

# **1990 PCWO RESOLUTIONS**

90.1 Educational and Treatment Centres

90.2 Emergency Shelter and Assistance Program (ESAP)

90.3 Disruptive Students/Truancy and Suspension

90.4 Foodland Preservation Legislation

90.5 Funding for Treatment

90.6 Improving Human Rights

90.7 Regulation of Private Rest Homes and Retirement Homes

90.8 Review of Retirement Communities

90.9 Integrating Federal and Provincial Sales Tax

90.10 Tractor/Semi Trailer Truck Regulations

90.11 Unequal Treatment of Women in Ontario Court System

90.12 Visiting Homemaker Services

90.13 The Young Offenders Act

# **1990 PCWO RESOLUTIONS**

## 90.1 Educational and Treatment Centres

- a) to improve Ontario based programs for drug education, research and treatment, providing an appropriate spectrum of services for each age group
- b) ensure that all service agency personnel receive in-service training in drug counselling techniques
- c) arrange at the municipal level, the coordination of various local programs of drug education and treatment that are currently in operation

## 90.2 Emergency Shelter and Assistance Program (ESAP)

- a) to immediately act upon one of the basic recommendations of "Transitions" and commission a study to develop a definition of adequacy based on the "Market basket method"
- b) to raise Social Assistance rates to a level of adequacy and index them against loss of progress
- c) to concurrently implement a "phase-in/phase-out program" of funding to Food Banks and Community Food and Clothing Shelters, to allow them to continue to provide the "necessities until Social Assistance rates reach a realistic level of adequacy
- d) to progressively develop alternative projects such as Food Cooperatives and Employment Support Programs, thus giving Food Programs an opportunity to remove themselves from the secondary welfare system

## 90.3 Disruptive Students/Truancy and Suspension

- a) to review Section 29:5 of the Education Act with the intent of bringing forth legislation that will effectively deal with the truant
- b) to review policies of suspension and seek to identify the causes of delinquency with the intent of developing more effective and satisfactory alternatives to the current practice of suspending troublesome students
- c) to reintroduce regulations which will require the recording of absenteeism and the reporting of this information to parents

## 90.4 Foodland Preservation Legislation

- a) to reiterate 1982 policy which urged the enactment of Foodland Preservation Legislation and to include in the Legislation measures to incorporate the protection of all Class 1-3 foodlands in Municipal Official Plans with particular concern for specialty area lands such as the Niagara Fruitlands
- b) to grant prime foodlands priority within the Ontario Planning Act
- c) to enact a Foodland Trust Act which would allow government trusts to be set up and encourage private trusts to preserve foodlands, particularly those under the most direct threat of urban pressure.

## 90.5 Funding for Treatment

- a) to make funds available immediately for the expansion and the improvement of existing community-based programs and
- b) make the facilities available to young adolescents, especially those under the age of 16
- c) to develop new treatment facilities, especially for younger adolescents

## 90.6 Improving Human Rights

- a) to ensure that the Ontario Human Rights Commission plays a strong advocacy role, as it was established to do, by appointing persons to the Ontario Human Rights Commission who are committed to human rights
- b) by providing the resources necessary to make the system work well
- c) by ensuring that the settlement of human rights complaint addresses the overall issue of discrimination against a category of persons

## 90.7 Regulation of Private Rest Homes and Retirement Homes

- a) to enact Legislation to establish operating standards for private rest homes and retirement homes

## 90.8 Review of Retirement Communities

- a) to undertake a review of retirement communities that will include the apportionment of common amenities and services, tenure arrangements including leasehold, life leases and condominiums
- b) verification of maintenance and operating expenses, contractual restrictions on the right of resale of units
- c) the absence of fiduciary regulation, the registrability of leases, the role of rent regulation
- d) the establishment of a Ministry to administer regulatory legislation affecting seniors and retirement communities.

### 90.9 Integrating Federal and Provincial Sales Tax

- a) to enter immediately into open negotiations with the federal government for the purpose of developing a joint system for collecting the Federal Goods and Services Tax and the Provincial Sales Tax, using a common base price

### 90.10 Tractor/Semi Trailer Truck Regulations

- a) to maintain and enforce the existing length, height and total capacity regulations for tractor and semitrailer trucks, ensuring at least the present level of safety

### 90.11 Unequal Treatment of Women in Ontario Court System

- a) to give priority to seminars and other educational methods to ensure that all judges, legal counsel and police under provincial jurisdiction receive "sensitivity" education in order that they better understand and deal with the crime in the context within which it is committed, such education to focus on:
  - a. the impact of violence on women
  - b. the psychology of abuse
  - c. the nature of the crime of sexual assault, including the physical, social, psychological and emotional impact on the victim
  - d. gender, class and racial differences
- b) N.B. The above was also referred to the Law Society of Upper Canada. to include in the criteria for the selection and appointment of judges, a demonstrated understanding of gender equality
- c) also, to urge the Ministry of Education to include discussions on gender equality at all levels of education

### 90.12 Visiting Homemaker Services

- a) to extend the implementation of the recommendations of the Inter Ministerial Report on Visiting Homemaker Service (1987)

### 90.13 The Young Offenders Act

- a) request to the Government of Ontario to urge the Government of Canada to place a moratorium on any amendments to the Young Offenders Act until a thorough national examination of the Act and of the root causes of youth violence have been completed, in order that informed decisions can be made
- b) and until consultation has taken place with those organizations and persons concerned with youth in conflict with the justice system, such consultations to include young people; until public hearings are held across Canada (witness funds to be available).
- c) that PCW Ontario urge its Local Councils and members to write to their MPs and MPPs, urging their support for a moratorium on any amendments to the Young Offenders Act, at this time.