
ALBERTA STATUS OF WOMEN ACTION COMMITTEE

April/May/June
July/August 1995

Volume V, Number 3



Inside this edition...

- Our Feature, Mother's Day
- Annual General Meeting
- 20th Anniversary Plans
- All our regular articles

**The Alberta Status of Women Action
Committee
(ASWAC)**

1994-95 Board Members

Calgary 233-0731

Laurie Anderson

Nancy Miller

Corrine Younie

Cochrane

Pip Farrar

Edmonton 421-0306

Sheila Dunphy

Sherry Gettis

Aine Humble

Snake Kunda

Moyra Lang

Bev Palibroda

Sharon Reiner

Malinda Smith

Fort McMurray

Francine Wilson

Ponoka

Liz Wetheral

Regional Representatives

Fort McMurray

Leah Spelliscy

Innisfail

Ruth Bergeron

Westerose

Gerry Bailey

ASWAC Edmonton:
Box 1573, T5J 2N7
Located: #10, 9930-106 St.
Fax: 425-3293
Phone: 421-0306

ASWAC Calgary:
#303, 223-12 Ave. SW
T2R 0G9
Fax: 269-2012
Phone: 233-0731

ASWAC receives a portion of its funding from The Federal Women's Program and gratefully acknowledges the financial support from its members. ASWAC also thanks the Wild Rose Foundation for project funding.

From the Newsroom

Our newsletter is an ideal way to advertise your events, resources or services to the women of Alberta as well as supporting ASWAC.

In our struggle to reduce costs we regret to inform our membership that the June '95 issue of the ASWAC Newsletter will not be published. The next issue will feature Take Back The Night and the **deadline** for submissions will be **August 28**. Publication date is September 8, 1995. We welcome your thoughts, input, ideas, submissions, criticisms and praise. Send any submissions to: Attention Newsletter, c/o ASWAC Edmonton. Watch for ASWAC mail outs prior to next newsletter! Thanks for your continued support.

The Edmonton Office of ASWAC is now connected to the Edmonton Freenet.

You can send us E-mail at:

ASWAC@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

We are really excited but are still very green. If you have learning tips for us please send them in. We will be connected to the Calgary Freenet soon so watch for us.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The ASWAC Newsletter is published by The Alberta Status of Women Action Committee, a non-profit organization. The newsletter is produced by, for, and about women in Alberta. The newsletter was created to share information with our members and women's organizations, as well as interested women. The views expressed and the events publicized are not necessarily supported by ASWAC. We neither endorse nor recommend; we seek to inform.

ASWAC news is produced on a collective, consensus, volunteer basis by the newsletter collective and ASWAC staff. We welcome submissions written or photo/graphic. All submissions may not be included; we reserve the right to edit to ensure that the content is not in opposition to our mission statement. We encourage women to tell us when we do not meet our own standards.

ADVERTISING POLICY

The ASWAC newsletter seeks advertising that is women positive to help defer publication costs. ASWAC does not necessarily endorse products or services offered. We reserve the right to refuse ads. Rates and sizes can be requested through the Edmonton office, please call for more information.

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Alberta Status of Women Action Committee is to advance the status of women in Alberta by providing a forum for women's voices, raising awareness and sharing resources to effect change.

Our Feature

Happy Mother's Day, Celine Leonard
by Christine Leonard

My Mum is the woman I most respect and admire on the world. She has faced her pain and her challenges with strength. I felt safe with her as a child; she was comforting and nurturing and was there for me. Raising 3 daughters as a single parent, she made sure that we had special times and gifts in our lives. Having "breakfast in bed" - her bed - on weekends, listening to her read books aloud.

Mum raised me to be a strong woman - sure of myself and proud of my accomplishments. I grew up taking my mother for granted. I never really appreciated what she was capable of until I had my own child and saw what it takes. She raised me to not be afraid of the world, not to deny myself opportunities or activities out of fear. She gave me encouragement to push for more and to push the boundaries of what I believed I could do.

She listened to me - to all my pain and anger growing up in a girl's body. When I told her in grade 7 that the boys were taunting me about my breasts saying, "jello always jiggles," she told me to tell them that "weiners always wobble." It worked! She taught me how to take my power back.

She didn't talk of feminism, but she lived it every day. She talked to us about being able to take care of ourselves as women. She was a stay at home mum until her divorce, when she suddenly had to go find a way to support herself and her children. Without much support from my father, she found money to take us camping, get us dance lessons and send us to camp. She made us Easter and Christmas outfit's each year which I treasured. She left love notes in our lunches and hidden among our clothes when we went away. She gave us the gift of many traditions such as Christmas ornaments about which we wrote stories. I love to go back now and read the stories that I wrote about these ornaments when I was 6 or 7.

