



PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF MANITOBA, INC.

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2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT

**Presented at the Provincial Council
of Women of Manitoba, Inc.'s
59th Annual General Meeting
April 19, 2008
Morris, Manitoba**



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ESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba started the year with a celebration honouring its women that carried that theme throughout the year as Muriel Smith, June Menzies and many other women who were the original founders of the councils told their stories.

The highlights for Council of this year include:

- Our first fundraiser Celebrating Women Gala was held in July 2007 and was very successful in honouring six individual women and two federate organizations.
- Presenting the **brief** to the NDP Caucus, the Progressive Conservative Caucus and to Dr. Jon Gerrard and the Liberal Policy Committee.
- Meeting with the CWW and the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Winnipeg on leadership skills and characteristics important in the recruitment of a new chief of police.
- Completion of the **Babs Friesen Archival Project**, and the **Oral-History Project**, thanks to funds from the Winnipeg Foundation, with the help of the YM/YWCA and Margaret Laurence Endowment Fund. Also, a special thank you to Diane Haglund of the Manitoba Archives, Sally Papso who did the Oral Histories, and Mary Scott for coordinating the projects.
- **Strategic planning** meetings were ongoing throughout the winter months to set objectives for the goals of: having a board reflective of our membership; being a strong independent voice for women, and everyone knowing the PCWM.
- Meeting with the **Honourable Christine Melnick**, Minister of Water Stewardship, to discuss among other issues, the issue of wetland conservation and protecting farmlands.
- Through the joint CWW and PCWM Resolutions Committee, developing, presenting and approving two resolutions: Reducing the number of Plastic Bags Entering Landfills, and Lobbyists Registration Legislation and Code of Conduct in Manitoba and Winnipeg.
- Presenting to the **Apprenticeship Futures Commission** along with Carol Thiessen, of Manitoba Hydro in the education and support of women working in the trades.
- Through the work of Beverly Goodwin and June Menzies, an application to the Winnipeg Foundation was sent for funding to develop a DVD and Handbook as a tool for raising public awareness about mental health issues.

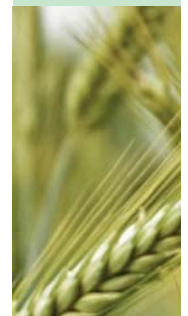




- Producing 5 newsletters annually, which were distributed to members by mail and with much thanks to Mary Scott, electronically to MP's, MLA's, Senators, and members of City Council. It is also sent to NCWC VPs, Conveners, NCWC Federates, and other provincial and local councils.
- Participating in a number of community events such as Right To Know Week, Fireflowers Art Exhibit, the Leg is honor of June Menzies receiving the Order of Manitoba, release of a book by John Loxley and Jim Silver for Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, Manitoba, Life Members luncheons, Child Care Coalition of Manitoba AGM, Immigrant Women's Association of Manitoba fall and spring Symposium and Multicultural Celebration, Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters AGM, International Women's Day in Support of Nova House, International Women's Day celebrating "Inspiring Women," Judy Wasylycia-Leis' celebration in honor of Muriel Smith receiving the Order of Canada, the Spirit of Leadership awards in honor of June Menzies and Muriel Smith, Anita Neville's fall Round Table with Maria Minna, Liberal Critic of the Status of Women, an open forum with Dr. John Service from the Mental Health Commission of Canada and Judy Wasylycia-Leis, the Unifem Fundraiser and Citizen Equity Gala.
- Organizing regular and special programs, along with the regular monthly meetings, such as the **semi-annual, annual meeting** and the **Round Table** for federates and individuals. This year's semi-annual was on Early Learning and Child Care in Manitoba. The Round Table was well attended and there was a good opportunity for networking and hearing more about the issues and concerns of our federates. Our annual meeting, held April 19 in Morris, Manitoba will feature a number of experts on energy alternatives moderated by Barb Shewchuk. Monthly meetings were held on a range of topics including Immigration in Manitoba, Biofuels, and Women, Gender, and Disasters.
- Holding monthly board meetings.



I wish to extend a special thank you to the **Manitoba Women's Advisory Council** for their support of the Provincial Council. Their cooperation in assisting us in the distribution of our newsletter with copying and mail-out has been most appreciated. The Advisory Council has also been instrumental in helping publicize PCWM events and those of our federates.





Thank you to all the **Board Members**, Mary Scott (Past President), Karen Hoeft (Treasurer) Peggy Barker (Secretary), Karen Sharma (Newsletter), Barbara Kendel (Membership), Joan Butcher (Archives), Muriel Smith (Resolutions), Barb Toews (Member at Large) Helen Garrity (Member at Large), Marilyn McGonigal (Constitution). Thanks to Elizabeth Fleming (Rural/Urban), to Bonni Book and Monica Singh both representing PCWM at the Water Caucus; Karen Hoeft representing PCWM on the poverty committee, Arlene Draffin-Jones and Shirley Walker on the Fundraising Committee, and Bev Goodwin and June Menzies co-chairs of the Mental Health Committee, Pat Powell and Sally Thomas of the Council of Women of Winnipeg, and Melissa McCaig-Pike (Volunteer).

I wish to pay special tribute to **Donna Blight**, a long-time valued member of PCWM, who was taken from us suddenly in February. Her memory lives on within us and she is sadly missed.

Thanks to **Her Honour Lenore Berscheid**, Honorary Patroness. Lenore has been gracious with her time and commitment to our Archival and Oral History Projects celebration for which the councils are truly grateful. We also admire the work she is doing on behalf of Manitoba children and youth.

I would like to express a sincere thank you to **Balmoral Hall** for the use of their space for our office in Aikins House, the use of the house, and the use of the Balmoral Hall Common Room, and all those at the school who have made it possible. Although our agreement to use the space terminates this summer, we have been grateful for the use of these facilities.

Thank you to all those at the school who have made it possible. Although our agreement terminates this summer, PCWM has enjoyed our time in these facilities.

I have appreciated the warmth and welcome of the **Council of Women of Winnipeg**, and I look forward to working with you again in the coming year. PCWM values the role of our federate members. They are the foundation of provincial council and we thank them for the work they do for the council and for the community.

Maxine Balbon
President





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ESSAGE FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT

The role of the Past President is to support the President, and take the lead in nominations. I notice in the Standing Rules that the term of office is one year.

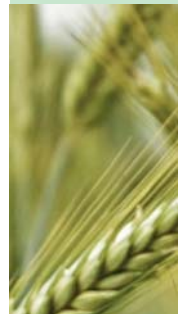
It has been a pleasure to work with Maxine Balbon and the Board. Maxine is doing a terrific job, and working full time as well as being President has its challenges. The following are some of the activities I have done this past year:



- Assisting the President in being able to access e-mails from her home;
- Monitoring the PCWM server to respond, and delete messages as needed;
- Maintaining and adding to the PCWM web site;
- Attending PCWM Board and General Meetings, occasionally taking minutes;
- Supporting our PCWM newsletter editor, who does such a terrific job. Basically this just means submitting articles, doing a final edit, updating and printing the mailing labels, and helping with the copying and mailing. Special thanks to Barb Kendel;
- Coordinating the delivery and presentation of the PCWM Brief to the Conservative and Liberal caucus of Manitoba;
- Participated on the PCWM Mental Health Ad Hoc Committee;
- Supported the Celebrating Women Gala Committee, especially with the media;
- Participated on the Joint PCWM/CWW Resolutions Committee and drafted 2 Resolutions for NCWC (Tasers, and Cluster Bombs);
- Participated in several community coalitions/networks – Disaster Resiliency Network; Winnipeg Citizen’s Coalition; Midwifery;
- Coordinated the Joint PCWM/CWW Archival and Oral History Project.

At this time (April 8, 2008) the nomination slate is being prepared, and hopefully will be ready for the AGM.

Mary Scott
Past President





TREASURER'S REPORT

We have finished off the year with a healthy net income of \$5,288.60. This was due to an excellent Celebrating Women Gala fundraising event. Also our AGM and Semi-annual meetings were well attended and with some sponsorships we have realized monies from those events. We also reached our target for memberships both Federates (32) and Individuals (45).



