



Update, 2001



Award Recipients Honoured for Leadership in Women's Health

Throughout the Atlantic region in November 2000, the Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women's Health (MCEWH) presented 20 new Women's Health in Atlantic Canada. These first-time awards recognize outstanding Atlantic Canadians for the difference they have made in their communities. This year's award winners ranged from creative writers to filmmakers, scholars, physicians, government and community

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ire Evangeline



New Brunswick award winners receive honours:

*Marie Corinne Bourque, Georgette Ferlatte, Gaila Friars,
Judith Wuest, Marilyn Merritt-Gray, Marian Lucas Jefferies.*

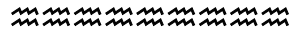
en Council

arilyn Merritt-Gray

Director Sexual Assault Crisis and Prevention Centre
Office: Halifax Clinic
Lynn Royalty
Newfoundland and Labrador

For more information on awards as well as bios and photos of the year 2000 award winners, visit: www.medicine.dal.ca/mcewh/awards2000.htm.

What's New



Available : New Studies on Women's Health in Atlantic Canada

and other recent MCEWH publications, log on to the MCEWH website: www.medicine.dal.ca/mcewh. Stay tuned also for the March *Services and Education for Adolescents* and *Winning Over Addictions: Empowering Black Mothers with Addictions to Overcome Triple*

Women's Health Initiative Project
Women's Community Consultations Project
Research Ethics
Women in Call Centres Talk About Work and Health
Women's Health Project
Living with Depression Project
Human Values in Health Care Symposium

Gender and Health: An Update on the Canadian Institutes of Health Research

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) announced the directorship of 13 new health research institutes. The MCEWH was pleased to appoint Dr. Miriam Stewart as the Director of the Institute on Gender and Health. Miriam, who is a former Director of the Atlantic Health Research Institute at Dalhousie University and also the former principal investigator of the MCEWH, is currently working as Director of the Centre for Health Services Research at the University of Alberta. For more information on the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, visit the website at: www.cihr.ca.

Now Available On Line: Beyond Inclusion: Diversity in Women's Health Research

The regional policy fora on women's health, considers the notion of inclusion in women's health research and implications for policy and practice. An understanding of, and critical analysis of exclusion and power is essential to our ability to understand diversity, and to move beyond inclusion in research. Furthermore, an understanding of the material reality of exclusion, that is the reality of oppression, and implications for health care are the focus of this discussion of inclusion. The speech prints off on 10 pages. To access the speech, visit www.medicine.dal.ca/mcewh

es New Trilogy in Women's Health

Excellence for Women's Health (MCEWH) has launched a new professional Women's Health in Atlantic Canada. The trilogy highlights knowledge currently women's health in Canada through the research and activities of the MCEWH. The ones, entitled: *A Portrait of Women's Health in Atlantic Canada*; *Inclusion: Will our egies Take us There?*; *Made to Measure: Women, Gender, and Equity*. The trilogy onomic issues affecting the health and well being of Atlantic Canadian women based research and the development of policies that will encourage and their communities in Atlantic Canada.

change in our health care system to strategically reinvest in our future and ased analysis that will benefit everyone. According to Carol Amaratunga, the MCEWH, the gender-based approach reflected in the book "is important ... it utive for the principles of fairness, equity and justice in our communities, and if we or ourselves and future generations, we need to consider the ways that policies and alth of men and women differently."

y, reviewers write:

ly read, but its findings should be the first wave of sea- and politics are conducted."

Margaret Conrad, History Department, Acadia University

and social policy debates to come, this is an within Atlantic Canada but across the country."

Executive Director, Canadian Women's Health Network

orce for decision makers, a text for students, and now a n of Atlantic Canada. Congratulations on a work of

Department of Economics, University of New Zealand

*A Portrait
of Women's Health
in Atlantic Canada*

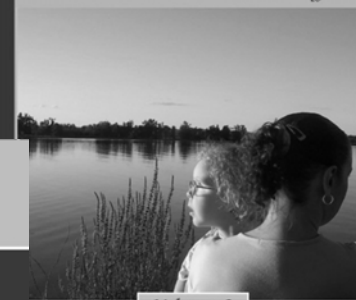
Women's Health in Atlantic Canada Trilogy



Volume 1

*Inclusion:
Will Our Social and Economic
Strategies Take Us There?*

Women's Health in Atlantic Canada Trilogy



Volume 2

Published and Edited by:
MARITIME CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

*Made to Measure:
Women, Gender & Equity*

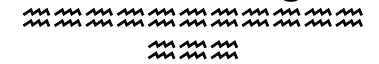
Women's Health in Atlantic Canada Trilogy



Volume 3

Published and Edited by:
MARITIME CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

MCEWH Wraps up Second Annual "Road Show" Tour of Atlantic Region



During the month of November 2000, the MCEWH went "on the road" to visit the capital cities of each Atlantic province. The purpose of this year's tour was: to present awards to acknowledge leadership in women's health in our region; to launch a new series of books on the theme of women's health research in Atlantic Canada; to host a series of policy oriented sessions on the topic of women's health research; to host a keynote address "Beyond Inclusion" by Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard; and to network and establish partnerships for future activities. In all, the Centre staff met with over 400 people including a number of key stakeholders involved in the advancement of health research. The MCEWH staff looks forward to future opportunities to visit and work in each of

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## Send in your nominations for year 2001 awards in Women's Health!

