

A S S O C I A T I O N

FINAL REPORT SUBMITTED TO MWE

Thea Trussler, Interim Coordinator of the Women's Centre, finalized and submitted a final report to the Ministry of Women's Equality this week summarizing work completed during the past three months. The report addressed issues of concern including financial and staffing stability of the West Kootenay Women's Association, and summarized the results of an internal review conducted during March by our consultant Julie Garrison.

A new balanced budget has been submitted to MWE based on the current level of funding. Due to a number of factors including the new funding received from the BC Gaming Commission to hire a volunteer coordinator, donations received from members of the community, and new lower monthly mortgage payments, WKWA will be financially stable for the upcoming fiscal year.

New viable job descriptions are underway for two coordinating

positions: an administrative Women's Centre Coordinator and a people-oriented Volunteer Coordinator. The administrative coordinator will focus on creating written policies and procedures and an administrative infrastructure for the Women's Centre, with the goal of enabling the centre to be run by a single coordinator if funding for a second coordinator is not available in future years.

The internal review identified a number of areas which will require attention in the upcoming months. Among them are: Women's Centre health, safety, accountability, and liability, and the creation of communication and confidentiality policies and procedures. Work on these policies and procedures has already begun, and draft policies have been reviewed by the CC and submitted to MWE.

Plans are underway for a health and safety audit in April, and, a new

policy for conducting criminal record checks for staff and volunteers is being implemented.

The hiring of a second coordinator will enable work to begin on recruiting new volunteers, training volunteers and the Coordinating Collective, developing new programs and support groups, fundraising, and ongoing review of current services.

Based on this work, a new workable contract will be created with MWE for continued funding of WKWA.

Draw Winners*
Congratulations

1st prize package: DONNA MCDONALD
2nd prize package: FELICE DAVIS

- our *
- ^ pledge / donation draw. Winners receive *
- packages of gifts from a variety of local *
- businesses: *
- * 3rd prize package: MARION WILKINSON *
- * The winner of a framed photograph by *
- Fiona Spalding Smith (a separate draw for *
- donors who contributed \$120 or more) *
- * was: JESSICA MANLEY. *
- if Thanks to all donors and contributing *
- businesses. J

WKWA Financial Report

Strong support was received by the membership to keep the house at 420 Mill Street A new 1 year open mortgage has been negotiated with the Nelson & District Credit Union with an exceptional interest rate of 8.25%. A lump sum pay-down was made to the principal of approximately \$ 7 0 0 0 (thanks to about \$3600 received in lump sum donations and some retroactive rent for the 1999 fiscal year received from the BC Gaming Commission). Our monthly mortgage payments have now decreased by about \$100.

Our new fiscal year began as of April 1, 2000, and a new viable budget has been submitted to M W E .

Thanks to all members who contributed to our recent fundraising efforts. Recent support has enabled us to eliminate our deficit. Fundraising efforts will continue as W K W A require ongoing community support in order to function.

T U P P E R W A R E

West Kootenay Women's Association news published by:

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The *West Kootenay Women's Association News* is published 7 times a year, on the following dates: Feb 1, Apr 1, May 15, July 1, Sept 1, Oct 15 & Dec 1

Deadlines for submissions are: Jan 15, Mar 15, Apr 30, Jun 15, Aug 15, Sept 30 & Nov 15 respectively.

Please bear with us - our newsletter is under construction as we just acquired a new staff computer and are learning how to use it. Our old staff computer (also a Pentium) has replaced the old slow computer in the library, and can be used during drop-in hours for internet access.

F U N D R A I S E R

The Nelson and District Women's Centre is holding a Tupperware Fundraiser on Tuesday, April 18 from 7:00 pm until 9:00pm at 420 Mill St. A percentage of sales from the event will be donated to the Women's Centre, as well as bonuses provided for those who book their own Tupperware demonstrations. Door prizes will be drawn throughout the evening, and a Tupperware Microwave demonstration will take place at 8:00pm sharp. Bring a friend, bring your broken Tupperware, have some fun and learn how to cook in your microwave! Please call Thea at 352-9916 or Susan at 226-7751 if you have any questions.

W K W A G A R A G E S A L E

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

420 MILL STREET

8 A M — 1 P M

TO BENEFIT WKWA AND THE WOMEN'S CENTRE

ANYONE WITH ITEMS TO DONATE FOR THE SALE CAN DROP THEM OFF AT THE CENTRE DURING DROP-IN HOURS (TUESDAY TO FRIDAY 12-4PM).