This year we are looking forward to our 2nd Annual Celebrating Women Gala Event on July 9, 2008. We have projected to raise \$3,000 from this event.

For memberships we are targeting 35 Federates and 55 Individuals. As we continue to see growth for the PCWM we know that we will be able to reach out and advocate for great change in our world. Building our membership will help us in this endeavour.

A significant change this year will be our location. We will not be able to have office space at Balmoral Hall School after August 31, 2008. We have enjoyed an incredibly reasonable rent for many years and we are so thankful to the School for all they have done for us. However, as we look to the future we have budgeted \$2,100 for rent. There are several issues to look at and the Board is considering several different type of options. The cost-benefit will need to be addressed as well as location for meetings. However, sufficient for the present budget, we acknowledge that we will not continue on at \$450/year for office space.

We have budgeted for Conference Expenses as well. Many of you will realize that when we did not have a lot of funds that our President has incurred expenses for travel and the National Conference. I propose that we would pay for her conference and travel as she is representing us at that venue.

As the Board has been going through Strategic Planning and looking at strategic directions for the PCWM, then we will be able to look at what programs and areas we will support in the coming year.

It has been a privilege to serve as your treasurer and I am pleased to present this budget for your approval.

Karen Hoeft
Treasurer





M E M B E R S H I P R E P O R T

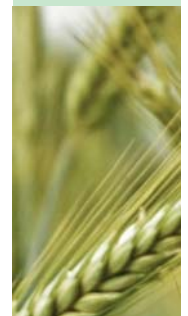
As noted in the Treasurer's Report, membership to the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba reached an all-time high in 2007-08, with 32 Federate members and 45 individual members.



Federate Members 2007-2008

- Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – Manitoba
- Canadian Federation of University Women CFUW) – Manitoba Council
- Child Care Coalition of Manitoba
- Consumers Association of Canada (CAC)
- Council of Women of Winnipeg (CWW)
- Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba Inc.
- Girl Guides of Canada – Manitoba Council
- Ikwe-Widdjitiwin Inc.
- Immigrant Women's Association of Manitoba
- Literacy Partners of Manitoba
- Manitoba Association of Home Economists
- Manitoba Association of Women and the Law
- Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters
- Manitoba Child Care Association
- Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association
- Manitoba Hydro Employment Strategy Specialist
- Manitoba Provincial Organization of Business and Professional Women's Club
- MB & NW Ontario Synodical Society WMD Presbyterian Church
- MB & NW Ontario Conference of United Church Women
- Mother of Red Nations Women's Council of Manitoba
- Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence
- Reseau action femmes (Manitoba) Inc.
- Salvation Army, RAC – Prairie Region
- Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada (Manitoba Provincial Executive)
- United Nations Platform for Action (Manitoba)
- Wolseley Family Place Inc.
- Women's Enterprise Centre of Manitoba
- Women's Health Clinic
- Women's Health Research Foundation

Barbara Kendel
Membership Chair





C OMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Communications is critical to the work of the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba, Inc. It allows individuals and organizations to learn who we are and what we do. In addition, our communications materials provide a platform for education and dialogue around Council issues, resolutions and events.



Recently, the Council’s Board of Directors engaged in strategic planning to determine the direction of the Councils’ future operations. As part of this exercise, the Board of Directors unanimously agreed to have communications as one its major focuses over the next five years of the Council’s work. Once the strategic planning process is complete, the Board will develop and implement a comprehensive communication strategy aimed at ensuring the work of the Council is well known across the province.

While a comprehensive review of our communications will be conducted in 2008-09, I am pleased to announce that the Council has also worked hard to improve its communication materials over the 2007-08 year. The Council’s efforts are well reflected in the improvements made to our Newsletter. Since November 2008, the Council’s newsletter has focused its feature articles on a particular pressing issue or concern for our membership and Community. Usually, this issue is also reflected in the program of our public meetings. In addition to feature articles, our newsletter continues to bring news from our Board and committees; upcoming events; and new policies and directives that have significant bearing on our community.

In addition, the Council has been working on improvements to its general brochure and annual report template. We have also developed a new template for our public meeting posters and meeting programs. In 2006-07, the Council developed a website page – www.mts.net/~pcwm. Our website is regularly updated by Mary Scott with news, information, resources and publications.

As noted in the President’s Report, this year our Council produced five newsletters. This would not have been possible if not for the dedicated efforts our membership who works together to collect articles, event notices and reports for print. I would also like to recognize Mary Scott and Barbara Kendel for their work in copying and distributing the Newsletter.

It has been wonderful acting as your Communications Chair for the 2007-08 year. I look forward to exciting communications work that awaits us in 2008-09.

Karen Sharma, Chair and Newsletter Editor





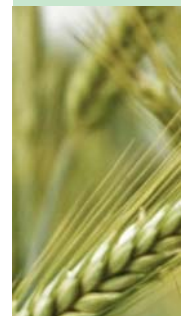
BRIEF TO THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

The 2007 PCWM Brief to the Manitoba Government was presented to the NDP caucus September 24th, 2007; to the Conservative Caucus October 24th, 2007 and to the Liberals on January 24th, 2008. The meetings were planned well in advance, with timed agendas circulated to members attending the Briefing session. Federates were welcome to attend and several did. The Brief included a reiteration of Council's concern regarding slow action in implementing affordable, accessible, publically funded child care. There were resolutions regarding the status of Manitoba as the Child Poverty Capital of Canada. Manitoba has the highest percentage of households with children who have been poor since 1996 and female lone parent led families in Manitoba remain among the poorest of all families in Canada. The inadequacy of income assistance benefits and the minimum wage are significant contributors to the depth of poverty in Manitoba; Continuing to work at alleviating the root causes of poverty, not just treating the symptoms; and the issue of violence, particularly experienced by women continues to be a concern. It was stressed that violence is normalized by the experiences of Aboriginal women and must be addressed. Aboriginal women experience violence at 3X the rate of any other Canadian woman and are 5X more likely to die as a result of violence.

At each of the presentations, Bev Goodwin spoke about Mental Health, and the work of the Mental Health Committee.

Resolutions that formed the Brief:

- Child Care
- Lake Winnipeg
- Reducing Driving to Meet Kyoto Protocol Targets
- Pay as You Drive Insurance
- Reduction of Social and Economic Inequity Key To Healthy Living Strategy
Increasing the number of women in non-traditional trades in Manitoba
- Resourcing Women's Archives
- Aboriginal Family Violence
- National Anti-Poverty Legislation
- Investing in Post-Secondary Education
- Wetlands Conservation
- Helping Foreign Trained Professionals Access Accreditation
- Protecting Farmlands in Canada
- Upholding the Public Health Care System: Banning Dual Practice Medicine
- Support for Victims of Human Trafficking





Many thanks to all who helped in the drafting, research and the presentation of the Brief: Maxine Balbon, Pat Powell, Marilyn McGonigal, Elizabeth Fleming, Muriel Smith, Maxine Balbon, Arlene Draffin-Jones, Bev Goodwin, Karen Hoeft, Valinda Morris, Rita Emerson, Carolyn Garlich and Arlene Draffin-Jones. It was a strong Brief, and captured well the policies of the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba. Thank you for your input and assistance all along the way.

Mary Scott
Brief Editor and Coordinator





RURAL AND URBAN ISSUES COMMITTEE

The National Council of Women of Canada chose, "Energy in all its Aspects" as the Common Program for 2007-09. We worked with the Council of Women of Winnipeg, Consumers' Association of Canada (Manitoba Branch), the Environmental Studies Program at University of Winnipeg and Manitoba Eco-Network to host a panel discussion on "Biofuels: Solution or Problem?". A four-member panel of experts - John Morriss, Dr. David Levin, Shaun Loney and Ken Sigurdson - was moderated by Reg Sherrin of CBC's The National on October 17 2007 at University of Winnipeg. Approximately 150 people attended. A lively exchange of questions and answers ensued. Media sponsors were the Winnipeg Free Press and the Manitoba Co-operator. In addition, the Annual General Meeting to be held in Morris, Manitoba, April 19 2008, will focus on, "Energy Alternatives".

