

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
SECRETARIAT D'ÉTAT2nd Floor,
1525 West 8th Avenue,
VANCOUVER, B.C. V6J 1T5.

16th April 1974.

Ms. Virginia Clover,
President,
Trail Status of Women,
310 Montcalm,
TRAIL, B.C.

Dear Virginia:

Thanks for your letter of April 6th. It was one of several we've received from B.C. Women's groups who were disappointed that they were not invited to the Kamloops workshop consultation. We could have easily added 20 or more groups to the list of invitees but such a sized meeting would not have allowed the informal format that our office planned for. As it was, we still had to divide into smaller discussion groups.

I, and perhaps others, would have preferred more time for all to be together rather than being split into a number of groups. I apologize for not inviting Trail but I must have misunderstood the role of the West Kootenay Status of Women Council's function. We invited a representative from there believing that it was the umbrella group for your area and that the representative from the W.K.S.W. would be able to carry information back to all of the West Kootenay status groups. If we were mistaken, please let us know. Anyway that's the past and I am more interested in future plans for meetings.

It was strongly desired by all those attending that there should be opportunities for women's groups to meet, exchange ideas and have contacts with other groups. So may I suggest that the Trail Status of Women get together with Susan Charlton and Marcia Grosshard (both attended the workshop) and other women's groups and plan a regional workshop for the East and West Kootenays. You could approach our Department for help

in such a project - you could invite representatives from women's groups from other parts of B.C.-Yukon so there could be an interchange of information as you stated in your letter.

I can foresee such meetings happening in Northern B.C.; Okanagan and Interior; Greater Vancouver and Fraser Valley; Island and the Coast - so that women in those regions might also have an opportunity to exchange views, ideas, etc. In addition people might consider putting together a provincial conference for International Women's Year, 1975. Let me know what you think of such an idea.

One other thing - we are hoping to have a summer student compile a much needed up-to-date list of women's groups in B.C.-Yukon. If you know of other groups, please send us contact names and addresses. As you know, it is a never-ending chore to keep track of people and addresses, as it seems participants are ever-changing and moving. In two or three weeks, we will have copies of Kamloops Consultation notes available. Write our office if you would like a copy.

Looking forward to your reply....

Sincerely,



Carole Anne Soong,
Field Representative.

cc: Susan Charlton
Marcia Grosshard
Arlene Ommundsen
