



CRIAW  
ICREF

CANADIAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN  
INSTITUT CANADIEN DE RECHERCHES  
SUR LES FEMMES

P R O P O S A L  
for the funding of the  
FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
of the  
CANADIAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

**PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING OF THE 1991 ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
CANADIAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

0.0	<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	2
1.0	<b>ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION</b>	3
1.1	Co-sponsoring Organizations	3
1.2	Incorporation	3
1.3	Description of Organizations	4
1.4	Persons Responsible for Conference	5
2.0	<b>BACKGROUND: RATIONALE FOR THE CRIAW CONFERENCE</b>	6
2.1	Uniqueness of the Conference.	6
2.2	Feedback	6
3.0	<b>THEME AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE</b>	7
4.0	<b>PLAN OF ACTION</b>	10
4.1	Conference Dates and Location	10
4.2	Conference Content and Activities	10
4.3	Timetable	12
4.4	Resources Required.	12
5.0	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	13
5.1	Description of Participants.	13
5.2	Estimated Number of Participants.	14
6.0	<b>PUBLICITY</b>	14
7.0	<b>VOLUNTEERS</b>	14
8.0	<b>EVALUATION</b>	14
8.1	Internal Evaluation	14
8.2	External Evaluation	15
8.3	Follow-up	15
9.0	<b>EXPECTED BENEFITS</b>	15
10.0	<b>MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT</b>	16
11.0	<b>BUDGET</b>	17
10.1	Projected Expenses	17
10.2	Projected Revenue	18
10.3	Budget Summary	19

**APPENDIX I: LETTERS OF SUPPORT**

**ENCLOSURES:** CRIAW Brochure  
Preliminary 1991 Conference Brochure

## 0.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIAW), a national non-profit organization, and the Misener-Margetts Women's Research Centre and the Women's Program and Resource Centre as programs of Alberta universities, are seeking funding for the 1991 CRIAW Annual Conference, to be held November 8-10, in Edmonton, Alberta. Broad conference objectives are:

- \* To celebrate the work of the global community of women in creating, sustaining and improving life in all its aspects.
- \* To build new connections between our work as feminists in our own communities and workplaces and the struggles of women around the world to create more just societies.
- \* To teach and learn more about how to tackle global issues by improving our own practice at the local level.
- \* To reflect on our successes and our failures, and emerge with new understandings and plans for action.
- \* To learn how to turn the barriers of race and class into bridges toward unity of work and purpose.
- \* To continue our on-going process of the redefinitions of "development", as participants in the process of development.
- \* To continue to work at building bridges between research and the women's community.
- \* To develop models of action research.
- \* To participate in building a global feminist network.
- \* To provide a forum whereby women can relate their work to that of women elsewhere in Canada or globally.

The term "global" is to be understood as "comprehensive", or "the larger picture"; not as "the world" or "international". We emphasize this distinction to avoid confusion. We aim at increasing our understanding of how a global (comprehensive) vision relates to local action, and vice versa. At the same time, international examples will be used in the content to illustrate global issues and concerns.

**"GLOBAL VISION/LOCAL ACTION"** is CRIAW's 15th annual conference. CRIAW's conferences are national in scope but local in organization and presentation. The conference will create a "meeting place" for researchers and people active in their community, and provide a forum for making explicit the relationship between the work these women do in their own "space" and the situation of women on a national and global scale.

CRIAW is committed to the practical application of research as a component of the work to be done to achieve equality for women. Past conferences have shown that the exchange between researchers and the women's community and the learning from each other are strong and practical contributors to the basis from which women work in their quest for equality.

Conference expenses have been budgeted at \$129,683.00. The co-sponsors seek general funding for the conference as a whole. In some instances, such as specific workshops, funding for specific components of the program may also be possible.

