

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



First ever film festival focuses on women and society

Contact:

John Hart
WLU Information Officer
(519) 884-0710, Ext. 3070

October 2, 1996
53-96

Monica Collins
Office of Continuing Education
(519) 884-0710, Ext. 4106

Fifty-five hard hitting, controversial films dealing with issues ranging from abortion to gender discrimination will be featured at the first ever Bettina Russell Film Festival scheduled for October 3-5, 1996, at Wilfrid Laurier University.

The Festival, named in honour of a former School of Social Work student, will present a series of international works focusing on women in society from a number of different perspectives. The films will examine Women and Aging, Social Action, Women and Health, Women and Work, and Body Image. By using the medium of film, the organizers are striving to foster a better understanding of women's issues, and in a larger sense, use the films as teaching tools for community agencies.

The Festival will feature an address by **The Honourable Landon Pearson**, author of *Children of Glasnost*, and Vice Chair for the Canadian Commission for the International Year of the Child, and **Piers Handling**, Director of the highly successful Toronto International Film Festival.

Ticket prices range from \$10 for a one night pass to \$30 for the entire festival and can be purchased at the Office of Continuing Education, The Faculty of Social Work and the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall at Wilfrid Laurier University; The Waterloo Community Arts Centre; and Wordsworth Book Stores.