

RETROSPECT

The Edmonton Y.W.C.A.
1957-1991

The Y.W.C.A. History Project Group

Retrospect:

The Edmonton YWCA

1957-1991

by

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*Dedicated to Louise Cooke Johnson
1902 - 1992
A True Friend of the YWCA*



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FOREWORD

The story of the YWCA of Edmonton is a story about people.

It is a story of people with a vision, people with a mission, people caring for people. It is a story of strangers made to feel welcome; of children learning to play; of women searching for a life free from abuse. It is a proud story of past accomplishments and future hopes.

It is a story about giving and receiving - by volunteer and staff - giving of one's time and talents and in return receiving friendship. It is a story of violet teas, building campaigns, budget woes and bingos.

We are indebted to Louise Johnson, author of *First Fifty Years Edmonton YWCA 1907-1957*, which was the inspiration for this Retrospective, and to the small group of dedicated volunteers who translated inspiration into reality.

Marion Brooker, President,
YWCA of Edmonton 1988

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YWCA Purpose

Enriched by the Christian faith and by worldwide membership, the Young Women's Christian Association seeks:

- to provide opportunities for personal growth
- to deepen concern for human needs
- to act responsibly in the world community

Mission Statement YWCA of Edmonton

The YWCA of Edmonton is a nonprofit, voluntary association. Sensitive to community needs, staff and volunteers strive for the improvement of individuals enabling them to reach their potential in body, mind and spirit.

Mission Statement YWCA of/du Canada

The Young Women's Christian Association of/du Canada, a voluntary organization of member associations, providing high quality programs and services that respond to community needs, works actively for the development and improved status of women and for responsible social and economic changes that will achieve peace, justice, freedom, and equality in Canada and around the world.

Preface

Three ideas formed the jumping-off point for this book: what counts as history has changed enormously in the past thirty years; the Edmonton YWCA is a distinctive, complex organization well worth historical study; and such a story is an admirable project for volunteers.

We have been fortunate indeed to have Louise Johnson in our group. Louise Johnson wrote the history of the first fifty years of the Edmonton YWCA. She accomplished that monumental task, singly, painstakingly, having assembled fifty years of records in a room in her home. It has been a remarkable experience for other members of the group to have available to them not only the span of Louise Johnson's knowledge of the YW, but also insight into how the very nature of history itself has changed since 1957.

Recorded history has often left women out, since many men in the past believed that women had neither the skills nor the status to be worth including. As a result, recent writers on women's affairs lament the lack of women's "voice" in historical documents. Because of women's virtual absence from recorded history, a very real historical bias exists. This situation is changing.

Organizations like the YWCA, whose major purpose is to solve women's problems, do record information on women's lives in written reports, budgets and transcripts from meetings. Still, the quality of women's experience together is not captured by board minutes or budgets. In *Retrospect: The Edmonton YWCA 1957-1991*, we include anecdotal and personal reminiscences in order to provide some sense of what it felt like to be part of the YWCA enterprise during the period 1957 to 1991.

We believe the YWCA's uniqueness is known too little. Participants in YW activities find it upbeat, but because it is

multiphasic, they are often unaware of other dimensions of activity. There is a need to inform them, and to inform the Edmonton community in general, of the YW's solid contribution to the common weal. Moreover, the YWCA differs from other women's reform groups developing contemporaneously, such as the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) or the Local Council of Women, in two ways: first, by carrying out a practical, "caring-for" ethic, and second, by deliberately implementing reform measures. The first has meant the actual provision of food, shelter, education, health and fitness facilities. The second has meant creating solutions to social problems as they arose. In fact, the continuing ability to grasp emergent needs and to cope with them has been the strength of the organization. Given this wide-ranging, flexible dynamic, an outsider to the YWCA enterprise faces difficulties in studying it, but a YW volunteer can make a start at least.

Another plank in the YWCA's platform is volunteerism. Other women's reform groups use volunteers, but seldom to the extent that the YW does. Since the range of YWCA activity is both comprehensive and practical, varied talents and great numbers are needed. Volunteerism is a credo more than a practical measure, although the organization could not exist without volunteers.

The fact that the YWCA History Project Group is made up of volunteers is therefore no accident, but typical of YW operation. We are typical. As volunteers do in other projects, we choose to serve, and therefore are serious about what we do. We have varied skills and backgrounds, different standpoints for interpreting the role of the YW in the community. None of us is a professional historian, although several have either written about historical matters or contributed to historical research in other ways. Most of us have had some involvement with YW activities—in participant, volunteer, or board capacities. Some of

Preface

us have been drafted from the community for the input of special expertise. Mandate in hand, we pool our resources, and get to work, cooperatively.

-Murina Bauer



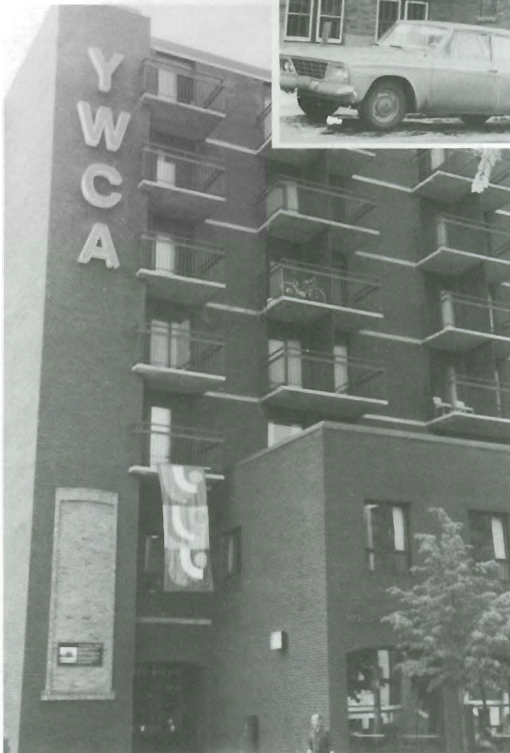
*Mrs. Thos. Bellamy, 1st President of Y.W.C.A. Board
Photo courtesy Alberta Provincial Archives 68-301-383*

Y.W.C.A. Residences



◀ *Early Years*
Photo courtesy
Alberta Provincial Archives
68-301-38/43

Middle Years
Photo courtesy Y.W.C.A. ▶



◀ *Now (75th Anniversary)*
Photo courtesy K & W MacDonald

PART ONE

TELLING THE STORY



I. Introduction: Testing the Foundations

In honour of the YWCA's 80th birthday (1987/88), the Provincial Archives of Alberta put together an exhibit of photographs and documents. The exhibit was introduced thus:

The roots of the Young Women's Christian Association lie in Great Britain in the 1850's when women's interdenominational prayer unions were formed. These evolved into women's hostels for factory, shop and office workers wherein physical and spiritual well being were cared for. The earliest in Canada was formed in Saint John, New Brunswick in 1870.

With the opening of the Canadian West at the turn of the century came unattached, unemployed and homeless young women. The YWCA provided a place of first refuge where women knew they could find a neat, comfortable and reasonably priced place to live. 29 August 1907 was the date of organization of the YWCA in Edmonton. They opened their first residence in October of the same year, a house rented from Mr. A.B. Cushing at the southeast corner of 101 Street and 102 Avenue. As the organization expanded they grew out of and moved into a number of new buildings.

- "Edmonton YWCA: the first 80 Years"

The parent organization has become a national and international force for the advancement and protection of women. Currently local associations serve varied community and educational needs, and channel advocacy for the vulnerable and disadvantaged. The stated purpose of the Edmonton YWCA is: "Enriched by the Christian faith and by worldwide membership, the Young Women's Christian Association seeks to provide opportunities for personal growth, to deepen concern for human needs, and to act responsibly in the world community."

The Association's 1984 Mission Statement mandates "providing selected personal and community programs and services in recreation, social services (including refuge) and leadership development." Values for members to uphold are the well-being of women and their families, Christian humanism, professionalism, volunteer participation, self-help and caring. In 1990 the Statement was condensed: the expanded version is relevant here to show the range of values striven for.

It is easier to give an account of the inception of the Edmonton YWCA in 1907, or of its contemporary dynamic (via the most recent *Annual Report*) than to pick up its story in 1957, the task of this book. By 1957 zeal and vision were not enough to maintain an enterprise complicated by three successive decades of crisis: the depression of the thirties, World War II in the forties, expansion via postwar reconstruction in the fifties. The complex network of services into which the organization had grown through these crises made a much more intricate, institutional structure than in 1907, but it was much less sophisticated and professional than it is today. In the first section of the book we consider the development between 1957 and the present of some currently important areas of Edmonton YWCA endeavour. A useful frame for what has happened to the Edmonton YWCA in the past thirty-odd years is what has happened, in general, to the meaning of the name "Young Women's Christian Association," and to the meaning of its emblem, the blue triangle.

Let us first take each part of the name of the organization. "Young" has expanded in both directions. Now it includes infants, children and seniors. Originally the "target client" was the person newly launched from home in a smaller community (and perhaps from a different region) into either the work force or an education program. In the middle years a

committee of residents even complained to the Board about "too many older people cluttering up the place." Babysitting for war brides was the start of the well established and respected Child Care Service the Edmonton Association provides today. So also has YWCA awareness of the special needs of seniors expanded: notable programs are in the areas of fitness and bereavement counselling. At any rate "young" no longer means exactly what it says.

As in its beginning, the need to provide a safe place for vulnerable women is today a major thrust of the Association's service. Although men did serve on the Advisory Board in earlier times, when few women had financial and legal experience, services were not available to men. Towards the sixties there were many more women in the work force, and there was a greater emphasis on the total family unit's needs. Nowadays, both men and women, and whole families, partake of many services. A good example is the first-class fitness facilities. During the "youth on the move" situation of the seventies, the doors of the YWCA were open to both young men and women for shelter. Meeting women's needs is still the YWCA's main focus, but gender lines are not drawn as rigidly as before, and family involvement is encouraged.

Old minute books show the importance of the "Christian" aspect of YWCA work in its program and services in the early days. It was Christian women, after all, who spawned organizations of and for women, thus creating channels through which social reform could be sought. By the fifties, Alberta had become ethnically diverse and moreover, Canadians of varied faiths had faced together the moral dilemmas of a world war. The basis for ecumenicalism was well laid. In today's more secular world the Christian emphasis is no longer a matter of moral instruction, but it is an explicit stance taken towards serving individuals and the community: caring, fellowship,

action. For the YWCA, the meaning of "Christian" currently is more than a denomination; it is an active attitude.

