

DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE WOMEN'S CENTRE
44 East Cordova Street, Vancouver
FEBRUARY 1997

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
Sun. 12:00-5 Monday 10:30-5 Tues. 11:30-5	Weds. 10:30-5 Thurs. 10:30-5 Fri. 10:30-5		LUNCH SERVED DAILY AT 12:30			1
2 2:00 Slide Presentation and Discussion by the Shuswap Asso. for the Promotion of Eco. Dev.	3 2:00 AIDS Vancouver 2:00 Tile Painting 5:00 Learning Group Producing and Publishing the Centre Newsletter, 4 week prgram	4 1:00 Tobogganing - It was so much fun we're going again	5 11:00 Banner Project 1:00 Kathy the Nurse 1:30 Beading 5:00 Alcohol and Drug Support Group	6 11:30 Law Student 1:30 RAFFLE 2:00 Dreamcatchers 5:00 Women Surviving Together	7 CHINESE NEW YEAR 12:30 Chinese Lunch and Festivities 2:30 Video 5:00 Vol. Nite	8
9 2:00 Video	10 2:00 AIDS Vancouver 2:00 Make a Valentine Card for your Loved One. 5:00 Learning Group - P and P	11 2:00 Planetarium 5:00 BWSS Starting a new 10 week session	12 11:00 Banner Project 1:00 Kathy the Nurse 1:30 Beading 5:00 Alcohol and Drug Support Group	13 11:30 Law Student 1:30 RAFFLE 2:00 Julies Craft Corner 5:00 Women Surviving Together	14 10:30 - 5:00 Women's Memorial March and Rally CENTRE CLOSED 5:00 Vol. Dinner and meeting	15
16 2:00 Video	17 1:00 ALL CENTRE MEETING ON DONATIONS, CLOTHING ROOM AND RAFFLES 2:00 Make stuff out of clay to paint on Feb. 24th 5:00 Learning Group - P and P	18 11:00 Off to Brackendale to watch the Eagles 5:00 BWSS	19 11:00 Banner Project 1:00 Kathy the Nurse 1:30 Beading 5:00 Alcohol and Drug Support Group	20 1:30 Women's Voice 2:00 Dreamcatchers 5:00 Women Surviving Together	21 2:00 RAFFLE 2:30 Video NO VOLUNTEER NIGHT	22 10:00 Workshop 1st Aid Volunteers only
23 2:00 Video	24 2:00 AIDS Vancouver 2:00 Ceramics Painting 5:00 Learning Group - P and P	25 2:00 Health Workshop - Healthy Hearts and Women 3:00 Bowling 5:00 BWSS	26 CHEQUE DAY CENTRE OPEN 5:00 Alcohol and Drug Support Group	27 11:30 Law Student 1:30 Women's Voice 2:00 Julie's Craft Corner 5:00 Women Surviving Together	28 2:00 RAFFLE 2:30 Video 5:00 Vol. Nite	

note*** - sometimes things get canceled or set up on another day make sure to check
"Update sheet" on the front chalk board and Activities Board***

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Friday, Feb. 7 - This is when some Cultures celebrate the Lunar New Year, based on the movements of the moon rather than following the Roman Calender. At the Centre we will be celebrating **Chinese New Year** with a meal and some festivities.

Friday, Feb 14 - The Annual Women's Memorial March, women will march through the streets and alleys in the Downtown Eastside in Memorial for our sisters who have been killed. There will be a meal and a rally. The Centre will be organizing this event this year, the Centre will be closed so everyone can attend the Rally.

Monday, Feb 17 - There will be an all **Centre meeting on Donations, Raffles and the Clothing room**. Every one is invited to participated we would like your feedback and ideas on how these issues can be handled.

REGULAR PROGRAMMING

AIDS - Margareth from AIDS Vancouver will be here every Mon. At 2:00. To answer your questions or for support.

Learning Group - On Monday from 5:00 - 8:00 meal is served, to help with the different issues associated with learning. The focus this month is on learning publishing the Centre Newsletter.

Kathy the Nurse - is in every Wednesday from 1:00 - 2:00.

Alcohol and Drug Support Group - On Wednesday from 5:00 - 8:00, do you have or had a drug and/or alcohol problem? Are you trying to clean up? This may the place to get some support, no preaching on guilt trips just sharing.

Law Student - Check the schedule. Usually on Thursday at 11:30. They are here to help with all your legal needs if they can't help you they will know who can. This includes help with Welfare, MSS, Handicapped etc.

Women's Voice - Thurs. 1:30. Let us know what you think about the Centre. Your opinions and ideas are needed to make the Centre better.

Women Surviving Together - Thurs. 5:00 - 8:00 Healing Circle and support group for women.

Raffles - Fridays or designated day at 1:30 or 2:00. Items which are not clothing items that have been donated to the Centre are raffled to the Women.

Volunteer Nights - Every Friday from 5:00 - 9:00 just for volunteers to hang out, do activities and workshops.

