

# Women voice concerns to president

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or if you are lucky in the back of a truck.) It was a very hot day with only half the people protected by shade. There were no coffee or juice breaks and none seemed to be expected! Everyone's attention was on the proceedings.

Daniel Artego, President of Nicaragua, along with one or two of his ministers, meets regularly with different groups to hear their presentations and answer questions.

There were many groups represented including teachers and the National Union of Farmers and Ranchers which has a very large women's section. The latter were our hosts and had arranged all the meetings with the women.

A document representing each concern and request was presented to the president. All afternoon groups and individuals made presentations. The president or his ministers answered a variety of questions.

Here are some of the demands made.

**Child Care** — Women in production have not only to work, but also take care of the house and children. Child care should not be seen as a social benefit, but as a production benefit.

**Health Care** — A need for maternity leave. Health care for tobacco workers (mostly women) who have work-related illness.

## Others

- more women included at all levels of government, better participation in the decision making process
- eliminate all aspects of discrimination in the workforce
- sexual harassment
- agencies for sex education/family planning
- revise contents of school programs which communicate discrimination against females
- revise the judicial process which places obstacles in the way of fulfilling the laws which benefit women
- decriminalization of abortion
- reform the criminal code to include severe punishment for those who rape or abuse women and children
- revise the job descriptions of various types of work done by women

— push for the sharing of domestic work among all members of the family

In the next issue, read more specifically about the women of Nicaragua.

## Wellington leadership workshop

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5. If the meeting is blocked, ask the group to stop and consider what is happening.
6. Go around the group. This gives each member an opportunity to be heard and propose a solution to the deadlock.

### 4. Organizing a Workshop, *Marcie Johnston.*

There are six steps to organizing a workshop.

1. The goal of the workshop — why are we having one?
2. When — establish the day, date and time.
3. Where — pick a location.
4. What are the duties to be performed/presented?
5. Who is the anticipated audience and who will do the work?
6. How — decide on the finer details of the workshop.

**Barbara Pinkney is the Guelph Area Public Relations Officer.**

## Congratulations . . .

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Goodwood WI, Ontario North . . . . .25  
Kingsville WI, Essex South . . . . .20

Congratulations to the following women who received life memberships.

Jill Legault, Helen Wyman, Lookout Bay WI  
Billie Forrest, Ethel Brinker, Princeton-Woodbury WI  
Agnes Crawford, Anna Maltby, Dora Spaxman, Eleanor Walker, Strabane WI  
Bernice Thompson, Geraldine Mowers, Tyendinaga East WI  
Myrtle Stone, Norfolk South WI  
Jean Seyler, Hilda McDonald, Gertrude Schaefer, Belle Smuck, Mrs. W. Mitchell, Ayr WI  
Mary Rawson, Beatrice WI

Certificates of Merit were given to the following women.

Margaret Currie, Janet McKenzie, West End WI  
Lois McNab, Glasgow WI

Pearl Chappell, Bernice McVittie, White School WI

A special celebration for 99 year-old Josephine Clark was held by Mount Elgin WI. Josephine has been a member of that branch since 1920.

## Special thanks

My daughter Shirley, her family and I wish to thank the many WI members in Ontario for their letters and cards on condolences at the time of Harvey's passing on May 7. Their words helped give solace and comfort when it was most appreciated.

**Bernice Noblitt**