

Wednesday, November 1, 2006

Moncton Business & Professional Women's Club

This month we are offering a panel discussion on Violence against Women.

The panel will consist of:

Liz Cormier with Turning Points

Maureen Craig-McIntosh - Various Services for Women

Ginette Petitpas-Taylor with Regional RCMP Victim Services Unit

Carmen Hivon - Cross-roads for Women

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BPW

The Business and Professional Women's Club is a non-sectarian, non-profit and non-partisan organization which promotes the interests of working women and works towards the improvement of the status of women in all phases of society, especially in business, the professions, and industry..

The Moncton BPW Club is part of the Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, as well as the International Federation of BPW Clubs. The Moncton BPW Club funds yearly bursaries to deserving young women in our area.



Benefits of Membership

- * Association with other members at the local, provincial, national, and international level
 - * Friendship, sisterhood and networking with a diverse group of knowledgeable business women
 - * Development of leadership skills, pursuit of career opportunities, change and advancement
 - * Opportunities to participate in the organization's business, educational workshops, public events, and to hear guest speakers on relevant women's topics *
- Information on current women's issues
- * Participation in the process of change for women
 - * Fun in a safe and welcoming environment

WOMEN WORKING FOR WOKING WOMEN

Monthly Dinner Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month, September to June, starting at 6:00 PM at the Delta Beausejour Hotel, Moncton. Dinner cost for members is \$25.00. A pre-payment option is available for 10 Dinner Meetings- \$250.00.

New annual membership fees of \$120.00 will be effective October 1, 2006. A pre-payment option is available for annual fees plus 10 Dinner meetings- \$360.00. (No cancellations/refunds)

Guests are always welcome; dinner cost is \$30.00. Pre-registration required. For more information, please contact any member of the Executive.

Message From the President – Sharon Hale

In December 1999, at their 54th Session, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution declaring November 25th the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, recognizing the severity of the problem. The origins of November 25th go back to 1960, when the Mirabal sisters, activists from the Dominican Republic, were violently assassinated for their political activism. The sisters, known as the 'Unforgettable Butterflies,' became a symbol of the crisis of violence against women in Latin America. November 25th was the date chosen to commemorate their lives and promote global recognition of gender-based violence.

The UN General Assembly defined the problem as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion, or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life."

November 25th also marks the beginning of the "16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence". This is a global campaign that runs from 25th November to 10th December. The dates that participants chose for the Campaign symbolically make this link: *November 25, the UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.*

December 1, World AIDS Day. The twin pandemics of HIV and AIDs are decimating communities globally. Women are more susceptible to infection and are being infected at a faster rate than men.

December 6, the anniversary of the 1991 'Montreal Massacre', when a man shot and killed 14 women engineering students for "being feminists".

December 10, International Human Rights Day. In 1948, on 10 December, governments acknowledged the human rights of all to "life, liberty and the security of person...without distinction of any kind," as they signed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

It is a sad commentary on the state of our society when at the dawn of the 21st century 51% of Canadian women have experienced at least one incident of physical or sexual assault since the age of 16. Fear and shame continue to prevent many women from speaking out but the truth is that abuse is socially unacceptable and counter to community norms. If you or someone you know is experiencing any form of violence or abuse, seek help, there are resources and people to help.

New Member Profiles – Betty Rooney

Betty Rooney started with Mutual Life of Canada (which eventually became Clarica) in 1992 following a career as the General Manager for Downtown Moncton Inc. Since joining Clarica, she has taken many studies and has passed all the recognised requirements for Financial Planners Standards Council resulting in receiving her designation as a Certified Financial Planner - the only internationally recognised designation for this discipline. She has also earned her designation as an Elder Planning Counselor, a discipline that focuses on the needs of the "over 55" population and which covers a wide range of issues. Betty is a licensed as a mutual funds advisor as well.