## 1.0 **ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION**

### 1.1 **CO-SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS**

The conference for which funding is requested is sponsored by:

The CANADIAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT  
OF WOMEN/INSTITUTE CANADIEN DE RECHERCHES SUR LES  
FEMMES (CRIAW/ICREF)  
408, 151 Slater  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1P 5H3  
Telephone: (613) 563-0681  
Fax: (613) 563-0682  
TDD: (613) 563-1921

with Local Co-Sponsors:

The MISENER-MARGETTS WOMEN'S RESEARCH CENTRE  
University of Alberta/Athabasca University  
11043 - 90 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6G 1A6  
Telephone: (403) 492-8950

The WOMEN'S PROGRAM AND RESOURCE CENTRE  
University of Alberta  
11019 - 90 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6G 2E1  
Telephone: (403) 492-3093

### 1.2 **INCORPORATION**

CRIAW/ICREF was incorporated federally in 1976. CRIAW is registered with Revenue Canada as a charitable organization (Number: 0470716-59-10). CRIAW's GST registration number is R123269680.

The Misener-Margetts Women's Research Centre is not incorporated as a separate entity. It falls under the joint administration of the University of Alberta and Athabasca University. Donations are considered to be donations to one or the other of the universities and are receiptable as charitable donations. The same arrangements holds true for the Women's Program and Resource Centre as a program of the Faculty of Extension of the University of Alberta.

### 1.3 DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATIONS

#### **The Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIAW)**

##### **Goals and Objectives**

CRIAW is a national membership-based, non-profit, charitable organization whose purpose it is to promote, co-ordinate, and disseminate research into all aspects of women's experience.

Broadly speaking, CRIAW's commitment to the advancement of women through feminist research is realized through five program and activity areas:

- \* the development of research tools to assist researchers in their work;
- \* the communication of research results through publications, conferences, and social policy advocacy participation;
- \* the promotion of research through the provision of research grants, prizes, and awards, and Research Associate status for independent researchers;
- \* the conduct of research;
- \* liaison with its own membership and other research organizations; the provision of networking opportunities for feminist researchers; and the development of regional activities.

##### **Structure**

CRIAW's 18-member Board of Directors includes a regional representative from each province and territory and a maximum of six members-at-large. Terms are for three years and are renewable once. The national office and staff are located in Ottawa.

#### **The Misener-Margetts Women's Research Centre**

The Misener-Margetts Women's Research Centre is an institution jointly created by Athabasca University and the University of Alberta to facilitate collaboration between academic and community women in the development of feminist research. It was established in 1988 and has held a Feminist Research Forum each fall since its inception, attracting 100 to 150 local women.

#### **The Women's Program and Resource Centre**

The Women's Program and Resource Centre is a program of the Faculty of Extension of the University of Alberta. It has an active non-credit women's education program and a large resource centre of documents used by students as well as members of the community at large for personal education and research. Established in 1981, the Centre has organized many conferences and public events in its ten-year history.

## 1.4 PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONFERENCE

### Contact Persons and Committee

Co-Chairpersons: Dr. Marilyn Assheton-Smith and Ms. Agathe Gaulin.

Mailing Address:

CRIAW/ICREF Conference Committee  
c/o Misener-Margetts Women's Research Centre  
11043- 90 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6G 1A6  
Telephone: (403) 492-8950

CRIAW conferences are always arranged by a local organizing committee. The members of this committee take full responsibility for the development of the conference. The CRIAW national Board oversees the project and provides advice and assistance through the local contact person. In addition, CRIAW's national office provides assistance when necessary.

CRIAW's co-chairperson and local contact person on the Conference Committee is Dr. Marilyn Assheton-Smith. Dr. Assheton-Smith has been a Member-at-Large for three years, a Regional Representative for three years, and President of CRIAW for the year 1989-90. At the present time, she is Past President of CRIAW and a professor in the Department of Education Foundations at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta. Dr. Assheton-Smith has also been active in local and provincial women's organizations.

Ms. Agathe Gaulin is the other co-chairperson. Ms. Gaulin has been active in local and provincial women's organizations for many years. In addition, she has strong links with and a deep involvement in the francophone community, locally, provincially, and nationally. Ms. Gaulin has held many volunteer and paid positions as a community development worker, and has sat on national Boards of francophone organizations.

The Women's Program and Resource Centre is represented on the committee by its Executive Director, Pat Rasmussen.

These three women also represent the Misener-Margetts Women's Research Centre of which they are long-standing members.

The total committee consists of twelve women, representing the University of Alberta, Athabasca University, the Alberta Advisory Council on Women's Issues, and community women, including representatives from women's organizations, the francophone community, labour, and the immigrant women's community.

