



The Circular

In this issue

No 518

November / Whiringa-A-Rangi 2008

Page

President's Comment

President's Comment	1-2
Branch Initiatives	3
Nationally Organised Societies	4
International Conference	8-10 7-9

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At the Conference in Masterton, we looked carefully at the topic of a "Sustainable Future". We heard keynote speakers explain topics ranging from climate change, pay and employment equity, educational sustainability and the environment to sustainable communities. Workshops added to these topics and, together, we were all better informed and made more acutely aware of the need to sustain all aspects of the future for our women and families to continue to grow and flourish while making a contribution to society. Our remits allowed considered debate and discussion while contributing to our future policy.

The many topics and overall theme of this conference have encouraged me to consider how we, in the year 2008, prepared our Council to be sustainable for the future. To do this, we must continue to grow, nurture and encourage. My vision for this is:

"The National Council of Women of New Zealand needs a multi-pronged approach; it must be enshrined in sustainability and be purposeful, as outlined by our newly amended Constitution. But, of greatest importance, we need to achieve this together."

We need to build on our membership. We must encourage younger women to join us and become active in our communities. Encouraging younger women to join NCW Branches is only a part of our solution. We need younger women to join the Nationally Organised Societies affiliated to our Branches.

Your young women will learn, and will be encouraged to lead. Just as we intend to minimize our impact on the environment for the future generations, we need youth as our future investment. The changes you supported to our Constitution will go some way towards helping to change the face of NCWNZ.

I have asked myself, "Why did I join NCW and why have I remained a member?" Mentors and enablers, shared passion for issues impacting on women and families, camaraderie, the sense

that you are living a life worth living – all of these things play a role in the choices I, we, make. Perhaps though, a measure of how "attractive" we can be is through our "inclusiveness".

When I first made the decision to stand for National President, a priority I wanted to make part of my legacy was inclusiveness.

I believe we can reach the many stay-at-home mums, who regularly meet each other through coffee groups. We can also form linkages through Universities and other Tertiary Education Institutes – using Girltalk, Facebook and other portals that reach young people. We already have a relationship with *Contours*; perhaps now is the time we expand that connection with young women to include *Configure*, another women-only gym located around the country.

I ask you, where are your daughters, your grand daughters, your nieces – bring them to our meetings!

Ensuring NCW remains sustainable is vital to all women. However, too many are not fully aware of the role we play in shaping the country they live in and their future.

Running an organisation with voluntary input only, sadly is no longer tenable especially in a highly competitive, politically charged centre such as Wellington. Funding will be needed to ensure our expertise and consumer voice can be brought to engage in meetings with decision-makers in other centres. We also need funding to improve the quality and standard of our work, such as *The Circular*.

If we look at the Register of our Resolutions, we will see that we still have some issues to resolve that our forebears grappled with, even going back as far as Kate Sheppard. This continues to be of concern, and the voice of women still needs to be heard if we are to honour the work done by Kate Sheppard and our other foremothers.

The target foci for the coming two years are: Financial Sustainability and Positive

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The target foci for the coming two years are: Financial Sustainability and Positive Mental Well-being.

For women today, we have absolute equity, equality with men in every spectrum of life. Our menfolk work equally as hard as we do whether that be in the home or in the office or on the farm. Our children are cared for by their parents equally and are well-loved and educated. Women and children do not live their lives in fear of or with violence.

I envy the President who gets to say that. But that's not today, that's

still not our world. So roll your sleeves up, because we've got work to do!

Meanwhile, with the festive season approaching, I wish you all the best, for time to relax and spend time with family and friends as you charge those batteries and come back to NCW with those sleeves rolled up and ready to go in the New Year. Season's Greetings to one and all.

Elizabeth

I want:

- our Branches to attract new members, new representatives. To make them feel welcome and a part of the Council from the day they first walk through the door.
- our Regional Consultation groups to consider the viability of forming a satellite group and affiliating to a Branch, and further, pushing themselves towards forming their own regionally representative NCW Branch.
- our Nationally Organised Societies knowing there is value in affiliating to our Branches at a local level. I want them included in the work we do at regional, national and international levels.
- our National Members, who are able to, to work towards affiliating to our Branches so they can upgrade their membership to that of Nationally Organised Societies – to engage fully in our remit debates, the voting of our officers, the standing for election.
- Submissions, The Circular, Girltalk, collaborative campaigns, joint lobbying, education and awareness -building, leadership training, networking opportunities – these are some of the tools and skills that can be offered through NCW membership.

I want a Board that is highly active and engaged in the decisions made. I want Conveners that are well supported by their Standing Committees; Nucleus and Corresponding Members. I want Standing Committees to represent this organisation through our submissions, which have been inclusive and collaborative in their design, that reflect our knowledge from the consumer perspective, the grassroots/coalface perspective, from the expert perspective.

The National Council of Women of New Zealand has been asked if it will again facilitate the NGO CEDAW report. My short answer is yes!

We are aware that other organizations wish to fill the breach but I tell you, there is no breach to fill. NCWNZ is the most experienced, trusted and capable organisation to undertake this work. The Board of Management at its first official Board meeting in November will be discussing the next CEDAW consultation. We will announce this shortly and thereafter implement our strategy. You all need to be involved.

From The Board

If the success of a good conference is to start with not enough nominations for National Conveners and leave knowing we have a full compliment then; we are successful.

We now have all positions filled. The Board would like to thank the following three people who have put their hands up enthusiastically to take over the following positions.

<i>Employment</i>	<i>Juanita O'Brien, Timaru</i>
<i>Justice and Law</i>	<i>Christina Reymer, Hamilton</i>
<i>Social Issues</i>	<i>Toni Monsoon, Manakau</i>

We would also like to encourage all Branches and NOS groups to nominate one of their members to become a corresponding member for a Standing Committee as all our Conveners will contact you for input as we truly must represent the voices of our members.



Branch Initiatives

Taranaki

In celebration of Suffrage Day the Branch held a "T" party where members contributed to a fancy afternoon tea with china tea cups and saucers, tiered cake plates of sandwiches and small cakes, and the large cakes as well. The guest speaker, Adell Hobson, gave a thoughtful presentation which members found of interest.

South Canterbury

Breakfast was provided in the Women's Community Centre, Timaru, in celebration of Suffrage Day. NCW books and photos were on display and the Principal of Craighead (girls secondary school), Mrs F. Black, gave the gathering an interesting and informative address.

Hamilton and Whangarei

Both these Branches planned meetings for members and friends to meet the candidates for election in their areas.

