

POLICIES ADOPTED 1972

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72.1 Need for Consumer Education Films

Whereas, Consumer Education films available to Canadians are scarce and outdated (i.e. old model cars and long skirts); and,

Whereas, The present National Film Board catalogue offers films mainly in the areas of agriculture and health; and,

Whereas, There are many other areas in today's economy which should be considered; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Minister of Consumer Affairs to consider producing more up-to-date films, film strips, slides and tapes on consumer education, especially on topics such as the real cost of credit buying to the consumer.

72.2 A Year's Service to Canada

Whereas, There is a need to inculcate patriotism and an appreciation of our heritage in Canada; and,

Whereas, Our youth require training in good work habits; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada request the Government of Canada to give an opportunity to youth to contribute, voluntarily, one year of service to Canada, without phasing out present programs of naval, army and air cadets.

72.3 Occupational Training for Adults Program

Whereas, Information on the Federal Occupational Training for Adults Program does not reach women outside the labour force; and,

Whereas, There is a need for part-time training programs to be instituted and to be widely advertised; and,

Whereas, Full-time household responsibility is not equivalent to participation in the labour force in so far as eligibility for training allowances is concerned; and,

Whereas, Existing policies and practices tend to perpetuate occupational segregation by sex; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada support Recommendations 79, 80, 81 and 82 of the Report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada and urge the Government of Canada to implement them immediately.

72.4 Appointments to the Senate and the Courts

Whereas, The Royal Commission on the Status of Women sees a social pattern in which women are overlooked because it is not customary to consider them as possible appointments, rather than rejected through conscious policy, that results in eliminating women from important offices; therefore,

RESOLVED, That a greater number of qualified women from each province be summoned to the Senate as seats become vacant, and that women continue to be summoned until a more equitable membership is achieved; and, further,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada request the Government of Canada to appoint more women judges to courts within its jurisdiction.

72.5 Student Loans

Whereas, Part-time students cannot qualify at present for student loans; and,

Whereas, Married women are excluded except through their husband's endorsement; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada, in co-operation with the provinces and territories, to extend the present system of student loans to include part-time students; and, further,

RESOLVED, That a married person be permitted to apply on the same basis as a single person where they are now denied this opportunity.

72.6 Re: Bill S-20, An Act to Amend the Criminal Code

Whereas, The Canadian Bill of Rights, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the United Nations Declaration on the Political Rights of Women, which extend equal status before the law and an equal right and duty to participate in all processes of government to men and women alike, bind the Canadian Government to eliminate discrimination against women wherever possible by legislative action; and,

Whereas, Senator Muriel Ferguson's Bill S-20, An Amendment to the Criminal Code (Jury Service for Women) passed third reading in the Senate and has been introduced into the House of Commons, calls for an amendment to the Criminal Code, to legislate for equality in jury service for men and women in cases under the Criminal Code of Canada; and,

Whereas, In the procedures involved in compiling jury lists and in the final selection of jury panels there are practices that prevent women appearing on juries in proportionate numbers, even when women are already by law entitled to serve on juries; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada request the Government of Canada:

1. To amend the Criminal Code to extend jury service to men and women on an equal basis in criminal cases, and,
2. To take measures through legislation or regulation to ensure that the procedures employed in the jury listing and selection process should prohibit systematically or deliberately excluding any groups from the jury panel on account of race, marital status, sex, political or religious affiliation or economic or social status, and,
3. Jury duty will carry a fee of \$20.00 per Diem and said fee to rise according to the cost of living index.

72.7 Sewage Treatment Facilities

Whereas, An increasing proportion of the growing population of Canada is moving to the larger urban areas; and,

Whereas, These dense population centres will increase the waste load on the receiving waters where sewage is not effectively treated; and,

Whereas, To improve the quality of Canadian waters, a greater number of advanced treatment installations is necessary; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada:

1. To include in the provisions of the National Housing Act financial incentives for the construction of advanced sewage treatment facilities;
2. To refuse to grant loans for collector systems or sewage treatment projects unless they maintain a high level of quality of effluent entering the receiving waters; and,

3. To establish national water quality objectives.

72.8 Prevention of Waste of Natural Resources

Whereas, Industrial states are built upon the concept of continued economic expansion; and,

Whereas, This factor has resulted in wasteful misuse of natural resources; and,

Whereas, Our natural resources are finite; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Provincial Councils to request Provincial Governments to develop measures which will prevent wasteful use of such natural resources, and to develop alternate concepts of economic stability to bring man into harmony with his environment; and, further,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada, in consultation with the provinces and municipalities, to research the development of effective methods of waste retrieval and re-circulation.