## 2.0 **BACKGROUND: RATIONALE FOR CRIAW CONFERENCE**

The conference for which funding is requested is CRIAW's fifteenth annual conference.

### 2.1 **UNIQUENESS OF THE CONFERENCE**

A major purpose of CRIAW conferences is to bring together the research concerns of academic and community women. These two groups, or "solitudes" as they have been called, all too often do their research work and action in isolation from each other. Opportunities for bridging and integrating are few, usually taking place between individuals or through local organizations such as the co-sponsoring Misener-Margetts Women's Research Centre. One of CRIAW's major roles is to provide a national forum for such bridging and integrating. As such, each annual conference is a unique opportunity for Canadian women from all provinces and territories to come together to exchange and share diverse research interests and concerns around a certain theme.

CRIAW conferences are national in scope, but local in organization and presentation. The conference planned to be held in Edmonton, Alberta, in November 1991, makes that particular uniqueness explicit in its theme: **'GLOBAL VISION/LOCAL ACTION'**, by creating a "meeting place" for researchers and people active in their community. The conference will provide a forum for making explicit the relationships between the work these women do in their own "space" and the situation of women on a national and global scale.

The term "global" is to be understood as "comprehensive", or "the larger picture"; not as "the world" or "international". We emphasize this distinction to avoid confusion. We aim at increasing our understanding of how a global (comprehensive) vision relates to local action, and vice versa. At the same time, international examples will be used in the content to illustrate global issues and concerns.

CRIAW is committed to the practical application of research as a component of the work to be done to achieve equality for women. The applied aspect of the conference is discussed more extensively in Section 3.0: Theme and Objectives of the Conference.

### 2.2 **FEEDBACK**

CRIAW conferences are well-known for creating an ambience in which researchers and community workers can meet, talk, and recognize their differences and commonalities.

The 1990 CRIAW conference was held in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, with the title: "The More We Get Together". Its theme addressed women with and without disabilities. The following are examples of comments received by CRIAW about this conference:

"On behalf of the DisAbled Women's Network of Canada I am pleased to send CRIAW our letter of appreciation.... CRIAW is to be congratulated and recognized as the first national women's group to have the theme of women with disabilities and their issues." (DAWN Canada)

"Congratulations on a wonderful conference, impeccably organized. I, for one, had a great time, learned a lot and made useful contacts.... I felt that this conference really broke ground in extending the definition of research and of CRIAW. The cross-fertilization was wonderful". (Individual participant)

"It was very overpowering to, at last, see the women's community reaching out. As women with disabilities, we still have a long way to go to bridge the gaps and keep our issues on the national agenda of women's groups. However, your conference provided a wonderful example for others to follow. It was a remarkable opportunity which I see as a landmark in the women's community.... I was impressed with how well organized the conference was, with the quality and scope of the workshops and presentations and, in particular, I was excited at the support systems which you had put in place." (Disabled Persons' Unit, Health and Welfare Canada)

"The conference was an historic event in the Canadian women's movement.... I learned so much that I am still trying to digest much of it." (Chair, Department of Sociology, University of Lethbridge)

These comments and comments from preceding conferences show that CRIAW conferences serve, and meet, the need for a regular exchange between academic researchers and community researchers/workers as well as people affected by the research or action. By providing the opportunity for doing so, CRIAW contributes significantly to the promotion of women's equality.

### 3.0 THEME AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

The Edmonton conference is the first part in a two-stage plan, with the second stage following in 1992 in Toronto. The objectives for the 1991 Edmonton component have been articulated as follows:

- \* To celebrate the work of the global community of women in creating, sustaining and improving life in all its aspects.
- \* To build new connections between our work as feminists in our own communities and workplaces and the struggles of women around the world to create more just societies.
- \* To teach and learn more about how to tackle global issues by improving our own practice at the local level.
- \* To reflect on our successes and our failures, and emerge with new understandings and plans for action.
- \* To learn how to turn the barriers of race and class into bridges toward unity of work and purpose.
- \* To continue our on-going process of the redefinitions of "development", as participants in the process of development.
- \* To continue to work at building bridges between research and the women's community.
- \* To develop models of action research.
- \* To participate in building a global feminist network.
- \* To provide a forum whereby women can relate their work to that of women elsewhere in Canada or globally.

