

Women's Centre,
490 Baker Street,
Nelson, B.C.,
July 5, 1974.

Ran Harding M.P. Kootenay West,
N.D.P. Constituency Office,
Nelson, B.C.

Dear Ran,

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of the Nelson Women's Centre and the Kootenay Women's Collective. Yesterday evening, July 4th, the Women's Centre presented their proposal for funding of the Centre to the Community Resources Board. Our proposal was received with much hostility and unfriendliness by one of the members of the C.R.B., Lyle Kristiansen who is also your campaign manager in Nelson. Not only did Lyle try to discredit the reputation of the Women's Centre, but also, throughout the meeting, made it as difficult as possible for the women who were presenting the proposal. He said such things as, "giving money to you would be a misuse of public funds, but I don't blame you for trying". We were very offended by this man's seemingly premeditated attack on our organization. We are not a "private enterprise" as Lyle suggests, for we have received support and donations in the form of money, volunteer time and energy for the Centre over the past two years from many women in our community. At the meeting last night, about twenty women showed up to give their support to the Women's Centre proposal.

Because of Lyle's position of authority in your campaign and party, the women who were at the meeting have decided that they will not support you on voting day, July 8th. We will be circulating this letter amongst the members of our organization and other women's groups, as well as sympathetic people who support the activities of the Centre and philosophy of the women's movement. We feel that if your campaign is run by someone who is so hostile and unsympathetic to our needs that we can in no way cast our ballots for you.

Yours for the Women's Centre and
the Kootenay Women's Collective,

Vita Storey Marcia Grossbard
Vita Storey and Marcia Grossbard