

# ACWW in Vancouver

From June 19 to 29, 1983, 1,600 women, representing 43 different countries of the world came together in Vancouver for the 17th triennial conference of the Associated Country Women of the World. Women's Institute members from across Ontario travelled to British Columbia to participate in the conference and some of them filed reports with Home and Country to share their experiences with other FWIO women. The next four pages contain pictures and reports on the conference for your enjoyment and information.



Resolutions and recommendations carried in the plenary session at the ACWW conference are as follows:

**Resolutions** are mandates which must be worked on if passed by an adequate majority and must therefore only deal with subjects on which the ACWW has the power to bind its societies.

**Recommendations** may, after discussion by the appropriate conference committee and adoption in plenary session, be suggested to societies as a line of action which they might choose to follow.

## RESOLUTIONS: (7 sustained)

- 1. International Year of the Family**  
That ACWW urge the United Nations to proclaim an 'International Year of the Family' before the end of the present decade.
- 2. Breast Feeding Poster**  
That ACWW develops materials which may be used by member societies showing by word and illustration the benefits of breast-feeding.
- 3. Peace**  
That ACWW member societies:  
(a) encourage their governments to support a UN agreement to reduce their military costs by 5 per cent as a first step.  
(b) correlate and disseminate, within the framework of their constitution, information concerning peace.  
That ACWW asks other NGO's (non-government organization) to continue working for peace. And that ACWW in a letter to the Secretary General of the UN emphasize the importance of all efforts to obtain peace.

## 4. Reafforestation

That ACWW member societies empower ACWW to endeavour to influence international agencies to reafforest especially in the developing countries with earnest consideration being given to reafforestation to restore natural forest.

## 5. Freon

That ACWW member societies empower ACWW to promote and support the establishment of international agreements for the treatment of freons in such a way that they are not released into the environment.

## 6. Rights of the Individual

ACWW continues to uphold the right of the individual regardless of race, sex, national origin or geographic location.

## 7. Food Exposed to Radiation and Additives

That ACWW works: -  
- for local food production to be encouraged  
- for the distribution of food to be managed in a careful, inexpensive and more secure way  
- for products to be clearly marked with a declaration if they are treated with chemicals or exposed to radiation  
- for there to be more research in this field  
- for women to be informed, instructed and trained in this matter.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

(10 sustained)

### 1. UNICEF Week

That ACWW member societies support UNICEF by celebrating

a world-wide UNICEF WEEK each year, the week of UN Day, 24 October.

### 2. Aid for the Visually Handicapped

That during the Decade of the Handicapped, ACWW member societies urge their respective governments to have their bank currency notes issued in a manner to enable them to be identified by touch for the benefit of poorly sighted persons and the blind.

### 3. Substitute for Mother's Milk

That ACWW member Societies use their influence in helping to promote the 'Infant Feeding Code' adopted by WHO and UNICEF in May 1981.

### 4. Peace

That ACWW member societies urge their governments to take action towards conversion of military resources for civilian use.

### 5. World Conservation Strategy

That ACWW member societies support the aims of the World Conservation Strategy.

### 6. Reafforestation

That ACWW member societies back up the attempts in their own countries to preserve the forests still extant to this day and if necessary to reafforest.

### 7. Preservation of Natural Resources

That ACWW member societies promote and support the preservation of natural resources originating in their own areas.

### 8. Discrimination

That ACWW member societies work against discrimination between sexes, races and nations.