



PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF MANITOBA, INC.

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Photograph By: Brynn Hughes

2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Presented at the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba, Inc.'s

66th Annual General Meeting

May 10th, 2014 Winnipeg Manitoba

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www.pcwmanitoba.ca

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PCWM Federates 2013-2014

- BPW - Business and Professional Women Clubs of Manitoba
- Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
- Canadian Voice Of Women For Peace – Manitoba Chapter
- CFUW - Canadian Federation of University Women
- CMHA - Canadian Mental Health Association
- CAC - Consumer's Association of Canada - MB Branch
- CWW- Council of Women of Winnipeg
- DAWN (Disabled Women's Network) - Manitoba
- Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba
- Girl Guides of Canada Manitoba Council
- Ikwe-Widdjiitiwin Inc.
- LEAF (Women's Legal Education and Action Fund)
- MAHE - Manitoba Association of Home Economists
- MB/NW Ontario Conference of United Church Women (UCW)
- MATCH International – MB Region
- MAWS - Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters
- MCCA - Manitoba Child Care Association
- MDHA - Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association
- Manitoba Hydro
- MWI -Manitoba Women's Institute
- Nova House Inc.
- Polish-Canadian Women's Federation – Branch 7
- Reseau Action Femmes
- Sarasvati Productions
- Success Skills Centre
- Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada – Manitoba Provincial Executive
- UNPAC (United Nations Platform for Action Committee)
- WFP- Wolseley Family Place
- Women's Health Clinic
- Women Without Borders
- Women's Health Research Foundation of Manitoba

PCWM List of Officers 2013-2014

President:	Sharon Taylor
Past President:	Marilyn McGonigal
President Elect:	Unfilled
Honorary Vice President:	Muriel Smith (Advisor)
Vice President:	Sally Thomas
Recording Secretary:	Eva Beaudoin
Electronic Corresponding Secretary:	Barb Toews
Treasurer:	Aster Abraham
Archives:	Unfilled
Membership Chair:	Maxine Balbon
Resolutions Chair:	Sally Thomas
Communications:	Alberta Johnson
Members-at-Large:	Barb Kendel, Anna Pazdzierski
CWW Representative:	Kelly-Ann Stevenson

Special Committees

Fundraising: Shirley Walker and Maxine Balbon
Roundtable: Alberta Johnson

Annual General Meeting Agenda - May 10, 2014

Society for Manitobans with Disabilities, Winnipeg Manitoba

09:00 - 09:30 REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

09:30 – 10:15 BUSINESS MEETING Welcome and Call to Order

1. Welcome and Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, September 19, 2013
4. Reports: *in written format available for all present*
 - i) President's Report
 - ii) Treasurer's Report
 - a. Acceptance of Financial Report, Budget and
 - b. Acceptance of Auditor
 - iii) Nominating Committee
 - a. Election of Board and Officers for 2014-15
 - b. Induction of Officers
 - iv) Other Reports
5. New Business
6. Announcements
 - i) Board Meeting June 12, 2014 at 5:30pm at SMD
 - ii) Celebrating Women Gala July 8, 2014
7. Adjournment

Photos for outgoing and incoming boards are to be taken at the end of the morning program

10:15 REFRESHMENTS

10:45 PROGRAM

Theme - "Violence Against Women"

Program speakers:

- Karen Busby, Law Professor, U of M "Sex and Reproduction Issues"
- Dr. Michelle Owen, Associate Professor of Sociology, U of W "Violence Against Girls and Women with Disabilities"
- Questions and Discussion

Adjourn 12:00 noon

Brief Biographical information:

Karen Busby, Law Professor, University of Manitoba Faculty of Law.

Areas of interest: Equality law; Human Right to Water; Violence Against Women; Assisted Human Reproduction; Pornography, Expression and Equality; Civil Procedure and Administration Law

Dr. Michelle Owen, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Disability Studies Advisory Committee Chair, University of Winnipeg. Dr Owen has a PhD in Sociology and Equity Studies and her areas of interest include gender, sexuality, disability, chronic illness and family theory.

Annual General Meeting Minutes - September 19, 2013

Society for Manitobans with Disabilities, Winnipeg Manitoba

Registration: 5:30 pm

Dinner: 6 pm

Attending: Marilyn MacGonigal, Betty Hopkins, Lenore Saunders, Shirley Walker, Bonnie Warkentin, Carolyn Garlich, Sally Thomas, Barb Kendall, Kelly-Ann Stevenson, Maxine Balbon, Sharon Taylor, Eva Beaudoin, Leonore Saunders, Getty Stewart, Aster Abraham, Muhammad Sani, Bonni Book
Regrets: Anna Pazdzierski, Barb Toews

Welcome: Presidents Sharon Taylor

Sharon welcomed everyone to the AGM. She then spoke about what PCWM was going to be doing for the next few years through our Strategic Plan and what we want to accomplish. The three areas that we will be focusing on is Advocacy, Diverse Membership and Poverty.

Program

Guest Speaker: Getty Stewart Past President of MAHE.

Business Meeting

1. Call to order
The meeting was called to order.
2. Approval of Agenda
K. Stevenson moved and B. Book seconded acceptance of the agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes of the May 12, 2012 Annual General Meeting were accepted

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Astrid Abraham presented the 2011-2012 Financial Report (included in the Annual Report).

Motion: Aster Abraham moved and Maxine Balbon seconded that the 2011-2012 PCWM Financial Statements be accepted as published. Carried

Motion: Aster Abraham moved and Marilyn McGonigal seconded that the 2012-2013 Budget be accepted as published. Carried

Motion: Aster Abraham moved and seconded by Barb Kendel that Ms. Cicely Valel, be appointed audit the 2013-2014 Financial Statements. Carried

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2013-2014

President:	Sharon Taylor
Past President:	Marilyn McGonigal
President Elect:	Unfilled
Vice President:	Sally Thomas
Honorary Vice President:	Muriel Smith (Advisor)
Recording Secretary:	Eva Beaudoin
Electronic Corresponding Secretary:	Barb Toews
Treasurer:	Aster Abraham
Archives:	Unfilled
Membership Chair:	Maxine Balbon
Resolutions Chair:	Sally Thomas
CWW Representative:	Kelly-Ann Stevenson
Members-at-Large:	Barb Kendel, Anna Pazdzierski

Special Committees

Poverty: Marilyn McGonigal
Fundraising: Shirley Walker and Maxine Balbon
Communications: Alberta Johnson

Motion: Marilyn McGonigal made a motion to adopt the Nominations Report by consensus. Carried

OTHER REPORTS

Motion: All the other reports be accepted as presented. Carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm

President's Report

By: Sharon Taylor



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Members of the Board for your valuable guidance and direction to the PCWM. As this report demonstrates, the PCWM has worked together with the Federates and Individuals members to improve the lives of women, families and communities.

The PCWM critical role that we play as advocates is as important today as it was in the past.

The Federates and Individuals members support to the PCWM continue to make a real difference in our community and assist with hope for a brighter future for all women, families and society.

To say that we live in challenging times is an understatement. The PCWM goal has been to embrace change and jointly develop responsive solutions to the needs of women, families and society.

In the past two years we have designed and implemented a resolution manual, completed a strategic plan, updated our terms of references, updated our brochures, and had Celebration of Women Gala Event and High Tea Events.

As the Board President and my term ends I would like to thank you all for a very rewarding two years. I am truly grateful for the support of many for the past two years. I look forward to continue to work with the PCWM to meet the challenges of the future.

On behalf of PCWM, 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 the distribution of this report, the newsletter and other communications has been invaluable.

Treasurer's Report

By: Aster Abraham

It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge one of our Federate Members, Success Skills Centre, for graciously allowing us to use their Simply Accounting System (Software) for three consecutive budget years, which helped us to generate more accurate and easy-to-report financial statements.

During this budget year, it is worth noting that PCWM has defined and developed its strategic plans, with more focus on advocacy and increase in membership. As can be seen from the financial statements, our revenue from both federate and individual membership was relatively high this year.

In addition, we had two important fund-raising events – Celebrating Women in July 2013 and High Tea in March to celebrate International Women's Day. We also had our Round Table and AGM meetings.