As a teenager, she was a mother that I could talk to without fear of judgment or punishment. I could talk to her about what was happening in my body, how boys were tormenting me, which boy I was passionately in love with that week, my frustrations with teachers. She was always willing to listen to reason if I felt that she was being arbitrary or unfair. We could discuss our respective positions on the issue and would come to a resolution.

As a grown woman with my own daughter now, our relationship has moved to an even deeper level. I now understand the intensity of mother love. My mum's support and encouragement throughout my pregnancy and her loving presence at Julie's birth meant everything to me. What a wonderful gift that my daughter will know the love of an amazing woman, my mother, Celine Leonard.

.....
by Moyra Lang

My mom, whenever I think of her I smile. Margaret, who kept the cleanest house in all the land. Every Sunday we had roast beef and gravy, and through out the week we were well feed with home cooked meals. Mom loved us by providing for us and ensuring we felt protected.

Although we have aged, mom still loves us in much the same way, but our love has evolved today.

Now we can say I love you to each other and we can cry together, sharing our pain and joy.

As a mom myself these days, I have a new perspective on the whole motherhood thing. It has taught me a valuable lesson on parenting hardships and the pain we feel with motherhood guilt and fear for our children's future.

I now have an awareness that I didn't know everything at age seventeen and my mom allowed me the freedom at that age to discover that I didn't, although I was convinced I did. I see the endurance, patience and wisdom she demonstrated as I hurt her, sometimes unaware, while other times in retaliation. Mom had the ability to lead me yet still allow me to choose for myself.

We spend the first years of motherhood bonding with our children, then we spend the rest of their lives separating from them: sending them to school, watching them make social choices, and finally they leave home. My mom allowed me freedom in all of these choices and it is only now I can understand the pain a mother feels as she must let go. I love you mom and I love how you handled my growing up, you have helped me be who I am today, as well as who I will become.

The one thing I want my mom to know is how wonderful she made not only my childhood but being an adult as well. I honour you mom and wish you peace and happiness as we grow older. I'm thankful my kids will know you and learn from you. I love you. Happy Mother's Day!

.....

The Woman Behind the Masks

by Sherry Gettis

As a teenager, she donned the mask of Motherhood. She wore it proudly and followed all the rules of community and church.

Where those rules disagreed with hers, she bit her tongue. And did what was asked in the name of Motherhood.

With growing kids and the demands of schools, sport and community groups

She did her part, even though she was busy having more babies

Because that's what they asked of her in the name of Motherhood.

When the babies quit coming, she donned the mask of Employee

That's what women want, right? The independence her own money can buy

So she joined the Corporation and played by their rules. Funny how there is so little time for independence at the end of a 20-hour work day

No need to complain, that's what is expected of her as an Employee

Continued on Page 4

Alberta Feminist Calendar

Calgary

The Alberta Status of Women Action Committee (ASWAC) invites you to our Annual General Meeting (AGM) Saturday, May 6th, at the YWCA, 320-5 Ave SE. Free, on site accommodations available, as well as travel subsidies and car pooling arrangements (through the Edmonton office). This years theme is 'The Value of Women's Work - Paid & Unpaid.' We will start at noon with a panel discussion; the AGM will follow. For more information or to RSVP, call Nancy at 233-0731.

Sunday, May 7th. Women Looking Forward is organizing a one day workshop called 'Moving Forward: Strategies for the Future.' The workshop is being designed to bring women together in a supportive environment to share experiences and brainstorm strategies to enable us to continue to function effectively during this time of fiscal restraint and increased demands. Please call Corrine at 269-1144 for further information or to RSVP. A special invitation to women attending the ASWAC AGM on Saturday is extended.

June 1st, the YWCA 1995 Women of Distinction Awards will be presented at a gala celebration at the Calgary Roundup Centre. For more information, call Twyla or Kate at 263-1550.

Charity Auction at The Grand Isle Restaurant, 200, 128 - 2nd Ave SE, Friday, June 2. Cash Bar & Entertainment 6:30 pm, Chinese Buffet Dinner 7:30 pm, Auction 8:30 pm. Cost: Sliding Scale tickets \$10 ... \$15 ... \$20. Door Prizes! You can bid on hundreds of items - all price ranges - in the Silent & Live Auction. Calgary Birth Control Association. To reserve tickets, contact CBCA at 283-5580.

Saturday, June 10th "Drive for 95" the Elizabeth Fry Society is holding their 2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament! No golf experience is necessary. All proceeds to support the E. Fry's many community programs. Call 294-0737 for information or to register.

