Thursday, June 2
In the afternoon many NCWC members went on a tour of the City of Winnipeg.

The Opening Ceremonies for the AGM took place at Government House beginning at 5:00 pm. Members were welcomed by the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, Phillip S. Lee and Mrs. Anita Lee followed by remarks from Mary Scott, NCWC President. Ms Scott introduced Marilyn McGonigal and Monika Feist, Co-Chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee. Members were addressed by Hon. Jennifer Howard, Minister for the Status of Women, Province of Manitoba. Entertainment was provided by the St. Ambroise Square Dancers, a group of young Metis people. Everyone was then treated to refreshments in the dining room.

Friday, June 3

The First Plenary session took place in the Viscount Room with Mary Scott, President, presiding. The Vice-President of the Session was Darla Campbell. The meeting began at 8:50 a.m. with the observing of the moment of silence.

The Oakville Study Group was welcomed as a new member. Peter Wintemute was introduced as the person who donated his time to help straighten up the finances. The following were the appointments for the AGM: Parliamentarian – Kelly-Ann Stevenson; Time Keeper – Druse Bryan; Scrutineers – Thelma McGillivray and Monica Feist; Minutes – Mary Potter and Carol Schweitzer.

The President gave a summary of the Standing Rules for the AGM.

Motion #1 To accept the Standing Rules for the AGM.
Moved by: Rosemary Mallory Seconded by: Elizabeth Hutchinson Carried

Motion #2 To adopt the agenda as written.
Moved by: Marie Mathers-Ross Seconded by: Karen Hoeft Carried

It was pointed out that a revised claim form was to be used in lieu of the one in the docket. Also, it was announced that Carol Theissen would give a power point presentation during the afternoon break on the Manitoba Hydro Building, which would be toured later that afternoon.

Elaine Adam gave the credentials for the AGM: Individual Members – 6, Life Members – 6, Directors, Conveners and Study Groups – 11, LCWs – 8, PCWs – 6, NOSs – 6, for a total vote count of 251.

Motion #3 To accept the minutes of the last AGM as written.
Moved by: Mary Potter Seconded by: Gracia Janes Carried

It was suggested that the pages of the minutes be numbered in the future.

Another credentials count was taken: Individual Members – 5, Life Members – 5, Directors, Conveners and Study Groups – 14, LCWs – 11, PCWs – 6, NOSs – 7 for a total vote count of 297.
Ms. Scott thanked Gabrielle Corluka in Ottawa for putting together the docket. It was noted that reports from the Provincial Councils of Women of Quebec and Saskatchewan were missing from the docket although they had been sent in on time.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Bonnie Siemens, Treasurer, thanked Mary Scott and the Board for their support during the past year. She then gave a comprehensive report on the misappropriation of funds by an NCWC employee. The accountant, Peter Wintemute, Chair of the Exchange Group, then reviewed what needs to be done in the future to prevent it from happening again. The Board will deal with implementing the regime suggested by Mr Wintemute. The total loss of money in the bank account was $81,493.13. However, there were reimbursements of $10,000 from insurance and $11,090.11 from ScotiaBank, reducing the loss to $60,402.52. At the current rate of spending, NCWC has funds to continue to operate for about three years only.

After the break it was reported that the number of NOSs was only 5, making the total count 277.

Ms Siemens went through the financial statements ending March 31, 2010 as they had not been available last year.

**Motion #4**

That the financial statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2010 be accepted.
Moved by: Bonnie Siemens  Seconded by: Karen Hoeft  Carried

**Motion #5**

That the financial statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2011 be accepted.
Moved by: Bonnie Siemens  Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer  Carried

In the discussion of the budget, Ms. Siemens recommended that the new Board revisit the professional fees and the lease for the photocopier. It was also pointed out that Mary Scott absorbed many of her expenses. Carol Schweitzer recommended that all expenses and donations should be reflected in the financial statements to give a true picture of the cost of operating NCWC. Trish Masniuk suggested that a learning module of finances be developed for federates.

**Motion #6**

That the budget for 2011-2012 be approved as presented.
Moved by: Bonnie Siemens  Seconded by: Monica Feist  Carried

**Motion #7**

That the Board determine the firm of accountants to be retained for purposes of the Annual Review for the upcoming year ending March 31, 2012.
Moved by: Bonnie Siemens  Seconded by: Adele Muldoon  Carried

**Motion #8**

That the actions of the Board be ratified by the membership.
Moved by: Bonnie Siemens  Seconded by: Carla Kozak  Carried

The membership showed their appreciation of all the work done in regard to the finances by giving a standing ovation.

**Motion #9**

That the Board support the laying of charges by the police and crown prosecutor in connection with the alleged misappropriation of funds by the NCWC employee.
Moved by: Bonnie Siemens  Seconded by: Karen Hoeft  Carried

**Motion #10**

To pay the costs if necessary for those members who may be representing the Board of NCWC as witnesses in a Court of Law for these fraud charges.
Moved by: Karen Hoeft  Seconded by: Marie Mathers-Ross
Motion #11  That the costs be approved at the discretion of the Board.
Moved by: Rosemary Mallory  Seconded by: Rani Gupta  Carried

Motion 10  That the costs for those members who may be representing the Board of NCWC as witnesses in a Court of Law for these fraud charges be approved at the discretion of the Board.  Motion #10 was Carried as amended.

Motion #12  That NCWC be able to borrow from the investment fund up to $50,000 as required.
Moved by: Bonnie Siemens  Seconded by: Marie Mather-Ross  Carried

It was noted that there was no list of the Board in the docket.

Nominating Committee Report
Mary Potter gave the Nominating Committee report noting that there were still some vacancies. The Board did not have any suggestions for nominees. It was suggested the report be postponed to allow nominations from the floor.

