2004 PCWO RESOLUTIONS

2004:01	ADEQUATE MINIMUM WAGE
2004:02	PROTECTION OF ONTARIO'S PARKS AND CONSERVATION RESE
2004:03	PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP
2004:04	SERVICES FOR WOMEN RECENTLY RELEASED FROM PROVINCIAL CUSTODY

POLICY UPDATES

U01:04	REGULATION OF NURSNIG HOMES AND REST AND RETIREMENT HOMES
UO2:04	WASTE MANAGEMENT
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EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

E01:04	PROTECTING FAMILY LAW
E02:04	ANAPHYLAXIS MANAGEMENT PLANS
E03:04	WATER TAKING

2004:01 ADEQUATE MINIMUM WAGE

 raise minimum wage to ensure low wage earners an adequate standard of living, with further minimum wage increases tied to rate of inflation

2004:02 PROTECTION OF ONTARIO'S PARKS AND CONSERVATION RESERVES

 commit to protection of parks and Conservation Reserves including species and ecosystem protection

2004:03 PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

 reject Public-Private Partnerships for Health Care and education Institutions and for other essential public infrastructure.

2004:04 SERVICES FOR WOMEN RECENTLY RELEASED FROM PROVINCIAL CUSTODY

 commit to allocation of long term funding to approved non-profit organizations to provide women released from prison options and resources for rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

POLICY UPDATES

U01:04 REGULATION OF NURSNIG HOMES AND REST AND RETIREMENT HOMES

- conditions for licenses and maintaining be reviewed, updated and strictly enforced
- Facilities pass mandatory annual unannounced inspections and results be readily available to public
- mandatory standards for minimum amount of nursing care per resident per day be reinstated at three years' legislation be enacted to protect well-being of residents
- owners be required to post bonds to be held by government in trust, to protect residents and that all residents' accounts be similarly held in trust with legislation covering their use

- Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care conduct rotating audits to be reported to Provincial Legislature or Auditor General
- owners of facilities be required to ensure security and safety of personal effects of residents
- all staff required to go through criminal check to protect residents from known inappropriate care-givers.

UO2:04 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- re-institute 1992 ban on municipal solid waste (MSW) incineration and ban other advanced combustion technologies, until proven safe to human health and environment
- enhance "producer responsibility" legislation to encompass "life" of manufactured products
- strengthen Air Quality Standards (A07s) to measure quantity as well as concentration of air emissions from existing municipal incinerator
- adopt "zero waste" as Provincial and Municipal strategy goal, backed by producer responsibility legislation and support of municipal 3R programs

UO3:04 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING / HOSTELS

- ecognize homelessness crisis and value of emergency shelters in providing short term housing and crisis intervention, as well as meeting needs in a holistic way and helps people find permanent housing and access to community supports
- invest in more emergency housing projects and provide adequate funding for provision of emergency housing, early intervention support services, community development outreach activities and administrative overhead

U04:04 GROUNDWATER PROTECTION

- develop legislation
- · reinstate conservation authority funding and
- broaden mandate to all
- help to develop and implement integrated strategies for management and protection of groundwater.

U05:04 PESTICIDES

enact legislation to ban use of chemical pesticides for cosmetic purposes

- regulate use of chemical pesticides for infestations
- work with municipalities to educate public as to alternatives to chemical pesticides

U06:04 ONTARIO'S DISASTER PREVENTION AND PLANNING

- ensure Provincial Emergency Planning Act is strong in preparing Ontarians in event of highly infectious diseases and other natural and human error (or design) disaster, including internet and other acts of terrorism
- involve representative group, e.g., general public, press, front line emergency workers, service providers for elderly, vulnerable and anti-violence networks in strengthening of Emergency Planning Act
- educate and prepare citizens in event of highly infectious diseases and other natural and human error/design disasters, of both short and more lengthy duration
- in event of emergency, ensure occupational safety for EMS and health care workers through Health and Safety Act and Emergency Planning Act
- put plans in place to ensure disaster supplies are delivered expeditiously

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

E01:04 PROTECTING FAMILY LAW

- support common civil code for all Canadian Courts
- respect equality for women, imbedded in Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- reject binding arbitration in family law disputes
- follow Canadian Law, rather than any alternative system, in Ontario Courts
- investigate and implement ways to save court time and costs That do not put equality of women in jeopardy.

E02:04 ANAPHYLAXIS MANAGEMENT PLANS

 ensure all institutions dealing with children establish anaphylaxis management plans that would inform institutions, children, and parent communities about life threatening allergies

- adopt measures aimed at reducing risk of exposure to allergy causing substances for children who are at risk of a life-threatening reaction
- train all people in supervisory positions to recognize symptoms of allergic reactions and follow an established emergency protocol

E03:04 WATER TAKING

- new water taking rules be based on total availability of water in watershed that can be removed without damaging ecosystem
- include clear, legally established water use priorities
- ensure Ministry of Environment and local conservation Authorities have sufficient staff and resources to carry out necessary studies and implementation of new rules