Thursday, May 31

In the afternoon there was a tour of the Van Gogh exhibit at the National Gallery of Canada for interested participants.

The Opening Ceremonies for the 119th AGM took place at Rideau Hall from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. The VP of session was Thelma McGillivray with the NCWC President, Denise Mattok welcoming everyone. The President presented Her Excellency Sharon Johnston C.C., with a framed print of “Fabric of a Nation.” Mrs. Johnston spoke on her concerns about the well-being of women giving examples from groups with which she had met, particularly with native women. She chatted afterwards with many members. Members also had the opportunity to tour various rooms and the Conservatory of Rideau Hall.

Friday, June 1

President Denise Mattok met with the Presidents from the Local and Provincial Councils and Study Groups over breakfast.

The First Plenary Session took place in the Victoria Room with Carol Schweitzer as VP of the Session and President Denise Mattok presiding. The meeting began at 8:55 am with observing a moment of silence. After some housekeeping announcements, it was noted that there were no new members. The appointments for the AGM were as follows: Parliamentarian: Kelly-Ann Stevenson; Time Keeper: Lee Hudson; Scrutineers’ team chaired by Sheila Pepper.

The Standing Rules for the AGM were read by Denise Mattok. Because there was one microphone on the floor, during a debate, members were told to form two lines, pro and con, at the microphone.

Motion #1  To adopt the Standing Rules for the AGM.
Moved by: Maria Neil  Seconded by: Rosemary Mallory  Carried

Sheila Pepper gave the credentials for the AGM: NOSs – 4, PCWs – 6, LCWs – 9, Directors, Conveners and Study Groups – 17, Life Members – 10, Students and Individual Members – 1, for a total of 262 votes.

Motion #2  To adopt the agenda.
Moved by: María Neil  Seconded by Karen Dempsey  Carried

The Minutes of the 2011 AGM had one amendment. On page 19 following the paragraph ending “be held Monday morning.” insert the paragraph “Two Life Members were appointed by President Denise Mattok, namely Mary Scott and Karen Dempsey.”

Motion #3  To adopt the minutes of the 2012 AGM as amended.
Moved by: Karen Dempsey  Seconded by: Mary Scott  Carried

President, Vice-President and Convener Reports
Denise Mattok gave highlights of her report.
Motion #4  To adopt the President’s Report.
Moved by: Denise Mattok    Seconded by: Maria Neil    Carried

Gracia Janes, VP Environment, added to her report that she had written a letter to the Minister of
the Environment in regard to the shutting down of the Experimental Lakes Area.

Motion #5  To accept the report of the VP Environment.
Moved by: Gracia Janes    Seconded by: Maria Neil    Carried

The other Vice-Presidents had nothing to add to their reports.

Motion #6  To adopt the VP reports as reported or written.
Moved by: Carla Kozak    Seconded by: Elizabeth Hutchinson    Carried

Elizabeth Hutchinson has been Newsletter Editor for 7 years and is now retiring. She thanked
people for their help.

Muriel Smith, Resolutions Chair, said that she erred on the side of lenience with the resolutions
and has noticed that there are different opinions on different sides of the country. She thanked
Carol Schweitzer for her help. She had some motions in her report in the docket from the
Manitoba Council, namely:

Motion #1: That NCWC adopt a Clear Language policy that includes resolutions at the AGM in
2013, and that resolutions thereafter be drafted in Clear Language and with a word count limit
of 200.

Motion #2: That NCWC establish guidelines for resolution-writing and circulate them to all
Councils, federates and individual members.

Motion #7  That the motions regarding resolutions be referred to the incoming Chair of
Resolutions.
Moved by: Muriel Smith    Seconded by: Mary Scott

There was a friendly amendment: suggested by Gracia Janes that “a report be brought to the
membership next year” be added to Motion #7.

Motion #7  That the motions regarding resolutions be referred to the incoming Chair of
Resolutions and that a report be brought to the membership next year.
Moved by: Muriel Smith    Seconded by: Mary Scott    Carried

Several people thought that the resolutions were inadequate this year with poor format, inadequate
research and background. It was suggested that the new resolutions committee include the
Salvation Army and Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba.

Mary Scott, Web Editor, is retiring after 10 years of service. On Monday the web site will be
blackened in protest of the federal budget bill. Mary will continue as the United Nations
representative. There have been 6000 views of the blog about the UN.

Motion #8  To adopt the reports of the Conveners of Administrative Committees.
Moved by: Rosemary Mallory    Seconded by: Ruth Robinson    Carried

The Standing Study Committee Reports will be available on Saturday morning.
Darla Campbell, representative to the Canadian National Exhibition, reported that there were 1.3 million visitors to the CNE last year. This year NCWC will have a booth at the CNE on August 23 from 6 – 9 pm.

Helen Saravanamuttoo Convener of Campaign 2000 noted that poverty has not been decreased significantly. She thought that there was enough information on food security to do another resolution on it. The taxes for the very rich need to be higher.

Motion #9  That the reports for the Conveners of Special Committees be approved.
Moved by: Karen Dempsey  Seconded by: Maria Neil  Carried

Local and Provincial Council Reports
Montreal Council – Sandra Cohen-Rose reported that Montreal Council had made a Centennial Tapestry with the logos of all Federated Organizations that were members at that time. It will hang at the Samuel Bronfman Building. A gala celebration is planned for November 30, 2013.

Ottawa Council – Maria Neil reported that last year’s President, Adele Muldoon, brought in 4 new affiliates and several new members from CFUW. They lost Dorothy Hodgson, and Beth Cook is doing poorly. They meet at the Community Centre in Vanier.

St. Catharines – Gracia Janes said that they encouraged more people to become Board Members now having 12, ranging in age from early 20s to late 70s. Several community members are coming to their meetings including Brock students.

Vancouver – Rosemary Mallory said that the President, Rani Gupta, sent her greetings. She has had some serious health problems.

Winnipeg – Arlene Draffin Jones said that they are having difficulty finding new members; however, one woman who started to come to their events is now on the Board.

Provincial Council of Manitoba – Sharon Taylor reported that they are providing training on resolutions. They also have a student from the University of Manitoba helping to update their resolutions.

The other Provincial Councils and Nationally Organized Societies had nothing to add to their reports.

Motion #10  That the reports from the Provincial Councils and Nationally Organized Societies be accepted.
Moved by: Maria Neil  Seconded by: Karen Dempsey  Carried

Constitution Committee
Marjorie Windler had sent out changes to the Procedures Manual.

Motion #11  That the revised Procedures Manual be accepted.
Moved by: Marjorie Windler  Seconded by: Karen Dempsey  Carried

After the break, the credentials were again established.
NOSs – 4, PCWs – 6, LCWs – 10, Directors, Conveners and Study Groups – 20, Life Members – 10, Students and Individual Members – 1, for a total of 281.

Treasurer’s Report
The Treasurer, Margaret Ford, gave a powerpoint presentation. Two new financial groups have been added to NCWC – an Internal Auditor (Diane Hoskins) and an Audit Committee (Darla
Campbell, Carla Kozak and Bonnie Siemens).  This year the Board has worked to reduce NCWC's expenditures and next year NCWC will move into fundraising.  Cost reductions for the current year include no paid staff, banking cost reductions, the office was closed and everything was moved to Dymon Storage, insurance costs have been cut in half, telephone and internet charges are reduced, the photocopier contract is to be terminated at the end of the lease in 2013, the November Board Meeting will be held in members’ homes, and NCWC will not fund a representative to the UN Commission on Women or the ICW next year.

In regard to last year’s fraud, police laid charges against NCWC’s former employee. She did not appear in court as summoned and the judge issued a bench warrant for her arrest. There was discussion about the length of time that the warrant was in effect. It was recommended that NCWC talk to the Crown Attorney every month that it remains outstanding.

