



IT'S NEWSLETTER TIME — One of the services provided by the Nelson Women's Centre is the publishing of a newsletter, being put together by centre workers Glenda Miller, left, and Bonnie Baker.

Women's day: Mar. 8

We are all aware of the significance of July 1. Now called Canada Day, it represents the

historical struggle for Canada's growth as a sovereign nation. We learn about July 1st from our youth and we celebrate it nationally each year. But what does March 8th mean to us?

March 8th is International Women's Day. Celebrated throughout the world since its "official proclamation" in 1908, it represents the struggles of working women to gain decent working and living conditions, which at that time included an end to sweatshops and the right to vote.

Throughout the years, the significance of March 8th has been undermined. After the war, when women were shuttled out of the factories and back into the kitchens, our day of celebration was hidden with us. But now, with the resurgence of women's consciousness, we are again commemorating our past contributions to the improvement of our communities, as well as reminding ourselves of the need for further struggle. Women today still do not have equal pay with men, no do we have universal childcare to enable us to take the jobs that exist.

Unemployment is especially high for women and we still need equal access to training for the higher paying jobs. International Women's Day 1978 helps to remind us that we still have a long way to go.

The Nelson Women's Centre is planning its own celebration of IWD '78. The Centre will have an open house throughout the day and will show the film, "Union Maids" at 7:30. Cable 10 will broadcast the Women's Centre video production about IWD on March 8th as well. Look for our information booth at the Jam Factory Restaurant on March 8th. We'd like to make March 8th a day for all of us to remember.

Bonnie Baker
Nelson Women's Centre

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