

Session 3.4 Room 2-121 **Women's Archives**

Chair: Susan Jackel

-Returning to the Source :Women's Archives (Nancy Adamson, Canadian Women's Movement Archives; Sheila Dunphy, Northern Alberta Women's Archives Project)

2:30 to 2:45 Coffee and Juice Break, back foyer (2-125 and 2-141)

2:45 to 4:30 p.m **Plenary Session: Research and Action**

Session 4 : Room 2-135

Chair: Marilyn Assheton-Smith

-Strategies for Change: Women's Groups present Reflections on their Work

ASWAC's Women and Poverty Campaign, ABC's Campaign for Choice

Forum Registration

(send to Women's Research Centre, 11043 - 90 Avenue, University of Alberta, T6G 1G5).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Need child care? Yes, Friday night ____
Yes, Saturday ____

If you need child care you must pre-register by Wednesday October 18.

To help us plan and order food, please pre-register or leave a message on our answering machine at 492-8950.

Registration fee: \$10.00 or \$20.00, depending on your income. (Includes Lunch)

1. We are seeking funds to purchase a MacIntosh computer for the centre; donations for that purpose will be welcome; you will receive a receipt.

2. Proceedings of the sessions will be published. If you wish to receive them, enclose an additional \$10.00 with your registration.

Parking will be available in the area just east of the Education Building, or the parking lot east of 112 street.

The one door which will always be open is the one by the Education library, in the south-east corner of the building.

The University is now a non-smoking area. Please smoke only in the designated areas.

The *Women's Research Centre* is an institute for feminist research established jointly by Athabasca University and the University of Alberta in the fall of 1988. It provides to both universities' Women's Studies Degree Programmes and their outreach or Extension programming a focal point for theoretical, critical, and applied feminist research. It also provides these same dimensions to the women's community in northern Alberta, for the Centre is designed to be a place for feminist researchers to meet and work, and to assist each other with their research, whatever their organizational affiliation.

This *Feminist Research Forum* is the second such meeting. In it, as with others, we seek to bring together our diverse and long-standing interests in building a solid knowledge-base for understanding the position of women in our society and for determining possible paths of action for social change.

Second Annual

Feminist Research Forum

*Friday and Saturday
October 27 and 28*

Sponsored by the

Women's Research Centre
(Athabasca University and
the University of Alberta)
and the
**Alberta Women's Studies
Association**

**University of Alberta
Education Building
112st and 87 Ave**

Friday, October 27

6 to 7:30 p.m. **Registration**

Front Foyer, Education North 2-115

6:15 and 6:45: Conducted Tours to Person's Case Display in Rutherford South foyer (30 minutes each, from front foyer, 2-115 Education North)

7:30 to 8:45 Room 2-115

Welcome to the Second Feminist Research Forum

M.C.: Janice Williamson

(Barbara Spronk, Acting Dean of Arts, Athabasca University; Dianne Kieren, Associate Vice-President, University of Alberta; Diana Chown, Community Researcher)

Keynote: Randi Warne

An Evening with Nellie McClung

8:45 to 10:00 Room 2-125 and 2-141 (the back foyer, behind 2-115)

Wine and Cheese Reception, Cash Bar

Saturday, October 28

8 a.m. to 9 a.m. **Registration**

9 to 10:15 **First set of Concurrent Sessions**

Session 1.1: Room 2-139 **Research for Immigrant Women**

Chair: Asha Sinha

-*Social, Psychological and Economic Problems of Immigrant Women* (Panel of Asha Sinha, Shusheila Samy, Zohara Husani)

Session 1.2: Room 2-117 **Psychological Practise**

-*Surviving Childhood Sexual Abuse* (Rosemary Liburd, Marj Holmgren and Rosa Spricer)

Session 1.3 Room 2-119 **Historical and Contemporary Research Practise**

Chair: Nanci Langford

-*Maternal Feminism: A Useful Category for examining Women's Past?* (Randi Warne and Cathy Cavanaugh)
-*Teasing out Gender from "Genderless" systems at the University of Calgary* (Anna K. Koutis)

Session 1.4 Room 2-121 **Feminist Approaches to Curriculum Development**

Chair: TBA

-*Teaching Feminist Research and Methodologies: Ideas?* (Ann Hall)
-*Feminist Approaches to Community Education* (Louise Jensen, Edmonton Learner Centre)

10:15 to 10:30 Break - Coffee and juices in the back foyer (2-125 and 2-141)