In regard to the fraud, Scotia Bank covered the interest charges but not the charges on the VISA bill because it wasn’t reported soon enough.

The proposed budget for 2012-13 maintains all core NCWC functions, creates a Foundation Fund and a Reserve Fund. NCWC will be weaned from its dependence on the Foundation Fund and there will be a one time transfer from the Foundation Fund of $10,000. NCWC will need to fundraise.

There was a round of applause for Ms Mattok sorting through a lot of papers in the office and to Virginia and Carol Schweitzer, Margaret Ford and Denise Mattok for helping with the move.

In the discussion on the proposed budget, Ms. Ford explained that the Foundation Fund had been drawn down from $1.3 million to about $100,000 by making loans to the Operating Fund. The payment of fees to ICW will continue. NCWC cannot give tax receipts for donations to the Foundation Fund. NCWC needs more registrants for the AGM and lots of fundraising. The storage costs for next year are greater than this year because they are for a full year. The transfer of $74,018 from the Foundation Fund to the Operating Fund allowed the Line of Credit at ScotiaBank to be closed.

Motion #12  Approve the actions of the Board of Directors over the past year with respect to the transfer of $74,018 from the Foundation Fund to the Operating Fund.  
Moved by: Margaret Ford    Seconded by: Mary Scott    Carried

Motion #13  Accept the Financial Statements as presented.  
Moved by: Margaret Ford    Seconded by: Rosemary Mallory

Motion #14  To postpone the discussion and vote to Saturday morning after an informal discussion on the statements at 7:30 Saturday morning.  
Moved by: Sheila Pepper    Seconded by: Helen Saravanamuttoo    Carried

Motion #15  To request the Board Audit Committee to recommend to the Board the approval of an Accounting Firm for a Financial Review for 2012-2013.  
Moved by: Margaret Ford    Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer    Carried

Motion #16  Approve the proposed budget for 2012-2013.  
Moved by Margaret Ford    Seconded by: Rosemary Mallory

The Parliamentarian warned that if there is a change in the financial statements there may be a change in the budget.
Motion #17  To postpone the budget discussion and the voting on Motion 16 to Saturday morning.
Moved by: Carol Schweitzer  Seconded by: Sandra Cohen-Rose  Carried

Motion #18  To postpone the rest of the Treasurer’s motions to Saturday morning.
Moved by: Margaret Ford  Seconded by: Muriel Smith  Carried

Ms Ford clarified that the Internal Auditor reports to the President and the Board Audit Committee reports to the Board. They are not support groups for the Treasurer.

We Can Change Minds – Take 1: Lunch and Workshop
Darla Campbell, VP Public Relations, took us through a “Blue Skies” exercise called “We Can Change Minds, Take 1.” We were to imagine ourselves 5 years from now in 2017 and being proud of what NCWC has accomplished. Each person wrote an accomplishment on a post-it note and each table reported on one of them. Everyone also wrote her name on a large paper letter and when the various letters were all assembled they spelled “We Can Change Minds.” Ms Campbell made a poster of the work which included all the post-it notes. The results will be summarized and distributed to the membership.

The Second Plenary Session began after lunch with Darla Campbell as VP of the Session.

A credentials count was taken: NOSs – 4, PCWs – 6, LCWs – 10, Directors, Conveners, Study Groups – 19, Life Members – 9, Student and Individual Members – 2 for a total vote count of 277.

Emerging Issue Resolutions
Muriel Smith, Resolutions Chair, took a vote on whether or not the Emerging Issues fit the criteria.

EI#1: Effects of the Balanced Refugee Reform Act on Human Trafficking Survivors in Canada

Motion #19  That Emerging Issue #1 be accepted for debate.
 Moved by: Sandra Cohen-Rose  Seconded by: Marjorie Windler  Defeated

EI#2: Double Bunking and Overcrowding in Canadian Prisons

Motion #20  That Emerging Issue #2 be accepted for debate.
 Moved by: Jeannette Logan  Seconded by: Helen Saravanamuttoo  Defeated

EI#3: Opportunity to Promote the Participation of Canadian Women and Girls in Soccer

Motion #21  That Emerging Issue #3 be accepted for debate.
 Moved by: Sharon Taylor  Seconded by: Arlene Draffin Jones  Carried

 EI#4: Canada’s Obligations Under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol, Including Reference to Omar Khadr

Motion #22  That Emerging Issue #4 be accepted for debate.
 Moved by: Helen Saravanamuttoo  Seconded by: Jeannette Logan  Carried

Main Resolutions

#1 National Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy

Motion #23  Add a new Resolved #3: That the National Council of Women of Canada recommends that the Provincial Councils urge their respective governments to work
with the Federal Government to develop a National Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy as outline in Resolved #2.
Moved by: Elizabeth Hutchinson      Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer      Carried

Motion #24  That Resolution #1 be accepted as amended.
Moved by: Muriel Smith      Seconded by: Helen Saravanamutto      Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army

#1 NATIONAL YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION STRATEGY

Whereas #1 in October 2011, an opposition motion was introduced into and approved by the Parliament of Canada, urging the government to work cooperatively with the provinces, territories and other stakeholders to establish and fund a National Suicide Prevention Strategy; and

Whereas #2 youth suicide continues to be a grave concern; and

Whereas #3 some young people bullied by peers resort to suicide in order to avoid the experience of unbearable persecution; and

Whereas #4 no National Suicide Prevention Strategy has been developed in Canada; and

Whereas #5 there are barriers to young people and their parents receiving effective help because some professionals working in this area are insufficiently trained in mental health services; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy support for:
   a. a national suicide prevention strategy and
   b. delivery of care involving youth at risk of suicide as a critical area of practice requiring specific training, research, and program development with sufficient mental health services which can be delivered in a timely fashion; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to act immediately to work with the provinces, territories, and the Assembly of First Nations to provide leadership and funding for the National Suicide Prevention Strategy to include:
   a. developing suitable, effective educational material to address and prevent youth suicide;
   b. engaging in a public education campaign, which will address the identification, prevention and care of youth at risk of suicide;
   c. giving priority to education and training by qualified personnel for medical and nursing students, and for front line staff in educational, housing and recreational locations;
   d. developing and funding a framework of new mental health services, including emergency services available to youth and their families both at short notice and over a longer time frame;
   e. examining the possibility of using the framework of a “Life Promotion Strategy” as well as/or instead of the usual Suicide Prevention Services for dealing with youth at risk of suicide; and
   f. continuing to address the issue when a particular youth or child is bullied by a peer or group of peers.
Resolved #3  that the National Council of Women of Canada recommends that the Provincial Councils urge their respective governments to work with the Federal Government to develop a National Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy as outline in Resolved #2.