Motion #13  To postpone the Nominating Committee report until Saturday.
Moved by: Marie Mathers-Ross  Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer  Carried

The session adjourned at 12:00 pm for lunch. Thelma McGillivray announced that Carol Canzona had spent the night in Grace Hospital and had returned home. Denise Mattok noted she was aware that Karen Dempsey was absent from the morning session. Suggestions were made that a buddy system be in effect for members and that there be a designated health person for the AGM.

Workshop
During lunch, Darla Campbell led a workshop, “Together We Are Stronger”, on ideas for projects and recommendations for the future of NCWC. Suggestions were written on pieces of paper and it was suggested that the conversation be continued on the internet.

Credentials count was taken: Individual Members – 6, Life Members – 5, Directors, Conveners and Study Groups – 15, LCWs – 11, PCWs – 6, NOSs – 5, for a total vote count of 281.

Resolutions Discussion
Muriel Smith, Resolutions Convener, led the discussion on whether or not two Emerging Issues were emergencies or not.

Motion #14  That Emerging Issue #1: “The Need for All Canadians to have Access to Sufficient Resources to Cover the Necessities of Life” be accepted as an emerging issue.
Moved by: Muriel Smith  Seconded by: Karen Dempsey  Carried

Motion #15  That Emerging Issue #2: “National Action Plan on Human Trafficking” be accepted as an emerging issue.
Moved by: Muriel Smith  Seconded by: Marie Mathers-Ross  Defeated
Abstention: Salvation Army

Debate began on the regular resolutions.
1. Banning All Offshore Drilling in the Arctic

Motion #16 Add a Resolved #3: that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to work with the United Nations to achieve a ban on offshore drilling in the Arctic.

Moved by: Adele Muldoon Seconded by: Gracia Janes Carried

Motion #17 To extend the discussion on Resolution #1 by 5 minutes.

Moved by: Carol Schweitzer Seconded by: Rosemary Mallory Carried

Motion #18 In Resolved #2, add a new 2f: encourage the use of the connection with NORAD for oil-drilling monitoring.

Moved by: Carol Schweitzer Seconded by: Adele Muldoon Carried

Opposed: Salvation Army

Motion #19 That Resolution #1 be accepted as amended.

Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Adele Muldoon Carried

#1: BANNING ALL OFFSHORE DRILLING IN THE ARCTIC

Whereas #1 there has been widespread thawing in the Arctic due to climate modification, resulting in:

a. exposure of a very delicate ecosystem that, if damaged, cannot be repaired, and
b. more exposed areas that can be exploited or used for research; and

Whereas #2 it is known that there are vast, rich deposits of great variety in the seabed, thought to hold one quarter of the world’s undiscovered oil; and

Whereas #3 the effect of an oil spill on the delicate nature of the ecosystem is irreversible because:

a. oil cannot be cleaned up adequately in the cold Arctic waters;
b. the drilling of emergency side-pipes is not likely to be feasible when the spill occurs under the ice and the occurrence is not identified in time; and

c. these areas are only available for remedial action two months of the year; and

Whereas #4 a spill in Arctic waters could destroy the last rich reserves of fish and significant wildlife habitat; and

Whereas #5 with the expected surge in drilling and transportation of oil, accidents are expected to increase, accidents which are dangerous and impossible to control and have serious implications for the preservation of the now healthy ecosystem; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy the banning of all offshore drilling in the Canadian Arctic waters; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to:

a. proceed urgently to ban all offshore drilling in the Canadian Arctic waters;
b. improve Canada’s capacity to monitor effectively the banning of all offshore drilling activity in the Canadian Arctic waters and enforce existing legislation;
c. ensure that the results of monitoring practices are verifiable and made public;
d. continue to work with the Arctic Council to promote the banning of all offshore drilling in the Arctic;
e. work with other countries with off-shore waters to ban off-shore drilling in Arctic waters; and
f. encourage the use of the connection with NORAD for oil-drilling monitoring; and

be it further

Resolved #3 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to work with the United Nations to achieve a ban on offshore drilling in the Arctic.
2. National Food Security Policy

Motion #19 That Resolution #2 be accepted with editorial corrections.
Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Gracia Janes Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army

#2: NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY POLICY

Whereas #1 an increasingly small group of companies has gained control over the food supply and is generating huge profits; and
Whereas #2 farm income for a number of agricultural commodities has declined while prices to consumers have increased, often making nutritious food unaffordable for many low-income families; and
Whereas #3 Canadian farmers cannot compete globally against lower agriculture and labour standards in other countries; and
Whereas #4 worldwide food shortages are likely to result from global warming and continued population growth; and
Whereas #5 Canada is losing good farmland largely due to urban sprawl and the farm population is in a continued decline; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that Canada establish a national food security policy in order to provide safe and nutritious food for the entire Canadian population; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to formulate a national food security policy that will:
  a. monitor urban expansion with a view to preserving good farmland and expanding Canada’s capacity for food production;
  b. ensure sustainable production, processing and distribution which could build long-term sustainable farm incomes for both small and large enterprises;
  c. ensure that international agreements affecting food are based on the best Canadian standards;
  d. recognize that supply managed systems help to stabilize the supply of high quality food for consumption in Canada at affordable prices and help to stabilize farm incomes within the marketplace; and
  e. ensure safe and nutritious food for all Canadians including those on low income and those who are geographically isolated.