Whangarei

Whangarei Branch is celebrating its 70th anniversary at a luncheon in November. Three of the founding organisations are still members: WCTU, YWCA and Whangarei Women's Club. Four members have been awarded New Zealand National Honours, one has a Suffrage Medal, there are three Branch Life Members and two members have received distinguished Service Awards from NCWNZ.

While the Branch has had its ups and downs, at this time there are delegates from 22 organisations, 8 Associate members and 4 individual members. Meetings are held in Whangarei's new Library, a central location, from 12 noon to 2pm, so that women may come in their lunch hour.

Standing Committees

Conveners

Consumer Affairs - Jan Brown

Economics - Katherine Ransom

Education - Rae Duff

Employment - Juanita O'Brien

Environment - Sara Dickon

Family Affairs - Belinda Greenwood

Health - Sheryll FitzPatrick

Justice and Law Reform - Christina Reymer

Public Issues - Joan Macdonald

Social Issues - Toni Monson

Parliamentary Watch Committee - Beryl Anderson

Family Affairs

At Conference at Masterton suggested questions to ask candidates were distributed and so I hope that you have been proactive and asked them. Comments about inequities experienced by grandparents/kin/whanau were widespread at Conference. Why is this? Surely grandchildren have the same needs or similar enough to be the same as foster children, so why is it so hard to access these vital services? It would appear that a lack of understanding, knowledge, empathy, and education on what each organisation (WINZ, Tertiary organisations for example) is contracted to provide are the main reasons. Lack of empathy is seen as the more damaging to already stressed grandparents/kin/whanau. Grandchildren's transition from the schooling system to an apprenticeship or further study is hard enough without the blocks put in place by bureaucratic organisations which have no understanding of the continued worry of how this young adult is going to survive on fresh air, which seems to be the repeated reply to applications for help.

Family Affairs strongly supported the remit for on-going education from the Education Standing Committee. Not every child fits the square box which our education system deems fit, so going into an apprenticeship or further training from a desired future employer needs funding, but little encouragement is given when funding blocks are put forward as they often are for grandchildren being raised by family. Similarly, educating judges to take action on breaches of protection orders would seem to be in the too hard basket and Family Affairs also supported strongly the remit asking for action on these. It appears that judges need just as much educating as our grandchildren do but seem less keen to obtain it. For all the blocks put before our grandchildren maybe our judges need to take a leaf out of their book and follow their example.

People

Mourned

Agnes Colling Manawatu Branch

Vilma Riley, Hutt Valley Branch. Vilma represented NZEI at the Branch.

Nationally Organised Societies



Business and Professional Women of New Zealand

Breaking the Glass Ceiling:

Gisborne club member, Kath Kitchen, has been appointed as the region's first female President of the Master Builders Association.

NEW ZEALAND

Kath is one of three female Presidents around the country, after being selected by industry colleagues.

Kath has been in the building trade for her whole working life.

She has been actively involved in the association for many years, having organized 15 House of the Year competitions.

BPW NZ Delegation to Congress -

As you will be aware the New Zealand delegation of 12 leave shortly for International Congress in Mexico.

We know that BPW NZ is being strongly and ably represented on the world scene.

Joan Bielby has the honour of being a Parliamentarian at Congress and those of you have ever attended conference know the wealth of knowledge and experience Joan brings to this role. International Federation will receive the best of advice.



GirlGuiding New Zealand Biscuits Still available for sale

Chocolate and plain biscuits are available and they have a best before date of 29 November 2008.

Biscuits sell at:

\$2.80 per packet for plain Guide biscuits

\$3.00 per packet for chocolate Guide biscuits.



Rural Women New Zealand

Planning for Rising Sea Levels

Two Ministry for the Environment (MfE) climate change reports are aimed at helping local authorities plan for changes in coastal hazards resulting from climate change. They provide advice on how to consider hazards such as storm surges and high waves when sea levels rise half a metre or more within the next 100 years. The two reports are:

* Coastal Hazards and Climate Change: a guidance manual for local government in NZ.

This is based on the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report, and also considers the potential consequences of higher sea levels brought about by other factors not included in global climate calculations.

* Preparing for Climate Change.

This is an overview of the technical report on effects and impacts of climate change. It highlights the most up to date projections on how NZ's climate will change in the future.

Look up both documents on www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/climate, and the Fourth Assessment report can be found at www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/ar4-syr.htm

Rural Bulletin, September 2008.





International



UN Millennium Development Goals

Keep the promise
Millennium Development Goals

2015



The 8 Millennium development goals



1. Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger



2. Achieve Universal Primary Education



3. Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women



4. Reduce Child Mortality



5. Improve Maternal Health



6. Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other Diseases



7. Ensure Environmental Sustainability



8. Develop a Global Partnership for Development



UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon

"The year 2008 should mark a turning point in progress towards the MDGs," said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, on 1 April 2008 to the General Assembly... Together with the President of the General Assembly, he convened a special High-level Event on the MDGs on 25 September in New York. This gathering brought together world leaders,

representatives of the private sector and civil society partners to discuss specific ways to energise their efforts. The meeting was also expected to send a strong message that governments are ready to rise to the financing for development challenge as they identified gaps and determined how to accelerate progress toward the MDGs, "...Together, we must make this year one of unprecedented progress for the poorest of the poor, so that we can realise a better, more prosperous future for all," said Ban Ki-moon.



WHAT IS THE MDG MONITOR?

The MDG Monitor shows how countries are progressing in their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). With the 2015 target date fast approaching, it is more important than ever to understand where the goals are on track, and where additional efforts and support are needed, both globally and at the country level.

The MDG Monitor is designed as a tool for policymakers, development practitioners, journalists, students and others to:

TRACK progress through interactive maps and country-specific profiles

LEARN about countries' challenges and achievements and get the latest news

SUPPORT organizations working on the MDGs around the world



Millennia 2015 - Global Experts Studies: Developments to Improve the Status of Women

A study of important gender-sensitive issues of the next two decades has just begun. It explores <http://www.millennium-project.org/millennium/millennia2015.html> <http://www.millennium-project.org/millennium/millennia2015.html> barriers to improving the status of women worldwide and policies that may prove effective.

We are inviting thoughtful people concerned about these issues to provide answers to a list of questions on these

topics.

Your contributions will be anonymous and you may omit any questions you choose. Further, you may return at any time to see the group's response and change your responses if you wish.

Information: <http://www.millennium-project.org/millennium/millennia2015.html>

To participate, please to go: <http://www.realtimedelphi.net>

and sign in. The study code is: code= **M15** (that is a capital "M" followed by the number 15)

The study is being run by the Millennium Project of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (www.millennium-project.org/) and the Millennia 2015 project, "Women actors of development for the global challenges" (www.millennia2015.org/). The results will be published early next year and available to all who participate.

