



NAC
2-114

May 28, 1993

"I want to tell the banks to
make sure that credit is available
for women."

-- Brian Mulroney, 1984
leader's debate.

Dear Friend,

Very shortly, two women could be at the helm of two of
the largest political parties in the country.

Two women, one Tory and one New Democrat -- both of whom
call themselves feminists -- could be facing off in the first
election in five years.

Exciting times for women. Undoubtedly.

Will it make any difference to women? I don't know.

That's why, as part of our federal election action, I
want to hear what the leaders of our country think about the
critical issues facing women today.

And I want to hear what they are going to do about the
poverty, unemployment, violence against women, wage gap and
child care concerns many women face. And I want the rest of
the country to hear about it too.

That's why NAC wants to sponsor "A Great Debate".

A serious televised debate among the three leaders of
our main political parties about how they are dealing with
the concerns of women, and how their parties are dealing with
women's increased political profile.

A debate that all interested Canadians could watch.

A debate that you can be a part of creating.

NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
57 MOBILE DRIVE, TORONTO, ONTARIO M4A 1H5 (416) 759-5252

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You can help make sure women's questions are answered by sending the enclosed "Great Debate" post cards to the three party leaders.

It concerns NAC that there has been a lack of substance in the discussion of issues that has taken place so far.

We would like the candidates to make more precise policy statements on women's issues. And we would like these statements to be on the record for all to hear and to see.

Because increasingly women are becoming a force to be reckoned with on the political stage. And increasingly women are demanding that their concerns be heard.

When we look south of the border, we can see the impact of women's voices. More women and racial minorities were elected than ever before and more women were involved in the political process than ever before -- both in financing the campaign and volunteering their time.

And that's what NAC is aiming to do -- make sure the concerns of women are firmly planted in the political landscape in this country.

NAC has done it before.

We sponsored a national leader's debate on women's issues between Ed Broadbent, Brian Mulroney and John Turner in 1984.

It was an historical moment for NAC -- and for the women of Canada. And we'd like to do it again.

But we truly need your help to get the ball rolling.

Invitations will be issued as soon as the Tory leadership convention is held. TV stations will be approached and venues will be searched out.

Thousands of women have told NAC, in our Federal Election Survey, that they believe NAC should try to organize a leadership debate.

And I agree with those women.

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But we need to deliver the same message to our country's leaders.

And that's why I am asking you today to send the enclosed post cards -- postage free -- to three party leaders.

Politicians must go on record when it comes to presenting options to the women of Canada.

And not only can you help make it happen by sending the post cards, you can make a contribution so NAC can have a stronger voice during the election.

Quite frankly, your input is vital in making "A Great Debate" happen.

The power of NAC's invitation to the leaders carries a great deal more weight when we have your help. And by sending the post card now, all leaders will get the message early.

And that's why I am also asking you for a financial contribution now. All of NAC's election work is being funded by people who care about women being represented in the political process.

All of NAC's election work is being funded by people like you.

So, if there was ever a time when you felt like joining the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, this is it.

It is truly a crucial moment to become a supporter because you have an opportunity to have a tremendous impact with your donation.

So, today I am asking you to do two things.

First. Send the enclosed post cards -- postage free -- to three party leaders urging them to commit to a NAC sponsored debate on women's issues.

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Second. Make as generous a contribution as you can -- \$50, \$75, \$100 or \$200 -- so we can mount an effective election program for the women of Canada.

Or you might consider joining NAC's ACTION FUND.

By authorizing easy automatic withdrawals from your chequing account of \$10, \$15 or \$25 a month, you can give NAC the stable financial base it needs to be a strong voice on behalf of women all year round.

We have already been busy working on our election plans. NAC's Voter's Guide -- a guide to issues of concern to women and the federal parties' position on them -- will be available on newsstands and in book stores in June.

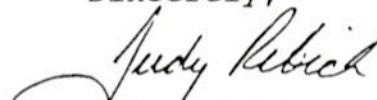
And we have surveyed over 100,000 Canadians on what they feel are critical issues for women.

NAC will make a difference to women in this election. But only if we have the support of people like you.

I cannot stress enough how much NAC needs your donation if we are to be an effective voice for women in this election year. Almost three quarters of NAC's budget comes from people like you.