ANYONE INTERESTED IN HELPING OUT WITH SORTING GOODS OR SELLING THEM ON THE 16TH SHOULD CONTACT EILEEN PEARKES AT 352-6373.

INTERESTED IN A PLANT TABLE? IF YOU'D LIKE TO COORDINATE A MINI — PLANT SALE, PLEASE LET EILEEN KNOW.



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WKWA will be hiring two coordinators

Updated job descriptions are currently underway for two coordinator positions. The CC is working to have both coordinators in place on or before July 1, 2000.

One position is funded by the Ministry for Women's Equality (MWE) for 28 hours per week. The job description for this coordinator will primarily focus on administrative tasks related to running the Women's Centre and establishing administrative policies and procedures for the centre.

The second position is funded by the BC Gaming Commission for 26 hours per week for 40 weeks. This person will be responsible for volunteer coordination, recruitment and training, as well as community outreach for the Women's Centre and WKWA.

A hiring committee is currently being formed, and additional help is needed. Please contact the Women's Centre if you're interested in becoming a member of the hiring committee.

Watch for job postings if you're interested in applying for either of these positions.

Mother Earth Music festival

Friday April 21

At the Procter Hall

During the past 6 months a lot of publicity has highlighted our financial crisis. The community response has been very positive and supportive. To continue our fundraising momentum, we are offering a day of music, dance, food and information. Our daytime events are family events. Festivities commence at 11am. Admission fees of only \$5 per adult and \$2 for children 6-12 will be collected at the door. Children under 6 are free. Our line-up of performers will appeal to a wide array of tastes:

11am: Ashala will offer a wonderful Belly Dancing workshop and will perform with the rest of The Tribe at approximately 2pm.

Noon: The Peppermill Bluegrass Band and the Women's Bluegrass One-oh-One Band

1 pm: Dianne Taylor and her blues trio

2pm: Belly Dancing with The Tribe

2:30: Jan Van Gold, local folk guitarist

3:30: Catherine McGrath with her unique and celebrated accordion music

4pm: Lana, beloved folk artist of the Slokan Valley, will perform some of her original work

5pm: The daytime family events will end on an upbeat note with favourite local band Mushana Marimba

There will be a 2 hour break from 6-8pm to set up the hall for the evening event. The Village Cafe and Pizza in Procter are preparing for the large numbers of people who will be seeking dinner before the evening show. They are a licensed establishment. The owners, Tom and Becky, have offered to donate a portion of their profits from the day to the Women's Centre.

The highlight of the day will be the licensed evening event. Tickets are \$ 15, and proof of age is required. Mama Drum, music festival favourites from Northern BC, will be the opening act. The performance will begin at 8pm. Their music is primarily percussion with original lyrics and a danceable energy.

The musical peak of the music festival will be a performance by The Wyrld Sisters. They are a Canadian favourite and are best known for their songs "Farewell to Clayquot Sound", "My Memory", and

environmental and women's groups. They have a style that ranges from blues to folk to country. Some of their music is very danceable, some is melodic and heart-felt.

The day's events are priced with the hope that most people can attend. Those who can contribute more to our fundraising cause will have the opportunity to pledge, donate and/or become members of the West Kootenay Women's Association.

Tickets for the evening show are available at the Nelson & District Women's Centre. Eddy Music. Still Eagle, and the Procter General Store.

Anyone interested in setting up craft or community information tables should contact Thea at the Women's Centre, 352-9916. Tables are available during the daytime events, and the cost is \$ 15 per table. Women and men are needed to volunteer for set-up, clean-up and food committees. Donations of food for the concession can be taken to the Women's Centre, 418 Mill St., on Thursday, April 20 from 12-4pm.

Let's celebrate Easter weekend, the eve of Earth Day and the first music festival of the season in style in Procter! Canada's oldest rural women's centre wants to dance well into the 21st century!

LIBRARY REPORT by Heather McSwan

One of the books I'm reading is Naomi Wolfs *Fire with Fire*, an excellent book published in 1993 - as is usual for me, I'm either ahead of the times or behind, rarely in synch.

I haven't finished it all, but I will, and recommend it to anyone. I thought the subtitle *The New Female Power & How it will Change the 21st Century* was somewhat far-reaching. However, she proposes a changed way of looking and thinking, and examines previous evolutions of feminism. She speaks of "power feminism" and provides a documented basis upon which to build a more encompassing form of feminism. "Wolf offers concrete strategies for a revitalized, positive, and inclusive brand of feminism that does not divide women by class or sexual orientation." An extremely thought-provoking book that spoke to what I needed to hear, and also what I didn't want to hear. Suggested reading for anyone.