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Chairperson's Message

It is my pleasure to report that this past year, has been an exciting and active one. During this year, the Women's Directorate and the staff of the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council laid down the framework to join together under the title Status of Women Division, Department of Labour and Immigration. This thrilling amalgamation opens many more possibilities for both the Council and research team to better serve the equality seeking women of Manitoba. The Council remains a dynamic force in the division, reporting directly to the Honourable Nancy Allan, Minister responsible for the Status of Women, but with direct access to project and research support provided through the Status of Women Division.

We have welcomed five new and knowledgeable Council members: Yvonne Ballantyne, Dawn Harris, Jackie Lavallee, Paula Leslie and Dr. Jane Ursel. Terms were renewed for Maricor Andrada, Diane Hartley, Justine Kiwanuka and Manju Lodha, whose first terms expired in 2007. I want to express my deep appreciation to the outgoing members of Council for their hard work and dedication.

We continue to be indebted to Minister Allan and to the Government of Manitoba, for their commitment to ensuring that the women of Manitoba have a voice in Government and in the development of gender-sensitive policies, programs and legislation. Finally, I want to recognize the staff who support the work of the Council and whose dedication to ensuring a smooth transition has been invaluable.

As always, the current Council members bring rich and diverse backgrounds and experience to their positions. I am honoured to have this opportunity to continue the Council's work within a new and re-invigorated division. In the upcoming year we hope to co-locate and continue to move toward our goal – promoting the equal participation of women in our society.

Marlene Bertrand
Chairperson

Accomplishments

- ***Provided informational sessions*** during the lunch hour for the community on the following topics of interest to women: domestic violence and human trafficking in Ukraine; disaster planning; the 5th World Conference on Breast cancer; Manitoba Employment Standards; and the Gender Budget Project.
- ***Sought suggestions*** from the general public on future topics for the Council's community information sessions.
- ***Updated and distributed approximately 7,000 copies*** of Council's **Parenting on Your Own: A Handbook for Single Parent Families** to single parents and others.
- ***Held the 11th Annual Sunrise Memorial*** to mark the anniversary date of the Montreal Massacre and to raise public awareness about violence against women and girls.
- ***Attended the annual meeting of the Coalition of Provincial and Territorial Advisory Councils on the Status of Women*** in Ottawa.
- ***Organized the "Take Back the Night" event*** in Winnipeg, in collaboration with community organizations.
- ***Hosted a roundtable discussion with women's organizations***, to share information on new initiatives for women throughout Manitoba.
- ***Created and distributed over 1,000 Inspiring Women posters*** to high schools, post-secondary institutions and women's organizations, to celebrate Manitoba's accomplishment of having the highest percentage of female Members of the Legislative Assembly in Canada.
- ***Created and distributed the Inspiring Women companion document*** to over 500 women's organizations, to highlight the contributions made by several Manitoba women in their communities, and to encourage other women to find the leadership potential within them.
- ***Organized the Government's reception in honour of International Women's Day*** on March 7, 2008, which focused on Manitoba women who have been motivated to make a difference in their communities.
- ***Conducted an internal review*** of the operations of the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council and the Women's Directorate, and provided recommendations for a more efficient and effective use of the human and financial resources allocated to these entities.
- ***Compiled and distributed Council Currents***, the bi-monthly events calendar and information sheet, to more than 300 women's organizations.
- ***Increased collaboration*** with women's organizations, representatives from women's groups and other government departments to heighten awareness of the Council and its role.
- ***Assisted women's organizations*** with administrative support, including photocopying, fax, and mail services.
- ***Provided assistance to government*** on issues affecting women, and made recommendations for future projects that will enhance the quality of women's lives in Manitoba.

Advisory Council

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council is to advance the goal of equal participation of women in society and to promote changes in social, legal and economic structures to that end.

BACKGROUND:

In 1970, The Royal Commission on the Status of Women recommended the creation of a federal status of women council and similar agencies concerned with the status of women in each of the provinces and territories.

As a result of concerted lobbying by women's organizations across the country, the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women was established in 1973 and several provincial and territorial advisory councils were created in the 1980s. Since then, the federal council and some of the provincial councils have ceased operation. Manitoba is the only province west of Quebec with a council to advise government on issues of concern to women. The three territories also have similar councils.