June 21 to 24 the Queer Canadian Independent Film and Video Festival presents The Fire I've Become at the Glenbow Museum, hosted by the Women of Colour Collective. For more information, call Carolyn at 270-3200.

It's that time again. Volunteers are needed to help plan this years Take Back The Night '95. Anyone interested in working collectively, please call Corrine at WLF, 269-1144.

Calgary Birth Control Association is offering an Abortion Support Group. This facilitated group is open to women who have had an abortion and would like to spend time with other women who have had this experience. Group will run in early June, date and time will be announced. Call Radha or Paulette by May 15 if you are interested, 283-5580.

Ostrich Seminars is offering a free monthly introductory seminar on Financial Planning for Women. Call Peggy at 281-9636 for more details.

June 30 to July 2 the Canadian Rockies International Gay Rodeo will be in Calgary. Be there!

Calgary Gay & Lesbian Pride Week events listing is not available. The events will start with the Pride March on Sunday June 25. For more information, call Gay Lines at 234-8973.

Edmonton

On Saturday, May 6th, ASWAC is holding our Annual General Meeting in Calgary at the YWCA, 320-5 Ave SE. See details in ASWAC Events and be sure to attend. Call 421-0306 for more information.

Nominations are invited for the 1995 Pride Awards. The Michael Phair and Maureen Irwin Award will recognize two individuals for long term contributions to the lesbian/gay community of Edmonton. Certificates will recognize special contributions by individuals, groups or events to the lesbian/gay/bisexual community of Edmonton. Send your nominations to: Awards Committee c/o Pride '95, GLCCE, Box 1852, Edmonton, T5J 2P2. For criteria and information, call 454-8031. Closing date is May 31, 1995. Presentations on June 16, 1995.

The Edmonton Council of Women cordially invites you to the 87th Annual Meeting on May 3 at the Inn on Seventh. Registration will start at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6:15 pm. Speaker will be lawyer Marie Gordon, providing an overview of the law during the past ten years, with particular attention to women's issues. Registration & dinner is \$20. To RSVP, call Pat at 481-7654.

The Menopause Support Group meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm. Meetings are held at the Royal Alex Hospital, Women's Centre, in the out-patient Diabetic Clinic. For additional information, call Barb at 454-3133 or Gladys at 477-4818.

The Coalition for Cultural Diversity Initiatives presents, Cultural Diversity Workshop Series, Friday, May 5th. Sessions held from 9 am to 4 pm at Edmonton Immigrant Services Association (EISA), 11240-79 Street, \$5 per workshop. Each workshop is offered twice. For more information or to register, call Helmi at 469-5983.

Celebrate and defend working class rights, May Day '95, Sunday, April 30 noon at City Hall. Speakers, performers, juice and sandwiches at Churchill Square. For more information, call 433-8755.

May 19 at Orlando Books (10640 Whyte Ave) Edmonton Working Women is celebrating the release of its Sexual Harassment Report. Call Edmonton Working Women for more details (403) 429-3370.

More Calendar More Feature

Walk a Block for Health Care! The walk will take place on **May 8th** from 11 am to 1 pm. We will be walking in every town, village and city in Alberta to let the government know they have gone too far. For more information, call Trudy or Melanie at UNA at 425-1025 or 1-800-252-9394.

The Family Centre presents guest speaker Judith Maxwell at their 53rd Annual General Meeting and Lunch. Wednesday, **May 24**, at the Staff Dining Room, City Centre Campus, Grant McEwan, 10700 - 104 Ave, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Cost is \$20/person. Please RSVP by May 17th to Sabina at 423-2831.

The Association For Safe Alternatives In Childbirth (ASAC) invites everyone to attend their conference "**Celebrating Birth**" with **Sheila Kitzinger** on **October 20 to 21**. Please phone Christine at 462-4203 between 9 am and 3 pm if you like to volunteer for a committee, or for more information.

Remember your Midwife: May 5th International Day of the Midwife.

Edmonton's Pride Week: June 16 to 25

Theme: "Past, Present Pride, Celebrate Our History."

Activities:

- Edmonton Gay & Lesbian Archives Exhibit at Latitude 53 through out Pride Week.
 - June 16 - Opening of Queer Sightings Film Festival & Presentation of Michael Phair & Maureen Irwin Pride Awards & Certificates.
 - June 17 - Womonspace & GLCCE Pride Dance at Bonnie Doon Hall
 - June 21 - Liatris Society hosting a private tour of the Devonian Gardens starts at 6 pm, cost \$4. Call Wayne at 454-3482 for more information.
 - June 24 - Pride Rally & March!!! Time and location will be announced. The Edmonton Vocal Minority at the Convocation Hall, U of A, in the evening.
- Call GLCCE for more information about activities being planned.



