

File No.: 1150-20/WKWA

December 14, 1999

Keitha Patton and Katya Hayes, Co-Chairs  
West Kootenay Women's Association  
420 Mill Street  
Nelson, British Columbia V1L 4R9

Dear Keitha Patton and Katya Hayes:

**Re: Continuing Agreement Implementation for Women's Centres**

As we have discussed, the Ministry has proposed a Provincial Reference Group model to facilitate the implementation of Continuing Agreements for women's centres and to aid in the development of a component schedule and program standards. This letter outlines the financial support MWE will provide to commence the consultation process with women's centres.

**Enclosed please find the first draft of the Women's Centres' Component Schedule.** This is provided as a starting point for discussion among women's centres and Provincial Reference Group representatives. Once revised and finalized through the Provincial Reference Group process, the Component Schedule, in conjunction with the Continuing Agreement, will replace the current Women's Centre Operational Funding Agreement and associated Schedule of Activities.

**At the request of women's centres, the Ministry will contribute financial support for a one-day meeting of women's centres in each region.** These regional meetings will provide an opportunity for women's centres to familiarize one another with their services and activities, undertake an introductory review of the Draft Component Schedule and, where necessary, select a regional representative to the Provincial Reference Group. This process is intended to ensure that representatives to the Provincial Reference Group will participate with direction from the women's centres in their region.

MWE will reimburse women's centres for travel costs to support one-day regional consultations regarding the implementation of Continuing Agreements. The travel costs must be approved by MWE prior to the regional consultation meeting, and are subject to the government's rate of reimbursement (see enclosed Expense Claim Form). Centres claiming a travel reimbursement will be required to submit the enclosed form along with receipts as outlined in the attached guidelines.