#2 Aboriginal Youth Suicide and “Life Promotion”

Motion #25  Substitute a new Resolved #1: a self-government for aboriginal with specific attention to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the vehicle to ensure voice, inclusion, empowerment, focussing on the resources, gifts and talents in each community to shape their own destiny
Moved by: Cheryl Moisey    Seconded by: Carla Kozak   Defeated

Motion #26  Extend the time for debate by 10 minutes.
Moved by: Carol Schweitzer    Seconded by: Ruth Brown   Carried

Motion #27  That Resolution #2 be accepted.
Moved by: Muriel Smith   Seconded by: Helen Saravanamutto  Carried

#2 ABORIGINAL YOUTH SUICIDE AND “LIFE PROMOTION”

Whereas #1  suicide is the highest cause of death among Aboriginal youth: the rate of suicide being 5 to 7 times higher than among non-Aboriginal youth, and the rate of suicide for Inuit youth higher than that of First Nations and Metis youth; and

Whereas #2  the reasons for the high suicide rate among First Nations youth include prior abuse in residential schools, broken treaties over many years, the inhumane living conditions on many reserves and the lack of economic and jurisdictional opportunities for First Nations to design and provide health and education programs; and

Whereas #3  the *Trilateral First Nations Health Senior Officials Committee* has identified mental health and addictions as one of four priority areas, and

Whereas #4  as of 2011 improvements in the living conditions of many Aboriginal peoples have not yet been achieved; and

Whereas #5  First Nations Youth in Ontario have recommended changing the name and focus of the National Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy to a “Life Promotion Strategy”, to support life and engage youth in active healthy lifestyles; therefore be it

Resolved #1  that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that there be a comprehensive national strategy to prevent suicide among Aboriginal youth; and be it further

Resolved #2  that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to:
   a. fund a National Suicide Prevention Strategy, developed in conjunction with the Aboriginal community, such as those First Nations persons represented in the *Trilateral First Nations Health Senior Officials Committee*;
   b. provide funding for mental health and addiction services in Aboriginal communities, developed in cooperation with groups, such as the *Trilateral First Nations Health Senior Officials Committee*, with the goal of preventing youth suicide among Aboriginal youth;
c. increase funding for well built, mold-free housing, schools and recreational facilities that are large enough to prevent overcrowding, to ensure that youth have the opportunity to develop good physical and mental health;

d. ensure a supply of clean safe drinking water;

e. provide training and employment opportunities; and

f. support strong Aboriginal youth mental health by having them participate in the development of initiatives such as a Life Promotion Strategy, which not only increases their will to live but also helps them promote good mental health among their peers.

PU #6 Housing: A Strategy for Canadians

Friendly Amendment from Carol Schweitzer to add in Resolved #1 that there be before “a national housing strategy”

Editorial change: in Resolved #3 delete “re-introduce Bill C-304” and insert support Bill C-400

Motion #28 That Policy Update #6 be accepted as amended.

Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Sheila Pepper Carried

Abstention: Salvation Army

PU#6 HOUSING: A STRATEGY FOR CANADIANS

Whereas #1 in 2002 the National Council of Women of Canada approved PU#2, Affordable Housing calling on the Government of Canada to establish and implement a strong social housing policy that would ensure an adequate supply of safe affordable housing; and

Whereas #2 improved housing conditions are best achieved through cooperative partnerships of governments and the meaningful involvement of local communities; and

Whereas #3 the Parliament of Canada Private Member’s Bill, formerly C-304, re-introduced as C-400, which is receiving widespread support, promotes national goals and programs to seek to improve the quality of life for all Canadians as a basic right; and

Whereas #4 Canada’s wealth and national budget are more than adequate to ensure that every woman, child and man residing in Canada has secure, adequate, accessible and affordable housing as part of a standard of living that will provide healthy, physical, intellectual, emotional, spiritual and social development and a good quality of life; therefore, be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that there be a national housing strategy using cooperative government-community partnerships to address the lack of adequate and affordable housing for all; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to develop a national housing strategy, using cooperative government-community partnerships, to address the lack of adequate and affordable housing for all; and be it further

Resolved #3 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge Members of Parliament to support Bill C-400, an Act to Secure, Adequate, Accessible and Affordable Housing for Canadians".

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#3 Murdered and Missing Aboriginal Women

Editorial change: remove the a. and b. designation in Resolved #1

Motion # 29 That Resolution #3 be accepted.
Moved by: Muriel smith Seconded by: Helen Saravanamuttoo Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army

#3 MURDERED AND MISSING ABORIGINAL WOMEN

Whereas #1 the Government of Canada has failed to respond adequately under its obligations as signatory to both the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and Girls (CEDAW) and the Optional Protocol, and to the UN Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (UNCESCR), with regard to alleged violations of the rights of the 500 missing and murdered aboriginal women and girls identified during the last 20 years; and

Whereas #2 a joint appeal by the Native Women’s Association of Canada (NWAC) and the Feminist Alliance for the International Advancement of Women (FAFIA) to the CEDAW Committee resulted in their decision in December 2011 to conduct an official inquiry; and

Whereas #3 the Native Women’s Association of Canada (NWAC) and the National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC) signed a Declaration of Solidarity at the NCWC Annual General Meeting in June 2011; and

Whereas #4 members of the Aboriginal community have been trying for years to get the Government of Canada to investigate the individual cases vigourously, to bring the perpetrators of these crimes to justice, as well as to take strong decisive measures to end systemic violence against aboriginal women and girls; and

Whereas #5 the Native Women’s Association of Canada has found that overlapping and unclear jurisdictional divisions among the RCMP, the First Nations, municipal and provincial police forces have impeded effective resolution of some cases; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that the cases of the missing and murdered aboriginal women be solved quickly and the systemic violence against Aboriginal women and girls be eliminated; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to set up without delay a Special Task Force composed of officers of the RCMP, and members of provincial, municipal and First Nations police forces throughout Canada, to:
   a. investigate the unsolved and emerging cases of missing and murdered aboriginal women;
   b. react quickly and cooperatively to resolve these cases;
   c. bring the perpetrators to justice and closure to their families; and
   d. address systemic violence that affects aboriginal communities in order to create a safer environment for all; and be it further

Resolved #3 that National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to restore funding for the “Sisters in Spirit” project.
#4 Youth Unemployment

Motion #30  
That the title be changed to Unemployed Youth  
Moved by: Helen Saravanamutto  Seconded by: Jeannette Logan  
Defeated

Motion #31  
That the title be changed to Youth Employment  
Moved by: Phyllis Kerkhoven  Seconded by: Helen Saravanamutto  
Carried

Motion #32  
In Resolved #1 delete everything after “policy that” and insert there be additional resources provided by all levels of governments to unemployed youth; and be it further  
Moved by: Elizabeth Hutchinson  Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer  
Defeated

Motion #33  
that Resolution #4 be accepted as amended.  
Moved by: Muriel Smith  Seconded by: Jeannette Logan  
Carried

#4 YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

Whereas #1  
youth unemployment in Canada, following the 2008 economic crisis, is considerably higher than adult unemployment; and

Whereas #2  
long term unemployment in young people is often associated with vulnerability to ill health, anti-social behaviour, loss of self confidence and coping skills; and

Whereas #3  
close relationships with a supportive family often protect unemployed youth from indulging in anti-social behaviour, vulnerability to physical and mental ill health, loss of self confidence and coping skills and keep alive the hope that they will secure employment; therefore be it

Resolved #1  
that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that the expected role of governments is to facilitate job opportunities, provide guidance, support and other training opportunities for unemployed youth; and be it further

Resolved #2  
that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to address the issue of youth unemployment and to work with the provinces and territories to fund and implement programs that provide guidance, support and training opportunities to unemployed youth, adapted to the particular needs of Immigrant and First Nation youth; and be it further

Resolved #3  
that National Council of Women of Canada urge the Provincial Councils of Women to work with their respective governments to publicize, provide support for and expand existing apprenticeship programs for jobs in the trades that offer alternatives for youth.

#5 Older Women and Discriminatory Employment Policies and Practices

Motion #34  
In Resolved #1 insert after “adopt as policy” the words the protection and promotion of the rights of older women to non-discriminatory employment; and be it further  
Moved by: Elizabeth Hutchinson  Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer  
Carried

Friendly amendment by Carla Kozak: in Resolved #1, add including those over 65 after “older women”
Motion #35  Extend the time for debate by 10 minutes.
Moved by Thelma McGillivray    Seconded by: Gracia Janes    Carried

Add the friendly amendment to Resolved #2 after “poverty amongst older women” and in Resolved #3 after “older women”.