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Working with Women for Financial Independence

Continued from page 2

As she hit her stride and work became a career
The mask of Career Woman started to fit quite nicely
The kids were gone, her time was her own so gave it to the Corporation
Until they downsized her out of a career and back into a job
The mask began to itch so she set it aside.

What mask can she put on now?
What role is there for her to play at this stage of life?
To go bare faced into the world seems impossible
"What do I look like without a mask after all these years?"

She doesn't know we have all been waiting anxiously for her to re-emerge?
That beautiful, fun loving woman who has been hidden behind those masks
Watching her make an identity for herself has been our greatest joy
We have found a friend in our mother.

.....

Sunday May 14th is Mother's Day. Happy Mother's Day to all Mum's! We honour you and thank you for all your contributions.
"Every mother is a working mother."
Thank you to the women who shared with us about their moms.

.....

Entrepreneurial Courses for Women

Are you Emotionally Ready for Entrepreneurship?

(6198) May 6 and 13, 9 am-noon \$45

Basic Bookkeeping

(6389) April 1 and 8, 9 am-noon \$45

OR (6388) May 20 and 27, 1-4 pm \$45

Banking, Loans & Venture Capital

(6387) April 1 and 8, 1-4 pm \$45

OR (6386) May 20 and 27, 9 am-noon \$45

Marketing

(6385) April 22 and 29, 9 am-noon \$45

OR (6384) June 3 and 10, 1-4 pm \$45

Business Plan

(6383) April 22 and 29, 1-4 pm \$45

OR (6381) June 3 and 10, 9 am-noon \$45

INFORMATION
492-3093



Faculty of Extension
University of Alberta

ASWAC Events

The ASWAC Annual General Meeting is being held in Calgary on May 6th. The day and evening will be both enlightening and entertaining while giving us the opportunity to share our unique and common experiences and plan for ASWAC's future.

We are particularly excited to have a dynamic panel of women who will be talking about the value of women's work from their own perspective. From the home to the fields, from paid to unpaid and from grassroots to academic, we will hear from and discuss this topic with a diverse group of women.

There will also be an update on what's happening to women in Alberta as a result of the cutbacks, and a chance to discuss possible future actions. Remember, a provincial election has to be called within the next two years.

We will have on-site childcare will be available (pre-registration required-call 421-0306 ASAP) and childcare subsidies are available.

For ASWAC members from outside of Calgary, we are offering a travel subsidy and on-site accommodations (Saturday night) at a sliding scale of \$0 to \$10 (paid directly to the YWCA). There are 2 accessible rooms and 16 double rooms available.

There is no registration fee but we will have memberships and many unique feminist items for sale. Donations are always gratefully accepted. Refreshments and snacks will be provided.

You are invited to join us Saturday evening for an evening fund raising social featuring political satire by the All Nations Theatre Society, A.N.T.S. is an inter cultural theatre company that provides a forum for young (13 - 23 yrs) actors to develop performance skills, gain cross-cultural awareness and raise their self-esteem. Refreshments, including wine and beer, (cash bar) will be available. Admission is by donation (\$5 or what you can afford).

There will be a breakfast meeting on Sunday morning, for all member groups of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC). For more information, call Pam Krause at 233-0731. Also on Sunday, Women Looking Forward will be hosting a forum for representatives of groups receiving funding from the federal government's Women's Program. For more information, call Corrine at 269-1144.

For more information or to register for the AGM call the ASWAC office nearest you. We look forward to seeing you May 6th.

See page 10 for AGM agenda

20th Anniversary - Time for Celebration!

Since 1976, ASWAC has been active in public education, lobbying for legislative change and researching practical improvements for the status of women.

A group of women some of which still live in and around Alberta, gave birth to ASWAC by forming a collective. ASWAC has grown, changed and evolved into the ASWAC of today, twenty years later. Change has not always been smooth but as women we faced our internal conflicts with compassion and we learned and developed with each struggle. We always kept in mind the big picture and what we were working on - to improve the status of women in Alberta and Canada. Our external conflicts have also been great. We have worked with, around and through several different provincial governments from Lougheed to Ralph Klein.

Today, our issues are numerous and keep us extremely busy with just survival. But, in order to be proactive and not reactive, we must remember our successes and our celebrations. So many women have contributed to ASWAC that I fear to list them as I surely would miss several names.