On October 22 2007, PCWM spoke against Bill 22 - the Housing Renewal Corporation Amendment Act at Standing Committee in the Manitoba Legislature. We pointed out the hypocrisy of a Bill that portended to use "profits" from the massive, sprawling, government-owned and initiated suburban land development the size of the City of Brandon at Waverley West to put towards older neighbourhoods. Given the secrecy of the pro forma for the development any "profits" are arbitrary. We pointed out the harms that are done to existing, older neighbourhoods by urban sprawl developments such as Waverley West.

PCWM continues to participate on the "Right to Know" Committee led by the Office of the Manitoba Ombudsman. Right to Know Week featured a panel discussion, "You Shouldn't Have to Ask: When Access to Information Becomes Routine", at Portage Place, October 2 2007.

The former Information Commissioner of Canada, John Reid, made an excellent public presentation on, "Twenty Years Later: The Increasing Importance of Access to Information Laws" on October 4.

The Right to Know group organized presentations on access to information and privacy laws and made information and materials available to the public at a Law Day Open House at the Manitoba Law Courts, April 13 2008.

Members continue to participate in groups such as the Water Caucus and attend talks and meetings on water, energy, climate change, land use, urban planning, gambling and government transparency and accountability.

Elizabeth Fleming, Chair





RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE (JOINT COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF WINNIPEG AND PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF MANITOBA, INC.)

Once again, the Winnipeg and Provincial Councils of Women functioned jointly. Membership was open to interested members. **Meetings** were held in June, September, December, January and March.

The annual package of **NCWC resolutions** (eight resolutions and two updates) was received in January and sent out to federate and individual members, either in electronic or print format. These were all debated and approved with or without amendments at the March CWW meeting March 19th and at the PCWM meeting March 20th, and the results (attached) forwarded to the NCWC Resolutions Chair.

A resolution on Accessibility to Public Toilets in the City of Winnipeg was prepared for CWW and approved on March 19th, one on Reducing the Number of Plastic Bags Entering Landfills was prepared for both CWW and PCWM, approved by CWW on March 19th, and the Reducing the Number of Plastic Bags Entering Landfills by PCWM on March 20th. A third resolution on Lobbyists' Registration was prepared for both CWW and PCWM and will be voted on after the distribution time of 2 months to members. Other resolutions for Guidelines on the Use of Tasers, a Call for Canadian Support for Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and Cluster Munitions were reviewed prior to direct submission to NCWC .

Follow up action was taken on NCWC 2006-07 Resolutions where provincial action was called for through the submission of material for PCWM's **Annual Brief** to the Provincial Government. Other topics were carried over from the previous year or introduced during the year and may result in resolutions in future years.

Every effort was made to solicit concerns from members and to make use of ideas presented at CWW and PCWM events. The committee recognizes that more of this is needed, but also recognizes that the development of resolutions requires individuals who are prepared to take on the work of research and drafting resolutions for the committee's consideration.

Throughout the year, much good work was accomplished. Members always draw energy from one another, ask a lot of questions, and learn a lot about topics they may not have considered before. As joint chairs, Phyllis Anne Rodych and I have been grateful for their enthusiasm and thoughtful contributions. Light lunches with members contributing various dishes added to the committee's enjoyment.

Muriel Smith and Phyllis Anne Rodych, Co-Chairs





P OVERTY COMMITTEE

This past year the Poverty Committee has not been active as a committee. However, that does not mean we have not been active on “Poverty Issues”.

In September 2007, I went to an EIA Advocate Network meeting on behalf of the PCWM. At this meeting I learned of the “Raise the Rates Campaign” that the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg was launching. The PCWM participated in this by both donating \$50.00 to help with the campaign and by collecting signatures on the petition. We had information available at the October 2008 General Meeting on Bio-Fuels. I also attended the peaceful demonstration at the Legislative Assembly on October 17, 2007 the UN Day to Eliminate Poverty to bring attention to the EIA rates in Manitoba.

The Semi-annual meeting was centred on Child Care Issues. This is another area that the Poverty Committee has taken an interest in.

In November 2007, one of our federates, CAC, was part of a hearing on Pay Day Lending Loans. I attended this along with Barb Kendal to support the issues that arise from those who get caught in this system. Also in November 2007, Mary Scott and myself were briefed by the Minister’s office on the new legislation being proposed to tackle the Employment Services Act with regards to Human Trafficking.

In January 2008, I attended a lecture on Pragmatic Solidarity: A Preferential Option for the Poor. This was hosted by Booth College, but the guest speaker was with the WRHA. This looked at the issue of poverty around the world. Also in January I attended the Town Hall meeting on Poverty at the University of Winnipeg, that featured Ken Dryden, MP. This was attended by many of our local MP’s.

In February 2008, I attended a community meeting on Youth Gangs and the issues in Winnipeg. Also I attended the Community meeting on The Growing Gap between the Rich and the Rest of Us, hosted by Judy Wasylycia-Leis, MP. There were many of our group in attendance!

I know that many of our members have been very active in poverty issues during this past year and we hope to get more organized for the next year. If there are members who would like to participate in this way, please let us know and we would be grateful for all your support.

Karen Hoeft, Chair





AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH

We are very sad to report that one of our founding members of Concerned Citizens on Mental Health has passed on. Win Gardner's contribution and support to the Committee over the years was invaluable.

We have presented during the past year to the NDP Caucus, Conservative Caucus and Liberal Leader, Hon. Jon Gerrard along with the PCWM at the annual presentation of the Council brief. Jon Gerrard has been very supportive of our work and during the past election, called a news conference when he and two other liberal candidates focused entirely on the PCWM Discussion Paper: The Way We See It : (www.mts.net/~pcwm/)

We have had a further meeting with Jon Gerrard to discuss the Personal Health Information Act and the Mental Health Act.

Artbeat Studios and the Artbeat Alumni have had shows which members of the Committee have attended. The art work is very impressive and in the future we would recommend the Council visit the gallery which is open to the public on Thursday afternoons. This is a unique program, privately run and specifically for folk who are in the recovery process.

Sr. Johanna of Micah House has been garnering the talents of the Artbeat Alumni every Tuesday and providing a social/learning experience to folk within the mental health community. Beverley Goodwin often attends and is very impressed with how positive this program is for integrating clients into a social setting.

Michael Kirby was appointed as Chair to The Mental Health Commission of Canada by Prime Minister Stephen Harper, March 2007.

We were asked to submit a brief to the Mental Health Commission of Canada meeting at a Stakeholder Consultation Session held in Winnipeg, October 27th, 2007. June Menzies represented the Committee and was impressed to see the diversity of the attendees and the opportunity which this meeting presented, to share information and concerns.





Beverley Goodwin was invited to attend an all day conference of the Canadian Collaborative Mental Health Initiative in Winnipeg, January 16th, 2008. Also, she was invited to attend a two day conference, Canadian Mental Health Symposium, with CAMIMH (Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health) in Ottawa, February 21st and 22nd, 2008. The outcome is a multi year project intended to produce a national strategy plan for enhancing mental health literacy in Canada that is, bringing Canadians into discussions, hopefully to eliminate the stigma and isolation suffered by families and users within the system.

On March 19th, Maxine Balbon, President of PCWM and some members of the Mental Health Committee attended a meeting to hear Manitoba representatives of the Mental Health Commission of Canada speak about their own roles within the Commission. The guest speaker was Dr. John Service, Executive Director of the Commission. This was followed by Judy Wasylcia-Leis, NDP Health Critic. The personal stories told by members of the audience described the magnitude of the problems within Manitoba.

For the past six months our focus has been seeking funding for a DVD project. This project is being led by Lesley Hughes, well known Winnipeg broadcaster/commentator. Our objective is to help to create dialogue and awareness of the need for mental health reform in Manitoba and Canada. This project ties in well with the objectives of the Mental Health Commission of Canada. The social, economic and mental health issues are indivisible – in Manitoba and Canada.

