

CANADIAN ABORTION RIGHTS ACTION LEAGUE (CARAL)
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR LE DROIT A L'AVORTEMENT (ACDA)

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER

1982

Box 935 · Station Q · Toronto, Ontario · M4T 2P1 · (416) 961-1507



Dear Friends:

This is the first newsletter since the Annual General Meeting and for those of you who were unable to attend the AGM I want to give you a brief outline of the happenings. It was our largest turnout ever - a good indication of the renewed concern of freedom of choice groups.

The morning began with a report from the outgoing president, Karen Hammond, who gave us an overview of the year's happenings. This was followed by a report on our finances. Representatives from CARAL chapters and affiliates reported from across the country and it was heartening to hear of the continuing and dedicated work of people from one end of the country to the other telling us of their efforts to at least maintain the present access to abortion. From all areas we heard of the pressure from anti-choice groups to take over hospital boards, limit access and turn back the clock to the pre-1969 status.

Henry Morgentaler told us what is happening in Quebec, the province which now has a number of clinics performing abortions without therapeutic abortion committees. He has put the federal Minister of Justice on notice that this situation cannot be available only to Quebec but must be available to all women in Canada in whatever province they live.

A very moving moment at the meeting happened when Helen Kiperchuk from Quebec recounted the first time she publicly declared that she had had an abortion. Helen told her story as an introduction to CARAL's Stand Up and Be Counted Campaign. Tears came to the eyes of many of the audience as a number of women moved to the front of the room to sign forms declaring publicly that they had had abortions. You will be hearing more about this campaign in this newsletter and in the months to come.

The announcement was made of the winner of our poster competition and this was followed by the presentation of our new logo and letterhead - a design we hope will quickly become our identifying mark across the country. Pat Davies of London submitted the winning poster design.

Then, down to business with the presentation of our slate of officers for the coming year and business items.

Over lunch people were able to chat informally, meet with the media and exchange ideas and concerns.

In the afternoon we were in for a special treat as our speakers gave us the information and ammunition we need to continue to fight for freedom of choice.

Dr. Kathryn Morgan, professor of Philosophy, and Women Studies, at U. of T. gave us her view of the philosophical foundations of the abortion debate. Dr. Morgan presented her views in a manner which helped us to better understand the issue as seen by the anti-choice groups - information we must understand if we are to keep these groups from removing our right to reproductive freedom.

Morris Manning, Q.C., spoke to us about the Borowski case and gave us much needed information about the background of Joe Borowski's success in winning the right to challenge the abortion law. Morris Manning has been retained by CARAL as legal counsel in the Borowski case and he was able to bring us up to date on the legal battle we will face as well as give us background information about this man - Joe Borowski.

The meeting finished with a question and answer period.

This year CARAL will face its greatest challenge and it will cost us dearly in both time and money. The anti-choice groups are committed to removing access to abortion for any reason and we must be prepared to sustain the level of commitment expressed at the annual general meeting. As well as reaction to the actions of anti-choice groups, we must become aggressive and forthright in our demands that no woman in Canada is denied the right to safe, legal abortion.



STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

As Norma Scarborough mentioned in the President's message, we kicked off a Stand up and Be Counted campaign at the AGM in April. But this newsletter marks the real beginning of the campaign with our appeal to you. We see this effort as serving several purposes:

- o It will help to remind the public and legislators alike that unwanted pregnancy is an issue that affects most of the adult population.
- o The willingness of larger numbers of women to make a private matter public will demonstrate our determination to have reproductive control of our bodies.
- o The publicity around the campaign will help us to build a broader base of support.
- o The petition gives us, individually, a chance to share our experience, express our concerns and draw support from a large group of women.

We understand that some women will decide not to sign the petition, for either personal or political reasons, and we want to emphasize that we will respect that decision. We don't want anyone to be pressured into signing. But we do urge you to think about it and to speak to other women who have had abortions if you can.

LETTER TO CARAL

Attached you will find my cheque for \$10.00, a small financial contribution to CARAL. I know that it will be put to good use.

Abortion is not right for me personally but it makes me VERY angry that someone is trying to take that right away from me. It is MY choice; it is my conscience. Not Mr. Joe Borowski, who has never been pregnant in his life. How many foster children does he take care of? Does he support any neglected or abused children?