Read more... <<http://www.unescap.org/survey2007/download/index.asp?q=2%20>>

Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2007

shows Gender Inequality Continues at Great Cost in the Region

The Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2007, released by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), shows that despite recent gains in gender equality in the region, appalling disparities remain. In addition to the social and personal costs of gender inequality, there are clear economic ramifications: the region is losing \$42 to \$47 billion per year because of restrictions on women's access to employment opportunities and another \$16-30 billion per year because of gender gaps in education. The survey proposes several specific recommendations to close the gender gap. Good practices, highlighted from across the region and elsewhere, show that gender balance can be achieved with limited resources, but this requires changes at the household, societal and national levels. In particular, the report stresses the need for political leadership to redress discrimination against women.

Women Making a Difference

Of the 1.3 billion people living in extreme poverty worldwide, more than two-thirds of them are women and girls. Research shows that, as a woman, not only are you more likely to be poor, you're also likely to be doing most of the work. Women work two-thirds of the world's working hours, and produce half of the world's food, yet earn only 10 percent of the world's income and own less than one percent of the world's property. Oxfam New Zealand is working with inspirational women across the Pacific and Asia who are speaking out against the discrimination they face and working to secure basic human rights for women throughout the region.

Oxfam began working with the Fiji Women's Rights Movement in 1993. The group is working to remove discrimination against women, believing that equality and justice for women will unlock huge potential that will benefit everyone. One of the programmes is the Emerging Leaders Forum, which aims to build confidence and self-belief among young women, and encourages them to take on positions of influence and leadership. Whether in their schools, communities, churches, youth groups or political groups. Virisila Buadromo, Executive Director of FWRM, recently received the US Secretary of State's International Woman of Courage Award for her advocacy work helping women and children access justice and defend their rights.

Another Oxfam partner, Kup Women for Peace, works in the highlands of Papua New Guinea. The group was initially formed by four women who, having experienced the impact of two decades of tribal fighting, mobilised other women from opposing sides to pressure men to stop the fighting. Nearly a decade later, they have developed into a strong peace-building and human rights organisation, which prioritises gender issues on the peace-building agenda and challenges inequalities in their communities. During the 2007 national elections the group took steps to bring about a peaceful and legitimate electoral process in their district that would be free and fair for men and women equally. They conducted voter education, outlining election procedures and processes, voters' rights and the value of equal gender representation. Together with community police and peace mediators, KWP members took charge of polling day, setting up and operating polling stations throughout the District. As well as helping achieve a peaceful, free and fair election in their district, the group witnessed an impressive rise in the numbers of female voters.

Oxfam News September 2008.

Reports From National Conference

From Wairarapa Branch

Wairarapa Branch would like to thank all delegates for participating in NCWNZ Conference 2008 with a willingness to experience the spirit of Wairarapa.

We are happy to share our knowledge of planning and managing conferences with any branches who are contemplating hosting in the future. It is hard work, but the end result is such a great achievement for the branch, the profile of NCWNZ in the region, and among the affiliates.

Keynote Speakers

Richard Nottage, Senior Climate Change Analyst NIWA

Main speaker: Richard Nottage, Senior Climate Change Analyst (NIWA) and Second in Command, IPCC: *Climate Change; Evidence and effects:*

Richard Nottage commenced by saying that there was no longer any doubt that carbon dioxide (CO₂) is continuing to increase in the atmosphere, and that it is due directly to human activity.



Weather is what we get, climate is what we expect. Climate is the average weather over the long term.

The atmosphere round the earth is very thin (relative in size to the skin of an apple), which is why greenhouse gases have such a marked effect. CO₂ has a warming effect, without it the earth would be 18 degrees C cooler. Burning fossil fuels is the main contributor to CO₂ emissions. The increase in population from a few million to 6.5 billion has also increased global warming.

A gigatonne equals one million tonnes. World wide fossil fuels now emit eight gigatonnes of CO₂ into the atmosphere every year. The oceans take out two gigatonnes, the biosphere takes out two gigatonnes, leaving an increase of four gigatonnes every year. These absorption rates slow as the temperatures rise.

In the last two hundred years, CO₂ has risen from 280 ppm (parts per million) to 380 ppm. This level has also been found in Wellington.

The Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change uses 500 authors, 2,500 reviewers, and 50,000 papers, to produce its four yearly reports. These contributors, mostly climate scientists, are all voluntary. It provides a survey of the literature on climate change. It is supported by all Governments who also review the reports. IPCC looks at all the facts and have checked all the mechanisms. It comes down to only human forcing. More warming is in store from CO₂ already in the atmosphere; it is rated as "virtually certain" ie 99% certain.

Eleven out of the last twelve years have been the warmest since records began. The sea level is now increasing, by three centimetres a year. This is already enough to make some islands uninhabitable, due to salinisation of the water supply, and other very low islands have disappeared.

Sceptics study some factors and ignore others.

From 1900 to 2008, New Zealand has warmed by 1 degree. Frosts have decreased between one third and one half. It is now changing faster : 11%of the ice cover has been lost in New Zealand. NZ projections are for one degree warmer by 2050 and 3 degrees by 2099.

This will not be uniform around the world.

There are two solutions: mitigation and adaptation. For instance, Tuatara only produce males if the temperature rises too much. So they move up mountains to find cooler habitats.

Conclusion: we must commit to change. The government has developed the NZ Association for Environment Education, and DOC. Richard expressed heartfelt hopes that any new government will continue to support these projects.

Richard would be one of the world leaders in Climate Change Analysis. President Christine Low, in her summary to the conference, said that she wished that more of those with doubts about climate change had been there to hear Richard Nottage.

Sara Dickon, Convener, Environment Standing Committee

(For those who have been influenced by 'The Great Global Warming Swindle', Channel 4 in Britain who originally screened the programme had to apologise to the climate scientists who were misquoted. Graphs were also changed to support the programme, but this was held to be "not misleading".)

Philippa Hall, Director, Pay and Employment Equity



We know women earn less than men, but there is a difference between pay and income. The gender pay gap is just 12% but women earn on average 38% less than men. The reasons are complex. Our New Zealand workforce is 2.1 million people; the male participation rate is 75%; the female rate is just 60%. New Zealand has a high proportion of women working part time compared to other OECD countries – 35.4% of women and 10.7% of men work part

time.

Pay and employment equity contribute to social sustainability. The Plan of Action is to achieve sustainable change in women's experiences of work, by building awareness of the sources of gender disadvantage and what can be done about them, by cooperative engagement, at the workplace level.

An important dynamic in the pay and employment equity review process and the pay investigation process is working in partnerships of employers, employees and unions.

