stricter bail conditions for those carrying a gun when arrested, and more severe penalties for those convicted of offenses involving guns.
- See also MOTHER'S AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS and REPRESENTATION.

MIDWIFERY

- O Introduction of the Regulated Health Professions Act and the Midwifery Act, under which midwifery will become a recognized medical profession.
- O Cabinet approval to make Ontario, by spring 1992, the first province to offer bachelor-level degrees in midwifery.

MOTHER'S AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

- O Parental leave legislation that gives each working parent 18 weeks of unpaid leave to care for newborns or newly adopted children. It also ensures that seniority and other benefits continue, reduces the qualifying period, guarantees parents their regular jobs upon return and makes the timing of pregnancy leave more flexible.
- O December 1990 amendments to the Employment Standards Act which shorten the qualification period so that, in certain cases, already pregnant women become eligible for leave and benefit provisions. The same amendments let parents access related benefits available under Unemployment Insurance.
- O November 1991 announcement of a three-year pilot project to give separated parents supervised access to their children. Because violence against women, or the threat of it, is often why supervised access services are needed, the program will consider the safety of mothers in addition to the well-being of children. Ten centres, each run by a local community board, are to test different methods of delivering these services.

Fact: Fathers of over 80,000 Ontario children owe more than \$400 million in family support.

O Beginning in March 1992, compulsory and automatic deductions from the paycheques of those ordered by the courts to pay family support.

NORTHERN AND FRANCOPHONE WOMEN

O See ABORIGINAL WOMEN, ABORTION, POST-SECONADRY EDUCATION and VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: WIFE ASSAULT.

PAY EQUITY

Fact: In 1989, full-time women workers earned 66 percent of men's income - only 7 percent more than in 1969.

- December 1991 proposal of amendments to the Pay Equity Act that will, by introducing new ways to compare job values, end wage discrimination for at least 420,000 more women in Ontario. Other amendments will protect pay equity plans when companies are sold or restructured, strengthen the powers of officers who investigate complaints and require private sector employers to post signs explaining workers' rights under the Pay Equity Act. An estimated 1,050,000 Ontario women stand to benefit from the amendments.
- O December 1991 opening of the Pay Equity Advocacy and Legal Services Clinic to help the Province with its pay equity cases. A resource for union and non-union women alike, the Clinic will also conduct public education and outreach.
- See also CHILD CARE.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Fact: 55 percent of all post-secondary students in Ontario are women.

O Improvements to the Ontario Student Assistance Program. Of particular interest to women, married students with children will get a bigger child care allowance while part-time students will receive increased transportation and living allowances.

- May 1991 announcement of \$3 million in new funding over the next two years to improve lighting, install emergency phones, set up walkhome services and launch similar pojects to make Ontario campuses safer for women. Educational initiatives include training students in professional programs such as law, medicine and nursing to respond appropriately to the needs of wife assault victims.
- O December 1991 selection of three post-secondary schools to develop an anti-date/acquaintance rape strategy for use on campuses throughout Ontario. Besides tapping the expertise of sexual assault and rape crisis centres, this strategy will take into account the special circumstances of Aboriginal, francophone, immigrant, racial minority and disabled women.

REPRESENTATION

- O Largest number (currently 10) of female cabinet ministers in the history of any government in Canada.
- O Government commitment to allocate half of all new judicial appointments to women.
- O Employment equity regulation that calls for half of all police recruits to be women. It further specifies that racial minority, Aboriginal and disabled women be proportionately represented within that hiring goal.
- O See also EMPLOYMENT EQUITY and EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS AND WORKPLACE RIGHTS.

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

- O Effective January 1991, a seven percent increase to social assistance benefits and a ten percent boost to shelter allowance ceilings. Coupled with the December 199 announcement that social assistance rates will rise by another two percent for individuals and by up to six percent for shelters, the increases give benefits above the two-year inflation rate.
- O April 1991 announcement that over 60 recommendations of the Minister's Advisory Group on New Social Assistance Legislation will

be implemented. Reforms include back-to-work initiatives, higher allowances for sole-support parents and access to General Welfare Assistance for battered women who are forced to leave their homes.

TAXATION

- O Largest enrichment in the history of the Ontario Tax Reduction Program. In the 1991 tax year, provincial taxes will be reduced or eliminated for 700,000 low-income Ontarians most notably single parents. Provincial contributions have increased for those earning over \$84,000.
- Establishment of a Fair Tax Commission, chaired by a feminist economist and mandated to review, among other things, the tax burden carried by poor women.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: GENERAL

- O Cabinet approval to integrate the wife assault and sexual assault prevention programs into a comprehensive violence against women strategy by 1994.
- O May 1991 announcement of the largest-ever funding increase to prevent violence against women in Ontario. See SEXUAL ASSAULT and WIFE ASSAULT below.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: SEXUAL ASSAULT

- O An additional \$8.3 million to help prevent sexual assault; bringing Ontario's total expenditure on this initiative to about \$17 million in 1990-91.
- Observation every year of Sexual Assault Prevention Month. The June 1991 awareness campaign featured mail-outs to doctors, judges, legal clinics, hospitals, social work departments and treatment centres, community newspaper ads explaining why "Against our Will is Against the Law" and 72 grants for local education programs, including self-defense classes. The 1992 province-wide campaign will be in May.
- O See also JUSTICE and POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: WIFE ASSAULT

Fact: 1 in 5 men admits to using violence against the woman he lives with.

- O \$12 million in new funding for wife assault programs; bringing Ontario's total expenditure on this initiative to a record \$70 million in 1990-91.
- O June 1991 announcement that Ontario will support a two-year project to develop a wife assault protocol for Metro Toronto. This protocol is to define the responsibilities and procedures of police, courts, doctors, social workers and others in responding to wife assault.
- Observation of Wife Assault Prevention Month every November. The 1991 province-wide campaign included 10,000 mail-outs, 98 grants for local education projects, radio and newspaper ads in various languages and new TV commercials one showing a man confronting his wife-beating friend; the second explaining that wife assault includes emotional abuse. With the theme, "no man has the right to assault a woman", this is probably the first government campaign to shift the focus from the victim to men's responsibility.
- O Priority funding in 1990-91 to improve access for doubly disadvantaged --Northern, Aboriginal, immigrant, racial minority and disabled -women to existing shelter services.
- O See also ABORIGINAL WOMEN, MOTHER'S AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS, POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION and SOCIAL ASSISTANCE.

Marion Boyd is the Minister Responsible for Women's Issues.