72.9 Day Care Centres

***Note: There were no "Whereas" clauses included in the Year Book for this Resolution**

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to amend the National Housing Act to:

1. Permit the making of loans for the construction, purchase, and renovation for builds for day care centres; and,
2. Permit the inclusion of space for day care centres in housing developments, including university buildings, for which loans are made under the Act.

72.10 Policy on Day Care for Children of Working Mothers

Whereas, A study based on a 1967 survey estimates that 21% of the mothers in Canada with children under 14 years of age are in the labour force; 51% of these mothers have children under six years of age; 26% have children under three years of age; and 10% of these mothers are the sold-support of their families; and,

Whereas, The quality of care received by the children of working mothers when the mother is away is of primary importance for the child's physical and mental health and development as well as being a primary factor in the mother's ability to perform adequately in the paid labour market; and,

Whereas, Good day care is especially important for younger children whose mothers must work for economic reasons, and for children who are economically and culturally deprived, those with physical and mental handicaps and those whose mothers are incapacitated; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada request the Government of Canada to undertake the immediate formulation and implementation of a national policy of support for the provision, expansion, and improvement of day care services in Canada, and to make provision for them to become an integral part of a home-help, child-care service industry subject to the regulations, controls and incentives of other bona fide industries to provide an alternative service for work now being performed within the home.

72.11 Poverty and the Sole-Support Parent

Whereas, Sole-support mothers with dependent children represent a major category among the nation's poor; and,

Whereas, The welfare of the said dependent children suffers immensely, and society has a moral obligation to alleviate the physical and mental strain in the said sole-support parent situation; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada request the Government of Canada to implement with top priority a guaranteed annual income to be paid to the heads of all one-parent families with dependent children.

72.12 Vagrancy and Victimized Women

Whereas, The vagrancy sections of the Criminal Code open the door to arbitrary application of the law by the police and place women under the potential control of the police; and,

Whereas, Vagrancy and prostitution are fundamentally social and not criminal problems; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada request the Government of Canada to repeal the vagrancy sections of the Criminal Code; and, further,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada request the Government of Canada to provide an adequate fund to support facilities and programs designed to rehabilitate female prostitutes and to prevent young girls from

becoming prostitutes.

72.13 Status of Women Council

Whereas, Continuing study of the position of women in society and continuing efforts to secure equal opportunity will be necessary for some years; and,

Whereas, Continuing appraisal of the effectiveness of programs put into effect to bring about equality of women in the economy will also be necessary; and,

Whereas, Continuing initiative in identifying new needs and formulating new proposals to ensure progress in this area will require permanent liaison between governments at the federal, provincial, and international levels, and between governments and voluntary organizations; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada request the Government of Canada to implement Recommendation 166 in the Report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada:

“That a federal Status of Women Council, directly responsible to Parliament, be established to:

1. Advise on matters pertaining to women and report annually to Parliament on the progress being made in improving the status of women in Canada,
2. Undertake research on matters relevant to the status of women and suggest research topics that can be carried out by governments, private business, universities and voluntary organizations,
3. Establish programs to correct attitudes and prejudices adversely affecting the status of women,
4. Propose legislation, policies and practices to improve the status of women, and
5. Systematically consult with women’s bureaux or similar provincial organizations, and with voluntary associations particularly concerned with the problems of women.”

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

72.14EM Emergency Resolution: Import and Sale of Firecrackers

Whereas, The careless or irresponsible use of firecrackers constitutes a serious menace to life, limb and property, and,

Whereas, Three provinces in Canada now ban the sale and use of firecrackers – Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In other provinces their sale and use is controlled, or not controlled, by municipal by-law, therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada through the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources to implement immediate legislation under the Explosives Act to ban throughout Canada the importation and sale of firecrackers.

72.15EM Emergency Resolution: Drug Use – Second LeDain Report

Whereas, We believe there is sufficient reliable expert data available to demonstrate the deleterious effects of marijuana (cannabis), and,

Whereas, Both medical and law enforcement authorities have opposed legalizing marijuana, and,

Whereas, Both of these groups are in constant contact with cannabis users (see evidence linking juvenile crime and drug use), and,

Whereas, Research into the laws and practices of the 71 nations who are signatories of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, all of whom have come to the conclusion that the use and trafficking in drugs, including marijuana, is deleterious to the individual and society alike; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the National Council of Women of Canada ask the Government of Canada to refrain from any action on legalization of marijuana until the Government has done much more extensive scientific and social research.

As this resolution was in part a reiteration of national policy it was agreed that the Committee of Officers formulate a statement. The following statement was submitted to government:

“That this convention go on record as reiterating Council policy, which policy includes: rehabilitation rather than punitive measures; no criminal record for users; severe penalties for trafficking; establishment of research and treatment centres.

That the National Council of Women of Canada ask the Government of Canada to refrain from any action on legalization of marijuana until the government has done much more extensive scientific and social research.”