Tools and templates are available to assist organizations in conducting their own workplace review. Of the organizations who have conducted reviews to date, three key indicators are noted: gender pay gap, starting rates gap, women in senior management. We are also seeing:

- Women's jobs are valued more lowly
- Men's starting rates and performance pay are higher
- Women are under-represented in management
- Career advancement is harder for part-timers
- Women are concentrated in admin/clerical; career paths are limited
- Workplace cultures limit contributions

Concerted application of gender analysis tools is making a difference.



Pam Crisp, Co-Chair NZ Association for Environmental Education

Pam began by introducing her organisation and its work to the audience and outlining some of the history leading up to the current status of environmental education in New Zealand. She described the change in concept towards education for sustainability and how this will be included in the New Zealand Curriculum due to come into force in 2010. Of interest was

her explanation of Enviroschools. These are schools, mainly primary, which work on delivering environmental outcomes not just in classroom teaching but in all school operations such as water use, energy and waste disposal. Generally an enviroschool will have a worm farm and produce garden, a comprehensive recycling system, energy efficiency practices, and a native plant nursery. Classroom lessons use traditional curriculum areas to teach the three key parts of environmental education – about the environment, in the environment and for the environment. Children learn about the natural environment, preferably while out in it. They investigate ways they can make a difference both collectively and individually and then carry out projects to put these plans into action. You can find out more at www.enviroschools.org.nz and this site will give a list of Enviroschools in your area.

Environmental scientist Juliet Milne painted a sober picture of both the quality and the quantity of our water. Vital to our health and well being, our livelihoods and our culture, water is important to the economy, to landscapes and to ecosystems. The best water comes down from mountain regions where stands of native bush still flourish. Floods bring down silt and debris from higher areas, eroding and drowning fragile ecosystems. Droughts affect biodiversity as species die from lack of water, and cleansing flows are reduced. Human activity puts pressure on fresh water supplies.

Aquifers drained for irrigation are in danger of saline intrusion, which is irreversible. Intensified farming and stock access contribute to reducing quantity and quality of good water. Bore water is often contaminated by nitrogen leached into ground water from chemical fertilizers.

In urban areas, many small streams have been covered over or flow in concrete channels, and pollutants such as detergents and paint are washed down storm water drains. Run-off from impermeable surfaces carry oils and heavy metals into the ground water.

As individuals and communities we can adopt good urban design and more sustainable farming practices. Permeable concrete, roof gardens as filters, and water collection are some ways we can preserve our water for future generations.



Wairarapa Experience – Sustainable Communities

Bob Francis, Georgina Beyer and Glen Taplin spoke on the violence free Wairarapa campaign, what started the initiative, how various issues were dealt with and the outcomes from it.

Wairarapa had had a series of extremely violent events within the family network and the community outrage was growing. Bob Francis, Mayor of Masterton at the time, instigated and together with Georgina (then the Wairarapa MP) led the Wairarapa Violence Free Project.

They both outlined the steps each had taken to meet the problem on the administrative level, in terms of recognition of issues, support for networks dealing with the problems head-on, community involvement etc.

Glen Taplin is a police officer and has spent the last 10 years working in the area of domestic violence. He explained the way in which he, and the police force, were handling violence in the home and the prevention methods being initiated to break the cycles.

Sustainable Business Barry Coates

Points covered in power-point presentation:

Problem of exploitation of earth's limited resources.

- Quote Ghandi: "Should be enough for needy, not for greedy"
- 70% world trade controlled by corporate power – but some change of attitude – creating positive reputation important for public perception
- Problem of governments failing to regulate adequately
- Growth of corporate social responsibility but need for more international scrutiny
- Increasing avoidance of investing in unethical business
- Value of NGOs (non-government organisations) as local and international watchdogs
- Need to monitor Kiwi Saver providers and investments



Discussion covered:

Role of small businesses and problem of small businesses dependent on profits from liquor sales

Need for international agreements on business ethics

Population policies and female education

Need for a distinctive Pacific brand for products

Water Resources – Juliet Milne

Alternative Energy – Anna Kingsley

Anna covered the various options and issues surrounding sustainable energy. She explained the big driving force with sustainable energy is economics, for example it is easier and cheaper to dig up coal and burn it to produce electricity but as this is not a renewable resource and neither is gas, both will run out eventually. She then ran through sustainable energy options, outlining the difficulties with these as well.

Anna then explained the differences between alternative energy homes such as her own innovative Wairarapa one and compared it with eco homes. Alternative energy homes are usually off-grid and produce their own power, whereas eco-homes are made out of renewable resources such as wood, brick, earth and haybales. She recommended a grid-tie for alternative energy homes where surplus energy earns money from power exported to the grid and on occasions when house power generation doesn't work you can buy it back from the grid.

Climate Change – Kevin Tate

Dr Tate started the seminar by discussing the global perspective and showing graphs of increasing levels of temperature change, methane and CO2 emissions. Publication of the three IPCC Fourth Assessment Reports on the state of the world's climate, together with the OECD report 4, provide consistent and clear messages that urgent action on a global scale is vital to address current rates of environmental degradation and climate change.

Storm clouds are also evident for New Zealand's economy and environment – the result of our burgeoning greenhouse gas emissions and deteriorating water and soil resources. However, the encouraging facts for the globe and for New Zealand are that we already possess much of the knowledge and technologies to reverse these trends eg strategic re-forestation to recover stored carbon on eroding hill land, some biofuels crops, nitrogen management strategies to curb nitrogen loss to waterways and the atmosphere with a potential to store carbon in soil and reduce nitrous oxide emissions.

Interesting points made by Dr Tate were:

- Reverting scrub land as a multigrain option for reducing atmosphere Co2 e.g. Manuka and Kanuka covered hillsides
- The emissions trading scheme is just a start to reduce Carbon emissions and also includes all gasses in New Zealand.
- Biofuels are generally speaking not a viable alternative to fossil fuels although full life cycles analyses show some are.
- New Zealand agricultural emissions are unique in size and intensifying because we are a pastoral and agricultural economy.
- Medium to long term objectives are by 2020- plant 250,000 hectares of new forests. 2025- 90% of electricity from renewable sources. 2040 – 50% reduction in transport emissions.

Dr Tate then outlined what each individual can do to collectively make a difference. E.g. using energy efficient light bulbs – 600,000 ecobulbs already purchased will save New Zealanders over \$60 million on their power bills over the lifetime of the bulbs (kilowatt)

What else can individuals do in the home and "out and about"

- Live more simply
- Consume less
- Share

What fun to Hear the Statistics of NCWNZ Life Members

The Life Members' Story as Presented at the Conference Dinner by Dame Miriam Dell

We Life Members had a marvellous time together last night. While we caught up with our news we began to reminisce about our in NCWNZ had opened up other opportunities in our lives. So what with one thing and another we came up with a few statistics. You are all so experienced and accomplished that I guess what we do is encourage you to keep on keeping on!

