

# **Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba, Inc.**

## **Policy Binder**

Merging the previous listing (up to 1994) and subsequent resolutions (1995-2011)

**For National Council Resolutions/Policies, Please go to the ncwc web site**

[http://ncwc.ca/policy\\_listing.html](http://ncwc.ca/policy_listing.html)

## **ABORIGINAL ISSUES**

See also *Alcohol, Breast Feeding*

1991 (Columbus' Legacy: 500 years of Aboriginal Exploitation) urged the Manitoba Government, in consultation with Aboriginal organizations, to assist local initiatives to celebrate contributions made by Aboriginal people to Canadian society  
requested the National Council of Women of Canada to call on the Government of Canada to halt further funding for the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the arrival of Christopher Columbus

requested the National Council of Women of Canada to urge the Government of Canada to provide an equivalent amount of funding (already allocated for the 500th celebration) for the purpose of presenting a balanced historical perspective of the past 500 years

1963 urged the Provincial Government to extend the services of the Child Welfare Act to children of registered Indians both on and off reserves

1961 recommended Indian and Metis people be encouraged to relearn their original arts

1960 urged that greater emphasis be put on preparing communities nation-wide for receiving people of Indian descent and that strong support be given to all existing organizations working for the Canadian ideal of a multicultural democracy

1954 recommended that some action be taken in regard to Metis rehabilitation; John Legasse appointed to study problems of native communities

## **ABORTION**

1983 supported the removal of abortion from the Criminal Code (adopted from NCWC, 1982)

1972 supported the removal of abortion from the Criminal Code

## **ABUSE**

See *Adult Protection Legislation, Domestic Violence, Elderly People, Nurse Abuse, Sexual Abuse of Children, Treatment of Domestic Violence in the Courts*

## **ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

1999-02 Freedom of Information

1972 (Information and Referral Services) suggested that the Government of Canada participate in, and give financial support to, central informational and referral services administered locally under the auspices of the municipal, provincial, and federal governments

## **ACCESSIBILITY**

See also *Libraries and Librarians*

1987 recommended that provision for all aspects of access (physical, media, and attitudinal) of disabled women to women's services be perceived as a priority and be included as a budget item in any/all proposals submitted by organizations whose target population is women; further be it that the appropriate process for allocations of resources by the Provincial Government to women's groups consider accessibility in all its aspects a priority funding criteria

## **ADOPTION**

1981 requested that subsidies be offered to adoptive parents if Minister deems it justified according to Section 104 of the Child Welfare Act

## **ADULT PROTECTION LEGISLATION**

2001-01 Mental Health and Vulnerable Persons

1990 urged the Government of Manitoba to establish adult protective legislation that allows for voluntary and partial trustee relationships, specifically:

1) appointment of temporary guardian for the purpose of providing protection of the person's welfare and affairs while further investigation or arrangements could be made regarding the person's needs

2) an assessment team of appropriate people who could assess for abuse and provide temporary protection without the person having to be "labelled" as mentally incompetent

## **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION**

See also *Education, Equality*

1987 recommended that greater emphasis be placed on providing disabled women with the broadest range of options possible in education, employment counselling, employment services/placement, access services, and other resources utilized by women who are or who wish to be employed

recommended that the Government of Manitoba strongly encourage the implementation of affirmative action programs in the private sector

1979 urged the NCWC to request the Federal Government to require private companies awarded federal contracts to comply with Labour Canada guidelines providing for the hiring of women within a non-extendable period of time; recommended that non-compliance with such guidelines result in cancellation of the contract or a fine or both

1972 recommended that the Human Rights Act be amended to extend the area of non-discrimination to be included in the sections referring to employment and marital status

## **AGEING**

See *Elderly People*

## **ALCOHOL**

See also *Impaired Drivers, Intoxication*

1986 supported channelling of duties and excise taxes collected from the alcohol industry into programmes designed to discourage alcohol consumption and abuse (adopted from NCWC, 1984)

1980 requested Provincial Government to introduce alcohol educators into the education system to inform children at an early age of the dangerous effects of alcohol consumption (adopted from NCWC, 1979)

1961 commended Government on progress of alcohol education in schools and encouraged the continued expansion of such programmes

recommended that stiffer inspection of those seeking occasional liquor permits be implemented to eliminate abuse of system (reiterated from 1951)

1955/56 requested better visual aids for alcohol education

requested the Department of Education to give credits to teachers for attendance to the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba (AFM) School; recommended that the Department of Education give a credit of three units of successful completion of a course taken at the AFM School in order to make this course as attractive as other summer school options

1951-1955 requested that first a grant be made to the AFM School of narcotic education and then that the amount of the grant be increased

1951 urged Provincial Government to give careful consideration to granting Indian People the right to enter beer parlours

1949 requested Department of Education to appoint a director of Alcohol Education

### **ANOREXIA NERVOSA AND BULIMIA**

1987 urged the Government of Manitoba through its Women's Health Directorate:

- 1) to set up an educational and preventative program for the problems of anorexia nervosa and bulimia directed to medical and helping professions and the general public; and
- 2) to increase outpatient services for anorexia nervosa and bulimia

### **APPOINTMENT OF WOMEN**

See also *Gender Equality in the Courts, Legal Issues, Occupational Training*

1976 suggested female candidate for appointment of Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Manitoba

1963 requested the Manitoba Department of Labour appoint at least one woman with the necessary qualifications to the Minimum Wage Board

1955 suggested appointment of a woman to fill the Manitoba vacancy in the Senate

1952 requested the appointment of women to the Liquor Control Board

### **APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING**

See also *Occupational Training*

1987 urged the Government of Manitoba to:

- 1) use its resources to develop a comprehensive strategy to support and carry out special measures and other affirmative action activities directed towards women, natives, disabled persons, and visible minorities which would ensure their participation in apprenticeship programs
- 2) promote participation in apprenticeship programs which more fairly reflect the make-up of the population,
- 3) consult the designated groups in this development effecting their training and employment, and
- 4) budget sufficient funds to provide workshops, advertising, and appropriate literature directed to the designated groups

### **ARTS**

See also *Visual Arts*

1972 supported the formation of a professional opera company in Manitoba

### **BREAST FEEDING**

1983 urged Provincial Government to allocate a portion of its budget to support the promotion of the positive aspects of breast feeding among native women in Indian languages and in English; encouraged the development of community-based self-help groups to provide support to facilitate breast feeding by native women

### **BULIMIA**

See *Anorexia Nervosa and Bulimia*

### **CHILD ABDUCTION**

1980 urged that provision be made for inter-provincial agreements regarding prosecution of a parent who unlawfully takes a child to another province in Canada, and for the return of that child to the person who has been awarded legal custody (reiterated from 1979; adopted from NCWC, 1978)

1979 urged the Federal Government to:

1) make it an offence under the Criminal Code to take or entice away any child or children under the age of fourteen from the person who has been granted legal custody

2) encourage inter-provincial agreements regarding violators, and providing for the return of the child or children

3) encourage provinces to enact an Extra Provincial Custody Orders Enforcement Act if not already in existence

4) encourage international agreements whereby the return of a kidnapped child by a parent could be obtained from a foreign country through diplomatic channels and/or extradition agreements (adopted from NCWC, 1978)

### **CHILD CARE**

See *Day Care, Tax Deductions for at Home Child Care*

1995-02 Support for Quality Child Care

1993 (Tax Deductions for At Home Child Care) urged the government to:

1) review all payments and tax concessions provided for parents of children

2) rearrange them in order to provide the greatest possible assistance to parents wishing to stay home with preschool children and/or children with special needs

3) ensure that the net benefits are greatest for those with lowest incomes regressing but not disappearing as incomes rise (reiterated from NCWC 1983 policy)

also urged the Government to:

1) convert the present tax deduction for child care expenses to a Tax Credit to ensure that lower and middle income applicants receive more equitable tax treatment (reiterated from NCWC 1987 policy)

1991 (Rural Child Care) requested the Department of Child and Family Services, Government of Manitoba, adopt the innovative approaches recommended in the Rural Child Care Survey Project 1990 including:

1) facilitation of central registries for child care givers during periods of peak farm labour

2) provision of portable child care facilities for temporary use in areas of high need

3) encouragement of before and after school drop-in programs for school children below twelve years of age

4) flexibility with respect to regulations about facilities, educational level of care givers, hours of operation, programming, provided the health, safety, and security of the children is assured

requested the National Council of Women of Canada approach the Government of Canada to consider the special needs for rural child care as outlined in the Rural Child Care Survey Project 1990 and institute

- 1) tax credit for the income-earning parent when the other parent in the farm family stays home to care for young children
- 2) recognition by Revenue Canada of short-term seasonal child care costs as employment expenses when the stay at home parent is working in the farm operation (e.g. seeding, harvest periods)
- 3) an income supplement to be used for child care only be provided to low-income farm families

### **CHILDREN - GIFTED**

1986 reiterated 1983 resolution regarding gifted children

1983 urged Provincial Government to allocate a portion of its budget slated for special needs children toward the planning and implementation of programmes for those exceptional children who are gifted and talented

### **CHILDREN - HANDICAPPED**

1980 urged the Manitoba Government to provide adequate funding for the education of special needs students, especially for equipment and personnel (a low student to teacher ratio)

1964 study on handicapped children presented to the Director of The Study of Handicapped Children

1961 requested Government of Manitoba re-establish within the province a fully equipped and adequate school for all deaf children in Manitoba

recommended establishment of training centre for handicapped pre-school children

### **CHILDREN - MENTAL HEALTH**

1972 recommended the construction of a facility which would be a reception centre for treatment and rehabilitation rather than detention for emotionally disturbed children (reiterated yearly since 1962)

1969 urged the Provincial Government to provide financial assistance for residential treatment of emotionally disturbed children

1966 requested the establishment of education facilities for training and the development of mental health programmes in Western Manitoba with children as the main target group

### **CHILDREN'S RIGHTS**

1995-01 Children's Rights, Poverty & Malnutrition

### **CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

1993 urged the Government of Manitoba to:  
maintain the effectiveness of the consumer voice in the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs  
resolved that the Federal Government be asked for:  
commitment and proof that specific programs in support of consumer issues will be emphasized and promoted within industry and Science Canada

1972/73 recommended that the new Consumer's Bureau opened in January 1970 be made to run as efficiently as possible

1968 commended the Government on the establishment of a new Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs

## **CONTAMINATION**

See *Groundwater Quality*

## **DAY CARE**

See also *Education*

1981 commended Government for the additional money made available for day care; supported establishment of standards for family day care plus noon and after-school programmes (reiterated from 1980 and 1979)

1980 supported establishment of standards for day care; recognized need for increased availability of day care; recommended that the cost for day care be deducted from taxable provincial income (reiterated from 1979)

1979 urged the Provincial Government to enact a Day Care Act outlining standards, criteria for licensing.