The Government of Manitoba established the Manitoba Advisory Council on the Status of Women through Order-in-Council in 1980. Bill 3, *The Manitoba Advisory Council on the Status of Women's Act*, was introduced in the Manitoba Legislature on March 2, 1987. The Act received Royal Assent on July 17, 1987.

In appointing members to the Council, the Manitoba Government endeavours to select persons who are representative of the various geographic, ethno-cultural and socio-economic sectors of Manitoba.

In December 1991, Bill 5, *The Manitoba Advisory Council on the Status of Women Amendment Act*, was introduced in the legislature which sought a change of name for the Council. The amendment to the Act received Royal Assent on June 24, 1992, and, as a result, was renamed the *Manitoba Women's Advisory Council Act*.

OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council are to:

- provide expert and timely advice to the minister on matters relating to the status of women referred to it by the minister for consideration and on issues undertaken by the Council on its own initiative;
- recommend to the minister policies, projects, or activities to raise awareness of women's issues and to promote women's equality;
- promote the equal participation of women in society by partnering with community organizations, collaborating with local, provincial and national equality-seeking organizations, and disseminating information; and
- advance the status of women by promoting a wider use of gender-diversity analysis in government policy and program development.

STRUCTURE:

The Advisory Council is made up of a broad range of women who represent the diversity of Manitoba's cultural and geographic structure. It is funded by the Provincial Government, and reports to the Minister responsible for the Status of Women.

The Manitoba Women's Advisory Council remains a government agency; it is not an independent entity. All Council members are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba.

The Council consists of a Chairperson, appointed by government for a term of three years, and at least eight, but no more than 18, other members appointed for two year terms.

The Council is supported by a staff of civil servants.

The budget for the Council is approved as part of the Department of Labour and Immigration's Estimates submission.

POWERS:

In carrying out its duties, the Council may:

- receive petitions and submissions from persons, groups and organizations;
- hold public meetings;
- disseminate information to the public;
- conduct, or participate in, programs of research, study or activity;
- carry out any of its projects and activities in cooperation with other bodies both inside and outside the province; and
- engage, on a temporary basis or for a specific purpose, such persons who have a technical or specialized knowledge of any matter relating to the work of Council as the Council considers necessary to advise and assist the Council.

Members of Council

Council's membership is representative of urban, rural and northern women, including Aboriginal, Francophone, visible minority and young women. Members have expertise and experience in a range of areas of concern to women including: education, business, agriculture, volunteerism, arts, employment and training, care-giving and child-rearing, immigration housing/home owners, mental health, homelessness and poverty.

Council members consult regularly with representatives of women's organizations throughout the province and with individuals who are working at the community level on women's issues.

Council is a visionary body. The minister relies on council members to work together to bring to her attention concerns of women from their communities.

The duration of council members' terms is two years, with a possible re-appointment for an additional two years. The chairperson is appointed for a three-year term and may be appointed for one further term. The list below includes all those who were Council members from April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008 or for any portion thereof.

MARLENE BERTRAND, Chairperson (Winnipeg)

Throughout her 25-year career in domestic violence prevention, both inside and outside government, Marlene has been a passionate advocate for women in Manitoba. From 1992-2006 she was director of the provincial government's Family Violence Prevention Branch. Prior to that, she was a director of two social service agencies in Winnipeg and Brandon. Marlene has also worked internationally in helping countries develop programs in response to intimate violence. A member of the Order of Canada, Marlene is also a recipient of the Manitoba Service Excellence Award for Leadership, and the YWCA Women of Distinction Award. She was appointed Council Chairperson on February 1, 2007.

MARICOR ANDRADA (Winnipeg)

Maricor works part-time with the Winnipeg Girls and Boys Club and plans to return to school in 2008. She is a recipient of the Premier's Volunteer of the Year Award.

