



Comments on the
2008 Ontario Budget

submitted to the

Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs
Legislative Assembly of Ontario

Room 1405, Whitney Block
Queen's Park, Toronto, ON M7A 1A2

January 30, 2008

By the

Canadian Federation of University Women
Ontario Council

Submitted by
Linda MacGregor,
President
Canadian Federation of University Women
Ontario Council

Researched by Teri Shaw
With contributions by Edeltraud Neal

This fax contains 18 pages including this cover

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER OF INTRODUCTION.....	3
FAMILIES LIVING IN POVERTY.....	5
SOME SPECIFIC CONCERNS	
Child Care and Early Learning.....	6
The Clawback, the Ontario Child Benefit and social assistance benefits.....	7
Housing and Homelessness.....	8
Food Bank Use.....	9
RECOMMENDATIONS.....	9
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS.....	11
RECOMMENDATIONS.....	12
FAMILY LAW EDUCATION FOR WOMEN.....	13
RECOMMENDATIONS.....	13
Appendix A – POLICY.....	14
Appendix B – CLUBS IN ONTARIO.....	18

Pat Hoy, MPP Chatham-Kent-Essex,
Chair, Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs,
Room 1405, Whitney Block
Queen's Park,
Toronto, ON M7A 1A2
Fax: 416-325-3505

January 30, 2008

Dear Mr. Hoy and the Members of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs,

The Ontario Council of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW Ontario Council) welcomes the opportunity to submit its concerns for your consideration for the 2008 Ontario Budget.

The welfare of our community is of the utmost importance to us. We have, like many others in the province, realized that the prosperity of the last few years has not been extended to all Ontario residents.

While there are, as in any year, many concerns about our environment, our health system and our schools, we have decided to emphasize specifically

- w families that are living in poverty
- w women and girls living with violence, and
- w the education of marginalized women on their legal rights within family law.

CFUW ONTARIO COUNCIL

CFUW Ontario Council is made up of more than 5500 women university graduates living in 58 Ontario communities, including large urban areas as well as in rural and northern towns (see Appendix B). We are non-partisan and non-sectarian and totally member-funded.

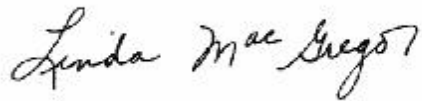
When voting on policy each of our clubs has one vote so that the voice of members from Thunder Bay and Renfrew and St. Thomas have the same weight as those from the

Toronto and Ottawa areas. This results in well balanced policies that may be embraced by most Ontarians.

Our members put their skills and education at the service of their community and are active in public affairs, working toward the improvement of the status of women, human rights, public education, health, justice and the environment in Ontario.

CFUW Ontario Council is part of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) and has links with the International Federation of University Women (IFUW).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda MacGregor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda McGregor
President
Canadian Federation of University Women
Ontario Council
cfuwontario@yahoo.com
www.cfuwontcouncil.ca

FAMILIES LIVING IN POVERTY

The Ontario Council of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW OC) applauds the Ontario government's initiative concerning family poverty.

Establishing a Cabinet committee under the direction of the Hon. Deborah Matthews to make a "clear-cut progress on reducing child poverty"¹ is a positive sign that our Government is committed to taking action on this issue.

The Government has before it many resources.

Over the past few months there has been a flurry of reports from the Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition's social audit of Ontario² to John Stapleton's *Why is it so tough to get ahead?*³ to the reports specific to Toronto written by the United Way⁴ and the University of Toronto⁵

These build on others from previous years that includes the study done by Minister Matthews⁶ on social assistance, as well as its critique prepared by the Income Security Advocacy Centre⁷, and the reports of the Task Force on Modernizing Income Security for Working- Age Adults (MISWAA)⁸

All of these paint a picture of great concern.