Next year, 1996, is our 20th year and we want to celebrate. We are inviting women who were involved with ASWAC as a staff, Board, volunteer or past member to write or call us with ideas for this celebration. We want to share positive stories with our present members and staff and Board to ensure that we know our past. Please help us celebrate by sharing your stories or helping us plan next year's event. A special time will be set aside during our Annual General Meeting weekend in Calgary for old friends and new to chat about the 1996 celebration event. Contact the office in Edmonton at 421-0306.

In our struggle to reduce costs we regret to inform our membership that the June '95 issue of the ASWAC Newsletter will not be published. The next issue will feature Take Back The Night and the **deadline** for submissions will be **August 28**. Publication date is September 8, 1995. We welcome your thoughts, input, ideas, submissions, criticisms and praise. Send any submissions to: Attention Newsletter, c/o ASWAC Edmonton. Watch for ASWAC mail outs prior to next newsletter! Thanks for your continued support.

More ASWAC Events on page 8

Welcome back Sharon.

Sharon is back in the office in the afternoons with Morgan. We missed you and we're glad your back!

All that we are is the result of what we think.
Buddha

Sources & Resources

Edmonton Working Women's report on Sexual Harassment is a must-read for working women in Alberta. The report pinpoints the problems women have in laying sexual harassment complaints and provides recommendations to improve the procedures and policies of complaint-processing bodies. Additional material available includes: a manual for victims/survivors of sexual harassment and advocates for women who have been sexually harassed, a fact sheet on sexual harassment and a background information sheet on Edmonton Working Women.

A limited number of anti-sexual harassment posters are also available for \$7 (\$5 low income). These posters are reduced in size from original prints (40" by 60"). The large prints are available for \$150.

If you are interested in receiving the Sexual Harassment material, call or write Edmonton Working Women at (403) 429-3370. The mailing address is: Edmonton Working Women, 30, 9930-106 Street, Edmonton, AB, T5K 1C7.

U of C Women's Collective & Resource Centre needs participants to answer and provide feedback on an institutional scan instrument on harassment. After answering a questionnaire, participants will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on how the questionnaire relates to their experiences. Call Patricia Okahashi at 289-9401.

Call for volunteers to take part in a Court Preparation Program for Victims of Domestic Assault. Calgary Legal Guidance, YWCA Family Violence Prevention Programs and the Calgary Police Service's Victim Assistance Unit are in the process of designing a court preparation program for victim - witnesses of domestic assault. Volunteers are currently being recruited for this program. There will be interviews prior to acceptance. Interested women are asked to contact Merrill at 234-9266 or Mary at 260-0707.

Acting Assertively at Work, a self-help manual by Dr. Mary Valentich and Dr. James Gripton. Send cheque for \$12 to M. Valentich, 135 Hawside Close NW, Calgary, T3G 3K8.

To put your name on the mailing list for the Beijing Update bulletin, or to obtain further information about Canada's preparations for the UN World Conference on Women, contact: 1995 World Conference on Women Secretariat, Status of Women Canada, 360 Albert Street, Suite 700, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1C3, or telephone (613) 995-7835.

In 1994, the Canadian Congress for Learning Opportunities for Women (CCLOW), in collaboration with other national women's groups, initiated the Sharing Resources Project: Developing Models of Collective Fundraising for National Women's Groups to research models, strategies and structures for collective fundraising and resource development. For more information about CCLOW or the Sharing Resources Project, contact Aisla at (416) 699-2145.

The Debt-Talk Hot Line at 423-debt (3328) provides easy, free access to confidential counselling and advocacy from a Trustee

in Bankruptcy, Chartered Accountant and Certified Insolvency Practitioner. Consultation is free. The hot line is answered weekdays from 9 am to 5 pm. A message service is active after 5 pm and on weekends.

The Bow Valley Woman's Resource Centre has an excellent video called *Loving & Hurting*. To order your copy for \$30 (includes taxes and shipping); allow 4 weeks for delivery send a cheque to: Box 1377, Canmore, AB, T0L 0M0. For further inquiries, call (403)678-4071.

Hug these Women

*Hugs and kisses to the following women who helped with the mail out of the February 95 ASWAC newsletter you received: Christine Leonard, Sherry Gettis, Del Marlow, Dorothy Mandy and Moyra Lang. Hugs to Raven, Snake, Aine, Margot, Christine and Moyra who helped with the April 95 mail out.

*We need volunteers for future mail outs - help - call 421-0306.

*Kisses to Karen Farcus from the Edmonton Women's Building Collective, for her continuing support and for doing all our recycling.

*Hugs to Dr. Pat for her support to the Edmonton Women's Building Collective by looking after our financial business for us.