Betty is active in the community and has served in several capacities over the years - on the Board of the Moncton YMCA, Chair of the Board for Family Services Moncton, currently Treasurer of the West End Food Bank, served on various committees for the Chamber of Commerce and has also serve on the Board of Directors for the Moncton Clarica Financial Centre. She is a past organist of St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Bethel Presbyterian Church and Steeves Memorial United Church and has been a member of the choirs at these locations since age 11.

Betty is married to a firefighter and the mother of a firefighter. She also has two other sons and two and 8/9ths grandchildren. With two brothers and, 3 sons, and 2 boy grandchildren, she is hoping a girl is on the way! She loves gardening, weekends at the cottage in PEI, reading, and has recently started sewing again after 30 years. She and her husband enjoy golfing, although she jokes that he probably enjoys it better without her!

To contact Betty Rooney Phone: (506) 857-3663 ext 241 or email Betty.Rooney@clarica.com Website: <http://www.clarica.com/betty.rooney>

Are you a new member? Please contact Kim Tobin at kim.tobin@pwgsc.gc.ca or kim-tobin77@yahoo.ca

December 6th Bursary Fund Raiser Update

This Event is shaping up to be a lot of fun! Here are a few more details to help you with ticket sales and donations:

- **FREE Parking** for attendees
- **Code Names** will be offered to attendees to use for the Silent Auction bidding. Some examples are Big Daddy, Cher, Princess and Captain Kirk. This is a fun way to allow people to bid in secret: No one will know what you are buying; No awkwardness bidding against a colleague or friend; You can buy for someone you're there with, they'll never know!
- Next day **Delivery Service** is available for large or small items for \$10.00.
- **Rob Creamer** will play the Delta's Baby Grand to provide entertainment during the Silent Auction portion of the evening.
- On the main stage **Bob Crossman** and his band will give an Elvis Presley review!
- And don't forget the **Professional Dancers** who will make us all want to learn how to Jive and Salsa.
- Tickets are going fast with over 10 corporate tables already sold. **Get tickets early** for family and friends, a great value at \$40.00!
- **BPW Members** must buy their tickets from **Nancy Eustace** for \$25.00. Contact **Nancy at 858-1886 days, or at ncme@istar.ca**.
- This Event will be a lot of **Fun** for everyone!

We are counting on the participation of every member of the BPW Moncton Club to help make this fund raiser a success. It is imperative that **every member** gets at least one - two donations for the Silent Auction or a cash sponsor for the event. If a business has nothing appropriate for the auction, ask for \$100.00 for us to buy an item! They will still be credited for the donation. **Men are welcome.** In fact, we are soliciting auction items with men in mind so bring your partners, brothers, and friends. Maybe they will do some holiday shopping!

Please contact **Elaine (859-2349)** or **Sharon (877-0580)** if you have an item or need an item picked up. We will be glad to do so.

Upcoming Events in Club and Community

November 1 -take our kids to work; Grade 9 students

November 15-Young BPW lunch at Don Cherry's, 12 noon

November 15-Public Forum on Child Care, 7pm, Crowne Plaza Hotel

November 23- The YWCA will hold it's first annual Girl Jam at Club Cosmo from 8 to 11 pm

Executive Meeting at 5:30 pm. Contact President Sharon Hale for details regarding location. Everyone Welcome

November 29- lunch and learn; Trades shortages. Wilmot United Church 473 King Street Fredericton. A light lunch to be provided. Free if you pre-register. Email acswwccf@gnb.ca

*November is Family Violence
Prevention Month!*

November 29-

Public Forum: Debating Choice for Child Care

The New Brunswick Child Care Coalition encourages you to attend a public forum on child care in Canada . The public meeting takes place on Wed. November 15 at 7pm, at 1005 Main Street , Moncton (Crowne Plaza Hotel). Political party representatives will be presenting on their party's vision of what a national child care program for Canada would look like. There will be an opportunity for questions and answers following the panel presentation. All are welcome to attend.

