On behalf of the Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women's Health and the regionwide participants of "A Just Society: Where Everyone Counts," a project about social and economic inclusion in Atlantic Canada, you are invited to join us to explore:

Confronting Poverty: Issues and opportunities for creating public policies that will move us from exclusion to inclusion in Atlantic Canada.

An Open Space Meeting Thursday, Nov. 22nd & Friday, Nov. 23rd, 2001 Westin Hotel, 1181 Hollis Street, Halifax, NS

Who is Coming?

We are inviting the participants of the reference groups who have worked together for almost three years. We are also inviting a cross-section of participants from provincial and regional events that have happened as a result of this project and others who believe in the importance of this work that we have shared. This project has been primarily funded by the Population and Public Health Branch, Atlantic Region, Health Canada. In addition, the participating groups have contributed extensively of their time and expertise.

(Note: The meeting is limited to 70 participants and its success relies on having representation from all four provinces and from community, academe and government.)

What is Open Space?

Open Space is a remarkable meeting process which draws on some very old principles: passion, collaboration, responsibility, inclusivity, and respect. It provides a natural pattern that encourages action rather than endless discussion. It allows the creative gifts and leadership capacity in a group to become manifest. More information and background materials will be provided following confirmation of registration.

A real chunk of time!

The time allotted for this Open Space meeting is the perfect amount of time for the process to run its course. While it looks like "a long meeting" it's not! All participants will be engaged in what they care about, self-directed, and mobile in Open Space. We promise you an energizing experience full of creative, effective collaboration and fun.

To reserve your spot at this collaborative and creative meeting...

Please, complete the Registration Form Enclosed & Return it before October 16, 2001

We look forward to your participation on the 22nd & 23nd of November! Sincerely,

The Planning Committee