So for seven of your Life Members:

Our combined age is: 585

Our time in NCWNZ amounts to: 361 years

The earliest to join is Dawn Ibbotson: 1948

Dawn has raised \$52,000 for 30 different organisations with her wonderful flower cards.

We have among us:-

4 JPs

1 Marriage Celebrant

Among our Honours are:

1 M.B.E

2 Q.S.O's

5 C.B.E's

2 D.B.E's

3 D.C.N.Z.M's

1 O.N.Z

And Suffrage Medals

Among us we have 18 other life memberships

1 Honorary Fellow of a University

1 Lady Sponsor of the Royal NZ Navy

4 buildings named for one or other of us

1 Scholarship named for one of us

And you know us as ordinary loving people who have been with you and working with you forever. Alison who is the youngest of us says that if she lives to dawn's age she will be able to attend 10 more National Executives and 9 more conferences- so be warned.

It was a shame that three of NCWNZ Life Members were unable to make to Conference to share their statistics as well.



Photos from Conference

Photos supplied by Michelle Wright and Pauline Edwards





Remits

These remits were passed and now become NCWNZ policy.

On-going Education

That NCWNZ supports the provision of on-going free education of 16-19 year old New Zealand students according to the Education Act 1989, not just in state secondary schools, but also in approved tertiary institutions, in apprenticeships or other approved forms of training.

Action on Protection Orders

That NCWNZ requests the Government take urgent action to improve the implementation of the legislation relating to protection orders for those affected by domestic violence.

NZ Superannuation Fund Investments

That NCWNZ calls on the Guardians of the NZ Superannuation Fund to develop and implement robust ethical investment standards.

Gender Analysis

That NCWNZ recommends that Government applies a robust model of gender analysis for all policy development.

Mental Health Outcomes

That NCWNZ urges further research into the mental health outcomes for women experiencing pregnancies, both planned and unplanned, and also during the post-natal phase.

General Interest

Habitat for Humanity Recognises Margaret Cook's Dedication

Invercargill woman Margaret Cook has been recognised internationally for her work with Habitat for Humanity.

Mrs Cook, who recently stood down as Invercargill's Habitat for Humanity chairperson after seven years, received an "honourable mention" in the Nehemiah Awards -- the organisation's international award system recognising distinguished volunteer service. The awards were announced in Bangkok on September 11.

"Very pleased and humbled and honoured" to have received the award, Mrs Cook said she was "just doing what she was told to do." The award came after Mrs Cook developed an intern position to "pull together" into a working document the Invercargill branch's guidelines and procedures for volunteers. Mrs Cook was one of two New Zealanders and 22 from throughout the Asia-Pacific region, to receive an award. The other New Zealand award went to Marty van der Burg, of Auckland, for his work in addressing the housing crisis in Ethiopia.

The Southland Times | Wednesday, 01 October 2008

Pathway to Partnership

Worth \$446 million over the next four years, Pathway to Partnership will bring community based social services contracted by the Ministry of Social Development, and the Ministry of Justice funded victim support and family violence perpetrator services, to full funding by 2012. \$52 million is the total amount available in this first year, with \$9 million beginning to go out to over 850 providers in July as part of the first roll out of payments.

Child, Youth and Family Deputy Chief Executive Ray Smith chairs Pathway to Partnership's Steering Group. "The Steering Group is made up of people from both government and non-government organisations. It's invaluable in bringing both perspectives to the table and guiding the ongoing development of the programme. Together we've worked out the funding profile for this first year allowing us to get the first payments underway. Now our funding advisors are working with providers to confirm their 2008/9 funding increases and talking with them about their pathway to full funding by 2012. Alongside the funding increases, we've started talking with the Steering Group about options for collaboration and shared infrastructure. We're also working together on an outcomes framework that will more clearly define our common objectives, and how we can measure progress and success with the families, children and young people we work with."

The Circular No.518 November 2008

Action Plan for New Zealand Women

When the plan was launched in 2004, the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MWA) was charged with monitoring progress towards its goals. The Action Plan has three major goals: to improve the economic independence of women (economic sustainability), achieve greater work-life balance for families, and improve the quality of life of New Zealand women.

A report recently completed by MWA uses indicators to provide an overall picture of how women are doing in a range of areas including health, education, economic outcomes and leadership. Monitoring progress has allowed MWA to identify areas which may require a stronger focus and adjust priorities accordingly. The Ministry is aware that, although there have been enormous changes in women's roles in society over the last forty years, there are still obstacles to gender equity. These include valuing the significant contribution that women make through unpaid work, eliminating violence against women and ensuring women have access to equal opportunities in those areas of the workforce where they are poorly represented.

The Ministry is expecting that the report will give policy makers a clearer understanding of the areas where change may be needed for improvements to occur. The report will be available on the MWA website later this year.

Panui Ministry of Women's Affairs, September 2008.

Families Commission Statement of Intent 2008-2011

The Families Commission states as its vision "Families and whanau have the capacity to care for and nurture their members, and to participate in and contribute to the social, economic and cultural life in New Zealand. All families are valued and supported by communities, government and society. Families are the best that they can be." To progress these ideals the Commission has set 6 strategic goals.

Under positive family functioning come the goals of:

- Parents/caregivers access quality parenting knowledge, skills and support, when they need it
- Family members access relationship knowledge, skills and support, when they need it.

Physical and social environments covers:

- Significant progress is made towards awareness of and reducing family violence
- Local communities provide a supportive environment for families.

Those within economic circumstances of families are:

- Families have adequate income and the knowledge to make informed decisions
- Families are able to make choices and are supported in balancing family responsibilities and paid work.

These goals are covered by NCWNZ interests and policy and will have support from membership in their implementation.

Tax changes –it depends on what you want?

A number of options are bandied about regarding proposed changes to our tax system - lowering the tax rates, shifting the thresholds, reducing or removing GST. It depends on what we want, and what we see as the function of the tax system. Simply lowering the tax rates or tax thresholds will of course benefit the rich more than the poor because they pay more tax. However, lowering or removing GST would have a greater impact on the poor since they spend more of their income on food and consumer items and less on mortgage repayments or investments which do not have GST.