3. Ensuring the Safety of the Canadian Food Supply

Motion #20 That Resolution #3 be accepted with editorial corrections.
Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Adele Muldoon Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army

#3: ENSURING THE SAFETY OF THE CANADIAN FOOD SUPPLY

Whereas #1 the safety of Canada’s food supply is a basic expectation for Canadians; and
Whereas #2 the risks of foodborne illnesses have increased significantly with the development of large scale farming and food processing as well as the globalization of the food supply; and
Whereas #3 in a national foodborne emergency under the current system, there is a possibility of confusion of roles between federal and provincial governments and between departments of the federal government; as well as a lack of communication between government agencies and laboratories responsible for testing; and
Whereas #4 the Auditor General of Canada pointed out in a 2009 report that federal inspection of imported plants and produce coming into Canadian ports was not adequate; and

Whereas #5 many shipments of unprocessed meat products enter Canada without inspection at border crossing points; and

Whereas #6 the risks associated with processes along the manufacturing chain of prepared foods may occur:
   a. directly with the addition of toxic substances: e.g. melanin added to powdered milk to increase its measured protein content, or
   b. indirectly: e.g. from livestock feed contaminated resulting in meat contamination or egg products containing high levels of dioxin; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that the Safety of Canada’s food supply be a high priority for the Government of Canada; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada in the event of a national foodborne emergency to ensure:
   a. recognition of the central role of the Canadian Public Health Agency in coordinating all levels of government and agency responses, and in communicating with the public; and
   b. effective systems of networking are in place between the government and the laboratories involved in testing; and be it further

Resolved #3 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to give additional attention, via the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, to the safety of imported food through:
   a. improving and strengthening regulations over imported food and implementation and evaluation of existing regulations; and
   b. ensuring the equivalence at least to Canadian standards of the exporting country’s food inspection system; and
   c. improving regulations of imported food to and from Canada including the principles of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points; and be it further

Resolved #4 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to work with the provinces and territories to increase co-operation in the area of food safety, improved inspection and harmonization standards, as well as on such topics as disease notification, including the possible re-introduction of listeriosis on the national notifiable disease list.

During the break, Carol Theissen gave the presentation on Manitoba Hydro Place. It is the most energy-efficient building in North America.

Resolutions Continued

4. Establishment of Nanotechnology Regulations

Motion #21 That Resolution #4 be accepted with an editorial correction.
Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Gracia Janes Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army

#4: ESTABLISHMENT OF NANOTECHNOLOGY REGULATIONS

Whereas #1 microscopic nano-particles are being used in more than 800 products sold to consumers such as titanium dioxide in sunscreen, anti-bacterial ceiling paint and tooth whiteners; and
Whereas #2 little is known about the effects of nanoparticles on humans and animals, on the air or food, or on the way they break down in nature over time; and

Whereas #3 except for legislation obliging companies that have made or imported more than 10 kg of certain identifiable nanoparticles to submit information on these products, there are no nanomaterial-specific regulations in effect in Canada; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that there be a public inventory of nanotechnology and nanomaterials in Canada which includes regulations covering risk assessment procedures prior to a nanomaterial release into the marketplace or environment; and a system tracking and assessing after-market issues and problems, and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to:

a. establish a public inventory of nanotechnology and nanomaterials in Canada;
b. establish regulations covering risk assessment procedures prior to a nanomaterial release into the marketplace or environment and a system tracking and assessing after-market issues and problems; and,
c. respond to the July 2010 recommendations of the Council of Canadian Academies concerning worker safety, namely:
   i. the development of an interim classification of nanomaterials;
   ii. a revision of the criteria determining if a new material or product needs to be examined from the standpoint of its health and environmental effects; and
   iii. the perfecting of standardized methods for handling nanomaterials.

5. Reform of the Canada Pension Plan Retirement Income System for Canadians with an Employment History

The word “partners” was clarified to mean survivor benefits.

Motion #22 In Resolved #1, delete the original and insert: that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that the Canada Pension Plan be used to provide adequate benefits to all contributors in Canada.
Moved by: Gracia Janes Seconded by: Adele Muldoon Carried

Motion #23 To extend debate by 5 minutes.
Moved by: Rosemary Mallory Seconded by: Monica Feist Carried

There was debate about the word “adequate” in that it was not specific enough.

Motion #24 To extend debate by a further 10 minutes.
Moved by: Rosemary Mallory Seconded by: Monica Feist Carried

Motion #25 To defer the resolution to the incoming Board.
Moved by: Thelma McGillivray Seconded by: Bonnie Siemens Carried

Motion #26 To withdraw the previous motion and to refer the resolution to the originator for clarity.
Moved by: Thelma McGillivray Seconded by Bonnie Siemens Defeated

Motion #27 To postpone the resolution until tomorrow.
Moved by: Rashmi Bhat Seconded by: Thelma McGillivray Carried
There was a tour of Manitoba Hydro Place from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m..

NCWCDO AGM
At 7:30 the National Council of Women of Canada Development Organization held their Annual General Meeting with an International buffet. The two speakers were Margot Christie from the Women Caring and Counselling Centre, Kampala, Uganda and Susan Wadien from the United Nations Platform for Action Committee (UNPAC).

Saturday, June 4

The Third Plenary Session began at 8:46 a.m. with a moment of silence. The VP for the session was Rashmi Bhat. Mary Scott gave a summary of the day to come and introduced Rashmi’s foster child, Shequila. Members were reminded to give Mavis Moore names of individuals for the In Memoriam scheduled for Sunday.

Credentials were again taken: Individual Members – 5, Life Members – 5, Directors, Conveners and Study Groups - 15, LCWs – 11, PCWs – 6, NOSs – 5 for a total of 280.

Resolutions Continued
Muriel Smith continued with the resolution discussion.