When: Wed., Nov. 15 2006 7-9 p.m. Where: Crowne Plaza Hotel - 1005 Main St. Moncton

Speaker: Morna Ballantyne - National coordinator, CODE BLUE for child care

Moderators: Janet Towers and Marjolaine St Pierre - Early Childhood Care & Education NB

Panel: To be announced, Conservative Party Brian Murphy, Moncton-Riverview-Dieppe, Liberal Party

Yvon Godin, Acadie-Bathurst, New Democratic Party

This event is sponsored by: Association francophone de parents du Nouveau-Brunswick , Canadian Union of Public Employees, Coalition for Pay Equity , Early Childhood Care & Education New Brunswick

WOMEN FACE GREATEST THREAT OF VIOLENCE AT HOME

Because of a lack of scientific data on the magnitude of partner violence, particularly in poorer countries, there has been a lot of skepticism about whether it was a serious problem" or just a pet peeve of the women's groups. Now the most comprehensive and scientific study ever done (25,000 women at 15 sites in 10 countries, World Health Organization) concludes: Violence by an intimate partner is a common experience worldwide. The researchers used meticulously designed surveys and statistical techniques. Their work took root over 10 years ago after organizers

of the 1995 International Women's Conference in Beijing rued the lack of data and asked the W.H.O. for help. One-fifth to two-thirds of women interviewed said it was the first time they had ever spoken of the abuse to anyone. In all but one setting, women were at far greater risk of physical or sexual violence by a partner than from violence by other people. Rates of partner violence range from 15% in Japan, to 71% in rural Ethiopia (20-25% in Europe; 25% in U.S.). At six of the sites, 50% of women said that they had been subjected to moderate/severe vio-

lence in the home. At 13 sites, more than a quarter of all women said they had suffered such violence in the past year.

- *Women Face Greatest Threat of Violence at Home*, E. Rosenthal, *Int'l Herald Trib.*, *NYTimes*, 6 Oc 06 www.nytimes.com/2006/10/06/world/06violence.html?ei=5070&en=e04aba8292c70ddb&ex=1160798400&emc=eta1&pagewanted=print

JUST COMFORT THE VICTIMS?

The federal government wants women's groups to stop working to change the conditions that create victims - the violence, poverty and discrimination that affect Canadian women and children - and to just give comfort to victims. But women want to turn off the tap, not just keep wiping the counter," said Ginette Petitpas-Taylor, Chairperson of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, in reaction to the government's announcement that equality-seeking groups will now be prohibited from

engaging in advocacy or lobbying with federal funds. "It is wasteful use of public funds to just help victims and not try to change the systems. And to change the way things are done, we need advocacy and lobbying." Recently the government announced a 39% cut to Status of Women Canada and removed the words "women's equality" from its mandate. It abolished the Court Challenges Program and announced it will not be introducing a pro-active pay equity law. The government also announced a large

budget surplus. The Advisory Council is calling for supporters of equality seeking groups to contact Conservative Members of Parliament in the next week, as they are in their ridings.

MPs: www.parl.gc.ca/information/about/people/house/mpscur.asp?Language=E¶m=prov&id=4

Women as victims of crime

Half of Canadian women (51%) have been victims of at least one act of physical or sexual violence since the age of 16.

Of all victims of crimes against the person in 2000, females made up the vast majority of victims of sexual assaults (86%), criminal harassment (78%) and kidnapping/hostage-taking or ab-

duction (67%).

Of all female victims of violent crimes in 2000, 47% were victims of common assault, 9% of sexual assault, 9% of assault with a weapon causing bodily harm, 7% of robbery and 6% of criminal harassment.

Women are much more likely to be victimized by someone

they know than by a stranger. In 2000, 77% of all female victims were victimized by someone they know (37% by a close friend or an acquaintance, 29% by a current or past partner, 11% by other family members - including parents) while 19% were victimized by a stranger.

*** The 2000 data are based on a non-representative sample of 166 police departments, representing only 53% of the national volume of reported crime.**

Chemistry Brings Us Together

By Maureen Craig McIntosh, Certified Professional Coach

Is love really some kind of unexplainable magic? When it comes to abuse in relationships we often think he/she is so jealous because they love me or it must be love because they would not feel so possessive. What is love really?