1978 supported expansion of Provincial Day Care Programme and Provincial Licensing Standards for child care facilities in consultation with child care professionals providing child care services in Manitoba (reiterated from 1971, 1973, and 1977)

## **DIVORCE**

See also *Family Law*

1972 presented a resolution directed at providing a fair division of the marital property at the time of separation and when the divorce is granted; recommended the establishment of Family Arbitration Centres to help in the process of obtaining a divorce

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

See also *Elderly People, Treatment of Domestic Violence in the Courts*

1987 recommended that more funding be made available for counselling and support services for victims and abusers, including funds for more intensive police training in dealing with women who report abuse

## **DOWER ACT**

1956 recommended the amendment of the Dower Act in respect of consents, acknowledgements, releases, and powers of attorney to execute any sick consents and releases to be made before a Judge of any court in Manitoba, Barrister at Law, or Attorney at Law, or any public notary appointed by the province (reiterated from 1954 and 1955)

## **DRUGS**

1970 requested Government of Manitoba to introduce in the schools a programme of education regarding the serious consequences of possessing or selling drugs such as marijuana; suggested that the Government embark immediately on an intensive campaign of public education regarding hallucinogenic drugs and their consequences

## **EDUCATION**

See also *Alcohol, Anorexia and Bulimia, Drugs, Elderly People, Gender Equality in the Courts, Gerontology, Health, Libraries, Universities*

1998-01 Faculty of Human Ecology

1992 (Consumer Education on the Cost of Food Production) resolved to bring pressure to bear on the Manitoba Government to continue to expand delivery of public education programs to inform consumers of the vast difference between farmgate price and retail price so as to ensure the continuity of food production in our province; urged its federates to undertake cooperative educational ventures to inform their membership and other consumers of the vast difference between farmgate price and retail price

1991 (Compulsory Family Studies in High School) urged the Minister of Education and Training to recognize the importance of education in the prevention of family violence and to adjust the high school curriculum to make a minimum of one full credit in the Family Studies program compulsory and to provide the flexibility that would permit more students to take consecutive Family Studies credits;

requested that the Ministers of Health, Agriculture, Family Services, and Education and Training form a steering committee including a representative of the Manitoba Association of Home Economists to develop preventative programs and approaches to effectively utilize available resources and expertise to reduce family violence

1986 urged the Provincial Government through the Department of Education to:

1) update information provided to guidance counsellors and students on career opportunities available to women in scientific and technological fields

2) conduct a public relations campaign aimed at encouraging young girls at the secondary level and beyond to study math and sciences

3) improve both teacher pre-service and in-service education in elementary science (with emphasis on the presentation and challenge of science to young girls)

urged Provincial Government to open the public school system to any adult seeking admission on part-time or full-time basis at no cost to the individual and with child care services supplied by the school

urged the Manitoba Government to provide leadership and funding for the development of programmes of Adult Literacy for centres in Manitoba requesting assistance

reiterated 1981 and 1983 resolutions regarding language instruction for immigrant women (see 1981 below)

1981 urged the Provincial Government to make it mandatory that classes in English and French be available to both sponsored and non-sponsored immigrants and refugees to take English or French classes whenever possible

requested the NCWC urge the Federal Government to make immigrants and refugees aware of the availability of these classes in their country of origin and again at their point of entry into Canada

urged the Provincial Government to consider forming a central committee to co-ordinate standards, methods of instruction, reference material and other matters pertaining to the teaching of English or French as a second language

urged the Provincial Government and the Federal Government (through cost-sharing agreements) to provide day care services in order to make it possible for all adult members of immigrant and refugee families to attend language classes

requested the Provincial Government urge the CRTC to encourage private and public television stations to provide English or French classes directed primarily toward immigrant women in the home

urged the Manitoba Government to make provision for a teacher education course in the instruction of English as a second language in the Faculty of Education

1980 recognized need for equal opportunity in education between boys and girls (reiterated from 1979)

urged the Provincial Government to establish a single credit course at the senior high school level in Lifestyle Studies and to develop, implement, and evaluate a Lifestyle Studies curriculum

1979 urged the Provincial Government and Federal Government to implement policies supporting the following recommendations from the Report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women where applicable:

1) provinces and territories should adopt textbooks that portray women as well as men in diversified roles and occupations

2) they should set up committees to review all government publications concerned with the choice of occupations and careers in order to select and use only publications that encourage women to consider all occupations

3) they should provide co-educational guidance programmes in elementary and secondary schools and direct the attention of guidance counsellors to the importance of encouraging both girls and boys to continue their education according to their individual aptitudes and to consider all occupational fields

4) they should review their policies and practices to ensure that school programmes provide girls with equal opportunities with boys to participate in athletic activities and to establish policies and practices that will motivate and encourage girls to engage in these activities

1977 reiterated 1952 resolution regarding an inter-provincial curricula to be implemented throughout Canada

1966 requested Manitoba Government to introduce the comprehensive legislation needed to provide financial support for adult day school programmes

1961 suggested that the Government of Manitoba through the Department of Education undertake the establishment of an adequate training programme for teachers of the new general high school course

1955 requested Department of Education to prepare a booklet on Civics and Citizenship for the school curriculum

1952 recommended that school buses be a distinct colour

requested appointment of a supervisor for inexperienced teachers in rural schools

recommended that rural teaching experience during teacher training be taken under consideration for credit

urged Government to give leadership in setting up an inter-provincial committee to secure the co-ordination of core curricular and text books throughout Canada

1951 suggested that a higher standard of music education be taught in rural Manitoba schools and that funding be made available for Manitoba School Orchestras

1950 recommended that a School of Nursing Education be made permanent in the province

## **EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**

See *Social Allowances Program*

## **ELDERLY PEOPLE**

See also *Domestic Violence*

1987 urged the Government of Manitoba to provide appropriate emergency accommodation for the elder abused

urged the Government of Manitoba to prepare educational material listing all available services throughout the Province of Manitoba i.e., resource centres, peer counsellors, crisis lines, respite beds, etc. for distribution to professionals and caregivers who provide services to the elderly

1983 encouraged both levels of government to enact legislation to make it mandatory for witnesses of known or suspected cases of abuse of the elderly, to report them to the Department of Social Services or other government agencies for action, and to ensure that this legislation contains provisions for penalties for non-compliance (adopted from NCWC, 1982)

1958 recognized need for provision for the assistance of older citizens

recommended the establishment of institutions for the care of older citizens suffering from senile dementia

### **ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETY**

1956 presented a project concerning rehabilitation for women through the Elizabeth Fry Society

### **EMPLOYMENT**

1992 (Rescinding New Immigration Laws Regarding Domestic Workers) requested that the new immigration laws regarding domestic workers be rescinded and a more equitable and just arrangement be considered

1991 (Job Sharing and Unemployment) urged the Government of Manitoba to implement requests for job sharing (with pro-rated fringe benefits) within its jurisdiction

1987 (Part-time Employment) urged the Government of Manitoba through Labour Manitoba to pass legislation making part-time workers eligible to receive the same benefits - including pensions - as full-time workers, pro-rated to the numbers of hours worked

### **ENVIRONMENT**

See also *Hydro Development, Land Use and Land Use Planning, National River Basin Management Policy, Recycling, Urban Transit, Water, Water and Free Trade*

UD-01 Household Hazardous Waste

UD-02 Pre-harvest Spraying of Glyphosate (Roundup)

1993 (Protection of Canada's Ecosystems and National Parks) urged the Government of Manitoba to:

- 1) proceed without delay to produce targets, timetables, and maps of areas to be protected in the 12% by 2000" campaign;
- 2) integrate the ecological impact of development and use into all parks systems

1986 supported NCWC's policy in urging Federal Government to hasten its programme in lowering the lead levels with a view of completely phasing out lead in gasoline and encouraging the use of unleaded gasoline by revising the tax structure on gasoline to eliminate the price differential between leaded and unleaded gasoline (adopted from NCWC, 1984)

1981 urged the Provincial Government to:

- 1) maintain an inventory of metals released into the environment in wastes from industrial and domestic sources, and to estimate present metal loads in environment
- 2) conduct or support research on the chemical forms of metals in the environment and on the biological impact of the various chemical forms
- 3) monitor total levels of each important metal or toxic chemical form (where known) in water, soil and sediments, vegetation, aquatic organisms and wildlife

The purpose of these proposed measures was to take action in minimizing the detrimental effects of heavy metals on human health and ecological systems.

urged the Manitoba Government to conduct the intensive management of forest resources in Manitoba in an integrated manner for the maximization of economic and recreational yield

1981 (Acid Rain) supported increased monitoring of effects of acid rain on soft-water systems, forests, crops, etc, (reiterated from 1980)

1980 (Acid Rain) supported increased monitoring of, and research into, effects of acid rain on forest and aquatic ecosystems suggested necessary steps be taken to control sulphur content of emissions from smelters

1979 urged the Canadian Government to enact legislation instituting mandatory assessment procedures prior to the construction of installations potentially damaging to the environment for all projects carried out by, or on behalf of, or funded by, the Federal Government (adopted from NCWC, 1978)

1970 urged the Manitoba Government to enforce existing legislation concerning pollution

urged the Manitoba Government to continue research into the effect of pollution on the health and well-being of the community as a whole

urged the Provincial Government to shape present and future policy in dealing with pollution effectively

1963 presented resolution for the preservation of native flora and fauna by the establishment of nature parks and public education

## **ESTATE TAX**

1972 urged the Provincial Government to incorporate the feature of non-taxation of estates passing between husband and wife in any new estates tax legislation it may enact

## **FAMILY LAW**

1979 urged that the following principles be reflected in the Marital Property Act and the Family Maintenance Act:

- 1) family home and assets must be owned equally by the couple during the marriage and not just on separation
- 2) there must be equal sharing of all assets acquired during the marriage and no provision to allow a judge through judicial discretion to give more to one spouse than the other except in rare hardship cases
- 3) maintenance on separation must be based on need and fault must not be a consideration (reiterated from 1978 and 1976)

1978 recommended the establishment of an integrated Family Court

1976 brief on family law presented to both The Premier of Manitoba, The Honourable Ed Schreyer and to the Standing Committee of the Manitoba Legislature on Statutory Regulations and Orders

urged the Provincial Government to support the concept of an integrated Family Court System

1968 supported change in age of eligibility of children under the Wives' and Childrens' Maintenance Act

requested that the Manitoba Government set up a Maintenance Award Fund into which defendants would be compelled to pay their maintenance payments and out of which defendants families would receive regularly the maintenance awarded by the court independently of the amounts paid into the fund by the estranged father

1966 supported amendment to Marriage Act regarding age of consent

1965 supported amendment to Marriage Act setting the minimum age for marriage without consent of parents at twenty-one for both sexes

## **FOOD SECURITY IN MANITOBA**

See also *Consumer Affairs*

1993 the PCWM urged its members and federates to:

1) promote food security through lobbying to improve public policy and effect social change at the provincial and at national levels

2) cooperate with advocacy groups and organizations working with low income people, such as the Manitoba Anti-Poverty Organization, to support efforts to empower low income people to help themselves in the area of food and nutrition

the PCWM urged the Provincial Government of Manitoba to:

1) establish a steering committee or equivalent group to develop preventative programs and approaches to more effectively utilize available resources and expertise to ensure food security

2) appoint people who have experienced food insecurity, as well as professionals with expertise in financial management, consumer economics, family studies and foods and nutrition as resource people (e.g. home economists, nutritionists, dieticians, and community development professionals) on this steering committee

3) promote food security through cooperation with and support of advocacy groups and organizations working with low income people, such as the Manitoba Anti-Poverty Organization

## **FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

See *Water and Free Trade*

## **GENDER EQUALITY IN THE COURTS**

See also *Treatment of Domestic Violence in the Courts*

1991 urged the Government of Manitoba to appoint a provincial task force to:

1) investigate the extent to which gender discrimination exists in the Manitoba legal system

2) make recommendations to eliminate any gender discrimination that may be found in the system

also urged the Government of Manitoba to promote the status of Manitoba women in the legal system and the legal profession by providing education on gender equality for judges, law students, law professors, and lawyers

asked the Government of Manitoba to increase the appointment of women in proportionate numbers to provincial decision-making bodies

## **GERONTOLOGY**

1990 urged the Government of Manitoba to establish:

1) a gerontological component at all levels of education for caregivers working in long term care facilities

2) availability for staff development in gerontology for staff presently working in long term care facilities

## **GROUND WATER QUALITY**

See also *Land Use and Land Use Planning*

1991 urged the Government of Manitoba to take strong and immediate action to:

1) identify sites of contamination and institute remedial measure

- 2) conduct a systematic survey of the Province's groundwater resources
- 3) inaugurate a long-term groundwater quality monitoring program
- 4) legislate and enforce strict ground use controls

## **HAZARDOUS PRODUCTS**

### 00-01 Household Hazardous Wastes

1986 supported NCWC's policy urging the Canadian Government to enact legislation which would ensure safe storage and disposal of hazardous products by requiring that:

- 1) all industries, institutions, or agencies using such materials keep a complete inventory which would be open to investigation by control authorities at any time
- 2) all hazardous substances be listed on a National Code of which handlers of such substances are aware
- 3) the generic name and elemental composition be clearly marked on the outside of all containers and warnings posted
- 4) publicly acceptable Waste Disposal Sites be specially designed to meet requirements to all dangerous household goods
- 5) recycling should be undertaken when feasible (adopted from NCWC, 1985)

1959 requested that controls be implemented for radioactive waste

## **HEALTH**

See also *Anorexia Nervosa and Bulimia, Home Care Services, Land Use and Land Use Planning*

### 1996-01 Palliative Care Standardized in Manitoba

### 1995-04 Health Concerns for Women in the Workplace

1992 urged the federal government to commit itself to continued and adequate budgeting support for Medicare to ensure the equality of service in health care for Canadians in all provinces and territories (reiterated from NCWC)

1986 (Home Care Services) urged the Provincial Government to provide new mothers who are discharged early from hospital with appropriate home support services in the form of homemaker service and supervision by a public health nurse for a period of at least fourteen days

1983 urged the Provincial government to develop new entry points into the health care system with specific concern for women, and to establish self-help services for all age groups

1983 supported request to make nutrition counselling an insured service (reiterated from 1981, 1980, 1979, and 1978)

1981 supported NCWC's policy in urging the Federal Government to ensure that the universality and excellence of the medicare system in Canada is maintained (adopted from NCWC, 1980)