"Association" in the nineties has the open-door feel to its meaning that it must have had when chosen by the founders: ideally everyone is welcome to help serve the organization, and to use its services. Perhaps the legal and corporate connotations of "association" now have more credence than in 1907, but the basis of the simpler meaning, shared activity and the generation of friendship, remains a major reason for being for the YWCA.

The meaning of the blue triangle, the YWCA international emblem, has shifted in a fashion similar to the shift in meaning of the organization's name. Originally, reflecting the Christian roots of the organization, the three bars were actually inscribed "body, mind, and soul." Later the inscription fell out of use, although the symbolism remains. During World War II the emblem was a welcome sign of hospitality for servicemen. Internationally, at YWCA world conferences, the emblem continues to be worn proudly. What has changed is that currently "spirit" is substituted for "soul," reflecting the ecumenical and secular shift noted above. But the YWCA, if not now in the business of saving souls, is certainly the nurturer of "spirit," whether of the competitive athlete, the disabled, the bereaved, the exploited or the assaulted. The shift is not a major change to the meaning of the emblem: it makes the meaning fit activities more nearly. It is worth pointing out that emphasis on "body, mind, spirit" has provided threads of continuity throughout YWCA development.

The YWCA of Edmonton follows the modern trend of using acronyms as identification devices. Since 1984, the Association identified itself as the YWCA, emphasizing the W. Its slogan was "Changing with You." The logo colours were black and magenta. In 1991, the logo was revised once more. The new design is a set of stylized blue triangles.

Today, the Edmonton YWCA is a multiplex, dynamic organization, with a four-million-dollar budget, a professional staff, first class indoor and outdoor recreational facilities, and a large contingent of many-talented volunteers. It is a far cry from the 1907 founding initiative, taken to provide shelter and aid for women travelling from afar or seeking work in a newly industrialized prairie city. Louise Johnson's chronology, *First Fifty Years, Edmonton YWCA 1907-1957*, provides intriguing glimpses of the problems pioneer women faced in a world where women had little political or economic power. The first fifty years were, nonetheless, ones of solid achievement, spurred by vision, Christian charity, and hard work. Characteristically, everyone pitched in when the situation warranted it, and a newly emerging problem was taken as a challenge. The Edmonton YWCA has not changed in those respects. What has changed drastically, especially in the period since 1957, is the community that the institution serves.

Prior to the forties Edmonton seemed a known entity. The geographic layout, the prominent families, the city landmarks were relatively stable. Changes came slowly enough that adaptation was steady. However, the influx of service personnel, wives and military equipment in the forties began a period of unprecedented transformation for Edmonton. After war's end, postwar reconstruction meant a new international outlook rather than the former local one. The development of the oil industry meant boom years economically. Innovations in transportation and communication modified dramatically formerly relatively stable patterns of social interaction. These years saw the rise of a new self-awareness on the part of women: dislocations brought about by rapid change dramatized political and social inequities. Another inescapable factor, transforming both attitude and practice, was an enormous expansion of scientific and technological knowledge. Along with

rapid growth in so many directions came demands for new services—and unforeseen problems. Alberta's story through these dynamic decades is complex and exciting. So also is the story of how the Edmonton YWCA coped.

Within the chaos of rapid social change, the Edmonton YWCA has been able to maintain some of the special flavour that marked its 1907 inception: adventurousness, flexibility, practicality. But channels and modes of service have altered considerably. Some features have continued as main aspects throughout the whole span of YW operation (for example, residence), some needs expired (for example, Travellers' Aid), and some services became more organized and were transferred to other agencies (for example, the Rape Crisis Centre, now the Sexual Assault Centre). The continuing ability to see needs as they arise, and the willingness to cope with them is what did not change.

With such a complex picture of events, and given limitations of data, talent, and time, it is impossible to present a comprehensive history of the Edmonton YWCA. The persistence of an institution by keeping its goals clear is our focus. What we propose is twofold: to sample some of the threads of development, and to bring the Johnson chronology up to the present. Therefore, this book has two main parts: one, a collection of historical excursions, and two, a presentation of facts and selected data from 1957-1990.

As background to the first part, it is worth observing that all areas of activity of the YWCA organization are interdependent, and that one ideal, flexibility, surfaces in many different ways. The historical topics are divided into three sets, and are roughly chronological. The first set deals with the basic, early services—ones that embodied the "caring-for" ethic. The second set of topics concerns how the YWCA coped with newly emergent needs, generated by an up and down economy. The

Introduction: Testing the Foundations

third set of topics involves more recent initiatives: it takes the new building (1977) as a point of departure. We do not claim to be comprehensive in this sampling of topics. The conclusion provides an overview of the impact of dramatic change on YWCA functioning.

The second part of the book, the Chronology, then ensues.

-Murina Bauer



▲
Gym Class circa 1926
Photo courtesy
Alberta Provincial Archives
68-301-38a



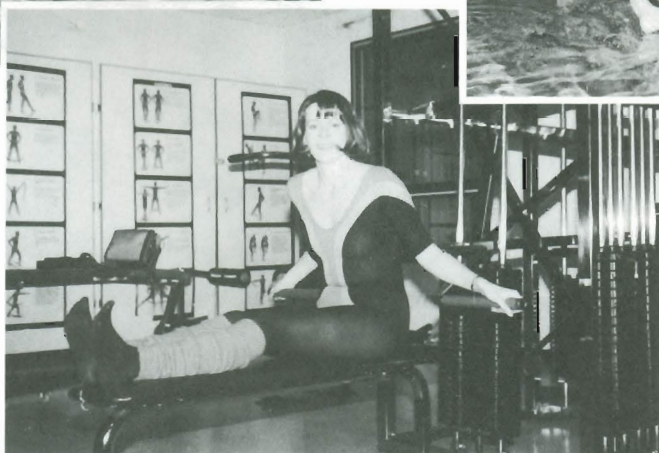
Aerobics Class circa 1985 ►



Yo Wo Chas



Fitness 1980s.



II. Early Services

In 1957, other than the Macdonald Hotel, Edmonton had no downtown skyline. Housing was scarce and expensive, although there were few slums. Families seldom ate in restaurants. The sponsors of recreational social groups were mainly churches or ethnic associations. Community leagues or tax-funded recreation programs were not as prevalent as today. There was a dearth of activities for girls and young women. Clearly, in this scenario, the Edmonton YWCA's basic services met many needs. Residence accommodation was sought after (the large University dormitories were yet to be built). The downtown YW was a favourite meeting place for many city people and for those from out of town. Physical education and swimming classes thrived: there were magnificent displays of accomplishment every year bearing strange names like "Demonstration," "Exhibition," "Culmination." The strangeness of names carried over into the extremely varied clubs and programs, and seemed to be part of the ethos of the times, every group striving to be different.

There are two ways in which these topics expose the YWCA's roots as grounded truly in its 1907 origins. In the first place, the concerns are the same ones that persons like Emily Murphy or Nellie McClung dealt with: shelter, food, a healthy outlook, education and social life, and a connection with the YW movement. Secondly, the material reflects its sources (minute books, newspapers) and therefore reflects social customs of the time. For example, even into the sixties, ordinarily a woman was identified by her husband's name. Indeed, that may have been her chief social identity and she might have been affronted by a public, formal use of her first name. ("Ms" was not standard until the seventies.) Another "quaintness" is the naming of social clubs, for which written records are few. The origins of

their sometimes odd names often are lost and, in many cases, so are any purposes served in addition to the social one.

Before Alberta's major oil boom, before Vietnam, before transistors, the YWCA's basic services met community needs well. This group of articles describes these services: the residence program, various physical education enterprises, the food services, the clubs and programs in operation, and ways of connecting with the YWCA movement.

-Murina Bauer

Providing Shelter

A home away from home . . . in 1907 this was a critical need as the number of women coming to Edmonton to work increased dramatically and "suitable" lodgings were unavailable. Then, as today, two main types of accommodation were needed. The first was a semi-permanent place to live and the second a "safe" place for a young woman wishing to spend a few days in the city.

In August 1907, when the Edmonton YWCA was founded, a committee was struck to search for a suitable house for a women's residence. One was found at First and Elizabeth streets, where the present-day Edmonton Centre is located, and was rented for \$60 a month. At this time there were seven women requiring both room and board, and eight others wanting the noon meal (dinner) only. Rates were set at \$5 a week for room and board, \$4 for full board, one dollar a day for transients and twenty cents for breakfast, twenty-five cents for dinner, and twenty cents for supper (tea).

From the beginning volunteers and fund raising played important roles in the running and maintenance of the YWCA Residence. In September, a "shower" to furnish the first house was advertised in the *Edmonton Bulletin* and brought

remarkable results. Streams of vehicles brought bundles all the next day, amply providing furniture, linens, china and cooking equipment. As reported: "All afternoon carriages and rigs drove up and deposited mysterious bundles. They drove away again only to have their places taken by others."

By 1908 a decision was made to allow the girls to entertain young men at croquet two evenings a week. However, no girl could invite any man other than her father or brother to a meal.

Applications to stay at the Residence were increasing at such a rate that by 1909 a new house was required. A suitable building was found on 103 Street, offered for sale for \$26,000 with a \$20,000 mortgage. Six thousand dollars needed to be raised by August 1. True to tradition, the money was raised and the building purchased. In January, 1910, Mrs. G.H.V. Bulyea, the Lieutenant Governor's wife, assisted by Mrs. A.C. Rutherford, opened the new YWCA Residence.

A large house next door to the Residence was purchased in 1912 as an annex to house an additional twenty-five girls. Even this extra facility was not enough, and in 1920 the YWCA embarked on its first major fund raising campaign. As reported by the *Edmonton Journal*, it was "the first appeal ever to the citizens of Edmonton by the YWCA." As most of us know, it was not the last. In 1922 the new facility, on 103 Street south of Jasper Avenue, was completed at a cost of \$85,000 with a \$30,000 mortgage at eight percent. A gym and swimming pool were added in 1926. To keep pace with the growing need for accommodation, an annex, called South Hall, was added to this building in 1937. By 1949 the original annex was demolished and plans for a new addition were undertaken. With the "Y" building campaign raising \$107,000, the new extension was built in 1954. By the end of the year the YWCA was debt-free, due to a handsome contribution from the Edmonton United Campaign

(now the United Way). The following year South Hall was sold to Dr. and Mrs. Weinlos for \$72,000 less expenses.