6. Public Transportation as an Essential Service Across Canada

Motion #28 To separate the resolved clauses.
Moved by: Darla Campbell Seconded by: Thelma McGillivray Defeated

Motion #29 To extend the debate for 5 minutes.
Moved by: Gracia Janes Seconded by: Marie Mathers-Ross Carried

Motion #30 That Resolution #6 be accepted.
Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Adele Muldoon Defeated

7. Increasing Efficient and Effective Public Transit Systems in Canada

Motion #31 Replace “transit” with transportation throughout the resolution.
Moved by: Marilyn McGonigle Seconded by: Marie Mathers-Ross Carried

Motion #32 That Resolution #7 be accepted as amended.
Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Marie Mathers-Ross Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army

#7: INCREASING EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS IN CANADA

Whereas #1 there are many well established benefits associated with widespread use of public transportation, such as:

a. reduced use of fossil fuels, leading to less vehicle emissions, less environmental pollution, improved air quality and reduced noise levels;

b. reduced costs of municipal infrastructure;

c. fewer traffic accidents, with reduced injuries and vehicle repair costs;

d. increased land values and business opportunities close to the transit path;

e. decreased production of greenhouse gases; and
Whereas #2 there are both equity and efficiency benefits associated with the use of public transportation both of which are crucial considerations in designing a well-functioning system; and

Whereas #3 evaluating the operation of a transportation service is extremely complicated, involving its effectiveness in serving both efficiency needs and delivering benefits; and

Whereas #4 although the Government of Canada does not provide direct transportation services in the municipalities, provinces or territories, it has an important role to play in developing a national strategy that promotes as a priority the provision of public transportation systems in the municipalities, provinces and territories, through public education and funding support; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that there be the provision of public transportation systems in Canada; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to promote systems of public transportation in the municipalities, provinces and territories through financial contributions and public education campaigns; and be it further

Resolved #3 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to ensure that there are comprehensive evaluation procedures for evaluating proposed new and existing transportation systems with regard to coverage based on needs, increasing ridership, and efficient and effective operation.

PU #1 Need for Realistic Insurance for Nuclear Incidents

There were a few editorial corrections.

Motion #33 To extend the debate by 10 minutes.
Moved by: Carol Schweitzer Seconded by: Colleen Allan Carried

Motion #34 That Policy Update #1 be accepted as amended.
Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Marie Mathers-Ross Carried

PU #1: NEED FOR REALISTIC INSURANCE FOR NUCLEAR INCIDENTS

Whereas #1 in 2004, the National Council of Women of Canada adopted as policy:

a. the rejection of Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd.’s concept for burial of nuclear waste

b. the need for a broad-based public debate on the energy future of Canada, with a specific focus on the need for alternative sources of energy, energy efficiency and energy conservation

c. the need for significant expenditures on the search for safe technology to treat nuclear waste; upgrading of nuclear site storage and safety; development of alternative sources of energy, energy efficiencies and energy conservation; improvements for international radiation standards, to reflect gender, age, health, long-term low level radiation exposure by workers and the public and environmental impacts e.g. air, water and soil

d. the need for a Federal/Territorial/Provincial Environmental Assessment of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) recommendations

e. opposition to the expansion of the nuclear industry in Canada, and the need for a phase-out of nuclear plants at the end of their life cycle, and the need for a ban on the importation of high-level radioactive waste for any purpose; and

Whereas #2 in 2008 the National Council of Women of Canada adopted as policy that:
a. the mining of high grade uranium be phased out, in tandem with the phase-out of nuclear plants at the end of their life cycle
b. the mining of low grade uranium not be allowed as a replacement for high grade uranium
c. in the interim, active mines and mills be made safe and abandoned mines be cleaned up and secured; and

Whereas #3 rather than phase out nuclear power, Quebec, New Brunswick and Ontario are in the process of refurbishing older plants, and Ontario has plans for a second generation of nuclear plants, with all the risks that this entails; and

Whereas #4 there would be substantive physical, social, health and environmental costs should a major nuclear incident take place at any of these reactor locations; and

Whereas #5 The Government’s proposed Bill C-15 an Act Respecting Civil Liability and Compensation for Damage in Case of a Nuclear Accident (NCLA):
a. fails to require Canada’s nuclear industry and government to publish a full spectrum of information relevant to nuclear risk and insurance, with the current information often being incomplete, inaccurate or misleading;
b. fails to take into account the precautionary principle;
c. requires insurance coverage for the nuclear reactor operators that falls well short of independently-assessed projected costs; and transfers the balance of insurance costs to the public; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy, that:

a. nuclear reactor operators be required to carry insurance that fully covers any potential on or offsite environmental, social, health and economic costs of a nuclear incident;
b. the public have access to all information regarding the environmental, social, health and economic costs of potential nuclear incidents; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to:

a. require nuclear reactor operators to carry commercial insurance that covers the total costs of a full range of nuclear incidents, as determined by an independent detailed, life-cycle analysis of the full environmental, social, health and economic costs of such an incident, on or offsite, and
b. regularly publish a full spectrum of information relevant to nuclear risk on and offsite of nuclear installations and nuclear insurance costs.