*Many thanks to the Collective Representatives who show up at all the meetings. The Edmonton Women's Building Collective is ASWAC, Womonspace, Edmonton Working Women, CUEW.

*Many hugs and kisses to the owners and staff at Orlando Books, Whyte Ave Edmonton, who have been supporting ASWAC by selling our fundraising buttons. Let's show them our support and shop there.

*The biggest hug to Bonnie Thompson for her continuous support to ASWAC, especially during International Women's Day and our open house, thanks Bonnie.

*Big kisses to CBCA for letting us use their space when we meet in Calgary, thanks.

*Special hugs to the YWCA of Calgary for giving us such help in organizing our AGM, thanks.

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Write On

Help save the Women's Program - Tell the Liberals "No More Cuts."

Women's Program, Canadian Advisory Council On The Status Of Women and Status of Women Canada have been amalgamated. This move is said to save \$1 million. The government has continued to be unclear about future funding for the Women's Program, which supports numerous women's groups including Alberta Status of Women Action Committee, Edmonton Working Women, Calgary Immigrant Women's Centre and many more throughout the province.

Even though Status of Women Minister Sheila Finestone said "Fiscal restraint must never be used as an excuse to roll back the advances that women have made in the past 20 years," this is exactly what the Liberals did with the federal budget. The Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women and the Women's Program of Human Resources Development have been rolled up into Status of Women Canada. Basically, CACSW ceased existing as of April 1, and with it goes the important role it played in researching and outlining, for government and women, how government policies and practices impact on women. Again, women's voices are silenced. Please take the time to write and fax Sheila Finestone and the Prime Minister to let them know you are extremely unhappy with these moves and that you want full funding (100%) for the Women's Program to continue.

Sheila Finestone - fax: 613-990-5838

Jean Chretien - fax: 613-941-6900

Apparently no one is calling Health Minister Shirley McClellan with their concerns about a two-tier health care system. Please change this by giving her a call at 427-3665. If you do not wish your phone number to be viewed at the other end you can block it by dialing *67, wait for the recording telling you your number is blocked and then dial her phone number.

The Calgary Pro-Choice Coalition needs your help to fight the Committee to End Tax-Funded Abortions (very well promoted in the Alberta Report). They have mounted a strong campaign to de-insure abortion services, as well as a campaign against Klein's support of tax-funded abortion services. Please write to Provincial Health Minister, Shirley McLellan (c.c. Ralph Klein) at 127 Legislature Building, Edmonton, T5K 2B6 or fax: 429-5954 in support of women's rights to safe, tax-funded abortion services in hospitals and clinics. For more information, call 283-8591.

Contrary to the federal government's own Foreign Policy Review recommendations, Foreign Affairs Minister Andre Ouellet decided to cut all funding to community-based education agencies including the Arusha Centre (Calgary) and the Centre for International Alternatives (Edmonton - formerly the Learners Centre). This was done in an atmosphere of secrecy. On March 24th, a single week before the funding year ended, the Centres were notified there would be no further funding. We are asking the Minister to change his decision - not to restore full funding, but to put education groups like Arusha on the same footing as non government organizations

which support projects overseas, with a 1 to 1 funding match to local dollars. Please communicate your support for this request by writing a letter to: Andre Ouellet, Foreign Affairs Minister, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0A6. Editor's Note: Other groups affected: Earthkeeping - Edmonton, agriculture and faith organizations, Media International - Calgary, radio program broadcast across Canada, Micah Institute of Southern Alberta, works with church groups, Multi-Faith Development Education Project, works with faith groups other than christian. Alberta Global Education Project - works within/with AB Teachers Association. Also public education programs of the YWCA, YMCA, U of A International Centre, U of C Division of International Development, St Paul Learner Centre, World Citizens Centre, Lethbridge, Unisphere Global Resource Centre, Medicine Hat and even more.



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5 to 6 p.m.

More ASWAC Events

The Edmonton Office of ASWAC is now connected to the Edmonton Freenet. You can send us E-mail at: ASWAC@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca . We are really excited but are still very green. If you have learning tips for us please send them in. We will be connected to the Calgary Freenet soon so watch for us.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FRINGE BOOTH

The planning for this year's ASWAC booth at the Fringe is well underway. We need your help please! We need volunteers and input from you. Please call ASWAC Edmonton at 421-0306 to provide ideas about what worked last year, what you'd like to see this year, and/or to volunteer to sit at the booth. Watch for details on this in future mail outs, but don't wait. Call today!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MAIL OUTS

We need women to help with mail outs to our membership. Our list of current volunteers needs updating. Some of you have moved or don't have answering machines. We need six to ten women who are able to stuff envelopes. Your last newsletter was done by three volunteers and they are burnt out, please call 421-0306 and leave your name and number for future mail outs. We need you!

