



Newsletter

N°1,
February
2014

FEDERAL WOMEN COUNCIL OF THE NDP

The Executive of the Federal Council of Women of the NDP is pleased to present the first issue of our newsletter which introduces its representatives. We hope you enjoy the issue.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES:

CHRISTINE PARÉ
Co-Chair
Federal Women Council

Contact:
Christine.pare23@gmail.com



Christine Paré has been a volunteer with the NDP for several years. She holds several positions within the party. At the federal level, she is co-president of the NDP's Federal Women's Council. At the provincial level in Quebec, she is co-president of the Cultural Communities Commission, and policy director of the NDP Quebec Section's Women's Council.

She has been very active in the Research Professional's Union at the University of Montreal, where she held the post of vice-president from 2008-2009. She has combatted racism and discrimination as encountered by women from the cultural communities. She has also fought for the integration of immigrant women in all spheres of professional and political life.

At the professional level, she holds the post of coordinator of the Public Law Research Centre at the University of Montreal. She is completing a doctoral thesis at the University of Montreal on the implementation of gender equality policies in NGO decision-making bodies. She is also conducting research for a community group on violence perpetrated in the name of "honour".

LORAIN MOUGEOT
Co-Chair
Federal Women Council

Contact
Lorraine.mougeot@mail.mcgill.ca



Born in Montreal of French Canadian descent. Bilingual education from grade school to advanced studies in Canadian History. Having said that, it was through my family and my relatives that I developed an interest for politics; I would listen to the adult's conversation about politics abroad and within Canada, and they all looked so absorbed in finding solutions for the world's problems. Listening to them made me think that we should care about problems occurring in our society and in other societies. When I was about 10 years old, I remember my mother working for an election, watching her inspired me to invent a new game for my friends and I: pretending to be politicians. Looking back today I think my mother was very moved by the good looks of Jean Lesage, a man who became Premier of Quebec at the time.

Outdoors activities and the love of nature took a big place in our family. My father, a scientist, always so observant and making us becoming very aware of environmental issues and being ecological in everything we did, encouraged us to be inquisitive and making decision for the good of mankind. Music, singing and dancing also kept us busy.





LORRAINE MOUGEOT (continued)

Contact: lorraine.mougeot@mail.mcgill.ca

Opposing the three other musician members of my family, I took classical dancing for 17 years and also taught for Les Grands Ballets Canadiens. It was difficult not to continue this physical level of activity so I engage in sports and taught mainly skiing for a College and a few ski centers during more than 10 years.

Family life: Mother of two children, housewife while the father went around the world selling his expertise. We moved wherever the jobs took us and consequently had an international experience through my husband's work. Business owner for many years in imports and sales; I traveled to Toronto, Hong Kong, and Los Angeles.

While keeping a keen interest in politics, I had the opportunity to become a researcher in History mostly, and specialized in Canadian History. Our roots are so important to forge a sense of identity and pride. Our history is full of surprising anecdotes that are worth telling, remembering, and promoting. I have great satisfaction in knowing that if I have contributed in inspiring a higher degree of pride through the recounting of one historical event, all the efforts were worth it.

In my heart and spirit, the concern for social issues, justice, fairness, well-being of people, has always been present. It goes without saying that the very core of the ideology of the New Democratic Party were mine the minute I realized I was NDP.

MARILYN PORTER

Secretary Treasurer

Contact:

mporter2008@gmail.com



Marilyn Porter was brought up in the UK and arrived in Newfoundland, Canada in 1980 where she has lived and worked ever since. She joined the NDP as soon as she came to Canada and has been active at District, Provincial and Federal levels ever since. She is currently a member of the NL Provincial Executive and the NL representative on the Federal Women's Council.

She is active in a number of women's groups and social justice organizations, including the newly formed NL Social Justice Co-operative. She recently retired from her position at Memorial University.

Dr. NETTIE WIEBE

*Saskatchewan
Representative*



Dr. Nettie Wiebe teaches ethics at St. Andrews College, University of Saskatchewan and farms near Delisle, Saskatchewan, growing organic grains and pulse crops as well as raising cattle. Nettie served in elected leadership positions of the National Farmers Union for ten years and was the first woman to lead a national farm organization in Canada.

Dr. Wiebe is an active participant in public discourse on sustainable agriculture and rural communities, trade agreements, women’s equality, human rights, peace, economic and environmental issues and food sovereignty. Her recent publications include co-editing two volumes on food: Food Sovereignty: Reconnecting Food, Nature and Community (2010) and Food Sovereignty in Canada: Creating Just and Sustainable Food Systems (2011). She has been an NDP candidate in the past 4 federal elections and has always come very, very close – within less than 2% of winning.

