

**DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE WOMEN'S CENTRE**  
**44 East Cordova Street, Vancouver Tel: 681-8480**  
**September 1995**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Monday 10:30 - 5</b> <b>Tues. 10:30 - 5</b> <b>Weds. 11:30 - 5</b> <b>Thurs. 10:30 - 5</b> <b>Fri. 10:30 - 5</b> <b>Sun. 12:00 - 5</b>	<b>LUNCH SERVED</b> <b>DAILY AT 12:30</b>				<b>1</b> <b>CENTRE</b> <b>CLOSED</b> <b>TODAY NOT</b> <b>MONDAY</b>	<b>2</b> Camping Trip
<b>3</b> 1:30 Bingo  Camping Trip	<b>4</b> 4:00 Return from Camping Trip 5:00 Learn. group	<b>5</b> 1:30 Women's Voice 2:00 Make Signs for Take Back the Night March 5:00 Women Surviving Together	<b>6</b> 1:00 Kathy the Nurse 1:30 Beading 2:00 Stopping the Violence Video 5:00 Take Back the Night March	<b>7</b> 1:00 Law Student 2:00 Ceramics 5:00 Volunteer Dinner	<b>8</b> <b>1:30 RAFFLE</b> 2:00 Video	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 1:30 Video	<b>11</b> 2:00 Human Rights Workshop with Karen Spears 5:00 Learn. group	<b>12</b> 1:30 Women's Voice 2:00 Walk in Strathcona Garden Plot 5:00 Women Surviving Together	<b>13</b> 1:00 Kathy the Nurse 1:30 Beading 2:00 Volunteer Meeting	<b>14</b> 1:00 Law Student 2:00 Glass Art 5:00 Movie Outing	<b>15</b> <b>1:30 RAFFLE</b> 2:00 Results of Legal needs assessment 2:30 Video	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 1:30 Bingo	<b>18</b> 1:30 Aids Van. 2:00 Origami 5:00 Learn. group	<b>19</b> 1:00 Canoe Outing 1:30 Women's Voice 2:30 Happy Birthday! 5:00 Women Surviving Together	<b>20</b> 1:00 Kathy the Nurse 1:30 Beading 2:00 Stopping the Violence Video 5:00 Welfare Rights Workshop	<b>21</b> 1:00 Law Student 1:30 Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Workshop 4:00 Steering Committee Meeting	<b>22</b> <b>1:30 RAFFLE</b> 2:00 Video <b>2:30 LAST</b> <b>SUMMER BBQ</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 1:30 Video	<b>25</b> 1:30 Aids Van. 2:00 Legal Ed. - Tenancy Rights 5:00 Learn. group	<b>26</b> 1:30 Women's Voice 2:00 Dream catchers and Medecinewheel 5:00 Women surviving Together	<b>27</b> <b>CHEQUE DAY</b> <b>CENTRE OPEN</b> Video	<b>28</b> 1:00 Law Student 1:30 Liver Disorder Workshop with Kathleen Adams	<b>29</b> <b>1:30 RAFFLE</b> 2:00 Video	<b>30</b>

note\*\*\* - sometimes things get canceled or set up on another date - make sure to check "Update sheet" on the front chalk board\*\*\*  
 check activities and sign up board for more information on up coming centre programs also other free events around town

THE LAST CHANCE BBQ IS SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND AT 2:30. THERE WILL BE SALMON, CORN, BANNOCK AND TONS OF OTHER FOOD, GAMES, ACTIVITIES AND BINGO. THERE WILL BE A CLOWN AND OTHER ENTERTAINMENT. FOOD WILL BE SERVED AT 3:30. THIS IS A WOMEN AND CHILDREN EVENT. SAY GOODBYE TO SUMMER.

September is also the month for the **Annual Camping Trip to Camp Capilano**, we will be leaving the Centre on Saturday, Sept. the 2nd at 9:30 for the camp and will be returning on Monday, Sept. 4th at 4:30. If you really, really want to go but haven't signed up come on Sat. morning and try your luck chances are good that there will be space. Its a great space no tents, cabins!! Swimming pool, hiking trails, craft activities, camp fires, marshmallows the works. Bring suitable clothes and an extra blanket or sleeping bag.

#### OUTINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

New for the Fall is the **Movie and Pizza Night** we received passes from Famous Players Theaters and will be scheduling Movie Outings for August, September, October and November. There will be Pizza at the centre then we will walk up to Granville Street. Movie night is Thursday, Sept. 14th at 5:00. The movie choice will be decided as a group.

Other outing news, **CANOING ADVENTURE**, Tuesday, September 19th. We will leave the Centre at 1:00 to go to Deep Cove, receive some instructions and spend 1 1/2 hours paddling in beautiful Indian Arm. Then there will be a mini BBQ and then back to the Centre. There will be two other outings, the annual **Take Back The Night March and Walk in Strathcona Gardens**.

Last year thousands of women took to the streets for the **Take Back the Night March** to tell people we were tired of being scared in our streets, there was music and dancing and lots of joyous screaming and shouting. Lots of fun also very empowering to see so many strong women. This year we will carry the DEWC banner and make our presence felt. We will meet here at 5:00 for a meal and head out. On Tuesday, September 5th at 2:00 we will be artistic and make placards and posters for the march on Wednesday night.

Did you know that there have been volunteers, digging and planting and weeding and watering and lots of other work all summer at the DEWC plot in the Strathcona Gardens?? Well they have been hard at work and we will go for a picnic at the Gardens to enjoy the fruits of their labour on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 2:00. We will walk over to the gardens and have a relaxing afternoon and a snack.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

There will be 2 educational videos this month the topics will be announced later. **Stopping the violence videos** will be on Wednesday, Sept. 6th and Wednesday, Sept. 20th at 2:00.

#### WORKSHOPS

There are 6 GREAT workshops this month. We received funds to have workshops on **Legal Issues**. On Friday, Sept. 15th Toni will introduce the project report back on the legal needs assesment and also get feed back from women as to what is needed.

The **Tenants Rights Action Coalition** will come in to Monday, Sept. 25 at 2:00 to talk about Tenants Rights and what action tenants can take against their landlords.

There will also be a evening meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 20th at 5:00 to talk to different Welfare Agencies about **Welfare Rights**. There will be all kinds of info. available regarding the changing welfare system and your rights when dealing with your worker. There will be a dinner, presentation and discussion.

Karen is returning to give a workshop on **Human Rights** Monday, Sept. 11th at 2:00. What does it mean and what to do if our Rights have been denied.

**Fetal Alcohol Syndrome** if you are concerned about FAS Dawne from the Native Friendship will be here to do a complete workshop on FAS on Thursday, Sept. 21st at 1:30.

Kathleen Adams will come in on Thursday, Sept. 28th at 1:30 to do a workshop on **Liver Disorders**, such as Hepatitis B and C and other liver ailments. This is a workshop on prevention and care.

#### CRAFTY WORKSHOPS

Crafty workshops are going to continue, in addition to beading there will be **Dream catchers** with Deny, **Ceramics** with Cynthia, **Glass etching** with Julie, **Origami** with Kaori and **Crochet** with Louisa. Come out and try your hand and tell us what you think.

#### MEETINGS

The **Steering Committee** will be meeting on Thursday, Sept. 21 at 4:00, anyone is welcome to participate.

**Big Volunteer News** - There's a new coordinator, let's get together at the **Volunteer dinner** on Thursday, Sept. 7th at 5:00 and say hello. Also there will be a meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 13th at 2:00 to brain storm about the Volunteer program. Be heard Be there. Also if you are interested in becoming a Volunteer, join us.

## WELL FARE NEWS

September is upon us. For the poor, this means that the cold, wet weather will soon be here and we don't have proper clothing to keep warm and dry. If we have children, it means our children need things for school which we cannot afford. Sometimes it's hard to get excited about the change in seasons when you don't have what you need.

I wish that I could say, this will all pass and things will get better but I can't. It feels like things are getting worse. The ever popular welfare bashing has taken on new heights. Local newspapers and radio shows are spreading the word that poor people are the enemy, we are the evil doers of our society AND if you believe all their B S... I've got a good used car I want to sell you.

In other words, the fact that we are poor is not our fault. We are poor because we are oppressed and our struggle is long and hard. We must talk to one another and find ways to fight against all the things and people who work so hard at keeping us poor.