By the 1960s further expansion was critical because much of the facility needed major repair. Architectural plans were drawn up and the old McDougall house and land purchased. A building campaign led by Rita Calhoun realized \$1,075,000 in cash and pledges. Donations ranged from forty-two cents to \$25,000.

With this money in place one would think proceeding to build would be smooth sailing. Not so! The amount was about a quarter of the projected cost. Expected additional support from the government was not forthcoming, nor were financial institutions encouraging. In the interim, the McDougall property became a halfway house for women aged sixteen and over who needed a place to stay while being helped to a new way of life. These women had relatively major social problems, ranging from alcoholism to trouble with the law. The YWCA Board received money from Alberta Public Works for remodelling and cleaning up the property and from the Department of Health and Social Welfare for operation. By 1974 McDougall House Association had been formed and an independent board was running the halfway house. Since the YWCA saw need for its property in the near future the McDougall House Association found new premises.

In February 1974 the city could not commit itself to a capital grant toward a new YWCA building, and an operating grant was not needed until the building was almost complete. In October 1974, after many discussions with the provincial government and the City of Edmonton, neither of whom offered to alleviate the funding problem, it was decided not to go ahead with plans to build a new YWCA building.

How this turned out eventually is discussed in a later section called "The New Building."

Purposes Served

In the beginning the YWCA Residence was designed to provide a "safe" home with nourishing food and good companionship. Soon, programs in crafts and physical fitness rounded out residential life. The YW sponsored a service, called Travellers' Aid, whereby all trains (and later, buses) were met to ensure no young woman travelling alone was stranded for any reason. Over the years, the Travellers' Aid referred many women to the YW, which accommodated and counselled them. This counselling function became a great strength in the YW enterprise. Some particular groups helped this way were women from distant countries, those moving from rural to city life, native women, and women leaving institutions to live on their own. The counselling function became thoroughly integrated into residence services.

The contribution of Residence Counselling was on many fronts. Towards the end of the 1950s a large emphasis was on finding housing for Hungarian refugees and other new immigrants. Native women needed help finding work and inexpensive permanent housing. In the YW Residence itself preference used to be given to women who either worked or went to school. The YW sponsored housing help for other groups of women, homeless for a variety of reasons and needing different kinds of support. Halfway houses were established ("halfway between standing and walking") such as Hill Top House for those leaving jail and McDougall House for those with serious social problems (substance abuse, prostitution). From 1969 to 1971 a hostel was set up within the YW for transient youth. Funding for this came from the federal government and it operated each year from June 1 to September 15. During 1972 a Rape Crisis Centre was set up with the YW's backing and help from its staff. Again this was a need that came from problems which were recognized by the YW through its

residence counselling service.

In the late 1970s and 1980s the individual services area of the residence responded to needs in the community, and its staff and volunteers initiated the production of a film on child prostitution. The Elizabeth Fry Society worked with the residence staff to try an independent living proposal and, more recently, thirty-six beds have been set aside for those with mental health problems. The YW looks after day-to-day problems with these women and a community health nurse helps with medical counselling. Until April 1, 1990, the YW also has two beds it must keep open for the Solicitor General's Department for women on parole. If more rooms are available sometimes more are used.

Win House ("Women in Need"), a shelter for battered women, has the whole-hearted support of the YWCA. Even today many battered women, some with children, seek temporary shelter at the YW. Women wishing to keep children with them cannot stay at the YW permanently because neither the structure of the building nor its services are geared to child care and safety. To a large extent, in 1991, Residence rooms have been contracted for by government agencies aiding women with mental health or social problems. The YW policy is a caring one, for all.

Policies

From the days when there was no smoking, no drinking, no male guests other than fathers or brothers, as well as curfews and segregated dining (residents and public) came gradual change. There now are smoking lounges for women. No liquor or drugs are allowed. Male guests are not allowed above the third floor desk and female guests staying overnight must pay a fee.

The previous residence on 103 Street housed a similar number of women as today's building at 10305 100 Avenue.

There were sixty-eight permanent rooms, now there are sixty-nine. Formerly twenty beds were set aside for overnight temporary clients and now there are thirty. Permanent residents may stay up to two years and must be interviewed by the Director. The residence offers overnight accommodation on mats in the gym to groups (for example, a basketball team). These people provide their own sleeping bags.

In 1949 the residents went to the Board with a list of grievances. These included poor building maintenance, high room and board costs, overcrowding and too many older women using the residence. Subsequently, the first Residence Committee representing the young women residents was formed.

Women's age is no longer a major criterion for residence. In 1968 those living at the YW were mostly between eighteen and thirty. In 1978 the minimum age was lowered to sixteen and those up to forty-five were welcome. In 1980 thirty was the average age, and some women up to sixty stayed for short periods—up to two months.

One thing has not changed: travellers the world over know the YWCA offers them affordable, pleasant overnight accommodation.

-Sheila Petersen

Providing Food

When the YWCA of Edmonton was formed, one of its aims was to provide low cost accommodation and board for young women away from home. The word *board* evolved from its use as a flat surface on which food is placed, to the food itself, to meals provided regularly for a price. In 1907, \$4 covered all meals each week at the YWCA.

The dining room of the YW's first rental house could

accommodate ten residents and about forty transients for each meal. Breakfast and tea cost twenty cents, while dinner was twenty-five cents. The Kitchen Supervisor was responsible for planting a garden, tending it, harvesting the produce and preserving as much as possible to be used during the winter. She and her staff also made pickles and jam.

Plans to renovate a building purchased in 1913 showed a dining room capable of seating 150 people. In 1926 a Dietitian was hired, and in 1927 Sarah Golden was made Dietitian and Food Services Supervisor. By 1929 Sarah Golden's wages had been raised to \$75.00 a month.

Notes on the 1936 annual meeting state that dinner was served for thirty-five cents per person, with members donating pickles and cakes. Over the years all major purchases, such as steam tables, fridges, potato peelers and mixers, were noted in the minutes. In 1948 Sarah Golden resigned after twenty-five years as Cafeteria Supervisor. She was given three months' pay in recognition of her outstanding work. During the Second World War she stretched every nickel and produced wholesome nutritious meals in spite of rationing.

Statistics from 1951 state 135,899 meals were served at an average cost of twenty-six cents per meal. By 1956 the cost of meals to the public was breakfast, fifty cents; lunch, seventy-five cents; and supper, one dollar. At this time the pastry cook's wages were raised to \$151.66 per month, while the "vegetable girls" earned \$121.34.

In the late 1960s all cafeteria staff except the cook had to pay twenty-five cents per meal eaten in the cafeteria. Seating capacity had been reduced to 105. In 1975 when plans were being drawn up for the new building built on 103 Street and 100 Avenue, Russell Foods was hired to design the cafeteria and supply equipment. This cafeteria was given a prime site in the building, facing 100 Avenue. The plan was to serve not only the

YW "family" but also to attract the public to make the cafeteria a real profit raising venture. Naming the cafeteria "Sarah Golden" seemed very fitting. After a year in business, noon receipts had doubled and for evening quadrupled. In 1978 the acoustics were adjusted at a cost of \$6,000, and that year a profit of \$9,000 was realized. By the early 1980s, many new restaurants had opened in downtown Edmonton, and the YW was off the beaten path. Also at this time residents were given the option of paying for room alone, exclusive of board. The cafeteria began to lose money. It was suggested in 1984 it should be contracted out; however, in 1991 the cafeteria is still run by the YWCA.

Although not the moneymaker it used to be, the cafeteria is nonetheless valuable to the YW organization in many ways. Allaying hunger has not been its only function over the years. The cafeteria has always been a meeting place for people city-wide. Historically, armed forces personnel, domestics, teachers and rural visitors customarily met friends there. For the residents it generated homey feelings, arising from such practices as serving bread and jam and cocoa at night, and Christmas dinners. Although the YW was not always able to pay top wages, its employment policies were liberal, sympathetic to persons finding it hard to enter the labour force. In 1991, two floors of the Residence are given over to a mental health rehabilitation project sponsored by the government which subsidizes the participants who live at the YW. Some of these residents are timid of venturing far, and are not always welcome in other restaurants. They therefore regard the cafeteria as a safe haven, and appreciate the security. The warmth and ambience of sharing good food is part of the Edmonton YWCA's tradition, but it is only the start of many good things. As is clear with many YW initiatives, more needs than just the obvious ones are being met.

-Sheila Petersen

Providing for the Healthy Life

The YWCA has a long tradition in the area of fitness. Indeed, for most Edmontonians, the identity of the organization is as purveyor of health and physical education services. Current aerobic, weight-training and self-defense classes go back to the "physical culture" of 1908. At that time, "gym" classes (short for "gymnastics" as the exercise classes were called) expressed such a modern outlook on girls and women's education, that not everyone quite approved, thinking that the serious aspects of life might be overshadowed by fun. Recreation is an area of YW life in which the happening is all: the experience of learning to swim or of playing racquetball does not get articulated. So it is the impact on the community of the YW's stellar role in providing physical education that tells the tale. In the post 1957 years the YW led the way in developing specialized fitness programs (e.g. aerobics), and in providing prenatal and postnatal fitness programs. That the YW played a major role in developing leaders to provide such services speaks for its preeminence in the field. But again, each sport or activity is a story in itself. There are, however, two main thrusts: swimming, and fostering outdoor life, that are particularly distinctive of the Edmonton YWCA.

-Murina Bauer

Recreation

Promoting Recreation

During the period 1957-90 the YW undertook a number of specialized initiatives in recreation not undertaken by other organizations of the time. For example, the pool in the new building (1976) was the first "accessible" pool (with ramps etcetera) in Edmonton. The preschool pool at that time was unique, as were preschool swimming programs (especially for babies).

The early eighties provided the climate and resources necessary for major developments in fitness programming. The YW values of nurturing body, mind and spirit continued to form the foundation for this growth. During the period public awareness of the relationship between lifestyle and fitness escalated.

The then new aerobics and aquatic fitness became the fitness choice of many. The YWCA clearly led the way in developing sound programs and leadership. Susan Coward, Jenny Coombs and Diane Kitchen, assisted by many dedicated individuals, pioneered the concept of certifying fitness leaders in Alberta. While other organizations developed programs later, the YWCA locally and nationally set standards which advanced safety and wellness in classes. A resource team of expert instructors assisted with inservices and training and helped the Edmonton YWCA become the most innovative community provider of fitness services during that period.