Also available to the government are a plethora of organizations and people who have experience, expertise and knowledge. This committee of the Cabinet that has been charged with making progress on child poverty will have extensive resources available to it in order to make sound policy decisions, and develop strategy, action plans with targets, timetables and methods of evaluation. What then becomes necessary is the political will and the financial resources to make the essential changes to positively affect the lives of Ontario citizens.

According to the Statistics Canada report, *Women in Canada*⁹, women, especially single mothers, are more likely to be poor than men. While the Speech from the Throne

¹ Government of Ontario, *Speech From the Throne*, Nov.29,2007

² Murray MacAdam, ed *Lives Still in the Balance, Ontario's Social Audit*, Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition, Kitchener ON

³ John Stapleton *'Why is it so tough to get ahead? How our tangled social programs pathologize the transition to self-reliance'* Metcalf Foundation, 2007 www.metcalffoundation.com

⁴ 4 United Way of Greater Toronto *Losing Ground: The persistent growth of family poverty in Canada's largest city, Nov. 2007* www.unitedwaytoronto.com/whoWeHelp/reports/losingGround.php

⁵ J. David Hulchanski, *The Three Cities within Toronto: Income polarization among Toronto's neighbourhoods, 1970-2000* Centre for Urban & Community Studies, University of Toronto www.wellesleyinstitute.com/files/cucs/threecitiesoftoronto.pdf

⁶ Deb Matthews, M.P.P., *Review of Employment Assistance Programs in Ontario Works & Ontario Disability Support Program*, Ministry of Community & Social Services, December 2004 http://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/NR/rdoonlyres/F1B51636-3FFA-4490-A703-CCEC8CEE7272/95/EmploymentAssistanceProgram_Matthews_eng.pdf

⁷ Income Security Advocacy Centre, *The Matthews Report: Moving Towards Real Income Security*, May 2005 www.incomesecurity.org/documents/ISACResponseToMatthewsReport-final.doc

⁸ Task Force on Modernizing Income Security for Working- Age Adults (MISWAA)

⁹ Statistics Canada *Women in Canada, 5th Ed., A Gender-based Statistical Report* www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/89-503-XIE/0010589-503-XIE.pdf

speaks of child poverty, children are members of a family and, in reality, it is family poverty that needs to be tackled. This has been echoed in an earlier report from St. Christopher House about *Enabling Families to Succeed*¹⁰.

The report lists four prerequisites which families need to succeed:

1. Adequate income and safe, stable, affordable housing;
2. Strong and well supported social networks that give parents support;
3. Robust community institutions and infrastructure which promotes the formation of informal social networks;
4. Service delivery that builds family capacity with programs that
 - w have stable long term funding, and
 - w are universal, thereby preventing social exclusion.

These are some **specific concerns** that CFUW Ontario Council has noted:

1. Child Care and Early Learning

In order for parents to work or continue their education, children need to be cared for. At the same time, it is now acknowledged that the early years are some of the most fundamental for learning and future child development.

Child care statistics are difficult to correlate but all do point out a dearth of regulated, quality spaces. In 2005, there were more than 1.2 million children under 12 years of age with mothers working, but with only 229,875 regulated spaces available. With the addition this year of another 7000 spaces, the total would approximate 236,875, a mere 20% of what is needed. It should be noted that the Chair of the Children's Services Committee of Toronto reported that her city had actually lost 1800 regulated spaces over the last ten years.¹¹ Also of concern is that these child care spaces have age variations ranging from infant care (only 6,949) to school age¹².

Child care is also expensive. The report, *Early childhood education and care in Canada 2006*¹³, notes that the average daily child care cost in Ontario is \$43, or \$10,750 per year.