Abortion should definitely not be used as a method of birth control but I believe strongly that it should be made available and as safe as possible.

Good luck!

Signed a member from the North West Territories

Excerpts From Text of Henry Morgentaler's Telegram to Jean Chretien

Mister Minister; I appeal to you to take immediate steps to amend the Federal Abortion Law in order to protect the rights of Canadian women to safe medical abortions. I'm making this appeal to you for the following reasons:

1. As recent disclosures showed, the fereal law is not being applied in the province of Quebec because no jury would convict me or any other doctor for providing safe medical abortions outside of the narrow restrictions of the existing law. A law not being applied for 28% of Canada's population is a moribund law not deserving respect.
2. Women in the province of Quebec have now more rights than in any other province namely the right to medical abortion in clinics without approval by hospital committee, without undue delays and without having to travel long distances. Even Government subsidized C.L.S.C.'S (Community Clinics) are now offering this service in order to protect women's health.
3. The abortion law is seriously defective (a) it permits abortion only in hospitals whereas experience in my clinic and all over the United States for the last 12 years has shown that abortions done in free standing clinics are safer than those done in hospitals. (b) the impostiton of a therapeutic abortion committee empowered to grant or deny abortions in not only an insult to womens dignity, is judicially wrong in denying a right to appeal but in practice is also an insurmountable obstacle preventing women from obtaining this medical service or delaying it unduly. Canada is now the second country in the world with the highest incidence of second trimester abortion....
Women have to travel enormous distances to my clinic from as far as Newfoundland Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick and Ontario in order to get a medical abortion they cannot receive in their own communities under the present law. This is not an intolerable situation.

I intend to train doctors and nurses as I did for Quebec so that clinics may be established across the country to provide Canadian women with the safest and most modern abortion facilities.... Should I decide to establish free standing clinics in other provinces I am convinced that no jury in any major city in Canada would find me guilty for such a humanitarian action. However it would be a lengthy and difficult process and in the meantime Canadian women would

continue to suffer unnecessarily. I urge you therefore to draw the proper legal conclusions from my three jury acquittals and from the widespread acceptance of abortion in Quebec and to amend the law so that women across Canada may be allowed the same abortion rights now present in Quebec.

Until such time that the new law is enacted I urge you to appeal to all provincial attorneys general to follow the example of Quebec not to prosecute doctors providing safe medical abortions outside the restrictions of the present law.

BEWARE THE "RESEARCH SHOWS..." PLOY

You may hear or read that there exists "well-known evidence" that the increase in the availability of elective abortion in the 1970's produced an increase in child abuse. It seems that this piece of nonsense has become part of the anti-choice arsenal of so-called scientific evidence, so you should be prepared and equipped to refute it.

Two authorities in the field of family violence were surprised when they read of this "evidence" because it was directly contrary to their experience. Richard J. Gelles and Claire Pedrick-Cornell, of the Family Violence Research Program at the University of Rhode Island, have found in their research that deformed, defective, retarded, unwanted or unplanned children have the highest risk of being battered. In an article in *Ms* magazine (June 1981), they said, "Availability of 'elective abortion' prevents, rather than causes, child battering."

In an extensive search of more than 4,500 publications on child abuse, wife abuse and family violence, Gelles and Pedrick-Cornell found one article, by Dr. Philip Ney (*Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, 24: 610-620, 1979), that claimed that induced abortion contributes to child abuse. After examining Dr. Ney's arguments, the two researchers concluded that the so-called evidence was based on methodologically flawed data, fallacious analysis, or no data at all.

The apparent logic that links elective abortion with child abuse is that if parents feel they may "kill" a fetus, they are less likely to feel constrained from battering children. Dr. Ney's conclusion is based on data in Canada and New York State that shows that the number of abortions increased every year, as did the reported cases of child abuse. As the researchers point out, the parallel increases show no proof of scientific relationship whatsoever. "The number of ounces of milk or soda pop consumed in Canada and New York also increased

each year from 1972 to 1980, as did church attendance, and certainly no one seriously believes that drinking milk, soda, or going to church leads to child abuse."

