

ANTIGONISH WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE
annual report 1986-87

submitted to: Antigonish Women's Association
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ANNUAL REPORT

Introduction

The Antigonish Women's Resource Centre will close on June 26, 1987 for the summer and reopen in September, 1987. The 1986 - 87 year was a busy and exciting year at the Resource Centre. Many diverse and interesting public education events were offered by the Centre for the membership and general public. During the past year the resource materials in the library were used widely by the public in particular by students. Calls and visits continue to increase as the reputation of the Centre grows.

On November 3, 1986, Diane MacKinnon was hired as Assistant Co-ordinator. Diane's contribution to the planning and implementation of programs, and the running of the Centre has been valuable. As Assistant Co-ordinator Diane is involved in all aspects of the Centre's activities, which aids in the delivery of a consistent and high quality program.

The Women's Resource Centre moved at the beginning of April. Thanks to Dona Landry and Lucy Falconer the move did not unduly disrupt the work of the Centre.

Monthly Calls and Visits to the Women's Resource Centre from September, 1986 to June, 1987

The following monthly breakdown gives an indication of the in-house activity of the Centre. The statistics include only calls and visits related to information sharing. Meetings and workshop participants are not included in the monthly statistics. The nature of the contact is not itemized - a more indepth breakdown can be obtained from the Centre's

log book. During 1986 - 87 the main areas for request of information were legal and social service. Occasionally calls were received which related to employment, housing parenting and health. Nevertheless, the major need as expressed by the women who visit the Centre is for information on their rights as they relate to the law and social services.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Calls</u>	<u>Visits</u>
September 1986	87	87
October, 1986	111	59
November, 1986	109	62
December, 1986	57	39
January, 1987	87	41
February "	69	48
March "	74	48
April "	69	67
May "	72	79
June "	<u>85</u>	<u>94</u>
TOTAL	820	624

Last year's totals were 529 calls and 369 visits, thus this year's totals have increased by 291 calls and 255 visits.

Public Education Events

<u>Event</u>	<u>Type of Event</u>	<u>Facilitator</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Parenting Adolescents	6 series workshop	Janine Granchelli	12
Assertiveness training	4 hr. workshop	Marie Armstrong	15
Challenges to Women in Nova Scotia	3 hr. presentation	Peggy Mahon	25
Organizing Women in India	2 hr. presentation	Fiona Thomas	10
Stress Management	4 hr. workshop	Dr. Leah Nomm	15
Feminist Law Reform	2 hr. presentation	Christine Boyle	8
Women and the Xtian Church	2 hr. presentation	Dr. Joyce Kennedy	63
Women in the 80's	5 series lecture	Maureen MacD Dr. Sandra Kirby Dr. Joyce Kennedy Dr. Jane Gordon Mary Clancy	10

<u>Event</u>	<u>Type of Event</u>	<u>Facilitator</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Awareness Day * on Campus and presentation	6 hr. display 2 hr. lecture	Star LeVatte Dorothy Gilson	- 65 to 70% of student body - 32 for lecture
Life for Women * in the Phillipines	2 hr. discussion	Rita Cherrinquin	7
Rape Workshop *	3 hr. presentation	Star LeVatte Dorothy Gilson	6
Conversation on * Abstraction	2 hr. presentation	Ilze Bergins	22
D.E.S.	2 hr. presentation	Pam Cathcart Theresa Constantine	5
Life for Women in France	2 hr. presentation	Dr. Janet Stark	12
Superwoman Syndrome	2½ hr. presentation	Dr. Leah Nomm	14
Housing Workshop *	6 hr. workshop	Repre. from the N.S. Dept. of Housing, Co-op Housing, St. F.X. Extension	
Faces of Feminism Pam Harris	3 week Art Exhibit		
			TOTAL 280

* The events marked with an asterisk were co-sponsored by the following organizations:

Naomi Society - Awareness Day on Campus
- Rape Workshop

Changing Voice of Women - Housing Workshop

Canadian Catholic Organization for - Life for Women in the Phillipines
Development and Peace

Continuing Education Program, St. Francis Xavier University

N.S. Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Fitness

Lyghtesome Gallery Conversation on Abstraction - Ilze Bergins

Community Liason and Other related Activities

The longterm success of the Women's Resource Centre depends on the

communities' perception of the Centre. To this end, myself and Diane attended and participated at a variety of meetings and conferences during 1986 - 87. As well, we sit on numerous committees as representatives of the Antigonish Women's Resource Centre. Following is a list of conferences and workshops we attended this year.

Home Care Consultation

Regional Meeting on Family Violence

Hands to End Violence Against Women

Canadian Congress for Learning Opportunities for Women

Annual Meeting

Women and Housing Workshop

Women and Addiction Workshop

As a representative of the Antigonish Women's Resource Centre I am a member of the Monitoring and Assessment Committee - Dept. of Social Service. This committee was established by the Minister of Social Services as a result of complaints made to his Dept. concerning the delivery of service in the local office. The committee meets monthly and since its inception the local office of the Dept. of Social Services has improved its service. The rapport that the Resource Centre now has with the local office is good and many women have been assisted this year through our efforts.

Myself and Avon Burkholder (a member of the Association) are members of the local Advisory Council of the CEIC. We were asked to participate on the council by Lawrence O'Neill M.P. The council has been inactive this year but in June of 1986 myself and Avon prepared a brief for the council

on the training needs of women in the area. A copy of the brief is available at the Centre.

Diane MacKinnon and myself are also members of the Women's Committee, The Board of the Naomi Society for Battered Women. The initial task of the Women's Committee was to work with Dorothy Gilson in the preparation of a grant application to Secretary of State. A final grant application was submitted in May. We will continue to work with the Women's Committee responding to queries from Secretary of State as they arise. The terms of reference of the Women's Committee does not relate solely to grant application therefore the work of the Committee will be ongoing.

This year the Canadian Congress Learning Opportunities for Women (CCLOW) created a Provincial Network to improve communication with member groups. I am the Antigonish representative on the Provincial Council of C.C.L.O.W. The Council meets twice a year to review, assess, and make recommendations to the Provincial organization.

Occasionally, staff at the Resource Centre are asked to attend meetings within the community to discuss a particular issue or the work of the Centre.

In January of 1987, the Dept. of Social Services called a meeting on behalf of the Kinsmen to explore the needs for second stage housing in the area. A representative from the Resource Centre attended, the concept is still being explored but to date the money is not available.

In March of 1987, the Catholic Diocese installed a new bishop. I met with Bishop Campbell in April to discuss the goals of the Association and

of the Antigonish Women's Resource Centre. I would also like to remind you of two upcoming events, the Annual Coady Picnic will be held at Crystal Cliffs on August 12th beginning at 5 p.m. As in past years members are encouraged to come and bring food and refreshments. The Annual Meeting of the Antigonish Women's Association will take place on September 10th at the Tin Room of the Coady, beginning at 7 p.m. This year we are pleased to have Debi Forsyth-Smith a special speaker and the meeting will be followed by a social.

Sincerely submitted

Star LeVatte-O'Neill
by Star LeVatte-O'Neill