CRAFTY WORKSHOPS - At least twice a week including **Beading every Wed. At 1:30**. Materials provided.

CERAMIC AND TILE PAINTING - Every Monday, Feb. 3, 17 and 24 at 2:00. Make something that you can use everyday or paint a tile that will be installed in the 'New' Centre when we get one.

JULIE'S CRAFT CORNER - Every other Thursdays. Feb. 13 and 27 at 2:00. We will be making different craft items. All supplies will be provided.

DREAMCATCHERS - Thurs. Feb. 6 and 20 at 2:00. Make a dreamcatcher to trap those bad dreams. Learn different styles and use different materials.

OUTINGS - Usually on Tuesdays. Also stay tuned to the Activities Board for RUSH tickets to events.

Feb. 4 at 1:00 - We're going tobogganning again, we had so much fun last month that women asked to go again. There will be refreshments.

Feb.11 at 2:00 - We're going to the Planetarium to see the Astronomy Show. Travel to the planets without leaving the ground and getting motion sickness.

Feb. 18 at 11:00 - The 2nd annual **Brackendale Eagle Watch**. We're leaving promptly at 11:00 to pay our respects to feathered friends and get some fresh air. There will be snacks and refreshments.

Feb. 25 at 3:00 - **Bowling** at the Commodore Bowling Lanes. Women can also play pool.

VOLUNTEER NEWS

FEBRUARY 1997

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There have been too much talk and criticisms happening in and around the Centre. Volunteers are arguing among themselves and speaking badly about others. There are rumors flying about the kitchen volunteers and about volunteers stealing and threatening Centre users. We are all responsible for this. As volunteers we are an important part of the Centre and how we behave affects the atmosphere of the Centre. There is a difference between Constructive Criticism and complaining and bad mouthing. Using Constructive Criticism implies that the person that has a grievance has thought about the situation and is able to offer solutions and full explanations about the grievance. This helps sort out our true feelings in a situation.

There are circumstances in our lives which are very stressful, we get frustrated and impatient for all kinds of reasons. This is quite understandable. It is really easy to lash out at someone else especially other women who are equally disempowered in our society. As volunteers we should be working together to make a better place here at the Centre. The kitchen volunteers are a vital part of the Centre, operating the kitchen is a large order and Anne Wilson the kitchen supervisor would not be able to feed 200 women a day without the help of kitchen volunteers. Kitchen volunteers ARE a part of the Volunteer Program. Did you know that all of the Relief Staff members are also volunteers!! Relief staff are important to maintain the services of the Centre. They, like full-time staff members, were chosen because they are responsible, dependable, trustworthy and deemed capable of their job.

Staff, Relief Staff, Volunteers, Steering Committee members and Centre users make mistakes and sometimes act inappropriately, we are all human. Mistakes can happen and misunderstandings are a part of life. There are many ways to deal with mistakes and misunderstandings, the key is to do it in a healthy manner. Back stabbing and complaining is not very productive. Let's treat everyone as we would like to be treated, please have respect and consideration for all.

In March there will be a workshop for all volunteers on Constructive Criticisms, and I urge ALL volunteers to attend. If you are serious about keeping Peace and committed to working out problems come to the workshop and learn some valuable skills for listening and speaking. These skills will also be an asset in your personal life.

We are like a family and we all know what families are like and also how great they can be. All volunteers are respected for the work they do. It is difficult working in the Women Centre, but very rewarding. Thank you to all the volunteers and for your willingness to give of yourselves.

Phew!! What was that! Now for something completely different. There will be a Volunteer Dinner, Cynthia will be cooking something special, on Friday February, 14th. No, it's not a Valentine dinner we don't believe in romance. Bah... During the day there will be a Memorial March, in memory for all our sisters who have been killed. This is a very powerful gathering to help heal the wounds and the grief.

Special thanks to Arlena and Bev for daring to enter into the chaos of the Clothing room and taming the Untamed Beast!!

And to Julie for her regular and cheerful presence as our Starship Bingo Volunteer Coordinator. You are doing an excellent job in representing the Women's Centre.

Carol the volunteer driver would like to inform women that she is collecting cigarette packages to make a DOG, a very low maintenance pet. Please drop them off with Cynthia. There will be No Volunteer night on Friday Feb. 21, instead there will be a First Aid Workshop on Saturday; Feb. 22 from 10:00 - 4:00, lunch will be provided. This is only for volunteers. You will receive a certificate, this course will also cover First Aid issues specific to the Downtown Eastside. Please let Cynthia know if you are planning to attend.

On Friday, Feb. 28 Carol will be bringing her 'Learn to Line dance' video so we can all make fools of ourselves. We will be in good company.