Motion #36  That Resolution #5 be accepted as amended.
Moved by: Muriel Smith    Seconded by: Sandra Cohen-Rose    Carried
Abstentions: Salvation Army, Ruth Brown

#5 OLDER WOMEN AND DISCRIMINATORY EMPLOYMENT POLICIES AND PRACTICES

Whereas #1  older women have “the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment”; and

Whereas #2  older women have the right to work without discriminatory practices in employment, to experience equal criteria selection and equal employment opportunity in hiring policies and practices; and

Whereas #3  the Canadian Government should ensure that older women have the right to engage in paid work to escape poverty; and

Whereas #4  Section 15 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms stipulates the right of all individuals, including older women, to be “equal before and under the law and to have the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability”; therefore be it

Resolved #1  that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy the protection and promotion of the rights of older women, including those over 65, to non-discriminatory employment; and be it further

Resolved #2  that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to:
  a.  undertake an in depth quantitative and qualitative analysis of the impact of gender and age discrimination, employment and poverty amongst older women of Canada, including those over 65;
  b.  take the appropriate measures to develop policies and programs that strengthen national legislation that protect against discrimination, including sexism and ageism within the workplace;
  c.  direct employers to eliminate discriminatory policies and practices;
  d.  provide targeted program financing that supports employment assistance services and training for older women;
  e.  allocate government financing to local organizations working on education activities in the workplace to end discrimination against older women;
  f.  work with provincial and territorial governments and local authorities to comply with the national legislative framework;
  g.  encourage partnerships between government and civil society and among relevant local stakeholders in order to develop best practices and lessons learned;
  h.  continue to identify ways to collaborate with international agencies, institutions and organisations to further support the Madrid International Plan of Action on Aging, 2002; and be it further
Resolved #3 that the National Council of Women of Canada request all Provincial and Local Councils of Women to urge their respective governments to promote the employment of older women, including those over 65, to protect them and to prevent discrimination in the workplace based on age and sex.

#6 Human Trafficking : National Action Plan

The Resolutions Convener had recommended that this resolution be withdrawn as there already is policy on the books and this adds no new subject matter.

Motion #37 That Resolution #6 be deferred. Moved by: Jeannette Logan Seconded by: Gracia Janes Carried

#7 Regulation of Exploration for and Exploitation of Shale Gas in Canada

Friendly amendment from Mary Potter: Add at the end of Resolved #1 and that the shale gas industry be regulated

Motion #38 That Resolution #7 be accepted as amended. Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer Carried

#7 REGULATION OF EXPLORATION FOR AND EXPLOITATION OF SHALE GAS IN CANADA

Whereas #1 mining companies in various regions of Canada have been granted licences to explore for shale gas and have been actively involved in such exploration for several years, in many cases without consulting or giving any advance warning to municipalities and individual citizens of the affected territories; and

Whereas #2 the extraction of shale gas involves the process of hydraulic fracturing, also known as ‘fracking’, whereby large quantities of water mixed with sand and laced with chemicals & toxins is injected into the ground to fracture the rock with the risk of contaminating the groundwater and even rendering it combustible; and

Whereas #3 the adverse effects of fracking, such as methane leaks, have already been felt in a number of US states, such as Pennsylvania and Texas, leading to widespread calls for a ban on this process; and

Whereas #4 many citizens and not-for-profit groups are deeply concerned about the risks to the public and to the safety of the water supply; and

Whereas #5 the human right to water has been recognized by the United Nations; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that any new exploration for shale gas in Canada be postponed until methods are developed which make it safe for the environment, especially for nearby aquifers which may be affected by the fracking process, and that the shale gas industry be regulated; and be it further

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

a. introduce a moratorium on any currently planned exploration for and exploitation of shale gas in Canada

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b. work with the Provinces and Territories to develop strict guidelines to regulate any possible future development of a shale gas industry in Canada.

9. Ecocide an International Crime

Motion #39  Delete in Resolved #1 “for the acceptance by the United Nations”.
Moved by: Jeannette Logan    Seconded by: Mary Potter    Withdrawn

Motion #40  That Resolution #9 be accepted.
Moved by: Muriel Smith    Seconded by: Mary Potter    Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army
Against: Edmonton and Alberta Councils

#9 ECOCIDE AN INTERNATIONAL CRIME

Whereas #1  the United Nations holds that Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, War Crimes and Crimes of Aggression are considered “Crimes Against Peace” and the International Criminal Court holds individuals responsible for these acts; and

Whereas #2  extensive destruction of the environment or loss of ecosystems in a given territory, can involve significant disruption or harm to human life, natural resources or other assets, severely diminishing the peaceful enjoyment of that territory by its inhabitants and can lead to resource wars; and

Whereas #3  there is growing recognition of the need for enforceable, legally binding mechanisms in national and international law to hold to account perpetrators of long term severe damage to the environment and to set global standards of accountability for individuals within corporations who are responsible for such damage; and

Whereas #4  many in the environmental and legal communities are of the opinion that widespread environmental destruction is ecocide and since it can lead to war, the United Nations should consider it a ‘crime against peace” and hold its perpetrators accountable before the International Criminal Court; therefore be it

Resolved #1  that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy, support for acceptance by the United Nations of “ecocide” as an international crime against peace; and be it further

Resolved #2  that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to urge the United Nations to accept “ecocide” as an international crime against peace.

Ms Mattok announced that the NCWCDO dinner would be held in the current room at 7:15 and all materials had to be removed.
The Session adjourned at 4:50 pm.

There was a tour of the Parliament Buildings from 5:00 to 7:00 pm for interested participants.

At 7:30 p.m. the NCWC Development Organization had their Annual Dinner Meeting. The speaker was Pearl Eliadis speaking on the project “160 Girls” which aims to hold rapists accountable and keep girls safe from sexual violence in Kenya.
Saturday, June 2

The representatives from Nationally Organized Societies met with President Denise Mattok over breakfast.

The Third Plenary began at 8:45 a.m. with Arlene Draffin Jones as VP of the Session.

Motion #41 That the Financial Statements be accepted as presented.
Moved by: Margaret Ford    Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer    Carried

There was a report on the informal finance meeting that took place that morning for all that were interested. It was determined that the Treasurer needs a longer time frame to complete the financial statements before the AGM and to be able to send them out ahead of the AGM to the membership. Transparency has not been good in the past but is good now. There was a suggestion that Board Minutes be sent to members. Last year Arlene Draffin Jones sent donation request packages to over 200 organizations, but there were no donations. It was suggested that those organizations be contacted again. The Treasurer needs help with fundraising ideas.

The credentials were again established: NOSs – 4, PCWs – 6, LCWs – 10, Directors, Conveners and Study Groups – 18, Life Members – 8, Students and Individual Members – 3 for a total count of 273.

Motion #42 That Motion 16 with respect to the Budget for 2012-2013 be accepted.
Moved by: Margaret Ford    Seconded by: Gracia Janes    Carried

Motion #43 Accept the Treasurer’s recommendation for an interfund transfer from the Reserve Fund to the Operating Fund of up to $10,000 for 2012-2013.
Moved by: Margaret Ford    Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer    Carried

Motion #44 Accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented.
Moved by: Margaret Ford    Seconded by: Carla Kozak    Carried

There was a round of applause for Margaret Ford’s work on the finances and Darla Campbell’s work with the workshop.

Before resolution discussion, Petra Friedrichson took everyone through some exercises for physical and mental well-being.

Resolutions Continued
Muriel Smith took the chair for the resolutions discussion.


Ottawa Council pointed out that a national action plan addressing the root causes of human trafficking was new.

Gracia Janes rose on a point of order that the resolution was an Update and this was accepted by the Chair.