The overall revenue this year was \$13,085.27, as compared to last year which was 13,682.76. On the expense side, our major costs were fundraising expenses for the two above-mentioned events, rent and AGM & traveling expenses to attend the NCWC AGM meeting. So the total expense for the year was \$14,261.51, resulting in a deficit of \$1,176.24.

On the expense side, our major costs were fundraising expenses for the two above-mentioned events, rent and AGM & traveling expenses to attend the NCWC AGM meeting. So the total expense for the year was \$14,261.51, resulting in a deficit of \$1,176.24.

Our Balance Sheet for the year showed \$11,258.97 as Cash at Bank, and \$300.00 as Accounts Receivable from the High-Tea ticket sales.

The budget for 2014 – 2015 shows that our revenue will be \$13,260.00 and our expenses \$15,115.00, resulting in a deficit of \$1,855.00.

Finally, I would like to mention that our financial books for the 2013 - 2014 were reviewed by Ms. Cicely Valel, Administrator at Success Skills Centre, who confirmed that they were in accordance with the Canadian Accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Financial Report

Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba Inc. Balance Sheet As at 31/03/2014

ASSET

Current Assets

Assiniboine Credit Union	5,145.28	
GIC 110012470610	6,113.69	
RBC Signature Plu	0.00	
RBC Grant	0.00	
ACU - Celebrating Women	<u>0.00</u>	
Total Cash at Bank		11,258.97
Accounts Receivable		<u>300.00</u>
Total Assets		<u>11,558.97</u>
TOTAL ASSET		<u>11,558.97</u>

LIABILITY

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable		<u>0.00</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITY		<u>0.00</u>

EQUITY

Accumulated Surplus, Prvious Year	12,735.21	
Current Year Surplus/Deficit	0.00	
Current Earnings	<u>-1,176.24</u>	
Total Equity		<u>11,558.97</u>
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>11,558.97</u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		<u>11,558.97</u>

Generated On: 04/03/2014

Budget Report

Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba Inc.				
Income Statement 01/04/2013 to 31/03/2014				
	2013-2014 ACTUAL		2014 - 2015 ADJUSTED BUDGET	
REVENUE				
Revenue from General Sources				
Membership - Federates	1,320.00		1,600.00	
Membership - Individuals	580.00		600.00	
Special Events/ AGM	440.00		400.00	
Special Events/Semi-Annual	0.00		300.00	
Total Revenue from General Sources		2,340.00		2,900.00
Other Revenue				
Interest Revenue	116.27		160.00	
Miscellaneous Revenue/Donations	110.00		200.00	
Fundraising/Celebrating Women Gala	6,700.00		9,200.00	
Fundraising/Celebrating Women Gala	0.00		0.00	
Fundraising/Hi Tea/related donation	2,450.00		0.00	
Raffles/Rainbow Auction	515.00		0.00	
Attic Sales/etc.	234.00		0.00	
Calendar & Other printed Sales	0.00		0.00	
NCWC AGM Tours/Billing etc.	0.00		0.00	
Round Table Fund-raising/Donation	620.00		800.00	
Mental Health DVD Project/Sales	0.00		0.00	
Total Other Revenue		10,745.27		10,360.00
Total Revenue		13,085.27		13,260.00
TOTAL REVENUE		13,085.27	13,260.00	13,260.00
EXPENSES				
Committees & Programs	0.00		0.00	
Program Expenses	53.05		200.00	
Member/Resolution/Constit/Archives	0.00		150.00	
Urban & Rural/ Communications	0.00		400.00	
Poverty/Mental Health	0.00		0.00	
NCWC AGM & Travel Expenses	1,136.68		1,200.00	
Herstory Calendar Expenses	0.00		0.00	
Celebrating Women Expenses	4,912.60		7,375.00	

Round Table Expenses	904.61		600.00	
Fundraising Expenses (High Tea)	2,380.53		0.00	
Mental Health DVD Project Expenses	0.00		0.00	
Project Expenses	88.75		0.00	
Total Committees & Program Expenses		9,476.22		9925.00
General & Administrative Expenses				
Bank Charges	0.00			
Advertising & Promotions	0.00		200.00	
Fundraising Expenses	0.00		0.00	
Business Fees & Licenses	25.00		25.00	
Conference Expenses	0.00		0.00	
Courier & Postage	41.24		50.00	
Copier Expenses	5.36		10.00	
Honorarium Expenses	0.00		150.00	
Insurance Expenses	0.00		0.00	
Interest & Bank Charges	0.00		0.00	
Office Equipment Expenses	0.00		0.00	
Office Supplies	106.71		110.00	
Workshops/Forums	0.00		0.00	
Newsletter Expenses	0.00		300.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses	458.32		300.00	
Rent	1,818.00		1900.00	
Telephone Expenses	358.36		375.00	
Travel & Entertainment	0.00		150.00	
Internet Expenses	67.05		70.00	
Total General & Admin. Expenses		2,880.04		3640.00
Other Expenses	525.00		0.00	
Memberships/Dues NCWC	684.00		750.00	
Annual General Meeting Expenses	696.25		500.00	
Semi-Annual Meeting Expenses	0.00		300.00	
Total Other Expenses		1,905.25		1550.00
Total Expenses		14,261.51		15115.00
TOTAL EXPENSE		14,261.51		
NET INCOME (DEFICIT)		-1,176.24		-1,855.00
Generated On: 01/09/2013				

Nominations Report

Nomination Slate PCWM Board of Directors - 2014- 2015

Executive Committee:

President : Alberta Johnson

President- Elect: *

Past President: Sharon Taylor

Honorary Vice- President: (Advisor) Muriel Smith

Treasurer: *

Recording Secretary: Eden Friesen

Electronic Recording Secretary: Maxine Balbon

Archivist: Marilyn McGonigal

Administrative Committees:

Membership Chair: Aster Abraham

Resolutions Chair: *

Constitution Chair: Marilyn McGonigal

Communications Chair: Lise Fenton

 Newsletter Editor: Lori Blande

 Web Editor: Jen Dyke

Program Chair: Charly Wriggett

Fundraising Chair: Shirley Walker

Representative from the Council of Women of Winnipeg: Kelly-Ann Stevenson

Members at Large: *

** positions still open*

Acknowledgements

It is a great pleasure to recognize and thank the retiring board and previous members who have served for one, two or more years including Barbara Toews, Barb Kendel and Betty Hopkins, who also continued on board until Christmas, when we were shorthanded. Barb Toews has continued to manage our emails until now. Sally Thomas, our retiring Resolutions Chair has admirably carried the resolutions process and worked in other roles for at least five years after a longer history with the Council of Women and other Committees and we wish her a happy retirement from active duty! We also recognize the contributions of Eva Beaudoin as our recording secretary and other tasks for the past two years, and Anna Pazdzierski who as a member-at-large took on various tasks and organized our AGM in Selkirk two years ago. We thank Mary Scott, recent Board member and former President, for her continued work on our archives deposited in the Manitoba Archives last year.

Continuing on the new board are Sharon Taylor, Alberta Johnson, Muriel Smith (Honorary), Aster Abraham, Maxine Balbon, Shirley Walker, Kelly-Ann Stevenson and Marilyn McGonigal. Strategic planning last fall resulted in a recruiting plan to encourage participation from younger generations of women whose education, skills and interest in women's issues are needed to advance our enduring advocacy goals, particularly in the digital age. We are enormously pleased to add the following new members, who will be setting the agenda and the tone for the coming year or years, namely, Charly Wreggitt, Eden Friesen and Lise Fenton, along with our new President-elect, Alberta Johnson. Alberta came to us via the 2012 Summer Intern project (U. of M.) arranged by Margerit Roger, another recent and highly motivated board member and resolutions chair, in which Alberta researched and interviewed our Federate Organizations and provided the Report on their priority issues and profiles (March 2013). She has been our Communications Chair and has been guiding the development of the PCWM Web site and Facebook page and organized the successful Federate Roundtable Luncheon in February this year.

Finally, I wish to thank the Nominations Committee, Twyla Szoke, Leona McDonald, and Maxine Balbon for all their work putting the slate together.