Another unusual undertaking by the YW was the (joint) running of the Outdoors Alberta program. For eight years, the Edmonton YWCA supported by Alberta Recreation and Parks operated Outdoors Alberta, a mobile outdoor recreation education service which took equipment and instructors to many areas of Alberta. Children and adults in locations not

served by other recreation agencies or services benefitted from learning new skills in areas such as canoeing, cross country skiing and orienteering. The service was discontinued in 1988.

Recreation Leadership Development

Training of Aquatics volunteers and staff by the YWCA originated in 1926 with the building of one of Edmonton's first swimming pools. Utilizing the Royal Life-Saving Society programs, the YW facilitated the training of many lifeguards, and later, through Red Cross programs, water skills instructors. Developed by the Edmonton YWCA in 1982, the Get Wet! Get Fit! Aquatic Fitness Leadership Certification program has trained hundreds of public and private sector instructors throughout the province in this unique fitness activity. Development of specialized Preschool Aquatic Instructors for infant swim programs at the YWCA and in other organizations, has also been a focus of the YWCA.

Many Edmonton preschool leaders, in recreation and other settings, have enhanced their skills in a cooperative training program developed by the Edmonton YWCA in 1982. Initially funded by Alberta Recreation and Parks and later cosponsored by Edmonton Parks and Recreation, the program teaches general leadership skills, as well as specific information related to child development, and cultural/recreational activities for young children.

Since the 1960s, the needs of adults and children who are mentally handicapped or physically disabled have been a priority of the YWCA. Through a variety of training and practicum experiences, leaders in many recreation interest areas have had opportunities to enhance the planning and delivery of both specialized and integrated leisure services for special groups through the Edmonton YWCA.

Development of safe and effective Fitness program

instruction has been a major concern of many organizations in recent years. In 1980 the Edmonton YWCA developed a Fitness Leadership Program available to the public. Since that time hundreds of leaders have been trained and certified to consistently high standards.

-Wendy MacDonald

Aquatics

The first Edmonton YWCA pool opened in the building on 103 Street off Jasper on March 12, 1926. It had been part of a plan conceived in 1921, but of course the money had to be raised. Times have not changed much with the proposed and actual costs of sports facilities, as the estimate was \$38,000 and the final construction cost was \$50,505. When the fund raising campaign opened in 1923 one of the first donations came from Nellie McClung, with a very large donation of \$50. Over the next sixteen years, garden parties, concerts and lectures were held to pay off the mortgage on the pool and gym. Photos of the time show women in modest swim attire, sipping tea in front of the formal tiled fireplace, which graced one end of the pool deck.

During the forties Red Cross swim classes started at the pool. Everyone entering any class required a medical examination. These exams were done by Dr. Mildred Folinsbee Newell from the time the pool opened in 1926 to 1957. After that time Dr. Margaret Collins and Dr. Vi Myers took over.

For many years the "father" of the South Side Swimming Pool, Mr. James Crockett, taught courses at the YW. He would teach on a Saturday beginning at 2 p.m. and taught hourly classes until after 6 p.m. Classes were held for schoolgirls, then business and married women.

In 1954 a new water tester was purchased for seventy dollars as a legal health requirement. About this time the Red

Cross swim levels became the usual way one progressed through swimming lessons. The Royal Life-Saving program also attracted many girls, as more city pools were being built and needed lifeguards.

1956 saw the YW initiate two new programs. The first was a program for children from the School for the Deaf. These youngsters learned to swim by demonstration only, as the instructor did not know sign language. Apparently they helped each other and learned very quickly. The School for the Deaf still uses the YW pool.

The second program was that of synchronized swimming which had started in Eastern Canada a decade before. The difference between ornamental swimming, often done in the past, and synchronized swimming, was the timing. Under coach Diane Black a team made up of Jean Ross, Maureen O'Neil, Marian Heaps, Marnie Easts, Gail Robertson and Joyce Aylen entered the British Columbia Championships in March 1956. After several successful years the "art" of synchronized swimming waned at the YW, but has now been restored at the YW after several decades, with the development of the Aquadettes Masters Club.

In the late fifties and sixties most children who took lessons competed in galas or swim meets. These consisted of races and were not what all children enjoyed. Soon the testing of levels of swimming took over and the child was only required to compete with herself. By 1970, if competitive swimming was what a child enjoyed, he or she could join a competitive swimming club.

Today all levels of swimming, water safety, synchronized swimming, and aquafitness make up the YWCA aquatic program. There is something for everyone. In 1991 the YWCA has again fulfilled needs in the community by providing swim classes for individuals who are visually impaired and

those with other disabilities. The aquatics department also offers the AquaFit Leaders Certification Program; a new program for preschoolers; and swim lessons to school groups. For women, the "AquaFit," "Water Stretch" and "Body Shape" classes meet the needs of all ages and abilities.

-Sheila Petersen

Camping and the Outdoors

Until recently, information on the role of outdoor recreation in YW life has been scanty and scattered. Yet it has been a clear thrust of the continuous efforts towards a balanced, wholesome existence. Rod Irwin made a significant contribution by bringing together such information in a paper entitled "History of Residential Camping Programs: The Edmonton YWCA 1916-1988." Considerable information for this account came from that paper.

The first twenty years of YW lake camping took place at Seba Beach on Lake Wabamun. It is not documented as to where the property came from so probably it was donated. During the first three years there was no permanent building so tents were used and some people may have stayed at the Seba Beach Hotel.

In 1919 a permanent wooden building was erected with sleeping and eating porches. It was officially named "YWCA Holiday Camp Seba Beach." Young women who lived at the Edmonton YWCA and their women friends usually travelled by train to Seba Beach where they would be met by a bus to take them to the camp. It was open seven days a week in July and August and provided such activities as hiking, boating, swimming, fishing, campfires with sing songs, and stunts. It provided fun and fellowship in the great outdoors. Weekends were the busiest with the July 1st weekend being the peak. From

the opening until 1935 Miss Willcock was the Supervisor. In 1935 Mrs. MacMillan took over. Guests supplied their own cushions, blankets and towels.

During the twenties some prices for accommodation were as follows:

- seventy-five cents per night or \$3 a week—no meals *
- eighty-five cents per night or \$3.50 a week housekeeping +
- \$1.75 per night or \$11.00 a week—full board and room

* If one opted for no meals, they could be obtained at the hotel restaurant.

+If housekeeping was one's choice, groceries could be purchased at the general store and cooked over an outdoor fire.

From 1925 to 1937 there was little money for upkeep and the camp was up for sale on several occasions. Finally, in 1937, the land was leased to the Salvation Army for a dollar a year plus taxes. The building was sold to them for \$200. In 1959 the Salvation Army moved its camp to Pine Lake and sold the property to a school teacher who used the building for a summer cottage. In 1976 the site was purchased by the Seba Beach Community League for a seniors' centre. The building was demolished in 1981 to allow volunteers to build a new seniors' centre. The Seniors' Centre is still to be found in "downtown" Seba Beach today.

For the decade 1937-47 "In-the-City Camps" were very popular. Three hundred children used the camps in 1943. One hundred women were involved in the "Summer Outing Club."

In 1946 the Board of Directors appointed Mrs. Victor Horner to find a new lake camp facility. While her search went on, Moonlight Bay Camp, on the east shore of Lake Wabamun, was leased, but only for the summer of 1947. In 1948 twenty-two acres of a larger parcel of land leased by Dr. Mildred Newell were taken over by the YWCA. In 1971 the lease from the Department of Lands and Forests was amended and the YWCA

took over 48.67 acres.

The years 1948-71 were an era when the YWCA had seasonal camps at Fallis on the north-west side of Lake Wabamun. This camp was known as "The Lake Camp." From 1948-53 little was done to the site as funds were low, all labour was volunteer and the camp was fifty miles from Edmonton.

By 1953 monies had been given by the Rotary, the estate of Pearl Gainer, and several private donors so thirty campers could now be accommodated. There were four cabins, a cook shack and an ice house plus a power unit. Unlike "Seba Beach Camp," which was for women, "The Lake Camp" was for girls. Mrs. A. Nielson was instrumental in seeing the camp opened.

When the results of the contest to rename the camp were tallied, the name "YoWoChAs" was chosen. This contest had been open to camp participants only. Through the fifties and sixties many donations for camp upgrading were received. Some noteworthy ones were those of Mrs. Charles Brine, Beaver Lumber, Peter Bawden Drilling, Crystal Glass, and the Golden family. The camp for girls ages six to fourteen ran July and August in ten to fourteen day stints. Each session cost \$25, and some girls stayed all summer. In the late fifties donations called "Camperships" were made to help sponsor children at camp. Camping due to the generosity of others continues today.

At this time there was a staff of six or seven with the more senior members being paid \$100 for the summer. There was no camp nurse; however, Dr. Mildred Newell lived next door and gave freely of her time to the camp as well as to the city YWCA.

In 1971 the camp, in disrepair, was discontinued. The next year a YWCA/YMCA camp was operated. Only day camps were held in 1973 and 1974. In 1974 an Outdoor Recreation Department was formed, with Jean Funk as its Director. Immediately plans for redevelopment of the camp were under

way. Cleanup and expansion began and the camp was contracted out for rental. Teen camps, plus camps for those with disabilities who could not be accommodated at other camps, were begun. Most of the latter were cosponsored with other organizations. Jean Funk's tireless efforts on behalf of outdoor education (for almost twenty years) contributed greatly to the success of this thrust in YW activities.

YoWoChAs Outdoor Education Centre

The development of YoWoChAs Outdoor Education Centre was a huge undertaking. Its objectives were to provide year round facilities and programs for:

- Leadership Development
- Environmental Education
- People with disabilities
- Outdoor recreation (children and adults) and a summer camp

From 1977 until 1980 hundreds of hours were given by volunteers to see the project begin. A group of people known as "The Design Group" gave freely of their architectural and engineering expertise to design the site and buildings. They included Ron Johnston, Vivienne Monasc and Blaine Marler. Frank Lukay was the prime consultant and hired the project engineers and others. Jean Funk was the program director for Outdoor Education and worked very closely with the group. In her capacity as president of Alberta Camping Association she was on the board of Canadian Camping Association. She had occasion to travel every two months. She travelled across Canada and into the United States to look at and photograph camps, to interview staff, and gain information which might be used in building YoWoChAs. All these documents and tapes are now housed in the Physical Education Library at the University of Alberta and are reference material for Recreation students.