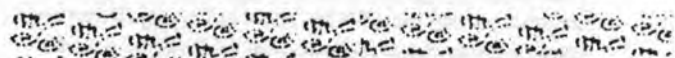
Our posters 'How To Be A Fabulous Feminist' have sold out. The selling of these was a great fundraising success. We may order more because we are still receiving so many phone calls. Watch for details on future fundraising items in the next mail out. Thanks to everyone for their support.

Lorene Rajhard, M.Sc.



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Susan James

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Members of Alberta Association of Midwives

Employment Opportunities for Women

Research Assistant Calgary Office

Full-time summer position - \$5.00/hour

May 15 - Sept 1 in Calgary (pending grant approval)

Eligibility requirements: Full time students returning to school.

Tasks and Responsibilities:

- ▽ provide research assistance in the completion of the 2nd Edition of *Women Against Poverty* (an ASWAC report)
- ▽ update the "Women Living in Poverty" educational package, based on the 2nd Edition of *Women Against Poverty*
- ▽ create fact sheets based on the reports
- ▽ promote the fall launch of *Women Against Poverty*
- ▽ organize a provincial media conference

Qualifications: The ideal candidate for this position will have good communication and research skills as well as a background in education, journalism, or the social sciences. Experience within the feminist community and volunteer groups is required. Good communication and research skills desirable. Computer experience. Must have ability to work in a group environment.

Apply to: ASWAC, #303 - 233 12th Avenue SW, Calgary, T2R 0G9.

Closing date: May 10, 1995

Position begins: May 15, 1995

Volunteer Coordinator

Full-time temporary position - \$5.00/hour

June 1 - December 1 in Edmonton (pending grant approval)

Eligibility requirements: Must be on Social Assistance (SFI).

This position involves working with ASWAC volunteers to increase their activity within the organization. The successful candidate will work with committees to develop and increase the membership base and to help plan and coordinate volunteer and fundraising activities.

Qualifications: Some experience with volunteer organizations and with feminist groups and the ability to work in a group environment.

Apply to: ASWAC Box 1573, Edmonton, T5J 2N7

Event Planner/Researcher

Full-time temporary position - \$5.00/hour

June 1 - December 1 in Edmonton (pending grant approval)

Eligibility requirements: Must be on Social Assistance (SFI)

This position involves working closely with the Volunteer Coordinator. The successful candidate will work with committees to research fund raising activities and events ideas.

Qualifications: Some experience with volunteer organizations and with feminist groups and the ability to work in a group environment.

Apply to: ASWAC Box 1573, Edmonton, T5J 2N7

News From NAC

The Annual General Meeting for NAC will take place June 9 through 11, 1995, in Ottawa at the Citadel Inn. The theme for our 1995 conference and AGM is **There is Another Way: Women Fight Back**. We'll be taking stock of the work women's groups have been engaged in over the past year and establish priorities for the next. The focus will be economic restructuring, cuts to social programs and to women's groups, violence against women, and the Fourth World Conference and Forum '95 in Beijing. Sunera Thobani will be seeking re-election for President at this year's AGM.

If you are a member group in good standing you should have received an AGM information package; if you have not, call Pam Krause at 233-0731 or Anne Molgat in Toronto at 1-800-665-5124. Last year's AGM was the largest since 1984, with over 450 women participating. Let's make this year's our largest ever. Please join us.

NAC Alberta Region will be holding a brief get together in conjunction with the ASWAC AGM in Calgary. If you are a member group that is affiliated with the National Action Committee on the Status of Women in the Alberta Region, you are invited to attend a breakfast meeting on Sunday May 7th, 9 am to 10:30 am at the YWCA of Calgary, 320 - 5 Ave SE. Please call Pam Krause at 233-0731 for information. Please plan on attending this regional meeting; it maybe the only chance before the NAC AGM for us to discuss and plan for June. See you all there!

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By-Election Results Prove Opposition to Cuts Growing

By Nancy Miller

Even though the Tories are claiming a big victory in the Calgary McCall by-election, the numbers demonstrate a different story. P.C. Shiraz Shariff became an MLA with 43% of the vote. However, the Liberals racked up over 34% of the vote, and former ASWAC staff member Anne McGrath received over 12% of the votes running for the New Democrats.

Tally it up and it is clear that more people voted against the Klein agenda than supported it. Cuts to health care and education seemed to be the major issues during the by-election. The "Tory Machine" was in high gear for this election because a big win could be used to prove Albertans are still supporting the cutbacks. The desired landslide P.C. win didn't happen, proving instead that opposition to the cuts is growing.

