



26th Convention of the YWCA of Canada,
University of Victoria, British Columbia,
May 16 - 21, 1981

November 24, 1980

Senator Lamontagne
Chairman
Senate-Commons Committee on the Constitution
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9

Dear Senator Lamontagne:

The YWCA of Canada wishes to register its interest in the current study on the Constitution being conducted by the special Senate-Commons Committee.

The YWCA of Canada has always stood and spoken for the equality of women and is concerned that the current wording in the proposed Charter of Human Rights is insufficient to ensure real equality. Specifically we would strongly urge the following wording:

"Every individual shall have equality of rights under the law without regard to sex, race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion or age."

We would also urge that the federal government's proposal to entrench a Charter of Rights and Freedoms in the Constitution include directions for the removal of any law which discriminates on the basis of sex, whether the law discriminates against all Canadian women or only some of them.



PRESIDENT: ANN NORTHCOTE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: DANA STE

A gift or bequest to the YWCA of Canada Endowment Fund will further the work of the association in your community and in Canada

We recognize the impact of the current hearings on the future of Canada and call on you, as a member of the Senate-Commons Committee on the Constitution, to do all in your power to ensure that the proposed new Charter of Human Rights guarantees the equality of rights for all people. To this end, we ask you to consider our suggestions for change in the proposed Charter.

Yours truly,

Ann Northcote

Ann Northcote
President

AN/dw

THE SENATE OF CANADA



LE SÉNAT DU CANADA

lettre adressée au sénateur
Lamontagne à titre de
"Chairman" du comité mixte
sur la constitution