Nominee Biographies

Position: President

Nominee: Alberta Johnson

Alberta Johnson has a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology and Women's and Gender Studies from the University of Manitoba. She has been involved in the feminist community for a number of years. Through the University of Manitoba, Alberta had the opportunity to co-chair the U of M Amnesty International student group, volunteer at the U of M Womyn's Centre, and participate in the Feminist and Queer Collective editorial board and the U of M students union, UMSU. She became involved in PCWM through an internship funded through the Women's and Gender Studies department in the summer of 2012. In 2013, Alberta joined the PCWM fundraising committee. She is also involved in the Winnipeg arts community, through her employment at Photo Central and completion of the photography program at Tec Voc High School. She has also enjoyed running a summer book club for the past three years and looks forward to what the future holds.

Position: Recording Secretary

Nominee: Eden Friesen

I am a recent University of Manitoba graduate; as of May 2014 I have acquired my Bachelor of Arts degree, double majoring in English and Women's & Gender Studies. In January 2014, I worked as an event/volunteer coordinator for the University of Manitoba's Native Women and Film Festival. As well, I participated as a member of the 2013-2014 Feminist and Queer Collective. As a member of the collective, I contributed to the production of the fifth annual Feminist and Queer Review (an undergraduate publication designed to give voice to feminist and queer issues). Additionally, I worked as a co-organizer for the third annual University of Manitoba's Women's and Gender Studies Colloquium. Outside of my volunteer and academic work, I play soccer in a women's league (both indoor and outdoor), am a recreational (and self-proclaimed) poet, and am a member of a well-managed book club!

Position: Program Chair

Nominee: Charly Wreggitt

Since moving to Manitoba in 2009 for my degree in Women and Gender Studies at the University of Manitoba, I have been actively involved with both the campus community, as well as organizations throughout the city that focus on women's health or pro-feminist values and events. I spent one year as the coordinator of University of Manitoba Students Union (UMSU) Womyn's Centre, where I continued to outreach with other groups on and off campus in the planning of events, marches, protests, vigils, and panels. My work with the Womyn's Centre, as well as through the Feminist and Queer Collective (FAQ), as an editor for the past three years, have provided me with in-depth knowledge and experience around consensus based meetings.

In the spring of 2013 I was represented within UMSU as the Women's Representative, and within Canadian Federation of Students Manitoba (CFS-MB) as the Women's Commissioner. Through both positions I have learned how to work within the structures of Roberts Rules, gaining knowledge and experience on the procedures required. My roles in both councils provided me with access to issues students face across the province, and have provided me with extensive knowledge of the campaigns throughout Canada that continue to better students' educational experiences. With the completion of my degree this spring and the end of my roles within UMSU and CFS, I hope to reach out more to the community of Manitoba and apply my knowledge of feminist academic activism to continue the work of women based groups such as the Provincial Council of Women.

Position: Communications Chair

Nominee: Lise Fenton

After graduating from the University of Waterloo with a joint honours degree in Political Science and History in April 2013, Lise Fenton returned to her hometown of Winnipeg. Lise works at the Winnipeg Folk Festival, where she's had the opportunity to work with 3,000 incredible, enthusiastic volunteers. Lise spends a lot of time thinking about feminism and politics. In her free time she can be found preparing elaborate meals, playing bad guitar, and watching just a little too much TV.

Resolutions Report

By: Sally Thomas

The Resolution Committee researches, writes and edits resolutions on pertinent issues to prepare for their presentation to the PCWM membership and to government. Resolutions may be written by federates, individual members, and/or members of the Resolutions Committee. Resolutions are presented to the PCWM membership at the semi-annual and annual meetings and are voted on to determine which resolutions become PCWM policy. Approved resolutions are often compiled into briefs that are presented to all parties in government. Approved resolutions give PCWM the power to provide commentary on issues to government or the media within the parameters of the policy. To look at the policies that have been written since PCWM's inception go to the PCWM website and look under "Publications."

The annual package of NCWC resolutions was received in January and sent out to federate and individual members, either in electronic or print format. These were all debated at the March 20th, 2014 meeting and the results forwarded to the NCWC Resolutions Chair where they will be further debated at the NCWC AGM. Although only 13 members attended the meeting there was a lively discussion. Results were as follows:

1. Access to Mifepristone (RU486): for Use in Medical Abortions. **Defeated**
2. Employment Insurance Reform Regarding Tips. **Approved**
3. Global Farmland Rush: **Approved with amendments**
4. Banning the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides to Protect Food. **Defeated**
5. One -Third Reduction in Sugar Content in Processed Food, Soft Drinks and Juices. **Defeated**

Letters were sent to Minister Erin Selby, Minister of Health and Sharon Blady, Minister of Healthy Living and Seniors early in December requesting meetings to discuss policy PCWM 2013.3 Insured Pelvic Floor Physiotherapy. After several phone calls asking whether a meeting was in the offing, we received a call over a month ago saying that both ministers are currently doing research on the resolution and they would get back to the council, So far PCWM has not been contacted.

PCWM proposes to do a mini brief to present to the Premier, including the three policies passed at the general meeting in May: PCWM 2013.1 Gender, Food Security and Health, PCWM 2013.2 Affordable Accessible Housing in Manitoba and 2013.3 Insured Pelvic Floor Physiotherapy.

The Resolution Committee is currently working on a resolution regarding access to health care for women with disabilities.

PCWM learned from a Canadian Press report in the Winnipeg Free Press (March 23, 2014) that provincial lottery agencies were banding together to pay a consultant to try to develop a new national lottery aimed at people under 35. These agencies also want to find ways to make ticket-based gambling more attractive to the video-game generation. A letter was sent to the Hon. Ron Lemieux, Minister responsible for Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries and Consumer Protection urging him to stop this initiative immediately. Copies of the letter were also sent to: Cliff Cullen, Progressive Conservative caucus Lotteries critic, Hon. Jon Gerrard, Leader Liberal Party and David Loeb, President, Western Canada Lottery Corporation. This letter and our recommendation are based on a resolution, *Reduction of Gambling in Manitoba*, which was passed by the membership of the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba in March 1996. Members of the Resolution Committee were Carolyn Garlich, Marilyn McGonigal, Muriel Smith, Mary Scott and Sally Thomas. I would like to thank them for their participation.

Membership Report

By: Maxine Balbon

PCWM membership remained constant with 30 federates and 22 individuals paid-up in 2013- 2014. The Round Table held on February 21, 2014, was responsible for a number of new individual memberships and one federate membership. The reduction in paid individual memberships was partly due to the lack PCWM public meetings that usually brought individuals out.

For the past two years, invoices for renewal of federate memberships were sent to all federates in the month of April. This practice has proven to be an effective way of collecting federate memberships in a timely manner.

Thanks again to Alberta Johnson and her communications committee, the update to the website now recruits members by allowing people to see where and how they might get involved with PCWM. The update to the website and being on the social media Facebook gives us a great deal more exposure to those folks who have similar interests, and I am noticing an increase in inquiries about membership.

Fundraising Report

By: Shirley Walker and Maxine Balbon

The Fundraising Committee (formerly the Celebrating Women Committee) in conjunction with the board and federate members of the Council is responsible for planning, developing and producing initiatives to help fund the educational activities of the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba. The major event which helps provide PCWM with funds to continue their work is the Annual Celebrating Women Gala & Fundraiser held each year in July. It is an evening of celebration of the accomplishments of outstanding women and a federate. Entertainment by the jazz band “Nightfall”, refreshments, a Rainbow auction, sale of Celebrating Women Art boutique items and door prizes completed the evening.

Individual honourees for 2013 were: Helen Garrity (Ukrainian Women’s Association), Emily Ternette (DisAbled Women’s Network - Manitoba), Catherine Dunn (Ikwe Widdjiitiwin Inc.), Margaret Haworth-Brockman (Prairie Women’s Health Centre of Excellence). The federate honouree was MAHE– Manitoba Association of Home Economists. Sincere thanks go to the corporate sponsors and generous merchants, federates and friends for their financial support and gifts for the Rainbow auction.



