



Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario

(inc. 1921)

April 27, 1994

R.R. 5 Juelph,
Ontario
N1H 6L2

The Honourable Ruth Grier
Minister of Health,
10th Floor, Hepburn Block,
80 Queen Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2C4

Dear Ms. Grier:

The document "Women of Colour, Refugee and Immigrant Women's Health Promotion Grants" was reviewed at a recent Board meeting of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.

Although we understand the need for such a program, the health care system in Ontario has always been based on a system of equal access for all residents of the province. Provincial grants should be awarded on the basis of the merits of the proposal, not on skin colour or gender.

The Ministry of Health's policy of making grants available to specific groups based on skin colour, gender, immigrant and refugee status, while excluding everyone else, is clearly discriminatory.

We believe that Everyone should have access to these grants.

We urge you to consider a reversal of this discriminatory policy.

Sincerely Yours,

Donna Russett

Donna Russett
Provincial President

Encl.
DR/aj



The criteria and guidelines for the application referred to in the above letter is on the reverse of this sheet. It came to the Provincial Program Coordinator who took it to the F.W.I. O Board. Board agreed on forwarding the letter to Ms. Grier. If you feel there is discrimination, feel free to send your letter of concern to her.