

2005 PCWO RESOLUTIONS

- 2005:1 FULL-TIME NURSING POSITIONS
- 2005:2 HEALTH PREMIUM TAX
- 2005:3 DELISTING OF HEALTH SERVICES: CHIROPRACTICS, OPTOMETRY AND PHYSIOTHERAPY
- 2005:4 THE CANADA LEARNING BOND AND REGISTERED EDUCATION SAVINGS PLAN
- 2005:5 LANDFILLS
- 2005:6 SUPPORT FOR EXTENDED FAMILIES

POLICY UPDATES

- U1:2005 DEPOSIT-RETURN SYSTEM FOR BEVERAGE CONTAINERS
- U2:2005 GAMBLING

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

- E1:2005 INSULIN PUMPS FOR DIABETICS

2005:1 FULL-TIME NURSING POSITIONS

- RESOLVED #1** that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy
- a. support for 70% full-time employment for Registered Nurses and Registered Practical Nurses, with strategic staffing plans developed co-operatively by the nursing profession, employers, and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC), to meet the needs of patients and staff; and
 - b. where nurses are working part time, they should receive benefits which are, at a minimum, proportional to their working time: and further be it

- RESOLVED #2** that PCWO urge the Government of Ontario to
- a. aim for 70% full-time employment for Registered Nurses (RN) and Registered Practical Nurses (RPN) and that MOHLTC work co-operatively with staff and employers to develop strategic staffing plans that ensure that the needs of patients and staff are met; and
 - b. where nurses are working part time they should receive benefits which are, at a minimum, proportional to their working time, and further be it:

2005:2 HEALTH PREMIUM TAX

- RESOLVED #1** that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy that health care costs be paid from personal taxes, not health premiums, thus ensuring equity and access to all, as required by the Canada Health Act; and

- RESOLVED #2** that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario to withdraw the Health Premium, and rely instead on personal income taxes for health provision dollars.

2005:3 DELISTING OF HEALTH SERVICES: CHIROPRACTICS, OPTOMETRY AND PHYSIOTHERAPY

RESOLVED #1 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy that the provision of the health services of Chiropractors, Optometry and Physiotherapy be provided under OHIP to all Ontario citizens, regardless of their ability to pay.

RESOLVED #2 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario to re-list the services of Chiropractors, Optometry and Physiotherapy under OHIP, as integral to a comprehensive curative and preventative range of public health service and investigate an extension of OHIP coverage for these services.

2005:4 THE CANADA LEARNING BOND AND REGISTERED EDUCATION SAVINGS PLAN

*****Note:** PCWO is pleased that the Government moved to allow social assistance recipients to retain RESP assets, after this resolution was formulated, however PCWO approved this resolution in order to have policy for future use.*

RESOLVED #1 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy that Registered Education Savings Plans, including the Canada Learning Bond not be considered an asset when families apply for income assistance.

RESOLVED #2 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario to not include Registered Education Savings Plans, including the Canada Learning Bond as assets when families apply for income assistance.

2005:5 LANDFILLS

RESOLVED #1 that Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy that:

- a. landfills must be engineered in such a way that
 - i. they are safe,
 - ii. complementary to efforts to enhance 3 R programs,

- iii. able to increase opportunities for environmentally sustainable co-generation projects and/or produce electricity, and
- iv. be turned into beneficial public uses in future;
- b. municipalities look after their own waste within their own jurisdictions; and
- c. landfills be remediated so they are
 - i. safe, and
 - ii. of beneficial public use at the end of their life cycle, eg.. parks and to provide electricity etc.; and

RESOLVED #2 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario to:

- a. ensure through regulation and encourage through policies and programs the engineering of landfills that are
 - i. safe,
 - ii. complementary to enhanced 3 R programs, and
 - iii. able to provide opportunities for environmentally sustainable co-generation projects, and /or electricity generation; and
- b. legislate that municipalities deal with waste within their own jurisdictions
- c. ensure the remediation of old landfills, so they are both safe and of public use at the end of their life cycle.

2005:6 SUPPORT FOR EXTENDED FAMILIES

RESOLVED #1 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy that

- a. custodial care by extended family members be recognized in Legislation; and
- b. the allowance rate reflect established rates for similar care by foster parents; and
- c. open adoptions be allowed through Legislation.

RESOLVED #2 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario to:

- a. amend the Child and Family Service Act to allow custodial care by extended family members;
- b. alter the allowance rate for temporary care to reflect established rates for similar care by foster parents; and
- c. 1#make legislative changes to allow open adoptions.

POLICY UPDATES:

U1:2005 DEPOSIT-RETURN SYSTEM FOR BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

RESOLVED #1 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy the adoption of a deposit-return system for all beverage containers with the goal that such a system will

- a. lead to the ultimate phase-out of non refillable plastic beverage containers,
- b. be convenient for consumers to return empty containers to retailers,
- c. provide fair and equitable treatment for all producers, and

RESOLVED #2 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario to institute through regulation a comprehensive deposit-return system for all beverage containers that will:

- a. lead to the ultimate phase-out of non refillable plastic beverage containers,
- b. be convenient for consumers to return empty containers to retailers,
- c. provide fair and equitable treatment for all producers

U2:2005 GAMBLING

RESOLVED #1 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy:

- a. opposition to government promotion of, and benefit from, gambling in Ontario
- b. support for strong government regulations to control youth access to gambling, the prohibition of promotional advertising for gambling and any targeting of certain ethnic groups

- c. support for government investments in advertising re the dangers of gambling, particularly its addictive nature, such as is done in other jurisdictions
- d. support for adequate funding for programs for problem gamblers, prevention of problem gambling and protection of problem gamblers
- e. the need for government funded yearly studies of all aspects of gambling, including societal costs, eg. lost earned income due to addictions, hospital stays and public disclosure of same
- f. the need for adequate funding from tax revenues of public institutions and charities, rather than through gambling revenues.
- g. opposition to any expansion of gambling in Ontario

RESOLVED #2

that Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario to:

- a. cease the promotion of gambling in Ontario and refrain from expanding gambling opportunities
- b. strictly enforce regulations regarding youth access to gambling
- c. initiate programs in the school system, starting at the elementary level, to alert children to the allure, and the dangers of gambling
- d. invest substantively in programs to help problem gamblers control their addiction and protect them from harm and to help those at risk of becoming problem gamblers
- e. fund yearly studies to assess the true social costs of gambling and make them public
- f. reduce the reliance of institutions and charities on gambling revenues and fund public health services through taxes, rather than gambling revenues.
- g. institute effective methods to control compulsive gambling within casinos such as those used in other jurisdictions

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

E1:2005 INSULIN PUMPS FOR DIABETICS

WHEREAS Bill 55 received all party support in its introduction, passed second reading and has been referred to the Standing Committee on Social Policy for study prior to its return to the House for third reading; therefore, be it

RESOLVED #1 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy support for an amendment to the Health Insurance Act to include the provision of insulin pumps and related supplies as insured services for diabetics; and

RESOLVED #2 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario to pass Bill 55, An Act to Amend the Health Insurance Act (Insulin Pumps etc on OHIP)