Dr. Wendell Watters, Dept. of Psychiatry, McMaster University Medical Centre, has also attacked Ney's conclusions as "not warranted by any evidence advanced by the author" (see the *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, 25: 68-73, 1980). Ney put forward a number of propositions that he said might explain why the supposed increase in child battering may be related to the availability of abortion on request. For example, "Allowing infants to die by permissive abortion might diminish the social taboo against aggressing the defenceless". Dr. Watters responds,

"How then would Dr. Ney make sense of the fact that Sweden, in the forefront of abortion law reform, has abolished poverty and instituted child welfare policies that are the envy of the western world."

In refuting Dr. Ney's statements regarding the effect of abortion on women (and on children subsequently born to these women), Dr. Watters cites extensive research that indicates that "mandatory motherhood has some ill effects on the psychosocial health of women and on their offspring." A number of studies of children born to women who had been refused abortions have found that these children tended to have more problems in their psychosocial, social and educational development than did children resulting from planned pregnancies.

The Gelles/Pedrick-Cornell article has been reprinted and is available upon request to our office.



NEW LOGO FOR CARAL

On the cover of the newsletter and the Stand Up and Be Counted letter enclosed, is our new logo. The design represents the choice that must be available to women, to bear or not to bear a child.

The logo was designed by Jim Donohue, one of Canada's top designers. His work includes: the logos for the Eaton's Centre in Toronto, Canada Standards Council, Global Television Network, and The National Museums of Canada.

We thank Jim for his fine design.

PROVINCIAL DAY OF ACTION FOR CHOICE
BRITISH COLUMBIA, May 8, 1982

A Coalition for Choice made up of members of Concerned Citizens for Choice on Abortion, the B.C. Federation of Women and other independent groups and individuals organized a province-wide day of action on abortion rights in British Columbia on May 8, 1982.

In Vancouver, 600 people marched through the streets chanting and carrying placards demanding repeal of Canada's anti-abortion laws. A rally which followed was addressed by speakers from the B.C. Federation of Women, the federal N.D.P., the international abortion rights movement, the health profession and Concerned Citizens for Choice on Abortion. The march and rally were called to increase public awareness about Borowski's threat to legalized abortion in Canada and to demonstrate public support for repeal of the anti-abortion laws.

In other communities around the province public meetings, films, leafletting and other information activities took place.

Calgary, Alberta

Abortion By Choice (ABC) is project of the Calgary Status of Women Action Committee, formed in the summer of 1981 by a group of people concerned about women's ability to obtain abortions in Alberta. Alberta counselling and referral agency statistics for 1981 indicate that between 30% and 75% of their clients travel to clinics in the United States.

The MacGuire legal action against the City of Calgary for the funding of the Calgary Birth Control Association is being appealed. The case is expected to be heard in court in June. The legal action was first initiated in 1978 and in 1980 the court decided in favour of the City of Calgary.

North Bay, Ontario

The possible amalgamation of the two hospitals in the North Bay area is causing some concern in the community. Civic Hospital has a Therapeutic Abortion Committee and performs abortions. The Sisters of St. Joseph run the other hospital and, as one might expect, they do not want to have anything to do with abortions.

Just such a situation has arisen in other communities across Canada: Charlottetown, where the amalgamated hospital does not have a Therapeutic Abortion Committee, and Sevens Oaks Hospital in Brandon, Manitoba, where a narrow victory ensured the establishment of a committee, are two examples. A solution must be found which will not deny anyone the right to medical care.

Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan

Since November 1981, no abortions have been done at Moose Jaw Union Hospital. An anti-abortion member of the hospital's Board of Directors introduced a motion to disband the Therapeutic Abortion Committee because the hospital does not have an obstetrical unit. According to Section 251 of the Criminal Code, a hospital, in order to provide abortion services, must provide "diagnostic services and medical, surgical and obstetrical treatment". The city's obstetrical unit is at a Catholic hospital where no abortions are performed.

In a town that had been very quiet on the issue, a committee of Citizens for Reproductive Rights was formed in reaction. They have been working ever since to have the Therapeutic Abortion Committee reinstated. The Hospital Board, unsure of its legal position, asked the then Minister of Health, Herman Rolfes, to approve the hospital for the purpose of performing abortions. Mr. Rolfes was, himself, anti-choice and for months did nothing. Finally four days before his defeat he wrote to the citizen's committee to say he would consult the Federal Justice Department for clarification.