YVONNE BALLANTYNE (Grand Rapids)

Yvonne was raised in Camperville Manitoba, a small Métis community located on the shores of Lake Winnipegosis, but now resides in Grand Rapids. She has represented the Missipawstik Cree Nation as a school committee member for 30 years, and is also a full-time school bus driver. Yvonne helps out in the community as a volunteer whenever she can. She has a son and daughter and three grandchildren.

LAURIE FAVELL-MOWAT (Selkirk)

Laurie grew up in Selkirk, Manitoba, received a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Winnipeg and spent four years with the Military Police in the Canadian Forces Militia. She acted as program coordinator of the pilot program Ototema, funded by Manitoba Justice. Laurie is the co-founder of the Winnipeg Aboriginal Film and Video Festival, which she co-chaired for the first two years. She believes her mission is to move the agenda forward for women, youth, Aboriginal people and people experiencing poverty and oppression.

DAWN HARRIS (Niverville)

Dawn holds a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (BSA) and is currently in the final stages of completing her Masters in Landscape Architecture at the University of Manitoba. Dawn has volunteered on many boards, has been a consultant in the communications field and has acted as manager for several agricultural organizations. From 1986 to 1992, Dawn and her husband operated a dairy farm, taking it from unprofitable to efficient and profitable. Having always had an interest in women's issues and rights, Dawn served a term as the finance chair of the Manitoba Women's Institute, and served as the first ever female president of the Manitoba Institute of Agrolologists.

DIANE HARTLEY (Minnedosa)

Diane is a councillor for the Town of Minnedosa. As a lawyer with a part-time law practice, her interests revolve around issues affecting rural women and families, family law issues, and enhancing post-secondary educational opportunities for women.

JUSTINE KIWANUKA (Winnipeg)

Justine is a student in Sociology at the University of Winnipeg. A former Program Officer with Disabled People's International (DPI) and liaison officer for DPI at the United Nations, she is a founding member of the United Nations Platform for Action Committee (UNPAC) and is involved in several other community organizations.

JACKIE LAVALLEE (St. Adolphe)

Jackie is currently serving as the Executive Director of Taking Charge! Inc., a non-profit organization that serves single parents and women whose goals are to become self sufficient and independent. She was formerly the Executive Director of Ikwe-Widdjiitiwin, Inc., the Aboriginal women's crisis shelter in Winnipeg, and of the Native Women's Transition Centre. Jackie's main work has been in the development and delivery of programs and services for Aboriginal women and children specifically in the areas of family violence and abuse towards women. Jackie also volunteers as board chairperson for two non-profit organizations - Wabung Abinoonjiag, Inc. and Oyate Tipi Cumini Yape Furniture Warehouse Project.

PAULA LESLIE (Winnipeg)

Paula has been an active volunteer for many years in the community and is passionate about equality and human rights. She is currently on the board of directors of LEAF Manitoba (Women's Legal Education and Action Fund) and the Rainbow Resource Centre. Paula is trained as a lawyer and is working with Manitoba Justice Prosecutions as a Crown Attorney in the Domestic Violence Unit.

MANJU LODHA (Winnipeg)

Manju is an artist and author of three books with a multicultural, feminist perspective. She is a board member of the Manitoba Association for Multicultural Education and the National Indian Council of Canada, Manitoba Chapter. She has also been active with the United Nations Platform for Action Committee (UNPAC) and the Hindu Society of Manitoba.