Rock Against Poverty (RAP) will be held on September 30th. I'll post the time and location here at the Centre. The purpose is to gather young people together and involve them in the anti-poverty movement.

I've received an important notice from the Sechelt Nation News dated August 9/95. There is a kind of tattoo called 'blue star' which is actually LSD and is being sold to school children. It comes on a small piece of paper and is soaked through the skin by handling the paper. These tattoos can also resemble a postage stamp with the following pictures on them: superman, mickey mouse and other disney characters, butterflies, a clown and Bart Simpson. Please spread the word to others, especially children and youth, that this drug is on the streets.

The Tenant's Rights Action Coalition (TRAC) now has copies of their recently revised Tenant's Survival Guide. I've ordered several copies and they should arrive in a couple of weeks, come on in and get yours.

More good news, did you know that you do not have to pay the \$35.00 application fee for an arbitration hearing if your on low income. There's no time better than now - take your tenancy problems to the Residential Tenancy Branch.

The People's Law School has put out their fall list of free law classes. I have lots of pamphlets here. If a group of women are interested in attending the same workshops, we could go together. Later, we could meet at the Centre to discuss what we learned in the workshop and how it can help us.

I've subscribed to the SCOOP Co-op Housing Federation of B.C. for their monthly newsletter. It should be here in a couple of weeks. If you're interested in living in a housing co-operative, this newsletter lists all of the vacancies. Take time to come into the Centre and browse through the paper. You can make calls from our women's telephone and we can give you stationary, envelopes and stamps to apply.

As of August 14, some legal aid clients will have to pay a portion of the cost of their legal aid. If your income is higher than the GAIN rates you'll have to pay something before you are assigned a lawyer. There are some exceptions to the above. Clients do not have to pay if:

- They are helped by duty counsel.
  - They are helped by circuit court counsel.
  - They are referred on the Human Rights tariff.
  - They are young offenders
  - They have emergency family problems as defined by Legal Services Society.
- (This includes child apprehension and cases where a client requires an interim order for protection, custody, or maintenance.) For more information give me a call or call Legal Services at 660-5140

St. Paul's Anglican Church now has an Advocacy Project at 1130 Jervis Street (Jervis at Pendrell). The Advocacy worker is available for information and referral, help in crisis situations, and assistance in accessing services on Wednesdays, 8:30 am until 12:00 noon. Drop by or call for an appointment 685-6832

Do you often feel trapped because you don't know what to do and what your rights are? For the next couple of weeks I'll be buzzing around the Centre asking women what kinds of legal information they most need. Come talk to me because once I've completed gathering this information, I'll be putting together workshops and bringing in different professional people to speak on the topics most asked for.

The Women's Legal Clinic will be here again, beginning in the fall (beginning September 15). Rachael and Krista from the Law Student Legal Advice Program (LSLAP) will be in on Thursday afternoons from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm. Both women have a wealth of legal knowledge and can help you, it's all for the asking.

Karen Spears (I hope that name still rings a bell) will be in to do a workshop on Human Rights and TRAC will be visiting us to do a workshop on tenancy rights.

I'll be away on September 14th, 18th and the 27th and 28th for legal advocacy related training.

## UPDATE ON THE SOCIAL CHANGE PROJECT:

The Social Change Project is now in its second month and so far things are going really well. I have spent the first month researching various issues impacting women in the downtown eastside. I also prepared an assesment of the most pressing issues by speaking with individual women who work here and those who use the services at the Women's Centre. The response has been very positive and encouraging. I would like to thank everyone who gave me suggestions, ideas and other valuable first hand information. This kind of support is what's going to make this project a success!

In the month of September, look forward to a workshop on welfare rights and accessing programs offered by Social Services (many of these programs such as free passes to recreation centres and computer courses we don't often hear about because welfare workers don't tell you). This workshop will involve a welfare advocate from the neighbourhood coming in, interactive participation from women who attend and a meeting with a representative from the ministry of social services.

Also, you can look forward to a regular column in Kinesis, a monthly newspaper focusing on women and our issues. The first column will appear in the October edition of Kinesis. A number of you women have shown an interest in contributing to this great opportunity. If any other women are interested in voicing their opinions or telling a story about their experiences, you are more than welcome. Just come and talk to me! Another media contact we have made is with Co-op Radio. Stay tuned for more information on that.