PU #2 International Trade Agreement Negotiations with the European Union

Motion #35 That Policy Update #2 be accepted.
Moved by: Muriel Smith    Seconded by: Marie Mathers-Ross    Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army

PU #2: International Trade Agreement Negotiations with the European Union

Whereas #1 in 1998 The National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC) adopted as policy, resolution 98.6, which urged the Government of Canada to sign only those agreements which:
a. respect the economic, political and constitutional sovereignty of Canada including the ability of all levels of government to direct investment to community based projects and underdeveloped regions of the country;
b. influence job creation and protect culture, health care, social programs, the environment and maintain labour standards;
c. include gender analysis and analysis of environmental concerns, particularly as they relate to the ability of Canada to fulfill its obligations made in UN conferences in Nairobi, Vienna, Rio de Janeiro, Cairo, Copenhagen and Beijing;  
d. guarantee Canadian ownership and control over the delivery of vital natural resources, such as water, electricity and natural gas;  
e. guarantee compliance with Canadian environmental standards; and  
f. ensure enforcement of this compliance; and  
g. ensure that trade negotiations within such transnational organizations as the World Trade Organization (WTO), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) represent the interests of all citizens by:  
i. working for the equal representation of women on trade delegations from all countries, particularly by setting the example in delegations from Canada;  
ii. ensuring that gender analysis, as well as social and environmental assessments are an integral part of the process of trade negotiations; and  
iii. ensuring that the public is fully informed in a timely way of proposed timetables for trade liberalization taking place within trade negotiations and organizations; and  

Whereas #2 the Canadian government is currently in negotiations with the government of the European Union for a Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (C.E.T.A.); without public disclosure and adequate consultation with the Canadian people; and  

Whereas #3 a proposed trade deal with the European Union could also bind provincial, territorial and municipal governments; and  

Whereas #4 this approach could drain needed stimulus from the Canadian economy, worsen the current crisis in manufacturing and interfere with provincial, territorial and municipal governments’ authority to provide and regulate local services; and  

Whereas #5 municipal, territorial and provincial governments have the right to support Canadian suppliers; set minimum specifications for materials and services on major projects; adopt ethical and environmentally sustainable purchasing policies; enforce commitments to hire workers locally or require companies winning public contracts to invest a portion of revenues or profits in Canadian communities; therefore be it  

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC) reiterate as policy:  
a. the need for adequate public consultation, transparency and public disclosure in negotiation of international trade agreements (including Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (C.E.T.A), and  
b. opposition to Canadian government negotiation of international trade agreements that bind and restrict provincial, territorial and municipal governments; and be it further  

Resolved #2 that NCWC urge the Government of Canada to:  
a. provide full disclosure to Parliament about trade negotiations with foreign governments;  
b. engage in adequate public consultation in a transparent manner,  
c. work with the provinces, territories and municipalities to ensure adoption of public procurement policies that:  
i. set specifications for materials and services that require a minimum Canadian content on major projects;  
ii. adopt ethical and environmentally sustainable purchasing policies; and,
iii enforce commitments to hire workers locally or require companies winning public contracts to invest a portion of revenues or profits in Canadian communities.

PU #3 Reform of Canadian Correctional System

There was a vote on whether or not to continue discussion on this update since it was submitted after the deadline. The vote to continue carried.

Motion #36 That Policy Update #3 be accepted.
Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Adele Muldoon Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army

PU #3 Reform of Canadian Correctional System

Whereas #1 previous policy dealing with the correctional system called for the Government of Canada to:

70.3 appoint a senior officer responsible for the treatment of women  
81.8 improve education, rehabilitation and recreation; improve facilities; and construct regional; prisons  
86.11 EM allocate more resources for women in conflict with the law  
88.18 EM study eight listed sentencing reform policies  
89.8 protect society from dangerous offenders by denying them parole, confining those on parole to local correctional institutions with appropriate programmes and supervision  
89.9 appoint a representative Task Force and engage in broad consultation to plan and implement better accommodations and programmes for women and call on NCWC to undertake study of eight sentencing policies, reporting back to subsequent AGM, but none of these policies dealt with the penal system as a whole; and

Whereas #2 the Government of Canada has recently made clear its intention to expand the Canadian prison system at significant cost to meet the expected increase from its recent "get tough on crime" legislation, at a time of fiscal restraint, and when crime rates in Canada have been trending downwards for the last two decades; and

Whereas #3 it is estimated that 13 percent of male offenders and 29 percent of female offenders suffer some form of mental illness, but most treatment of the mentally ill in prison is sub-standard or, especially for women offenders, non-existent, and

Whereas #4 most criminologists agree that longer sentences neither improve public safety nor lead to positive outcomes and successful re-integration into the community for offenders; and

Whereas #5 the money which the government is proposing to spend on expanding the prisons could more usefully and effectively be spent on:

a. better facilities and treatment for mentally ill offenders;

b. measures to reduce the poverty which is the background of so many of the marginalized people who become offenders; and

c. community programs to support at-risk families and youths; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that Canada’s penal systems be based on:

a. a rehabilitation model including probation, sentencing treatment and parole of prisoners which takes into account not only community safety but also the rehabilitation of offenders;

b. appropriate facilities for mentally ill offenders, both male and female;
c. alternative approaches to sentencing which not only protect the community but also work towards the rehabilitation and more positive outcomes for offenders; and

d. work with other levels of government to ensure that poverty reduction strategies as well as community programs for the support of at-risk families and youth are in place; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to:

a. postpone plans for further prison expansion until there has been thorough study of the need for expansion and the associated costs and effectiveness;

b. provide separate facilities for appropriate treatment of mentally ill offenders, both male and female;

c. explore alternative approaches to sentencing and treatment which will not only protect the community but also work towards rehabilitation and more positive outcomes for offenders; and

d. work with other levels of government to ensure that poverty reduction strategies as well as community programs for the support of at-risk families and youth are in place.

Emerging Issue #1 The Need for All Canadians to Have Access to Sufficient Resources to Cover the Necessities of Life

Motion #37 To refer the resolution to the Resolutions Committee for revision and to be brought back on Sunday.
Moved by: Carol Schweitzer Seconded by: Adele Muldoon Carried

Mary Scott thanked Hilary Taylor for putting the resolutions on the screen.

Nominating Committee Report
The Nominating Committee report was brought back to the floor and Mary Potter asked for nominations from the floor.

