

Submitted  
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# Women's education counselling

by Vita Storey

In the next decade adult women students will form the major educational market, educators predict. The number of part-time students is steadily increasing and today 61 per cent of all part-time community college students are women.

These women tend to be older, have family responsibilities, and view education as a preparatory phase to entering the labour force.

Women, by choice or absolute necessity, now form 40 per cent of the labour force in BC.

Male-oriented educational institutions are organized around the needs of the traditional full-time students

who devote that period of their lives to a singular goal, to learn a vocation in as short a period of time as they can manage.

But what of the needs of the "non-traditional" student - the single-parent woman who has other responsibilities besides her studies or the woman who has been a homemaker all her life and now has to prepare herself for the labour market? Her needs are different.

She may want career counselling to enable her to make feasible choices, information about day care, financial assistance, what courses are available to her.

She may need support and advocacy in working her way through the educational bureaucracy.

She may want special courses that present an alternate way of viewing herself and the role she plays in society, courses that are designed to examine her experiences in a male-dominated world.

The Women's Access Program is

available to provide these services and programs, help overcome the barriers and prejudices women experience at

college, provide support and make the college more responsive to the needs of women learners.

## WOMEN'S ACCESS PROGRAM

a program funded by  
Selkirk College to provide:

information

counselling

vocational & life planning

courses of interest to women

### DROP IN!

Nelson Women's Centre

307 Yuron St., Nelson

Phone 352-0816 Tuesdays

Volunteer Exchange

33 Pine St., Castlegar

Phone 365-2413 Mon. Wed. Thurs. Fri.