Here are the proposed dates for the workshops:

**September 20th --- Welfare Rights & Accessing Programs**  
October 25th --- Employment Training & Skills Upgrading  
November 29th --- Accessing Better & Safer Housing

Please look for the sign up sheet for the September 20th workshop. If anyone has any questions or contributions towards this project, please don't hesitate to speak to me or leave a message in my file. I appreciate all input. Thanks!

Lydia Masemola

## **WOMEN UNITE, TAKE BACK THE NIGHT!**

Every year in September, women all over Canada come together to Take Back the Night. In the late 1970's (in England and Germany) the first marches were organized to protest violence against women and to take back the streets of our neighborhoods with the strength of each other.

In 1981 The Canadian association of Sexual Assault Centres organized the first coordinated North American demonstration. It was held in more than 35 towns and cities all over the U.S. and Canada. Since then, Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter has called women to the streets of the Lower Mainland every year. In 1992 more than 1,400 women and children celebrated in downtown Vancouver!

This year the march to Take Back the Night will be Wednesday, September 6. Women who want to go on the march can meet here at 5:00 on September 6. There will be a light supper and then we'll take the bus down to Granville and Broadway where the march starts. (bus tickets will be provided by the women's centre) Ask Marion and Carol more info! Also, on the day before, we're going to make signs to carry with us down to the March, so stay after lunch on Tuesday if you want to make a sign!

## **WOMEN UNITE, TAKE BACK THE NIGHT!**

**All women and children welcome!**

# PACE<sup>2</sup>

**Parents and Children for Education and Employment (PACE<sup>2</sup>)** is a unique pre-employment program which provides parents with the tools necessary to enter the job market or enrol in further career education/training.

**Do you have children?**

**Are you receiving income assistance?**

**Do you live in one of these areas?**

- Grandview
- Mount Pleasant
- Downtown Eastside/Hastings
- Strathcona

If you answered **yes** to all three questions, you qualify to apply to the **PACE<sup>2</sup>** Program.

**PACE<sup>2</sup> offers:**

- √ job search skills/work experience placements
- √ educational upgrading
- √ personal development/career exploration
- √ introduction to computer applications
- √ daily attendance allowance/bus passes/clothing allowances

**NEXT CYCLE STARTS ON OCTOBER 2, 1995**

If you are interested in **PACE<sup>2</sup>** and meet the above criteria,

**Phone 254-2223 or Fax 254-1112**

and /or contact your MSS worker or MSTL Training Consultant.

婦女會中心，是為婦女耆英而設的一個活動娛樂休息的好處所，這裏設備齊全，是我喜歡的好地方。

我來到這所中心裏，有我喜欢玩的鋼琴、有T.V.看、有時還去戲院看戲、旅遊等活動，我都願參加。

我來會是為了鍛鍊身體，除了活動外，如會需要我做一英義工作，若我能力所及，有時間的話，我一定幫會做，可惜我英文程度有限，中文語言溝通，自認為還可以應付得來。



## THE WOMEN'S DRUM

So long, the Woman's Drum  
has been quiet  
while women looked to men  
for the teachings.  
Now, the realization comes  
to seek Women  
for the sacred teachings  
of the creation.

Women, search out  
the sacred teachings  
of our Grandmothers.  
Take up the Drum  
sing the Women's Songs  
of the healing ones.

So long, the Women's Drum  
has been alone  
kept in the back of minds  
silent in the spirit.  
Now, comes the time  
to pick up the Drum  
to sing the healing songs  
of the Women's way.

Women, sing out  
the healing songs  
of the Women's teachings.  
Take up the Drum  
sing the Honour songs  
of the Traditional ones.

Too long, the Women's Drum  
has been silent.

By SkyBlue Mary Morin



## MOCCASIN LINE

We are here to listen  
not to work miracles

We are here to help women discover what they feel  
not to make feelings go away

We are here to help a woman identify her options  
not to decide what she wants to do

We are here to discuss steps with a woman  
not to make steps for her.

We are here to help a woman discover her own strength  
not to rescue her and leave her still vulnerable

We are here to help a woman learn to choose  
not to make it necessary for her to make difficult choices.

we are here to provide support  
for change.

North West Indian Woman's Circle