Where there are spaces available, for families that are earning \$20,000, subsidies will bring the costs to zero dollars per child per day; for a family earning \$30,000, it is \$4.00 per child per day; and then increasing incrementally to \$42.00 per child per day for a family earning \$70,000. Approximately 96,000 children receive these subsidies. Also

¹⁰ Susan Pigott and Lidia Monaco, *Enabling Families to Succeed: Community-Based Supports for Families*, St. Christopher House, September 2004 <http://www.voicesforchildren.ca/report-Oct2004-1.htm>

¹¹ Peter Ehrlich, "Politicians hold key to children's futures" *Toronto Star*, Jan.21,2008

¹² Martha Friendly, Jane Beach, Carolyn Ferns, Michelle Turiano, *Early childhood education and care in Canada 2006. 7th edition*, Childcare Resource and Research Unit, June 2007 http://www.childcarecanada.org/ECEC2006/pdf/ECEC06_ON.pdf , pg.75-92

¹³ *ibid.*

13,500 children, whose parents are receiving Ontario Works benefits, are subsidized for regulated care with another 9,400 children receiving subsidies for unregulated care.

Since 1987, the Canadian Federation of University Women has supported quality, universal, accessible and developmental child care.

- w Quality – research continues to show the importance of the quality of the program and the caregivers on the child’s development¹⁴
- w Universal – Gillian Doherty, in her study published in December 2007, “*Ensuring the Best Start in Life; Targeting versus Universality in Early Childhood Development*” shows that, as there are vulnerable children found across all socio-economic groups, targeting only children from low income families is unwise.¹⁵
- w Accessible – reasonable prices (Québec has chosen to have \$7.00 per day child care) and subsidies for those who cannot afford it.
- w Developmental – early learning is now considered a fundamental part of quality child care and we commend the Government of Ontario for its Best Start program.

2. The Clawback, the Ontario Child Benefit and social assistance benefits

We commend the Ontario Government for establishing the Ontario Child Benefit (OCB).

However according to the Income Security Advocacy Center,

“The Ontario Child Benefit ... implemented in July 2008, ...is scheduled to increase gradually from \$50/month/child to \$92/month/child by 2011. As of July, 2008, the National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS) will also no longer be deducted monthly from the cheques of families on OW and ODSP. ...[But] As of July, 2008, monthly ODSP and OW benefits for families will be reduced, and families will no longer receive a separate winter clothing allowance or back-to-school clothing allowance. Thus, a single mother on OW with one child, for example, will only be better off by \$31/month as of July 2008, growing gradually to \$50/month by 2011.”¹⁶

¹⁴ Canadian Council on Learning, *Lessons in Learning: Why is High-Quality Child Care Essential? The Link Between Quality Child Care and Early Learning* May 31, 2006 www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/Reports/LessonsInLearning/20060530LinL.htm

¹⁵ Gillian Doherty, “Ensuring the Best Start in Life; Targeting versus Universality in Early Childhood Development” *IRPP Choices* Vol. 13, no. 8, December 2007 www.irpp.org/choices/archive/vol13no8.pdf

¹⁶ www.incomesecurity.org/campaigns/OntarioChildBenefit.html

Had that single mother on OW with one child received the full NCBS in 2007, her monthly allowance would have been \$122 – \$91 more than she will be receiving in 2008.¹⁷

We commend the government for enhancing the rates for Ontario Works and the Ontario Disability Support Program, but because of the 21.5% cut in Ontario Works in 1995, and inflation varying between 1.6% and 2.5%, we wonder if families are further ahead.

3. Housing and Homelessness

A safe, secure, healthy home should be a fundamental right for any person. Currently there were 123,182 Ontario households waiting for housing in 2007.¹⁸ As of November 30th, 2007, there were 379 affordable housing projects in progress representing 10,498 units.¹⁹

The *Street Health Report 2007*²⁰ of Toronto highlighted the desperate situation of people forced to live on the streets of Toronto and the need for both affordable and supportive housing.

At the same time, the Community Social Planning Council of Toronto published a report²¹ that found that the majority of homeless children, aged six to 12, attend three schools in the year when they lose housing, and, as a result, they repeat and/or fall behind in their studies, lose friends and community support. Some children can actually attend more than 10 schools before reaching the secondary school level. Naturally many of these children suffer emotional trauma from the situation that led to their homelessness. As well, they may be subject to bullying and suffer social isolation in their new schools. Neither the school nor the shelter system is equipped to help them.