**Celebrating Women Gala
Catherine Dunn (L)
Margaret Haworth-Brockman (R)**

In celebration of International Women’s Day, a high tea was held at the Fort Garry Hotel on March 2, 2014. Entertainment included a reading from Nellie McClung’s



Peggy Barker at the High Tea

memoirs by Peggy Barker, a pianist, selection of the three best hats and a number of door prizes. Sincere thanks for donations from businesses, federates and friends. The next high tea in celebration of International Women’s Day will be held in March 2015.

Other sources of fundraising have been the continued sales of Celebrating Women Boutique items at the Semi-annual, Annual Meetings and other events. The Fundraising Committee welcomes any ideas and suggestions from members and federate groups for other ways and means to raise funds for our programs. Thank you for your continued support over the years.

Communications Report

By: Alberta Johnson

The Communications committee has been working hard this year to boost PCWM's on-line presence and work to maintain existing connections. We have brought on a new newsletter editor Lori Blande, to assist with the compilation of a regular newsletter to advertise PCWM and federate events.

Jen Dyck has stayed on as the web editor after she built the new PCWM website and has worked with us to continue to add information and functionality to the website. We are hoping to continue to shape the website into an information hub for PCWM, while maintaining ease of use. We have added a recruitment component on the website and continue to add newsletters, pictures and event postings throughout the year.

We have also made great leaps to increase our presence on Facebook. We have gained 28 new likes on our page since September 2013. Facebook has provided a platform for PCWM to continue to engage with its membership and can be utilized to advertise events. This is demonstrated by the 240 Facebook users reached through posts on our Facebook page prior to the Roundtable Luncheon. With further maintenance and increased interaction, Facebook can continue to be a valuable tool for PCWM.

It could be suggested that the board discuss whether PCWM should consider more forms of social media to continue to engage the online community, such as Twitter. Twitter is a useful tool to connect with the press to attempt to get coverage for events and other PCWM activities. It should also be considered how our social media presence could be utilized as a form of activism or to help in fundraising efforts.

I would like to thank Lori Blande, our Newsletter Editor and Jen Dyck, our Website Editor, for all of their hard work and creativity this year. I would also like to thank Eva Beaudoin for ensuring the timely distribution of the Newsletter. I would also like to thank Marilyn McGonigal, Maxine Balbon, and Barb Toews for all of their advice and assistance in editing for items produced for the web and the newsletter.

Roundtable Report

By: Alberta Johnson

On February 21st, 2014 the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba (PCWM) held their annual Roundtable Luncheon. For the first time the PCWM decided to open it up to the public. This was in an effort to invite women and organizations previously unattached to PCWM to participate and interact with our federates. We had a total of 62 people in attendance with 16 people being unattached to PCWM. This event was used as a promotion tool for our federate organizations and PCWM as a whole. As a result of the Roundtable, we did have individual and federate membership increase. There was a positive response to the event and its participants.

The feedback included more time to network and more of a targeted theme for federates to come and discuss. This more focused approach would facilitate an interactive activity to discuss solutions or actions surrounding the theme. We look forward to taking this into account when moving forward with the plans for the 2015 Roundtable. The idea of reaching out to potential federates was a success and should be considered for future Roundtables and all future events.

I would like to thank Maxine Balbon and Barb Toews for all of their assistance in this event. I would also like to thank Marilyn McGonigal, Eva Beaudoin, and Lise Fenton for all of their hard work and ideas that went into this event. PCWM would like to thank Women's Enterprise Centre for their gracious donation that made this event possible.

Federate Reports

Manitoba Business and Professional Women's Club (BPW)

By: Colleen Allan

It was the intention of the BPW Selkirk and District Executive that in 2013-2014 we focus on raising the profile of BPW and awareness of issues that affect women in the workplace, educational institutions, and health. The Executive also felt that it was critical to ensure BPW was relevant to issues in our communities. BPW partnered with the various organizations whose mandate also reflected BPW's in their work in the *"improvement of economic, political, social and employment conditions for women."* This year we have engaged in the following activities which have been well received within the community.

The clubs partnered to put on the following events.

Sept. 12th **Stress Management: Your Brain during Stress, presented by Jacki Nagy, September 12th,** at the Selkirk Golf and Country Club, co-sponsored with the Selkirk Biz. There were over 30 participants attending and it was well received.

Oct. 10th Women Entrepreneur of the Year – Co-Sponsored with Selkirk Biz.

This was the second Annual Selkirk Biz and BPW Selkirk and District participated in this event. It resulted in many small business women in Selkirk being nominated for this award. This year's recipient was MJ, as owner and creator of Benjamin's Gourmet Foods.

Oct. 19th **Coats for Adults:** Co-sponsored with Nova House, and the Selkirk United Church. There were over 300 Coats for both men and woman collected by the Sunova Credit Union. Coats not selected were distributed amongst various organizations for distribution, including Nova House.

Dec.3rd **Victims of Violence Walk:** Co-Sponsored with Selkirk City Hall, the Friendship Centre and Nova House. The Hon.Kerri Irvin Ross, the minister responsible for the Status of Women, sent greetings, offering their support for victims of violence. The speaker this year was Elizabeth Rowbotham.

Feb. 21st **BPW International Night:** Co-sponsored by the Gaynor Family Library, featuring the Women for Women of Afghanistan. Miriam Omar showed the video **"Our Cause is Just"**, and looked at the impact of the NATO troop withdrawal, and the wonderful work the organization has done in increasing, despite the tremendous odds the level of literacy and education among women and girls.

March 18th, 2014 **“Generation Y and the New Work Ethic:”** Winnipeg Central and Selkirk and District BPW (co-sponsored by SRWC in Winnipeg and Selkirk Biz in Selkirk) partnered to bring Jeanne Martinson to Winnipeg and Selkirk to facilitate a workshop focused on Jeanne’s latest book “Generation “Y” and the New Work Ethic. Both workshops were eminently successful with over 55 people participating.

March 18, 2013 **Equal Pay Day Proclamation:** The Proclamation, by Mayor of Selkirk, Mr. Larry Johanson, was proclaimed at the Selkirk workshop that was held on March 18th, 2014 in Selkirk.

A letter in support of Equal Pay Day and Women’s Empowerment Principles from the Minister responsible for the Status of Women, Kerri Irvin Ross was also received and read at the March 18th event at the Winnipeg-Central workshop at the Fort Garry Hotel, and the Selkirk Golf and Country Club.

The National initiatives in 2013/2014 were the **“Women’s Empowerment Principles”**, and **“Equal Pay Day”** initiatives. Doris Hall, our past National President, responsible for rolling out and training the Members of the various clubs, in the presentation of WEPS to potential organization and business signatories present at BPW Manitoba’s AGM in June. As well a number of municipal, provincial and federal MP’s, and MLA’s have already signed on.

In June of this year the **Selkirk and District Chamber of Commerce (Selkirk Biz)** became a Signatory for the Women’s Empowerment Principles.

In 2014/2015 each club will continue to obtain signatories as we work towards Gender Equality in the Workplace, and Women’s Empowerment Principles.

Council of Women of Winnipeg, Inc.

By: Kelly-Ann Stevenson

This year the Council of Women of Winnipeg (CWW) has been very active and took some time to celebrate and educate our members. Here are some of highlights.

- In September CWW members of the executive attended the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives of Manitoba Fundraising Brunch – honoured longtime supporter of our Local Council - Muriel Smith. Muriel former politician continues to be active with our Local, Provincial and National Councils of Women. It was great honour to see her receive this well-deserved recognition.
- The CWW has pledged to be actively involved in the municipal Winnipeg election in the fall 2014 addressing issues that affect women, children, families and our community. We kick started our commitment at our General meeting in January 2014 – by having Ms Judy Wasylycia-Leis as our guest speaker – Women of the Front Lines – From Pakistan to Winnipeg.
- CWW has made a commitment to participate in the Nellie McClung Organizing Committee for 2016 Anniversary of Women and the Vote.
- At the February General meeting we had as our Guest Speaker -Molly McCracken Director Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) –Manitoba “Re/Creating the City: Winnipeg Now and in the Future” As the CCPA Manitoba director Ms McCracken is one of Manitoba’s leading sources of progressive policy ideas.

