

The Honourable Gerry Weiner
Minister of State
Rm 511-S, C.B.
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ont.
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Weiner,

We are writing to express our concern about the granting of \$21,000 to R.E.A.L. Women for their conference "Equality Revisited".

We understand that the mandate of the Women's Program is to improve the status of women, and to do this in the areas of economic equality, social justice and participation and access.

R.E.A.L. Women do not appear to meet the criteria you have set out for groups to receive funding. They state that they are opposed to pay equity, employment equity, universal childcare and they have serious concerns about the Charter of Rights.

They have stated they are working against the objectives of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women and the other feminist groups which the Women's Program funds. We find the funding of their conference a contradiction of the stated purpose of this program.

We are also deeply concerned that the government would fund an organization which is actively working to maintain the obstacles to women's equality. We think the government needs to take a clear stand on its commitment to equality of opportunity for women.

We await your response to our concerns.

Yours truly

Sally Mackenzie
for the West Kootenay Women's Association

cc. Lyle Kristiansen MP
Mary Clancy MP
Svend Robinson MP
National Action Committee on the Status of Women