1979 urged the Manitoba Government to provide Manitoba Medical Insurance Coverage to mastectomy patients for breast prosthetic devices

1978 encouraged the Provincial Government to try to influence health care institutions and other public facilities to provide vending machines which supply natural juices, fresh fruit, and whole-grain sandwiches instead of junk food with little nutritive value

1970 recommended that married women be allowed to have their own medical care registration number on request;

recommended that medicare cheques where payable to a family unit be made payable to Mr. and/or Mrs., or alternatively directly to the doctor

1970 requested the Department of Education make provision for compulsory hearing tests to be carried out in all Manitoba schools in grades one, three, and six with adequate follow-up

1960 recommended improved ambulance services in Manitoba

## **HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS**

1996-05 Effect of Health Care Reform on Women

1995-04 Health Concerns for Women in the Workplace

1991 urged Federal and Provincial/Territorial Health Departments to conduct research to examine the incidence and effects of the various types of abuse in the work place

urged Federal and Provincial/Territorial Health Departments to conduct research to identify effective strategies for dealing with abuse in the work place

urged Federal and Provincial/Territorial Health Departments to develop educational programs to share research findings with professional associations and consumer groups to increase awareness of abuse in the work place

1992 (Self-Regulation of Dental Assistants, Dental Hygienists, and Dental Nurses/Therapists) supported the dental assistants, dental hygienists, and dental nurses/therapists in their request to the Manitoba Government for self-regulatory status, as a protection and service to the public

2002 PU Self-Regulation of Manitoba Dental Hygienists

## **HERITAGE CONSERVATION**

1983 urged the Manitoba Government to provide more funding for heritage in this province including:

- 1) a realistic grant policy for all provincial museums based on accreditation of staff and recognized community support
- 2) a programme of tax relief for owners and business occupants of designated heritage buildings
- 3) the allocation of more financial resources to the Historic Resources Branch of the government to help them carry out the Planning Act provision that each district in a planning area develop a heritage designation for its historic sites and buildings

## **HOUSING**

1980 urged Provincial Government to develop certain standards for the licensing of homes providing care under the Social Services Administration Act, and that licensing be required of all operations

1963 requested the Provincial Government undertake further study of the possibility of the reinstatement of the Interest Rate clause in the Time Sale Agreement Act

## **HUMAN RIGHTS**

1995-01 Children's Rights, Poverty & Malnutrition

1973 supported amendment to Human Rights Act regarding the extension of the area of non-discrimination to be included in the sections referring to housing, sex, and marital status, and in the sections referring to employment, marital status;

maintained that the Human Rights Commission should report annually to the Legislature (reiterated from 1972)

## **HYDRO DEVELOPMENT**

1991 urged the Manitoba Government to carry out a cumulative impact assessment on the entire suite of hydroelectric developments - including the Conawapa development -affecting the Churchill/Nelson River Basins and Hudson Bay; be it further that the impacts of the Conawapa dam be examined as incremental impacts on the natural resource base upon which the culture and traditional livelihoods of native and non-native northern Manitobans depend.

1986 (National River Basin Management Policy) urged Federal Government to establish a national river basin management policy in co-operation with the provinces and territories to:

1) plan and co-ordinate further development in - and modification of - Canada's major river systems ensuring that compatible and ecologically sound uses are made of the water

2) maintain as wide a range of future options for development as possible considering not only surface waters but also associated ground waters, the systems from head waters to estuaries, and receiving coastal waters; and the requirement for coordinating land use within watersheds with water use (adopted from NCWC, 1984)

1981 (Garrison Diversion Project) requested the Provincial Government urge the Federal Government to:

1) fully acquaint the United States Government with the concern of the Manitoban people of the expected consequences of the Garrison Diversion Unit to Canada

2) continue on a high priority basis to consult with the United States

3) seek clarification of goals in construction and research from U.S.

4) seek assurance from the U.S. that it will respect Canada's desire that no return flows from the Garrison Diversion Unit will enter Canadian waters (reiterated from 1980)

## **IMPAIRED DRIVERS**

See also *Alcohol, Intoxication*

1986 urged the Manitoba Government to include an information brochure on alcohol consumption and its effects on driving ability as an enclosure with all Manitoba driver license renewal forms and to provide information in the Manitoba Drivers' Handbook and in the proposed information brochure describing the penalties upon conviction for impaired driving

1965 reiterated 1962 resolution regarding breathalyser tests

1962 supported instituting breathalyser tests as part of the investigative procedure of persons suspected of being under the influence of alcohol (reiterated from 1961)

1961 requested annual reports about drunk drivers

## **INJURIES - COMPENSATION**

1967 supported protection against being sued for injury in accident (adopted from NCWC)

## **INTERNATIONAL COVENANT**

1972 indicated to the Federal Government that the PCWM is willing to have Canada ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights

## **INTOXICATION**

See also *Alcohol, Impaired Drivers*

1967 supported abolition of penalties for intoxication in public places and encouraged the establishment of appropriate detoxification units

## **LAND USE AND LAND USE PLANNING**

See also *Hydro Development, Protection of Canada's Ecosystems and National Parks*

1997-01 Responsible Land Use Management Around Manitoba's Existing Urban Centres

1993 urged the Government of Manitoba to:

### Leadership

A) continue to pursue a leadership role in land use planning, environmental management and protection

### Protection of Manitoba's Groundwater Resources

B) ensure that the following information is readily available to the public in the form of maps and associated reports:

1) delineation and evaluation of the hydrological, geological, chemical, and geographical attributes of the Province's groundwater resources; and

2) identification of existing and potential threats to groundwater resources, for example, residential development, landfill sites, industrial and commercial practices

### Standards for Sewage Treatment and Septics

C) submit regulations, proposed regulations, and ministerial variances to regulations pertaining to private and communal sewage disposal systems to comprehensive review under the Manitoba Environment Act

### Integrated Decision-making and Planning

D) amend the Planning Act so that municipal or planning district decision-making is supported by;

1a) timely, publicly available "statement of Provincial Interests" and "Directions" for development plans (including plan reviews, significant plan amendments, and local improvement districts which don't conform with existing plans or the Provincial Land Use Policies, and subdivision approvals); and

b) the groundwater information in Resolution C above; and

c) data on the demand and supply of the various proposed land uses; and

d) full cost accounting data; and

2) amend the Environment Act and the Public Health Act to ensure that environmental and health hazards or potential hazards which should be factored into future decision-making are routinely reported and mapped; and

3) amend the Municipal Act so that proposed Local Improvement Districts must comply with existing development plans and the Provincial Land Use Policies; and

4) encourage the use of sunset clauses in land use approvals in such a way as to promote orderly, staged development that makes the most efficient use of resources

### Public Participation and Access to Adequate Information

E) designate a minister responsible for co-ordination and/or a lead agency to ensure that the public has timely access to relevant information, including staff reports, and is encouraged to participate in a clear sequence of approvals, from the broadest concept to the specific project

1992 (Representation for Citizens of Winnipeg in the Winnipeg Region Strategy) urged the Government of Manitoba to:

1) ensure more balanced local representation for the City of Winnipeg on the Capital Region Committee

2) ensure that at least one meeting of the Capital Region Committee per year is open to the public

3) ensure that all information pertinent to the strategy is available before May 1993 so that Manitobans can make an informed response

1978 requested the Government of Canada through constitutional means encourage and assist all levels of government to ensure our future of agricultural lands to create rational zoning for agricultural land based on Canada Land Inventory (adopted from NCWC)

1966 (Urban Renewal) recommended that the Federal and Provincial Governments enact legislation that would provide for the payment of funds to approved social agencies for the purpose of expanding their services to facilitate the development of urban renewal schemes in cooperation with federal, provincial, and local governments

### **LEGAL ISSUES**

See also *Adult Protection Legislation, Gender Equality in the Courts, Treatment of Domestic Violence in the Courts*

1972 suggested that the procedure involved in compiling jury lists must be changed as the present system deliberately excludes groups from the jury panel on account of race, sex, religion, or marital status

1966 requested the Provincial Government establish a forensic clinic to - among other things - supply diagnostic services for the courts

1959 recommended free legal counsel for indigent (financially poor) offenders

1953 recommended women should be on a Minimum Wage Board

1951 urged the Government to allow women to serve on juries

### **LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS**

1995-04 Library Services Throughout Manitoba

1993 requested that the Government of Manitoba:

- 1) maintain the funding to Manitoba libraries and improve accessibility of library services in areas presently under served
- 2) designate and maintain libraries as centres of electronic information to increase access to current networks of communication

be it further resolved that the Public Library Advisory Board Report be released to the public

1986 urged the Manitoba Government to increase its public library services to include:

- 1) more audio tapes of books
- 2) more easy-to-read books, each accompanied by an audio tape
- 3) more publicity about available services to increase public awareness

1983 urged the Provincial Government to maintain a continuous review of the Manitoba rural libraries funding formula and amend it as required

1965 urged the Department of Education to take action without further delay to obtain the services of a Supervisor of School Libraries in Manitoba

1959 recommended the use of training courses for librarians and not necessarily university degrees

1958 urged the Provincial Government to make it possible to procure and retain a sufficient number of qualified librarians to meet the needs of the province;

urged Department of Education to inform high school students of librarianship as a career by providing scholarships, guidance from a professional consultant, and workshops for persons wishing to do part-time library work

1956 asked Provincial Government to provide the necessary funding to establish at least one regional library which would serve as a demonstration area for the development of regional libraries in other parts of the province

1955 recognized need for library survey in province (reiterated from 1953)

1953 requested financial aid from Provincial Government to establish at least one Regional Library in Manitoba

requested Provincial Government increase grants to libraries

1952 requested increased grants for rural school libraries

## **MAINTENANCE ORDERS**

See also *Family Law*

1978 urged Government of Manitoba to study present system of enforcing maintenance orders, consider all the possible alternatives for either improving the present system or setting up a new system, and implement either by legislation or by administrative changes the solution which will be most effective in enforcing maintenance orders

1970 recommended:

- 1) raising the age of eligibility for children under the Wives' and Childrens' Maintenance Act
- 2) creating a Maintenance Award Fund
- 3) establishing a central registry of court-granted maintenance awards to keep track of deserting husbands
- 4) introducing a system of incentive earnings into mothers' allowances payments to enable women who are performing a very real economic function for the state to improve their standard of living by their own efforts (reiterated from 1968 and 1969)

## **MEDICARE**

See also *Health, Nutrition, Mental Health*

1992 urged the federal government to commit itself to continued and adequate budgeting support for Medicare to ensure the equality of service in health care for Canadians in all provinces and territories (reiterated from NCWC)

1981 supported NCWC's policy in urging the Federal Government to ensure that the universality and excellence of the medicare system in Canada is maintained (adopted from NCWC, 1980)

1979 urged the Manitoba Government to provide Manitoba Medical Insurance Coverage to mastectomy patients for breast prosthetic devices

1970 recommended that married women be allowed to have their own medical care registration number on request;

recommended that medicare cheques where payable to a family unit be made payable to Mr. and/or Mrs., or alternatively directly to the doctor

## **MENTAL HEALTH**

See also *Children - Mental Health, Guest Homes, Elderly People*

2001-01 Mental Health and Vulnerable Persons

1981 urged the Provincial Government to establish professionally staffed group homes, providing full rehabilitative services to persons who have suffered and received treatment for mental illness;

urged the Provincial Government to develop a network of activity programmes for people recovering from mental illness

1978 requested Manitoba Government expand availability of psychiatric treatment for adolescents (reiterated)

## **MIDWIFERY**

1986 urged Provincial Governments to implement legislation for the recognition and education of midwives in Canada, and to license the practise of midwifery in Canada (referred to a special committee for further study by NCWC)

## **MINIMUM WAGE**

2003-1 Minimum Wage Update

1999-02 Minimum Wage

1963 requested Manitoba Government to include in the Minimum Wage Act a clause making adequate provision for sick leave with pay for full time employees

## **MOTHERS - NEW**

See *Breast Feeding, Home Care Services*

## **OCCUPATIONAL TRAINING**

See also *Apprenticeship Training*

1987 urged the Provincial Government to plan and provide programmes for women by designating training dollars proportionate to the participation of women in the labour force

1976 recommended that women actively be sought to represent interest groups as possible appointees to the Apprenticeship Board and Trade Advisory Committee

recommended the promotion of females' entrance to trades at the base level

encouraged support for women to help combat the negative pressure on them in pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship courses

recommended reviewing literature to remove sex-stereotyping materials in schools

strongly recommended non-sexist counselling from guidance counsellors in particular