On April 8, 2014 was the first celebration of **Council of Women of Winnipeg Inc. 120 Anniversary**. We hosted a noon hour celebration at Winnipeg City Hall with His Honour Mayor Sam Katz.

On April 16, 2014 the CWW executive and past presidents were invited to attend Manitoba Legislature to hear MLA Deanne Crothers present a private member’s statement –

Deanne Crothers, MLA St. James
April 16, 2014

Council of Women of Winnipeg–120th Anniversary

This year the Council of Women of Winnipeg celebrates their 120th anniversary. I am pleased to have council president Kelly-Ann Stevenson and other members of the council joining us in the gallery today.

The council was formed when 10 Winnipeg women's groups came together on March 27th, 1894 to organize the Winnipeg council. It was one of the first in Canada. The longevity of this organization is a testament to the importance of their work and the strength of their membership. The council is made up of a network of organizations and individuals who work together to pursue common interests on behalf of families and their communities.

In the 120 years since its establishment the Council of Women of Winnipeg has debated issues and advocated public policy on a diverse range of topics. They have long been a leading proponent for the voice of women in public life and have deeply influenced our city and province. They have supported nurses, low-income housing, access to education, home care, as well as fair salaries and employment equity practices. The Winnipeg council was also a founding member of women's model parliament and their early work led to the formation of the Consumers' Association of Canada.

With 120 years of hard work behind them this is just a snapshot of their incredible accomplishments. Today, they continue to advocate the diverse views of their membership. The Winnipeg council is part of a broader network of women's councils which includes the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba and the National Council of Women of Canada. Collectively, these organizations empower, educate and improve the quality of life for women across Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members of the Legislature to join me in thanking the Council of Women of Winnipeg for 120 years of truly incredible advocacy.

Thank you very much.

The celebrations continued - on April 23, 2014 The Manitoba Lieutenant Governor His Honour Philip Lee and Her Honour Anita Lee hosted an evening gala the Government House celebrating the 120 Anniversary of CWW.

Many wonderful pictures of the three events can be found our web site.

Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters (MAWS)

By: Deena Brock

In the mid 1980's, women's shelters in the province began to work together to provide support, increased negotiating abilities, shared information and resources, increased public awareness, training of staff, and improved services for clients. Membership of MAWS now includes nine provincially funded women's shelters and 6 affiliate members who work in the field of domestic violence. All members are dedicated to advancing and maintaining the well being of women and children in abusive situations.

The MAWS annual general meeting was held in September 2013 at the Ramada Viscount Gort in Winnipeg. Speakers included Beth Ulrich Executive Director of Family Services and Labour, Manitoba Status of Women and Arlene Kramble Domestic Violence Intervention Coordinator for the Winnipeg Police Service.

The Winnipeg Foundation grant is part of a large undertaking by MAWS to provide database technology, hardware and training in nine participating Shelters across the province. The new database collects statistics that are an integral piece of the shelters business. Statistics provide awareness of the work undertaken with clients, monitoring trends, fiscal planning, human resources, budgeting, as well as substantiating requests for funds and grant proposals. It will be an ongoing support project for MAWS to help maintain systems and train new staff.

The Community Action Program for Children (CAPC) is a project funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and administered by MAWS. This grant is a funding source that aid shelters to hire and provide children's programming. Residential clients often arrive at the shelters with their children and this programming helps to evaluate, educate and entertain the children allowing the mom's and children to start to heal. Children are often victims of violence suffering vicarious trauma and their needs can get missed. Our children's Counsellors and Activity Workers are trained to watch and work with the children to help them adjust to the considerable changes that are happening in their lives.

MAWS was awarded a grant from the Public Health Agency of Canada to provide training for the Community Action Program for Children (CAPC) staff in the shelters. We were able to schedule our training in sequence with Cranberry Portage Child/Family Resource Centre Inc., so our staff could take advantage of that training as well. Over the course of three days, staff, which included Children's Activity Workers and Children's Counsellors participated in the following discussions and workshops: Mother's Mental Health Toolkit, Punishment vs. Discipline: Foundations of the Positive discipline Approach, Circle of Security, Mothers Standing Strong Together – how to work with CFS and a workshop showing the unique experience of a glimpse into what it might be like to live in a low income family trying to survive month to month called Living on the Edge.

Manitoba Child Care Association (MCCA)

By: Maxine Balbon

In the fall of 2013 the Minister of Family Services announced public consultations on Early Learning and Child Care. What matters to you? MCCA's Board of Directors met with Deanne Crothers on October 28, 2013 and presented our recommendations as follows:

1. A strategy to upgrade and modernize child care that includes new licensed spaces but also:
 - . an available, skilled, early learning and child care workforce
 - . for market competitive wages to address recruitment and retention issues
 - . province wide accessibility to affordable training and professional development to ensure practitioners have the knowledge and skill to keep up with modern philosophies and approaches
 - . available and adequate start-up and operating funds
 - . affordable, purpose built, child care facilities that are easily accessible to parents
 - . strong, effective, governance and skill administration.
2. A multi-pronged consumer protection and education strategy to help parents to be better informed about how to identify and choose quality early learning and child care.

The formal child care system that has served us fairly well for 40 years is at maximum capacity and struggles to respond to the multiple demands and high expectations of the 21st century. For that reason, Manitoba needs to strengthen our child care system with a complete overhaul, or align itself with another system that has the infrastructure and a capacity we lack. Across Canada, 7 other provinces have already recognized the advantages of amalgamating early learning with education and have taken steps to integrate the two solitudes into a single ministry.

The Manitoba Child Care Association and the Child Care Coalition of Manitoba (CCCM) have asked the Government of Manitoba to announce a Commission on Integrated Early Learning and Child Care in provincial budget 2014. It should have the mandate and resources to develop and propose a multi-year plan. The Manitoba School Boards Association and the Brandon School Division are among the first groups to indicate their support. Visit the campaign website at www.manitobachildcare.ca where you can find more information and sign on as a group or as an individual to the open letter.

MCCA is celebrating 40 years of leadership, advocacy, and member services –
1974 – 2014.

- May 30th, 2014, is the anniversary dinner held as part of the MCCA Conference.
- June 14, 2014, is the anniversary pancake breakfast at Harborview Park, 1867 Springfield Road, Winnipeg.
- MCCA's 37th Conference entitled "Wisdom Begins with Wonder" is being held May 29 – 31, 2014, at the Victoria Inn, 1808 Wellington Ave., Winnipeg, MB.

Manitoba Women's Institute (MWI)

By: Donna Young, President Elect

Manitoba Women's Institute is a rural women's organization in Manitoba. We have about four hundred women in twenty-six branches. The Women's Institute is a local, provincial, national and international organization that promotes the well-being of women, families and communities. We empower women to make a difference.

Every year we count upon our members to bring forward things that they want changed in the form of resolutions. We are very proud of our members this year. We have thirteen resolutions to vote on at our Annual General Meeting. They range from semi-automatic weapons to grain contracts to organ donation to rumble strips on highways. It should be a very interesting session.

This year MWI partnered with several different organizations. In January Manitoba Farm and Rural Support Services, Prairie Mountain Health and MWI organized a workshop for health professionals.

Speaking at this workshop was Dr. Michael Rosmann. He is a clinical psychologist from Iowa who deals with the psychology of farmers. It is important for people who work closely with farmers to understand how they think. At the same time MWI paid to have a DVD produced. On this DVD Dr. Rosmann answered twelve questions relating to the same topic. These questions can be viewed all together or broken up into twelve U-tube bites.

Keystone Agricultural Producers Annual General Meeting was held at the end of January. KAP was wondering whether any of the organizations it deals with would like to put up a display table. MWI gladly took them up on their offer. We had a laptop there with pictures and information. We had our banner and a door prize. It was a good learning experience for us seeing as we are considering going to the summer fairs. We figured out what we needed and what we could leave in the office.

