

## A Message from the Chair and Executive Director

These have been exciting times for NYWC; the year 2006/2007 brought with it many successes and a few challenges, each of which helped to solidify the Board and staff's resolve and commitment to "Opening Doors for Women".

The year saw our Board reflecting on itself and working to strengthen its leadership capacity and the skills and knowledge of individual board members. A new process for building and formalizing work plans was developed to strengthen board committees and set them up for success. A productive – and fun – board-staff team building session in the fall cemented what was already a strong board-staff team.

For some time now, NYWC has worked to broaden and deepen our connections to diverse communities in North York. We are thrilled to have received a two-year grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation towards this goal. The grant enables us to invest in underserved communities by recruiting, training and supporting volunteers from those communities to deliver programs. We are proud to add satellite programs operating in the neighbourhoods of Jane & Sheppard and Flemingdon Park to our other satellite locations.

New programs introduced this year include a self-esteem group for Grade 9 girls and a free, women-only Aquafit group. We would love to say that the demand for our programs has declined, but sadly that isn't so. We strive to continue to address the needs of the women that we serve.

The year also saw us getting together with our landlord and the community agencies we share the building with to conduct a safety audit. The audit confirmed what we have been hearing anecdotally for years: we are difficult to find and the poor lighting makes women feel unsafe. Armed with these results, we were successful in securing funding to replace the building entry doors, increase lighting on the property and enhance signage.

One of the biggest challenges of the year was making the decision of whether to continue generating revenue (small as it has been over the last year) through bingo. The impact of bingo on the safety and morale of our volunteers and staff has been a concern for several years now, as has declining bingo revenues. Not only did the new revenue model introduced by the provincial government not assuage the Board's concerns, it raised new ones. After much deliberation, the Board decided to get out of the bingo business.

We would like to thank the Board, staff and volunteers at NYWC for the opportunity to serve them as Board Chair and Executive Director respectively. We also thank them for their hard work, dedication and commitment to treating with the utmost respect every woman who comes through our doors.

Sincerely,

Trisha Cipriani  
Chair, Board of Directors

Iris Fabbro  
Executive Director

## Board of Directors

The Board of Directors for 2006/2007 were:

Trisha Cipriani, Chair

Francine Morissette, Vice-chair

Nancy Bardecki, Treasurer

Aisha Heywood-Delpeache, Secretary

Irene Barone, Director

Paulett Ramsey, Director

Pam Weir, Director

Tanya White, Director

\* Carmen Mancini and Trish Thomas resigned during the year

## Program Partners

Canadian Film Centre

Delta Family Resource Centre

Doorsteps Neighbourhood Services

Falstaff Community Centre

Flemingdon Park Resource Centre

Jane Sheppard Community Group

Legal Aid Ontario

School of Women's Studies, York University

Toronto Community Housing Corporation

Trellis Gardens

## Finances

### WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

62%	Government
14%	Donations
10%	Fundraising
13%	Foundations
1%	Other

### WHERE THE MONEY GOES

77%	Programs
16%	Administration
7%	Fundraising

## The Year in Numbers\*

### PROGRAMS/SERVICES

2,040	Calls for peer support, information and referral		
301	Women attended one or more NYWC programs		
131	Women received free legal summary advice		
57	Women attended one or more workshops		
66%	Felt better about themselves after attending a program		
61%	Felt better able to make positive life changes		
99%	Would recommend the program to other women		

### SUPPORT REQUESTED

49%	Emotional Support	28%	Legal
8%	Abuse	7%	Health
5%	Financial	3%	Housing

### VOLUNTEERS

3,650	Number of volunteer hours contributed		
93	Number of volunteers who collectively put in these hours		
88%	Felt their volunteer experience met or exceeded expectations		

### PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

78%	Have at least some post-secondary education		
63%	Live on annual incomes less than \$20,000		
27%	Work for pay full-time		
28%	Unable to work because of disability		
53%	Identify as a visible minority		
47%	Born outside Canada		
68%	Live in an immigrant/refugee family		
72%	Identify as a survivor of woman abuse		

\*all figures apply to the period April 1, 2007 through March 31, 2007