1975 Manitoba's Women: Not Interested in Apprenticeship??? A report by M. Susan Mulvihill

1973 urged both levels of Government to ensure information about the federal Occupational Training For Adults Program reaches women both in and out of the labour force

recommended the Federal Government expand part-time training programmes

recommended that full-time homemaking be equivalent to labour force participation for training allowance purposes  
recommended that the Federal Government implement policies and practices that will encourage women in their non-traditional work training

## **PAY EQUITY**

1986 (Salary) urged Provincial Government to support the principle that increases in wages and salaries awarded to those employees of the Public Service, agencies, and institutions under their jurisdictions governed by collective agreements, are granted in dollars on a sliding scale instead of by percentage increase in order to guarantee more equitable settlements

1980 requested the Provincial Government to review its Equal Pay for Work of Similar Value legislation to:

- 1) have equality apply not only to the basic wage, but also to fringe benefits
- 2) permit employees to participate in the job classification process
- 3) comply with the meaning of the International Labour Organization Convention No.100 in which "equal value" means doing different work that is of the same value to the employer

1979 requested the NCWC urge the Federal Government to honour its Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value legislation and to:

- 1) maintain a closer observation and a more affirmative programme which identifies and assesses the value of stereotyped positions usually held by a majority of females with the energies expended, tedium endured, responsibilities involved, continuity of work required in any work day, experience and coordination required
- 3) implement immediately legislation providing equal pay for work of equal value in all fields of employment under federal jurisdiction
- 4) set substantial fines for employers in the public sector who fail to adhere to this legislation

1978 urged the Government of Manitoba to alter as soon as possible the present equal pay laws to enshrine the principle of equal pay for work of equal value (reiterated from 1977)

1973 supported equality of fringe benefits in work place

1955 supported principle of equal pay for work of equal value

be it further that part-time workers be protected by the same employment standards legislation as full-time workers

## **PENAL REFORM**

See also *Elizabeth Fry Society*

1983 urged the Manitoba Government to establish a citizens' task force to review and recommend improvements to remand facilities particularly for women

encouraged Canada to look carefully at any innovative plan which might serve as a means of diverting criminals from the adversary system of court and criminal prosecution, and provide a community-based positive option (reiterated from 1980)

1980 requested the Provincial Government review services to the female offender in Manitoba with the intention of increasing community-based resources for women involved with the criminal justice system

1966 expressed concern over rising number of juveniles coming into conflict with the law and propose that the City of Winnipeg set up a Special Youth Division as part of its law enforcement staff

requested the Manitoba Government provide a detention home for juveniles separate and apart from any detention home used for adults and find suitable temporary housing facilities for juveniles until such accommodation can be provided

1965 requested the Provincial Government make provision for the expansion of the programme of the Manitoba Home for Girls to include after-care services, and to facilitate the development of this programme by the addition of at least one social worker to the staff of the institution

1959 supported extension of Unemployment Insurance Act to prisoners sentenced to penal institutions (adopted from NCWC, 1959)

## **PENSIONS**

See also *Worker's Compensation Act*

1981 urged the Federal Government to ensure that portability and vesting provisions of the private pension plans under its jurisdiction be reviewed to take into account the work patterns of women employees and to ensure that all private pension plans contain a compulsory survivor option for married persons with provisions for opting out if both persons agree (adopted from NCWC, 1980)

1972 proposed allowing full-time homemakers to pay into and receive benefits from the CPP/QPP

1955 urged the Provincial Government to provide a supplementary grant to Old Age Pensions

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

See also *Recreation, Universities*

1977 recommended that the Provincial Government ensure that instruction in all girls' physical education classes in Manitoba schools be given by professionally qualified women teachers, with preference going to those who received their professional training at Manitoba universities

## **PORNOGRAPHY**

1993 urged the Manitoba Government to work with all levels of government to commit to:

- 1a) strict regulation of violent, degrading, dehumanizing, or objectifying pornography (in Canada and internationally)
- b) strict enforcement and increased consequences for the violation of those regulations in the production, the distribution, the cross border, and the international arenas
- c) strict enforcement of the new Child Pornography Law and the elimination of all messages which present children as sexually available to adults/youth/children
- 2) begin and support education on the harms of pornography and its victimization in production, consumption, and society
- 3) begin to recognize, establish, and assist in therapy programs for pornography addictions and support groups for spouses/partners of those addicts/users
- 4a) enact policies to prohibit the use of pornography by sex offenders serving in any correctional institution on the grounds that it will weaken the effects of any counselling program
- b) enact policies to prohibit the use of pornography recognizing that all inmates are more susceptible to the addiction of pornography while in confinement

## **PROVINCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF WOMEN**

See *Womens' Organizations*

## **PROVINCIAL STATUS OF WOMEN COUNCIL**

See *Womens' Organizations*

## **PUBLIC SAFETY IN EMERGENCIES**

- 1993 urged the Government of Manitoba to:
- 1) review recent disasters to discover ways and means of improving official and public responses to emergencies
  - 2) assess current emergency plans for adequacy and revise them as needed
  - 3) educate the public in matters of civil defence and disaster response
  - 4) initiate regular emergency plan practices in order that the plans become tested and refined and that the citizens become familiar with the procedures
  - 5) develop a national system for communication with citizens during an emergency
  - 6) provide multilingual emergency information and instruction
  - 7) provide multicultural training for emergency workers, and
  - 8) develop a national "Disaster Force" similar to the Swedish National Rescue Service

## **RAPE**

See also *Rape Crisis and Assault Centres*

- 1983 outlined twelve recommendations for support services for rape victims
- 1978 recommended more effective procedure and more effective design of courtroom used in rape trials (reiterated from 1977 and 1976)  
expressed need for funding for a small staff and support services for rape victims
- 1974/75 Special Report: PCWM urged changes in the process of sexual assault trials in an effort to lessen the trauma for the victim and ensure that it is the perpetrator and not the victim who stands trial

## **RAPE CRISIS AND SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTRES**

- 1983 requested the Provincial Government provide continuous financial support for Rape Crisis and Sexual Assault Centres (adopted from NCWC, 1982)

## **RECREATION**

See also *Physical Education*

- 1958 commended Government on undertaking survey of province's recreational needs
- 1956 recommended that the Provincial Government undertake a survey of the recreational needs in the province and to provide accordingly
- 1955 urged legislation by Manitoba Government to cover recreation and physical education needs in Manitoba

## **RECYCLING**

See also *Hazardous Products*

1993 (Overpackaging) the NCWC urged the Government of Canada to require manufacturers and packagers to package their products in the smallest amount of packaging compatible with health and protection from damage, using the guidelines provided by the National Packaging Protocol:

- 1) All packaging shall have minimal effects on the environment.
  - 2) Priority will be given to the management of packaging through source reduction, reuse, and recycling.
  - 3) A continuous campaign of information and education will be undertaken for making all Canadians aware of the function and environmental impact of packaging.
  - 4) These policies will apply to all packaging used in Canada, including imports.
  - 5) Regulations will be implemented as necessary to achieve compliance with these policies.
  - 6) All Government policies and practices affecting packaging will be consistent with these national policies.
- the PCWM urged the Government of Manitoba to support the above

1973 suggested that the Provincial Government give serious consideration to recycling newsprint in the province

## **RIDING MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE CENTRE**

1968 requested funding from Provincial Government to provide for the development of the Riding Mountain Conference Centre at Clear Lake, Manitoba

## **SAFETY**

See also *Hazardous Products, Public Safety in Emergencies, Seat*

1986 urged Provincial Government and City of Winnipeg to implement mandatory facial protector legislation for amateur hockey players at the senior, intermediate, adult, and junior levels

1983 (Seat Belt Legislation) requested mandatory seat belt legislation (reiterated from 1981, 1980, 1979, 1978, and 1977)

1973 urged Minister of Education to include in the curriculum a comprehensive course on traffic safety with reference to bicycles

urged the Minister of Highways to set standards of safety for construction of bicycles on the roads and highways

1970 recommended that the Provincial Government enact legislation to ensure the safe operating of motorized snow vehicles

recommended that the Provincial Government constantly review and enforce legislation and regulations pertaining to the present safety standards for ski lifts

1960 urged that safer railway practices be implemented

## **SEX AND CRIME COMICS**

1951 expressed concern over circulation of obscene pocket books

1949 urged action to be taken to initiate strict censorship before circulation of sex and crime comics and to press for prohibition of imported sex and crime comics (adopted from NCWC)

## **SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN**

1991 pressed the Government of Manitoba to increase:  
1) the provision of programs and services for child victims and adult survivors of sexual abuse and their families  
2) the provision of compulsory treatment for perpetrators of sexual offences against children, without absolving the perpetrators of their criminal responsibility

## **SOCIAL ALLOWANCES PROGRAM**

See *Social Security Programmes*

### 1988 Work Incentive Program

urged the Government of Manitoba to:

- 1) delete the care-giver qualification "provided by a non-relative" in the Work Incentive Program with Provincial Welfare
- 2) extend shelter costs and the social allowance health services card for six months to encourage recipients to risk taking a job and to ease the transition off welfare
- 3) make any adjustments for employment income and expenses two months after monthly reports are submitted
- 4) increase the earnings exemption for the children of welfare recipients (not attending school full time) to encourage employment when available and thus establish a record of work for future reference

### Educational Assistance

urged the Government of Manitoba to:

- 1) publish information regarding Social Welfare benefits available for school supplies in the Social Allowances Program brochure
- 2) mail cheques for recipients qualifying for school supplies, bursaries, or other educational assistance programs in sufficient time to arrive before school begins

## **SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMMES**

See *Social Allowances Program*

1972 supported incentive earnings under the Canada Assistance Act (adopted from NCWC)

1958 recognized need for revision of the Social Assistance Act

## **SPORTS**

See *Physical Education, Recreation, Safety*

## **STUDENT LOANS**

1973 recommended that part-time students and married students be allowed to apply for student loans on the same basis as a single person

## **TAXATION**

See also *Day Care, Environment, Estates Tax, Tax Deductions for at Home Child Care*

1972 recommended that people living on incomes below the minimum poverty line should be exempt from income taxation

1951 supported removal of tax from household appliances

## **THERMONUCLEAR FUSION**

1981 recommended that the Government of Manitoba urge the Federal Government to:

1) increase greatly the funding of research in Canada directed toward developing commercial thermonuclear fusion reactors, subfields such as laser technology, or applications of fusion power such as in chemical processing, production of synthetic fuels, or transportation

2) maintain and enhance international co-operation in the scientific and technological aspects of thermonuclear fusion

## **TRADING STAMPS**

1958 recommended prohibition of trading stamps in Manitoba

## **TRAFFIC**

See also *Environment, Safety, Seatbelt Legislation, Urban Transit*

1977 commended Government on legislation concerning highway speed limits

1972 urged the Federal Government to make Highway Traffic Regulations uniform across Canada with the necessary legislation to be enacted by the Provincial authorities

1970 resolution adopted regarding elimination of junkyards near highways (reiterated from 1966)

1961 supported licensing of driving schools

1960 encouraged provincial and local participation in long range programme for elimination of hazardous level crossings and urged Councils to promote formation of committees to work with Federal authorities towards the same goal

1957 urged the Department of Public Works to place suitable "Welcome" signs at points where highways enter the province

## **TREATMENT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE COURTS**

1991 Plea Bargaining

urged the Government of Manitoba to adopt legislation and policy directives which require:

1) that prosecutors, unless circumstances make it impractical to do so, solicit and weigh carefully the views of victims prior to concluding plea agreements

2) that victims be told the substance of, and reasons for, plea agreements, unless disclosing those agreements would cause serious harm to another person

Contempt Proceedings

urged the Government of Manitoba to adopt a common policy of recognizing the factors which make women reluctant to testify and that contempt of court proceedings be used only in exceptional cases

Sentencing

urged the Government of Manitoba to establish uniform policies which require:

1) that Prosecutors protect victims by opposing the release of men accused of crime relating to domestic violence who have violated the terms of their release

2) that priority in court time be given to charges involving domestic assaults and any breach of conditions arising out of those charges

- 3) that victim impact statements be used wherever possible to assist in sentencing submissions
- 4) that resources be made available for the use of expert evidence to advise the court of the psychological damage done by the crimes of domestic assault and child abuse to victims

## **UNIVERSITIES**

See also *Education, Libraries*

1998-01 Faculty of Human Ecology

1986 supported the NCWC's resolution in urging the Canadian Government to resolve the climate of uncertainty concerning federal/provincial roles by reaching an agreement with provincial governments about an adequate and stable system of support for the provinces' post-secondary institutions (adopted from NCWC, 1984)

1963 recognized need for a university degree course in Physical Education; recognized need for degree course in Library Science

1961 recommended that teacher training should be under the control of the university (reiterated from 1960)