Another organization that we partnered with this year was Ag in the Classroom. Some of our members volunteered and visited schools as producers during Canadian Agriculture Literacy Week. It is important that we show our children where food actually comes from. It was really good for the producer as they could see how enthusiastic the children were to learn. We will also be volunteering for the Amazing Agriculture Adventure being held in Russell, Brandon and Winnipeg.

For years MWI has had a special relationship with the International Peace Gardens. This year our national organization the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC) has joined with the International Peace Gardens in presenting a scholarship to one young woman from each province.

Each province is responsible for the travel to get the girls to and from Manitoba. Seeing as MWI does not have that expense we are donating our time and vehicles to get the girls from the plane to the Peace Gardens and back. The Peace Gardens are supplying all the food, lodging, courses and security. For the girls there will be courses in photography, marketing, etc. They will be able to meet other girls from across the country and probably make lasting friendships along the way. This is the first year for this scholarship so we are hoping it will be a tremendous success.

This covers some of the things that have happened to MWI this year. It has been a busy year and a very successful one.

Polish-Canadian Women Federation - Branch NR 7

By: Maria Szymanska, President

We became members of the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba in April 2013 and we are just starting to familiarize ourselves with PCWM missions and activities.

Our organization has the following purposes:

- Promotion and increased knowledge of the Polish education and culture in all its manifestations
- Active and positive participation in the Canadian life and striving for a proper position in the society of Canada
- Striving for equal rights of women
- Cooperation with women's and other organizations in Canada
- Assisting the Polish community morally and materially
- Defense of the interests and good name of the Polish nation

Year 2013 was very exciting and eventful in the life of Polish Canadian Women's Federation. Not only did we carry on with our regular activities but we also celebrated our Golden Anniversary - 50 years of service to Polonia in Winnipeg!

In addition our membership grew from 15 women in April 2013 to 20 women in 2014.

We believe that this is due to our increased presence and visibility in our community.

Some of the highlights of the last year included our participation in a High Tea event hosted by the Provincial Council of Women in Manitoba and the hosting our traditional May 3rd luncheon commemorating the anniversary of Poland's May 3rd Constitution.

Our most time consuming tasks were the preparations for the celebration of our 50th Anniversary. We decided to research our history and present it in the form of a collection of poster boards with each board depicting a chosen theme. Some of these were displayed at our banquet and later at a formal exhibit at the Ogniwio Polish Museum Society which took place from Nov 30 to Dec 14, 2013.

The 50th Anniversary Fundraiser Ball surpassed our expectations. The elegant ballroom at the historic Fort Gary Hotel was spectacular, decorated in red and white colours and filled to capacity with guests. We received greetings from the Members of Parliament Mrs. Joy Smith, MP for East St. Paul, Manitoba and Mr. Wladyslaw Lizon, MP for Mississauga Cooksville, Ontario. Ms Christine Melnick, the MLA for Riel, represented the government of the Province of Manitoba. Mr. Brian Pallister, Leader of the Official Opposition and Mrs. Teresa Berezowski, President of the Canadian Polish Congress sent their greetings. Other dignitaries included the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland in Winnipeg Dr. Wlodzimierz Czarnecki, the Vice President of the Canadian Polish Congress for Central Region Zofia de Witt, the President of the Canadian Polish Congress Manitoba Branch Grazyna Galezowski, as well as Mrs. Aleksandra Kosinska, Vice President Western Region of the Polish Canadian Women's Federation and Mrs. Halina Madej, President of the Polish Canadian Women's Federation Branch 3 in Edmonton. Representatives from Provincial Council of Women in Manitoba: Bonnie Siemens, Maxine Balbon and Shirley Walker were also in attendance

The entertainment portion of the evening consisted of an eclectic program with an international flavour. It included a classical repertoire from Tregve John Ringereide, a tenor of Norwegian background, vocalists Miroslaw and Katarzyna Nawrocki, Hungarian dance group the Kapisztran Folk Ensemble and our Polish Alumni Dancers who opened the ball with a very graceful Polonaise dance. The guests danced the night away to vocal presentations of Studio M-1 Singers and the music of Mr. Boleslaw Lucki as DJ. Popular opinion was that it was a very memorable evening indeed, one that will be talked about for some time.

Since our mission includes charitable works and cultural retention, we decided to donate the proceeds from the Silent Auction to Villa Rosa, a home supporting young mothers and their babies as well as for scholarships for students attending the Polish Saturday School.

Réseau Action Femmes

By: Gisele Roch

Réseau action femmes celebrates 25th anniversary of Prix Réseau They celebrated four remarkable women in the community at its annual awards gala of the Prix Réseau on March 30, 2014. The Awards ceremony was opened with greetings and a message from the very first awardee of the 1988 inaugural event - the historian and esteemed professor, author, Jacqueline Blay. Brigitte Allain - Carrière from the francophone Métis community of Saint-Laurent, MB was recognized for her gentle but tireless efforts to advance development in her community- from co-founding the community day care centre, to designing the francophone Métis awareness program for elementary school curriculum as well as for her generosity of spirit, sharing and guiding whenever opportunities present themselves. Sara Fournier was nominated by the Conseil jeunesse provincial in recognition for her involvement in that youth organization for the past 7 years, including this past year as past – president. She is also a strong debater in the Francophone Youth Parliament -of which she has been elected Prime Minister. She began her community involvement with the Francophone Games and was involved as assistant chef de mission to the Canada Jeux de la francophonie in 2005 & 2008. She is currently working at graduating from Social Work at Université de Saint-Boniface.

Réseau action femmes also recognized Françoise Uwamariya, ED of Directeurat de l'activité sportive de Manitoba. Françoise has shared that in her country of Ruanda, she was quite the maverick because she enjoyed so much getting out to play. She did her chores and her homework quickly and then spent as much of her time as possible playing and practising sport - challenging cultural and gender roles and expectations. She pursued a career as a phys - ed teacher and eventually received a Masters degree in Administration of Sport in France. She arrived in Winnipeg seven years ago and soon found a role to share her expertise and passion promoting physical activity for all ages and specifically for seniors and youth, with a special attention to the needs of newcomer youth and girls in particular, be it swimming or skating! Hundred of youngsters benefitted from the summer sports camp in a dozen rural communities last year. The fourth woman that received a Prix Réseau was Dr. Susan Prentice, a Francophile who has studied the language of finance to communicate to Chambers of Commerce and municipal councils that good quality child care is as important an investment in our communities as roads and bridges if we want to ensure the communities not only survive but thrive. Early childhood education needs to be part of an economic development strategy. Sociology professor at the University of Manitoba, Dr. Prentice founded the Manitoba Child Care Coalition which promotes quality child care environment for children, parents and the staff. She is a respected researcher and international speaker.

Réseau action femmes was delighted at the mix of generations and the diversity of folks who came out to celebrate the achievements of this years' recipients. Among the guests were also six of the seven winners of Réseau's second edition of its writing contest – high school students, three adults and one senior received their prizes. Réseau action femmes hopes to publish a booklet of the writings to share with literacy programs, newcomer programs and at community or school libraries to encourage communication and integration into French-Canadian society.

Sarasvati Productions

By: Hope McIntyre

Sarasvati Productions is an independent theatre company dedicated to using theatre to promote human understanding. We're named after the goddess of inspiration and great change, which reflects our desire to work with artists and the community in order to address relevant social issues. We had a very successful 2013/14 season in terms of fulfilling our mandate to use theatre to create social change. *FemFest 2013: Revelation & Revolution* ran from September 14-21. At this year's festival we welcomed a diverse line-up of artists to Winnipeg as well as nationally acclaimed playwright Djanet Sears as guest artist. FemFest continued the tradition of supporting local female artists with the world premiere of *Harold and Vivian Entertain Guests* by emerging artist Jessy Ardern. The festival also saw the culmination of workshops to create a new play by and about youth in care. Workshop presentations of *Giving Voice* occurred at the festival and allowed for feedback. This show was created in partnership with VOICES: Manitoba's Youth in Care Network. Overall, we are very proud that FemFest continues to provide an important showcasing opportunity for female theatre artists who are underrepresented in Canadian theatre and that the festival is able to work closely with the community to highlight important issues.