If we accept that housing costs should account for no more 30% of a family's pre-tax monthly bills, and that the average rent of a two bedroom apartment in Toronto (October 2007)²² was \$1057, it would mean that a single mother working for minimum wage at \$8.75/hour would have to work 100 hours per week to afford this apartment and in Barrie, that same single mother would have to work 85 hours per week. If she opts for a one bedroom apartment, then in Toronto she would have to work 85 hours per week to afford this apartment and in Ottawa, 73 hours per week.

¹⁷ www.incomesecurity.org/documents/RateRestructuringandChildBenefitsREVISION-9Nov07.pdf

¹⁸ Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association www.onpha.on.ca/english/doc/wait_list_map.pdf

¹⁹ Ontario. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Affordable Housing, retrieved Jan.19,2008 www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page126.aspx

²⁰ Street Health, Toronto ON www.streethealth.ca/Downloads/SHReport2007.pdf

²¹ Anne Decter, *Lost in the Shuffle: The Impact of Homelessness on Children's Education In Toronto*, Community Social Planning Council of Toronto.2007 www.socialplanningtoronto.org/KidBuildersPhase3%20-%20Final%20Report.pdf

²² Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, *Rental market survey 2007* Dec.2007 www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/odpub/esub/64683/64683_2007_A01.pdf

4. Food Bank Use

According to the Ontario Hunger Count Report 2007, the number of Ontarians served by food banks per month was 318,540 and of those, 38.8% were children, 29.3% were new Canadians and 14.2% were employed.²³

CFUW Ontario Council echoes the recommendations of the reports cited in this brief:

- w Accessible affordable housing**
- w Accessible quality child care**
- w Good jobs at wages to support families**
- w Strong safety net of income support programs**
- w Accessible education and training.**

While these are the basics that must be constantly and seriously considered, there are other areas of concerns that cannot be neglected.

So many times individuals and families living in poverty find themselves isolated and excluded. Some have left their extended families; immigrants have arrived in a new unfamiliar country; and adolescents migrate to our cities. For whatever reason, much of it economic, people leave their support system which can be disastrous for many generations to come.

We need to build the capacity to support families by empowering their community. Providing ongoing, stable assistance to community institutions will, in turn, build that capacity needed to support families – whatever shape these *families* might take.

²³ Ontario Association of Food Banks, *Ontario Hunger Report 2007*
<http://oafb.ca/portal/images/downloads/Research/Ontario%20Hunger%20Report%202007.pdf>

CFUW Ontario Council therefore recommends that funds be made available to:

- w Create and support both formal and informal social networks and community programs, for example, community kitchens, gardens and development projects.**
- w Support the community institutions that are currently in operation by**
 - o Offering stable funding for their programs that are geared to family and individual support;**
 - o Funding municipalities to make more recreation programs and facilities available;**
 - o Funding municipalities and school boards to make available programs for young adolescents who are too old for after-school programs.**
- w Create multi-service programming that helps parents and families build skills, access resources and develop strong and well-supported networks.**
- w Offer universal programs that will not further isolate and exclude individuals.**

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

In the years between 2002 and 2005, there have been 113 violent domestic incidents which involved 148 deaths of which 99 were women, 9 were children, and 48 were men (41 of which were the perpetrators)²⁴

In the last few weeks of 2007, a young woman was allegedly murdered by her father, while another man allegedly murdered his girl friend and her brother.

