

On November ¹⁴ ~~13~~, ~~1993~~ ¹⁹⁹⁴ City and Metro elections
will be held to elect Metro Councillors, City
Councillors, Mayors, and School Board Trustees.



**ARE THESE
YOUR
STORIES?**

**He is using
his fists...
Her face is swollen
and bloody...**

I hear the woman next door being beaten up by her boyfriend. They started out yelling, but now I know he is using his fists. I call the cops. Two police officers arrive, but they don't go into the apartment. They stand on the steps talking to the boyfriend. My neighbour is lying on the floor in the bedroom. Her face is swollen and bloody. The police don't see her or talk to her and they don't lay charges against the boyfriend.



POLICE PROCEDURE FOR ASSAULTS AGAINST WOMEN...

Police procedure includes:

- 1) entering the premises
- 2) speaking to the assaulted woman and the abuser separately
- 3) laying charges against the abuser when there is any visible evidence that an assault has taken place
- 4) providing the abused woman with accurate information about community support groups such as women's shelters.

ASK

YOUR METRO COUNCIL CANDIDATES:

- ▶ Will they recommend that cops be disciplined when they do not follow the procedure for responding to women and children assault calls?
- ▶ Will they make sure that a male abuser receives counselling immediately after he is charged with assault against women and children?
- ▶ How will they expand family counselling services for both men and women on issues of violence?

ASK

YOUR CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES:

- ▶ Will you increase the funding for groups working with assaulted women such as women's shelters. These shelters have staff that speak many languages. They provide care for ALL women.
- ▶ Will you provide therapy and counselling services:
 - 1) that lower and middle income women can afford?
 - 2) that are conveniently located within each community?
 - 3) that offer the abused woman secrecy?

ASK

YOUR SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE CANDIDATES:

- ▶ How will you expand programs aimed at detecting and preventing child abuse?
- ▶ How will you promote gender equality among students in schools?
- ▶ Will you support increased funding for educational programs concerning violence against women?

Maintenance problems...

Ying Ying lives in a basement apartment. She pays \$650 a month. Her home has a leaky roof, a gaping hole in one wall, and not enough heat in the winter. Ying Ying has requested that her landlord make the necessary repairs. He does not answer her or give any indication that he will look after the maintenance work. She needs the repair work done in her home.



ASK

YOUR METRO COUNCILLOR CANDIDATES:

- ▶ Will you support reform of the property tax system? Tenants now pay higher property taxes than homeowners.

ASK

YOUR CITY COUNCILLOR CANDIDATES:

- ▶ Will you make sure existing bylaws are enforced so that landlords have to make the necessary repairs to their buildings? If the landlord refuses, will you have the city hire someone to do the repairs and bill the work to the landlords?
- ▶ Will you vote to legalize basement or any other apartments built into a home, providing that the units meet health and safety standards?
- ▶ Will you support denser housing within the city? This will create more housing for lower and middle income people. For example, you can make more homes by increasing housing along main streets and homesharing.

Difficulty relating to school books...

Susan often gets frustrated with her school books. The books reflect cultural values so different from her own. The values and ideas in her textbooks are also difficult for her parents to relate to when helping her with school work.

Wants good paying, professional job...

Susan and her parents want her to have a good paying, professional job when she finishes school. She is interested in engineering. However, she does not feel supported in this choice when her teachers don't take her seriously. She gets discouraged when most of the advanced math and science classes are taught by men.



ASK

YOUR SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE CANDIDATES:

- ▶ Will they bring into the classroom text books that reflect more of the lifestyles and culture of the students?
- ▶ How will they restructure the curriculum to address sex, class, and race differences?
- ▶ Will they have more women teaching a wider selection of courses and put more women in administrative positions within the school system?
- ▶ Will they make it mandatory for *all* teachers to take sex, class, and race awareness training?

**She lost her job
when factory
moved out of
country...**

Fatima is unemployed. She did sewing work in a factory for the past 6 years. The factory recently moved out of the country. She lost her job. Fatima does not have much schooling. English is her second language. She fears she will only find work in fast food places. These jobs are mainly temporary or part-time and pay the minimum wage of \$5.40 an hour. Fatima would not earn enough money for herself and her two children to live on.



**English as a
Second Language
—
ESL SKILLS LINK
program...**

To get a higher paying job in a more stable work place she needs to enrol in an ESL Skills Link program. These classes will train her for a specific job. Fatima has been on the waiting list for 8 months. If she gets to take the class she will have to pay for childcare. Women attending these classes are paid a wage. The program is funded by The Canada Employment and Immigration Commission.

ASK

YOUR CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES:

- ▶ Will you support light industrial plants to locate within communities?
- ▶ Will you give companies industrial lands to build on *only if*:
 - 1) they provide skills upgrading for workers?
 - 2) they provide areas for childcare when designing their workplaces?

