

Alberta WOMEN'S newsmagazine



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

PENSION REFORM

UNEMPLOYMENT AND WOMEN

SEXISM/RACISM IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS

LETTERS NEWS REVIEWS

*The freedom of the press belongs
to her who owns the press.*

Friends:

Greetings from the Alberta Women's Newsmagazine collective. This survey is to determine the need and expectations for a women's magazine published and addressing issues faced by women in Alberta.

A women's press is important because our voices are not regularly or clearly heard in the mainstream media. It should cover news, interpret and discuss events from women's perspectives and serve to link women and women's organizations. In addition it would act as an historical record of the work and achievements of women.

Our plans are to publish every six weeks, although initially this may not be possible, with the first issue printed in September or October. We will be soliciting feature articles, fiction, art etc., etc. (with funding it may be possible to pay for materials published). In this mock up cover of the magazine we have included examples of the kind of advertising we hope to have - community based and of interest to women. Eventually an Alberta Women's Yellow Pages may be produced. If you are interested in submitting articles or advertising please contact us.

Two final points to be made. The first concerns the name of the magazine. The collective has been using "Alberta Women's Newsmagazine" as a working title. We would welcome suggestions for an alternative. The other point is regarding the cover. Initially a series of photographs of women in Alberta's history will be run. However, with contributions we would like to develop a collection of photographs from our readers to use on the front cover.

Hopefully you will find the idea of an Alberta Women's Newsmagazine as exciting as we do and assist us in making it a reality by filling out this survey. We would appreciate the return of your completed questionnaire to 11517 95A Street, Edmonton, Alberta by June twenty first. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions please contact any or all of us.

In sisterhood,

Halyna Freeland (474-1146)

Diana Kordan (466-9742)

Andrea Harbour (432-9344)

Liz Hagell (477-7773)

ALBERTA WOMEN'S NEWSMAGAZINE QUESTIONNAIRE

PART I Optional Section

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postal Code _____

Telephone Numbers:

(work) _____ (home) _____

1. Can we include your name on our mailing list?
YES ☐ NO ☐
2. Do you object to your name being given on request to other womens' organizations?
YES ☐ NO ☐

PART II Organizations

(If you are completing this questionnaire on behalf of an organization, please complete this section)

3. Name of Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

_____ Postal Code _____

Street Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

4. What is the main purpose of your organization?



From the Pen of 
a Liberated Woman

5. Which of the following activities/services do you provide for women?

- ☐ discussion of feminist issues
- ☐ information about feminism
- ☐ social activities
- ☐ recreational activities
- ☐ educational activities
- ☐ political action
- ☐ newsletter
- ☐ drop-in centre
- ☐ theatrical/musical events
- ☐ job counselling/placement
- ☐ psychological counselling
- ☐ information/referral
- ☐ legal aid
- ☐ medical aid
- ☐ financial aid
- ☐ food, clothing, etc.
- ☐ shelter (housing)
- ☐ library
- ☐ publications
- ☐ meeting space
- ☐ crisis line
- ☐ child care
- ☐ other _____

☐ support group(s) for _____

6. Are you a ☐ Local, ☐ Provincial, or ☐ National organization?

7. Are there other chapters of your organization in Alberta?

YES ☐ NO ☐

If yes, could you list the chapters and indicate the contact persons. _____

8. How many members does your organization have? _____

9. Does your organization have a newsletter?
YES ☐ NO ☐

**A woman has to do twice
as much as a man in order
to be considered half as good.**



Fortunately, that isn't too difficult.

10. If yes, who is the contact person?

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

11. Would a Provincial Community Calendar be of interest to your organization?

YES ☐ NO ☐

12. If yes, who would be the contact person to phone on a monthly basis to provide information for the community calendar?