Motion #45 That Resolution #6 be accepted as Update #7.
Moved by: Muriel Smith    Seconded by: Jeannette Logan    Carried
UPDATE #7 HUMAN TRAFFICKING: NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

Whereas #1 the National Council of Women of Canada adopted policy in 2001 and 2006 addressing the issue of human trafficking; and

Whereas #2 human trafficking continues to be a global and international issue in which no country including Canada is immune to the problem of receiving, sending and acting as a transit site, and where it is the largest underground activity after sales of drugs and arms, with profits of approximately US$31.6 billion annually; and

Whereas #3 human trafficking of women and children is complex and cannot be abstracted from the immense disparities in wealth, power and security, and where women and children are often socially, economically and politically vulnerable; and

Whereas #4 human trafficking constitutes a violation of international covenants and conventions addressing human rights and violence against women and children; and

Whereas #5 the RCMP estimates that 600-800 persons are trafficked into Canada annually and an additional 1,500 to 2,000 are trafficked through Canada to the United States, and that in Canada human trafficking involves inter-provincial and intra-provincial illegal movement of persons; and

Whereas #6 the work to eliminate trafficking in persons requires collaboration and cooperative action among governments, volunteer organizations, researchers and the public; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that there be a comprehensive national action plan to address the root causes of human trafficking recognizing that human trafficking is a heinous crime; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to develop and introduce as a matter of priority a national action plan to eliminate the root causes of human trafficking, recognizing that human trafficking is a heinous crime that demands a coordinated and comprehensive response including prevention, protection of victims and prosecution of human traffickers.

#8. Criminalize Torture by Non-State Actors

Friendly amendment by Sharon Taylor to add and Territorial Governments after “Provincial Governments” in Resolved #3.

Motion #46 That Resolution #8 be accepted as amended.
Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Rosemary Mallory Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army

#8 CRIMINALIZE TORTURE BY NON-STATE ACTORS

Whereas #1 Canada is a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 5 of which says No one shall be subjected to Torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; and
Whereas #2 torture is the act of inflicting severe pain (whether physical or psychological) as a means of punishment, revenge, forcing information or a confession, or simply as an act of cruelty; and

Whereas #3 the Criminal Code of Canada states 269.1 Torture (1) Every official, or every person acting at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of an official, who inflicts torture on any other person is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding fourteen years; and

Whereas #4 legislation is required in order to include in the provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada acts of torture by private individuals and organizations, non-state actors; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that Torture by Non-State Actors be deemed a criminal offence; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to develop legislation to amend the Criminal Code of Canada to make Torture by Non-State Actors a specific criminal offence; and be it further

Resolved #3 that the National Council of Women of Canada recommend that Provincial Councils urge Provincial Governments and territorial governments to support legislation that would Criminalize Torture by Non-State Actors; and be it further

Resolved #4 that the National Council of Women of Canada recommend that Local Councils urge Municipal Governments to support legislation that would Criminalize Torture by Non-State Actors; and be it further

Resolved #5 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the International Council of Women to take similar action at the international level.

10. Reduction of the Sale and Promotion of Unhealthy Food

Friendly amendment from Ottawa Council to change Resolved #1 to reword after “policy” limits on unhealthy ingredients in processed foods, measures to communicate these limits to Canadian consumers, and education to encourage them to eat healthier foods; and be it further

Motion # 47 that the resolution be referred back to the authors to bring back next year because it doesn’t deal with the access to healthier food by low income people because of higher cost.
Moved by: Ruth Robinson Seconded by: Sheila Pepper Carried

PU #1 Early Child Development to Maximize Potential

Friendly amendments from the Quebec Council: In Resolved #1 reword after “importance of” early childhood development objectives which address the comprehensive needs of children to allow them to develop their full potential be included in any government agreements; and be it further

In Resolved #2 after “Government to” substitute the wording include in the renewed Health Accord planned for 2014, early childhood development objectives which address the comprehensive needs of children to allow them to develop their full potential; and be it further
In Resolved #3 after “Canada” insert request its Provincial and Local Councils of Women to urge their respective governments to include in the renewed Health Accord planned for 2014, early childhood objectives which address the comprehensive needs of children to allow them to develop their full potential.

Motion #48 That Policy Update #1 be accepted as amended. 
Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Jeannette Logan Carried

PU #1 EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT TO MAXIMIZE POTENTIAL

Whereas #1 the National Council of Women of Canada has adopted policy on the welfare of children back to 1987, and updated this policy in 1992 (92.1PU) which called for the development of child care services and resources which would:
- be of high quality, and
- be available and financially accessible to all Canadian children who need them, and
- offer a range of services to allow for parental choice and the needs of individual families, and
- be sensitive to the particular cultural requirements of aboriginal and immigrant families, and
- meet the needs of children in their own homes as well as children in child care facilities”; and

Whereas #2 the National Council of Women of Canada adopted additional policy in 2000 (2000.1PU) which called for “parent resource centres”; early childhood educational opportunities and group and family daycare; and

Whereas #3 research into early childhood development shows that a child’s brain and gene expression are affected by his/her early experiences and environment, as well as by early treatment of inherited conditions; and

Whereas #4 a significant number of children at all levels of society are being deprived of the critical nurturing experiences that are necessary for optimal brain development; and

Whereas #5 research shows that the emotional, physical and nutritional development of a child depends on the parents’ ability to meet their needs, and

Whereas #6 the Government of Canada will be reviewing the Health Accord with the provinces and territories, and updating it for renewal in 2014; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy early childhood development objectives which address the comprehensive needs of children to allow them to develop their full potential be included in any governmental agreements; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to include in the renewed Health Accord planned for 2014, early childhood development objectives which address the comprehensive needs of children to allow them to develop their full potential; and be it further

Resolved #3 that the National Council of Women of Canada request its Provincial and Local Councils of Women to urge their respective governments to include in the renewed Health Accord planned for 2014, early childhood objectives which address the comprehensive needs of children to allow them to develop their full potential.
PU #2 Healthy Food for All Canadians

Motion #49  In Resolved #3 delete “coordinate” and insert consolidate.
Moved by: Jeannette Logan  Seconded by: Margaret Ford  Carried

Motion #50  That Policy Update #2 be accepted as amended.
Moved by: Muriel Smith  Seconded by: Jeannette Logan  Defeated

During the break, Darla Campbell introduced the AGM participants to a new fundraising idea of an app for a smart phone: Mindr Mobile. It would be geared toward people who live alone or travel alone or toward teenagers. All were invited to talk to the marketers during the break. Mindr Mobile sponsored the morning break. After the break Ms Campbell elaborated on the fundraiser. There will be a monthly fee of $2.99/month and NCWC would get $.50/month as long as the person subscribes to the app. There will also be a family package of $1.99 per person/month with NCWC receiving the same benefit. The information will be in French also. There will be a code on our website so that the fee will be credited to us. It was suggested that it be promoted in the newsletter.

The credentials after the break were as follows: NOSs – 4, PCWs – 6, LCWs – 10, Directors, Conveners and Study Groups – 19, Life Members – 10, Students and Individual Members – 3, for a total vote count of 280.

PU #3 Women, Peace and Security

Friendly amendment from Quebec Council: In Resolved #2 add and post-conflict at the end.