The title of the Edmonton conference: "**GLOBAL VISION/LOCAL ACTION**", has been selected to convey three ideas. First, we want to remind our participants of the constant linkage between our theorizing, our large-scale conceptualizations, and the day-in and day-out actions of each of us in our home communities and places of work. Our diversities, our differences, are "local", aspects of our immediate experience and realities; our commonalities are "global" as we seek to understand our situation as women and create positive change not only for women but for all people between their local action and research as it is influenced by, and potentially has an impact on, events in larger contexts, be they with respect to the province, the country, or the world. Thirdly, we want to provide a forum for participants to identify paths for action in the situation they are researching or in the community work in which they are involved.

Thus, we see the conference as a "meeting place" for CRIAW as a country-wide organization, but a meeting place open to participants in and outside of that organization. In this "meeting", each of us is encouraged to carry a strong sense of our "place", for example, our ethnicity, or our regional location in Canada. Each is encouraged to, from that standpoint, develop relationships among the people doing the research and the people affected by the issues being researched (who are often the same people as those doing the research), and to see the links or inter-relationships among the many issues we research.

The actual methods for achieving this atmosphere of going beyond the conventional parameters of research, or mutual learning, and of collaboration between members of the academic community and community members/workers are embedded in the process designed. This process involves, for example, a clear articulation in promotional materials of the principles underlying the theme and of the objectives of the conference,

working with key-note speakers to ensure that principles and objectives are expressed, and working with chairpersons of sessions and plenaries who will be asked to ensure that the concepts are kept in front of participants.

CRIAW is acutely aware of its role in strengthening work on women's equality. Since its inception, CRIAW has been committed to encouraging and providing links between the various communities working on social justice issues: academics, community researchers and workers, and the people researched or affected by the action. All too often, the two "solitudes" act in isolation and do not sufficiently inform each other. Academic work has been produced and action has taken place which has not sufficiently taken into consideration the reality and experience of women researched or affected. Because of time constraints, action has sometimes been designed and implemented without the benefit of relevant theory or research findings. Similarly, research has been done and action has been taken without sufficient regard for the context of the larger scope, be that nationally, internationally, or globally.

These are but a few illustrations of gaps which influence our collective effectiveness in working toward positive change. Simply put, organizational change (strengthening of organizations working on women's equality issues and work within mainstream organizations to achieve women's full and equal participation) and institutional change (the changes needed in society's institutions and systems, again to achieve women's full and equal participation) will be facilitated by the multi-faceted linking envisioned by CRIAW for the 1991 conference.

Discussion at CRIAW's conferences is based on applied research which has applicability to and implications for women's lives. Much of the research presented is action research. All of CRIAW's conferences have reflected CRIAW's intent that the exploration at such conferences lead to action and change in the direction of an increasingly greater degree of equality for women. Such change may take place, for example, in someone's personal life, in the work environment, or at the the federal or provincial legislative level.

CRIAW's philosophy includes a conviction that, to achieve equality for women, we must overcome several limitations imposed by artificial parameters such as budget years, specialization, and geographically limited interests. This conference is a step in that direction. In order to achieve maximum success, our research must reflect the reality and experience of women, and action must be informed by research and research findings. This is the very practical contribution CRIAW makes to the issue of achieving equality for women.

#### 4.0 **PLAN OF ACTION**

##### 4.1 **CONFERENCE DATES AND LOCATION**

The conference is scheduled for November 8, 9, and 10, 1991, in Edmonton, Alberta.

The CRIAW conference is held in a different province or territory each year to make it maximally accessible as a resource across the country. In 1990, the conference was held in Charlottetown, P.E.I. Examples of other cities hosting the conference in past years are: Yellowknife, N.W.T.; Quebec City, Quebec; Winnipeg, Manitoba; Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Montreal, Quebec; and Vancouver, B.C. Edmonton hosted the conference in the late 1970's, in the early days of CRIAW's existence.

Edmonton has been selected as the site for the 1991 conference for several reasons, the combination of which makes for a powerful basis for success. From an organizational perspective, Edmonton is ideal since a number of competent women with a strong research base and a base in the women's community have been and are prepared to make the commitment to organize the conference. The Edmonton women's community combines strong interests in women's research and action as these interests relate to the promotion of women's equality. The Edmonton women's community itself presents a micro-cosm of Canadian women across the country.