10:30 to 11:45 **Second set of Concurrent Sessions**

Session 2.1 Room 2-139 **Women and Development**

Chair: Esha Chaudhuri

-*Panel on Women and Development*

Session 2.2 Room 2-117 **Women and the Visual Arts**

Chair: Janice Williamson

-*Feminist Visual Art Practise: a Round Table* (Cherie Moses, Fine Arts Department Grant MacEwan; Elizabeth Kidd, Chief Curator Edmonton Art Gallery; Jane Ash-Poitras, Painter and Course Director School of Native Studies; Bridget Elliott, Fine Arts Department University of Alberta, Sandra Niessen, Clothing and Textiles University of Alberta)

Session 2.3 Room 2-119 **Grantswomanship**

Chair: Barbara Roberts

-*Who gets money from SSHRC and How?* (Shirley Neuman)
-*Secretary of State as a Research Funder* (Suzanne Sauvé)
-*Health and Welfare Canada as a Research Funder* (Everyone to pool ideas)

Session 2.4 Room 2-121 **Women in the Library**

Chair: Melody Burton

-*Are Women at Home in the Stacks?: Patriarchy in Library Systems* (Melody Burton, Pat Leginsky, Hope Olson)

12 to 1 p.m. Room: back foyer, 2-125 and 2-141
Lunch by the Bagel Tree

1:15 to 2:30 **Third set of Concurrent Sessions**

Session 3.1 Room 2-139 **Women in China, Immigrant Women in Alberta**

Chair: TBA

-*The Role of Chinese Women in the Modernization of China* (Leslie Crawford)

-*Immigrant Women: Ismaeli and Lebanese Women in Alberta, a Critique of Current Studies* (Parin Dossa)

Session 3.2 Room 2-117 **The Persons Case**

Chair: Randi Warne

-*Trials and Tribulations of Feminist Research: the Persons Case in Alberta* (Diana Chown, Cathy Cavanaugh, Randi Warne, Susan Jackel, Nanci Langford)

Session 3.3 Room 2-119 **Women's Studies**

-*We Make Such Strange Bedfellows: the Politics of Interdisciplinary Women's Studies* (Debra Shogan, Kathleen Martindale, Melody Burton)

THE IMPORTANCE of THE PERSONS CASE

On October 18, 1929, the efforts of five Alberta women to ensure women's eligibility to sit on the Canadian Senate were at last successful. Their actions had brought about a new interpretation of the BNA Act in regard to the word 'persons.' Before this, only men could be appointed to the Senate. This case had influence across the British Empire.

The five women: Emily Murphy, police magistrate and the driving force in bringing the case forward; Irene Parlby, MLA and Minister without Portfolio; Nellie McClung, former MLA, writer and journalist; Henrietta Muir Edwards, provincial president of the National Council of Women of Canada; and Louise McKinney, former MLA and provincial president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, had all been working on women's issues in Alberta for many years.

They were part of a vibrant community and their initiative resulted in their taking on politicians, the Supreme Court and finally the Privy Council in England over the question of women in the Senate.

The Privy Council heard an appeal of the negative decision of the Supreme Court of Canada. Their judgment stated that "The exclusion of women from all public offices is a relic of days more barbarous than ours...the word 'persons' includes members of the male and female sex...and that women are eligible to be summoned to and become members of the Senate of Canada."

This celebration has been organized to underline the achievements of these Alberta women and to give a perspective to women's actions of today.

EVENTS

Sunday, October 15: Opening of the exhibition **Now That We Are Persons** by the Friends of the University of Alberta Museums
2 pm, Rutherford South Library foyer
Exhibition continues: October 16 - 28. See inside for details.

Weekdays, October 16 - October 27 **Festival of Women's Films** presented by the Women's Program, NFB
noon - 1 pm, Room 1-17B, next to exhibition

Wednesday, October 18: **Public Forum on the Persons Case**
noon - 5 pm, Humanities Centre L-3
7:30 - 9:30 pm, Tory Building L-11
See inside for details.

Friday, October 20: **LEAF Gala Reception**
5 - 7 pm, University House, 11515 Sask. Drive
*Hosted by the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund.
Phone Louise McNamee for advance tickets: 488-9777*

RELATED EVENTS

September 16 - November 5: **Work by Women Artists from the Permanent Collection**
Edmonton Art Gallery, 102A Ave & 99 St

Sept 22 - Dec 1: **The Class of 9 with a special exhibit of garments from 1929**
Historic Costume and Textile Collection, lower hallway, Home Economics Building, 82 Ave & 112 St

October 12: **Women for a Meaningful Summit**
7:30 pm, Unitarian Church, 12530 - 110 Avenue
Film and presentation by Madeleine Gilchrist, Toronto Voice of Women for Peace. Phone Diana Chown: 433-1525.