DATES TO REMEMBER

FRIDAY, FEB. 7	VOLUNTEER NIGHT
FRIDAY, FEB. 14	VOLUNTEER DINNER AND MEETING
MONDAY, FEB. 17	ALL CENTRE MEETING FOR FEED BACK ON DONATIONS, CLOTHING ROOM AND RAFFLE PROCEDURES
SATURDAY, FEB. 22	FIRST AID WORKSHOP 10:00 - 4:00
FRIDAY, FEB. 28	LINE DANCING WITH CAROL

Hi Everyone, My name is **Roberta**. I am a new Advocate here at the Women's Centre.

I am taking over for Kathleen for those of you that knew her. I will help you with concerns, questions or information you need on welfare, housing, health.

If I can not personally help you then I will refer you to a place that works specifically on the concern/issue that you have.

Please come and see me in **office D**. If I am with another woman or not in my office please leave a message for me in my folder on the door.

Looking forward to meeting with you.

Roberta
Advocate



LIGHTEN YOUR
DON'T TURN
INTO A
TOAD! RIP IT!!!



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Indigenous Women's Caucus' of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC) are inviting all people concerned about justice to join us for a vigil Thursday January 30th 1997 at 8 AM at the provincial court building steps (Smithe & Hornby).



We remember her as a beautiful person. She was a loving mother with three children. Pamela respected her elders, her people and never harmed anyone. Pamela's spirit is with us and guides us to bring dignity and honor to women everywhere. Her tragic death has moved us all.

The vigil is to coincide with the sentencing of the man convicted of killing **Pamela George**, an Indigenous woman from Saskatchewan. The men were convicted of manslaughter rather than murder and Judge Ted Malone instructed the jury to take into account that because the accused was intoxicated he didn't really know what he was doing. The judge also the jury to "bear in mind that George indeed is a prostitute."

At 10:00 AM Alex Ternowetsky and Steven Kummerfield are to receive their sentences for the murder of Pamela George.

We are gathering to show our grief at the violent death of yet another Indigenous woman and to voice our outrage at the double standard of justice in this country. We will not accept drunkenness as an excuse for violence against women. We will not accept the lie that the death of sex trade worker is any less of a crime than the death of a housewife, lawyer, teacher or any other woman. We will not stand by silently when killers get off easy because the victim was an Indigenous woman.

The Saskatchewan justice system will receive a clear message, if there are a record number of people who show their concern on this day. Please stand up and be counted.

Please join us in solidarity with all women and with the First Nations struggle for equal treatment before the law.

The dishonor of one is the dishonor of all. Add your voice to that of others across Canada who are saying NO to violence.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17 AT 1:00

CALLING ALL CONCERNED CENTRE MEMBERS THERE WILL BE AN ALL CENTRE MEETING FOR A DISCUSSION ON THE DONATIONS, CLOTHING ROOM AND RAFFLE PROCEDURES THERE HAVE BEEN NEW CLOTHING ROOM RULES FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS HOW ABOUT SOME FEEDBACK ON HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT THE NEW SYSTEM AND SUGGESTIONS TO MAKE IT BETTER ALSO WHAT ABOUT THE DONATIONS AND RAFFLES

SOME OF THE ISSUES:	<p>THERE IS NO SPACE TO STORE ALL THE STUFF</p> <p>RAFFLES ARE NOT FAIR AND ITEMS SHOULD GO TO WOMEN WHO ARE IN NEED BY ESTABLISHING A WISH LIST</p> <p>NOT ALL DONATION ITEMS ARE GOING INTO THE RAFFLE</p> <p>SOME WOMEN GET BETTER STUFF THAN OTHERS</p> <p>TOO MUCH COMPLAINING ABOUT THE RAFFLE</p>
POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS:	<p>HAVE A RAFFLE FOR SMALLER ITEMS, CREATE A WISH LIST FOR WOMEN TO SIGN UP FOR LARGER ITEMS ACCORDING TO NEED</p> <p>VOLUNTEERS TO BE ENTIRELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL DONATIONS AND FOR HOLDING THE RAFFLE AND ORGANIZING THE CLOTHING ROOM</p> <p>DISCONTINUE RAFFLES, ALL DONATIONS TO GO INTO THE CLOTHING ROOM AND BE TREATED LIKE CLOTHING, THIS INCLUDES, TV's, POTS, PANS ETC.</p> <p>DISCONTINUE RAFFLES AND/OR CLOTHING ROOM AND REFUSE ALL DONATIONS</p>

THE WOMEN'S CENTRE WILL BE CLOSED
FRIDAY FEB.14
WHY?

WOMEN'S MEMORIAL MARCH
FRIDAY FEB. 14
THEIR SPIRITS LIVE WITHIN US

10:30 CARNEGIE
WE THE STAFF WILL ALL BE THERE!!!
COME JOIN US!!!

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED
AT CARNEGIE AFTER THE MARCH

Women are being murdered.... they live in our
Community the Downtown Eastside

A Community of friends and families will come
together at CARNEGIE at 10:30 to walk down 100
block Hastings

Remembering our sisters,mothers,daughters,cousins
and friends

This is the sixth annual Valentine's Day March a time
to honor their spirits

This is the first year for the Women's Centre to be
coordinating it so come help us