In addition, Edmonton is a major city with good connections by air and excellent conference facilities. The city is well known in sports and business circles. It is, however, less known nationally as a city actively working on social justice issues and alive with a strong, active women's movement. A CRIAW conference hosted in Edmonton will contribute to Edmonton's visibility as a diverse and concerned city in Western Canada.

The conference will take place at the Westin Hotel.

##### 4.2 **CONFERENCE CONTENT AND ACTIVITIES**

###### **Opening Session**

Participants will sit at "theme tables" and share their research/action interests on the theme of '**GLOBAL VISION/LOCAL ACTION**'.

An informal "social evening" to enable participants to connect and to build a sense of community is also under consideration.

### **Key-Note Addresses**

A prominent unilingual francophone woman from Quebec has agreed to speak with women about a women's vision of a Canadian Constitution. Claire Bonenfant is past president of the Quebec Advisory Council on the Status of Women. Other key resource persons will be invited by have not yet been designated.

### **Sessions**

Concurrent sessions will be held in which participants present research and action in different formats. Some examples of formats are: presentation of papers, workshops, theatre, and round-tables.

Plenary sessions are planned with invited key-note speakers. Plans include a panel which would consist of representatives from CRIAW, Match International, and two or three representatives from "third world" organizations. The title of the panel is "Spinning Local Thread/ Weaving Global Feminism".

A round-table which would include women from organizations in the "Third World" is also under consideration. This would be a regular session during the conference under the title: "Global Perspectives on Changing Local Communities: Sharing Experiences".

A call for presentations was sent out early this year. A number of proposals has been received and accepted. Some examples of proposed topics are: feminist therapy, health, women's studies teaching and learning, women in minority racial and cultural contexts in Canada, women in other countries - especially "developing" countries, and women and constitutional/legal developments in Canada. The organizing committee makes selections, using criteria such as relevance to the theme of the conference, diversity of topics, and practical applicability.

### **Other Components**

A banquet is planned as part of the conference. The National Film Board of Canada will show the English premiere of the francophone film "Remous" (no English title available yet - the word means "whirlpool"), made by Sylvie Van Brabant. Local and provincial women's groups in Alberta will be invited to display at the conference. "Drop-in" places will be set aside for people wishing to pursue shared interests.

The CRIAW Annual General Meeting will also be held during the weekend.

#### **4.3 TIMETABLE**

The conference is scheduled for November 8, 9, and 10, 1991. The Opening Session will take place on Friday, November 8, and the banquet on Saturday night. All activities will take place between Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m.

#### **4.4 RESOURCES REQUIRED**

##### **Key-Note Speakers**

- . One key-note speaker from Montreal, Quebec (confirmed).
- . Other key-note speakers (of whom one is confirmed: Dr. Glenda Simms, President, Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women, Ottawa).
- . Travel expenses, accommodation and meals, and honoraria are involved.

##### **Presenters and Participants**

- . Funds to assist in defraying travel costs, especially for women representing groups, students, unemployed, and coming from far away.

##### **Video Production**

- . Production of a video on feminist action research, for community use: video-taping of conference component of video.

##### **Facilities and Food**

- . Hotel: meeting rooms
- . Banquet, meals, coffee breaks, etc.

##### **Equipment**

- . Rental of, for example, A-V equipment, flipcharts, etc.

##### **Translation, Simultaneous Translation, and Sign Language**

- . Translation of print materials
- . Simultaneous translation of key-notes and selected presentations
- . American Sign Language for hearing impaired
- . Fees and associated expenses are involved.

##### **Print materials and publicity**

- . Brochure, posters
- . Media campaign
- . Conference program/kit
- . Proceedings

### **Ambience**

- . Theatre and entertainment
- . Displays
- . "Drop-in" rooms

### **Childcare**

- . Facilities
- . Workers
- . Fees and associated expenses are involved.

### **Staffing**

- . Clerical: Part-time (6 hours/week) - as soon as possible
- . Co-ordinator: Half-time (May 1 - August 31, 1991) and full-time (September 1 - December 31, 1991) to organize conference and do follow-up work such as completion of reports, proceedings of conference, etc.

