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PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Office of the Minister

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October, 1991

Dear Friend:

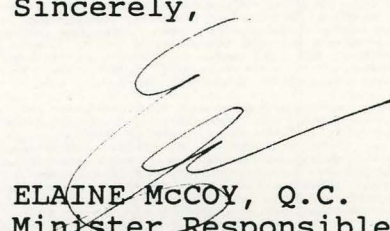
I am pleased to provide you with a package of information regarding the recent meeting held in Calgary between status of women ministers and their colleagues in education.

The enclosed communique summarizes the discussions that took place between the two groups of ministers -- discussions of considerable importance to women and to the economy as a whole. I believe this meeting in Calgary has laid a promising foundation for action in the future.

I would encourage you to take a look at the enclosed order form, which lists the background papers to our discussion: Educating Girls and Women for the 21st Century: Its Significance to Canada's Economy; Women's Issues in Education: A Cooperative Approach; and Violence Prevention Materials in the Schools -- a National Listing.

Thank you for your consideration of this most important issue.

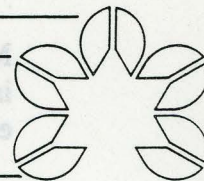
Sincerely,



ELAINE McCOY, Q.C.
Minister Responsible for
Women's Issues
M.L.A. for Calgary West

Attachment

Communiqué



Calgary, September 23, 1991

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EDUCATION OF GIRLS AND WOMEN FOR 21ST CENTURY WORKFORCE, DISCUSSIONS BY EDUCATION AND STATUS OF WOMEN MINISTERS

"My colleagues the education ministers and the ministers responsible for the status of women agree that enrolling and retaining more girls and women in mathematics, science and technology courses at all levels of the education system requires collective action and will be a priority for us over the next several years," stated the Honourable Ronald C. Giffin, Minister of Education for Nova Scotia and past-chair of the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada. Mr. Giffin was co-chair of a meeting held today in Calgary between education and status of women ministers.

"The demands of the trades and professions of the 21st century will require girls and women to be adequately prepared. Improving the educational opportunities for girls and women is essential for achieving equality and to assuring Canada's future economic prosperity," said the Honourable Mary Collins, federal Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, and co-chair of the meeting.

"Most of the new entrants to Canada's labour force over the next 30 to 40 years will be women. Given the reality that two-income and single-parent families headed by women make up the greatest percentage of today's families, clearly women must be prepared for the highly skilled jobs of tomorrow," said Minister Elaine McCoy, Minister Responsible for Women's Issues in Alberta, the host province for the meeting, in a presentation based on the discussion paper - *Educating Girls and Women for the 21st Century: Its Significance to Canada's Economy*.

Ministers tabled a number of documents during the meeting that had been prepared as background for their discussions including: *Educating Girls and Women for the 21st Century: Its Significance to Canada's Economy*; *Women's Issues in Education: A Cooperative Approach*; and *Violence Prevention Materials in the schools - A National Listing*.

The Calgary meeting was the second of its kind between the two groups of ministers. During their half-day meeting, the ministers also discussed other issues affecting the short- and long-term education of women and girls such as teen pregnancy, single parenthood, women re-entering the work force and the needs of racial-minority, immigrant and native women. They agreed to continue to develop violence prevention education curricula for students and teachers.

Ministers received the preliminary recommendations of the Canadian Committee on Women in Engineering regarding the need to increase the participation of girls and women in engineering and technology.

Recognizing the importance of this issue, Ministers agreed to promote public awareness strategies that will stress the need for girls and women to prepare for careers requiring technological expertise.

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For further information:

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PUBLICATION ORDER FORM

The following publications are available, free of charge:

	Educating Girls and Women for the 21st Century: Its Significance to Canada's Economy. <i>A background paper prepared for the joint meeting of federal/provincial/territorial ministers responsible for the status of women and provincial/territorial ministers responsible for education.</i>
	Women's Issues in Education: A Cooperative Approach. <i>Published by the Maritime Provinces Education Foundation, Phase I: A "needs assessment" identifies three major findings in a survey conducted in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.</i>
	Violence Prevention Materials in the Schools: A National Listing. <i>Compiled by The Manitoba Women's Directorate.</i>

Name:	Title:
Organization:	
Address:	
Postal Code:	Phone:

Please indicate your selection and mail this form to:

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