If you believe that the tax system should have a redistributive function –i.e. to tax the rich at a proportionately higher rate in order to shift income to the poor, then you would support maintaining a progressive system i.e. 19.5% for low income 33% for middle income and 39% for higher incomes. If you believe it should be the same across the board for everyone, then you would support a flat tax system e.g. 25% for all or even no income tax and a higher GST since GST is also a flat tax on all, irrespective of your ability to pay. Generally this strategy is supported by right of centre parties e.g. National or ACT, while progressive tax systems are supported by left of centre parties, e.g. Labour or the Greens. Elections coming up –your chance to choose!

Christina Reymer, Hamilton

Clarification on scholarships for men and women

Scholarships for women, men and other groups offered by charitable trusts are exempt from the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1993. This means that groups such as the Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust can offer women-only educational scholarships, just as other charitable trusts can offer men-only scholarships, and this is not unlawful under the Human Rights Act.

The Human Rights Commission said it was important that the position relating to charitable trusts was clarified so that they can plan their scholarships programmes for this year and the future.

Section 150 of the Human Rights Act 1993 states clearly that the unlawful discrimination provisions of the act do not apply to charitable benefits. The Commission's clarification on charitable trusts follows coverage of a query about the justification for women-only scholarships from an academic from the University of Victoria. The Human Rights Commission will respond fully to the broader issue raised by the researcher in due course.

Human Rights Commission

Action needed on child poverty

Chief Human Rights Commissioner Rosslyn Noonan has called for action on recommendations in a report on how New Zealand should deal with child poverty.

The report for the Children's Commissioner Dr Cindy Kiro and Barnardo's, A Fair Go for Children - Actions to Address Child Poverty in New Zealand, found almost a quarter of New Zealand's children lived in poverty and offers a plan to reduce that number.

Rosslyn Noonan said the Human Rights Commission's Action Plan had identified poverty experienced by children and young people as one of the most pressing human rights issues facing New Zealand. Priorities for action included adequate family income and affordable housing.

"A society that meets the needs of its children and young people, including an adequate standard of living, is building a future in which everyone is more likely to enjoy their human rights."

It was concerning, she said, that while New Zealand's poverty rate was declining, it was still above the average of other developed countries such as Australia and the United Kingdom.

"Children are vulnerable and warrant special attention when it comes to protecting and promoting their human rights. Those who live in poverty are significantly disadvantaged when it comes to their health, education and overall development."

A Fair Go for Children - Actions to Address Child Poverty in New Zealand also confirmed that Māori, Pacific and disabled children were more likely to live in poverty as well as those from sole parent families.

"The authors' proposals to reduce poverty levels - extra support for benefit-dependent and low-income families, an overhaul of the benefit system and expansion of health, housing and education services - would make a real contribution to ensuring that the fundamental human rights of every New Zealand child are realised," Rosslyn Noonan said.

The report can be downloaded from <http://www.barnardos.org.nz/AboutUs/ChildPoverty.asp>

NZCOSS Network News, October 2008

Retention of New Zealand Doctors

A review of graduate retention statistics since the introduction of the Medical Practitioners Act 1995 shows that by the third year after graduation about 25% of doctors are not practising in New Zealand. There is little variance in the percentage of registered graduates retained in any given postgraduate year across the class years analysed.

No firm statistics exist about what medical graduates do if they do not register to do their intern year in New Zealand. Figures do include fee-paying students, and the initial drop in retention may be possibly cause by these graduates returning to their sponsoring countries. Others do their internship overseas, and some have the year off. Some doctors leave New Zealand to gain post-graduate qualifications and then return some years later.

Medical Council News Medical Council of New Zealand, July 2008

New Zealand Business Council for Sustainable Development Research Findings – Water.

<<http://www.nzbcscd.org.nz/water/content.asp?id=444>>new

A two-year \$300,000 research project into New Zealand's fresh water problems, undertaken by the New Zealand Business Council for Sustainable Development, has brought home New Zealand's fresh water problems. Some of the findings show that in four years the water in most major catchments in New Zealand will be fully allocated. A "gold rush" for water is underway. No water means no new business, causing significant loss for the country. However, the report says between 20% and 80% of water allocated for commercial use (including municipal water supply) in some waterways is not being used at any one point in time and proposes a policy to allow for the easier transfer of water from one commercial user to another. This could add an extra \$180 to \$300 million in output to the economy each year.

A parallel survey of 3350 New Zealanders reveals strong support for reforms proposed to address the country's fresh water issues. Some 64% back a key policy proposal to allow transfers of unused water, provided the amount is within the limit initially allocated and the water is available. The Business Council maintains that there's no need to privatise water - simply make unused allocated water easier to transfer to those who need it.

Some interesting figures in the Business Council's water research (<<http://www.nzbcscd.org.nz/water/content.asp?id=444>>report) sourced from its world business council counterpart, show it takes 70 litres of water to grow an apple, 140 litres for a cup of coffee, 40 litres to produce a slice of bread - and 2,700 litres to make a cotton shirt. The figures are used with the heading: No water equals no business. It highlights the economic loss the country could face with all major catchments facing full allocation within 48 months.

World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse 19 November

This special day was launched in 2000 by WWSF for the creation of a global culture of prevention and for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as the recommendations contained in the UN Study on violence against children. WWSF (Women's World Summit Foundation) is an international non-profit, non-confessional NGO with United Nations consultative status. It serves the implementations of women's and children's rights and the UN Millennium Development Goals.

International Children's Day 20 November

Employee volunteering: Observations from the front-line. A report on community & business perspectives on employee volunteering in New Zealand

New research reaffirms the benefits and challenges of employee volunteering programmes. Massey University's Dr Louise Lee interviewed managers from 29 organisations as part of research on community and business perspectives on employee volunteering in New Zealand.

The research shows that businesses see improved staff morale, potential for attracting new employees, the importance of team building, and opportunities to enhance business reputation and profile. Employee volunteering helps community organisations to access teams of volunteers to undertake major projects, harness new skills and knowledge, improve understanding between themselves and the private and public sectors and raise profile and awareness of their work.

Results indicate that employee volunteering has the potential to deliver mutual benefits and promote business community relations built on cooperation and trust. However, reaching this potential is challenging. Results indicate four key challenges in developing effective employee volunteering programmes.

Firstly, recognising the need for mutual value and clarifying expectations are key considerations. Secondly, effective employee volunteering programmes require reciprocity - on-going demonstrations of commitment and reliability of all participants. Thirdly, employees and community organisations, in addition to senior business management, need to be actively involved in decision-making processes. Lastly, capacity building in both sectors is a priority. Effective employee volunteering programmes call for both business and community organisations to develop the knowledge, skills and resources to meet the demands of cross-sector collaboration. The full report can be downloaded from http://www.cvc.org.nz/paper_EV%20Report.pdf. Contact Dr Lee about her research <http://sitemap.massey.ac.nz/massey/depart/cob/school/management/staff/dr-louise-lee.cfm>

Volunteering NZ Update, September 2008.