Beverley Goodwin and June Menzies, Co-Chairs





A RCHIVING COMMITTEE

The year has been spent concluding the Babs Friesen Councils of Women Archival Project and the Oral History Project, supported by both PCWM and CWW.

Babs Friesen Councils of Women Archival Project

The purpose of the project was to arrange and describe the latest accrual of the provincial and local Councils of Women so that they would be readily accessible at the Archives of Manitoba. The work was carried out at the Archives of Manitoba under the supervision of a private records archivist there. The grant from the Winnipeg Foundation allowed the hiring of a student from the Archival Studies MA program at the University of Manitoba to undertake the project.



Records dating from 1894-1984 created by the Council of Women of Winnipeg, and from 1949-1980 by the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba had already been deposited at the Archives of Manitoba. The latest accrual adds more than two more decades worth of records documenting the activities of the local and provincial councils and represent a key part of the history of Manitoba women. The completed arrangement of records amounts to 15 boxes consisting of textual files, with some photographs and bound scrapbooks. They follow the Councils through a time of great political and social change, and thus represent an important resource for study of women’s activities during this time. These records are particularly interesting because they present both the public face of the Councils of Women as well as illuminating the private faces that made the work of the Councils possible.

Oral History Project

The purpose of this Oral History Project is to document and create archival records of the lives, the memories, the experiences and the contributions of Manitoba women who have been long time members of the Councils of Women of Manitoba. These include the Council of Women of Winnipeg and the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba, and to some extent, the National Council of Women of Canada.

The Councils of Women have a rich history in actions for women, for families, for the environment, and for other marginalized groups in all contexts, historical, personal, political, social, sexual, economic and institutional over the past many decades and have accomplished a great many changes and improvements in numerous areas.





These would include marital and property law, family law, health, education, daycare, pay equity, penal reform, domestic violence, pornography, reproductive choice, abortion, poverty, playgrounds and parks and many other concerns.

The persons involved in this project believe the voices of these women's stories, memories and experiences to be invaluable to the history of the Councils of Women of Manitoba, to women's history, to Manitoba history and indeed, to history in general. We further believe that future generations will benefit from this archival documentation of their knowledge and experience.

This project compliments an extensive collection of textual records over the past 11 decades.

Project Summary

Work on this project occurred between May 2007 and April 2008. Between May 2007 and June 2007 an application for funding was submitted and approved by the Margaret Laurence Community Grants Program. A person with knowledge in oral history was contracted to do the interviews and tape summaries and a complete archival ready compilation of the entire project. The interview candidates were chosen by the Provincial Council of Women, Inc. in consultation with the Council of Women of Winnipeg. A professional company was selected to produce the written transcripts of the taped interviews. Interviews were recorded from June 2007 to February 2008. Summaries for the interviews, written transcripts of the tapes, tape copies for the interviewees and the finished project were completed by April 2008. Mary Scott, President and Past President of the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba and Sally Papso, the contracted interviewer worked together as Project Co-ordinators.

Twenty-four audiotapes were recorded during 13 interviews. The interviews were conducted in the homes of the individual women. A gala celebration of the entire project was held May 6th, 2008 at Government House. Over 100 people attended the celebration.

Much appreciation to the committee – Babs Friesen, Irene McKenzie, Pat Powell, Maxine Balbon, Arlene Draffin-Jones, Donna Mae Yeo, Diane Haglund, Valerie Slater, Sally Papso, Maxine Balbon and Karen Sharma. You were all terrific and helped a great deal in the organizing, planning and work to support these two very significant projects this year. Thank you.

Mary Scott & Joan Butcher, Co-Chairs





FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The First Annual Celebrating Women Gala Fundraiser hosted by the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba was a resounding success. The celebration was held in the beautiful setting of the Assiniboine Park Conservatory on July 11, 2007. Over 150 persons enjoyed an evening of music, good food, fellowship and the opportunity to acknowledge the work and dedication of six individual council women and two federates who have made a positive difference in their community and the councils of women. The honourees were escorted in by Piper Barbara Wipf and presented with certificates and beautiful engraved glass vases.

Individuals: Donna Blight, Beverley Goodwin, Elizabeth Fleming, Barbara Kendel, Monica Singh, Shirley Walker, Federates: Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association represented by Kim Legary and Manitoba Child Care Association represented by Karen Ohlson



Generous corporate sponsorship, individual contributions, a Rainbow Auction, Silent Auction and the Celebrating Women Boutique were the major fundraising initiatives for the event. PCWM would like to acknowledge the support and generosity of the many organizations and individuals for their sponsorship, Rainbow Auction gift items and Silent Auction art work.

None of this would have been possible without the efforts of the “Celebrating Women” committee who planned and organized the Gala. Many thanks to Maxine Balbon, Melissa McCaig-Pike, Leonore Saunders, Mary Scott, Karen Sharma, Bonnie Siemens, Shirley Walker and Donna Mae Yeo. A very special thank you to Helen Garrity and Emily Bazylo for all their work at the Celebrating Women Boutique and to Maryanne Jones and Bob Jones for selling all those tickets for the Rainbow Auction. Kacey Wilson from CJOB did a great job as MC. We received excellent media coverage for the event with interviews on Radio CJOB and CBC and an article and picture of the honourees in the Winnipeg Free Press.

Monies raised will go toward funding programs to improve the quality of life for women, their families and their community. These projects include presentations





on mental health issues, poverty, immigration, energy and resources.

The 2nd Annual Celebrating Women Gala & Fundraiser will be held on Wednesday, July 9, 2008 at the Khartum Shrine House, 1155 Wilkes Avenue from 7:30 – 11 pm. Join us for a wonderful evening of celebration, entertainment, Rainbow Auction, Silent Auction, the Celebrating Women Boutique sale and delicious food. Tickets are \$20.00 each and may be purchased from PCWM phone 992-2751 or email pcwm@mts.net

Reported by Arlene Draffin Jones
Chair, Celebrating Women Gala and Fundraiser Committee





FEDERATE REPORTS



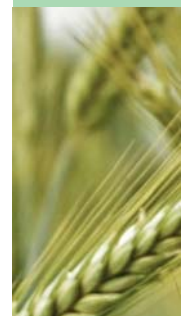
CANADIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (CFUW) MANITOBA COUNCIL

Manitoba Council was founded in 1989, as a federation of four Manitoba CFUW Clubs: The University Women's Club of Winnipeg (founded in 1909 and affiliated with the Canadian Federation of University Women as a founding member in 1919); CFUW South Winnipeg; CFUW Brandon and CFUW Portage La Prairie. Since that time, the CFUW South Winnipeg Club has disbanded, and we now have three Clubs. The three Clubs generally meet together twice a year.

Founded in 1919, The Canadian Federation of University Women, is a voluntary, non-profit, self-funded bilingual organization of over 10,000 women university graduates. CFUW/FCFUDU members are active in public affairs, working to raise the social, economic and legal status of women, as well as to improve education, the environment, peace, justice and human rights. Members belong to 122 Clubs in every province in Canada. There are 5 Regional Councils: Manitoba, Alberta, Quebec, Atlantic and Ontario. CFUW/FCFUDU is one of the 78 member affiliates of the International Federation of University Women (IFUW/FIFDU) and its 140,000 members. CFUW is a non government organization with special consultative status at the United Nations (Economic and Social Council) Commission on the Status of Women. CFUW sends a representative to the Canadian Commission to UNESCO Education Committee.

This year (2008) the Manitoba Council Annual Meeting is being organized by the Winnipeg Club, to be held April 19th, at Ralph Connor House. The CFUW Resolutions this year are on: Psychological Harassment in the Work Place; Preventing Hospital Acquired Infections; Student Debt; and Closing the Gap in Aboriginal Living Standards.