Motion #38 Nominate Rashmi Bhat for the position of Global Affairs Convener.
Moved by: Mary Scott Seconded by: Gracia Janes Carried

Motion #39 Nominate Kelly-Ann Stevenson for the position of Employment Convener.
Moved by: Trish Masniuk Seconded by: Barbara Hall Carried

Motion #40 Nominate Carla Kozak for the position of Vice-President.
Moved by: Carol Schweitzer Seconded by: Druse Bryan Carried

Motion #41 That nominations be closed.
Moved by: Marie Mathers-Ross Seconded by: Mary Scott Carried

All positions were filled by acclamation and the list is as follows:

Board
President: Denise Mattok
Vice-Presidents: Darla Campbell
Arlene Draffin Jones
Gracia Janes
Carla Kozak
Thelma McGillivray
From 11:00 am to 5:00 pm there was an Artists and Business Trade Show called “All things Manitoba” in the hallway.

NCWC Education Fund Program
The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. for the NCWC Education Fund lunch and the launch of the program “Women and Mental Health”. Gracia Janes, President of NCWCEF, welcomed everyone and introduced Sharon Blady MLA, Legislative Assistant to Gord McIntosh. Ella Amir, Executive Director of AMI-Quebec Action on Mental Illness spoke about “Who is Caring for the Caregiver?”
Joan Butcher introduced Beverlee Goodwin, the moderator for the panel on Women and Mental Health. Ms. Goodwin formed a group called “Concerned Citizens on Mental Health” after her daughter committed suicide. The panel consisted of Ann Pederson – Director of the BC Centre of Excellence for Women’s Health who spoke on “Mental Illness to Mental Health for Women”; Roberta Stout – Researcher, Prairie Women’s Health Centre of Excellence who spoke on “Urban Aboriginal Women speak about Mental Health”; and Lori Peters, Provincial Eating Disorder Prevention and Recovery Program, Women’s Health Clinic who spoke on “Popular Culture’s Influence on the Body Image and Mental Health of Girls and Women”.

The second part of the afternoon program, “Honouring Our Aboriginal Sisters,” started at 3:30 p.m. Speakers included: Nahanni Fontaine, Special Advisor on Aboriginal Women’s Issues for the Aboriginal Issues Committee of Cabinet of Manitoba with particular focus on Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women; Barb Houle, mother of Cherisse who was found murdered, who told of her personal story; and the Community Action Group of R.B.Russell High School which gave a dramatic presentation about missing and murdered girls.

Chief Meeches from Swan Lake and Jeanette Cobiere Lavell, President of the Native Women’s Association of Canada (NWAC), along with Mary Scott gave presentations and then signed a Joint Declaration to work together to help stop the violence toward aboriginal women and girls. Delegates at the AGM also signed in solidarity.

Banquet
At the banquet on Saturday night Mary Scott brought greetings and Rashmi Bhat emceed the evening. Elizabeth Hutchinson installed the new Board and Conveners of NCWC. Jamie Black, creator of the REDress Art Project, told about her work and had some red dresses hanging in the room. Heather Bishop, Human Rights Advocate and Musician then entertained us with her humorous monologue and singing.
Sunday June 5

An interfaith service was held at 8:15 a.m. led by Carolyn Garlich and Karen Hoeft.

The Fourth Plenary began at 9:22 a.m. beginning with a moment of silence. The VP for the session was Mavis Moore. There were a few announcements: Everyone was asked to complete the evaluation form. The deadline for receiving materials for the next newsletter is September 15, 2011. Elizabeth Hutchinson will do the September newsletter but she would like someone to take over after that. Lynda Newson sends her greetings; she is now living in Brockville.

In Memoriam

Mavis Moore led the In Memoriam session. The following people were remembered: Kay Saunderson – Montreal Council; Beryl Pope – Montreal Council; Evelyn Renton – British Columbia; Louise McArthur – former NCWC Treasurer; Win Whitfield – London Council and former NCWC President

There was another credentials report: Individual Members – 6, Life Members – 5, Directors, Conveners and Study Groups – 15, LCWs – 12, PCWs – 6, NOSs – 5 for a total vote count of 291.

Resolutions Continued

Muriel Smith took the floor again for the resolutions discussion.

Revision of Resolution #5

Motion #42 Delete “livable retirement with” in Resolved #1 and #2
Moved by: Bonnie Siemens Seconded by: Gracia Janes Defeated

Friendly amendment: Delete “in Canada” after “all contributors” in Resolved #1 and #2.

Motion #43 That the revised Resolution #5 be accepted as amended.
Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Rani Gupta Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army

#5: REFORM OF THE CANADA PENSION PLAN RETIREMENT INCOME SYSTEM FOR CANADIANS WITH AN EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Whereas #1 the economic well being of Canada’s retired population is being threatened by:
a. a significant increase in the number of retirees as the baby boom generation retires; and
b. on-going low levels of activity in the economy, high unemployment and the underfunding and/or the failure of increasing numbers of employer pension plans, leaving affected retirees without this income; and
c. the significantly reduced level of personal savings of the working age employed population; and

Whereas #2 while it is generally assumed that retirees need about 70% of their pre-retirement income to preserve their standard of living in retirement, the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) alone is designed to replace 25% of average adjusted annual earnings up to a maximum (this amount changes yearly and is $48,300 for 2011); and

Whereas #3 the CPP is the favoured vehicle of delivery to increase retirement income because it is considered secure, reliable, cost-effective and well managed; and

Whereas #4 an expanded Canada Pension Plan (CPP) could provide an increased defined benefit pension related to earnings and years of contributions, and would remain
a public pension plan where risks are pooled to provide adequate benefits to all contributors; and

Whereas #5 these plan reforms are still in the design phase where no clear design has been chosen, except that the CPP seems the preferred vehicle of delivery; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy retention of an expanded and sustainable Canada Pension Plan (CPP) with increased benefits for all contributors to ensure them a livable retirement with a defined, indexed and secure pension; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to strengthen the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) by increasing benefits for all contributors to ensure them a livable retirement with a defined, indexed and secure pension.