Contact:

nettie.wiebe@usask.ca

Hana Razga, the Alberta Representative for Federal Women’s Council, is a long time activist and has been involved in Alberta politics for over 20 years, either as a keen observer or an active participant. Hana joined the New Democratic Party in 1996 and ran for the NDP, either provincially or federally, 6 times. She also ran in Edmonton municipal elections in 2007 and 2010.

Hana has been a committed volunteer (Alberta Women's Shelter, Big Sisters and Match International) and continuous supporter of Legal Education and Action Foundation (LEAF) Edmonton and LEAF National. She also served on the Board of Directors of Edmonton Brain Care Center.

Apart from her interest in women’s issues, Hana is a dedicated environmentalist and supports the NDP Green Energy Plan and other environmental initiatives.

Hana is currently retired, but her lengthy career as a Human Resources Consultant for the federal government has provided her with skills in communicating, mediating, team building, negotiating, collaboration, all skills that have served her well as the Alberta Representative for the Federal Women’s Council.

Hana is a mother of four grown children and two (soon to be three) grandchildren.

Contact: razgah@hotmail.com



HANA RAZGA

*Alberta
Representative*

Kim is a lifelong resident of Transcona and a long-time member of the NDP's Elmwood-Transcona Electoral District Association and Manitoba's NDP Radisson Constituency Association. She has been active in the party both provincially and federally in a variety of roles.

Kim is a founding member and treasurer for the NDP Aboriginal Commission, Manitoba's representative to the Federal Women's Council and at the 2013 convention was elected as one of Manitoba's representatives on Federal Council.

Kim is pleased to serve on Manitoba's Provincial Executive, is treasurer for Radisson Constituency Association and is co-chair of the Aboriginal Talking Circle.

In her community Kim has been concentrating her recent political activism working on issues to improve the lives of Aboriginal people in Canada. Kim is proud to serve low income Manitobans on the Management Council for Legal Aid Manitoba and on three of its standing committees.

Kim values the contribution of small and medium enterprises to Manitoba's economy is a member of the Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce and serves on its policy committee.

In her professional life, Kim is the Controller for Frontiers North Adventures, one of Manitoba's premiere tour operators.

Her environmental portfolio includes active membership and volunteerism with Polar Bears International and its Canadian arm PBI Canada.



KIM MILNE
*Manitoba
Representative*
Contact:
kmilne@mymts.net



RACHAEL CARDIFF
Yukon Representative
Contact:
rachael@rlrmgroup.com

Rachael Cardiff is a long time resident of Yukon, and currently sits on the Yukon Federal Riding Executive holding the position of Fund Raising Chair. Over the past 13 years, Rachael has worked on Yukon federal and territorial campaigns and sat on both federal and territorial executive boards in a variety of different capacities. A project management consultant for over twenty years, Rachael continues to work in Yukon's communities, developing programs and managing projects in social, education and economic development sectors, primarily working with Yukon First Nations.

Rachael is a proud member of the UA (United Association of Plumbers & Pipefitters of Canada and the United States) Local 310, and works part-time as the Office Manager for the Northern Allied Workers Society, the administrative arm for the UA Local 310 and UBCJ (United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America.). Local 2499.

Rachael was nominated as the Yukon representative to the NDP Council of Women at the last convention.

Irene Lanzinger is a long-time union activist and teacher. She began her teaching career in 1978 and taught in Abbotsford and Vancouver. She also travelled overseas and taught in Japan and Saudi Arabia.

Irene was very active in the B.C. Teachers' Federation serving as President of the Vancouver Secondary Teachers' Association, as a negotiator on provincial bargaining teams and as Vice-President and President of the BCTF. Irene served as an Officer of the B.C. Federation of Labour from 2007 to 2010.

In 2012 Irene was elected as a labour Vice President of the BC New Democratic Party and was re-elected for a second term in 2014.

Irene was elected to the position of Secretary-Treasurer of the B.C. Federation of Labour in 2010 and was re-elected for a second two-year term in 2012. She is the first teacher to assume a top post in a provincial Federation of Labour.



IRENE LANZINGER

*British Columbia
Representative*

Contact:

ilanzinger@bcfed.ca

AUSMA MALIK, *Ontario Representative*

NATHALIE PIERRE-ANTOINE, *Quebec Representative.*

For future issues, please send us short papers about your activities in your respective provinces. We can share them with all the other NDP's women.

Editor : *Christine Paré*

Translation : *Miriam Taylor, Mathilde Rogue et Annie Thongphanith*

Designer : *Joseph Nguyen*

PHOTOS:



On October 5th and 6th, 2013, members of the Federal Council of Women met at the National Council in Ottawa. From left to right: Lorraine Mougeot, Rachael Cardiff, Ausma Malik, Hana Razga, Christine Paré et Irene Lanzinger.



Members at a working session.