For further information about CFUW and the different Clubs across Canada:
<http://cfuw.org>





CHILD CARE COALITION OF MANITOBA

In July 2007 the Child Care Coalition of Manitoba completed a Status of Women Project that worked with three rural sites, Thompson, southwestern Parkland and St. Pierre-Jolys, to build understanding about childcare and economic development. Each area had a local council of informed stakeholders. The results showed two concrete outstanding outcomes:

- 1) That childcare generates millions of dollars in direct revenue – \$2.1 million in Thompson; \$1.73 million in Parkland and \$455,000. in St. Pierre-Jolys. The ‘ripple’ effect of these dollars spent in their local economy is a 1 - 1.58 ratio. For every \$1.00 spent on child care, \$1.58 is generated in the community. Child care is not a drain on society – it is an economic booster.
- 2) As well as being a job-creating industry, child care is a positive employment multiplier, that is, it supports the employment of other industries in the area. We found that .49 jobs were created or supported by every full-time childcare position. In rural areas, where jobs for women are in short supply, the direct and indirect job creation effects of childcare are particularly impressive.

We know for some time the positive social effects of childcare for children – the studies and research are abundant across the country but this is the first economic impact study of any kind done in Canada.

The women of the rural areas of Manitoba are struggling with many and varied economic factors – women are working off-farm to support families, population declines and farm safety being just a few. Childcare is an essential element of the rural infrastructure to strengthen the rural economy, the lives of rural women and ultimately rural economies.

Arising out of this work, we started immediately liaising with rural municipalities to encourage them to consider childcare as an element of rural economic development. A motion supporting childcare, drawing on our research, was passed by the RM of Rossburn, Ilse Ketelson, and subsequently at the mid-western meeting of the Shoal Lake district of the Association of Municipalities of Manitoba (AMM) on June 14th. A resolution supporting childcare was passed by the AMM at its AGM as provincial policy in November 2007. This is a new initiative to encourage local governments to address





childcare as a matter of local infrastructure, and we are hopeful it will be a fruitful avenue. We have received extensive and positive media coverage of our research on the economic dimensions of childcare.

The principal investigator of the research for this project was Dr. Susan Prentice of the U of M, Department of Sociology. Further promoters of Childcare as Economic and Social Development tools are the Rural Team Manitoba Women's Group.

THE CONSUMERS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (MANITOBA)

The Consumers' Association of Canada (Manitoba) is a non-profit, independent, volunteer organization representing and informing consumers in Manitoba and advocating on their behalf to empower Manitobans in the marketplace.

2007-2008 Highlights

Economic Issues

- \$ researched the readability of consumer information about financial services in several provinces, using a variety of research tools
- \$ represented consumer interests before the Public Utilities Board regarding a maximum fee for payday loans

Environment

- organized public information session on socially responsible consumer choice – the panel spoke on environmentally sound purchasing choices, buying local, and fair trade
- reviewed Manitoba Hydro's demand-side management program for low income consumers

Food and Agriculture

- \$ represented the consumer interest to a variety of government and industry working groups and committees, such as the Manitoba Sustainable Agriculture Initiative, Manitoba Manure Management Initiative, and Manitoba Buy Local Initiative
- organized info session on advertising of unhealthy foods to children

Regulated Industries

- \$ represented consumers' interest regarding electricity rates and the natural gas market competitive landscape
- \$ supported a rebate for auto insurance ratepayers before the Public Utilities Board





Health

- \$ monitored issues pertaining to consumer rights in health care

Outreach

- \$ developed and printed second edition of *Small Budget Resource Guide* and accompanying materials for consumers with low income
- \$ held an open house on March 14th, at CAC Manitoba's InfoCentre, to commemorate World Consumer Rights Day
- \$ spoke to numerous groups at schools, food banks, drop-in centres, health centres, Labour and Immigration's Entry Program, and various public meetings and events on consumer rights and consumer issues affecting Manitobans
- \$ set up a consumer information booth in Osborne Village during Canada Day festivities
- \$ organized small, regular info sessions for consumers on a variety of topics at our Consumer InfoCentre
- \$ worked with RCMP, Consumers Bureau, and Manitoba Securities Commission on a video and companion guide book to inform consumers about fraud and how to protect themselves

In addition, CAC Manitoba operates a Consumer InfoCentre at 218 Osborne St. South and toll-free telephone line (1-888-596-0900). Check out our consumer information website (www.consumermanitoba.ca).

We publish a quarterly newsletter (*The Manitoba Consumer*) and a quarterly alert containing information on scams and other consumer rip-offs, called *ScamWatch*.





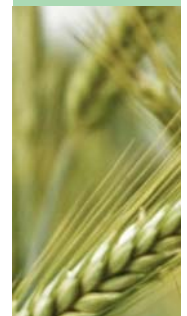
ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

The Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba has been working with and on behalf of criminalized women and girls for over 20 years, promoting their human rights, fair treatment, alternatives to incarceration, and reintegration into communities. We are an Aboriginal-led organization; a majority of the members of our Board of Directors are Aboriginal women, our Executive Director is an Aboriginal woman, and we are committed to serving all women who come in conflict with the law, while developing, advocating, and implementing culturally appropriate and women-centred responses to women in the criminal justice system. Our organization is part of a national network of 26 Elizabeth Fry Societies that individually and collectively advocates for, and provides services to, women prisoners and other women who have been criminalized.

The mandate of the Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba is "to reduce the number of women and girls in the criminal justice system."

Some of the programs and services we provide include:

- **Community Outreach Program:** This program assists women and girls who are reintegrating into the community access resources and peer support. We have our Elizabeth's Essentials (Clothing and Household Items Depot), Books for Prisoners Project, preparing and sending packages of clothing to women incarcerated.
- **Housing Unit Rental Program:** The Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba Housing Unit Rental Program implements short-term, emergency transitional housing to women who have been involved in the criminal justice system. The goal of the transitional units is to provide women with safe and secure housing upon release from both provincial and federal correctional institutions. While at the housing units our clients receive assistance in securing stable housing, as well as gain access to supports and programming for healing, recovery and reintegration.
- **STOPlifting Program:** 10-session program that explores the underlying reasons why women shoplift, commit fraud, or breach of trust offenses.
- **The Aboriginal Female Gang Intervention project** provides assistance to Aboriginal female youth who are involved or who are at risk to be involved in gang activities and to leave the gang lifestyle.
- **Birth Control Program:** Condoms are provided to agency clients free of charge. This program operates in partnership with the Manitoba Harm Reduction Network





- Court Support Program: To provide emotional support to clients and their families appearing in court on a case by case basis. A client can make a request to her Counsellor who will arrange a worker to meet with her at the court office located in room 301A
- Provincial reintegration Worker & Women for Change: The program allows participants to identify the cycle of violence in their lives, its causes and effects, and develop safety plans as a means of protection.
- Wonderful Me: 8 week session program that has been designed to address the needs of women who are in conflict or at risk to be in conflict with the law.
- EFS provide one-to-one short term counselling for women from Manitoba who are in conflict with the law.

Our aims are:

- To support women in making the transition from incarceration to community life
- To identify issues and needs for referrals to other support agencies.
- Informational/Educational workshops
- Pre-release consultation
- Advocacy of human rights issues
- Follow up service for release and Institutional Activities coordinated by volunteers who organize educational and recreational activities as well as Mother's Day and December events.





LITERACY PARTNERS OF MANITOBA

Literacy Partners of Manitoba (LPM) believes that literacy is a human right, that literacy is everyone's business, and that all Manitobans have a part to play.

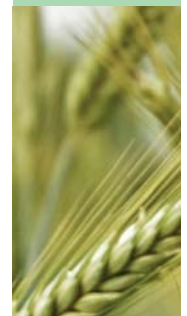
For over 20 years, (1987-2008) LPM has been committed to raising literacy levels in Manitoba. The organization was founded in 1987 as the Literacy Workers' Alliance of Manitoba. It was incorporated as Literacy Partners of Manitoba in 1996.


Literacy Partners is the provincial literacy coalition representing literacy learners, their teachers (practitioners) and our membership (e.g., literacy learners, practitioners, libraries, social service agencies, schools, community clubs, businesses, industry, government departments and agencies, etc.).