Name: _____

Phone: _____

13. Would your organization be willing to support a women's newsmagazine by doing the following:

- ☐ Contributing articles
- ☐ Distributing magazines to your members
- ☐ Allowing us to use your mailing list to distribute to your members
- ☐ Contributing to the community calendar
- ☐ Advertising in the new magazine
- ☐ Providing financial support
- ☐ Other _____

PART III Publications

14. If a women's magazine was published, would you subscribe?

YES ☐ NO ☐

15. Do you subscribe or regularly purchase magazines, periodicals or newspapers printed by women or for women?

YES ☐ NO ☐

16. If yes, please list the magazines, newspapers and periodicals to which you subscribe or purchase regularly.

17. Do you regularly receive a newsletter from a women's organization?

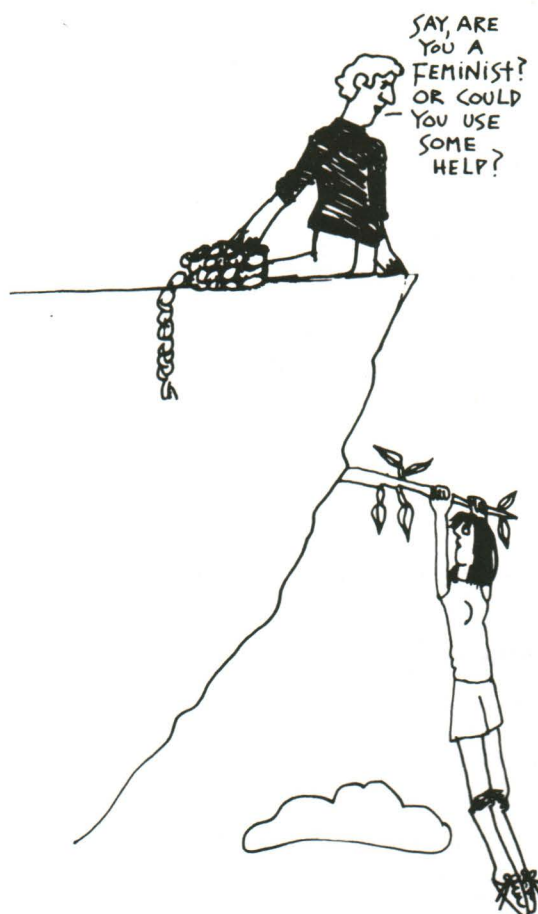
YES ☐ NO ☐

18. If yes, please list the organization(s).

19. Do you subscribe or regularly purchase other press?

YES ☐ NO ☐

20. If yes, please list magazines, newspapers and periodicals which you regularly purchase or to which you subscribe.



PART IV Format

21. Although we envision a magazine with a glossy cover and newsprint interior, we would like to determine which format would be of most interest to you. Price may dictate the final form of the publication. Would you rate in order of preference, 1, 2, 3, the following formats:

_____ Full size newspaper tabloid
 _____ Glossy Magazine
 _____ Magazine with glossy cover & newsprint pages

22. What frequency would best suit your needs? Could you please rate in order of preference:

_____ Monthly
 _____ Bi-Monthly
 _____ Quarterly
 _____ 10 issues per annum

PART V

Areas of Coverage

This portion of the questionnaire asks detailed questions about the possible areas of coverage. Your responses to this section of the questionnaire will help us get a feeling for the nature of the publication which would best reflect the interests of the women in Alberta.

NEWS

23. What percentage of the publication should news comprise? _____
24. Please prioritize your preference in news coverage by listing 1, 2, 3, 4.
- _____ Local
- _____ Provincial
- _____ National
- _____ International

FEATURES

25. Do you read feature articles in your daily newspaper?
- YES ☐ NO ☐
26. How often?
- Regularly ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never ☐
27. What is your preferred length for features?
- ☐ Short (1 page)
- ☐ Moderate (2 pages)
- ☐ Lengthy (3 + pages)

EDITORIALS

28. Should editorials be signed or unsigned?
- _____
29. Do you read editorials in the feminist press?
- Regularly ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never ☐
30. Do you read editorials in the mainstream press?
- Regularly ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never ☐
31. Are you interested in hearing the views of the publication collective and anecdotes from our lives?
- YES ☐ NO ☐

