

2009 PCWO RESOLUTIONS

With Summaries of Intent

- 2009:01 AIR POLLUTION**
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- 2009:01E STIMULATING ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AT TIMES OF ECONOMIC DOWNTURN AND ENSURING THE AVAILABILTY OF CREDIT FOR BUSINESS**

2009:01 AIR POLLUTION

RESOLVED #1 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy that air pollution, especially from particles below 10 microns, be reduced to improve health and reduce the cost of health care.

RESOLVED #2 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario to take measures to decrease the amount of air pollution produced in Ontario, in order to improve health and reduce cost by means such as:

- a. Encouraging the use of public transit and building bicycle lanes
- b. Encouraging fuel efficient vehicles which use the least polluting fuel source
- c. Reducing speed limits
- d. Reducing the amount of pollution from industries and power plants
- e. Encouraging the transportation of goods by rail
- f. Constructing highways that will deliver the least amount of pollution to adjacent communities

2009:02 NON-MARKET ECOLOGICAL GOODS AND SERVICES

RESOLVED #1 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy that landowners be remunerated directly for providing non-market ecological goods and services such as wildlife habitat and erosion control.

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

- a. Provide data on natural capital and changes to it over time, to facilitate land-use decisions
- b. Offer remuneration directly for those who protect natural areas
- c. Develop non-market ecological goods and services policies and legislation to protect our natural areas

2009:03 STRENGTHENING ONTARIO'S ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

RESOLVED #1 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy that public health and the environment be protected by requiring:

- a. A full Environmental Assessment (EA) of all projects without exemption
- b. An initial evaluation of whether a project is needed and automatic consideration of alternatives to the project
- c. An EA approval in advance of other approvals
- d. Transparency and broad public consultation throughout the process
- e. Thorough peer-reviewed studies and as-of-right release of all technical information
- f. On-going monitoring and enforcement of any regulations with all EA-approved projects.

RESOLVED #2 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario to amend the Environmental Assessment Act so that its EA process protects public health and the environment through measures that require:

- a. A full Environmental Assessment of all projects without exception
- b. An initial evaluation of whether a project is needed and automatic consideration of alternatives to the project
- c. An EA approval in advance of other approvals
- d. Transparency and broad public consultation throughout the process
- e. Thorough peer-reviewed studies and as-of-right release of all technical information
- f. On-going monitoring and enforcement of any regulations with all EA-approved projects.

2009:04 SMALL SCALE ENERGY SOLUTIONS

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

- a. Small scale energy conserving and generating systems suitable for family homes and individual buildings

- b. Research and development of the manufacture of such systems.

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

- a. Increase research and development funding for small scale energy generating systems suitable for apartment buildings, office buildings and family homes
- b. Amend building codes to favour energy conservation and local energy generation
- c. Stimulate the manufacture of products for energy conservation and small scale energy generations within Ontario.

2009:05 AN ADEQUATE INCOME FOR A NUTRITIOUS DIET

RESOLVED #1 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy that Ontario's social assistance rates and minimum wage reflect the real cost of living, including a nutritious diet, and be indexed to the rate of inflation.

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

- a. Implement immediately, social assistance rates that reflect the real cost of living, including the findings of yearly Nutritious Food Basket surveys conducted by local Boards of Health, and index rates annually to reflect inflation
- b. Implement immediately, a living minimum wage and index this wage to the rate of inflation.

2009:06 COMMUNITY USE OF PUBLICLY FUNDED SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

RESOLVED #1 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario adopt as policy that publicly funded school buildings be used for community activities on a year-round basis.

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

- a. The use of school buildings by the community on a year-round basis

- b. Urban and rural municipalities to involve school boards when planning the location of public facilities and community events.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

2009:01E STIMULATING ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AT TIMES OF ECONOMIC DOWNTURN AND ENSURING THE AVAILABILITY OF CREDIT FOR BUSINESS

RESOLVED #1 that the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario support as policy that, during a period of significant and/or prolonged economic downturn, the Government of Ontario take all measures to revive economic activity including, but not necessarily limited to, the following:

- a. Stimulus spending
- b. Support for the availability of credit to ensure continued economic activity in the province
- c. Programs that provide support which is adequate to maintain and build health and skills for unemployed and low income people, particularly low income women, who are suffering disproportionately during the current economic crisis

RESOLVED #2 that the Provincial Council of women of Ontario urge the Government of Ontario, during a period of significant and/or prolonged economic downturn, to:

- a. Work to increase demand in the economy by running cyclical deficits at times of low economic activity, the extent of the deficit depending on the severity of the downturn
- b. Engage in measures that provide the most effective stimulus to the economy, particularly by directing more resources to the unemployed and those on low income
- c. Work with financial institutions to assist them to continue advancing credit at times of recession
- d. Explore other ways of ensuring the availability of credit and implementing needed alternative avenues
- e. Pay special attention to the needs of low income women, who are suffering disproportionately during the current economic crisis.