

JUN 13 2003

Josee Corrigan and Anne Russell West Kootenay Women's Association 420 Mill St Nelson BC V1L 4R9

Dear Josee Corrigan and Anne Russell:

I am looking forward to meeting with representatives of women's centres on June 20, 2003, in Vancouver. I have received the report, titled, "Herstory, Risk and Survival of BC Women's Centres," from last November's forum of women's centres, and will review it prior to the meeting.

As you know, we are in the final year of provincial government funding for women's centres. I would be interested to know what you have done in your community to ensure sustainability after the termination of provincial funding. Particularly, I would like to know what organizations you have approached and how you are attempting to increase integration and coordination of women's services in the community.

To demonstrate my continued commitment, I have asked staff to make the provincial ProvNet phone service available to women's centres for three teleconferences. In addition, staff will compile and provide information regarding funding, skill building and business development resources for those who request it.

Again, I am looking forward to meeting with your representatives to discuss women's centres' plans for the future.

Sincerely,

Lynn Stephens Minister of State for Women's Equality

Ref: 96566

Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services Minister of State for Women's Equality Mailing Address: Parliament Buildings Victoria BC V8V 1X4

Location: Parliament Buildings Victoria