LETTERS TO THE COLLECTIVE

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32. Should the publication print letters to the collective?
- YES ☐ NO ☐
33. Should these letters be edited or unedited?
- _____
34. Have you ever written a letter to the editor?
- YES ☐ NO ☐
35. Could you explain what prompted you to write?
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
36. Do you read letters to the editor in feminist press?
- Regularly ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never ☐
- #### WRITER'S OPINIONS
37. Should we solicit opinion pieces from readers?
- YES ☐ NO ☐
38. Would you write opinion articles?
- YES ☐ NO ☐
- #### COMMUNITY CALENDAR
39. Would you list events in a community calendar?
- YES ☐ NO ☐
40. Would your organization(s) list events in a community calendar?
- YES ☐ NO ☐
41. Would a feature listing events occurring in the Province be of use to you or your organization?
- YES ☐ NO ☐



COMMUNITY FEATURES

42. Are you aware of women's organizations which are active in the Province?
YES ☐ NO ☐
43. Would you like to know more about these organizations?
YES ☐ NO ☐
44. Do you belong to any organizations active in women's work?
YES ☐ NO ☐
45. If yes, please list these organizations.
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
46. Have you been involved in any activities that you feel should have been recorded in the press?
YES ☐ NO ☐
47. Have your organizations been involved in any activities that should have been reported in the press?
YES ☐ NO ☐
48. Please elaborate.
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

INDIVIDUALS

49. Would you be interested in interviews with or articles about women?
YES ☐ NO ☐
50. Who would you most like to hear about?
☐ women active in women's organizations in the Province;
☐ women active in creative arts in the Province;
☐ women active in other fields in the Province;
☐ national figures
☐ international figures
51. Would you be most interested in an interview format or an article format?

52. What length would be most interesting to you?
☐ 1 page ☐ 2 pages ☐ _____ pages

REVIEWS

53. Should there be a review section in the publication?
YES ☐ NO ☐
54. Many items could be reviewed in this section. Please prioritize the areas of most interest.
- _____ Performing Arts
- _____ Art
- _____ Music
- _____ Films
- _____ Books
- _____ Sports
- _____ Food: Eat Out or To Cook
- _____ Consumer Goods
- _____ Other _____
55. Should the reviews be limited to works by women?
YES ☐ NO ☐
56. Should the reviews include works of interest to women, whether by men or women?
YES ☐ NO ☐
57. Do you read the review section of your daily newspaper?
YES ☐ NO ☐
58. Do you read the review section in feminist or alternate press?
YES ☐ NO ☐