The report of the Toronto District School Board's School Community Safety Advisory Panel, chaired by Julian Falconer, has detailed concerns about "gender-based violence, including sexual assault and sexual harassment [that] is occurring at alarming rates."²⁵ The report states

"While the alarming rates of sexual violence and harassment involving young women and students of diverse sexual orientations demonstrate that these forms of violence are far too common, they are often just treated as "boys will be boys" or jokes. The failure to respond quickly and decisively to incidents involving girls and young women sends a message that young women are not entitled to, and should not expect, protection from gender-based violence in schools."²⁶

Violence against women and girls is still sadly pervasive, yet many of the supports are missing.

The Falconer Report, statements made by the Step It Up Campaign²⁷ and the YWCA Toronto²⁸ during the election highlight a continuing need to assist women caught in abusive relationships. While women are the most vulnerable when they are about to leave a relationship, they need support to do just that – to remove themselves and their families from an abusive and possible violent situation. They need access to a wide range of supports, including affordable housing, universal, low cost child care, legal aid, as well as financial and emotional support once they leave the shelter.

The 2006 report of Domestic Violence Death Review Committee noted the devastating impact of the violence on children and felt a need "to address issues surrounding children who are exposed to it."

²⁴ Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, **Annual Report to the Chief Coroner 2006**, www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/english/publications/comm_safety/DVDRC_2006.pdf

²⁵ **The Road to Health: A Final Report on School Safety**, Jan.2008, p.10 www.schoolsafetypanel.com/finalReport.html

²⁶ *ibid.*, p.411

²⁷ Step it Up Campaign www.stepitupontario.ca/english/about/step-it-up-our-platform-for-parties.html

²⁸ YWCA Toronto <http://newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/October2007/04/c8622.html>

CFUW Ontario Council recommends

- w Restore core funding, including inflationary costs, to sexual assault centres and women's shelters;**
- w Extending funds for legal aid to support legal aid clinics that assist women as well as the family law legal aid certificate program;**
- w Support for the recommendations of the Falconer Report throughout the province that call for:**
 - o emotional and physical support for young women affected;**
 - o educating the perpetrators of violence on socially acceptable behaviour;**
 - o safe locations for those threatened (including young men);**
 - o teacher training programs to assist them in recognizing signs of child abuse and learning how to support children caught in abusive relationships;**
 - o a comprehensive study of safety issues affecting female students to ensure that school policies appropriately address their specific safety risks. This research should also examine policies that involve the reporting of incidents of sexual assault to police; and**
- w A reiteration of other recommendations mentioned in this brief, such as**
 - o Affordable housing;**
 - o Quality, universal, accessible, low cost child care;**
 - o A minimum wage that can make *family poverty history*;**
 - o Income support programs;**
 - o Accessible education and training.**

FAMILY LAW EDUCATION FOR WOMEN

CFUW Ontario Council commends the government of Ontario for the measures taken in the wake of the Family Statute Laws Amendment Act 2005 that will provide tools for making women cognizant of their rights in family law. This will allow them to make informed decisions with regard to alternative dispute resolution, arbitration, domestic contracts, marriage and divorce, custody and access, child support, spousal support, property division, child protection, and inheritance law.

CFUW Ontario Council holds that many women need education on these subjects. In crisis situations it is imperative that aboriginal women, non-status women, immigrant and refugee women, those living in closed faith communities and those otherwise vulnerable, have available easily accessible legal information and other resources.

We are reminded daily that men and women need to know that in Canadian law violence against women which is most often domestic violence, is unacceptable. The women affected, and their families, need to be aware of the consequences of the intersection between immigration and family law, as well as between criminal law and family law. They also need to know how to find family law legal assistance.

The culturally appropriate materials that are being developed with the funding of the Ontario government in English and French and several other languages by the Family Law Education for Women (FLEW) Consortium form the basis for an ongoing family law education process in Ontario communities. The material currently under development is intended for a grade 7 education level and thus will be useful in many contexts.

CFUW Ontario Council is pleased to be a member of the FLEW Consortium as part of the Reference group collaborating with other women's groups on how to best develop these materials for the use by women require this legal information.