In 1980 the financial climate in Alberta was positive, the outdoor education concept of a year round facility very acceptable, and the fund raisers (both staff and volunteers) dedicated. Between 1978 and 1982 \$1,144,300 was raised. Funds were obtained from direct donations both corporate and private, service clubs, foundations, churches, memorials, fall fairs, bingos, casinos, auctions, bridge tournaments and government grants.

The centre consists of a multipurpose lodge which is solar heated and therefore saves a good deal of money in utilities. It includes a dining hall for 120 persons, a kitchen, two meeting/lounge areas, administration offices, an infirmary, washrooms with showers, laundry and storage rooms, a solar greenhouse and accommodation for thirty-four people. A separate residence includes washrooms with showers, a meeting room and, again, accommodation for thirty-four people. There is housing for four permanent full time staff, and site developments, including a complete skiing/hiking trail system, adventure playground, playfields and waterfront area.

YoWoChAs Outdoor Education Centre opened in September of 1981 with Rick Matishak as Director. He remained there until the end of 1984 when Rod Irwin assumed the role of Director. He is still there in November 1991.

This facility has provided many fun-filled constructive hours for men, women and children of the Edmonton area. It is often rented by school groups to provide outdoor recreation experience and by adult groups for workshops and conferences. Individuals find it a great weekend retreat. The complex has survived the first decade well due to loyal, dedicated staff.

By 1988 YoWoChAs was turning a profit and in 1991 is contributing to the Edmonton YWCA programming with a sizable amount of money.

During the summers YoWoChAs has returned to the theory of the 1960s that once you have a devoted participant,

such as a six- to twelve-year-old camper, you try to keep her or him by providing stimulating programs with leadership roles. A program presently in existence offers a short "novice" trip for twelve-year-olds on the North Saskatchewan River; an intermediate one on the Athabasca River; and finally a two-week trip to the Canadian Shield for older campers.

Although programming is much more sophisticated than in the camp's early beginnings, it still provides fellowship in the serenity of the great outdoors.

-Sheila Petersen

Providing for Social Life and Education

The Edmonton YWCA lost no time after its founding in August 1907 in implementing the aims symbolized by the Blue Triangle crest: "body" having been cared for, "mind" and "soul" needed attention: the first annual report stated that Mrs. E.K. Broadus addressed full houses on the subject of English literature. Lecturers, many from the university, spoke on such topics as "Renaissance Art," and "Macaulay the Historian." Classes were organized in sewing, millinery, cooking, first aid and religion. As membership grew, and the range of needs widened, every effort was made to meet the demand for such programs and classes as it arose. On a more informal basis, clubs were established for young women in residence at the YW, for businesswomen and for factory and domestic workers. To assist in their administration, the first Girls' Work Secretary was appointed in 1918. As the city area and population grew, and city services expanded, there was less demand for young women's programs run from the central YWCA and more demand for neighbourhood programs. The early forties saw the development of HiY clubs in city high schools, and later Y

Neighbour programs for women and children in many locations around the city. Throughout the growth of the city, from about 20,000 in 1907 to more than 600,000 in 1991, the YWCA has always been ready to try to meet the needs of women first and then of families as a whole.

Early Days

In the early days of the YWCA a particularly active club was organized for domestic workers called the "Cheery Chums." They met Thursday afternoons, the customary half-day holiday for maids, and sponsored Hallowe'en and Christmas parties at which their guests were needy mothers and their children. A little later, during the thirties, many of the young women were unemployed, and new classes were established in cooperation with the federal government to help them qualify for jobs. With the outbreak of the Second World War most domestic workers had moved to other kinds of work, and the "Cheery Chums" club disappeared. A different case, however, was the YWCA club established at the new university in 1912. Here the emphasis was on social service, teaching night classes at the Ruthenian Girls' Home and helping with city-wide relief work at Christmas. Within ten years this club had become part of the Student Christian Movement, a nation-wide university body.

War Years

During the Second World War, as well, the YWCA introduced many newcomers to the city by helping them find accommodation—no easy task at that time. Clubs were established for servicemen's wives, and along with these the first child care services were provided. Other clubs were fostered for a variety of women brought to the city by the circumstance of the war: the wives of American servicemen, aircraft repair workers, wives of Australian and New Zealand

servicemen and the overseas wives of Canadian servicemen. Senior girls' clubs helped at dances and teas when these were held at the YWCA for service personnel, and later they visited returning hospitalized veterans. All of these activities stretched the staff and the building to the limit. Volunteers and girls from the Leadership Training Clubs gave much assistance to the staff, but the expansion of the building had to be postponed until permission was granted by the federal government. Understandably, the most immediate need at the time was for postwar housing, and it was not, therefore, until October 1952 that an extension to the building was begun.

Postwar

In 1947 the first combined activities of the YW and YMCA's began with the sponsoring of weekly dances in the YW gymnasium. Other cooperative YW/YM ventures were a community program of activities in Queen Alexandra School, another in King Edward Park School and a coeducational camping program. During this period thought was even given to the possible erection of adjoining YW and YMCA buildings, but in 1948 this plan was abandoned, and thereafter one finds no mention of new joint projects or programs.

Displaced Persons

Another group with special needs were the Displaced Persons who began arriving in Edmonton shortly after the end of the Second World War. The first group of these were welcomed by the YWCA Board and provided with warm clothing and a six month YW membership, including free use of the gymnasium and pool. At the same time English lessons were given to new Canadians on a one-to-one basis, with instructors going to different areas of the city as needed. Eventually, however, the school boards took over this English language program.

Native Involvement

In the years that followed the YWCA undertook sponsorship of a number of groups with distinctive needs. Among these were native girls and young women; their circumstances were of particular concern because often they were far from home. In 1955 a crafts program was set up for young Indian girls discharged from Camsell Hospital. Five years later the YWCA organized a HiC group at the Indian Residential School, and in 1962 it involved other groups in plans for an Indian-Metis Friendship Centre, with the YW providing volunteer leadership and offering the use of facilities. This was the beginning of the Canadian Native Friendship Centre. Although there was some duplication in programs, the Edmonton Native Youth Club (which was already in existence) kept operating at the YWCA since it provided a unique program in the city and native people seemed to feel comfortable in the YW building. In 1970 the first YWCA Arts and Crafts program outside the city was taken to the Sucker Creek Indian Reserve by two YWCA staff members. This venture was undertaken in cooperation with the Department of Indian Affairs and the Indian Association.

Prison Programs

Late in 1969 an important extension program was introduced at the Fort Saskatchewan Prison (Correctional Centre). It began as a sports and recreation program, and later expanded to include a literacy course. A joint undertaking with the City Community Development Office, this venture also promoted the establishment of a cottage industry at the jail to enable inmates to sell their sewing and other crafts. With the passing of time, however, the literacy and language courses were taken over by others (teachers at present are on staff at Grant MacEwan Community College, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, and Alberta Vocational College), and when a change in jail

administration saw new policies come into play the entire YWCA program there ended in 1972.

Community Needs

By 1970 a change in YWCA policy had become evident at both the national and local level. From being primarily concerned with the needs and wishes of its members alone the YW had in recent years begun to turn its attention to the requirements of the community at large. In its formal policies it now began to spell out this change. Certainly the pressing need for the next several years was looking after the housing needs of transient youth, who were accommodated in the YWCA basement and at All Saints' Cathedral (labelled "Middle Earth") until they could find other facilities. The YWCA acted as an umbrella group, providing services to these young people.

As the City of Edmonton Parks and Recreation Department and the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues broadened **their programs**, overlapping many of the YW's, however, a change in priorities was accepted. In 1974 the YW Board decided that the following were the areas to be promoted:

- total fitness
- leadership development
- social action
- unique and flexible programs
- camps

The 1974 *Annual Report* noted that in 1973, 9,316 people had attended YW programs. The scope of programs continued to broaden, for example, "Law for Women," "Health Care for Seniors," "Guitar," "Mental Health Program," "Drama for Fun for Youth," "Cooking Course for Mentally Retarded Adults" (in cooperation with Northwestern Utilities) and "On Our Own" (a support group for widows).

YW Flexibility

With the move into the new building in early 1977, the number of YW programs tripled. Since the building was wheelchair-accessible many more programs could be offered to the disabled. The increased physical education facilities, now including a weight-training room and racquetball courts, attracted many new members from the business community. As the fitness facilities grew in importance, the leisure and lifestyle activities shifted their emphasis to more specific groups—for example, to children and adults with disabilities, and to women on their own—but still offered general programs (many in the self-improvement area) for children, teens and adults. In fact, a forty-page booklet was needed to describe all the programs offered in the 1991 winter session. By now, however, Extension programs outside the YWCA had grown dramatically in Edmonton, with the University, Grant MacEwan Community College and the two school boards offering hundreds of courses every year. The YWCA was, therefore, no longer one of two or three agencies filling this need. Rather, the YW has now moved into new areas, such as providing business women with opportunities to improve their skills. Current programs with titles such as “Financial Planning,” “Evenings with Edmonton Entrepreneurs,” “Retirement Planning for Women,” once again demonstrate an attribute of the YWCA from its inception: flexibility in adapting itself to the needs of the community. In practice this has meant that the YW tends to move into new areas before others see the need for help or envision ways to provide it.

-Rhona Bilsland

Providing Connection with the Movement

Local YWCA history catches glimpses of the international dimension of the YWCA as far back as the 1920s. An early glimpse for me was when Mrs. E.P. Wellwood, the General Secretary of the Edmonton YW from 1930-1945, came back to Edmonton from Kobe, Japan, where she had gone to teach in 1926. Also, a physical education staff member, Miss Burton left her Edmonton position in 1928 to work in Calcutta—and visited the Edmonton YW on her return in 1932. Whether either or both of the positions abroad were advertised or promoted by the YW is unknown. Estelle Amaron, who came to Edmonton as an interim YW Secretary in 1960, came from YWCA work abroad.

