

Brown urges women to get politically active

By KAREN SMITH
The Champion

The most effective way for women to gain equality is by joining a political party, Oakville-Milton MP Bonnie Brown told a women's group Thursday night.

Ms Brown said working to develop policy proposals on women's issues through a riding association is "the most direct route."

"You have to fight for it all the way up the party line," she told the Canadian Federation of Univeristy Women, Milton and Distict chapter, at Hugh Foster Hall.

In her first public speaking engagement since the Liberal landslide victory in October, Ms Brown said women are still plagued with second-rate status.

"We have been called a special interest group. We are not. We represent the majority in this country."

Active in the women's movement, Ms Brown told the group of about 30 women that the female gender only earns 67 cents for every dollar a man earns. Only 18 per cent of House of Commons members are women. And just 20 per cent of the Liberal caucus is made up of females, she said.

"Men control 90 per cent of power and money, and those men don't want to give it up."

The former Halton regional councillor and school trustee encouraged more women to run for office. "You have to get to where the decisions are made."

A teacher by profession, Ms Brown also discussed her desire for changes in the tax system for non-custodial parents and stricter penalties for violent offenders.

She knocked the Canadian government and other countries for spending large amounts of money on defence. "We could solve hunger in the world if we had the American defence budget."

Ms Brown also announced her assignment to the Canadian Heritage Committee, in which she plans to play a strong role.

She's joined on the federal committee by representatives of the CBC, CRTC, multiculturalism and the Council on the Status of Women.

Nursery school registration

Milton Community Nursery School is now registering children for its 1994-95 school year.

Morning and afternoon classes in the co-operative school are available to children aged two-and-a-half to five years.

For more information, call 878-7007 or 878-8935.



The annual sale of Girl Guide cookies is underway. Here, getting ready to knock on doors is Brownie Jamie Norton and older sister Guide Miranda.

Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Girl Guides selling those tasty cookies

Girl Guides are selling their cookies door-to-door as well as at local stores this month.

The door-to-door campaign began February 5. Cookies will also be sold at Milton Mall from February 24 to 26 and at Canadian Tire February 26.

Canadian Girl Guides have been selling cookies since 1929.

To place an order, call 875-1634.

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