

## YWCA WOMEN'S POLITICAL ACTION FORUM PRESENTERS

**Canadian Women Voters Congress** will present on the work of the Congress and The Women's Campaign School.

**Equal Voice**, an Action Group for the Election of Women, supports women in politics and women candidates.

**Every Vote Counts!** Presenter Jeannie Lea, Chair, (former PEI cabinet Minister) will present the work of Every Vote Counts! in PEI.

**Fair Vote Canada** will present the benefits of electoral reform and proportional representation as well as their cross Canada activities.

**Federation of Canadian Municipalities** will present as a National Steering Committee member on the project "Increasing Women's Participation in Municipal Consultation Processes."

**FemJEPP** (Feminists for Just and Equitable Public Policy) will present their work on the development of equitable and just public policy for Nova Scotian women.

**National Association of Women and the Law** will present their work on parliamentary reform as it pertains to equality of women and electoral reform.

**One Woman One Vote** will present actions of the YWCA initiative from 2000 to 2004.

**"See Jane Run"** Anita Neville, Chair and Liberal MP for Winnipeg South Centre, will present the work of the event.

**Winning Women** will discuss their work and the "Campaigning, Lobbying and Appointment" Book.

**Linda Trimble and Jane Arscott** are political science professors, University of Alberta, who co-authored the book, "Still Counting: Women in Politics Across Canada." (Published in 2003)

**Dr. Lisa Young**, Associate Professor, University of Calgary, Department of Political Science, will present her work on the Study on Youth Participation in Canadian Political Parties.

## YWCA WOMEN'S POLITICAL ACTION FORUM

Join women's organizations from across Canada as they come together for the first time to present their organization purpose and actions towards identifying and addressing barriers that prevent more women from running for public office.

- ♦ Proportional Representation
- ♦ Campaign School Information
- ♦ Results of Voter Apathy Workshops
- ♦ Promoting the Participation of Visible Minorities
- ♦ Recent Election Results of Female Elected Representatives
- ♦ Electoral Reform to Increase the Number of Women in Elected Office

**Register today!**

**YWCA of Edmonton**  
100, 10350 - 124 Street  
Edmonton AB T5N 3V9

Phone: (780) 423-9922 (ext. 237)

Email: [information@ywcaofedmonton.org](mailto:information@ywcaofedmonton.org)

Fax: (780) 425-7467

Websites: [www.ywcaofedmonton.org](http://www.ywcaofedmonton.org)  
[www.onewomanonevote.org](http://www.onewomanonevote.org)

**Registration form available online**



Funding provided by:  
Status of Women Canada &  
Alberta Human Rights and Multiculturalism  
Education Grant Program



## YWCA WOMEN'S POLITICAL ACTION FORUM

A non-partisan forum bringing together women, and women's organizations, who are working independently to increase women's participation in the political process.

Thursday, February 26th-  
Saturday, February 28th,  
2004

Lister Conference Centre  
University of Alberta Campus  
Edmonton Alberta

**Register EARLY**  
**Spaces are limited!**

\$100.00 (Meals and GST Included)



## THE ONE WOMAN ONE VOTE INITIATIVE

**ONE WOMAN ONE VOTE** is a non-partisan initiative encouraging women to vote, and empowering women to become active participants in shaping the public agenda on policies and issues that impact their lives.

**ONE WOMAN ONE VOTE** encourages women to become involved in the political process.

The **ONE WOMAN ONE VOTE** initiative has evolved in four-phases:

### PHASE I focused on:

- Identifying women's voting patterns
- Increasing level of political participation
- Barriers to political involvement faced by women.

### PHASE II highlighted:

- Information on the history of local women in politics
- Pioneering achievements of female city councillors and school board members.

### PHASE III focused on:

- Promoting women's participation in elections
- Preparing women for political involvement
- Identifying sources of leadership
- Accessing available resources to facilitate women's development.

### PHASE IV focus is:

- Assisting women who want to be in public office
- Sharing information between connecting organizations who are helping women overcome barriers to entering public office.

## ACTIONS of YWCA of EDMONTON

### NOVEMBER 10, 1999 – Day for Dialogue

• YWCA of Edmonton brought together women and women's organizations in Edmonton to discuss how collectively women could have a stronger voice.

### JANUARY 31, 2001 - One Woman One Vote

• The YWCA of Edmonton hosted a media launch of the One Woman One Vote initiative.

### MARCH 21, 2001-The Alberta Provincial Election

• YWCA of Edmonton:

- Delivered the Women's Candidates Forum
- Conducted Information Sessions
- Distributed brochures encouraging women to vote and questions to ask politicians on issues of importance to women.

### OCTOBER 15, 2001-The Edmonton Civic Election

• YWCA of Edmonton:

- Distributed a brochure which featured voting procedures, Edmonton women who made a difference in public office, and potential questions to ask candidates.
- Hosted the Female Candidates' Breakfast to encourage networking among women.

### JUNE 25, 2002 - Multi-Partisan Think Tank

• Asked the question: "What could the YWCA do to provide Edmonton women with the skills and knowledge to assist them in seeking public office?"

### NOVEMBER 13, 2003 - Roundtable Discussion

• One to One – "Women in Conversation With Women in Public Office."

- Increase women's understanding of election process and life in public office.
- Encourage dialogue and inform women about their choices.
- Increase women's understanding of their power to affect change.

### FEBRUARY 26 - 28, 2004 – Women's Political Action Forum

- Increase the number of women in public office
- Mobilize women to get involved in the democratic process
- Increase women's understanding of conducting a lobby, coordinating a campaign or running for public office.

## DID YOU KNOW?

When women become active participants in shaping public policy, they can influence and impact in areas of gender equality and social justice including:

- Economic independence
- Eliminating violence against women and girls
- Under-representation in public office.

### HISTORIC DATES IN CANADA

**1917** In Alberta, Louise McKinney becomes the first woman in the Commonwealth to be a member of a legislature.

**1918** Some women are given the federal vote.

**1921** Agnes MacPhail is the first female Member of Parliament.

**1929** The British Privy Council, overturning a Supreme Court of Canada decision, deems women "persons" who can be appointed to the Senate.

**1931** Cairine Wilson is the first woman to become a Senator.

**1974** In Ontario, Pauline McGibbon is the first woman to be named a Lieutenant-Governor.

**1984** Jeanne Sauve is the first female Governor General.

**1989** Audrey McLaughlin becomes the first woman to head a federal political party.

**1991** Rita Johnston is the first female Premier of BC.

**1991** Nellie Cournoyea is the first woman to lead a territorial government in N.W.T.

The **YWCA of Edmonton** is committed to keeping the community informed and proactive on issues of importance to women and their families.

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*"Equity and equality for women require that women's perspectives help shape society's direction."*

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*"Education widens the worldview of the individual and increases the sense of competence to live one's life as one wishes."*