## **URBAN TRANSIT**

1993 urged the Government of Manitoba to place a high priority on encouraging greater use of public and low polluting transportation in its initiatives aimed at reducing pollution

## **VIOLENCE**

See *Compulsory Family Studies in High School, Domestic Violence, Elderly People, Treatment of Domestic Violence in the Courts*

## **VISUAL ARTS**

1980 urged Provincial and Federal Governments to provide the opportunity for women to overcome institutionalized discrimination in the arts by ensuring that cultural institutions utilizing public money have equal opportunity programmes to qualify for public funding (reiterated from 1977)

## **WATER**

See also *Environment, National River Basin Management Policy, Water and Free Trade*

1986 urged Federal Government to enact a Safe Drinking Water Act, encouraging the use of improved water purification plant technologies; and to protect water sources by allocating more resources to prevent contamination of water supplied paying particular attention to the recycling and reduction of wastes (adopted from NCWC, 1984)

## **WATER AND FREE TRADE**

1992 urged the National Council of Women of Canada to request "that the Government of Canada, at its earliest opportunity, resolve the uncertainty surrounding the issue of water in the Free Trade Agreement through the execution of a separate and binding joint diplomatic agreement, ratified by both the US Congress and the Canadian Parliament, that wording notwithstanding, nothing in the Canada - US Free Trade Agreement applies to Canada's water resource in other than bottled form"; requested that the Government of the Province of Manitoba place a moratorium on all bulk water exports including water diversions until such time as the aforementioned agreement has been obtained

## **WILDLIFE**

1993 (Endangering Wildlife through poaching and trafficking for profit) urged the Government of Manitoba to do everything in its power to safeguard Canadian wildlife, particularly those species most at risk, by:

- 1) ensuring that penalties for poaching are increased in severity and strictly enforced;
- 2) increasing public awareness regarding poaching and encouraging such measures as the Turn in Poachers program in Saskatchewan;
- 3) passing legislation regulating the sale of animal organs and body parts to ensure that organ and body parts be available for research and medical purposes, but not for profit

## **WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

1992 urged the Manitoba Government to enact legislation to protect the Winnipeg Airport and the status of its 24 hour operation

## **WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES**

See *Accessibility, Affirmative Action*

## **WOMENS' ORGANIZATIONS**

See also *Appointment of Women*

1980 recognized need for Provincial Advisory Council on Status of Women (reiterated from 1979, 1978, 1977, 1976)

1972 recognized need for a Women's Bureau in Manitoba

## **WORKER'S COMPENSATION ACT**

1952 supported amendment to act affecting widows compensation, that is, supported the motive behind raising the amount of compensation but felt that the increase provided was not nearly enough to meet rising costs of living.

# **Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba**

## **Resolutions approved since 1994**

**1995**

- 95-01 Children's Rights, Poverty & Malnutrition**
- 95-02 Support for Quality Child Care**
- 95-03 Health Concerns for Women in the Workplace**
- 95-04 Food Security in Manitoba**

**1996**

- 96-01 Palliative Care Standardized Throughout Manitoba**
- 96-02 Reduction in Gambling in Manitoba**
- 96-03 Retention of Canadian History in Senior 3 (Grade 11) as a Compulsory Subject for High School Graduation**
- 96-04 Pre-harvest Spraying of Glyphosate (Roundup)**
- 96-05 Effect of Health Care Reform on Women**

**1997**

- 97-01 Responsible Land Use Management Around Manitoba's Existing Urban Centres**

**1998**

- 98-01 Faculty of Human Ecology**

**1999**

- 99-01 Minimum Wage**
- 99-02 Freedom of Information**

**2000**

- 00-01 Household Hazardous Waste**

**2001**

- 01-01 Mental Health and Vulnerable Persons**

**2002**

- PU Self-Regulation of Manitoba Dental Hygienists**

**2003**

- 03-01 PU Minimum Wage, And The Employment Standards Code**

**2005**

- 05-01 Reducing Driving to meet Kyoto Protocol Targets**
- 05.02 Pay As You Drive Insurance**

**2006**

**06.01 Reduction of Social and Economic Inequity**

**2007**

**07.1 Resourcing Women's Archives**

**07.2 Increasing the Number of Women Apprentices in Non-Traditional Trades in Manitoba**

**2008**

**08.1 Lobbyists Registration Legislation And Code Of Conduct For Lobbyists In Manitoba And Winnipeg**

**2009**

**09. Resolution on Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals**

**1995**

## **95-01 Children's Rights, Poverty & Malnutrition**

**Whereas** the province of Manitoba has ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child, but has failed to meet the minimum conditions, and

**Whereas** the Rights of the Child begin with the provision of basic needs and services, such as shelter, food, clothing, education and health care, and

**Whereas** the poverty rate, especially among single mothers and inner city children, has risen since signing the Convention in 1990, and

**Whereas** the malnutrition stunts the physical and mental growth of children, severely limiting their development, and is linked to chronic disorders that are an expensive long-term drain on the health care system, and

**Whereas** the Government of Manitoba has established a Secretariat for Children to coordinate the actions for children by four Government departments under one umbrella, and

**Whereas** the development of a Manitoba Strategy on Child Health and Well-being has been proposed and recommends intersectoral, multi-disciplinary and collaborative action by all stakeholders, and

**Whereas** the declining poverty rate among the elderly has shown that a dramatic change can be achieved when governments make an issue a priority, then be it

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urges the Provincial Government of Manitoba to place a high priority on action to reduce poverty, to prevent malnutrition and to meet the basic needs of children as outlined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, both in Winnipeg and throughout the province.

## 95-02 Support for Quality Child Care

- Whereas** child care services are inaccessible and unaffordable to the majority of families due to factors such as family income, special needs, parental employment status, hours of work or geographic location, and
- Whereas** child care services receive insufficient public funds and given the cost of quality child care, most parents are unable to afford the full cost of child care services, and
- Whereas** we support non-profit child care to promote the parental involvement, financial accountability and fiscal responsibility of both child care programs and government funds, and
- Whereas** parents need a range of services, depending on the age of their children (eg. Infant to school age), their personal circumstances with regards to full, part-time and shift-work requiring extended hours care, and the special needs of aboriginal, rural, francophone and visible minorities, and
- Whereas** child care services must be inclusive, flexible, and coordinated, ensuring access to children with physical and behavioural disabilities, providing adequate consultative and health related supports, in order to help parents rather than put obstacles and disincentives in their way, and
- Whereas** high quality care licensed, monitored care must reflect the best current knowledge about early childhood care, as well as the varied cultural and linguistic backgrounds of Manitoba families, and also requires well-trained early childhood educators, and
- Whereas** historically child care work has been devalued, whether it has been done by mother in the home or by early childhood educators, and
- Whereas** to ensure a coordinated system, federal, provincial and local public policies should work towards making it easier for both women and men to manage child rearing responsibilities, therefore be it
- RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urges the Government of Manitoba to support the goals of a fully accessible, non-profit system of comprehensive, flexible and high quality child care, worthy wages and good working conditions, funded jointly by government and parents, and be it further
- RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urges the Government of Manitoba to outline its plan for enhancements to the existing child care system, recognizing the current deterrents to access and affordability, and taking advantage

of the \$70,000 of new child care funding available from the Federal Government, Human Resources and Development

### **95-03 Health Concerns for Women in the Workplace**

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urges the Government of Manitoba to make employers aware of the health concerns of their employees and thus improve women's working conditions and health through improvement of air quality and lighting, cleaner environments and awareness of ergonomic issues, and be it

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urges the Provincial Government of Manitoba to support further research in the workplace to find solutions to women's health concerns that will benefit women's health and increase their productivity.

### **95-04 Food Security in Manitoba**

**RESOLVED** that until every Manitoban can be assured of freedom from hunger, the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urges its members and federates to:

1. Promote food security through lobbying to improve public policy and effect social change at the provincial and at national levels.
2. Cooperate with advocacy groups and organizations working with low income people, such as the Manitoba Anti-Poverty Organization, to support efforts to empower low income people to help themselves in the area of food and nutrition, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government of Manitoba to:

1. Establish a steering committee or equivalent group to develop preventative programs and approaches to more effectively utilize available resources and expertise to ensure food security, and
2. Appoint people who have experienced food insecurity, as well as professionals with expertise in financial management, consumer economics, family studies and foods and nutrition as resource people (e.g. home economists, nutritionists, dietitians and community development professionals) on this steering committee, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government of Manitoba to promote food security through cooperation with and support of advocacy groups and organizations working with low income people, such as the Manitoba Anti-Poverty Organization.

## 1996

### 96-01 Palliative Care Standardized Throughout Manitoba

- Whereas** Hospice/Palliative care is the active, compassionate care of people facing a terminal illness and is delivered by an inter-disciplinary team trained to meet the physical, psycho-social and spiritual needs of both the individual and the family either in an institution or at home and
- Whereas** palliative care reflects the goals of Health Reform in being patient and family focused and
- Whereas** palliative care is a core (insured) service in 8 of 10 provinces but not in Manitoba or Quebec and
- Whereas** the first and unanimous recommendation of the 1994 report from the Special Senate Committee on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide was “that Government make palliative care programs a top priority in the restructuring of the health care system” and
- Whereas** Winnipeg is already recognized as a centre of professional expertise, research and training in palliative care due to the pioneering work carried out twenty years ago at the St. Boniface General Hospital and
- Whereas** there is an urgent need to coordinate palliative care services throughout Manitoba and to provide a continuum of care to the terminally ill, therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba

1. to adopt the recommendations of numerous studies and to make palliative care a core service of Manitoba Health available and accessible to all Manitobans by 1998 and
2. to adopt standardized principles of practice of palliative care such as those developed by the Canadian Palliative Care Association and
3. to allocate adequate provincial funding for:

- accessible palliative care to meet patient/family needs appropriately and effectively and
- active support of collaborative efforts to provide respite care and 24 hour crisis response for patients, families and/or other caregivers when patients have chosen to die at home; and
- the development of educational strategies for primary caregivers, volunteers, clergy and health care professionals to enhance the quality of care of dying individuals and their families and
- education to inform the lay community of its rights under current Canadian law and of the availability of the palliative care option for treatment of the terminally ill.

## **96-02 Reduction in Gambling in Manitoba**

**Whereas** the Government of Manitoba established the Manitoba Lottery Policy Review Working Group in March, 1995 in response to increased public concern about problems inherent in gambling and

**Whereas** the opinion survey commissioned by the Working Group confirmed that a large majority (92%) of Manitobans believe that the level of gambling in the province should either be decreased (53%) or remain the same (39%) and

**Whereas** the Working Group recognized the conflict of interest of the Manitoba Lotteries Corporation (MLC) acting as both regulator and owner/promoter of gaming facilities and recommended the immediate appointment of an arms-length, independent gaming Commission and

**Whereas** the full social and economic impacts of escalating VLT usage and other hidden costs of gambling have not been assessed and

**Whereas** public concerns about the allocation and distribution of gaming revenues were not addressed in the Working Group recommendations, therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba:

- to acknowledge the will of the majority to reduce the level of gambling in Manitoba and
- to maintain its moratorium on the expansion of VLT's and additional casino sites and to extend it to all forms of telephone or interactive television at-home betting and
- to pursue other means of economic development and taxation to reduce government dependence on gambling revenue used to balance the provincial operating budget or to fund essential programs or services and
- to ensure that the proposed Gaming Commission is non-political, unbiased, knowledgeable and efficient and given appropriate authority as recommended in the Working Group Report and
- to continue to segregate gambling revenue, net income and allocations from consolidated government accounts and
- to prohibit all promotional "lifestyle" advertising by both the Manitoba Lotteries Corporation and the Western Canada Lotteries Corporation and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the National Council of Women of Canada to urge the Canadian Radio and Television Commission (CRTC) to refrain from issuing licenses for telephone and interactive television betting and gambling.

### **96-03 Retention of Canadian History in Senior 3 (Grade 11) as a Compulsory Subject for High School Graduation**

**Whereas** the Minister of Education and Training has declared that Canadian History will no longer be a required credit in Senior 3 (Grade 11) and

**Whereas** Manitoba Education and Training is proceeding with this change without adequate consultation with school divisions, parents or the public and

**Whereas** appeals from numerous organizations such as the Manitoba Women's

Institute, the Retired Teachers' Association of Manitoba, the Manitoba Historical Society and various school divisions have not changed this decision and

**Whereas** the social studies curriculum development process being prepared by the Western Canadian Protocol for Collaboration in Basic Education (Western Consortium) will not be completed before Manitoba's September, 1997 implementation date for making Canadian History an optional course in Senior 3 and

**Whereas** the study of Canadian history is vital if senior students are to become aware of their Canadian national identity, proud of their heritage and able to participate as intelligent citizens and voters, therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba

- to revoke the 1997 deadline to commence the optional status of Canadian History as a subject in the Senior 3 level of high school
- to order the retention of Canadian History at the Senior 3 level until a social studies curriculum for Manitoba, revised by scholars and master teachers, pilot-tested, the results vetted by the stakeholders, including the public, has been approved to ensure that Canadian History is taught in a chronological and comprehensive manner and as a distinct component in Elementary through Senior grades and that a current and objective text is used in both English and French language history courses in Senior 3. In this way our high school graduates will be informed Canadian citizens who are ready and able to take part in the civic life of Canada.