ADVICE

59. Should there be an advice section in the publication?

YES ☐ NO ☐

60. Prioritize which would be the most interesting to you. Please list 1, 2, 3 etc.

_____ Legal

_____ Medical

_____ Psychological

_____ Organizational

_____ Sex

_____ Financial

_____ Others (Please List) _____

61. Do you regularly read an advice column?

YES ☐ NO ☐

62. Which column do you regularly read?

63. In what publications?

CREATIVE WRITING AND ART

64. Should the publication contain a creative writing and art section?

YES ☐ NO ☐

65. What would be of most interest to you? Please list 1, 2, 3 etc.

_____ Fiction

_____ Poetry

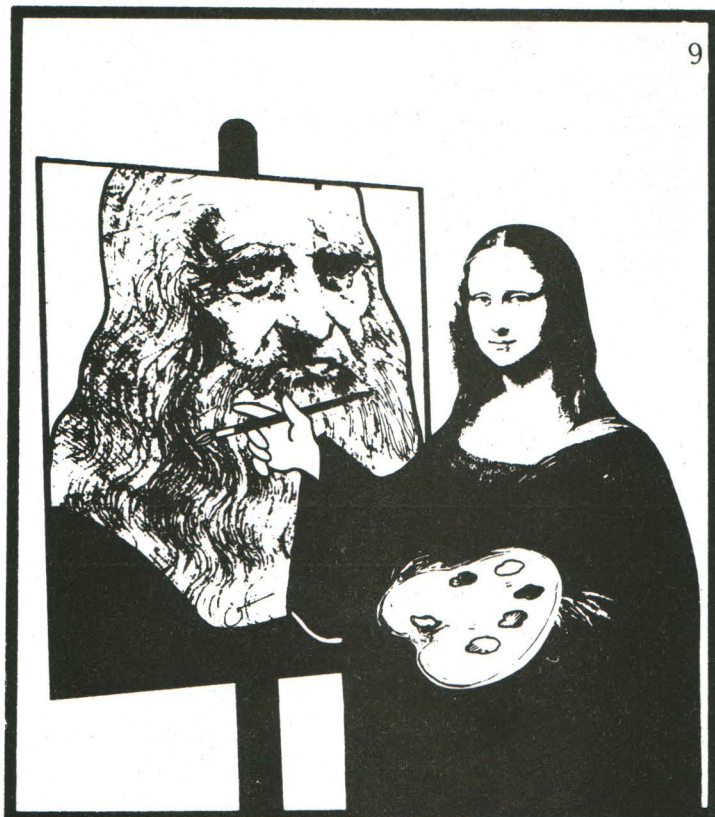
_____ Photography

_____ Other Visual Art

_____ Cartoons

66. Do you read creative writing and art features in the regular press?

Regularly ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never ☐



67. Do you read creative writing and art features in the feminist press?

Regularly ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never ☐

68. Do you subscribe to any publications that are largely for creative writing or art?

YES ☐ NO ☐

69. If yes, could you please list these publications.

GENERAL

70. Of the possible areas of coverage such as news, features etc., which do you feel are most important.

PART VI Topics

In this section we are trying to determine which topics are of most interest. Under each heading, please prioritize.

71. ECONOMICS & WORK

- _____ Job Segregation
- _____ Equal pay for work of equal value
- _____ Part-Time Work
- _____ Pensions
- _____ Property Rights
- _____ Unions
- _____ Welfare
- _____ Women at Home
- _____ Alternative Forms of Employment
- _____ Unemployment
- _____ General Economics
- _____ Job Sharing
- _____ Other _____
- _____ _____
- _____ _____
- _____ Not Interested

72. MEDICAL

- _____ Self Health
- _____ Alternative Birthing
- _____ Parenting
- _____ Unnecessary Medical Procedures
- _____ Basic Health Information
- _____ Birth Control Information
- _____ Abortion
- _____ Personal Experiences of Patients/
Health Professionals
- _____ Other _____
- _____ _____
- _____ _____
- _____ Not Interested

"Not all women were suffragists, but the majority were affected by the propaganda and became more independent, more able to stand up for themselves, more self-respecting and respected."
—Alison Neilans, British militant suffragist, "Changes in Sex Morality," 1936

73. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- _____ Wife Battery
- _____ Sexual Assault
- _____ Pornography
- _____ Prostitution
- _____ Sexual Harassment
- _____ Medical Abuse
- _____ Child Abuse
- _____ Child Sexual Abuse
- _____ Welfare
- _____ International Violence
- _____ Women in Prisons
- _____ Other _____
- _____ _____
- _____ _____
- _____ Not Interested

74. THEORETICAL

- _____ Women's History
- _____ Basis of Feminism
- _____ Different Strands of Feminism
(Socialist, Radical, Liberal, Lesbian)
- _____ Discussion of New Works by Feminist
Theoreticians
- _____ Ongoing debate among feminists
- _____ Discussion of Organizational
Techniques
- _____ Critiques
- _____ Other _____
- _____ _____
- _____ _____
- _____ Not Interested

75. POLITICAL

- _____ Electoral Politics
- _____ Lobbying Techniques
- _____ Labour Movement
- _____ Discussion of Lobbying Goals
- _____ Non-violent Resistance
- _____ Public Education
- _____ Direct Action
- _____ Organizing Methods
- _____ Alternate Political Analysis
- _____ Other _____
- _____ _____
- _____ _____
- _____ Not Interested

77. ETHNICITY

11⁵

- _____ Problems of Immigrant Women
- _____ Immigration Policy in Relation to Women
- _____ Ethnicity and Feminism
- _____ Native Women
- _____ Women of Color
- _____ Problems of White Ethnics
- _____ Racism
- _____ Bilingual Schools
- _____ Retention of Culture
- _____ English as a Second Language Education
- _____ Other _____
- _____ _____
- _____ _____
- _____ Not Interested