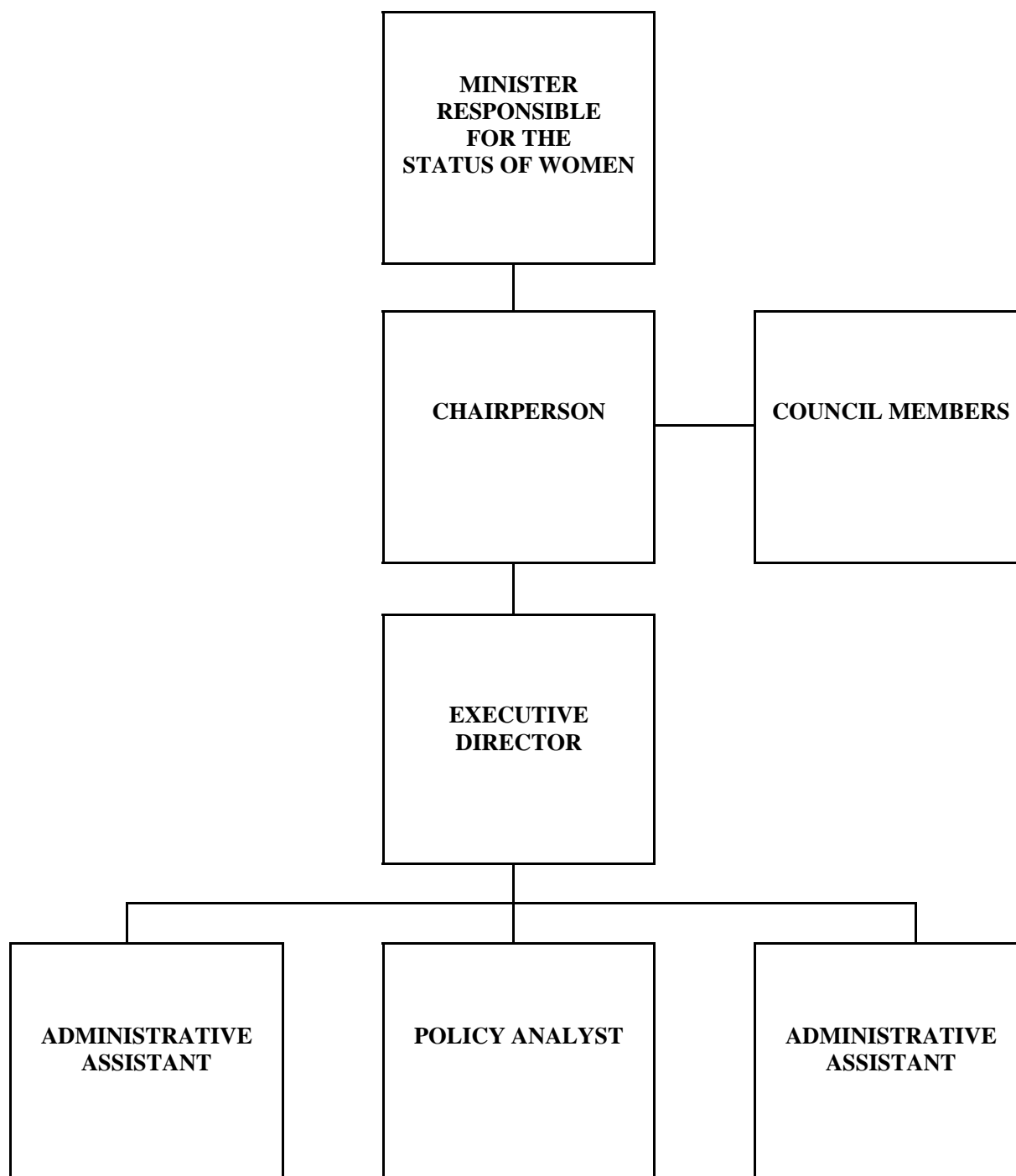
JOËLLE SALTEL-ALLARD (Winnipeg)

Joëlle is fluently bilingual and holds a Master's degree from the University of Manitoba in Political Studies with a specialization in International Relations. Currently, she is the Executive Director of Réseau action femmes and represents Francophone women from Manitoba on several local, provincial and national committees. Joëlle has also volunteered on many cultural and community boards, such as the Folk Arts Council of Winnipeg, and continues to be actively involved with the Francophone community.

DR. JANE URSEL (Winnipeg)

Jane is Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Manitoba and the Director of RESOLVE, a tri-provincial family violence research network with offices at the Universities of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Calgary. She is the Principal Investigator of two longitudinal studies: The Winnipeg Family Violence Court, in its 17th year of data collection, and The Healing Journey: a longitudinal study of women who have experienced violence in their intimate relations. She has served as an expert witness at two inquiries into domestic murder suicides, one in Ontario, the Iles- May Inquest (Toronto, 1998) and the Lavoie Inquiry, (Winnipeg, 1996). In 1997/98 she chaired the Lavoie Inquiry Implementation Committee. She has spoken on domestic violence internationally in China, Australia, New Zealand and England as well as across Canada.