As is typical with by-elections, the voter turn-out was very poor, about 30%. The Social Credit Party received 8% and the Confederation of Regions Party received 1% of the votes.

Faculty of Extension Women's Program

Spring Offerings

Ariadne's Journey: A Woman's Way of Mid-Life Initiation (6160)

Fri., May 5, 7:30-9 pm, Sat., May 6, 9 am-4 pm and Sun., May 7, 9 am-noon \$101

Sisters In Dreamtime (6170)

Fri., May 12, 7-9 pm, Sat. and Sun., May 13 and 14, 9 am-4:30 pm \$115

Women Mapping Our Inner Lives (6175)

6 Thurs. starting May 18, 6:30-8:30 pm \$101

Workshops for the Helping Professional

Helping Others, Helping Ourselves: The Balancing Act (6163)

Sat. and Sun., Apr. 22 and 23, 9 am-4 pm \$130

Feminist Issues in Traditional and Non-traditional Family Counselling (6165)

Sat. and Sun., Apr. 29 and 30, 9 am-4 pm \$130

Counselling Women Certificate Program

Free Information Session

Wed., May 24, 7-9 pm, Rm 2-36 University Extension Centre, 8303-112 St.
Call 492-3093 to register!

Summer Institutes

2nd Annual Women's Summer Writing Institute (6196)

Mon. to Fri., June 12 to 16

Evening Readings (open to the public)

Mon. June 12 and Fri., June 16, 7 pm
Rm 2-36 University Extension Centre, 8303-112 Street
Call 492-3093 for a detailed brochure.

2nd Annual Women's Business Institute (6195)

2 Wed. and Thurs., Aug. 2, 3, 9 and 10, 8:30 am-4 pm
Call 492-3093 for a detailed brochure.

For more information, call the Women's Program at 492-3093

Annual General Meeting

**Saturday, May 6 Noon to 5:30 pm
Calgary YWCA, 320 - 5 Ave SE, Room 121/122**

No Registration Fee

**Refreshments provided, wheel chair accessible, on-sight child care, travel and
child care subsidies available**

Accommodations available through the YWCA (\$0 to \$10)

11 am to Noon	Registration, Refreshments and Networking
Noon to 2 pm	Panel Presentation and Discussion "The Value of Women's Work: Paid and Unpaid"
2 to 2:30 pm	Refreshments and Networking Break
2:30 to 3:30 pm	Political Update and Action Strategies
3:30 to 4 pm	Refreshments and Networking Break
4 to 5:30 pm	Annual General Meeting

ASWAC MEET AND MINGLE EVENING SOCIAL

**at the Old Y Centre for Community Organizations
223 - 12 Ave SW, Main Floor Common Room**

8 pm to Midnight featuring political satire by the ALL NATIONS THEATRE SOCIETY

Music, food and refreshments and a Cash Bar

Admission: \$5 or whatever you can afford

The Old Y is a smoke-free building

hair ZULA GLOBE

phone 439-2094 • #200, 10507-81 Avenue

our family

café LA GARE

Old Strathcona
10308A-81 Ave.
Edmonton, AB
T6E 1X2
Tel: 439-2969

Old Strathcona
8104-103 St.
Edmonton, AB
T6E 1X2
Tel: 433-5138

Rice Howard Way
10058-101A Ave.
Edmonton, AB
T5J 0T6
Tel: 423-0391



ASWAC!

I SUPPORT WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN ALBERTA

- ☐ Enclosed is my membership - \$20 (1 year)
- ☐ Enclosed is my membership - \$40 (2 year)
- ☐ Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____
- ☐ I am unable to pay the entire fee at this time,
enclosed is \$ _____

Name:

Address:

City/town:

Postal Code:

Ph (day/eve/fax):

Membership fees are an important source of ASWAC revenue, but more importantly, your membership means a vote in support of promoting the status of women in Alberta. Whether or not you can afford our suggested fee of \$20.00, it is important to keep your membership up to date (check your address label for renewal month). Renew early. Don't wait for the membership renewal invoice to send in your fee. All mail, and now our business reply mail, costs ASWAC one dollar which can be put towards programming, lobbying and advocacy work. Currently ASWAC does not operate for the full year due to continuing cutbacks in federal funds. If we can double or triple our membership, we could operate all year. Please sign up new members, buy memberships for your friends and make donations if you can. ASWAC's membership base is our most important resource.

Send in your membership to ASWAC, Box 1573, Edmonton, T5J 2N7