Motion #51  That in Resolved #1 and #2 after “gender-based violence” insert such as rape as a weapon of war.
Moved by: Jeannette Logan  Seconded by: Maria Neil  Carried

Motion #52  That Policy Update #3 be accepted as amended.
Moved by: Muriel Smith  Seconded by: Maria Neil  Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army

PU#3 WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

Whereas #1  the National Council of Women of Canada adopted as policy Resolution #93.3EM The Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict, identifying the protection of women and children from sexual abuse in armed conflicts and emergencies as a significant human rights issue and #98.10 To Establish an Effective and Just International Criminal Court referring to the Beijing Platform for Action Objective E.3 prosecution of criminals responsible for war crimes against women; and

Whereas #2  the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has adopted five resolutions since 2000 to address Women, Peace and Security:
  a.  #1325 (2000) - recognizing that women are disproportionately affected by conflict and underrepresented in the peace process,
  b.  #1820 (2008) - recognizing conflict-related sexual violence as a matter of international peace and security,
c. #1888 (2009) – strengthening the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution #1820 by assigning leadership and establishing effective support mechanisms,
d. #1889 (2009) – addressing obstacles to women’s participation in peace processes and peace building prescribed in #1325, and
e. #1960 (2010) - providing an accountability system for implementation of #1820 and 1888 and mandates the Secretary-General to list in the annexes to annual reports those parties credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for patterns of sexual violence; and

Whereas #3 agencies and organizations such as UN Women and the Nobel Women’s Initiative have developed strategies to stop rape and gender violence in conflict and the use of rape as a weapon of war, addressing specific prevention, protection and prosecution through coordinated plans for action and a dramatic increase in resources to support survivors and achieve justice; and

Whereas #4 the Government of Canada has long been a supporter of Women, Peace and Security and was responsible for introducing UNSC Resolution #1325; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy support for the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions addressing women’s role in peacemaking, peace-keeping, peace-building and the elimination of gender-based violence such as rape as a weapon of war in armed conflict and post conflict; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to initiate and encourage support for UNSC resolutions addressing Women, Peace and Security and join with the international community in sending an unequivocal message that violence against women and children will not be condoned, stressing that impunity will not be tolerated, and ensuring the adoption of concrete measures to protect women and to prevent gender-based violence such as rape as a weapon of war in armed conflict and post conflict.

PU #4 Overseas Development Assistance for Sexual and Reproductive Health Services

Motion #53 In Resolved #1 delete “Millennium Development Goals” and insert development goals.
Moved by: Mary Potter Seconded by: Gracia Janes Defeated

Editorial amendments suggested by the Quebec Council were accepted.

Motion #54 That Policy Update #4 be accepted.
Moved by: Muriel Smith Seconded by: Jeannette Logan Carried

PU#4 OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FOR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

Whereas #1 NCWC Policy 95.2 urged the Government of Canada to:
a. mobilize resources to guarantee reproductive rights for women in Canada and to work with other countries to guarantee the same rights to women everywhere, including access to reliable information, quality health care services and family planning aids;
b. concentrate on Overseas Development Aid, where applicable, on programs which involve the participation of women in receiving countries and which are directed at improving women’s political, social and health status; c. urge the United Nations (UN) to provide regular reviews of the implementation of the “International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Plan of Action”; and

**Whereas #2**  
Canada is committed to play its full role to help reach the “Millennium Development Goals” (MDGs) as contained in UN General Assembly Resolution A/55/2 adopted by consensus on September 18, 2000, including goal number 5 to reduce maternal mortality by three-quarters, and goal number 4 to reduce under-five mortality by two-thirds from their current rates by 2015; and

**Whereas #3**  
at the 2010 G8 meeting in Muskoka, the Government of Canada showed leadership by launching the “Muskoka Initiative”, an integrated approach to accelerate the progress of MDGs 4 and 5 which provide for antenatal care, attended childbirth, postpartum care, sexual and reproductive care and services including voluntary family planning; while at the same time some government departments were either cutting or eliminating funding to Canadian and international partners who were offering valuable sexual and reproductive health services abroad (services which are publicly funded for Canadian women); and

**Whereas #4**  
215 million women world-wide do not have affordable and reliable access to contraception, and many of these women live in Africa where the HIV virus now affects more women than men, and where affordable and reliable access to contraception would make a major difference in saving the lives of women and children; and

**Whereas #5**  
in 2005 the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade urged that Canada honour the Millennium Development Goals and increase the Canadian Aid budget to 0.7% of Gross National Product (GNP) by 2015; but the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) figures for 2010 indicate that disbursement by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for Official Development Assistance was 0.33% of GNP; therefore be it

**Resolved #1** that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy support for the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, particularly those related to maternal mortality and under-five mortality which depend in large part on the adequate funding of sexual and reproductive health services for women, with a Canadian Official Development Assistance budget which will help realize these goals by 2015; and be it further

**Resolved #2** that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to support the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, particularly those related to maternal mortality and under-five mortality which depend in large part on the adequate funding of sexual and reproductive health services for women, by a. increasing its budget for Official Development Assistance so that it reaches 0.5% of GNP by 2015, and continue increasing its budget until the goal of 0.7% is reached, and b. with the Official Development Assistance budget, increasing the funding for sexual and reproductive health services by 30% by 2015; and be it further
Resolved #3  that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada, through Canadian International Development Assistance to restore and increase funding to Canadian partners, partners in developing countries, and international organizations for sexual and reproductive health programs, in order to reach the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

PU #5  A National Prescription Drug Insurance Plan

Motion #55  That the time for discussion be extended by 10 minutes.
Moved by: Ruth Robinson    Seconded by: Gracia Janes    Carried

Friendly amendment by Ruth Robinson: That the word “insurance” be removed throughout the resolution.

Motion #56  that Policy Update #5 be accepted as amended.
Moved by: Muriel Smith    Seconded by: Margaret Ford    Carried
Abstention: Salvation Army

PU #5 A NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

Whereas # 1  in Resolution 1998.9 the National Council of Women of Canada urged the Government of Canada to take a lead role with the provinces in establishing a National Drug Plan for prescription drugs for all Canadians and to commit the necessary resources to establish such a plan; and

Whereas # 2  there has been virtually no progress towards the creation of such a National Drug Plan in the intervening 14 years; and

Whereas # 3  six million Canadians have inadequate drug coverage, including 600,000 who have no prescription drug coverage at all; and

Whereas # 4  a poll commissioned by the Canadian Cancer Society in 2010 shows that 74% of Canadians support a national catastrophic drug plan; and

Whereas # 5  the Federal, Provincial and territorial governments will be in negotiations leading up to the renewal of the Canada Health Accord; therefore be it

Resolved #1  that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that all Canadians eligible under the Canada Health Act have access to a national prescription drug plan that is universal and portable, including coverage for catastrophic and chronic conditions; and be it further

Resolved #2  that National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to take a lead role in working with the provinces and territories in establishing a National Prescription Drug Plan that is universal and portable for all Canadians eligible under the Canada Health Act, ensuring the necessary resources to support such a Plan; and be it further

Resolved #3  that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to make such a plan a key element of the forthcoming negotiations with the provinces and territories in the renewal of the Health Accord in 2014; and be it further
Resolved #4 that National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada, in recognition of the high cost of prescription drugs, at a minimum, to phase-in a National Prescription Drug Plan that is universal and portable by putting in place immediately, coverage for catastrophic and chronic drug treatment which would cover individuals and families for the costs of drugs above an approved minimum threshold each year, a plan which could be enlarged to cover all drugs for all individuals and families at a subsequent date.

NCWC Education Fund Luncheon and Program

The NCWC Education Fund Luncheon included a speaker from the Mental Health Commission of Canada, Mary Bartram, who spoke about the Mental Health Strategy for Canada released last month called “Changing Directions, Changing Lives.” She was followed by a panel of diverse speakers on mental health – Candice Pilgrim of the Elizabeth Fry Society, Hannah Brundson who is the Royal Ottawa Hospital spokesperson for teens’ mental health, Donna Thomson who is a disability activist, author, and caregiver for her son who has cerebral palsy, and Colleen Whiteduck who is a representative from Wabano Health Centre.