Organizational Chart



Activities

In order to carry out its advisory function, the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council members work closely with women and women's organizations throughout the province. Issues and concerns are identified through this interaction, and are brought forward for discussion at Council meetings. Recommendations are made to the Minister responsible for the Status of Women. Other avenues for bringing issues to Council's attention are:

- *through staff who work closely with women's organizations and government departments;*
- *through members of Council who bring issues from their regions to Council meetings;*
- *by individuals, organizations and colleagues who identify concerns;*
- *by individuals who telephone the Council office seeking assistance with various concerns;*
- *by those invited to make presentations at Council meetings on issues related to women;*
- *through participation in Council-coordinated information sessions;*
- *through membership in the Coalition of Provincial and Territorial Advisory Councils on the Status of Women; and*
- *by reviewing research reports, documents and publications.*

I. Meetings

In accordance with *The Manitoba Women's Advisory Council Act*, the Council held six meetings in 2007/2008.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| □ June 16, 2007 | □ January 12, 2008 via conference call |
| □ September 15 & 16, 2007 | □ February 23, 2008 |
| □ November 17, 2007 | □ March 15, 2008 |

II. Priorities

The Council tracks and addresses ongoing and current issues that affect the lives of women and their families. Each year Council prioritizes areas upon which to focus its work. This year, the Council focused on the following:

- women's health/breast cancer
- the economic status of women
- safe haven programs
- inspiring women – women and leadership/politics
- licensing of physicians who have lost their licence to practise in other provinces
- violence against women and girls
- poverty of seniors
- feasibility/need for provincial consultations
- capacity building for council

Examples of Council's work on priority issues:

1. Women's Health and Wellness

- **Lunch & Learn** – Building Resilience to Disaster: A Woman's Action Planning Workshop; An Introduction to the Upcoming 5th World Conference on Breast Cancer.
- **Information gathering and dissemination** – Attended all public consultation meetings on the proposed new Women's Hospital; and reviewed the need for Safe Haven legislation in Manitoba.
- **Community participation** – Attended the Women's Health Clinic 7th Annual Dinner "Stepping Out for Women's Health"; the Laurel Centre breakfast with Margaret Trudeau speaking about bi-polar disorder – women's mental health; and the DisAbleD Women's Network (DAWN) founding meeting (Winnipeg) at the University of Winnipeg.

2. Economic Status of Women/Poverty Issues

- **Lunch & Learn** – Working together, Employment Standards in Modern Workplaces; and The Gender Budget Project.
- **Information gathering and dissemination** – Council reviewed the document "Aging in Poverty in Canada" by the National Advisory Council on Aging and invited a speaker on seniors' issues to address council on this topic.
- **Community participation** – Attended the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) fundraising event "Local to Global: Women and sustainable Communities – A little goes a long way"; The Winnipeg Transition Centre "Women as Career Mentors" dinner; The Women Business Owners of Manitoba and Winnipeg Chapter Women Entrepreneur Awards.

3. Violence Against Women and Girls

- **Lunch & Learn** – Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking in Ukraine.
- **Information gathering and dissemination** – The Council, at the request of a Senior Crown Prosecutor, prepared a response to a proposed change in the protocol within the military in Canada so that, in cases of family violence, where military police are the responding police force, resulting charges would be prosecuted through the Military Judicial System if the accused is subject to the Code of Service Discipline.
- **Community participation** – Council attended the open house, *Sisters in Spirit*, at the Mother of Red Nations Women’s Council of Manitoba Inc. This was part of a nationwide day of remembrance for missing and murdered Aboriginal women; the First Annual Women In Second Stage Housing (WISH) Inc. 2008 Corporate Breakfast Fundraiser; the Family Violence Consortium of Manitoba’s “Celebrating Our Success” luncheon in recognition of the efforts of service providers in Family Violence Prevention Program (FVPP) funded agencies across Manitoba; Osborne House’s fundraising breakfast; Council Chair helped to organize the “Breakfast with the Boys” event; Council Chair donated her wedding dress to “Wedding Days Gone By” in aid of Wahbung Abinoonjiiab, an Aboriginal agency that delivers culturally-based programming for women and children who have left abusive relationships; attended the 100th anniversary celebration of the Brandon YWCA; attended a meeting of the Media Awareness Initiative About Sexually Exploited Youth (MAISEY).
- **Sunrise Memorial** – Council hosted its eleventh annual Sunrise Memorial on the anniversary date of the Montreal Massacre.
- **Initiated the formation** of a multi-departmental committee entitled “Linking Initiatives that Address Violence against Women” to provide an enhanced coordination of efforts between departments under one overall strategy.