ASK

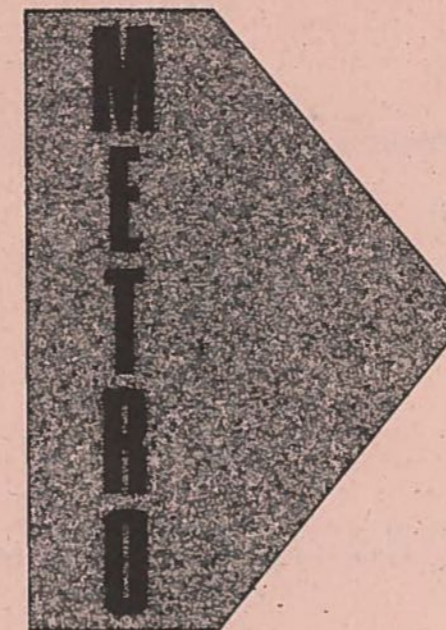
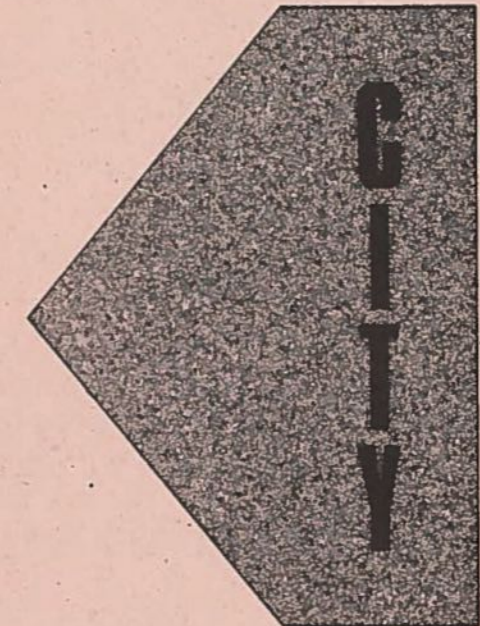
YOUR SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE CANDIDATES:

- ▶ Will you increase the number of ESL/Adult Education classes at the Board of Education?
- ▶ Will you expand childcare services to *all* classes?
- ▶ Will you give credit leading to a Grade 12 diploma for education and work outside of Canada?

Do you know that while your City Councillor votes only on city issues, and your Metro Councillor votes only on Metro issues, your Mayor will vote on issues at both the city and Metro levels?

Before an issue reaches City or Metro Council, however, various committees hear public deputations and debate and vote on recommendations.

- City Councillors & Mayors:**
- city-owned property
 - building inspection
 - zoning/land use
 - amendments to Official Plans
 - garbage collection
 - parking/snow removal
 - street lighting/maintenance
 - regulations of the Public Health Act
 - public housing
 - fire prevention
 - community & recreation centres
 - business improvement areas
 - marriage licenses
 - local parks
 - libraries
 - building/demolition permits



- Metro Councillors & Mayors:**
- Metro-owned property
 - garbage disposal
 - major arterial roads
 - public transit system
 - welfare/daycare
 - Metro housing/hostels
 - homemakers & nurses services
 - Metro-wide planning
 - sewage treatment
 - water purification
 - traffic lights
 - regional parks
 - homes for the aged
 - police/ambulance/emergency services

Help make your story heard!

- ▷ Vote in the November 12, 1991 municipal elections.
- ▷ Find out who is running in your ward and how they will respond to your concerns.
- ▷ Talk to your neighbours.

Go to an "all candidates" meeting in your community - You'll hear how candidates respond to questions you and your neighbours ask. To vote in the Nov. 12, 1991 City and Metro elections you must be a Canadian Citizen and live in Metro Toronto. All you need to do is make sure your name is on the voters list in the City where you live. Call the City Clerk's office in your City or Borough for more information about the voters list, how to vote, and where to vote.

City of Etobicoke - City Clerk's Office
City of North York - City Clerk's Office
City of Toronto - City Clerk's Office
City of York - City Clerk's Office
City of Scarborough - City Clerk's Office
Borough of East York - City Clerk's Office

394-8105
395-7300
392-7020
394-2517
396-7285
778-2004

By voting for Candidates who share your concerns, you can begin to make a difference.

Women Plan Toronto (WPT) does not support any particular political party. Our goal is to raise awareness about women's concerns at the City and Metro levels.

WPT offers workshops around election issues of concern to women. Call us for more information about our workshops, publications, and newsletters (588-9751)

WPT is grateful for the financial support we receive from the City of Toronto, the City of North York, the Ontario Women's Directorate, the Women's Program, Secretary of State and the many individual contributors.