Chemistry, the electricity, the hormonal air is what really brings us together. It is called attraction and "yes" we can be attracted to a "jerk" or in other words someone who is not good for us. The destructive behaviors of jealousy, possessiveness, demanding, domineering, overly critical, overly protective and even perpetually pessimistic are really about power over someone and have nothing to do with

love.

Love is the behaviour that keeps us together. Loving behaviors such as being, sensitive to your needs and wishes, understanding, patient, interested, helpful and supportive demonstrate true love. We need to have an awareness that this is possible to share with someone else. Sometimes all we have ever known are the destructive behaviors and we accept them as normal.

Dr. William Glasser writes there are seven deadly habits that kill relationships. They are: blaming, complaining, punishing, rewarding in an attempt to control, nagging, threatening, and criti-

cizing. If this is the way we choose to live our lives, we run the risk of entering the cycle of abuse which is made up of the following cycle, honeymoon phase, tension building and outburst.

Instead of these behaviors, Dr. Glasser offers us the seven caring habits that will keep relationships strong. They are: supporting, encouraging, listening, accepting, trusting, respecting and negotiating differences. We are all able to choose these behaviors and yes occasionally we will revert to some of the deadly habits but remember love is a behavior we choose. These are behaviors that will serve us well at home, at work and at play.

Did You Know?

Submitted by Elaine Burke-Gauvin

Stress often comes when one feels rushed and overwhelmed, so making sure that you have enough time to do everything in your life may help you cope with stress. Time management might mean that you have to cut one or a few activities out of your life. It might mean creating a

number of firm routines so that you have flexibility in other parts of your life. Only you may decide what is right for you. Remember: Stress results from change, so why not create a few predictable cycles in your life? You might change those routines later, but help yourself sta-

bilize for a while. Time management may involve learning new skills such as saying "no" to every volunteer opportunity, delegating household chores, and learning assertiveness in order to put it all into action.

Turning Points Helps Youth Parents Move out of Poverty

Elizabeth Cormier, Executive Director of Turning Points Youth Parent Center will be one of the panellists at our November dinner meeting.

Elizabeth will explain the mission of Turning Points youth Parent Center and the program and services the center provides.

She will also identify how these services and programs enable the youth parents to move out of poverty.

Turning Points also helps youth parents identify the characteristics of healthy relationships and how to avoid to evaluate the re-

lationships they are in to avoid abusive relationships.

These will be the points emphasized in Elizabeth's presentation on November 3rd..

Cuts to Status of Women and Court Challenges Program Undermine Government's Commitment to Women's Equality 2006-10-04

September 25, 2006, Ottawa: FAFIA, a pan-Canadian alliance of women's and human rights organizations, is denouncing the \$5 million cut to the federal department of Status of Women over two years. These cuts will be taken from its modest annual budget of \$13 million. The grants and contributions arm (\$11 million) of the department was not affected.

"These cuts will critically affect the federal government's own capacity to live up to its equality commitments to women," said Shelagh Day, Co-Chair of the Canadian Feminist Alliance for International Action (FAFIA). FAFIA is also dismayed by the elimination of the Court Challenges Program. "This Program has provided Canadian women with their only access to the use of their constitutional equality rights," said Shelagh Day. "Equality rights have no meaning in Canada if women, and other Canadians who face discrimination, cannot use them." "Constitutional cases are too expensive for women to mount on their own. Without this test case fund, women simply do not have access to the courts when their rights are violated." During the last federal election campaign, Stephen Harper promised to "take concrete and immediate measures...to ensure that Canada fully upholds its commitments to women." These cuts are not consistent with Mr. Harper's election promise," said Day Status of Women Canada is responsible for equipping the federal government to conduct gender based analysis of all policies and programs. It also provides internal expertise on specific policy initiatives. The department's budget is one of the smallest of any department at the federal level. An Expert Panel on accountability mechanisms for gender equality, that made its report just before the last federal election, concluded that Status of Women Canada needed to be significantly strengthened in order to better perform its function as a watchdog for women's equality. The cut to SWC ignores those crucial recommendations. (excerpt from the NB Women's News October 2006)