4. Immigration/Aboriginal Issues

- **Information gathering and dissemination** – Made the recommendation to develop an Immigrant Women’s handbook, which is presently underway.
- **Community participation** - Participated in the Immigrant Women’s Association of Manitoba, Inc. (IWAM) symposium which addressed the following themes: empowering immigrant/refugee women; challenges and opportunities for immigrant women; economic security, family and well-being, and spiritual healing; participated, as part of a working group, in the National Aboriginal Women’s Summit (NAWS) which was held in Newfoundland in June 2007. The Province has addressed many of the issues raised in the recommendations made at NAWS I, and Manitoba is committed to further participation in the NAWS II working group.

5. Women and Leadership

- **Hosted the annual International Women's Day celebration** on March 7, 2008 at the Legislature. To launch the *Inspiring Women* initiative, *Inspiring Women* posters and companion documents were distributed to all those attending.
- **Information gathering and dissemination** – Produced the *Inspiring Women* posters and companion document to celebrate women's voices and to encourage women to get involved in their communities – whether it is through business, grassroots community development or any other endeavor, and distributed these throughout the province to high schools, post-secondary institutions, women's organizations, and interested individuals.
- **Community participation** – Attended the Spirit of Leadership luncheon where proceeds were directed to the Human Rights Museum.

III. Presentations

The Council heard from individuals and groups in the community on a variety of topics of interest to women and their families. These presentations inform the Council of current issues, programs and research and enhance its advisory capacity to government. Presentations included:

- special presentation through the Canadian Committee for UNIFEM on Women and Development in Afghanistan;
- fundraising reception and presentation for the Stephen Lewis Foundation (SLF) Africa Tour to send a member of Grands 'n' More Winnipeg to Africa to tour agencies and clinics supported by SLF in Uganda, Swaziland and South Africa;
- two-day forum "Community Response to Adults & Children Exploited-Involved in the Sex Trade". The forum identified current and emerging issues, immediate and intermediate priorities, long-term goals and promoted community-based collaborative solutions;
- "Energy Options for our Future", a series of 5 noon lectures which included "Atomic Energy, A Solution to Global Warming"; "Your Home – How to save Energy, Money and the Environment"; "Facing the Energy Challenges of the next Two Decades"; and "Power Smart Energy Pricing".
- seminar on "Human Rights in the Workplace", received information on discrimination, how the Manitoba Human Rights Commission (MHRC) processes complaints, pre-employment inquiries, harassment and the duty to accommodate.
- presentation to Council by Gae Burns giving an overview of the history of housing in Canada and Manitoba. The Federal and Provincial governments built 17,000 housing units up to 1993, when the federal government ceased to participate in the housing industry. Over the years since that time, the need for low income housing continued to grow, with only 100 units being built per year. The housing needs of seniors, those with disabilities and those living on low income were discussed.
- 5th Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative (WHHI) Community Forum.

Community Involvement

I. Liaison

The Council worked with, provided support services to, and maintained ties with approximately 300 women's groups.