## **96-04 Pre-harvest Spraying of Glyphosate (Roundup)**

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba to lobby Agriculture Canada to deny permanent of full registration for the aerial preharvest application of glyphosate (Roundup), and

- take a more active role in monitoring the buffer zone for any aerial spraying of glyphosate in Manitoba through licensing under the Pesticides and Fertilizers Act, and
- advocate for public consultation throughout the licensing process for balanced representation on agencies such as the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA)

## **06-05 Effect of Health Care Reform on Women**

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba

1. to identify the disproportionate negative effects of health care reform on women through consultation with care providers and recipients, and
2. to minimize the disproportionate negative effects of health care reform prior to implementation.

## **1997**

### **01 Responsible Land Use Management Around Manitoba's Existing Urban Centres**

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba request the Government of Manitoba to take immediate action:

1. to safeguard the Province's environmental and economic future for succeeding generations by responsible land use planning now,
2. to conform with the Provincial Land Use Policy Regulation,
3. to require planners, lawyers and the Municipal Board to specifically and openly record the compliance of draft development plans, development plan amendments and subdivision applications with the Provincial Land Use Policies,
4. to clearly base Government approval or rejection of any overall or individual development plans on these publicly available, professional assessments,
5. to prepare, approve and implement, by March 31, 1997, an overall, comprehensive long-term plan for responsible land use in the Capital Region; and

**RESOLVED** that the Council of Women of Winnipeg urge the City of Winnipeg to use the process of review of neighbouring municipalities' land use plans to formally object when those plans will conflict with Plan Winnipeg's strategy of containment and revitalization.

## **1998**

### **98-01 Faculty of Human Ecology**

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba supports maintaining existing departments of the Faculty of Human Ecology at the University of Manitoba as a single administrative

unit (ie. Keeping foods and nutrition, clothing and textiles, family studies and comprehensive together as one unit with a recognizable senior administrator to ensure appropriate direction) and

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women urges the Province of Manitoba and the University of Manitoba Senate and Board of Governors to recognize the importance of the holistic interdisciplinary approach of the Faculty of Human Ecology to education and training professionals to support the development of strong families for healthy communities and to maintain the Faculty of Human Ecology as a single unit with the existing departments.

## 1999

### 99-01 Minimum Wage

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba:

- to recognize the minimum wage as a tool to fight poverty and
- to raise the minimum wage as quickly as possible to the level that covers “the cost to an employee of purchasing the necessities of life and health” and
- to legislate regular review and adjustment that keeps the minimum wage in line with the cost of living and
- to amend the legislation so that the Minimum Wage Board membership is composed of community representatives and persons qualified to address the legislative intent of Section 28(5) of the Employment Standards Act (1987).

### 99-02 Freedom of Information (Emergency Resolution)

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba to ensure that

- public bodies maintain a culture of openness with routine disclosure of public information being the rule, and
- openness (as opposed to confidentiality) clauses are written into all public-private partnership final agreements involving a public body, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba to amend the FIPPA

- to ensure that routine access to information is the rule and exceptions to disclosure in the FIPPA are limited, more specific and provide public interest over-rides and
- to establish an Information and Privacy Commissioner with the power to order the release of information, and
- to treat access to electronic and paper records in the same manner, and
- to expand the public interest fee waiver provision, and
- to release promptly the results of all publicly funded polls and surveys, and

- to expand the environmental approvals public registry to include land use planning and resource allocation activities.

## 2000

### 00-01 Household Hazardous Waste

Whereas: Products commonly used in the household, such as paints, solvents, caustic cleaning compounds and pesticides have serious detrimental effects on the environment if people improperly dispose of them. Chemicals poured into drains find their way into streams, lakes and aquifers upon which many plants and animals, including humans, depend for their lives. Though the process takes longer, these substances improperly dumped into landfill sites also bleed into the environment as leachate. Moreover, the handling of these chemicals can be hazardous to those who pick up waste.

Whereas: The Platform For Action states that "environmental risks in the home and workplace may have a disproportionate impact on women's health because of women's different susceptibilities to the toxic effects of various chemicals." (section. 257) The increase, for example, of the rate of breast cancer among women, may be directly related to the increased use of toxic substances. Some worrisome chemicals are commonly found in household cleaners, weed killers, herbicides, pesticides, chlorine, radiation and environmental toxins.

Whereas: Most citizens are aware of the potential damage of these substances and may even know that in some cases improper disposal may be illegal, but the temptation to pour them down the drain, set them out in the garbage or pour them directly onto the land is great. The quantities are usually small. The chances of being caught are almost non-existent, and safe alternatives may be inconvenient or altogether lacking. It has been estimated that the depots set up for hazardous household waste captured less than five percent of the hazardous waste produced by households in Manitoba. While some of the residues are stored in basements and kitchen cupboards, much of it is going into the environment.

Whereas: We cannot expect that there will be a significant diversion of hazardous household waste into depots unless it is as convenient for consumers to safely dispose of residues and post-use products as it is to purchase them in the first place.

Whereas: Those who produce hazardous products and those who use them should share the responsibility for their safe disposal.

Whereas: We already have precedents in the case of used tires and batteries, which are received back by retailers when a new product is purchased.

Therefore be it resolved that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba call upon the Province of Manitoba to pass legislation requiring:

1. Every retail outlet that sells products whose disposal could pose an environmental hazard to act as a depot for the return of containers, residues and the post-use product.
2. The distributors/manufacturers to collect back from the retailers containers, residue and post use product for safe disposal.
3. A significant deposit on containers of hazardous products to encourage their return.

## 2001

### 01-01 Mental Health and Vulnerable Persons

#### **REVISIONS OF LEGISLATION AFFECTING INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS, PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITY OR FRAILTIES RESULTING FROM THE AGEING PROCESS TO ENSURE COMPREHENSIVE AND APPROPRIATE CARE AND TRUSTEESHIP**

Whereas there are four main groups of adult Manitobans with mental illness, a mental disability, a physical disability and frail seniors who may require special legal protection which can balance their changing needs for both optimum personal autonomy and appropriate protection;

Whereas the current laws which cover these individuals have many inadequacies and gaps: e.g.

- the Mental Health Act was designed to provide for intervention for persons with mental illness, , but lacks sufficient safeguards, flexibility for approving appropriate levels of care, treatment or supervision, or rights of appeal;
- the Mental Health Act was never designed to provide for frail seniors with declining mental competencies who are inappropriately dealt with under it with regard to both personal care and property management;
- the Vulnerable Persons Act, though allowing for partial, temporary and flexible supervision for a person's personal care and property management, is restricted to those persons exhibiting evidence of mental disability before they are 18 years of age and so cannot be used for frail seniors; and
- the Public Trustee Act which takes precedence over both the other Acts at death, and may take precedence during the life of an individual should that person be committed for mental competency reasons on the recommendation of a physician or the Director of the Mental Health Act, without providing flexible, partial and appropriate levels of care which match the changing needs of the individual;

Whereas no law provides for the appropriate care of the physically disabled;

Whereas none of the above Acts guarantees public resources for the appropriate level and type of care required by an individual person;

Be It Resolved that the Provincial Council of Manitoba recommend to the Government of Manitoba a revision of the Mental Health Act to ensure that mentally ill persons receive:

- safeguards to ensure appropriate input into decision-making about an individual by a minimum of 6 to include:

1. the individual;
2. an advocate, if possible chosen by the individual, who may be a family member;
3. any social worker who may be involved;
4. a representative from an individual's support group; and
5. a minimum of two relevant professionals;

- periodic reassessment of decisions;

- access to appropriate appeal procedures;

- planned progress over time towards entitlement of the individual to needed care

and supervision, based on individual plans which maximize autonomy and supports consistent with the needs of the individual and minimize the imposition of protective services;

Be It Further Resolved that the Vulnerable Persons Act be revised to cover all vulnerable persons, specifically persons with mental and/or physical disabilities, to include frail seniors not suffering from a mental illness but from some impairment of their mental and physical faculties, and that the revised Act ensure that all vulnerable persons receive:

- safeguards to ensure appropriate input into decision-making about an individual by a minimum of 6 to include:

1. the individual;
2. an advocate, if possible chosen by the individual, who may be a family member;
3. any social worker who may be involved;
4. a representative from an individual's support group; and
5. a minimum of two relevant professional opinions;

- periodic reassessment of decisions;

- access to appropriate appeal procedures;

- planned progress over time towards entitlement of the individual to needed care and supervision, based on individual plans which maximize autonomy and support consistent with the needs of the individual and minimize the imposition of protective services.

Be It Further Resolved that the Public Trustee Act be amended to provide for:

- more flexible and partial arrangements for supervision and control consistent with the current needs of the individual;

- periodic reassessment with the goal of maximizing personal autonomy and needed supports while minimizing the need for protective services; and

- a formal appeal procedure.

2002

## 2002 PU SELF-REGULATION OF MANITOBA DENTAL HYGIENISTS

#1 Whereas the Provincial Council of Women passed a resolution in 1992 on the self-regulation of Manitoba Dental Hygienists,

#2 Whereas Dental Hygienists in Manitoba are currently regulated by the Manitoba Dental Association, and the Manitoba Law Reform Commission has observed that regulation of one profession by another does not serve to protect the public and in fact perpetuates monopolies over services,

#3 Whereas 92% of dental hygienists in Canada practice in provinces where they are self-regulated , Manitoba being the only province west of New Brunswick that is regulated by dentistry,

#4 Whereas the Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association supports the removal of restrictive supervision to allow increased public access to dental hygiene services,

#5 Whereas the Government of the Province of Manitoba in the past ten years has failed to address the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba's original resolution,

#1 RESOLVED that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba continues to support the self-regulation of Manitoba Dental Hygienists, and

#2 RESOLVED that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba to legislate self-regulation for Manitoba Dental Hygienists in a timely manner.

### Background

The dental hygienist's role in the prevention of oral disease, particularly gum disease, is no small matter. In addition to the more commonly known effects of dental disease, oral infections are increasingly being linked to heart disease, upper respiratory infections, and low birth weight, pre-term babies.

Dental hygienists are licensed oral health professionals who serve the public in oral disease prevention, intervention and health promotion. Their scope of practice includes the provision of preventive, educational and therapeutic services for both individuals and the community.

92% of dental hygienists in Canada practice in provinces where they are self-regulated. Manitoba is the only province west of New Brunswick that is regulated by dentistry. Currently for dental hygienists there are no quality assurance provisions, no continuing education requirements, and registrants are not required to complete the National Dental Hygiene Certification Examination.

Manitobans can currently only access dental hygiene preventive and therapeutic services when a dentist is physically present. MDHA supports the removal of restrictive supervision to allow increased public access to dental hygiene services.