In 1977, en route to a YWCA posting in Kumasi, Ghana, I met her in Toronto. She gave me a list of names of people I might meet in Kumasi, and she told me an interesting story—indicating that she had worked in China as well as Ghana. The story concerned Sir Stafford Cripps, who had been with another gentleman travelling along a road in China, when they had to take shelter in a roadside ditch because of shelling—reportedly Sir Stafford kept calm when the shelling was heavy by “tending to his knitting!” I later met Sir Stafford’s daughter in Kumasi. She had married a Ghanaian diplomat who had been stationed in England; afterwards they moved to Kumasi. She was quite active in the small church I attended, and was godmother to the daughter of one of my YWCA friends.

World conferences and sponsorship of members from other countries to visit YWCA organizations in Canada through sponsorship and funding by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) provides a glimpse of the international links among YW members. Visitors to Edmonton have been from Papua New Guinea, India, Ghana, Philippines, Hong Kong and Uganda, as well as from elsewhere.

Additionally, Board and staff members who travel abroad frequently visit local YW's whenever possible. One member said the welcome received during such visits was "like belonging to an international club." Additionally, World Council delegates from Canada have included three from Edmonton: Swee Sim Tan in 1983, Pat Cook in 1987 and Carol Gilfillan in 1991.

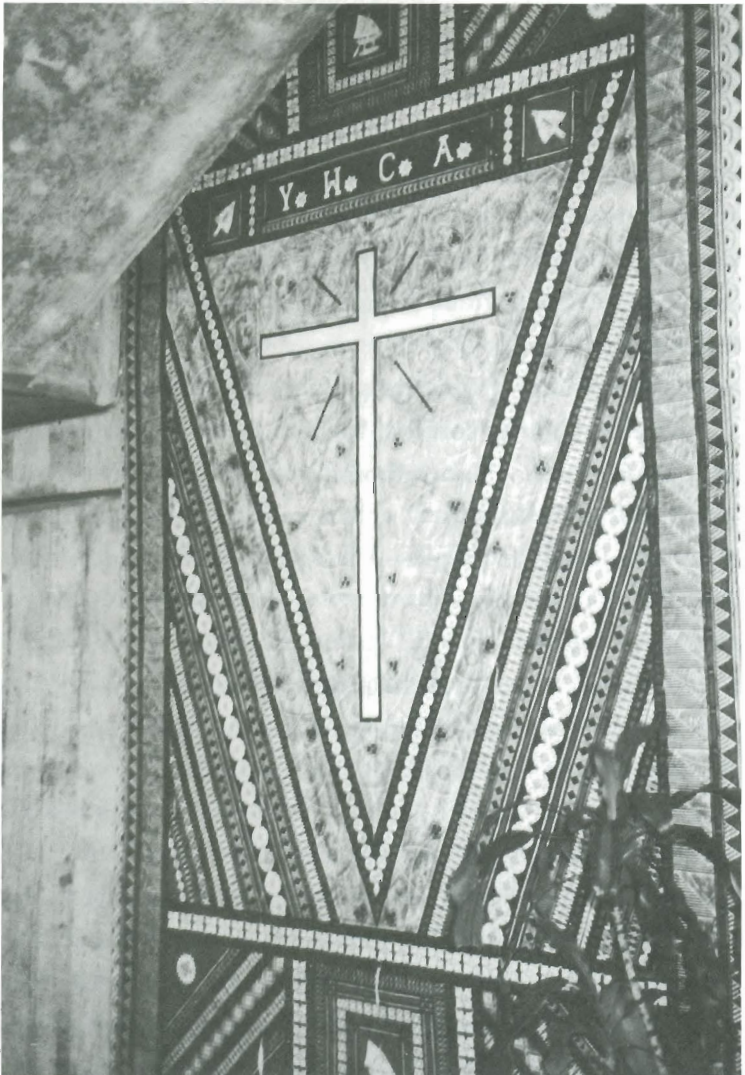
Cultural variations and different imperatives in different countries at different times have a very decisive influence on the programs that are developed. A Ugandan YW staff member who visited the Edmonton YW in 1990 under CIDA sponsorship provided a fascinating picture of the programs being developed in her country. One major focus is supplementing the work being done by Family Planning through government clinics, by giving more individual support and encouraging mixed discussion groups. Another service is transporting children in outlying areas to some central location to ensure that the government is able to utilize the vaccine provided under World Health Organization (WHO) to protect against childhood diseases.

Two other examples of program variations related to times and culture stand out from what I encountered during my assignment in Africa in 1975-77. A preliminary visit was made to Sierra Leone to see the school that the Sierra Leone YW had sponsored. It was a residential secretarial and secondary school established *before* there was any other secondary education for girls available in that country. Another illustration was in Kumasi, Ghana, where the YW was highlighting, by public lectures and support of such lectures, the work of women lawyers who were working to change both legal and tribal customs that permitted women to be put out of their homes at the death of their husband and sometimes even dispossessed of their children.

The World YWCA office is based in Geneva,

Switzerland. It operates with a fairly small staff, recruited from YWCA's in different countries, rotated as feasible when contracts are completed. The World YWCA links to the National YWCA of the different countries.

-Isabel Monroe Smith



Tapa Banner - Y.W.C.A. Suva Fiji

III. Seeing and Responding to Community Needs

By the midsixties Edmonton was in the midst of problems caused by Alberta's rapid economic growth. These were not simple problems for which orderly solutions could be sought, but were complex, dis-orderly. Family instability, financial insecurity, homelessness, violence, substance abuse—each of these serious situations created crises of various sorts. The YWCA's particular concern was how women were implicated, and it strove to help. Some of the avenues of help are described here: social action, child care, special services (including family relief), leadership development and volunteer coordination. During this period YW facilities were stressed enormously. The need for a larger, more modern facility was clear.

The positive side of the burgeoning social problems which complicated Edmonton life in the late sixties and the seventies was its forcing fresh, creative thinking on the part of the community groups committed to finding solutions. The Edmonton YWCA strained its scarce resources but shared what it had in nontraditional ways. Members of the organization honed political skills, faced women's advancing economic equity with practical child care provisions, sought ways to make disadvantage a benefit to society, and deliberately shaped volunteers' talents to the new tasks.

-Murina Bauer

Political Needs: Advocacy and Reform

The YWCA always has been socially active: the status and welfare of girls and women in society always has been a major concern. At its outset, such steps taken as providing shelter, Travellers' Aid and English classes for new Canadians were unusual initiatives that met changing social patterns. Currently the term "social action" has political overlays of meaning; it suggests deliberate action by an interested group to gain a particular reform or support for a cause that is deemed serious and perhaps critical. It is in this latter sense of "social action" that special comment needs to be made. For our purposes it is the Edmonton YWCA's social action since the fifties that is of interest.

As facilitator, advocate, and counsellor the Edmonton YWCA has challenged itself and other segments of the community to find solutions to problems affecting the naive, the vulnerable, the disadvantaged. Also, during this period, there were "social issues" under debate (such as abortion, or equal pay for equal work). Sometimes the organization was called upon to take a stand. Often it acted to provide a forum for debate and information sharing. Sometimes, as with the abortion issue, the national organization had adopted a policy that evoked public discussion (in this case with the Catholic church).

There is a YW pattern of action whereby a need is perceived and steps taken toward a solution often before the problem is recognized more generally. Sometimes this is a matter of sponsorship. For example, there are a number of now well-established organizations that were fostered under the YW umbrella, such as the Business and Professional Women's Club, Big Sisters and the Elizabeth Fry Society. Some groups, like a mastectomy support group, were started but did not develop.

Others were begun in conjunction with other community groups, and later achieved independent status—for example, the Rape Crisis Centre (the Sexual Assault Centre). The importance of the YW's role in arranging meetings, providing office space, and seeking special funding, cannot be overemphasized. Sometimes these meetings provided forums for persons with special concerns (such as seniors, or persons with disabilities). Often, however, the group for whom amelioration was sought were otherwise voiceless, as for example, child prostitutes, unsophisticated native girls far from home, women needing emergency shelter for a variety of reasons, including abuse. Here the YW (sometimes in conjunction with other community groups) assumed an advocacy role, in addition to obtaining concrete aid. On occasion this role took the form of a special task force that did research and prepared and presented briefs (for example, on child prostitution). In the course of providing refuge and care, the YW organization continued and expanded its own honourable tradition of counsellor. Over the years, Travellers' Aid, front desk information services, and individual counselling of residents had become distinctive services of the Association to the community. Social action projects drew upon YW counselling experience and resources; for example, the hostelling services for transient youth in the 1970s had a definite counselling component, as did all the emergency shelter services. Social action has not been a continuous function on the part of the Board: its intermittence speaks to the crisis nature of the problems addressed. Ordinarily, as situations arose, they were dealt with. The increased politicization of women has brought increasing need for politicized channels of action, over and above the YW's well-recognized practical caring-for steps. These have demanded the development of new skills and expertise, whether it be through networking, legal, expository or

political means. As women's problems have become more complex, so has the organization's efforts to find appropriate solutions. Many problems requiring local solutions were not local in origin, and required initiatives in cooperation with the national organization and/or with World Service. A clear example here is the effort to help Hungarian refugees in the late 1950s. Sometimes the "social action" taken has been education, as for example English As a Second Language (ESL) classes, or a literacy program.

Travellers' Aid was the first major outreach of the local organization, lasting until the 1960s when the multiplication of travel facilities made it impossible to meet every incoming travel source as had been done since 1907. There were natural outgrowths from Travellers' Aid even when discontinued, such as an established counselling service within the YW, and a continuing concern for innocent arrivals at the bus depot in the heart of downtown Edmonton. In the 1950s the polio epidemic prompted the YW to offer the use of pool facilities to victims. The YW had helped Displaced Persons adjust to life after World War II, so, in the late 1950s, the many Hungarian refugees in Canada were helped similarly with ESL, overnight stays, job counselling, free YW memberships. Peace was still a major social issue, and representation of the YW on the United Nations Association, and on the Citizenship Council, were important vehicles for that purpose.

During the 1960s the first initiatives for halfway houses, group homes and emergency shelters were begun to provide housing for women and girls in various kinds of distress. A list of social action initiatives in which the YW was involved from the late 1960s to the mid-1980s would include the following:

1. A halfway house was established for women with major social problems (addictions, in trouble with the law, etc.) wishing to reclaim their lives. McDougall

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House opened in 1969 and was managed by the YWCA until 1973, when it became the McDougall House Association with a Board of its own.

2. A Rape Crisis Centre, now the Sexual Assault Centre, was established and is an agency of the United Way. The YWCA was actively involved for three years especially in housing it, administration, and lobbying for funding.