### **Administration**

- . Postage, stationery, telephone, duplicating, etc.

## **5.0      ATTENDANCE**

### **5.1      DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPANTS**

We expect to attract participation from across Canada, including all provinces and both territories.

Most, although not all, participants will be women working with universities, community women, and women working government departments and agencies. University women will include academic staff and students. Community women will include some with very low incomes.

Special effort will be made to promote the conference among francophones, women with disabilities, Aboriginal women, and women representing visible minority groups. We also intend to encourage regional and ethnic diversity. The composition of the conference committee reflects a conscious effort to include representatives of the above groups in the planning and implementation of the project.

## **5.2 ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS**

The conference is expected to draw some 400 participants, roughly divided into 200 from Edmonton and 200 from elsewhere, including many from outside of Alberta. The facilities are capable of accommodating up to 650 participants.

## **6.0 PUBLICITY**

Preliminary publicity commenced at the 1990 CRIAW conference in Charlottetown, P.E.I., and through the CRIAW Newsletter.

A first brochure was disseminated in the second half of April 1991 (enclosed), to be followed by a national publicity campaign in September which will make use of print and electronic media, as well as CRIAW's membership and women's organizations throughout the country.

The publicity plan provides for an intense contacting of local Edmonton media in October 1991.

## **7.0 VOLUNTEERS**

The local conference committee consists of twelve women. The local committee's composition was described earlier in 1.4. In addition, volunteer work for the conference is done by the 18 members of CRIAW's national Board.

Key-note speakers, presenters, workshop leaders, and chairpersons or moderators generously volunteer their time and knowledge, both prior to and at the conference.

We also anticipate volunteer support from community women with respect to the logistics of the actual conference, and already have indications that this will be forthcoming.

## **8.0 EVALUATION**

### **8.1 INTERNAL EVALUATION**

The conference committee will meet during the week after the conference for a debriefing session and overall evaluation. The planning process as well as the conference itself will be addressed.

## 8.2 **EXTERNAL EVALUATION**

Conference participants will be provided with an evaluation form in their conference kits. The conference co-ordinator is expected to compile and summarize these evaluations. These summaries will be discussed at a post-conference meeting of the conference committee.

## 8.3 **FOLLOW-UP**

A summary report will be prepared, based on results of the internal and external evaluation. This report will be sent to CRIAW National for the use of future conference planning committees.

## 9.0 **EXPECTED BENEFITS**

We anticipate benefits of the conference to a number of constituencies:

**To the women's community** - increased awareness of the necessity to incorporate applied research into action planning toward change and improvement in all spheres of life relevant to women's equality; increased and more finely-tuned tools to apply in the work toward equality.

**To the post-secondary education community** - increased awareness of the importance of relating academic research and knowledge to women's work in the community - that is, increased appreciation for the necessity to conduct "applied research" in itself or as a natural consequence of theoretical work; an understanding that this approach is vital as an academic contribution to work on women's equality. Policy research is a prime example of such an approach, in that policies are guidelines for action at all levels of government (public policy), within women's organizations (to ensure effectiveness and growth), and at the individual level (for example, in one's personal life, as a participant in the work force, as a citizen of a municipality or province, or of Canada).

**To the City of Edmonton** - an occasion to show the province and the country that Edmonton is not only a city known for its sports, but deserves recognition for its role as a significant contributor to work on social justice and equality. Over 400 participants are expected to participate, with at least half of these coming from outside of Edmonton.

**To the Province of Alberta, and Canada** - the vision and views about the Constitution of francophone and anglophone women as they meet to talk about the future of federalism and their country, as a contribution to the strengthening of Alberta and Canada in our collective quest for sexual, cultural, economic, and regional equality.

## 10.0 **MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

Members of the co-sponsoring organizations - CRIAW (local committee, and national Board and staff), the Misener-Margetts Women's Research Centre, and the Women's Program and Resource Centre as well as members of women's organizations and individual women are actively involved in the planning and organizing of the conference, as well as in fundraising for the event. (See 1.4 for a description of the conference committee.)

The conference committee has received letters of support (see Appendix I) and continues to seek further support and endorsement.

Support in kind has already been offered to CRIAW by the two co-sponsoring local organizations and by the Alberta Advisory Council on Women's Issues. Discussions are in progress with other organizations.