We operate a resource centre with a wide variety of literacy materials and resources (approximately 5,000 items). We offer bursaries to support learners and practitioners. We distribute monthly e-bulletins with current information and a bi-annual newsletter *Write On!* which features the writings of adult literacy learners and articles written by practitioners. We educate and inform business, labour, the media, government, and the public at large, about literacy issues.

Three years ago we developed a literacy strategy steering committee. The Premier recommended three members for the committee in response to our request. Also in response to LPM's request two years ago, the province declares September as Literacy Month. It includes International Literacy Day (September 8), Adult Learners Week, LPM's Breakfast of Champions, in partnership with the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce, where the Premier awards the Canadian Federation Medal of Literacy to an adult literacy learner. We meet regularly with the provincial Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy (appointed two years ago) and other key cabinet ministers (Finance, Health, Justice, Family Services and Housing, etc.) as well as members of the opposition to keep them informed about literacy and adult learning issues in the province. LPM is a partner with The Winnipeg Foundation and Winnipeg Public Library in the Literacy for Life Endowment Fund. As a partner with Canwest and the Winnipeg Free Press for the Raise-a-Reader program LPM expects to distribute approximately \$50,000 to family literacy programs in the province through Raise-a-Reader grants. We are in the process of developing the Manitoba Institute of Literacy and Learning (MILL) – the first in Canada. We are actively seeking funds to support The Institute.

Our Board of Directors is a governance board developing policies in accordance with LPM's Bylaws and direction of the membership. Our financial and membership year






runs from September 1st to August 31st. We hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM), usually in November, and elect a voluntary Board of Directors. The head office is in Winnipeg.

MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS

In the mid 1980's, women's shelters in the province began to work together to provide support, increase negotiating abilities, share information and resources, increase public awareness, provide coordinated training of staff and generally, improve services for clients. The organization continued to evolve throughout the 1980's and was incorporated in 1991 as The Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters. In 2007 we became a registered Canadian charity. Membership now includes board members and staff of all ten provincially funded women's shelters. There are also eight affiliate members of MAWS who work in the field of domestic violence. MAWS members are dedicated the elimination of violence against women and children.

We are excited to be presenting on our provincial children's program at the first ever World Conference of Women's Shelters, held in Edmonton, AB September 8th to 11th, 2008. Over 800 women's shelters from across the world are expected to be a part of this exciting conference. You can find out more information at www.womenshelter.ca.

"Global Connections" is a project undertaken by Aurora House in The Pas in conjunction with the Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters. We will be bringing in a collection of over 400 posters, gathered from throughout the world, which were developed to address gender violence. The Project, set for June 21 through July 7, 2008. The collection was developed by Colm Dempsey, a police officer in Ireland. He became so convinced of the need for men to combat the culture of male violence against women that he collected 365 anti-domestic violence posters from around the world, and have been displayed throughout the UK. For additional information contact Dawna Pritchard at auroratp@mts.net. Information on Colm Dempsey and the collection can be accessed on his website www.dvposters365.net.



MAWS is planning to publish our very own history book in the summer of 2008. A volunteer researcher and writer are currently working on the project. We have been around since the 1980's and preserving our knowledge and corporate memory is very important.



MANITOBA CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION

The Board of Directors of the Manitoba Child Care Association has developed a government relation's plan as part of organizational policy. MCCA will work to cultivate a positive and collaborative relationship with all levels of government. MCCA representatives will be open and flexible to new and innovative child care policy directions. MCCA meets with the leaders of all political parties to learn about their priorities, teach them ours, and offer suggestions. MCCA critiques policy direction in a diplomatic and respectful manner.

The child care budget for 2007-2008 was 4% less than requested, meaning very little new revenue for child care services. Some programs will be seriously challenged to balance budgets, maintain financial viability, and provide competitive wages and benefits.

With the assistance of People First HR Services a Market Competitive Salary Guideline Scale for Group Child Care Centres was developed and distributed to our Professional and Child Care Assistant members in November 2007. Ability to pay depends on the amount of revenue generated through the combination of parent fees and government operating grants, both of which are set by the Government of Manitoba. MCCA has recommended the Government of Manitoba enhance funding in the 2008-2009 Provincial Budget, so all licensed not for profit child care centers, and part time nursery schools are able to pay the market competitive wages identified by People First. A complete list of MCCA's recommendations to the Minister of Family Services & Housing is posted at www.mccahouse.org.

Manitoba's first ever accreditation standards for child care centers and family child care homes are complete.

They are posted on the MCCA website.

In November MCCA developed a three-year plan based on a SWOT analysis by members and stakeholders. A report of the outcome will be available in the Spring 2008 issue of Child Care Bridges.

The MCCA 31st Annual Early Childhood Education Conference "Round Up Your Learning" will be held May 29 – 31, 2008, at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg. The keynote speakers will be Michael Bungay Stanier, Cheryl Charles and Bev Boss and





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PRAIRIE WOMEN'S HEALTH RESEARCH CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence (PWHCE) received the good news at the end of March that our core funding has been extended by Health Canada for another year. This year of transition allows PWHCE and our sister agencies to prepare for a "renewal" according to federal guidelines. We thank our colleagues, friends and the PCWM for all your support.

The extension allows us to move ahead with our plans for sharing and disseminating our existing work to help change policy, as well as new research on young Aboriginal mothers' needs, and mental health priorities for Aboriginal women, headed by staff member Brigette Krieg. Federal priorities for all the agencies under the Women's Health Contribution Program (PWHCE included) included gender issues in mental health and gender issues in the physical environment. Lots of opportunities to share with the good work of PCWM!!

RÉSEAU ACTION FEMMES

Réseau action femmes is a non-profit organization with the mandate to improve Manitoba francophone Women's situation at the social, economic, cultural, educational and political levels.

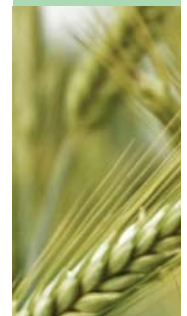
RAF's two main priorities are:

- 1) Lobbying for equality and equity; access to education; economic independence; recognition of acquired skills and French language services
- 2) Awareness through workshops, public consultations and information sessions, lunch conferences and with our annual Francophone Women of distinction awards.

Founded in 1980, Réseau action femmes (RAF) has assisted with the creation of Pluri-elles (counselling and the elimination of illiteracy) in 1983 and also the creation of L'Entre-temps des franco-manitobaines in 1993, a second-step shelter for francophone women.

Current projects:

- RAF initiated a study on the need of a francophone emergency crisis shelter in Manitoba
- RAF also participated in a national study on the needs of caregivers in Francophone communities across Canada
- Getting active on issues such as pay equity, child care, and others...





THE SALVATION ARMY MINISTRY TO WOMEN MANITOBA & NORTHWEST ONTARIO DIVISION

The mission of The Salvation Army leads us to reach out to many people in society, but especially to women and children.

The Salvation Army has been operating in Winnipeg since 1886, working tirelessly to make life better for our city's impoverished. We are the largest non-profit, non-governmental social services provider in Canada.

Some of the programs offered in the Province of Manitoba include:

- **Multicultural Family Centre** - Immigrant women and their families
- **Neighbours Helping Neighbours Energy Assistance Program** - an energy assistance program to help people living at or below the poverty line with emergency financial support for their natural gas and electricity bills.
- **The Anchorage Addictions Program** – a residential treatment program for men and women with drug and alcohol addictions.
- **Prostitution Diversion Program** - to help get victims of the sex trade off the street and into healthier lifestyles
- **SNOW Night (Safe Night Off Winnipeg Streets)** – We worked together with many other groups/organizations to host the first such event to give a safe place for women and transgendered who are at risk of sexual exploitation for a night.
- **Human Trafficking** – We continue to seek to find opportunities to educate people on this subject. We speak to politicians, group & organizations on how they can be involved in stopping human trafficking. Often it is just building public awareness. We have participated in discussions across our country and around the world.
- **John School** - to teach individuals arrested for the purposes of engaging in prostitution the consequences of their actions and the impact on the victims of the sex trade
- **Positive Lifestyle Program** - providing alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders
- **STEP (Special Teaching & Education Program)** - an adult literacy program that teaches reading, writing, spelling, mathematics and basic computer skills in a supportive learning environment.