Revision of Emerging Issue #1

Motion #43 Add in Resolved 2a. the words older women after “single mothers”.
Moved by: Thelma McGillivray  Seconded by: Gracia Janes  Carried

Motion #44 Add at the end of Resolved 2f. and lack of access to safe drinking water.
Moved by: Kelly-Ann Stevenson  Seconded by: Darla Campbell  Carried

Friendly amendment: In Resolved #2b. add or income after “social”.

Motion #45 Delete entire Resolved #2c. and insert implements tax policy to promote economic opportunity and justice for those in poverty.
Moved by: Karen Hoeft  Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer  Defeated

Motion #46 To extend debate by 5 minutes.
Moved by: Mary Potter  Seconded by: Rashmi Bhat  Carried

Motion #47 Delete Resolved #2e. and insert: implements a National Housing Strategy.
Moved by: Karen Hoeft  Seconded by: Bonnie Siemens  Carried

Motion #48 Delete Resolved #2 c. and d.
Moved by: Denise Mattok  Seconded by: Karen Dempsey  Carried

Motion #49 That the Revised Emerging Issue #1 be accepted as amended.
Moved by: Muriel Smith  Seconded by: Marie Mathers-Ross  Carried

**EM 1: The Need for All Canadians to Have Access to Sufficient Resources to Cover the Necessities of Life**

Whereas #1 the UN Declaration of Human Rights declares that “everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of oneself and one’s family, including food, clothing, housing, necessary social services, and to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his/her control" with “motherhood and childhood entitled to special care and assistance”, and

Whereas #2 the National Council of Welfare publication, Welfare Incomes 2009 found that despite the fact that all welfare incomes increased in 2008, this increase had very little effect as welfare incomes had already lost so much ground due to inflation of 45% between 1990 and 2009, welfare incomes are still far away from providing the necessities of life, as are the incomes of people working at minimum and other low
wages and the Canadian Community Health Survey shows that 9.2% of the population of Canada or more than 1.1 million people live with food insecurity; and

Whereas #3 research by the Canadian Centre for Public Policy Alternatives shows that there is a growing gap between upper income Canadians whose incomes have grown very quickly, and both middle income families, whose incomes have stagnated, and lower income Canadians whose incomes have lost ground over recent years, this putting low income earners and social assistance recipients at risk of food and shelter insecurity; and

Whereas #4 the World Health Organization, responding to increasing concern about the persisting and widening inequities, established the Commission on the Social Determinants of Health, and is holding a conference, the aim of which is “to catalyze political support for national policies to address social determinants of health to reduce health inequities”, and

Whereas #5 Canada is the only major industrialized country to be without a national housing strategy, although the pockets of extreme poverty, homelessness, near homelessness and unsafe and/or overcrowded dwellings that exist in Canada (and which are particularly prevalent among Aboriginals, who include First Nations, Inuit and Metis) have high costs in terms of poor health, poor school achievement, increased involvement with the police and courts, as well as high levels of incarceration and unemployment through life; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada reiterate from the 1948 United Nations Declaration of Human Rights as policy that everyone has “the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of oneself and one’s family, including food, clothing, housing, necessary social services, and to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his/her control with “motherhood and childhood entitled to special care and assistance”; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to develop an anti-poverty strategy that:

a. works to improve daily living conditions of people, with special attention being given to single mothers, older women, refugee women, women with disability, and Aboriginal women living off reserve, at risk of food and shelter insecurity by increasing the Federal Social Transfer to the Provincial and Territorial Governments;

b. hold the provinces and territories accountable for using additional benefits to social or income assistance recipients so that they have the resources to buy sufficient nutritional food and to live in stable, safe housing;

c. implements a National Housing Strategy without delay;

d. increases funding to on-reserve Aboriginals, given the exclusive federal responsibility for housing on reserves, in order to alleviate their food and shelter insecurity, paying particular attention to the unsafe, overcrowded and often mold-infected condition of much Aboriginal housing, and lack of access to safe drinking water; and

e. develops an integrated national policy to reduce health inequities among Canadians by addressing the social determinants of health; and be it further

Resolved #3 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to work with provincial and territorial governments to ensure that their minimum wage policies support a living wage.
Constitution Committee Report
Carol Schweitzer gave the Constitution Committee report on behalf of the chair, Marjorie Windler, who was unable to attend the AGM due to illness. Changes to the By-Laws, as found in the Notice of Motion and in the AGM docket are as follows:

ARTICLE VII-COMMITTEES
Section 1: Standing Study Committees
(iii) **Conveners of Standing Study Committees** are elected by the Voting Body.
(iv) **Conveners of Standing Study Committees** are the liaison with the corresponding ICW Committee Conveners.

ARTICLE IX- NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS
Section 2: Nomination of Directors and Conveners of Standing Study Committees
(iii) No Director or elected Convener of a Standing Study Committee shall be eligible for the same elected office which she has held for the four (4) preceding years except the Treasurer who may hold office for up to six (6) consecutive years.
(iv) Subject to the provisions of Article IX Section 3. (iii), a President may hold office as a Board member for up to nine (9) consecutive years, the nine (9) years being four (4) as a Vice President, four (4) as President, one (1) as Past President unless such person held the office of Treasurer for six (6) consecutive years before serving as President, in which case she may hold office as a Board member for up to eleven (11) consecutive years.
Existing (iv) is renumbered as (v)

Motion #50 That the proposed changes to the By-Laws be accepted.
Moved by: Carol Schweitzer    Seconded by: Elizabeth Hutchinson  Carried

The changes to the Standing Rules are found in the AGM docket.