3. The YW helped to establish the Southern Homes: group homes for younger girls needing a place to stay while going to school or otherwise furthering themselves.

4. The YW helped to start the Women's Emergency Accommodation Centre. At first this was called the Women's Overnight Shelter. It was a sit-up-all-night arrangement in the All Saints' Parish Hall for women who had no other place to go, for financial or social reasons.

5. The YW researched the need for, and planned the development of WIN ("Women in Need") House for victims of family violence, along with other concerned groups, and lobbied for its support.

6. The YW acted as an agent which received Federal Government LIP (Local Initiative Program) grants, and thereby acted as sponsor of youth groups who, in the late 1960s and early 1970s, received the aid. Many such youth were alienated, in some sense, from "the establishment" and YW sponsorship and supervision was a distinct service to society.

7. The YW established a youth hostel, and to a lesser extent, a food service, for the footloose youth travelling from coast to coast in the early 1970s on virtually nothing.

8. The YW facilitated the development of the Foster Parent Association of Edmonton by bringing together persons willing to foster children with officials of the Child Welfare Department of the Provincial Government.

Simply listing these accomplishments makes it seem easy (first this, then that) and glosses over the social dynamics (pain, compassion, injustice, service). In fact, for each of these measures (and others like them) its particular story reveals the difficulty and drama of social reform. The overlapping and intermeshing of various social action thrusts added to the complexity of the tasks undertaken, although helpful in the long run.

Margaret Williamson was Executive Director during these years of social upheaval. Her leadership in attacking these major, unprecedented problems through enlisting the cooperation of other community groups was vigorous and consistent. Although these were trying financial times for the YWCA, its outreach into the community was undeniably strong.

Not all these developments were widely approved, either by the general public or by the YW membership. In advance of publicizing and lobbying, some did not believe the problems could be as serious and widespread as they proved to be. Some believed the YW was besmirching its good moral reputation by involving itself in situations needing radical reform. For example, during the hostelling period some parents of children in programs did not want their youngsters mingling

with the transients, and so withdrew them from programs.

During the 1980s there were two major task forces, one on child prostitution, and one on sexual offences against children and youth. Each of these required considerable research, the preparation of a brief, and the presentation of that brief at hearings. The YW's stance in each was protection of the vulnerable, and the preventative use of education. An outgrowth was the production of the film *Rough Trade*, using actual pimps and prostitutes as actors. The film was to be used in schools, to help prevent the young from being involuntarily swept into prostitution. Along similar lines, an information centre for AIDS was established in 1987. Some other, quite different, recent areas of social action interest have been (1) privatization, and (2) free trade. As has happened in the past, when a serious social problem arises for which no solution has been sought, no doubt the YWCA of Edmonton will once again mobilize its own resources, and ally them with like-thinking others, to move toward appropriate solutions. Social action is an ongoing dimension of YWCA activity.

-Murina Bauer

Economic Needs: Women and Children

YWCA child care began as a casual babysitting service staffed mainly by volunteers, and was designed to serve primarily the workers and parents participating in the YWCA programs. This child care service has, over the years, established itself as a properly licensed and administered day care with well qualified staff and carefully planned and varied programs appropriate for different age levels. It is presently servicing over 2,000 children in a well-equipped facility that includes five separate children's areas as well as the necessary offices and support staff. The

centre is still unique in the fact that it has continued to operate its child-care services as a flexible drop-in centre only—the largest in the city.

In response to changing parental needs and societal demands additional services have included a Mothers' Day Out program (1954), a Take-A-Break for Homebound Mothers (1963), a New Mothers' program in St. Albert and Glengarry centres (1960) and, in 1970, decentralized programs extending "beyond the walls of the building" to nine areas in the city. All of these were informal babysitting ventures open to the public and designed to meet the needs of young mothers who left their children in these centres on a casual "drop-in" basis. This service allowed mothers to shop, attend appointments, job-hunt, work part-time, or take educational or recreational classes. Occasionally the Child Care program provided babysitting services for parents attending conferences such as the Seed Growers Convention in 1969 and later the NDP Convention and the Auto Show. All that was required of them, in addition to the fee, was that they provide emergency phone numbers, baby food, bag lunches to be refrigerated, disposable diapers, name tags, labels for belongings and, when necessary, an extra set of clothing. The YWCA provided nutritious snacks.

At times some YW ventures (such as the Bay stores at Southgate and Londonderry, which provided babysitting services) proved unsuccessful or unmanageable and were taken over by others. Eventually, the very popular child care programs held elsewhere in the city were offered by other agencies, thus verifying the YWCA's early recognition of this need.

The clientele was a mixed group ranging from families requiring financial assistance from Social Services to children of professionals and senior government officials, and from native children to new Canadians from such countries as Chile, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, China and Iran.

In the seventies when the new building opened, child care programs for parents of preschool children were a continuing YWCA focus and a stated objective of the YWCA. As more space became available the program gradually grew to its present proportions. Always the YWCA has not only responded to the growing needs of parents for increased child care but has also been alert and responsive to the continuing demand for higher standards of care. In 1963 those operating the program applied for and received formal licensing from the city. In 1975 the YWCA Board voted to support the Day Care Petition sponsored by the Urban Reform Group of Edmonton (URGE), the Edmonton Day Care Council and the Edmonton Voters' Association, groups which were working for a wider range of day care. In 1976, the name of the day care was changed to "Child Care Services" and was recognized as one of the subcommittees in the program. In 1977, concern for the liability of agencies caring for babies resulted in the board formulating a policy of checking babies consistently every ten minutes. At that time there were 510 children registered in the baby-fold and 1,281 in the nursery and playrooms. In 1979 the registration exceeded the previous record of 1,392.

In 1981, Sue Carberry was appointed Program Director under Director Carol Mennie. Sue Carberry proceeded to reorganize the program to meet the newly legislated Social Services guidelines for day care operation in the province. Previously all ages had been combined with casual drop-in registrants on the main floor and the children of YW program participants upstairs. The main emphasis was still on a custodial babysitting service. The program was broken down into five different age groupings (baby-fold, toddlers, and three-, four- and five-year-olds). For each level suitable space and programs were created. All were now in appropriate spaces in the new building and there were centres and outside play areas available

to each group. The babies and toddlers were now on the second floor and the three- to five-year-olds on the main floor. Although the centre was licensed to allow 120 children no more than 100 were allowed to register at one time and the enrolment fluctuated from about fifty to capacity.

"The boom" was now over and the increasing number of women entering the work force created greater need for a flexible day care service. Outside pressure from child care experts made it necessary to upgrade all day care in the city. The need for trained staff and higher standards for child care was paramount. With the help of Alberta Parks and Recreation and the City of Edmonton, a Pre-School Leadership Program open to the public was organized using additional resource people from Grant MacEwan to augment the resources of the YWCA. This program ran for three years with each three-week course scheduled for three hours one night a week. According to Sue Carberry, one of the YW's main achievements during those years was promoting interest in and providing more training for day care workers. This concern demonstrates "the YWCA stance of listening to people" and recognizing and reacting to the revealed community needs in a flexible manner.

Trying to meet the needs of the community and provide a quality program within a balanced budget was a challenge during this period. However, the YWCA attracted workers who not only had child-caring skills, but who also were interested in acquiring credentials. Morale was high among these workers. She refers especially to the Chilean women who, as untrained volunteers, worked hard in the centres and have since learned English and gone on to further their education by taking courses at the University of Alberta and Grant MacEwan and to become confident members of Canadian society. Many immigrant women (Arabic, Egyptian, Chinese, for example), not only used the services of the unit but also volunteered to

assist in the day care. Sue's own daughter benefitted from the services during her first four years and Sue has fond memories of the older women who "like second moms" volunteered their nurturing and caring assistance, especially with the babies. During this period Sue Carberry maintains that some of the "best times" were at the staff meetings, social events, pot-luck suppers and the United Nations dinners which were "a lot of fun in a mixed group of people who just got on very well together." Sue Carberry recalls an hilarious occasion when a group of YWCA workers presented an impromptu display of belly-dancing at a farewell party for the Iranian woman who taught the dance.

In 1987, when Sue Carberry resigned as Program Director, the YWCA engaged Gerrie Nicholas as Director of "The Child Care Services." Gerrie Nicholas implemented a fee collection policy and set up a central reception area to collect fees and store records, and to provide a place for parents to check in their children. There is now a staff of thirty-eight which increases to forty-three with the summer program for handicapped children and the drop-in day camp for six- to twelve-year-olds. Her staff is well qualified: three of the day care staff have degrees in Early Childhood Education and most of the others have day care training or are presently taking courses from the University of Alberta or Grant MacEwan, or by correspondence from Lethbridge University. There are two women in the reception area who work on accounts and meet parents as they bring the children to the centre. They also keep the regular records and registration details for Social Services and Welfare clients. The centre now provides over 135,000 hours of drop-in child care service which includes approximately 25,000 separate visits of an average length of just over five hours. Between 2,000 and 2,500 different children are registered in the centre, which continues to be the largest

drop-in centre in the city. Since May 19, 1990, the centre has been licensed as a regular day care unit which actually helps to maintain the unit as a drop-in centre because licensing as a drop-in centre would mean reduced quality and funding cuts. Gerrie Nicholas has serious concerns about proposed ratios (four babies to one staff member, and even higher ratios for older children) in the new Alberta Day Care Reforms as she feels they will affect the drop-in centre program adversely. This adjustment of staff: child ratios to more children per staff would not permit the continuance of the present quality program.

Today over 60% of the mothers across Canada with preschoolers are now in the labour force, and part-time jobs account for about one-third of all growth in women's employment in Canada between 1975 and 1988. This trend continues, and so the need for part-time workers to find competent child care is critical. Since regular day care spaces are filled by full-time users and part-time workers do not often qualify for subsidy, there is a need for some child care facilities to respond to the changing needs of Canadian working families by the flexible arrangements offered in the drop-in child care. Gerrie Nicholas' concern for the continuance of the present quality program at the YWCA Drop-In Child Care Service under the new government reforms for day care presents a new challenge. She has informed the Alberta Family and Social Services that the YW "will not compromise the quality of services they provide nor will they implement the inadequate child care ratios for drop-in child care" since they regard them as "unsafe" for any facility.

The 1990 program guide, *Child Care Services*, states the following:

The Y.W.C.A. Child Care facilities include day care

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services on a "Drop-In" basis as well as "Full-time" and "Subsidized" spaces for infants to five year olds.