To date, nothing has happened. The Citizen's committee is faced with an avowedly anti-choice Premier and Minister of Health in the new Conservative government. Grant Devine, in his election campaign, made promises to the militant anti-choice organization Campaign Life and that organization supported his candidacy.

CARAL had sent telegrams to the NDP Government when it was in power and to the Federal Minister of Justice. We have recently written to Chretien asking whether the Government of Saskatchewan has communicated with him and urging him to act.

Meanwhile, the people of Moose Jaw wait to hear from the current Minister of Health of Saskatchewan and the women of that community who seek abortions must travel to Regina 80 kilometres away.

NEW HONOURARY DIRECTOR NAMED

Lorenne Clark of Nova Scotia has been made an honorary director of CARAL. Ms. Clark co-authored the book titled "Rape, the Price of Coercive Sexuality" and is now a practising lawyer in Digby, Nova Scotia.

Newfoundland - Planned Parenthood Case Decided

On March 18, 1982 the case of Planned Parenthood of Newfoundland and Labrador vs Vera Fedorik and the Right to Life Association of Newfoundland began in the Newfoundland Supreme Court. Planned Parenthood stated that defamatory and false remarks were made by Vera Fedorik in the April 1980 issue of Atlantic Insight when she called their office "an abortion referral centre" and said, "I've seen some of their sex education films for teenagers and some of them could be considered pornographic". Fedorik also made further similar statements as a guest on a local hot-line radio show.

After several weeks of testimony, the judge announced a decision of a \$500 fine and one week's court costs to be paid by Ms. Fedorik. The Right to Life Association, who had disowned Fedorik as a member of their organization, was not named in the judgement. It is hoped that a legal precedent has been set in favour of the pro-choice movement for reproductive rights.

CARAL HAMILTON

SUPPORTS

RESPECT FOR LIFE WEEK

MAY 2 - 9, 1982

RESPECT FOR LIFE

means showing concern for the quality of life — for example, making sure people are prepared to cope with the special needs of a child who may be handicapped from birth.

RESPECT FOR LIFE

means respecting human sexuality as something which must be approached in a mature manner . . . and providing people with knowledge and safe birth control techniques which allow them to act responsibly.

RESPECT FOR LIFE

means caring about the quality of the air we breathe, the environment in which we work, the water and the soil and the trees in the world in which we live.

RESPECT FOR LIFE

means caring whether people have a place to live and enough to eat. It means being concerned about unemployment and the problems of people on welfare.

**CANADIAN ABORTION
RIGHTS ACTION LEAGUE**

stands for respect for life. This includes our belief that no one should be forced to have an abortion against her will and that no one should be forced to bear a child against her will.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

for this broad understanding of "respect for life":
Respect life, not just existence. Support CARAL,
Box 454, Hamilton, Ontario.

EVERY CHILD A WANTED CHILD, EVERY MOTHER A WILLING MOTHER

CARAL, Box 454, Hamilton, Ontario, L8N 3H8

- I support CARAL's pro-choice position. Here's a donation to help.
- I want to become a CARAL member (\$10; \$3 for low income people).
- Please send information on the pro-choice position.

Name Telephone

Address

TRUE RESPECT FOR LIFE NOT UNDERSTOOD BY ANTI-CHOICE

Anti-choice groups are waging psychological warfare in communities across Canada but their strategy may backfire. Some Mayors, at the instigation of anti-choice groups in their city or town, have declared "Respect for Life Week". Many are unaware that the main concern of these groups is embryos and fetuses and that they care little for the lives of women and children, the well-being of families the preservation of the environment or the quality of life in general.

In the last newsletter we told you about the outcry from community and women's groups in Winnipeg when Mayor Norrie declared "Respect for Life Week". Mayor Norrie insisted that he didn't know the resolution was anti-abortion.

In Moose Jaw, the anti-choice deputy Mayor sponsored a declaration which blatantly propagandized for the anti-choice contingent in that city. (See Across Canada for more news from Moose Jaw)

In Hamilton, the City Council refused to support the narrow definition of respect for life, but the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Council was persuaded to declare "Respect for Life Week". Reaction from CARAL/Hamilton was swift. As well as protesting Council's decision, money was raised to insert an advertisement in the Hamilton newspaper. (See sample ad.) We congratulate the Hamilton chapter on their splendid efforts to educate the public and the Regional Council about true respect for life.