Later Denise Mattok gave Bronze, Silver and Gold Level “Friends of NCWC” Certificates to individuals and Councils in recognition of their financial support of NCWC.

NCWC Banquet

The speaker at the banquet was Sadiqua Basiri Saleem, Director of the Oruj Learning Centre, which is dedicated to educating women in Afghanistan.

Sunday, June 3

An Interfaith Service was held at 8:15 am led by Monica Cullum.

The Fourth Plenary Session began at 9:05 am with Carla Kozak as VP of the Session.

The credentials were as follows: NOSs – 3, PCWs – 6, LCWs – 10, Directors, Conveners, and Study Groups – 18, Life Members – 7, Students and Individual Members – 1 for a vote count of 259.

Carla Kozak reported that the sales of Celebrating Women merchandise and Bring and Buy items was $1503.

Margaret Ford encouraged members to sell Celebrating Women items. If anyone wished to give a donation to the banquet speaker on Afghanistan, the donation can be sent through NCWC.

Denise Mattok called for a moment of silence before the main business.

Resolutions Continued

PU #7 Electricity From Geothermal Energy

Carla Kozak of the Alberta Council asked to have Whereas #2 and Whereas #3 deleted since they have nothing to do with the topic but the Resolutions Chair declared her out of order since Whereas Clauses are not debated. Carla Kozak challenged the Chair because Whereas Clauses are included on the website. The President decided that Whereas #2 and #3 should not appear on the website and therefore the two clauses were removed.
Friendly amendment from Mary Potter: In Resolved #1 change “developed” to explored to be consistent with Resolved #2.

Motion #57 That the time be extended by 10 minutes.  
Moved by: Gracia Janes  Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer  Carried

Motion #58 That Policy Update #7 be accepted as amended.  
Moved by: Muriel Smith  Seconded by: Maria Neil  Carried

**PU#7 ELECTRICITY FROM GEOTHERMAL Energy**

Whereas #1 the National Council of Women of Canada policy has supported alternative and renewable forms of energy in previous resolutions:
a. #75.12, which asked the Government of Canada to give priority to research into the development of solar energy;
b. #80.10 on the conservation of natural resources and development of renewable energy sources;
c. #89.4 which called for a program of public awareness, reduction of consumption, and restoration of funding for conservation and alternative energy programs;
d. #91.8 which asked for a Commission to promote use of renewable and alternative sources of energy and encouragement of experimental projects and research;
e. #96.3 which encouraged the use of ethanol blended fuels; but has not yet focused on electricity from geothermal energy; and

Whereas #2 Geothermal energy is already being used in the production of electrical power in many other countries, including Indonesia, New Zealand, Japan, the Philippines and the United States; and

Whereas #3 Geothermal energy, not yet developed in Canada, is non-polluting, relatively easy to process, of almost infinite supply, and known to be available in Alberta, British Columbia, the Yukon, and the Northwest Territories; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as additional alternative energy policy that geothermal energy be explored in Canada to help meet our electricity needs; and be it further

Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to give high priority to exploring the use of geothermal energy for electricity.

El #3 Opportunity To Promote the Participation of Canadian Women and Girls in Soccer

Motion #59 Delete wording of Resolved #1 and insert that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy support for the promotion of women and girls in sport.  
Moved by: Gracia Janes  Seconded by: Mary Potter  Carried

Motion #60 In Resolved #2 after “soccer” insert and other relevant sports events  
Moved by: Carla Kozak  Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer  Carried

Motion #61 Delete wording In Resolved #2 and insert that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to promote the participation of women and
girls in sport by providing special targeted funding available to provinces and territories.
Moved by: Trish Mazniuk Seconded by: Gracia Janes

The Resolutions Chair ruled the amendment out of order because it changed the intent. Margaret Ford challenged the Chair. The Chair withdrew her argument.

Motion #62  To amend Motion #61 to read “insert as Resolved #3 the wording suggested in Motion #61.”
Moved by: Mary Potter  Seconded by: Margaret Ford  Carried

Motion #63  To extend the time for debate by 10 minutes.
Moved by: Carol Schweitzer  Seconded by: Mary Scott  Carried

Motion #64  Change the title to Promotion of the Participation of Canadian Women and Girls in Soccer and Other Sports
Moved by: Carol Schweitzer  Seconded by: Carla Kozak  Carried

Motion #65  Add Resolved #4: that NCWC urge the ICW to promote the participation of women and girls in sports, in particular the Girls (2014) and Women’s (2015) World Cups for Soccer.
Moved by: Mary Scott  Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer  Carried

Motion #66  That Emerging Issue #3 be accepted as amended.
Moved by: Muriel Smith  Seconded by: Sharon Taylor  Carried

EI #3 Promotion of the Participation of Canadian Women and Girls in Soccer and Other Sports

Whereas #1  the Federation Internationale Football Association (FIFA) announced in May 2012 that six Canadian cities will be hosting the Girls’ (2014) and Women’s (2015) World Cups for Soccer; and

Whereas #2  these event present an ideal opportunity to promote the participation of women and girls in soccer; and

Whereas #3  young women who participate in sport are more likely to maintain a healthy lifestyle and develop strong personal, social and workplace skills; and

Whereas #4  historically women’s and girls’ sports have received less financial support than men’s and boys’; and

Whereas #5  Canadian Heritage’s sport policy, Actively Engaged: A Policy on Sport for Women and Girls, commits to greater gender equity and the provision of supports for their participation; therefore be it

Resolved #1  that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy support for the promotion of women and girls in sport; and be it further

Resolved #2  that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to use the hosting of the Girls’ (2014) and Women’s (2015) World Cups for Soccer as an opportunity to promote the participation of women and girls in soccer and other
Resolved #3 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to promote the participation of women and girls in sports by providing special targeted funding available to provinces and territories; and be it further

Resolved #4 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the International Council of Women to promote among its federates, the participation of women and girls in sports, in particular the Girls’ (2014) and Women’s (2015) World Cups for Soccer.

After the break, Ms Mattok made a few announcements: Next year’s AGM will be held in British Columbia – either Vancouver or Richmond. Expense reports should be submitted to Margaret Ford within one month from now. In the list of letters written, include one to Mrs. Johnston.

Credentials were as follows: NOSs – 3, PCWs – 6, LCWs – 10, Directors, Conveners and Study Groups – 18, Life Members – 8, Student and Individual Members – 2 for a total vote count of 262.

EI #4 Canada’s Obligations Under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol, Including Reference to Omar Khadr

Motion #67 That Emerging Issue #4 be accepted as presented.
   Moved by: Muriel smith        Seconded by: Maria Neil   Carried

EI #4 Canada’s Obligations Under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol, Including Reference to Omar Khadr

Whereas #1 the Government of Canada has failed to live up to its commitment as a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol in the case of Omar Khadr, and to treat him according to the ‘need to protect’ as outlined in this UN Convention, specifically by failing to:
   a. prevent him from being tortured
   b. seek repatriation for him
   c. make any effort to prevent him from facing a military trial; and

Whereas #2 child soldiers have generally been exposed to violence and danger and have not been socialized to live in peace with others, and therefore require training and basic education, necessary to live in peaceful society, and care and help to deal with trauma and to develop trusting relationships; and

Whereas #3 although
   a. Mr. Khadr’s plea bargain was accompanied by statements both from U.S. and Canadian officials agreeing to look favourably on his transfer to Canada after he had spent one year in Guantanamo;
   b. the said year was completed by November 1, 2011; and
   c. the necessary process to facilitate repatriation has already been completed by the U.S. governmet,
there are no real signs of movement to follow through on Canadian undertakings; therefore be it

Resolved #1 that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that the treatment of children involved in areas of armed conflict or engaged as child soldiers follow the
Resolved #2 that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to honour its obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol by ensuring that all steps are taken to repatriate without delay Canadian children engaged as child soldiers or involved in armed conflict, and ensure rehabilitative care and training is available following their release.