Harper Government Won't Close Wage Gap 2006-10-04

September 22, 2006, Ottawa: The Harper Government has set pay equity back 25 years with its recent announcement that it will not implement new and proactive pay equity legislation and has ignored all of the recommendations proposed by the Federal Pay Equity Task Force. "It's a dark day for women in Canada," stated Gisele Pageau, Human Rights Director for the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers of Canada. "I cannot believe

that the government has no interest in closing the wage gap. Women still earn only 72 cents for every dollar a man earns. The current legislation is unacceptable and has proven to be ineffective, time consuming, and extremely expensive."

The CEP just recently settlement their pay equity battle for its Bell operators after a 14-year ordeal and extremely long and complicated legal wrangle that saw Bell take the CEP through almost 30 federal court appeals and one supreme court of Canada appeal. Though the CEP was successful, it doesn't wish this on any other

group or individual. "We need proactive legislation similar to what is currently in place in Ontario and Quebec, not this complaint based system that we know hasn't worked in 30 years," said Pageau. "We need a government that respects and is prepared to do the right thing for all women of Canada. It is so disheartening to realize that the Harper government has once again abandon the women of Canada. We need new legislation and we need it now. I don't wish the Bell experience on any other woman." FOR MORE INFORMATION: Gisèle Pageau at 613-230-5200, ext 243 or 613-558-1821 (cell) or e-mail at gpageau@cep.ca (cerpt from the NB Women's News October 2006)

Book Fair

The Book Fair Planning is underway. We have our next meeting on Friday, November 3rd at 7:45am at the TD Building on 860 Main Street, Suite 203. Please RSVP to Shannon at shannon.brown@clarica.com or call 857-3663, ext 237. As well, we are looking for as much support as possible. We are asking all of you to email and contact friends, family and co-workers to let them know to start saving books, DVD's and CD's. Keep the book fair top of mind for ideas to make this the best year yet. We all have excellent resources at our fingertips - let's put them to good use!



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WEBSITES

[Www.monctonbpw.com](http://www.monctonbpw.com)

[Www.bpwcanada.com](http://www.bpwcanada.com)

[Www.bpwintl.com](http://www.bpwintl.com)

[Www.bpw-northamerica.org](http://www.bpw-northamerica.org)

The BPW Canada website has lots of resources that clubs can use in their work. The site is updated regularly. Visit Often!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2006

DISCLAIMER:

This newsletter is intended for members of BPW Moncton and any guests who are interested in learning about the organization. The news and views expressed in the BPW newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or club executive. While considerable effort is taken to ensure the information in this publication is accurate, BPW Moncton does not accept responsibility for any errors or omissions.



Women Working for Working Women

We're on the Web!
www.monctonbpw.com

Moncton BPW Executive Officers 2006-2007

President Sharon Hale 854-4331 (H) 850-5013 (Cell)
shale@nb.sympatico.ca Sharon.hale@lounsbury.nb.ca

First Vice-President Elaine Burke-Gauvin 859-2349(W) 388-5228 (H) 866-4268 (Cell)
Burke-Gauvin.Elaine@brunswicknews.com elainebg@nb.sympatico.ca

Second Vice-President Nathalie Beers 877-7152 (W) 756-8045 (H)
nbeers@deltahotels.com

Treasurer Nancy Eustace 858-1886 (W) 858-8576 (H)
mcme@star.ca

Recording Secretary Janet MacDuff 857-3011 (W) 854-5348 (H)
jmacduff@nb.sympatico.ca JmacDuff@abc.nb.ca

Membership Secretary Manon Sirois-Boudreau 867-0985 (H)

Immediate Past President Julie McSorley 862-0343 (W) 389-2482 (H)
Julie.mcsorley@scotiabank.com julietod@nb.sympatico.ca

Honorary President Carolyn Mitton 383-9023 (H)
carolynmitton@yahoo.ca

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