Mountain Girls
for girls, women and their fans

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Women's Centre Update

Upcoming Events:

- Farmer's Market and Sounds of Summer - Saturdays from 10 - 2pm at Kumsheen Park
- GWRC's 25th Anniversary Garden Party, Saturday, August 14th at Alexander Park
- Health, Information and Discussion session with Dr Heidi Lescanec - Friday, September 3rd, noon at the Women's Centre

As the Golden Women's Resource Centre heads into the summer months we are excited to welcome back Sarah Nolin as our summer student. Sarah will be assisting us with a project on Legal Aid as well as helping to organize a postcard fundraiser and a summer garden party to continue the celebrations for our 25th anniversary.

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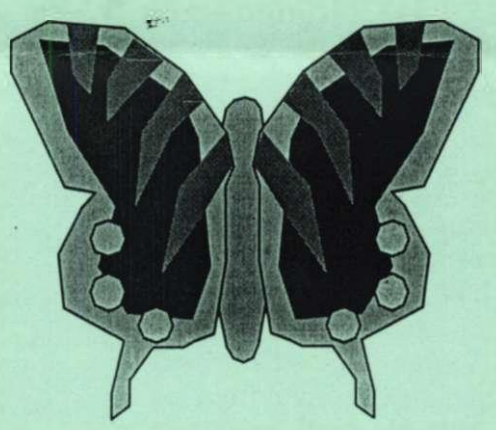
At the end of July we will be saying good-bye to our Safe Homes Program Coordinator of 12 years, Jaki Fraser. The Centre will be a different place without her - she will be sorely missed. We will be having a wine and cheese in honour of Jaki on Thursday, July 29th at 5pm here at the Centre and everyone is welcome. Join us as we wish her good luck on her many new adventures.



We are excited about having a new coordinator in our centre, someone who will bring new energy and enthusiasm to the job. The new coordinator will be hired to begin work on July 26th - stop in and say hello to her!

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer. Be sure to join us as we continue to celebrate our 25th anniversary. Keep your eyes open for more information about these events.

Heidi Wurmann
Coordinator

Amnesty International Launches New Campaign to Fight Violence Against Women

(From AI newsletter "The Candle," Spring 2004)

Amnesty International (AI) has launched a worldwide campaign to Stop Violence Against Women. Violence Against Women and girls is the world's most pervasive human rights violation. And the violation most often ignored. Every moment of every day, women and girls around the world are subjected to violence.

Women in Asia and the Middle East are killed in the name of honour. Girls in West Africa undergo genital mutilation in the name of custom. Migrant and refugee women in western Europe are attacked for not accepting the social norms of their host community. Young girls in southern Africa are raped and infected with HIV/AIDs because the perpetrators believe that sex with virgins will cure them of their disease. And in the richest, most developed countries of the world, women are battered to death by their partners.

Many face horrifying silence once the violence has ended. Police, judges, and other government officials have a clear obligation to do everything they can to prevent such violence. But all too often, women are denied the protection they deserve. And the crimes are tolerated or even condoned.

However, there is hope. Together, we can make a difference. It starts by recognizing that violence against women is a global human rights crisis - a crisis that affects us all. Together we can break the silence surrounding this crisis - the silence that confronts so many women and girls when they seek justice, safety, and rehabilitation.

For more information, or to become involved in Amnesty International's campaign, visit their website at www.amnesty.ca or stop by the Women's Centre.

Welcome to New Board Members

We'd like to thank all the members of the board for their continued support, and for donating their time to keep the Women's Centre running. The Board of Dirctors for the Golden Women's Resource Centre consists of seven members. They are: Tammy Davis, Kuljit Jaswal, Gena Brygger, Jane Tevelein-Doel, Brenda Hunter, and two new members, Cheryl Bartram-Moss, and Martha Ryan.

The Women's Centre also has a summer student, Sarah Nolin, who started work at the Centre on June 21st. She will be with us until the end of August, and will be helping out with a number of projects throughout the summer. Some of these include the Status of Women Canada Project (see next page), helping add more information to the library, and general assistance to the women who use the centre.