

APPENDIX

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF CANADA

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The National Council of Women of Canada was founded in 1893 as a non-sectarian and non-partisan organization, dedicated to better conditions for the home and the state. It is one of 72 National Councils around the world which are affiliated with the International Council of Women, a leading women's organization which holds consultative status with the United Nations. There are six Provincial Councils and over 40 local Councils spread across the country. There are 20 nationally organized societies, some with international connections, which hold membership in the National Council of Women of Canada. At the municipal level, there may be as many as some 100 affiliated societies in the larger Councils.

The Council work is carried on through committees and policy is developed through resolutions which come forward for discussion and approval at the annual meeting. The resolutions which are adopted are presented in an annual Brief to the Prime Minister of Canada and members of Cabinet. The Briefs have been well received by the federal government. Some of the resolutions over the years were frequently in advance of their time and have resulted in a number of reforms and socio-economic improvements brought in by the government.

Recent resolutions have covered nutrition, family planning, core curriculum for studies throughout Canada, farming and shoreline management, access to government information, need to conserve natural resources, transport of hazardous cargo by air, setting of standards against nuclear pollution, equal employment opportunities for women, contribution of immigrants to economic growth of Canada, rape as a sexual assault, inclusion of homemakers in pension plans and funding for scientific research.

The National Council of Women proposed and assisted in formation of several Canadian organizations, including the Victorian Order of Nurses, Children's Aid Society and the Consumers Association of Canada.