We urge all readers to be aware of this strategy by anti-abortion groups. It could happen in your community because elected officials are ignorant of the motives of the sponsoring group or because, as happened in Moose Jaw, the declaration is used as a political and psychological weapon by anti-choice members of Council. If your community is targeted, let us know, and/or start some educational work of your own. Use the Hamilton ad as a model.

Pro-choice people show their respect for life every day of the year by working tirelessly for the right of men and women to choose when they want to become parents, by working for quality day care, good prenatal care for women, the civil rights of all groups in society, a safe, healthy environment and a world free from nuclear weapons.

A R O U N D

THE WORLD

GREAT BRITAIN

The Department of Health and Social Security is narrowing the interpretation of the present law by insisting that doctors must state an actual medical reason for performing an abortion. (Doctors were allowed to take the woman's social circumstances into account when making their decision. This is known as the 'social clause' and 80% of abortions in Britain were carried out under this clause.) Some doctors are refusing to give a medical reason when there hasn't been one and are now being threatened with prosecution. They could face charges of illegal abortion and face imprisonment of 14 years. If the D.H.S.S.'s interpretation of the law is upheld in the courts women will no longer be able to obtain abortion except for very stringent reasons. If abortion becomes difficult to obtain in Britain it will affect thousands of women every year who travel from countries like Spain and Ireland for abortions as well as the British women.

Reprinted from the CCCA Newsletter

ABORTION ADVOCATES WIN IN SPAIN

The trial of the "Bilbao 11" ended in March with the acquittal of 10 women charged with having abortions and a recommendation from the court that a woman convicted of performing abortions be pardoned.

The trial, which was seen as a test case of Spain's harsh anti-abortion laws, was marked by protests and demonstrations in a number of cities. When the case began three years ago, hundreds of women publicly declared that they had had abortions and hundreds of men said they had helped women seek abortions.

HOLLAND

A recent review of abortion in the Netherlands suggests that government support of family planning services has had a lot to do with keeping that country's abortion rate relatively stable.

A Dutch study, reported in International Family Planning Perspectives (Vol. 7, No. 3, Sept. 1981), found that between 1970 and 1980, the number of abortions performed annually had stayed at about the same level; 21,000 abortions were performed in 1972 and 16,200 were done in 1979. In comparison, the abortion rate has climbed steadily in the United States since abortion was legalized. The U.S. abortion rate in 1979 was 303 abortions per 1,000 live births plus abortions; the Dutch rate in that year was 85 per 1,000.

Abortion was legalized in the Netherlands only last year (1981), but it had been tacitly accepted by the government and carried out by doctors in private, mostly non-profit, clinics since 1970.

The authors of the Dutch study conclude that the most important reason for the low level of abortion is the high level of use of contraceptives in that country. Since 1971, contraceptive services have been available free to most Dutch citizens as part of government-sponsored health care, and they are available from almost all general practitioners in the country.

reminders

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

DID YOU RECEIVE OUR WINTER 82 NEWSLETTER? It was mailed in February. Several of our members (who knew it was on the way) phoned to say they did not receive it. Were you missed? If so, let us know and we'll send you a copy. We're trying to work out the snags with our mailer, but problems with the post office are beyond our control.

ARE YOU MOVING?

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE SEND US A CHANGE OF ADDRESS CARD. THE POST OFFICE PROVIDES THEM FREE. ATTACH YOUR OLD LABEL ALONG WITH YOUR NEW ADDRESS IF YOU CAN.

ANTI-CHOICE LOBBY FORMS ITS OWN POLITICAL PARTY

The Canada Gazette recently carried an interesting item - an application for registration as a political party by "The Pro-Life Party of Canada". The chief electoral officer J.M. Hamel has determined that such a party can be registered the day after the party has officially nominated candidates in fifty electoral districts at the next general election.

What does this mean? It means that once this party is established contributors to it will be eligible for tax rebates. The party will also have that many more platforms from which they will be able to propagandize.