II. Support Services to the Community

- ***Provision of Support Services to the Community.*** The Council continued to provide meeting room space and on-site assistance with photocopying, mailing and faxing to non-profit, equality-seeking women's organizations and community members at no cost.
- ***Provision of Information and Referrals to the Community.*** The Council supported those who e-mailed, phoned, or came into the office with personal issues or questions by offering appropriate information and referral sources.
- ***Provision of a bi-monthly list of Up-Coming Community Events.*** The Council compiled Council Currents, a bi-monthly calendar of events and other items of interest to women, which was faxed or e-mailed to 1,022 organizations and interested individuals, as well as to several community-based networks. This unique publication is also available on Council's website.
- ***Sponsorship of Community Events.*** The Council continued to provide limited financial assistance for community-based events.
- ***Participation in the Community.*** The Council supported relevant community activities by attending community events, conferences and meetings. These included participation in numerous fundraising events, open houses, workshops and annual general meetings hosted by women's organizations, as well as relevant community recognition awards ceremonies.
- ***Website.*** The website offers users access to Council Currents, information on a number of topics of interest to women, and linkages to resources listed in the publication *Parenting on Your Own*.
- ***Consultative Support.*** The Council serves in a consultative capacity on multi-disciplinary steering committees and as an information resource for colleagues and peers, community-driven events, equality-seeking organizations, research, academia and strategic action, locally, nationally, and, occasionally, at the international level.

Future Directions

Each year the Council identifies areas of concern. During the 2007/08 fiscal year, among its other priorities, Council focused on capacity building. This exercise has paved the way for amalgamation and co-location of the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council and the Women's Directorate to take place in the coming year. As we look ahead, the issues of women's health, economic status, women as leaders, violence against women and girls, concerns about senior, immigrant and Aboriginal women, information for girls, and possible links between animal abuse and family violence will remain foremost in our sights. As always, the Council will continue to communicate with the Minister to identify and set future priorities.

MANITOBA WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2008

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Council Members of
Manitoba Women's Advisory Council

We have audited the statement of operations of the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council for the year ended March 31, 2008. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. These standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining on a test basis evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures of the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion these financial statements present fairly in all material respects the operations of the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council for the year ended March 31, 2008 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

CERTIFIED GENERAL ACCOUNTANTS

Winnipeg, Manitoba
August 5, 2008

MANITOBA WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
For the year ended March 31, 2008

	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2007 Actual
REVENUE			
Budget Appropriation	<u>\$ 335,800</u>	<u>\$ 335,800</u>	<u>\$ 323,400</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Salaries and Employee Benefits	229,600	218,722	224,576
Other Expenditures	<u>106,200</u>	<u>111,518</u>	<u>92,660</u>
	<u>335,800</u>	<u>330,240</u>	<u>317,236</u>
UNEXPENDED EXPENDITURE APPROPRIATION	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,560</u>	<u>\$ 6,164</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**MANITOBA WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES
For the Year Ended March 31, 2008**

	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2007 Actual
Salaries and Employee Benefits			
Managerial	\$ 76,800	\$ 88,410	\$ 75,128
Professional / Technical	52,000	20,875	48,914
Administrative Support	77,800	88,960	78,879
Employee Benefits	23,000	20,477	21,655
	<u>229,600</u>	<u>218,722</u>	<u>224,576</u>
Other Expenditures			
Personnel Services	20,000	29,765	8,627
Transportation	9,200	3,201	10,791
Communication	16,700	23,926	13,818
Supplies and Services	35,800	35,610	34,303
Capital	1,500	795	4,276
Other Operating	23,000	18,221	20,845
	<u>106,200</u>	<u>111,518</u>	<u>92,660</u>
	<u>\$ 335,800</u>	<u>\$ 330,240</u>	<u>\$ 317,236</u>

MANITOBA WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
As at March 31, 2008

1. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council is to advance the goal of equal participation of the women in society and to promote changes in social, legal and economic structures to that end.

The appointed Council consists of a chairperson and up to eighteen members selected from a variety of geographic cultural and social economic backgrounds. Effective June 2004, the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council's financial reporting and approved accountability are directed by the Minister of Labour and Immigration.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Outlined below are those policies considered particularly significant for the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council.

(a). Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognized when the budget sub-appropriation is approved by the passing of the annual *Appropriation Act* by the Manitoba Legislature.

(b). Measurement Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of certain assets and liabilities at the date of financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

3. PRIOR YEAR'S FIGURES

Prior year comparative figures have been prepared by another firm of professional accountants.

**MANITOBA WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL
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As at March 31, 2008**

AUDITORS' REPORT, dated August 5, 2008

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