- **WKRP (Work Readiness & Placement Program)** - works with high needs Employment & Income Assistance recipients, in an effort to transition them into the workforce.
- **Child Care Centre** – a 59 Space Licensed Child Care Centre
- **Family Success Centre** – after school youth programming, mothers and toddlers programs, ladies gathering, Red Cap (an Interactive anger management program geared to 8-12 year olds), "Triple P" Parenting and Family Nights & Community Events
- **Anger Management Program** - The program teaches people how to deal with difficult situations, and provides them the tools to build better communication and conflict resolution skills.
- **Mom's & Kids Camp** – A camping experience that brings both family time and “mom” time during the summer school holidays. Teaching times for all ages, games, family fun activities, family swims, spa day for the women, child care for the babies/toddlers, and programming for the kids right up to the teens. This past year the theme was “Fairy Tales do Come True!”

Other programming includes (though not an exhaustive list):

- Lodging for the homeless
- A Soup Line and Mobile Soup Van to bring food out to those living on the streets
- Support programming for single moms
- Education and support for young new Canadians from war-torn countries
- Programs for adults with mental disabilities

Our local church women's groups are at work within the congregation, and in the community as a whole. Leadership and leadership training opportunities are available assisting women in personal growth. Income generation projects aid local communities and projects in developing nations. There are many programs available in many areas of the province. They range from fellowship gatherings to craft groups to young women gathering to study and share together.

The theme, internationally, for our women's groups is, “Generation Next”, as we consider how to be godly role-models, teachers and protectors of children and young people.

The Salvation Army continues to champion Women in leadership roles. In the Manitoba and Northwest Ontario Division of The Salvation Army we are proud to have the first married women Divisional Commander, Major Susan van Duinen, with her husband, serving under her leadership. Though this has happened historically, it has not happened in more recent history.





UKRAINIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF CANADA MANITOBA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE ANNUAL REPORT

The Manitoba Provincial Executive of the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada (UWAC) was organized in 1934. It is a liaison body between the National office and its 14 branches throughout Manitoba. The National office is presently located in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.


Our funding comes from a percentage of the fees levied by the National Office of the UWAC. We must have fundraising projects on our own to supplement the National funding which together we use to support various worthwhile endeavours.

Aims and Objectives:

- To preserve Ukrainian heritage
- Women's issues: equality, shelters, living conditions
- Provide support and resources to sister organizations
- Promote outreach in the community
- Support Habitat for Humanity Building Blitz
- Air to orphanages in Ukraine and Third World countries
- Address human trafficking

UNITED NATIONS PLATFORM FOR ACTION (UNPAC)

UNPAC has had a relatively quiet year. After delivering to the Manitoba Department of Finance the results of the workshops on gender budgeting held with women in the north, rural Manitoba and the inner city, UNPAC was pleased to learn that the government planned to engage three consultants to work on a training module on gender and diversity for departmental officials, to solicit departments to volunteer to develop pilot projects which could be analyzed with disaggregated data to demonstrate the particular needs of men and women, people with and without disability, aboriginals and non-aboriginals. UNPAC's feedback paper was also shared with all women MLAs. The consultants' report was shared at one of the Lunch Hour programs held by the Manitoba Women's Advisory Committee, and with the NDP Women's Caucus.



A second appearance of *La Femme Fiscale* was held at the annual Budget speech in order to dramatize to the media the particular impacts of the budget on women. UNPAC's set of cartoons featuring *La Femme Fiscale* inviting the *Golden Boy* to take his head out of the clouds and his feet off the pedestal, link arms with her and work for women's equality on areas of need such as housing, child care, public transit and taxes. Fact sheets were also distributed to the media.



An application was made to Status of Women Canada for a third grant to continue the gender responsive budgeting program with its “treetops” work with government and its “grassroots” work with women. The plan involved holding “train the trainer” programs, using popular education techniques, with northern, rural and inner city women. The intent is to spread the messages developed during the second grant and empower local women to communicate their needs and expectations of the budget to their MLAs. Meanwhile, UNPAC would continue to provide general feedback to government. A three year grant was received in March 2008.

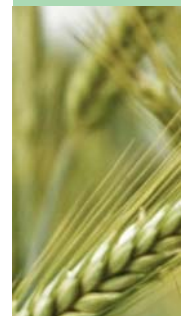
Meanwhile, UNPAC’s Coordinator took pregnancy leave to produce young son Zavi and travel with husband Will. Zavi is now a bonny 10 months old. Perhaps you saw his picture in the Free Press coverage of the 2008 Budget presentation at the Legislature.


UNPAC’s experience with gender responsive budgeting was also presented, along with presentations on child care and gender impacts of the Canadian tax system, at an NGO seminar sponsored by FAFIA during the annual March meetings of the United Nations Commission on Status of Women in New York.

Mary Scott published her invaluable Snippets newsletter, which covers local, provincial, national and international news of particular interest to women, on a regular basis to a steadily expanding audience.

WOMEN’S HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

In preparation for our 25th Year Anniversary in 2009, the Women’s Health Research Foundation of Canada Inc., (WHRFC) has undergone extensive board expansion and development in the past year. It was exciting to participate again in the Manitoba Schools Science Symposium in April where the WHRFC gave awards at several levels for the ‘best women’s health research project’. Our annual competition for the ‘best research project on women’s health’ by a graduate student at the University of Manitoba was hotly contested and the WHRFC Scholarship winner this past year was Mollie Bates a Master of Arts student in the Department of Psychology. Her project examined the readiness and motivation for change in women with eating disorders. The application for this years competition can be found on the University of Manitoba’s web site. This has been a very successful year for fund raising. The response to our Direct Mail Campaign to friends of the Foundation in November was very rewarding. Our “Sizzling Salsa Evening” dinner and dance in February was a blast, enjoyed by all who attended and providing the funds to begin to endow the






University of Manitoba for the Foundation's Scholarship. We are looking forward to a golf tournament fund raiser planned for August 2009. Thanks to all of our 'friends' and volunteers for there continuing support!

THE IMMIGRANT WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION INC.

The Immigrant Women's Association of Manitoba Inc. has been involved in several activities in keeping with its mandate which is to help immigrant and refugee women and their families settle and integrate smoothly in Canadian society. In this regard the following were undertaken

- Summer picnic at Assiniboine Park for immigrant women and their families. About 35 participants showed up. There were hotdogs, hamburgers, games and socializing. It was fun activity.
 - Symposium – Empowering Immigrant/Refugee Women was held in October 2008. There were about 150 participants and about 12 information booths. The full day event at Cross-Ways in common was very successful. There were panel discussions and break out workshops on the following topics: Religion in healing, Economic Security and Family Wellbeing. One of the main recommendations was for IWAM to have this event on an annual basis.
 - Multicultural Expo – March 15, 2008 – This program featured five cultures: Afghan, Sudan, Iraq, Somalia and Iran. Each community presented its culture, shared music and food. There were some 300 participants including men, women and children.
 - Ongoing Challenges and Choices Program. This program provides first and second generation immigrant students to speak about their own settlement challenges and dealing with school and parents to other students to allow both newcomer students and Canadian born understand some of the challenges their fellow students face in adjusting to life in Canada and the hope that things do get better with time
 - Advocated on behalf of immigrant woman facing discrimination on basis of disability
 - Presentation on Immigrant Women and Feminism at North End Women's Centre and providing information about IWAM.
 - Immigrant Women Association sent representatives to many community events including, UNIFEM Annual fundraiser, Congress of Black Women's Conference on Racism, MATCH International event on trafficking in women; the Vietnamese Seniors Group Meeting.
 - Immigrant Women's Association recently rent a space at the lower level on 399 Graham Street that it intends to use as a drop in centre for women.
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APPENDICES