LAND TRANSPORT RULES: Consolidated versions now available online

This message is to advise you that consolidated versions of Land Transport Rules are now available on our website. The consolidated Rules are hosted on the Brookers servers and will be automatically updated when Brookers editors make the changes to the content of the Rules following amendments being made by Rules or by other legislation. This will ensure that the NZ Transport Agency's website links to current and consolidated Rules. All individual principal and amendment Rules, as signed by the responsible transport Minister, are also still available on our website. To access these files please click on the following link. <http://www.landtransport.govt.nz/rules/index.html>

National Consultative Committee on Disarmament Media Release NZ General Election 2008: Political Party Positions on Disarmament 22 October 2008

A questionnaire survey of major political parties contesting this year's general election, conducted by the National Consultative Committee on Disarmament, has revealed substantial consensus on disarmament issues.

Returns from a 12 question survey supplied by National, Labour, the Greens, United Future, the Progressives and the Alliance saw all supporting New Zealand's swift ratification of the recently concluded Convention banning cluster munitions.

All supported New Zealand's efforts at the UN General Assembly to have nuclear weapons removed from alert status; a treaty to control the transfer of small arms; a Convention to abolish nuclear weapons; and withdrawal of superannuation funds from firms clearly involved in the manufacture of nuclear weapons. No party opposed New Zealand fostering a Southern Hemisphere nuclear weapons free zone.

National, however, was alone in opposing additional resources going to the division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs responsible for promoting and fostering disarmament. Release authorized by Dr Roderic Alley, Co-convenor National Consultative Committee on Disarmament, email Roderic.Alley@vuw.ac.nz

White Ribbon Day: 25 November 2008

This is the international day when people wear a white ribbon to show they do not condone violence towards women. In this country most violence against women takes place in the home. Each year there are over 3,500 convictions recorded against men on women and one in five women will experience sexual assault or interference at some point in their lives. Spread the word about this campaign and the aims it projects.



Where women find strength

Branches Nationwide
0800 GO GIRL (46 4475)
www.contours.co.nz

Media Releases

Suffrage Day Enrol to Vote

The Suffrage Day message this year from the National Council of Women of New Zealand (NCWNZ) is to enrol to vote in this year's General Election.

NCWNZ is aware that 245,500 people are still not enrolled to vote; Wednesday 8 October is the last day to enrol if they want to have their say in this year's election.

"Women campaigned hard 115 years ago to get all New Zealand women the right to vote. As women now make up 51 percent of voters, it is important that, if they want Parliament to reflect their community, they need to enrol to vote on 8 November," says NCWNZ National President, Christine Low.

NCWNZ is impressed that many of the political parties are, to some degree, implementing the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Committee recommendation that Maori, Pacific, Asian and other minority group women are encouraged to participate and stand in this year's General Election.

"Since women were first allowed the right to be elected to Parliament in 1919, New Zealand has had 98 women elected from across the political spectrum. NCWNZ would like to see the number of women elected into Parliament increase this coming election," says Christine Low.

18 September 2008

NCWNZ Urges Gender Analysis on all Government legislation

At the recent National Council of Women of New Zealand (NCWNZ) National Conference policy was passed recommending that there be gender analysis done on everything that goes through Parliament.

"NCWNZ believes that gender analysis is critical to determine the impact that certain legislation could have on women's lives and those around them. Two examples that demonstrate the need for gender analysis are student loans and the Kiwisaver scheme, which NCWNZ has voiced concerns on in the past," says NCWNZ National President, Elizabeth Bang.

In its 2007 submission on the Student Loans Amendment Bill No 2 NCWNZ voiced concern: "New Zealand can be proud of the fact that most girls now reach four to five years of secondary education and that tertiary enrolments see 50 percent as female. But society is not experiencing the full value of such a progress if women are at a disadvantage when the burden of loan repayments, with or without the interest component, prevents or delays career advancement because of the comparatively lower incomes than men and because of time out for child rearing."

With regard to the Kiwisaver scheme, NCWNZ also expressed a number of concerns about the scheme and the impact on women:

- Pay equity has not been achieved.
- Women have broken periods of employment due to social and family responsibilities. Women frequently choose part-time or lower-paid positions in order to have the time and energy to provide support to children, partners or older family members.

- Today's society has a variety of relationships e.g. solo mothers, several partners (women are as 'at risk' with property division as men when partnership break-ups occur). Many women will experience a part of their lives when they are the sole or principal financial support for the family.
- Women live longer and therefore require more money to finance retirement.

In the formation of New Zealand legislation, the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) committee highlighted the lack of gender analysis.

The following recommendation was made on the New Zealand report:

"The Committee urges the State party to put in place an effective strategy for mainstreaming gender perspectives into all national plans and institutions and to strengthen the linkages between the New Zealand Action Plan for Human Rights and the Action Plan for New Zealand Women, with a view to ensuring that the promotion and protection of women's human rights as enshrined in the Convention are integrated into all national human rights plans, programmes and actions. The Committee also recommends that the State party require gender impact statements for all policy papers submitted to the Cabinet and to all Cabinet committees".

"The CEDAW committee concluded last year, that we as a country which prides itself on leading in many areas, are now lagging behind the rest of the western world when it comes to gender analysis. NCWNZ also feels that the gender analysis policy links in very well with one of the Council's new target focus areas which is financial sustainability," says Mrs Bang.

15 October 2008

Conferences

Innov'08, Weaving Innovation into Health, 3 – 5 November 2008, Wellington

New Zealand Trade and Enterprise and the Ministry of Health invite you and your colleagues to join world-leading health, disability, rehabilitation innovators, service providers, and researchers as they share their journeys. Learn from international experts about best practices and success stories in implementing innovative solutions for healthcare.

Who should attend?

Health, disability and rehabilitation innovators including: CEOs, leaders and clinicians from DHBs, PHOs and NGOs, commercial innovators in health IT, medical technologies, bioactives, policy makers, project managers, service improvement practitioners, researchers and academics from universities, medical schools and research institutes.

The summit website is open for registrations. For further programme information or to register go to <<http://www.innov08.org.nz>>www.innov08.org.nz or contact the Event Manager, Tracey Thomas, Conference Innovators, e: <<mailto:tracey@conference.co.nz>>tracey@conference.co.nz or 03 379 0390

Immunisation Information Course – 5 November in Auckland

This 1 day course is designed for Community Health workers, Kaiawhina, Medical Centre receptionists, nurses or midwives who promote vaccination, and those who help parents/whanau make informed choices regarding immunisation.