## 2003

### 2003 PU MINIMUM WAGE, AND THE EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS CODE

Revised version November 19 2004 (as passed by PCWM in 2003 but not correctly recorded)

**Whereas #1** the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba passed a resolution on the Minimum Wage and Poverty in October 1998 which requires updating, and

**Whereas #2** the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights which Canada has signed, Article 23, sub-section 3, embodies the principle of "just and favourable remuneration" for work, and

**Whereas #3** the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba continues to believe that the minimum wage is a core tool of any strategy to address poverty as stated in its Briefs to the Minimum Wage Boards in 1998 and 2001, and

**Whereas #4** in 1998, a new Employment Standards Code was passed omitting the obligation of a Minimum Wage Board "to be guided by the cost to an employee of purchasing the necessities of life and health" when recommending minimum wage rates, a principle that was included in the previous Act, and

**Whereas #5** all provincial governments treat the minimum wage rate as a competitive marketing tool, keeping it low to attract new businesses while ignoring the fact that it is a labour standard which is intended to protect workers from being underpaid, and

**Whereas #6** the Manitoba Governments, in both 1998 and 2001, rejected the recommendations of their Minimum Wage Boards, adding only small increases that have left 10% of the workforce, whose wage is at or near the minimum, far below both the Stats Canada's Low Income Cut Off (LICO) and the Winnipeg Social Planning Council's a.l.l. - Acceptable Living Level, and

**Whereas #7** it is recognized that poverty has many consequences such as stress, low self - esteem, depression and malnutrition, particularly in single parent families, and contributes to poor academic achievement in children and adolescents, and

**Whereas #8** the business community fails to acknowledge that raising the minimum wage would provide an economic stimulus; keeping it down constitutes a public subsidy to employers who pay low wages with the whole community bearing the cost of resulting government support programs for those who cannot earn enough to support themselves, and

**Whereas #9** under The Employment Standards Code, a Minimum Wage Board is composed of equal representation of employers and employees with a neutral chair, resulting in an adversarial process which fails to address the real needs of those paid the minimum wage, and therefore be it

- RESOLVED #1** That the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba adopt as policy the following:
- a. Recognition of the principles of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 23 (3) and support a "just and favourable" minimum wage for every worker in Manitoba regardless of age, sex, marital or family status/living arrangements, and
  - b. Provision of incremental increases to the minimum wage at six month intervals until it reaches the "living wage" level, with future regular annual increases tied to an appropriate standard such as the Consumers Price Index (CPI) or Average Industrial Wage, and
  - c. Amending of The Employment Standards Code to:
    - i) restore the directive that the Minimum Wage Board is obliged to consider the costs of purchasing the necessities of life and health when recommending what is "just and favourable remuneration" as committed to by Canada's signing of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
    - ii) ensure the participation of neutral representatives of the community who are qualified to address the amended intent of the Code in consultation with workers and employers on any future Minimum Wage Board, and

- Resolved #2** That the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba to:
- a. Recognize the principles of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 23 (3);
  - b. Implement one "just and favourable" minimum wage for every worker in Manitoba regardless of age, sex, marital or family status/living arrangements;
  - c. Raise the minimum wage by increments at six month intervals until it reaches the "living wage" level and then tie future regular annual increases to an appropriate standard such as the CPI or the average industrial wage;
  - d. Amend *The Employment Standards Code* to:
    - I. restore the directive that the Minimum Wage Board is obliged to consider the costs of purchasing the necessities of life and health when recommending what is "just and favourable remuneration" according to the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
    - II. ensure the participation of neutral representatives of the community who are qualified to address the amended intent of the Code, in consultation with workers and employers, on any future Minimum Wage Board.

## 2005

### **2005.1 Reducing Driving to meet Kyoto Protocol Targets**

**Whereas** the world as we know it (a world compatible with human life) is threatened by global warming due to human generation of greenhouse gases which trap heat waves within the earth's atmosphere;

**Whereas** an increase of temperature of one degree Celsius is now inevitable, but a catastrophic increase of 2C is still avoidable if all the nations of the world work together to drastically reduce their emissions;

**Whereas** our social and economic world is highly dependent upon the burning of fossil fuels, which not only contributes to global warming but also puts us on an unsustainable trajectory with demand for oil increasing globally and supply peaking and about to decline;

**Whereas** the problems posed by the intertwined issues of global warming and declining fuel reserves will necessitate changes in the behaviour of everyone, not just corporations, businesses and institutions;

**Whereas** road transportation is the single largest source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Manitoba, being responsible for 6600 kilotonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> or 31% of GHG, and emissions have actually increased by 5.7% from 1990 levels;

**Whereas** the Government of Manitoba has committed itself to meeting and exceeding the targets of the Kyoto Protocol by 2012; therefore be it

**Resolved** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba adopt as its policy that the Government of Manitoba should take steps to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by the transportation sector by encouraging citizens to drive their cars less and by promoting and supporting alternative fuels and alternative means of transportation; and be it further

**Resolved** that in the interest of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba ask the Government of Manitoba to find ways to encourage citizens to drive their cars less and to promote and support use of alternative fuels and alternative means of transportation.

### **2005.2 Pay As You Drive Insurance**

**Whereas** some private automobile insurers in other jurisdictions have offered as an option *pay-as-you-drive* insurance;

**Whereas** tying the cost of insurance to the miles driven would be an incentive for individuals to drive their cars less and to look for alternative modes of transportation for at least some of their trips;

**Whereas** car owners who drive less currently are subsidizing those in the same risk category who drive more, which violates the principle of fairness as well as encouraging environmentally unsustainable behaviour; therefore be it

**Resolved** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba adopt as policy support for pay-as-you-drive insurance as an option to car owners; and be it further

**Resolved** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba ask the Public Utilities Board of Manitoba to require the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation to introduce a pay-as-you-drive form of insurance as an option to car owners.

## 2006

### **2006.1 Reduction of Social and Economic Inequity**

- Poverty is increasingly being feminized, particularly for young mothers and senior unattached women,
- Poor people disproportionately bear the burden of ill health,
- Income inequities affect the health status of all members of society,
- Manitoba has committed itself to a Healthy Living Strategy, one that is very focused on individual behaviours, such as smoking and weight, even though many of these behaviours are responses to social conditions and economic inequities.

**Resolved** that Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba, as part of its Healthy Living Strategy, to follow the lead of other jurisdictions such as Scotland and Quebec and implement policies which would seek to reduce social and economic inequities. Elements of this plan would include:

1. a commitment to ensuring that efforts to balance the budget do not unequally affect the poor, particularly poor women;
2. an action plan to reduce poverty by increasing minimum wage, welfare payments, subsidies for the working poor, and services such as accessible health care, transportation, banking and affordable drugs so women may better meet their needs;
3. investments in supplies of affordable housing and appropriate training programs; and be it further

**Resolved** that Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba to require both Health Impact Assessments and Gender Impact Analysis as part of the planning cycle of the government and its agencies in order to improve public health through greater social and economic equity.

## 2007

### **2007.1 Resourcing Women's Archives**

**Whereas** the development of women's history is an important strand in Manitoba's cultural record that has not until recently been given much attention;

**Whereas** the Provincial Archives are a prime source of research materials for the recording of women's history;

**Whereas** there are currently insufficient resources committed to the acquisition, cataloguing and archiving of women's history, particularly that of Manitoba women's organizations, at Manitoba Archives;

**Whereas** physical and human resources at Manitoba Archives are said to be in limited supply;

**Resolved** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba affirms that the archiving of women's history, including that of Manitoba women's organizations, should be given higher priority;

**Resolved** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba ask the Government of Manitoba to increase the human and physical resources allocated to the acquisition, cataloguing and archiving of women's history, including that of Manitoba women's organizations.

### **2007.2 Increasing the Number of Women Apprentices in Non-Traditional Trades in Manitoba**

**Whereas** trades which have been non-traditional for women and accessed only through apprenticeship lead to better paid and relatively more secure jobs;

**Whereas** there is a growing shortage of trained trades people in Manitoba;

**Whereas** female high school students have often been ignorant of apprenticeship in non-traditional trades as a career option;

**Whereas** even young female students interested in non-traditional trades may have been discouraged by reports of the work environment in these trades being inhospitable for women;

**Whereas** placements with journey persons for women who wish to enter non-traditional trades apprenticeships have been difficult to obtain;

**Whereas** most women who have received appropriate pre-trades training, and have been able to secure the required apprenticeship with journey-persons have succeeded in non-traditional trades;

**Resolved** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba adopt as policy support increasing the numbers of women entering and completing apprenticeship programs in non-traditional trades; and be it further

**Resolved** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba ask the Government of Manitoba through the appropriate Departments to increase the numbers of women in and completing non-traditional trades apprenticeship programs by:

1. encouraging exposure of elementary and junior high school students to trades skills and career opportunities,
2. preparing brochures and audio-visual aids for high school guidance counselors to use in presenting apprenticeship as attractive and well remunerated career options to young women;
3. offering pre-trades training to women interested in pursuing apprenticeship careers;
4. mandating colleges that provide apprenticeship academic programs to develop special supports for women entering non-traditional apprenticeship programs, and to reach out to journeypersons to take on women apprentices;
5. working with employers and unions to ensure receptivity to women workers, members and colleagues; and by
6. creating an interdepartmental Task Force to track progress made in attracting, training and retaining more women into apprenticeship programs, evaluating program strengths and weaknesses, and adapting programs to the particular needs of women.
7. Reconstituting a Women In Trades support group.

### **2007.3 Disposal of Plastic Bags**

**Whereas:** Disposable plastic bags, blowing in the wind, litter our streets, especially around landfill sites and pose a danger to wildlife on land and in water; and

**Whereas:** Plastic bags do not break down easily in landfill sites and can interfere with the decomposition of other materials; and

**Whereas:** Some re-use is possible, but plastic grocery bags are difficult or impossible to recycle in blue box programs; and

**Whereas:** Even compostable bags contribute to litter and do not decompose easily in home composters; and therefore be it

**Resolved:** That the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba adopt as policy that the number of plastic shopping bags distributed in the province should be significantly reduced through the use of economic incentives.

- that all retail outlets that provide customers with plastic shopping bags, should have low cost reusable bags available at the check out and that this alternative be mentioned to all customers who have not brought their own bags or need additional ones.
- that all plastic bags designed for one time use be compostable.
- that a levy should be placed on plastic shopping bags that will be adjusted from time to time so that it is no less than a fifth of the value of a low cost permanent bag.
- that funds collected from the levy should be used for further waste reduction activities, and be it further

**Resolved:** That the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba ask the provincial government of Manitoba to enact legislation aimed at significantly reducing the use of plastic shopping bags through the use of economic incentives that:

- require all retail outlets that provide customers with plastic shopping bags to have low cost reusable bags available at the check out and that this alternative be mentioned to all customers who have not brought their own bags or require additional ones.
- require retailers to provide only compostable plastic bags.
- place a levy on plastic shopping bags that will be adjusted from time to time so that it is no less than a fifth of the value of a low cost permanent bag.
- designating funds collected from this levy for use in further waste reduction activities.

## 2008

### **2008.1 LOBBYISTS REGISTRATION LEGISLATION AND CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOBBYISTS IN MANITOBA AND WINNIPEG**

RESOLVED that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba adopt as policy the enactment of a Manitoba Lobbyists Registration Act including a Code of Conduct for Lobbyists; and further be it

RESOLVED that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba to enact a Manitoba Lobbyists Registration Act including a Code of Conduct for Lobbyists; and further be it

RESOLVED that the Council of Women of Winnipeg adopt as policy the enactment by the City of Winnipeg Lobbyists Registration legislation including a Code of Conduct for Lobbyists; and further be it

RESOLVED that the Council of Women of Winnipeg urge the City of Winnipeg to enact Winnipeg Lobbyists Registration legislation including a Code of Conduct for Lobbyists. (Carried – 9 – 2)

*Note: Discussion on the above policy centered on the definition – what is the recommended definition that PCWM/CWW should support. Possibly an update is required for next year, or it is left up to the legislative body.*

## 2009

### **2009.1 Resolution on Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals**

Whereas endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) are known to have adverse effects on aquatic life. They interfere with the reproductive systems, increase the incidence of some cancers and weaken immune systems,

Whereas there are several known or suspected EDCs present in waste water discharge,

Whereas the province of Manitoba currently does not test for the presence of these chemicals downstream of Winnipeg's waste treatment plants,

Whereas the presence of even low level EDCs in Lake Winnipeg could wipe out species and destroy the fishery.

Therefore be it resolved that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba (PCWM) accept as policy that the Province of Manitoba be asked, as a first step, to protecting aquatic life in Lake Winnipeg,

- to test for estrogens, particularly 17-beta-estradiol, 17-alpha-estradiol, estrone, ethinylestradiol, and estriol in the Red River between Winnipeg and Selkirk at least three times in the ice free season
- to consult with scientists with special knowledge of EDCs as to which tests should have priority and as to which labs might conduct them
- to add, as resources allow, tests for other suspected EDCs in the effluent of the waste treatment plants.

Be it further resolved that Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba (PCWM) ask the Province of Manitoba, as a first step to protecting aquatic life in Lake Winnipeg,

- to test for estrogens, particularly 17-beta-estradiol, 17-alpha-estradiol, estrone, ethinylestradiol and estriol in the Red River between Winnipeg and Selkirk at least three times in the ice free season
- to consult with scientists with special knowledge of EDCs as to which tests should have priority and as to which labs might conduct them
- and to add, as resources allow, tests for other suspected EDCs in the effluent of the waste treatment plants.