I hope to hear from you today.

Sincerely,

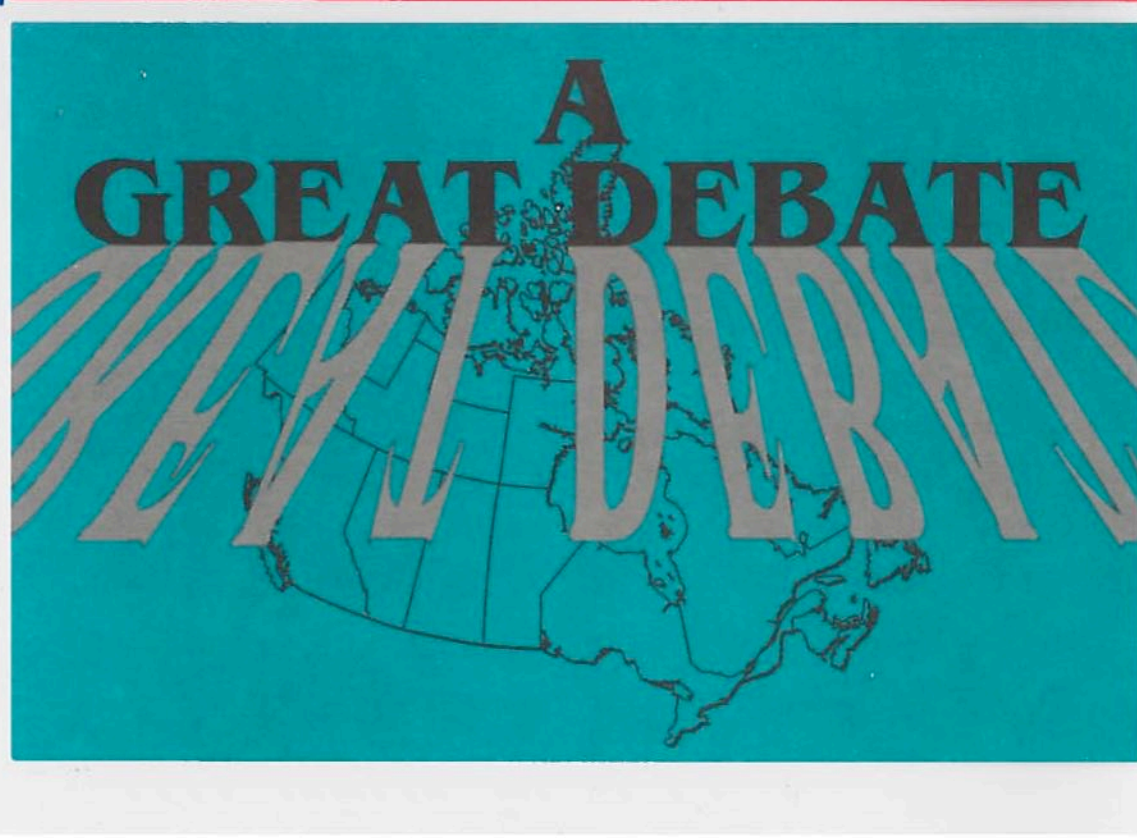
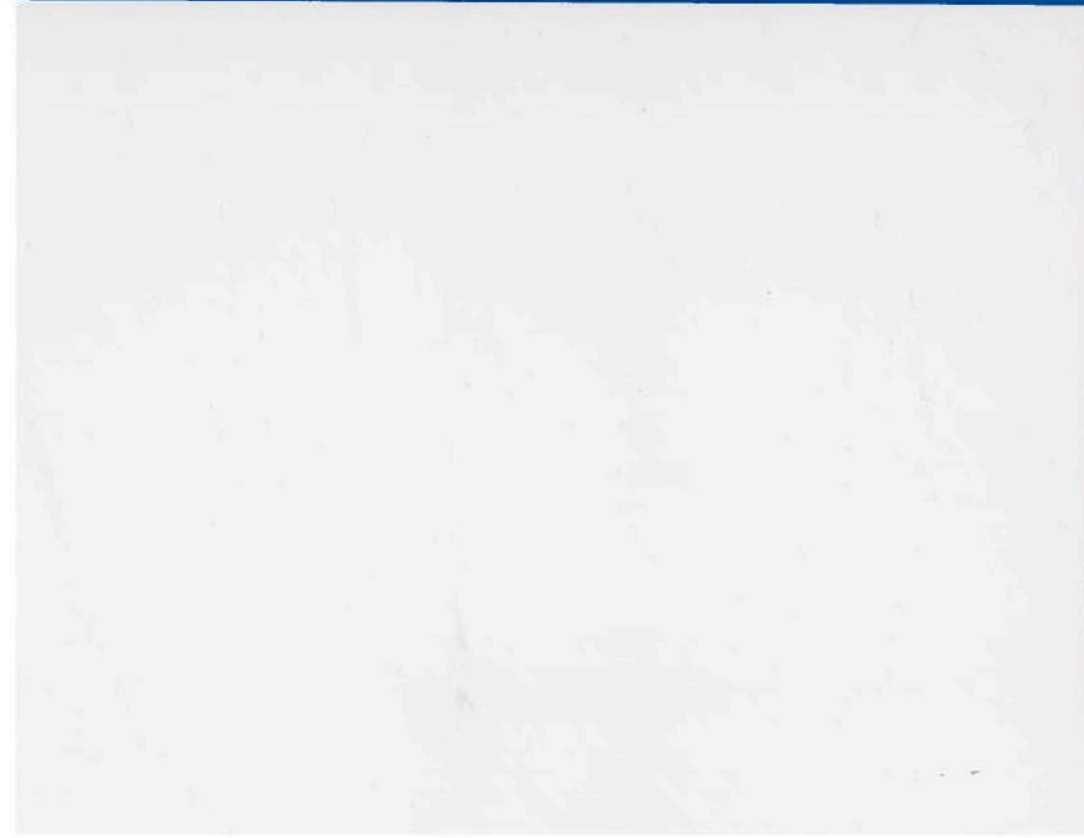
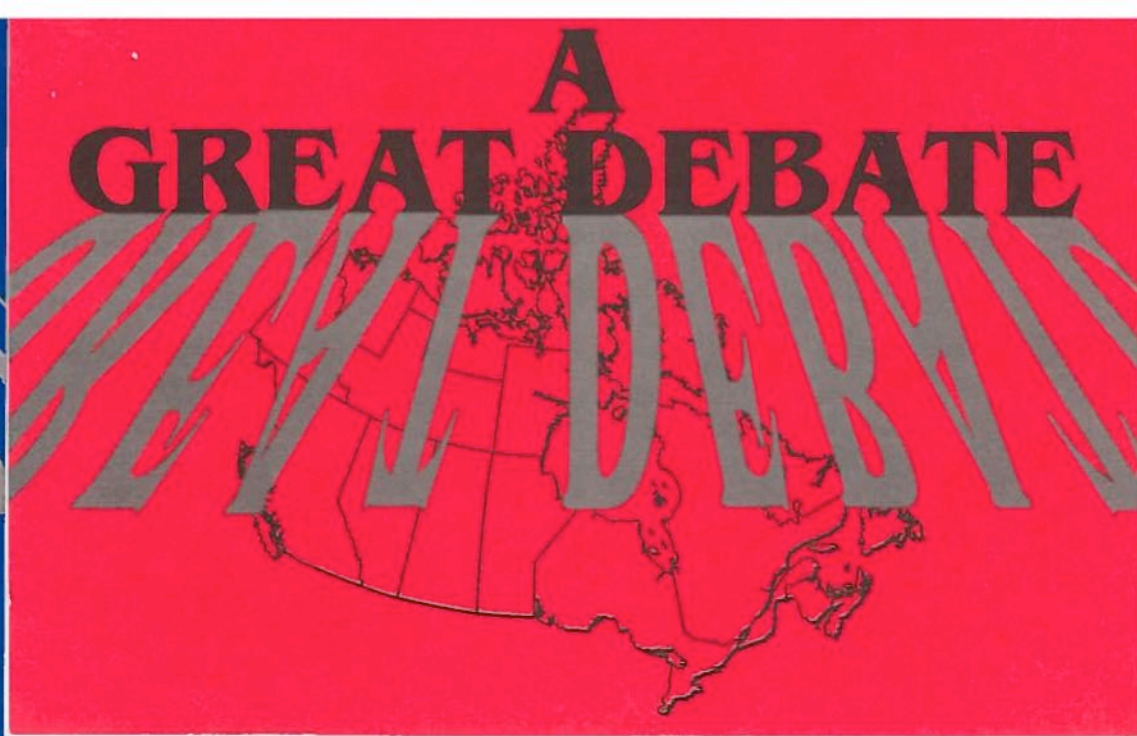
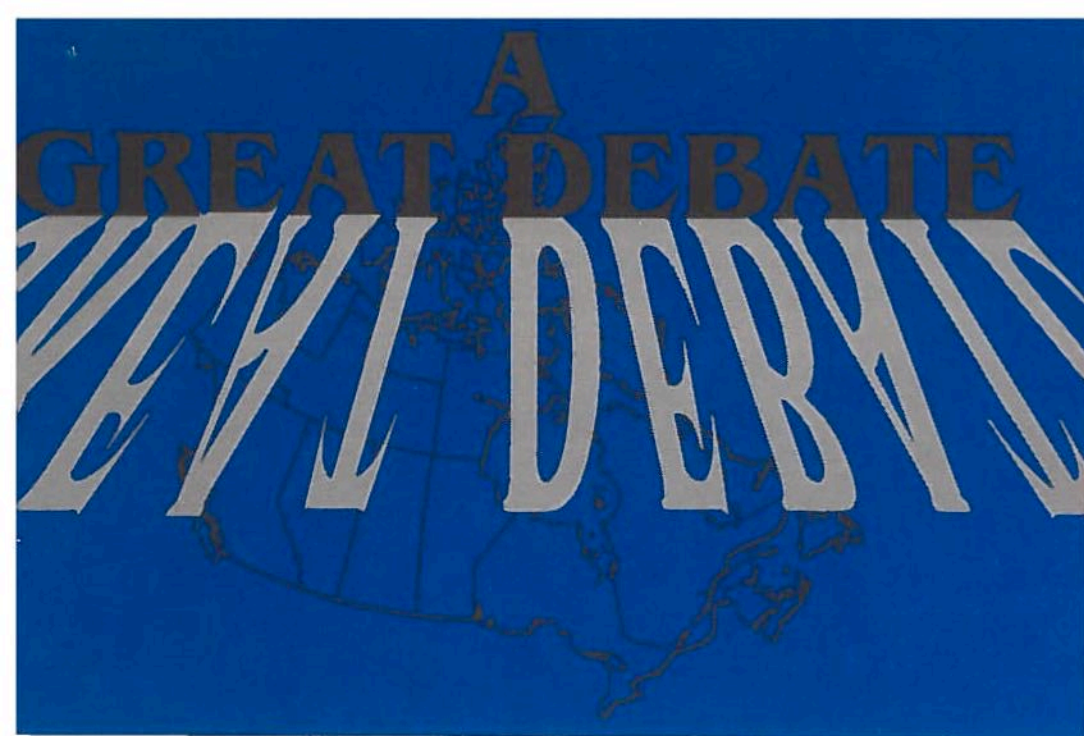


Judy Rebick

P.S. Today I am asking you to do two things.

1. Please send the enclosed post cards -- postage free -- to all three party leaders and,
2. Make a special contribution to "A Great Debate".

Your donation is necessary if we are to continue our election work.



To The Prime Minister,

The women of Canada make up 52% of the voting population and, as we have seen in recent elections in the US, women can have a significant impact on election results.

I want to see the three main political parties have a televised debate on women's issues and urge you to participate.

Yours sincerely,

No
Postage
Required

The Right Honourable
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr Chretien,

The women of Canada make up 52% of the voting population and, as we have seen in recent elections in the US, women can have a significant impact on election results.

I want to see the three main political parties have a televised debate on women's issues and urge you to participate.

Yours sincerely,

No
Postage
Required

Office of Jean Chretien
Leader, Liberal Party of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Ms McLaughlin,

The women of Canada make up 52% of the voting population and, as we have seen in recent elections in the US, women can have a significant impact on election results.

I want to see the three main political parties have a televised debate on women's issues and urge you to participate.

Yours sincerely,

No
Postage
Required

Office of Audrey McLaughlin
Leader, New Democratic Party
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6