Venue: Disability Resource Centre, 14 Erson Ave, Royal Oak

Time: 8:30 – 5:00

Cost: \$150

For more information please contact WONS, phone (09) 846 7886 extn 700 or fax (09) 846 7887

Australia New Zealand Third Sector Research 9th Biennial Conference-

AUT University City Council, Auckland 24-26 November, 2008

The conference aims to gather academics, practitioners, artists and everyone else involved and interested in the Third Sector to present their ideas, experiences, processes and findings of their valuable work they have accomplished. The three main themes of the conference will be:

- Responsibilities and Rights for Wellbeing of People and Planet
- Organisation, Governance, Management in the Third Sector
- Public Private Partnerships, Corporate Social Responsibilities

For more information visit <http://www.anztsr.org.au/2008%20conference%20web%20home.htm>.

Connections

7/10/2008	Dame Laurie	Cluster Munitions Coalition Meeting	Wellington
7/10/2008	Bridget Mayne	Cluster Munitions Coalition Meeting	Wellington
29/10/2008	Elizabeth Lee	Statistics NZ Launch of 2008 Yearbook	Wellington
29/10/2008	Christine Lock	Statistics NZ Launch of 2008 Yearbook	Wellington
29/10/2008	Colleen Singleton	Statistics NZ Launch of 2008 Yearbook	Wellington
4/11/2008	Deborah East	YWCA Launch of Leadership Programme	Wellington
4/11/2008	Joy McNicoll	YWCA Launch of Leadership Programme	Wellington
5/11/2008	Colleen Singleton	Royal NZ Plunket Society AGM	Wellington
5/11/2008	Pauline Edwards	ANGOA AGM 2008	Wellington
12/11/2008	Elizabeth Lee	UN Climate Change:Outlook for Poznan	Wellington
14/11/2008	Elizabeth Lee	Climate Change Symposium	Wellington
22/11/2008	Vicky Carr	Pacific Women's Watch Conference	Auckland
22/11/2008	Pauline Bennett	Pacific Women's Watch Conference	Auckland
22/11/2008	Anne Candy	Pacific Women's Watch Conference	Auckland

Action Items

From the Education Standing Committee

WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIPS CHALLENGED

A researcher from Victoria University has challenged gender specific scholarships and grants, going so far as to ask the Human Rights Commission (HRC) to rule on their legality. The Commission replied that if provided by charitable trusts, gender specific scholarships and grants were not illegal.

The researcher argued as follows:

- Such scholarships are no longer justified because a greater percentage of women than men enroll and complete qualifications.
- This is a trend that has increased over more than a decade. Therefore, the trend has longevity.
- The only areas where women remain under-represented are in engineering, architecture and agriculture. On the other hand, men are under represented in health and education.
- Discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, age, family status or gender is unacceptable in NZ and internationally.
- Even CEDAW argues that special measures should cease when goals have been reached. Otherwise they themselves become discriminatory.

The Women's Rights Officer for the NZUSA argued as follows:

- How do you determine that equality has been reached? Statistics alone are not enough. The 10 year old statistics are no guarantee that the increased participation of women will continue.
- No scholarships are awarded solely on the basis of gender. Some take socio-economic aspects into account and without scholarships many women would not be able to participate.
- In some areas such as science, women are under represented. Scholarships may target these areas.
- Women earn less than men and therefore have more need of scholarships.
- Research scholarships are very important for women.

Questions

1. Should gender specific scholarships and grants be continued? Give reasons.
2. Most women enroll and complete qualifications without the benefits of scholarships and grants. Is it time to follow CEDAW's directive and cease these special gender specific supports? Give reasons.

Responses should be in to National Office by November 24, please.



**NCWNZ Teaspoons
available from
National Office
at \$7.50 each**

Submission Summaries

S08.23 Proposed National Environmental Standard on Ecological Flows and Water Levels

There was general concern from members that huge amounts of water are being used by new enterprises, some of which appear to be threatening water reserves. Telling people they could not do what they wanted on their own land was not a popular stance. Therefore making some national ruling would take the heat off the regional councils and those granting resource consents.

The majority of responses supported an NES, as being a better option than the status quo, which has given New Zealand the problems in Canterbury caused by permits for irrigation to many dairy farms, which may have resulted in some wells in the area running dry. Water problems are also increasing in Waikato, with nitrate runoff from dairy farms, and in the Taupo-Rotorua area. In the Waikato, the ground water is no longer suitable for drinking. It was noted that appropriate land use needs to be considered along with water use.

S08.24 Draft guidelines for the use of Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis with Human Leucocyte Antigen Testing

Of primary concern for NCWNZ would be the rights of the child specifically produced for the purpose of donation. The child born for this purpose has no choice and it may be very difficult for them later in life to deal with the reason for their being. There needs to be adequate protections for any child born from the use of this procedure and that having a legal advocate to protect their rights should be considered. The process is unlikely to be used very often but if the procedure is not permitted here, some parents might consider travelling abroad for treatment, so perhaps it would be better to provide good domestic oversight of the procedure. It is encouraging that as technologies become more precise in their ability to assist safe healthy human reproduction public consultation is still being undertaken.



Calendar 2008

November

20 Universal Children's Day

25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

29 - 30 Board Meeting

December

1 International AIDS Day

3 International Day of Disabled Persons

10 International Human Rights Day

19 National Office closed for the year

January 2009

5 National Office open for the year

Sited

If your Branch or organisation is looking for a fundraising idea, have a look at Business Promotional Products -

www.businesspromotionalproducts.co.nz. This company has a wide range of products that can be personalised with a name or logo or your choice. They can be contacted by phone 0800 422 536, 0800 105 545, 0508 422 536, or 0800 161 666.

Enclosures

Bugger...it's ok! The Case For Advertising Self-Regulation

Appendix A: Branches 2008-09

Appendix B: Nationally Organised Societies 2008-09

Appendix J: National Members 2008-09

S08.24 Draft guidelines for the use of Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis with Human Leucocyte Antigen Testing

S08.23 Proposed National Environmental Standard on Ecological Flows and Water Levels

SPECIAL NOTE: The deadline for material for the NEXT Circular is 5th of the month

Please send all contributions to the Circular Editor via the National Office

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this Circular are not necessarily those of the National Council of Women of New Zealand

Camellia Fund

Have you thought of making a Donation to NCWNZ?

The National Council of Women of NZ is a charitable organisation, listed as a donee organisation that Inland Revenue has approved for the purposes of sections KC 5, DB 32 and DV 11 of the Income Tax Act 2004.

Donations should be sent to the National Office, National Council of Women of New Zealand, PO Box 12117, Thorndon, Wellington 6144.