APPENDIX A – 2007-08 PCWVM INCOME STATEMENT

Provincial Council of Women of MB Income Statement 04/01/2007 to 03/31/2008	Year-to-date Actuals 2007-08	Annual Budget 2007-08	Proposed Budget 2008-09
REVENUE			
Revenue from General Sources			
Membership -- Federates	1,280.00	1,240.00	1,400.00
Membership -- Individuals	900.00	900.00	1,100.00
Special Events/AGM	780.00	250.00	1,250.00
Sp Events/Semi-Annual (\$500/2006)	1,315.00	250.00	800.00
Total Revenue from General Sources	4,275.00	2,640.00	4,550.00
Other Revenue			
Grants	5,000.00	7,000.00	1,000.00
Interest Revenue	0.31	0.00	10.00
Miscellaneous Revenue/Donations	440.00	250.00	500.00
Fundraising/Celebrating Women Gala	5,880.00	3,000.00	6,000.00
Fundraising/Celebrating Women Sales	401.31	0.00	50.00
Raffles/Silent Auction	827.00	100.00	500.00
Attic Sales/etc.	105.45	0.00	100.00
Calendar Sales	650.00	500.00	650.00
Total Other Revenue	13,304.07	10,850.00	8,810.00
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>17,579.07</u>	<u>13,490.00</u>	<u>13,360.00</u>
EXPENSE			
Committees & Programs			
Program Expenses	314.62	200.00	400.00
Member/Resolut/Constit/Archives	0.00	450.00	450.00
Urban&Rural/Communications	0.00	300.00	300.00
Poverty/Mental Health	50.00	250.00	500.00
Herstory Calendar Expenses	423.21	450.00	450.00
Celebrating Women Expenses	3,325.94	1,000.00	3,000.00
Oral History Project Expenses	4,247.09	5,000.00	0.00
Total Operating Expenses	8,360.86	7,650.00	5,100.00
General & Administrative Expenses			
Advertising & Promotions	0.00	0.00	100.00
Fundraising Expenses	0.00	0.00	100.00
Business Fees & Licenses	20.00	20.00	20.00
Conference Expenses	0.00	500.00	500.00
Courier & Postage	22.04	100.00	100.00
Copier Expenses	0.00	200.00	200.00
Honorarium Expense	0.00	500.00	500.00
Insurance	707.00	750.00	750.00
Office Supplies	124.88	250.00	250.00
Workshops/Forums	0.00	100.00	100.00
Newsletter Expenses	0.00	0.00	200.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	0.00	0.00	20.00
Rent	450.00	450.00	2,100.00
Telephone	614.12	750.00	750.00
Travel & Entertainment	112.00	500.00	500.00
Internet	381.57	400.00	400.00
Total General & Admin. Expenses	2,431.61	4,520.00	6,590.00
Memberships/Dues	360.00	155.00	180.00
Annual General Meeting Expenses	703.00	500.00	750.00
Semi-Annual Meeting Expenses	435.00	500.00	500.00
Total Other Expenses	1,498.00	1,155.00	1,430.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>12,290.47</u>	<u>13,325.00</u>	<u>13,120.00</u>
NET INCOME/(DEFICIT)	<u>5,288.60</u>	<u>165.00</u>	<u>240.00</u>





APPENDIX A – 2007-08 PCWM BALANCE SHEET

Provincial Council of Women of MB
Balance Sheet As at 03/31/2008

ASSETS

Current Assets

Petty Cash	0.00	
RBC Signature Plus 08067-5045299	9,877.32	
RBC Grant Money Account 08067-50560	2,693.32	
Assiniboine Credit Union #20097796	1,771.78	
Total Cash		14,342.42
Investments		0.00
Total Receivable		
Prepaid Expenses		375.45
Total Current Assets		14,717.87

TOTAL ASSETS 14,717.87

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	0.00

Long Term Liabilities

Total Long Term Liabilities

TOTAL LIABILITIES 0.00

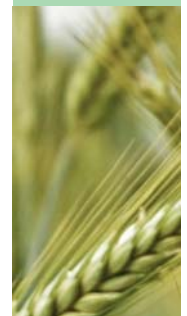
EQUITY

Owners Equity

Retained Earnings - Previous Year	9,429.27
Current Earnings	5,288.60
Total Owners Equity	14,717.87

TOTAL EQUITY 14,717.87

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY 14,717.87





CWW-PCWM COMBINED RESPONSES TO NCWC RESOLUTIONS - MARCH 2008-03-19/20

#1 Appointment of Judges to Supreme Court of Canada

CWW: Amendment to Resolved #2.c substitute wording: “the advisory committee should be composed of representatives from each party in the House Standing Committee on Justice, Human Rights, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness; the Canadian Bar; and the Federal Minister of Justice.”

PCWM: Amendment to Resolved #2.c substitute wording: “the advisory committee should be composed of representatives from each party in the House Standing Committee on Justice, Human Rights, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness; the Canadian Bar; and the Federal Minister of Justice.”

#2 Inadequacies in Income Transfer Programs for Low Income Seniors

CWW: several queries;

Who submitted this resolution?

To who is the word “fair” in Resolved #1 referring?

What is the meaning of “unfairly” in Resolved #2?

Amendment: remove 2.b as confusing the issue of a guaranteed basic with right to save Some favoured putting a cap of \$500/year on ezempt savings amount.

PCWM: 2 several queries;

Who submitted this resolution?

To who is the word “fair” in Resolved #1 referring?

What is the meaning of “unfairly” in Resolved #2?

Amendment: remove 2.b as confusing the issue of a guaranteed basic with right to save Some favoured putting a cap of \$500/year on exempt savings amount

#3 Call for a New National Energy Strategy for Canada:

CWW: Amendment to Resolved #1 - delete words after “... energy strategy balance” and substitute “to ensure resource development occurs within a sustainable development framework.”

Amendment to Resolved #2 – delete words after “,,,national energy strategy for Canada” and substitute “in consultation with environmental groups and other stakeholders. The strategy must reflect the urgent need:

- to protect the environment
- to honour Canada’s international environmental commitments, and”
- to act quickly and decisively once a plan has been developed.”

PCWM: Amendment to Resolved #1 - delete words after “... energy strategy balance” and substitute “to ensure resource development occurs within a sustainable development framework.”

Amendment to Resolved #2 – delete words after “,,,national energy strategy for Canada” and substitute “in consultation with environmental groups and other





stakeholders. The strategy must reflect the urgent need:

- to protect the environment
- to honour Canada’s international environmental commitments, and”
- to act quickly and decisively once a plan has been developed.”

#4 The Need for a National Denticare Program

CWW: clarify that Denticare means “lack of access to preventative, educational and remedial dental health care.”

Amendment to Resolved #1 delete words after “as part of a National Denticare Program” and “and incorporate into the National Health Care Programme.”

Amendment to Resolved #2 add after “.. to develop a National Denticare Program” and add “...incorporate into the National Health Care Programme.”

PCWM: clarify that Denticare means “lack of access to preventative, educational and remedial dental health care.”

Amendment to Resolved #1 delete words after “as part of a National Denticare Program” and “and incorporate into the National Health Care Programme.”

Amendment to Resolved #2 add after “.. to develop a National Denticare Program” and add “...incorporate into the National Health Care Programme.”

#5 Need for Pollutants in Mining Waste to be Reported in the National Pollutant Release Inventory

CWW: New resolved #3: “ Resolved that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to include public scrutiny of the reports and penalties for failure to comply with standards.”

PCWM: Resolved #1 –in last line

Resolved #2 - insert “monitor and” before “protect” in last line.

New Resolved #3: “ Resolved that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to include public scrutiny of the reports and penalties for failure to comply with standards.”

#6 Need for Reform of the Employment Insurance Program - CWW/PCWM both Approved.

#7 Point of Sale Security – CWW/PCWM both Approved

#8 Call for Canadian Support for UN Declaration on Rights of indigenous Peoples – CWW/PCWM both Approved

Updates

#1 Child Poverty and Poverty Reduction Strategies – CWW/PCWM both Approved

#2 Midwifery Services for Canada – CWW/PCWM both Approved