Following the festival we did test runs of *Giving Voice* in selected high schools in preparation for a full tour in the fall of 2014. The response was overwhelming and the goal of the show, to educate youth about what their peers who end up in Child and Family Services experience, was realized. We then celebrated International Women's Week for the 10th time with our Cabaret of Monologues running from March 3 to 8. With a goal to share the diverse voices of women, we put on a series of ten monologues about young women's experiences under the banner *Rise Up!*. It was a great way to support young playwrights while also learning how young women view themselves. We performed some of the monologues in several community venues, including U of W, U of M, West Central Women's Resource Centre and a fundraiser for Nova House, as well as two performances of the whole line-up for a sold out crowd in a theatre setting. Again we were pleased to see that the pieces led to dialogue, awareness and a chance for female artists to take the stage.

We were excited to do a reading of Margaret Laurence's work at the 30th Anniversary Celebration of the Margaret Laurence Endowment Fund at the University of Winnipeg. It is such a joy to be asked to share the work of great writers at community events.

Finally our season will wrap up with *Fefu and Her Friends* by Maria Irene Fornes from May 22 to June 1 at historic Ralph Connor House (University Women's Club of Winnipeg). Featuring a cast of eight local female performers it is an excellent showcase for artists and we are very excited about its unique setting. Although written in 1977 by a Cuban American playwright, the piece continues to be a timely look at how women repress their feelings and desires in order to meet social expectations.

In addition, we continue to offer mentorship opportunities with both training and workshops targeted to emerging artists.

Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada (UWAC)

Manitoba Provincial Executive

By: Helen (Olena) Garrity

The UWAC was officially organized in Saskatoon on December 26, 1926. There are five Provincial Executives of UWAC WITH 63 Local Branches in Canada. The Manitoba Provincial Executive of UWAC was organized November 12, 1934. The purpose of the Provincial Executives is to maintain and strengthen contact between Local Branches and the National Executive of the Association.

UMWA – Manitoba maintains a membership and participates in the following organizations:

- Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba Inc.
- Manitoba Provincial Council of Ukrainian Canadian Congress
- Ukrainian Museum of Canada – Manitoba Branch
- National Ukrainian Self Reliance League

Our vital concerns are:

- Women's Shelters
- Living conditions of low income families
- Child Poverty
- Humanitarian Medical aid for Children and Youth in Ukraine
- Human /trafficking in Canada and Abroad

The UWAC in conjunction with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Winnipeg invited Victor Malerek to speak on the subject "Sex Trade Exploitation" at the Church fellowship luncheon.

On another occasion we invited Joy Smith – MP for Kildonan – St. Paul to speak on the topic "Sexual Exploitation of Women and /Children." Joy Smith is Canada's leading anti-human trafficking advocate. On June 6, 2012 the Canadian Government launched "Canada's National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking."

The highlight of the NAP's implementation is "We must all work together to end human trafficking in Canada and to ensure the citizens and youth of our country are safe and secure.

Wolseley Family Place

By: Sharon Taylor

Wolseley Family Place (WFP) is a non-profit, community-based family resource centre which serves families with children living in the inner city of Winnipeg. This neighbourhood is known for its violence and crime, alcohol and drug misuse, substandard housing and poverty. However, WFP and its community partners apply a strengths based approach to addressing the needs identified by local individuals.

The overall goal of WFP is to provide a community-based continuum of education and service to families 'at risk'. WFP recognizes that the health of families is linked to the conditions of their lives and to their ability to influence these conditions. WFP works with families to assist them to develop the information, skills and confidence that they need to care for them and their children. WFP affirms the right of all families to self-determination within their own culture, spiritual and social context, and endeavors to link the program with others who share these goals.

The work of WFP is guided by principles that focus on building supportive relationships, facilitating growth, respecting diversity, and furthering community development. WFP facilitates social support, co-operation, and collective responsibility by offering education, information, activities, material support, and other resources to families across a number of program areas. Program areas include parent/child education, family preservation, child care and development, health and safety issues, food and nutrition sessions, recreational activities, life skills and awareness workshops, employment support, community development, literacy programs, and leadership development. WFP evolves in response to the evolving needs of the community.

Vision

WFP envisions healthy families living in the core area with equitable access to holistic social and health services that are appropriate to the community's needs.

Mission

WFP offers holistic community-based services to help bridge the gap between existing services and the needs of this at-risk community.

Guiding Principles

To focus on prevention, harm-reduction, and the promotion of wellness and optimal development (a family strengths perspective vs. a deficit perspective)

- To deliver a participant-driven and focused-delivery service model
- To provide services that is holistic, flexible, voluntary, available, and accessible
- To practice inclusion in how we reach out and to whom, how we work and who we hire
- To promote cultural sensitivity and respect for individual values
- To emphasize interdependence and mutuality
- To strongly commit to empowerment and community development

Who we serve:

In the past year Wolseley Family Place served # of families and visits. Our families' demographic characteristics are:

- 95% of the children are under age 6
- 65% are aboriginal
- 20% are refugees
- 75% are on social assistance
- 92% have a gross annual income of less than \$19,000
- 70% have not completed high school
- 90% are single parents

Our Message

Social justice is the foundation of Wolseley Family Place. It is the belief that each person has value. It is a process which we can all engage in through the pain and all the joy. In our present work, it is about making the invisible woman visible and to be treated with respect and dignity. Here is Wolseley Family Place's invisible woman.

She is an incredible woman, who will not ordinarily be recognized for the outstanding accomplishments of her life, for the work she does under the extreme circumstances in which she lives. She is a woman who has taken herself along an incredible journey and who provides the resources for her children to undertake a similar journey. Her contribution to the upbringing of the future generation is immeasurably significant and the state of the future generation is, in turn, highly significant to all of humanity. Her story reflects the reality of many women, indeed, women of the world, women who also will never be formally recognized under ordinary circumstances.

This woman's achievements are outstanding in that they were accomplished despite the enormous barriers that she was forced to face and overcome in her quest to succeed. The uniqueness of her achievements is apparent when we look at those barriers and realize how indomitable, how extensive, and how pervasive they are in her life, and when we realize just what it must have taken for her to overcome those barriers.

This woman's very life provides a challenge for those who don't face similar barriers in their own life. Her accomplishments stand up as a sample of the enormous power a woman can wield.

This woman walks her path and leaves her life open to the awareness of others. She does not proselytize or pretend to know other people's answers. She does not set herself up as a model for others, but by simply living her truth, she serves as a guide for other women.

This is the Invisible Woman Made Visible. This is a story of social justice. It is the belief that everyone has value. Regardless of a person's circumstances or level of need. We believe in the practice of inclusion.

Inclusion means to us:

- recognizing and honouring our mutual dependence,
- knowing ourselves and our place in the world while being able to listen to, respect and empathize with another's different experience,
- opening our hearts to meet ourselves and others where we are at, and
- being in relationships where we both provide and receive support.

Programs and Services

Attendees and Attendance:

10977 adult participants 18487 adult visits 1536 children 6950 children visits

Social Support:

Social support is absolutely central to the welfare of any society. Social support at WFP refers to the infrastructure that must be in place for individuals and families to "plug in" to the social services, community events and a basic connection that is essential to a happy and well-adjusted life. If not connected we believe that families would be isolated and this isolation may lead to deep alienation, depression and even psychosis in the long term.

We provide an environment of nurturance, informational assistance, a sense of belonging and guidance. It is about having empathy, concern, trust, acceptance, encouragement. It is the warmth and nurturance provided by peers and staff. It is about the participant knowing they are valued and a sense of belonging.

We are also able to provide material goods or services such as our clothing depot, free laundry and access to a phone, emergency food and food bank.

WFP provides guidance, suggestions and useful information and services to assist with the potential to problem solving.

Art in the Kitchen

Art in the Kitchen uses the creative process of art making. It is the about self-expression. There are multiple media used such as drawing, painting, sculpture and other art forms.

WFP Health and Social Services:

Nurse Practitioner and Prenatal Classes served 802 participants.