THE WIZARD OF ID



by Brant parker and Johnny hart



76. SEXUALITY

- _____ Basic Information
- _____ Sexual Preference
- _____ Erotic Art & Writing
- _____ Sexuality and Young People
- _____ Relationships
- _____ Infertility
- _____ Sexuality and the Elderly
- _____ Fantasies
- _____ Other _____
- _____ _____
- _____ _____
- _____ Not Interested

78. INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

- _____ Reports on Women in other Countries
- _____ Women Political Prisoners
- _____ International Conferences for Women
- _____ International Womens' Campaigns
- _____ Peace Movement
- _____ Environment
- _____ Other _____
- _____ _____
- _____ _____
- _____ Not Interested

79. PARENTING

- ☐ Non Sexist Child Raising
- ☐ Co-Parenting
- ☐ Single Parenting
- ☐ Young Parents
- ☐ Choosing Single Parenthood
- ☐ Having Children Over 30
- ☐ Lesbian Mothers
- ☐ Advice
- ☐ Alternate Forms of Parenting
(Collective)
- ☐ Other _____
- _____
- _____
- ☐ Not Interested

80. HOUSING

- ☐ Alternative Housing
- ☐ Cooperative Housing
- ☐ Home Ownership
- ☐ Home Renovations
- ☐ Carpentry
- ☐ Mortgage & Money for Women
- ☐ Other _____
- _____
- _____
- ☐ Not Interested

81. SERVICES AVAILABLE TO WOMEN

- ☐ Social Services
- ☐ Medical
- ☐ Legal Services
- ☐ Unemployment Insurance
- ☐ Counselling Services
- ☐ Pensions
- ☐ Other _____
- _____
- _____
- ☐ Not Interested

82. DISABLED WOMEN

- ☐ Disabled Women & Services
- ☐ Disabled Women & Employment
- ☐ Disabled Women & Education
- ☐ Disabled Women & Sexuality
- ☐ Disabled Women & Marriage, Family
- ☐ Disabled Women &
The Women's Movement
- ☐ Other _____
- _____
- _____
- ☐ Not Interested

83. SPORTS & FITNESS

- ☐ Column on Becoming & Keeping Fit
- ☐ Diet
- ☐ Exercise
- ☐ Various Sports & Where
To Find Them
- ☐ Outdoor Activities
- ☐ Other _____
- _____
- _____
- ☐ Not Interested

84. Of the topics listed above, could you please list the five which would be of most interest to you.

85. Are there other topics of interest to you which have not been listed? Please list them.

PART VII

Basic Background Information

86. Cost of Publication — If you are interested in subscribing to this publication, how important is cost to you?

- ☐ Very Important
☐ Moderately Important
☐ Not Important

87. Please indicate at what level you would subscribe.

- _____ \$2.00 per issue
 _____ \$10.00 per annum - 12 issues
 _____ \$15.00 per annum - 12 issues
 _____ \$20.00 per annum - 12 issues

88. Could you please indicate your annual income.

- _____ under \$5000
 _____ \$5000-\$10,000
 _____ \$10,000-\$15,000
 _____ \$15,000-\$20,000
 _____ \$20,000-\$25,000
 _____ \$25,000 +

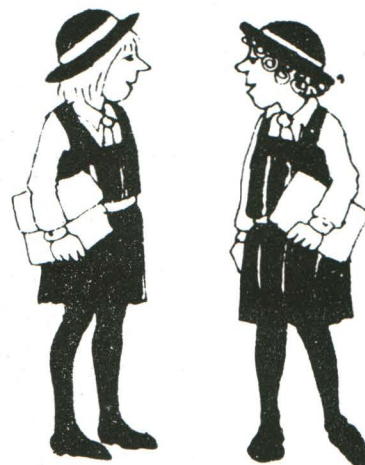
89. Education Information

- _____ Primary
 _____ Some secondary
 _____ Secondary
 _____ Some University
 _____ Undergrad
 _____ Some Post-Grad