On the other hand, it will mean that the energies the anti-choice lobby has been putting into influencing and intimidating the mainstream parties will be diverted to promoting their own candidates. This could be welcome news for all parties. The electorate and the three main political parties will be able to see that the support for single-issue, anti-women, anti-choice candidates is minimal. The pro-choice Canadians must continue to remind our elected officials, at every level of government, that we are the majority.

MARGARET LAWRENCE FUNDRAISING APPEAL GREAT SUCCESS!

Good news our direct mail campaign has grossed \$31,000 to date! The response has been terrific with 12% responding to the appeal (normal direct mail response is 2-3%). We are planning to use Margaret Lawrence's letter with new mailing listings.

We held a smaller scale but highly successful fund raising event in April, showing the film: "Right Out of History: The Making of Judy Chicago's The Dinner Party". The event was held in conjunction with our AGM and we made close to \$2,000.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Is there an '82 on your label? If not, it's time to renew.

Cover Photo: Cathie Daw

NEW AFFILIATES AND A NEW CHAPTER JOIN THE GROWING PRO-CHOICE RANKS

We welcome the new chapter of THUNDER BAY CARAL. These active women will continue the speaking, educational and lobbying work they have been doing for the past several years, but henceforth they will be more formally constituted as a chapter.

THE WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE OF OISE, TORONTO
 THE VICTORIA STATUS OF WOMEN ACTION GROUP
 THE WOMEN'S CENTRE, RYERSON POLYTECHNICAL INSTITUTE, TORONTO
 VICTORIA FAULKNER WOMEN'S CENTRE, WHITEHORSE, YUKON
 PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN COMMITTEE, N.D.P., OTTAWA
 NORTH BAY WOMEN'S CENTRE
 ABORTION BY CHOICE, CALGARY
 ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETY, HAMILTON

All are newly affiliated with us and we welcome them all.

National CARAL
 Box 935, Station Q,
 Toronto, Ont.,
 M4T 2P1
 (416) 961-1507

Chapters

CARAL/Victoria
 Box 6268, Depot C
 Victoria, B.C.
 V8P 5L5

CARAL/WINNIPEG
 c/o 251 Garfield Street,
 Winnipeg, Man.,
 R3G 2M1

CARAL/OTTAWA
 c/o 179 Cameron Ave.,
 Ottawa, Ont.,
 K1S 0X4

CARAL/TORONTO
 c/o 160 The Esplanade,
 Apt. 202,
 Toronto, Ont.,
 M5A 3T2

CARAL/LONDON
 BOX 2782, Station A,
 London, Ont.,
 N6A 4H4

CARAL/KITCHENER-WATERLOO
 237 Old Post Rd.,
 Waterloo, Ont.,
 N2L 5B8

CARAL/THUNDER BAY
 154 Whalen St.,
 Thunder Bay, Ont.,
 P7A 7J1

CARAL/NFLD
 P.O. Box 5484
 St. John's Nfld.,
 A1C 5H4

CUARAL
 c/o Carleton University
 Women's Centre,
 Colonel By Dr.,
 Ottawa, Ont.

CARAL/HAMILTON
 P.O. Box 454
 Hamilton, Ont.,
 L8N 3H8

CARAL/UWO
 c/o CARAL/London

CARAL/KINGSTON
 P.O. Box 1541
 Kingston, Ont.
 K7L 5C7

STOP THE PRESS

STOP THE PRESS

STOP THE PRESS

NO MORE LEGAL ABORTION IN MONCTON NEW BRUNSWICK

On June 22, the Moncton City Hospital announced that as of July 1, no more abortions would be performed there. The one doctor who has been performing all of the abortions in that city has said he will no longer do so due to the intense pressure and harassment by the anti-choice lobby.

Dr. Robert Caddick said that there is virtually no access to legal abortion in any of the Maritime Provinces except Nova Scotia. He said that it is urgent that governments and the media hear from pro-choice individuals and groups. Dr. Caddick said that, unfortunately, when there is access to abortion in the community, there is no expressed support from pro-choice citizens.

This development is another shocking example of how a vociferous minority can impose its will on an entire community. CARAL has sent telegrams to the hospital and to the provincial government and is contacting New Brunswick members and groups in an effort to mobilize community action.