1. Nurse Practitioner
2. Health Educator
3. Prenatal Instructors
4. Prenatal and Postnatal Sessions
5. Student Placements and Volunteers

Our health services is about learning experiences assisting with the opportunity to acquire information and the skills needed to make quality informed health decisions. It is about improving knowledge and developing life skills which are conducive to individual and community health.

The Health Educator encompasses topics of environmental health, physical health, social health, emotional health, intellectual health, alternative health and spiritual health. The Doulas facilitate Prenatal Classes throughout the year to the future parents of the understanding of the physiology of birth and emotional needs of the pregnant woman. They assist the woman and her partner in preparing for and carrying out her plans for birth.

The Nurse Practitioner focuses on prevention, wellness, and patient education. She comes once a week. She is qualified to diagnose medical problems, order treatments, prescribe medications, and make referrals for a wide range of acute and chronic medical conditions.

Student Placements and Volunteers:

Student Placements students provided 12 awareness workshops/sessions throughout the year with 134 participants. A work placement can be a period of practical and professional work which can be undertaken as part of their course at university. Our student placements have been nursing students, social work students, architect students, RRC students and private education institutions students. All placements give the students practical hands on experience.

Healthy Start and Mom and Me

In partnership with Healthy Start we provide educational & friendly drop-in sessions for pregnant women and families with babies up to a year old. It is informational sessions on:

- pregnancy and labour; weight gain; eating during pregnancy; discomforts during pregnancy;
- Alcohol, drugs, stress; breastfeeding;
- delicious, healthy snacks & cooking tips; up-to-date nutrition information; easy & healthy recipes
- outreach workers, nurses and dietitians
- One-on-one support with other concerns such as health, family, housing etc.
- connections to other community resources
- coupons for milk, (and other items as possible)
- feeding your baby
- breastfeeding help and support
- baby's development, health, safety, & parenting

WFP Playroom and Parenting Services

Playroom Stats: # of Children=1536 # of Visits=6950

Our playroom nourishes every aspect of children's development. It forms the foundation of intellectual, social, physical and emotional skills necessary for success in school and in life. "Hewes, 2006"Play nourishes every aspect of children's development. It forms the foundation of intellectual, social, physical and emotional skills necessary for success in school and in life. "

Our early childhood education focuses on children's learning through play. Our belief is centered on the "power of play". Play meets the physical, intellectual, language, emotional and social needs of children. Our centre builds on the child's interests which will influence the development of skills. Positive stimulation early in life improves learning, behaviour and health into adulthood.

Parenting Education

Six parenting program sessions serving 63 families/caregivers

Our parenting classes assist parents/ caregivers gain the problem-solving techniques that are necessary to deal with situations that they might face when it comes to raising a child in a healthy way. Throughout the year we have had various parenting classes:

Handle with Care; How to Talk so Kids will Listen; Triple P; Parents Exploring Anger; Nobody's Perfect; One on Ones; Play Therapy

Wiggle, Giggle and Munch

41 sessions 418 children

Wiggle, Giggle & Munch is a drop-in program that offers parents and their toddlers and preschoolers two hours of active play and a healthy snack. The program is designed for families who face multiple barriers—families who, for any number of reasons, are least likely to have access to resources about physical activity and healthy eating.

Respite: We offer child care for parents and caregivers that need to take some time for themselves. The Children are supervised by qualified child care staff.

Family Special Events: 8 events 282 Participants

Family events are about parents having fun with their children. Families that play together stay together.

- Safe Kids Week (Concussion Prevention); Edible Garden Project; Tinkertown, Halloween, Winter Celebration at Whyte Centre; Family Literacy Day; Snow Ball; Payless Shoe Shopping Trip.

Music Circle 15 session's 175 participants

Our Music Circle is the use of music and all of its facets—physical, emotional, mental, social, aesthetic, and spiritual—to connect with the parent and child in a fun way.

New Realities: New Realities is a strength based program that works with the whole family that may be affected by violence and substance abuse. New Realities works with the whole family. The coaches focus on assisting the participant find answers to the questions, "What do you want?" and "How are you going to get it?" Once the participant has a clear idea of their goals, they work together to formulate a plan to help him or her reach them. The participant is not a person with a problem to be treated in the eyes of the coach. Instead, they are a person who can look forward to achieving the kind of life they want, with their coach's help and encouragement. New Realities is to keep the participant focused on the future with encouragement while being accountable working towards their goals.

Food Connection is a pre-employment training program to prepare contract workers for employment in the future by developing and enhancing their work skills and abilities. There are four components: Catering, Community Store, Breakfast Club and Cooking Class.

Cooking Class is an introduction to nutrition as it relates to health and health promotion. We cover topics such as food use and hygiene; personal nutrition and a healthy diet; and prevention of chronic disease. We had 154 people attend cooking class.

Catering is a service that brings cooked and prepared to a particular event location in the community. This year we catered \$31,293.60 worth of events.

The Community Store is operated by contract staff on a need per basis. We stock the store with individual sized items; lunch items; personal items; and canned goods. These items are provided at cost to WFP participants.

Breakfast Club – 339 people attended breakfast club.

Contract Workers have prepared items like veggie omelets, French toast with fruit, fresh fruit smoothies and hash browns for breakfast. Apart from providing a free, fresh and well balanced meal to start the day, Breakfast Club is an opportunity for women to gather in a safe environment to share stories.

Winnipeg Harvest – 479 accessed this program this year

Emergency Food – 134 people accessed this program this year.

Celebrating 15 Years

Wolseley Family Place had a celebration of our 15 years in the community. There was entertainment by our local schools and participants. Throughout the years there have been thousands of individuals, thousands of children, thousands of families that have been part of Wolseley Family Place. The event was a tremendous success with over 350 people from all walks of life in attendance.

Partnerships:

WFP partners with Government, Churches, Private Donors, Foundations, Individual Donors, and Business. And of course one of our most important partners: the families and their children.

Women Without Borders

By: Jacqueline Wasney

Women Without Borders (WWB) is a committee of the Women's Ministries Network of Sparling United Church. Our main goals are to advocate on behalf of women's justice issues while providing education to ourselves and others on the issues that impact the quality of daily life for women both locally and globally.

This past year, we viewed the film "The Dark Side of Chocolate" and, through worship and discussions, examined our responsibilities as consumers in making informed purchase decisions as well as understanding and supporting the efforts of global fair trade initiatives.

With the help of a guest speaker from the Manitoba Schizophrenia Society, we examined women's mental health issues and learned about the community resources available to individuals and families.

In support of our long-term relationship with the TERF program of New Directions, we prepared and delivered to TERF 30 Christmas gift baskets for the students. On an ongoing basis we are also preparing house-warming baskets for students as they newly settle into an apartment or the TERF housing.

Thank you to everyone who attended and assisted with the events of the past year. Another exciting year is in the works!

About PCWM (Appendix A)

Vision

A world with gender equity and equality, environmental sustainability, respect for human rights, peace and democracy.

Values

For present and future generations, we believe in:

- Strengthening and supporting women
- Human rights and dignity
- Reproductive choice including informed choice and accessible options
- Social justice – equity, equality, inclusion and diversity
- Environmental sustainability
- Peace
- Democracy
- A non-partisan approach.

Our Strengths

- There is strength in numbers and unity. Federate groups, sharing a common interest in issues, have the opportunity to grow through networking with others member organizations.
- An inclusive, diverse, independent and objective organization with a focus on serving the interest of women, families and communities.
- Federate organizations, regardless of size, have equal rights on Council. Each federate appoints an official representative. All members of federates are welcome to attend all general meetings as they are considered members of Council.
- Individual memberships are also available.
- We are part of a National and International Councils of Women.

When We Meet

The PCWM board meets every month on the first Thursday except July and August, or at the call of the president. PCWM general meetings are usually held on the third Thursday evenings in Sept or October and January. On the third Thursday of March we vote on the resolutions presented by the National Council of Women that will be considered at their AGM in June. Traditionally In February a Round Table Luncheon is held for Federate Organizations to network and meet other members and friends. The semi-annual Meeting is usually held in November and the AGM in May. The Celebrating Women Gala, held in July, honours extraordinary women in the community is a highlight for membership and an opportunity to raise funds for our work.

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Manitoba Status of Women.