Motion #68 that NCWC and all its federates adopt Bourinot’s Rules of Order instead of Robert’s Rules of Order.
Moved by: Kelly-Ann Stevenson        Seconded by: Mary Scott        Withdrawn

Motion #69 that there be a Notice of Motion to delete NCWC By-Law Article VIII, Section 1 (vi) and replace with For rules not covered in the By-Laws, refer to Bourinot’s Rules of Order.
Moved by: Kelly-Ann Stevenson        Seconded by: Mary Scott

There was a friendly amendment from Margaret Ford: that this amendment be voted on at the outset of the AGM 2013 so that the appropriate rules may be used for AGM 2013.

Motion #69 that there be a Notice of Motion to delete NCWC By-Law Article VIII, Section 1 (vi) and replace with For rules not covered in the By-Laws, refer to Bourinot’s Rules of Order and that this amendment be voted on at the outset of the AGM 2013 so that the appropriate rules may be used for AGM 2013.
Moved by: Kelly-Ann Stevenson        Seconded by: Mary Scott        Carried

Motion #70 that the NCWC President send a letter to the Prime Minister to object strenuously to the closing of the unique world-renown Experimental Lakes Area and request that he rescind this decision.
Moved by: Gracia Janes        Seconded by: Mary Scott        Carried

Abstention: Salvation Army

Mary Scott conducted the In Memorium and recognized the following people who have died in the past year: Valinda Morris – Winnipeg, Pearl Dobson – Markham, Ljerka Blume, Kay Aksich, Marjorie Bronfman – Montreal, Joan Morrison – Winnipeg, Olga Kowalchuk – Winnipeg, Jean Pigott – Ottawa, Dorothy Hodgson – Ottawa, Sally Robertson – Ottawa.

New Business

Mary Scott reported that the Canadian National Committee for UN Women no longer includes local Chapters. The one in Winnipeg that has existed for 10 years is to be closed. Its priority is now fundraising.

There is a 5th World Conference for Women in 2015 and there are concerns that conservative elements may roll back some of the progress that has been made regarding women’s rights. BlackOut/SpeakOut is a campaign by over 350 organizations to draw attention to the current government’s lack of protection for the environment and democracy. The NCWC website will be blacked out on June 4 and an e-mail will be sent to NCWC members regarding the campaign.

Motion #71 that NCWC reiterate Policy 99.3 Tobin Tax to the Prime Minister supporting the Government of Canada’s 1999 support of the Tobin Tax with the position of using the funds from the Tobin Tax for International Development and the environment rather than dealing with internal economic concerns.
Moved by: Mary Scott        Seconded by: Carol Schweitzer        Carried
Giselle Roch pointed out that the G20 meeting is in two weeks so it is important to get this reiteration to the Government quickly.

Darla Campbell gave a follow-up report saying that the workshop generated 78 responses in 6 categories. Also, she mentioned that Mindr Mobile is having a soft launch in mid-June; Mindr Mobine will issue a press release that will acceptable to NCWC Board.

Patricia Leson, Convener of Social Issues, gave a verbal report. She is concerned that the census is not accurate and will affect providing services.

Motion #72 That the reports of the Standing Study Committees be accepted. 
Moved by: Patricia Leson Seconded by: Darla Campbell Carried

The President had circulated an invitation to attend the ICW meeting but received only one response. She will recirculate it.

The President thanked participants for coming and hoped that each person was leaving with at least one good idea. Bonnie Destounis thanked the group in Ottawa for putting on a good conference.

Motion #73 To accept the actions of the Board over the past year. 
Moved by: Patricia Leson Seconded by: Ruth Robinson Carried

Motion #74 That the meeting be adjourned. 
Moved by: Darla Campbell Seconded by: Mary Potter Carried

In the afternoon there was a boat tour on the Rideau Canal for interested participants.

Addendum

When listing the 2012 Policy for NCWC that resolved from the 2012 AGM, the numbering of the policy items altered so that the items could be listed with consecutive numbering. Therefore this addendum is added to clarify the identifying numbers of 2012 Policy that resulted from the AGM.

1. National Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy
2. Aboriginal Youth Suicide and “Life Promotion”
3. Murdered and Missing Aboriginal Women
4. Youth Employment
5. Older Women and Discriminatory Employment Policies and Practices
6. Regulation of Exploration and Exploitation of Shale Gas in Canada
7. Criminalize Torture by Non-State Actors
8. Ecocide An International Crime

PU1 Early Childhood Development to Maximize Potential
PU2 Women, Peace and Security
PU3 Overseas Development Assistance for Sexual and Reproductive Health Services
PU4 A National Prescription Drug Plan
PU5 Housing: A Strategy for Canadians
PU6 Electricity from Geothermal Energy
PU7 Human Trafficking: National Action Plan

EI1 Promotion of the Participation of Canadian Women and Girls in Soccer and Other Sports
EI2 Canada’s Obligations Under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol, Including Reference to Omar Khadr
The Minutes of the 2011 AGM had one amendment. On page 19 following the paragraph ending "be held Monday morning." insert the paragraph "Two Life Members were appointed by President Denise Mattok, namely Mary Scott and Karen Dempsey."

Motion #7 That the motions regarding resolutions be referred to the incoming Chair of Resolutions and that a report be brought to the membership next year. It was suggested that the new resolutions committee include the Salvation Army and Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba.

In regard to last year’s fraud, police laid charges against NCWC’s former employee. She did not appear in court as summoned and the judge issued a bench warrant for her arrest. There was discussion about the length of time that the warrant was in effect. It was recommended that NCWC talk to the Crown Attorney every month that it remains outstanding.

NCWC needs more registrants for the AGM and lots of fundraising.

Motion #15 To request the Board Audit Committee to recommend to the Board the approval of an Accounting Firm for a Financial Review for 2012-2013.

We Can Change Minds – Take 1: Lunch and Workshop Ms Campbell made a poster of the work which included all the post-it notes. The results will be summarized and distributed to the membership.

It was determined that the the Treasurer needs a longer time frame to complete the financial statements before the AGM and to be able to send them out ahead of the AGM to the membership.

There was a suggestion that Board Minutes be sent to members.

Last year Arlene Draffin Jones sent donation request packages to over 200 organizations, but there were no donations. It was suggested that those organizations be contacted again.

The Treasurer needs help with fundraising ideas.

In the list of letters written, include one to Her Excellency, Sharon Johnston.

Motion #69 that there be a Notice of Motion to delete NCWC By-Law Article VIII, Section 1 (vi) and replace with For rules not covered in the By-Laws, refer to Bourinot’s Rules of Order and that this amendment be voted on at the outset of the AGM 2013 so that the appropriate rules may be used for AGM 2013.

Motion #70 that the NCWC President send a letter to the Prime Minister to object strenuously to the closing of the unique world-renown Experimental Lakes Area and request that he rescind this decision.

Motion #71 that NCWC reiterate Policy 99.3 Tobin Tax to the Prime Minister supporting the Government of Canada’s 1999 support of the Tobin Tax with the position of using the funds from the Tobin Tax for International Development and the environment rather than dealing with internal economic concerns.

Giselle Roch pointed out that the G20 meeting is in two weeks so it is important to get this reiteration to the Government quickly.

Darla Campbell . . . mentioned that Mindr Mobile is having a soft launch in mid-June; Mindr Mobile will issue a press release that will be acceptable to NCWC Board.

The President had circulated an invitation to attend the ICW meeting but received only one response. She will recirculate it.