90. Occupation _____

91. Are you willing to be a

- _____ Contributing writer
 _____ Contact Person
 _____ Distributor
 _____ Member of the Collective
 _____ Other _____



*I can't ask you to be my best friend
 in anything but a platonic
 sense till I'm sixteen.....*

92. Can you suggest others to contact?

93. Do you have any other comments?

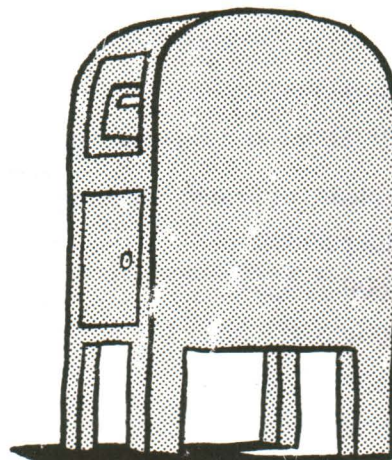
94. Are there any areas you feel have not been covered?

95. Please provide any suggestions you may have for a name for the magazine.

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this survey. Please send the replies to us by June 21st. We hope to have the results collated by July 15th and can send you a copy if you wish.

If you want any more information, please phone any member or write to us.

Once again, many thanks for you help.



☐ I would like to receive the first issue of the Alberta Women's Newsmagazine. (first issue in the fall of 1984)

☐ I am enclosing a donation of _____

☐ Please put me on your mailing list.

☐ I am interested in advertising. Please contact me.

Wellspring Women's Resource Centre

5007 - 49 STREET WHITECOURT

phone 778-6209

hours 10:00 am to 4:00 pm weekdays

Serving the whole North Central Region. The Centre is an information/referral/support and drop-in for women. As part of the Rural Family Violence Programme a refuge for battered women is also provided.

Mailing Address: Box 681, Whitecourt. T0E 2L0

Sexuality Conference

EDMONTON

SPRING or FALL 1985

Women interested in discussing and organizing this conference or in acting as a workshop facilitator contact Andrea Harbour 479-2676 (home) or 432-9344 (work).

The Second Wreath

A conference commemorating the 100th anniversary of the founding the women's movement in the Ukraine.

Edmonton October 5 and 6 1985.

Discussing questions on feminism and ethnicity; the role of ethnic women and many other topics. For more information contact H. Freeland at 474-1146.



**ALBERTA STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTION COMMITTEE**

*WE CARE...
ABOUT THE STATUS
OF ALBERTA WOMEN*

BOX 1573
EDMONTON, ALBERTA T5J 2N7 PHONE (403) 424-3073

ALBERTA DOES HAVE A FEMINIST NEWSPAPER...



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T5J 2N7

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\$10.00 for 10 issues



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Woman
Books**

*The common woman
is as common
as the best of bread,
and will rise,
and will become strong.*

Judy Grahn

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Edmonton,
Alberta
T6E 4E6
432-9344**



Alberta
WOMEN'S SECRETARIAT

1910 Capitol Square, 10065 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada • T5J 3B1
403/427-2470



**EVERY
WOMAN'S
PLACE**

**Yes! Edmonton
DOES have a
Women's Centre!**

**9926 - 112 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
488-2748**

- Drop-In (Women only)
 - Meeting Space
 - Discussion Groups
 - Action Groups
 - Newsletter
 - Coffee Houses
 - & More!

THE WOMEN'S PROGRAM

Women are identifying their needs for information, for education and for change both as individuals and collectively. The WOMEN'S PROGRAM offers evening, day-time and week-end courses, workshops, and public forums of special interest to women. All courses are non-credit and require no particular educational background.

Offerings are in the following areas:

- applied women's studies to understand the position of women in historical and contemporary society.
- issues of relevance to women
- personal and skill-development for women.

For further information,
or if you wish to be placed on the mailing list please contact:

Women's Program
236 Corbett Hall, Faculty of Extension
University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2G4 Telephone 432-3093