



FEB 25 1993
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ANTIGONISH WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE
Ms. Tara Calaghan
Co-Chair
204-B Kirk Place
219 Main Street
Antigonish, Nova Scotia
B2G 2C1

To all members of your group:

Since my arrival at the Department of the Secretary of State last January, one of my priorities has been to secure the renewal of the Women's Program. Today it gives me great pleasure to inform you firstly, that the Program has been renewed and secondly, that the renewal is on a permanent basis. Attached is a copy of the news release announcing the renewal.

Over the past twenty years, the Women's Program has enabled many groups like yours to make considerable progress towards equality and equity for women.

Now, many of the issues pursued by women's groups are among the social and economic concerns of all Canadians.

By granting permanent status to the Women's Program, the Government of Canada is affirming its commitment not only to promoting, but also to achieving equality and equity for Canadian women.

Although substantial advances have been made, there still remain many challenges for us to confront. In the current economic climate, I think the time has come to draw upon all available resources and form new partnerships in order to accelerate progress towards equality.

My staff in the Women's Program and I look forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions in the coming months about how we can make this partnership approach a reality. I also look forward to exploring with you, creative ways to work together as well as in our respective milieus.

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I would like to take this opportunity to inform those groups who have submitted applications for program funding for the fiscal year beginning on April 1 that they will soon be receiving confirmation of the amounts allotted. In addition, you have my commitment that the first instalment of your grant will be sent to you very soon.

In closing, I want to thank you for your support and your constant efforts to further our common objectives, and to give you my best wishes for International Women's Day.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Monique Landry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Monique" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Landry".

MONIQUE LANDRY

encl.



NEWS RELEASE/COMMUNIQUE

S-02/93-034

WOMEN'S PROGRAM RENEWED ON A PERMANENT BASIS

OTTAWA, February 25, 1993 — The Secretary of State, the Honourable Monique Landry, today announced the renewal of the Women's Program on a permanent basis.

Created in 1973, the Program has been, for the past 20 years, the primary federal source of financial and technical support to women's and other voluntary organizations working towards equality and equity for women in Canada. This support and the work of the groups have resulted in great progress for Canadian women.

Many of the issues which women's groups have brought to public attention are now recognized as social and economic concerns of all Canadians. Renewal of the Program on a permanent basis demonstrates the government's commitment to working towards women's equality in partnership with Canadian women over the long term.

Aware that women's full participation in Canadian society is fundamental to the country's social and economic development, Madame Landry feels that the time has come to involve all the stakeholders in taking responsibility for further progress on women's issues.

"Now that the Program has been established permanently, I intend to explore, together with women's groups, the possibility of partnerships with all sectors of society," explained the Minister. "Fostering women's equality will be beneficial to Canadian society in both social and economic terms," she added.

Women represent more than 50 per cent of the population and must be given the chance to contribute fully to the nation's economic performance. "With International Women's Day on the horizon, I believe now is the time to confront the challenges of the future with renewed vigour and even keener focus than ever," concluded Madame Landry.

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Information: Isabelle Hudon
Executive Assistant
Office of the Honourable Monique Landry
(819) 997-7788

Canada



COMMUNIQUÉ / NEWS RELEASE

S-02/93-034

RENOUVELLEMENT PERMANENT DU PROGRAMME DE PROMOTION DE LA FEMME

OTTAWA, le 25 février 1993 — La secrétaire d'État, M^{me} Monique Landry, a annoncé aujourd'hui le renouvellement du Programme de promotion de la femme sur une base permanente.

Créé en 1973, le Programme représente, depuis déjà 20 ans, la principale source fédérale d'appui financier et technique octroyé aux groupes de femmes et aux organismes bénévoles qui travaillent à obtenir l'égalité et l'équité pour les femmes au Canada. Cet appui et les efforts des groupes ont permis aux femmes canadiennes de réaliser de grands progrès.

Plusieurs des dossiers que les femmes ont portés à l'attention du public sont devenus des questions d'intérêt économique et social pour tous les Canadiens et toutes les Canadiennes. La permanence du Programme témoigne de l'engagement du gouvernement à travailler pour l'égalité des femmes de façon continue, en partenariat avec les femmes.

Consciente que la pleine participation des femmes est essentielle au développement économique et social de la société canadienne, Madame Landry croit qu'il est temps de faire appel à tous les intervenants pour qu'ils partagent la responsabilité du progrès futur des questions touchant les femmes.

«Maintenant que le Programme de promotion de la femme a été renouvelé sur une base permanente, j'ai l'intention d'explorer les possibilités de créer des partenariats avec tous les secteurs de la société, a expliqué Madame Landry. Favoriser l'égalité des femmes aura des retombées positives pour la société canadienne tant sur les plans économique que social», a-t-elle ajouté.

Les femmes qui représentent plus de 50 p. 100 de la population doivent avoir la chance de contribuer pleinement au rendement économique du pays. «Avec la Journée internationale de la femme à l'horizon, je crois qu'il est temps de faire face aux défis de l'avenir avec une énergie renouvelée et des objectifs plus précis que jamais», a conclu M^{me} Landry.

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Renseignements :

Isabelle Hudon
Adjointe exécutive
Bureau de l'honorable Monique Landry
(819) 997-7788

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