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For Women's Health in Atlantic
cities, universities, clinical settings,

Apply for a Leadership Award for
organization you'd like to nominate,
made to women's health in your

eligible for nomination with the exception of
WVH@dal.ca ; fax to 902-420-6752 ; or mail
a special ceremony held in each Atlantic



Canada will be awarded annually to individuals and organizations
private and public sectors, etc. to improve the health of women in our

Women's Health in Atlantic Canada! Send us a one page letter profiling
including a description of why you are nominating them, an explanation
community, and their contact information.

*MCEWH steering committee members and staff. Nominations must be received by
to PO Box 3070, Halifax, NS, B3J 3G9. A selection committee will review all nominations.
province during the month of November 2001.*

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## And 6 makes 14: Welcome new steering committee members!

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Some 6 new members to its steering committee. The addition of these individuals broadens the representation from a number of health-
the Atlantic region and we are delighted to have them on board for the challenges ahead:

Joan Kingston (NB)
Andrea Perry (NFLD)

Claudia Simon (NB)
Bonnie James (NFLD)

Judith Kazimirski (NS)
Jeannita Bernard (PEI)

For more information on MCEWH Steering Committee Members, visit the MCEWH on-line at : www.medicine.dal.ca/mcewh.

Public Call Issued for Greater Support

Public call to encourage continued funding and support for women's health research in Atlantic Canada. Carol Amaratunga, Executive explains that one of the main reasons for issuing the call for continued support of women's health research initiatives is because the health remains far behind the rest of Canada.

Women in particular have considerably higher stress rates than men and the highest blood pressure explains. "They also have higher rates of environmental illness, cancers and asthma, as well as the highest rates of female cancer deaths in Canada, have among the highest Canadian rates of pay inequality to be the poorest in our Canadian society - Newfoundland and Nova Scotia rank first & second for the highest female & child poverty rates in Canada."

If we are to strive for the principles of fairness, equity and justice in our communities, and make investments for both ourselves and future generations, we need to continue our research and better knowledge in the domain of women's health. We need more research to develop policies and practices for the health and well being of our women and our communities in

For the call, send a note similar to the one here to the Minister of Health. Also available from the MCEWH; call 1-888-658-1112.

Hon. Minister of Health
House of Commons Parliament Hill
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Hon. Minister:

I support A Call to Action for Women's Health in Atlantic Canada (March 2000) and the renewal of funding for the Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women's Health & other women's health research initiatives. I am in support because the health of Atlantic Canadians remains far behind the rest of Canada and because Atlantic Canadian women: have been excluded from the bulk of Canadian health research to date ... have considerably higher stress rates than men & the highest blood pressure in the country ... have higher rates of environmental illness, cancers & asthma, as well as the highest rates of female cancer deaths in Canada... have among the highest Canadian rates of pay inequity ... are among the poorest in our Canadian society with the highest provincial female & child poverty rates.

Your signature and address

Funding Announcements

Health Research (CAHR) grant for **\$1, 713, 285** was recently awarded to the Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women's Health & the Nova Scotia Society of Women for a project on caregiving. "A Healthy Balance: A Community Alliance for Health Research on Women's Unpaid Caregiving" will involve community, clinical, public policy and academic sectors over the next 5 years and was developed through a **\$5000** development grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). ❧

Health Canada awarded a new project grant for **\$157, 000** to the MCEWH for *The Just Society Initiative*. This project grant follows prior work on the theme of social inclusion. Recently, the "Inclusion project" produced a number of discussion papers. These are freely available and printable from the "Inclusion" page on mcewh/inclusion. ❧

The Atlantic Region of Health Canada and Public Health Branch of Health Canada Atlantic awarded **\$64, 250** to the MCEWH for a project entitled "A Synthesis of Health Research on Black Women's Health". This project, conducted in partnership with the Black Women's Health Network, will take the form of a literature review as well as a workshop for Black health and members of the Black community. The project team includes: C. Amaratunga, S. Edmonds, J. Enang and Y. Atwell. ❧

The MCEWH was awarded a contract for **\$24, 000** by the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation to co-host a one-day capacity building research workshop. The workshop provides training for health research organizations and universities in Nova Scotia and was an opportunity to learn about potential support for collaborative research strategies for collaboration. ❧

The MCEWH was awarded a **\$5000** seed grant to the Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women's Health for the design of an international conference on caregiving. The Centre is collaborating with the PEI Health Research Institute to develop a larger funding proposal. ❧

The MCEWH was awarded **\$21, 600** from the International Development Research Centre to support the development of a funding proposal for a Summer Institute on Gender Equity and Health at the Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women's Health. The Institute, which will focus on the topic of Gender, Health and HIV/AIDS, will develop capacity in the use of research systems levels. ❧

The MCEWH is a member with AHPRC on their successful **\$600, 000** SSHRC proposal (Community University Research Alliance). The project, entitled *Brain Gain: Increasing Opportunities to Use Social Science Research to Influence and Develop Policy*, aims to build capacity in rural areas of the province to support the health of

and other initiatives, visit: www.medicine.dal.ca/mcewh