## 2011

### **# 1: ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR SUSTAINABLE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRES IN SUBSIDIZED HOUSING COMMUNITIES**

**Whereas # 1** Subsidized housing communities have become ghettos of largely single parent female headed families living in poverty, many of whom have been traumatized by domestic abuse, residential school systems or the atrocities of war; and

**Whereas # 2** Most of the women living in these communities have low literacy levels, low education levels and few marketable skills; and

**Whereas # 3** Women and their children living in these communities are the most disenfranchised, vulnerable citizens of Manitoba; and

**Whereas # 4** Without a “hand up” these women and their children are destined to continue to live in poverty with the consequent factors for children and youth, of poor nutrition, poor health (physical/mental), poor educational outcomes and greater risk of early pregnancy, gang involvement, mental health issues, addictions; and

**Whereas # 5** In housing communities situated in suburban neighbourhoods the residents are often faced with hostility and discrimination by neighbours and have few available social service supports, therefore be it

**Resolved # 1** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba adopts as policy that

- a) Families in subsidized housing consisting primarily of women and children living impoverished lives without hope for a better life, need accessible, coordinated resources and programs which contribute to individual empowerment, strengthening of families and the development of safe, well connected supportive communities thereby helping women acquire hope, experience, skills and opportunities for a better life for themselves and their children, and
- b) Government policy and funding allocations designed to provide an appropriate strategy and resources to empower women's lives, especially women living in poverty in subsidized housing communities, must include adequate secure long term core funding for family resource centres to ensure successful results, and
- c) Programs and services with adequate long term core funding should be established in subsidized housing communities in suburban neighbourhoods and other Manitoba subsidized housing communities with similar characteristics to those receiving these services in Winnipeg "inner-city" locations.

**Resolved # 2** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba to

- a) Proceed Urgently to address the significant need for accessible, coordinated resources and programs which contribute to individual empowerment, strengthening of families and the development of safe, well connected, supportive communities thereby helping women acquire hope, experience, skills and opportunities for a better life for themselves and their children, and
- b) Proceed urgently to provide adequate secure long term core funding to sustain family resource centres in subsidized housing communities that provide appropriate accessible, coordinated services and programs to successfully address the needs of women and children living in poverty in subsidized housing, and
- c) Expand the boundaries of government funded initiatives beyond the "inner-city" to include subsidized housing communities in suburban neighbourhoods and other Manitoba communities with similar characteristics to those of the "inner-city".

## **#2: A COMPREHENSIVE HOUSING STRATEGY FOR MANITOBANS**

**Whereas #1** safe housing and neighbourhoods are a determinant of health; and

**Whereas #2** there is a critical shortage of public housing and of affordable housing in Manitoba; and

**Whereas #3** there is a critical shortage of rental apartments due to many units/buildings being converted into condominiums; and

**Whereas # 4** Manitoba has a high levels of poverty - the lower quintiles of household incomes having not kept up with the cost of living over the past decade; and

**Whereas #5** current housing projects initiated through tri-partite funding agreements are laudable, but it will take years before enough housing stock is available to meet the need for safe affordable housing in this province; and

**Whereas #6** many females heads of households cannot afford nor find decent housing for themselves and their families; and

**Whereas # 7** the Province of Manitoba has a robust immigration policy having received in 2010 a record of 15,800 new residents and its declared goal is to accept 20,000 newcomers to the province every year by the year 2015, putting further stress on limited housing; and

**Whereas #8** Manitoba Shelter Benefit is a valuable program which subsidizes low-income families with children under eighteen, people living with disabilities and elderly renters; and

**Whereas #9** individuals/families in receipt of Employment and Income Assistance have not had any significant increases in housing allowance for many years; and therefore be it

**RESOLVED #1** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba adopt as policy support for a robust Manitoba Shelter Benefit Program and Housing Strategy which is examined under a gender-based, diversity-based and accessibility analysis.

**RESOLVED #2** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Province of Manitoba to expand the Manitoba Shelter Benefit Program, by extending it to single individuals and to all households who need shelter subsidies due to their low income, regardless of their source of income, so that they can access private housing stock that meets provincial standards, until there will be enough public housing and affordable housing to meet the demand; and be it further

**RESOLVED #3** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba develop a comprehensive housing strategy including but not limited to: the continuation of the current Rental Control Regulation; limits to the number of condominium conversions; increasing of funding for forgivable loans to be used as deposits for mortgages and renovations on existing housing stock, expanding the boundaries of the funded loans to include St. Boniface, Fort Rouge, Elmwood and Transcona; and

**RESOLVED #4** that Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba develop and apply a comprehensive gender lens, a diversity lens and accessibility lens to all of the existing and future initiatives in order to comply with Canada's ratification of the UN CEDAW Convention and its Optional Protocol – United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

**RESOLVED #5** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba to develop a housing strategy that will increase the housing stock for all residents of Manitoba.

### **# 3: ACCESSIBILITY-RIGHTS LEGISLATION FOR MANITOBANS**

**WHEREAS #1** Manitobans with disabilities face a multitude of barriers that limit their enjoyment of many basic life activities that others take for granted; and

**WHEREAS #2** the barriers they face prevent their full participation in their communities in areas including employment, education, job training, communications, housing, public and private transportation, health care and social services, and

**WHEREAS #3** the number of people with disabilities continues to increase at a rate greater than the growth of the general population; and

**WHEREAS #4** the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, the *Canadian Human Rights Act* and the *Manitoba Human Rights Code* establish the right to equitable access for all persons with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS #5** the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and the human rights codes are essential but do not provide for the timely achievement of an fully inclusive society for persons with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS #6** the Government of Canada ratified the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* on March 11, 2010 which binds State Parties to new far-reaching obligations including taking appropriate measures to ensure persons with disabilities have access on an equal basis with others, and therefore be it

**Resolved #1** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba adopt as policy support for provincial accessibility-rights legislation that requires

- a) the orderly and timely removal of barriers to equitable access faced by Manitobans with disabilities and
- b) that prevents the creation of new barriers; and be it further

**Resolved #2** that the accessibility legislation reflect gender analysis; and be it further

**Resolved #3** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of the Province of Manitoba to

a) develop and introduce strong and effective accessibility-rights legislation that requires the orderly and timely removal of barriers to equitable access faced by Manitobans with disabilities and that prevents the creation of new barriers.

b) develop and introduce strong and effective accessibility-rights legislation that is consistent with the following :

- Cover all disabilities.
  - Reflect principles of independence, dignity, integration and equality of opportunity
  - Move beyond the complaints-driven system to comprehensively address discrimination and barriers.
  - Establish a definite target date to achieve a barrier-free Manitoba.
1. Require the development of clear, progressive, mandatory and date-specific standards in all major areas related to accessibility that will apply to public and private sectors.
  2. Establish a timely and effective process for monitoring and enforcement of the standards.
  3. Incorporate ongoing leadership roles for the disability community in the development of legislation and standards.
  4. Supersede all other provincial legislation, regulations or policies which provide lesser protections.
  5. Not diminish other legal and human rights protections.
  6. Reflect gender analysis

#### **# 4: THE RIGHT OF A PATIENT TO ACCESS HIS OR HER OWN COMPLETE ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD**

**Whereas #1** an individual has a right, on request, to examine and receive a copy of his or her personal health information under Manitoba's Personal Health Information Act; and

**Whereas #2** a patient may have a number of different doctors and numerous health records that require a high degree of co-ordination and communication over a number of years; and

**Whereas #3** an individual needs to have access to his or her complete personal health information in order to take responsibility for personal health management; and

**Whereas #4** patients in other jurisdictions in Canada are now empowered to participate more effectively in their own care through secure electronic access to their complete electronic health records from their personal computers; and

**Whereas #5** authorized members of a health care team in Manitoba can already access a patient's complete electronic health record, in Manitoba the patient is denied this right; and therefore be it

**Resolved #1** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba adopt as policy support for the right of patients to secure electronic access to their own complete electronic health records from their personal computers, and be it further

**Resolved #2** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba to legislate the right of patients to secure electronic access to their own complete electronic health records from their personal computers.

#### **# 6 BILINGUAL SERVICES FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**Whereas #1** all individuals have the right to live free of fear and abuse; and

**Whereas #2** domestic violence occurs across all socio-economic and cultural groups; and

**Whereas #3** the Province of Manitoba has a French Language Services Policy which requires taxpayer-sponsored programs and agencies to develop a French language strategy to meet the needs of the francophone minority in Manitoba; and

**Whereas #4** the Manitoba 1- 877-977-0007 Crisis-line receives inquiries in French from within and outside of Manitoba; and

**Whereas #5** there are very limited numbers of French-speaking staff working in domestic violence shelters and Second Stage Housing establishments to implement and staff the current 1- 877-977-0007 Crisis-line; and

**Whereas #6** there is no shelter that primarily serves francophone women; and

**Whereas #7** the Province of Manitoba has a goal to receive 20,000 newcomers annually by the year 2015 and many would be from French-speaking countries; and

**Whereas #8** people who are stressed by numerous co-existing life challenges (i.e. poverty, alienation, moving, unemployment, racism, poor housing conditions, lack of resources, gaps in community supports) are at greater risk of having relationship struggles, which can escalate into domestic violence; and therefore be it

**RESOLVED #1** that Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba adopt as policy, support for bilingual services are provided in French and English a) to callers of the 1- 877- 977-0007 Crisis-line and b) to residents of domestic violence shelters and/or those in Second Stage Housing; to and be it further

**RESOLVED #2** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba support the establishment of a domestic violence shelter for francophone women; and be it further

**RESOLVED # 3** that Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba - Secretariat for Francophone Affairs to ensure that bilingual services are provided in French and English a) to callers of the 1- 877- 977-0007 Crisis-line and b) to residents of domestic violence shelters and/or those in Second Stage Housing; and be it further

**RESOLVED # 4** that Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba urge the Government of Manitoba to establish a domestic violence shelter for francophone women.

## **# 7: ACTIONS TO SUPPORT ADULT LITERACY PROGRAMMING FOR LOW-INCOME MOTHERS AND SINGLE PARENTS**

**Whereas #1** the International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey, released in 2005, revealed that 42% of Canadians aged 16-65 are functioning at Literacy Stages 1 and 2, below the literacy level required to function fully in modern society; and

**Whereas #2** 15% more women than men at Literacy Stages 1 and 2 are unemployed or low income, meaning that they are living on social assistance and/or in poverty; and

**Whereas #3** many women at lower levels of literacy and living in poverty are raising children single-handedly, given that 80% of single parents are mothers; and

**Whereas #4** mothers and single parents living in poverty consequently face multiple barriers to attending literacy programming; and

**Whereas #5** maternal (parental) educational attainment is known to be a critical factor in educational attainment of children; and

**Whereas #6** the United Nations recognizes the transformative effect on both a family and the wider community when a mother is literate and acknowledges that the investment in literacy for women yields high economic, social and cultural development dividends; and

**Whereas #7** the Manitoba government has passed an Adult Literacy Act and has in the past actively endorsed the Pan-Canadian Literacy Strategy, which promotes a broad definition of literacy for full participation in our social, cultural, economic and political life, therefore be it

**RESOLVED #1** that the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba adopt as policy that the Government of Manitoba be urged to revitalize its long-term vision and strategy for maternal literacy to help break the cycle of intergenerational poverty and low educational attainment, by ensuring that low-literacy and low income mothers and single parents who are raising the next generation of Manitobans have substantive equality of access to adult literacy programming, not just for work but also for personal and family purposes; and be it further

**RESOLVED #2** to urge the Government of Manitoba:

1. To fully implement a broader definition of literacy, as articulated by UNESCO, so that literacy is understood to be culturally specific and socially connected;
2. To recognize that traditional, training- or employment-directed literacy programs do not adequately reflect the needs and realities of a critical group of educationally at-risk Manitobans who have the primary responsibility for child-rearing;
3. To analyze Manitoba's Stage 1 and 2 literacy population through a gender and socio-cultural lens in order to define the vision and aims of "family literacy" more precisely and strategically;
4. To prioritize specialized programming for low literacy, low income mothers and single parents as a cornerstone in the Province's efforts to further improve key determinants of social health like community development and connection, safety, justice, personal health, civic participation, family stability, and social cohesion;
5. To commit to an increased, long-term investment in programming that addresses the specialized learning and support needs of multi-barriered mothers and single parents, with the express intention of breaking the cycles of low literacy and poverty;
6. To develop and provide new guiding frameworks, delivery formats and supports to make it possible for more low literacy, low-income mothers and single parents to attend programming that improves literacy skills for personal, family and community purposes;
7. To identify literacy-sensitive policy areas that affect low income mothers and single parents, so that opportunities for effective partnerships are maximized; and be it further

**RESOLVED # 3** that The Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba encourage all its affiliates to keep Manitobans with Stage 1 and 2 literacy skills in mind when they design and distribute their informational materials.