October 14 - 31: **Documents and books related to the Persons Case**
Law Library, second floor, 88 Ave & 111 St

October 15 - continuing: **The 80th Anniversary of the Victorian Order of Nurses in Edmonton**
Provincial Museum of Alberta, 12845 - 102 Ave

October 20: **Gala opening of IN-Sight, Edmonton Women's Film and Video Festival**
8 pm, Provincial Museum of Alberta, 12845 - 102 Ave
Continues October 21-22:
9 am - 11 pm, NFB Theatre, Canada Place, 97 St & Jasper Ave

THE PERSONS CASE a sixtieth anniversary CELEBRATION



Lord Sankey delivering the decision of the Privy Council, October 18, 1929.

**MRS. E. MURPHY
IS GRATIFIED
BY DECISION**
Edmonton Woman Magistrate Expresses Approval

NOW that WE ARE PERSONS

*an exhibition on the Persons Case
and the Five Women who Instigated It*

Rutherford South Library foyer
Monday, October 16 - Saturday, October 28
10 am - 5 pm daily

This exhibition has been mounted by the Friends of the University of Alberta Museums in honour of the sixtieth anniversary of the Persons Case.

The exhibition explains the Persons Case and its significance. It also provides a unique opportunity to meet the five women who initiated the Case and to become more aware of the time in which they lived.

The exhibition is accompanied by a video which will present the particulars of the Case through archival images and through the writings of the women themselves.

"Now that we are persons, and the secular authorities have removed the last barrier, it behooves us all to play the game fairly, cheerfully, honorably...remembering that the world (meaning the world of men) is disposed to accept us at our own rating."

Nellie McClung
1929

This exhibition has been made possible through the generous support of the University/Community Special Projects Fund and the Winspear Foundation.

PUBLIC FORUM on THE PERSONS CASE

Everyone is invited to attend this one day *Celebration of the Persons Case* at the University of Alberta:

Wednesday, October 18

noon-5 pm, L-3, Humanities Building

noon-1 pm: Barbara Evans, Director, will introduce her award-winning film, **Prairie Women.**

1-3 pm: **Biographical Sketches of the Famous Five or The Trials and Tribulations of Feminist Research**

Emily Murphy: Susan Jackel, Canadian Studies
Nellie McClung: Randi Warne, St. Stephen's College
Irene Parlby: Cathy Cavanaugh, Athabasca University
Louise McKinney: Nanci Langford, Doctoral Student
Henrietta Edwards: Diana Chown, Researcher

3:30-5 pm: **Legal and Political Dimensions of the Persons Case**

Anne McLellan, Faculty of Law
Linda Trimble, Dept of Political Science

7:30-9:30 pm, L-11, Tory Turtle:

The Persons Case — and Feminist Struggles Today

This presentation will show why the Persons Case is still important to us. It will discuss recent struggles in relation to the work of the Famous Five and other women working over sixty years ago. The panel will address issues for all women including native women, immigrant women, disabled women, lesbians and farm women, and legal issues affecting them. The panelists include:

Tanis Doe, Womanshine, a group for disabled women
Susheila Sami, activist in women's groups
Mary Newton, Alberta Farm Women's Network
Nellie Carlson, Indian Rights for Indian Women
Helen Greaves, lawyer

OUR THANKS

The organizers of this Celebration wish to thank the following for their generous assistance:

University/Community Special Projects Fund
Friends of the University of Alberta Museums
The Winspear Foundation
The Government of Alberta Women's Secretariat
The Centre for Constitutional Studies, University of Alberta

The Persons Case: a Sixtieth Anniversary Celebration is supported by:

Women's Studies Program,
Women's Program and Resource Centre,
Canadian Studies Department,
of the University of Alberta;
Alberta Advisory Council on Women's Issues;
Women's Law Association;
The Emily Murphy House Historical Society.

THE EMILY MURPHY HOUSE

The sixtieth anniversary of the Persons Case has brought about the formation of an exciting new group: the Emily Murphy House Historical Society. The purpose of this group is the full restoration of Emily Murphy's house at 11011-88 Avenue for use as a study museum and meeting place for Edmonton women's organizations.

Murphy's contributions to the history of the province are far too little known and this facility will be an appropriate tribute to her. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Society or helping with the restoration, please contact Peg Bonar: 426-6489.