Motion #51 That the proposed changes to the Standing Rules be accepted.
Moved by: Carol Schweitzer    Seconded by: Marie Mathers-Ross   Carried

Motion #52 That the VP Administration review and revise the By-Laws and Standing Rules to reflect the current operation and structure of NCWC and report to the Constitution Convener.
Moved by: Rashmi Bhat    Seconded by: Bonnie Siemens  Carried

Motion #53 That the minutes of the AGM and Board Meetings have action items.
Moved by: Monica Feist    Seconded by: Arlene Draffin Jones  Carried

Darla Campbell reported that 49 pages had been submitted with suggestions for NCWC in regard to her workshop on “Together We are Stronger” and they will be e-mailed to members.

New Business
Mary Scott announced that the next Annual Meeting will be in Ottawa.
Ms Scott gave a report on the recent web action. In May the average number of sessions each day was 267. Each session averaged five different views and lasted 11 minutes per session. The favourite pages were the home page and the AGM page. Blogs were also popular. The report on the Commission on the Status of Women has had thousands of views.
Ms Scott expressed her thanks to the local organizing committee and they received a standing ovation. Monica Feist thanked everyone for their kind comments and thanked Mary for her leadership. Marilyn McGonigle suggested that planning for an AGM should start earlier. Arlene Draffin Jones announced that they will be donating a Celebrating Women print to the Hotel.

Denise Mattok took the chair and explained the history of the President’s necklace. The stones are Scottish and NCWC gave them to Lady Aberdeen’s daughter at her wedding. They were made into a chain and a pin for the NCWC President to wear. If you have items for the archives they should be sent to the NCWC office. She has re-established a relationship with Birks and they have found the dyes for the pins. She is open for offers to host the AGM in 2 years. The Post-AGM Board Meeting will be held Monday morning.

Ms Mattok gave an update on the Celebrating Women project. The paintings have been moved to Dymon Self Storage which costs less money. The merchandise materials are stored at the NCWC office and could be used as gifts for speakers. There are still 6 boxes of heritage books left. The artist of Celebrating Women has a showing in Ottawa and borrowed 4 of our originals but didn’t sell any. She is negotiating with an art gallery in Toronto about buying the originals. Mary Scott suggested trying the Canadian Human Rights Museum. Rashmi Bhat stated that new Boards should be conversant with contracts.

Trish Masniuk suggested NCWC should keep the cost of its conferences down by minimizing the number of hotel nights.

Karen Dempsey noted that there were only 5 NOSs represented at the meeting and NCWC should think about how it can engage more federates. NCWC needs to write resolutions at the local level with federates in mind and with their input.

Motion #54 That the meeting be adjourned. 12:30 p.m.
        Moved by: Marie Mathers-Ross  Seconded by: Bonnie Siemens  Carried

There was a tour of the Canadian Human Rights Museum at 1:00 p.m.
Action Page for June 2 – 5, 2011 AGM Minutes (insert in front of Minutes)

1 It was suggested that the pages of the minutes be numbered in the future.

2 Reports from the Provincial Councils of Women of Quebec and Saskatchewan were missing from the docket although they had been sent in on time. (to be placed in NCWC Office docket)

   The accountant, Peter Wintemute, Chair of the Exchange Group, then reviewed what needs to be done in the future to prevent [the misappropriation of funds] from happening again. The Board will deal with implementing the regime suggested by Mr Wintemute.

   In the discussion of the budget, Ms. Siemens recommended that the new Board revisit the professional fees and the lease for the photocopier.
   Carol Schweitzer recommended that all expenses and donations should be reflected in the financial statements to give a true picture of the cost of operating NCWC.
   Trish Masniuk suggested that a learning module of finances be developed for federates.

Motion #7 That the Board determine the firm of accountants to be retained for purposes of the Annual Review for the upcoming year ending March 31, 2012.

Motion #9 That the Board support the laying of charges by the police and crown prosecutor in connection with the alleged misappropriation of funds by the NCWC employee.

3 Motion 10 That the costs for those members who may be representing the Board of NCWC as witnesses in a Court of Law for these fraud charges be approved at the discretion of the Board.

Motion #12 That NCWC be able to borrow from the investment fund up to $50,000 as required.

   It was noted that there was no list of the Board in the docket. (item to put into 2012 AGM docket)

15 Everyone was asked to complete the evaluation form (found in the docket).
   The deadline for receiving materials for the next newsletter is September 15, 2011. Elizabeth Hutchinson will do the September newsletter but she would like someone to take over after that.

18 Motion #52 That the VP Administration review and revise the By-Laws and Standing Rules to reflect the current operation and structure of NCWC and report to the Constitution Convener.

Motion #53 That the minutes of the AGM and Board Meetings have action items.

   Darla Campbell reported that 49 pages had been submitted with suggestions for NCWC in regard to her workshop on “Together We are Stronger” and they will be e-mailed to members.

19 [Denise Mattok] is open for offers to host the AGM in 2 years
   Re Celebrating Women – items could be used as gifts for speakers. [Ms Mattok] is negotiating with an art gallery in Toronto about buying the originals. Mary Scott suggested trying the Canadian Human Rights Museum. Rashmi Bhat stated that new Boards should be consistent with contracts.
   Trish Masniuk suggested NCWC should keep the cost of its conferences down by minimizing the number of hotel nights.
   Karen Dempsey noted that there were only 5 NOSs represented at the meeting and NCWC should think about how it can engage more federates. NCWC needs to write resolutions at the local level with federates in mind and with their input.