

To: Congress of Black Women of Canada  
From: Dianne Barham

***Black Teachers: The Call of the Twenty-first Century***  
Report 1 - December 7, 1995

On October 26, 1995, our first meeting, a work-plan was requested to effectively plan the conference. On November 1, 1995, I presented the committee with a work-plan which indicated the work needed to be done on a monthly basis. It was modified and approved by the committee.

The work-plan showed that the first task is to secure a location for the conference. I established a contact at the Etobicoke and York board of education. I drafted a letter to both boards of education. It included details about the conference and the assistance that will be required from them in order to have a successful conference. This letter was modified and approved at the meeting of Nov. 8th, 1995. It was faxed to the boards on Nov. 9, 1995. On November 14, 1995, both acknowledged receiving the letters and voiced their support for this timely conference. They also acknowledged the Congress of Black Women as a strong, and reputable organization in Canada. These contacts will be helpful for getting information to teachers and students.

On November 24, 1995, I received a permit request form from the Etobicoke board for two potential school locations, Martingrove C.I. and Kipling C.I. It was completed, signed by project Leader, Marjorie King, on November 30, 1995 and returned to the board on December 1, 1995. Etobicoke board stated that they are willing to pay for janitorial services and help us with photo coping, and relaying information to students, teachers, and principals. At present, we are waiting on information regarding the schools that will be available on April 13, 1995. This information will help the committee make a decision on the location of the conference.

York board is still checking into ways that they will be able to help us. York students will be invited to attend the conference regardless of the chosen location.

The committee has developed a list of 8 potential workshops for the conference. I will be performing focus groups that will determine the final 6 topics. The committee has also modified and approved, a list of community organization to be notified, a list of potential gift donors, the agenda for the conference.

Once we have received a location a flyer for the conference will be drafted. I will continue with the path of the work-plan.

Onward and upward, in solidarity!