CFUW Ontario Council recommends that the Government of Ontario

- w continue to extend, monitor, support and fund family law literacy in Ontario communities, and**
- w make available culturally tailored family law education materials to male and female students in Ontario schools, thereby preventing the tragic consequences caused by ignorance of Ontario family law.**



Canadian Federation of University Women

Policy relating to the

Pre-Budget Consultations, 2008

Note: CFUW /Ontario Council policy integrates CFUW Ontario Council policy, as well as that of CFUW and IFUW.

EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE

Child Care and Early Learning

CFUW, 1987

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge the Government of Canada to commit itself, through social and economic policies, to facilitate the provision of an adequate supply of affordable, accessible child care facilities, which fulfil the purposes of providing a safe, healthy, physical, social, emotional and intellectual development.

Early Childhood Education and Care

CFUW, 2006 Revised Resolution (Original Resolution 1994)

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women reaffirm its existing policy and urge the Government of Canada to give priority to the creation of a quality, universally accessible and comprehensive early learning and child care program which emphasizes the development of the whole child. Funding for this initiative should involve all levels of government through cost-sharing mechanisms, as in other human services such as health, education and social programs.

Parenting

CFUW, 1979

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge provincial ministries of education and local school boards to establish programs in parenting and human relations for all students, elementary, intermediate, and secondary, such programs to be compulsory in at least the intermediate and elementary grades.

FAMILY LAW

Equality in Family Law

CFUW, 2005

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge the Government of Canada and all provincial and territorial governments of Canada to exclude family law disputes from arbitration legislation,

so that the rights of an individual under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms are respected; and

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge the Government of Canada and all provincial and territorial governments of Canada to ensure that all residents of Canada are made cognizant of their rights and responsibilities under family law legislation and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

HOUSING

Affordable Housing

CFUW, 1992

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge the Government of Canada to reinstate non-profit, co-operative and affordable housing programs, and to promote and to finance these programs; and

RESOLVED, That CFUW urge all levels of government to co-operate in establishing comprehensive plans for land use, which will guarantee affordable housing within community developments.

Homelessness and Poverty

CFUW, 1999

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge the Government of Canada to take immediate action to carry out its UN commitments as stated in article 25.1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1949) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1967), by defining and ensuring access to an adequate standard of living for all Canadians to maintain health and well-being;

RESOLVED, That CFUW urge the Government of Canada to recognize the present crises of homelessness and poverty, and to work with the provincial, territorial, local and aboriginal governments, as well as with the business and community sector, to ensure the provision and coordination of a full range of short-term social support and health-related services, with ease of access by homeless and poor people;

RESOLVED, That CFUW urge the Government of Canada and the provincial, territorial, local and aboriginal governments to work together with business and community organizations to provide support to existing affective community initiatives and to create other appropriate immediate and long-term programs such as low-cost innovative housing and the development of new employment opportunities to eliminate homelessness, alleviate poverty and foster independent living; and

RESOLVED, That CFUW urge the Government of Canada, provincial, territorial, local and aboriginal governments, and the business sector to ensure that adequate funding is provided for:

1. community-based mental health outreach programs, including public education on the interpretation and application of the Mental Health Statutes and on support strategies for families;
2. adequate, comprehensive, supportive housing for those with mental illness who no longer need full-time institutional care, but are not yet ready for a completely independent life-style.

Homeless Youth

CFUW, 2006

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge the federal, provincial, territorial, regional and municipal governments to formulate and implement gender sensitive plans to address the specific needs of homeless youth, to include:

1. a range of housing options
 - Crisis
 - Transitional

- supportive
- supported
- Long-term affordable housing;

2. coordinated and accessible youth support services with focus on education and self-sufficiency; and

3. ongoing financial resources committed to organizations and agencies that provide housing and support services to homeless youth.

LEGAL AID

Legal Aid Provision in Canada

CFUW, 2003

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge the federal, provincial and territorial governments of Canada to enact “access to justice” legislation which will ensure that adequate legal aid is an integral component of the Canadian justice system; and

RESOLVED, That CFUW urge the federal, provincial and territorial governments of Canada to work collaboratively to establish regulations and standards which would define, and guarantee, effective and accessible civil legal aid throughout Canada, and to ensure the necessary funding to maintain these regulations and standards.

POVERTY

Poverty

CFUW, 2000

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge the federal government to renew its commitments to the UN regarding poverty; and

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge the federal, provincial and territorial governments to:

1. implement measures intended to reduce and prevent poverty, especially child poverty.
2. initiate a careful re-evaluation of the situation regarding the real economic, healthcare and educational needs of Canadian children, as well as the actual public resources available to fight poverty.

Income Equality for Ontario’s Children

CFUW Ontario Council, 2006

RESOLVED, that the Ontario Council of the Canadian Federation of University Women urge the Government of Ontario to stop the claw back of the National Child Benefit Supplement from recipients of the Ontario Works program (OW) and the Ontario Disability Support Plan (ODSP).

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Prevention of Violence against Women

CFUW, 1992

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge the Federal, provincial and territorial governments to take appropriate steps to improve measures to prevent violence against women.

Wife Assault Victims

CFUW, 1992

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge its members to promote the use of violence prevention education programs in their communities; and

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women at all levels of the organization, work to ensure that victims of wife assault receive the information, shelter and protection required to enable them to establish lives free of terror.

Violence Prevention Education

CFUW, 1992

RESOLVED, That the CFUW urge the Government of Canada and the provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to continue to exercise their leadership roles to ensure security of the person and to promote zero tolerance to violence for Canadian women in the following ways:

1. by expanding the multi-media education campaign on violence against women;
2. by working with relevant professions and community groups to promote strong and consistent violence-prevention education; and
3. by working together to ensure that the community has adequate resources to accommodate the demand for services for abused women and children resulting from the increased education on violence.

Violence-Free Family Life

IFUW, 1998

RESOLVED, That all national federations and associations promote the development and implementation of programs that address the problem of domestic violence with particular reference to the human rights of women and children and that these programs be concerned specifically with:

1. demanding legislation and adequate resources to prevent domestic violence and to protect the victims;
2. encouraging research by governments, universities and private institutions into the incidence, causes, nature and effects of family violence;
3. addressing the social conditions that lead to family violence;
4. rising awareness through the media, seminars and study programs of the increasing levels of violence against women and girls;
5. ensuring that, because of the widespread and increasing incidence of family violence in many societies, education for the peaceful resolution of conflict is included in school curricula at all levels;
6. establishing shelters in the community where those abused can receive protection and support;
7. disseminating information widely about success to help in crises; and
8. developing and supporting strategies whose effectiveness is proven in breaking self-perpetuating patterns of family violence.

Appendix B



Ontario Council of The Canadian Federation of University Women Club Locations

Ajax – Pickering	Kitchener - Waterloo	Ottawa
Aurora - Newmarket	Leaside - East York	Owen Sound & Area
Barrie & District	London	Perth
Belleville & District	Markham- Unionville	Peterborough
Brampton	Milton & District	Renfrew & District
Brantford	Mississauga	Sarnia Lambton
Brockville & District	Muskoka	Saugeen
Burlington	Nepean	Scarborough
Cambridge	Niagara Falls	Southport
Chatham -Kent	Norfolk	St. Catharines
Cornwall & District	North Bay	St. Thomas
Etobicoke	North Toronto	Stratford
Georgetown	North York	Sudbury
Grimsby	Northumberland	Thunder Bay
Guelph	Oakville	Toronto
Haliburton Highlands	Orangeville & District	Vaughan
Hamilton	Orillia	Welland & District
Kanata	Orleans	Weston & District
Kincardine	Oshawa & District	Windsor
Kingston		