DROP-IN SERVICE provides quality care with an enriched program for regular or occasional users in a safe, secure setting. Our drop-in service is licensed as a regular day care centre with staff:child ratios maintained at the higher level to ensure quality care. The drop-in option allows contract workers, freelancers and others who work flexible hours of shifts to pay only for the day care hours they require. As well, our Y.W.C.A. program participants can take advantage of on-site care as well as those who find themselves in the downtown area attending meetings, appointments or shopping. We also serve many visitors to Edmonton who are in town attending conventions, workshops, seeking medical attention or other services, pursuing employment or educational opportunities or visiting friends and relatives.

FULL-TIME SERVICE allows parents who work in the downtown to use our facility on a full basis. Because of our convenient location they have the opportunity to come in and have lunch with their child if they wish.

SUBSIDY SPACES are available for parents who qualify for government assistance.

FEES are now \$2.50 per hour or \$20 per day with reduced rates available for families. Subsidized spaces are \$300 per month for part days and \$400 per month for full days. Special summer programs for children 6 to 12 are also offered in Child Care.

-Muriel A. Affleck

Reinventing Community Life

The transformation of community life has meant new freedom for some, but for others it has created problems. On the one hand, persons disadvantaged or disabled in some fashion now claim access to mainstream activities of society as a right. On the other hand, the fact that families now tend to be nuclear rather than extended means that stress may build up rather than dissipate or become absorbed by others. The YWCA devised programs to meet both kinds of needs: Special Services is an example of the first kind of need; Family Relief Services is an example of the second kind, as also is the On Our Own program.

Special Services

In the early 1970s, as planning was taking place for a new YWCA facility, the YWCA Board of Directors made an important, very progressive decision for its time—that the new YWCA building be designed to be completely accessible to the physically disabled. The Building Committee, working closely with the architect, saw that standards for accessibility were adhered to, and as the completion of the building neared in 1976 a Special Services Director was hired to assist and encourage individuals who are mentally or physically disabled to participate successfully in all YWCA programs.

The early emphasis of the Special Services Department was on integration of the disabled person into regular YWCA programs. Many mentally disabled individuals had recently been moved from an institution to group homes in the community. It became apparent that some “bridging” programs were needed to help individuals upgrade their social, communication and activity skill levels in order to later

integrate successfully in community recreation programs. These programs include cooking, crafts, fitness, sports, social dance and many more added over the fifteen-year history of the department. Two of these are "Living with Leisure" for older mentally disabled adults aged forty-five-plus and "Leisure Awareness" for adults with a head injury. Both programs allow participants to explore, plan and participate in new leisure activities.

In 1974 the YWCA Outdoor Education Department was the first to offer specialized camp programs for mentally disabled adults and teens. Activities include hiking, boating, crafts and campfires among others. As well, many mentally disabled children have been integrated into the regular YoWoChAs Centre camps for children. An integration specialist is hired for the summer to assist regular camp staff.

Soon after the new YWCA building opened in 1977 there were several requests for programs in the small and large pools to serve clients of other agencies. Soon the severely disabled children from the Eric Cormack Centre were coming weekly to the small pool and many graduated to the large pool as they became more at home in the water. Preschool children from the Hearing Handicapped Association loved their weekly outings to the small pool. These are just two examples of the many agencies the Special Services Department cooperates with in offering programs for individuals who have a variety of disabilities.

A program for children with learning disabilities and motor coordination problems was started with the assistance of staff from the Physical Education Department at the University of Alberta. This has evolved into the program "Movin'"—a specialized gym program for children six to ten years old.

Over the years the staff of the Special Services Department have served on many committees and boards of

other agencies, such as the Gateway Association for the Mentally Handicapped and the Edmonton Epilepsy Association.

In May 1976 Alberta Social Services asked the YWCA to consider developing and operating a Relief Group Home for disabled children. The Special Services Director and the YWCA Special Services Subcommittee were given the task of exploring existing group home facilities in the Edmonton area, parents' needs and resources, and number of personnel required for a group home. Data indicated that families required about thirty days of relief per year. Using this information a budget proposal was presented to Social Services to operate a Group Home on a twenty-four hour basis. Unfortunately, the total package was not approved and the YWCA was forced to withdraw its proposal and return to the drawing board.

Research on this issue continued through 1977 and 1978. From this research evolved the framework of a home-care program that would fill a critical gap in the network of family support services in Edmonton. The "Family Relief Services" was designed to conform both with the philosophy of "normalization" prevalent in the field of social services in the 1970s, and with the YWCA's focus on adjustment and development of the individual, with an emphasis on prevention rather than treatment. The YWCA went one step further than the original request with entrance criteria designed to allow *all* individuals with a disability (from birth to seniors) and their families access to relief care.

The Special Services Department recently has worked with an interagency Leisure Support Committee on a new program for which the YWCA has been chosen as the "umbrella" agency. Presently funding is being sought for the program which will have three aspects:

- assess individual needs and help each person set goals
- match each individual with a volunteer of similar

needs and interests

- individual participates with the volunteer in selected activities within the community for up to six months

The individual is then reassessed and other support systems may be identified. He or she could also be rematched to continue in new activities.

Thus the Special Services Committee continues to address the needs of handicapped individuals in the community.

-Marilyn Rhodes

Family Relief Services

The Family Relief Services (FRS) began as a project of the Special Services Department with the assistance of volunteers from the Special Services Subcommittee. In 1978, a four-month pilot project demonstrated the need to expand the community service network to include individualized home-based relief care as one option in a range of services for disabled persons. During this period research was updated, procedures and forms designed, a record keeping system established, recruitment strategies for care providers outlined and plans for publicity put forth.

In 1979, FRS began with two half-time staff, a Coordinator and an Assistant Coordinator. They operated from a phone system located in the Assistant Coordinator's home. Much time was spent seeking seed money, pilot project funding and ongoing funding. The United Way, several churches, foundations and clubs, the YWCA of Canada and Edmonton were all generous in their support of the project. In 1981, Family Relief Services was launched as a separate department within the YWCA with a full-time Director and two full-time staff. Today, office personnel consists of Four full-time staff: a

Manager, a Client Service Coordinator, a Host Family Coordinator and a Secretary.

Family Relief is based on the belief that the best place for the individual with a disability is with the family and community. FRS provides short-term or temporary relief. This allows the family time to:

- meet immediate support needs (appointments, groceries, etc.)
- take a break from the demands of continuous care (social/recreational breaks)
- fulfill vacation plans
- handle emergencies

The following types of relief are offered:

- companion/sitters—who provide personal care in the home for a minimum of four hours at a time
- host families—who provide twenty-four hour relief services in the worker's home
- live-ins—who provide twenty-four hour care in the consumer's home

Caregivers are carefully recruited, interviewed and screened, and ongoing inservice training, evaluation and supervision is maintained by qualified Family Relief Services staff. FRS is ideal for those families with children or adults who are mentally or physically disabled. Care for dependent elderly persons is also possible when other community services are unavailable.

Since 1981 FRS has received partial funding from Edmonton Social Services. In April 1987 FRS received new dollars from Alberta Social Services to expand the Host Family service. This expansion included hiring fifteen new Host Families and extending service to citizens in Stony Plain, Spruce Grove and Leduc. The number of families served has increased from 90 in 1979 to 218 in 1988. Hours of direct care have gone from 4,252 in 1979 to 24,269 in 1988. The acceptance by the

community was overwhelming. Demand for service increased by 188 percent during the 1987/88 fiscal year and a 118 percent increase was anticipated for the 1988/89 year.

-Marilyn Rhodes

"On Our Own" Program

The On Our Own program evolved from a need in the community. Shannon Daly approached the YWCA to see if it might be able to give some help to widows and widowers. The Edmonton Board of Health did not have time for more than one or two visits with bereaved clients. About the same time a brochure on a program for bereavement published in Eugene, Oregon, appeared on Lynn Rock's desk—perhaps it was a sign. The Executive Director and the Board approved funding to send Lynn Rock and Pat Squair to Eugene to study the plan. They came back and placed an ad in the *Edmonton Journal* advertising a brunch with speakers from the Family Life Education Council. Fifty people came and it was evident many people needed ongoing emotional support. As Lynn Rock was the only staff person, she set up a group of Peer Counsellors. These people really helped get the program off the ground. Training was set up for them and a training manual entitled "Spring Follows Winter" was written by Lynn Rock, Amanda Holloway, Wendy MacDonald and others. The Counsellors completed thirty hours of training and were excellent. All had recently experienced bereavement and spoke from the heart.

Some of the areas which were Lynn's responsibility were being served by other community agencies so directing "OOO" became a full-time job. Lynn Rock took postgraduate work in the field at Eugene, Oregon, then with much volunteer help converted the YW pottery studio into a drop-in centre. Some of the social activities included monthly potluck suppers,

movie outings and a Christmas party. A course entitled "Living Through Loss" was given to all who wished it. It was set up with much help from Dr. Edna McCutcheon. Since some people worked in the daytime, sessions were offered during both days and evenings. When Lynn Rock moved on in 1985, one of the client Peer Counsellors became Director of the service. This course has weathered well and is still being given in 1991.

-Sheila Petersen

Shaping Volunteers' Talents to Their Tasks

With the move to the new building in 1977 and the expansion of programs and services, it became apparent that many new volunteers were needed. The idea that program participants be approached to fill the need was suggested and acted upon. The first project was dressing dolls to be sold by the YW. Dolls were provided by the YW and outfitted by participants. This project succeeded and led to volunteers' working on many fund-raising projects including auctions, flea markets, bake sales, bridge tournaments, raffles, bingos, casinos and large fund raisers. The large fund raisers were such things as "Y Win 100" where tickets were \$100. and the prize was \$100,000, and "Shop 'Til You Drop," a shopping spree at a mall being the prize. Another fund raiser was deferred giving: a person took out life insurance naming the YWCA as beneficiary. This plan was known fondly to the staff as "Die for the Y." Originally the Tribute to Women Dinner was not a fund raiser, but now a good portion of ticket money goes to Y programs.

Fund raising was not the only activity undertaken by volunteers. Sometimes, especially in the area of Special Services, they taught craft courses. Volunteers worked at registration during peak periods and as hostesses on the first days of new program sessions. More and more, volunteers became

ambassadors of the YW. Orientation and training became a necessity. This process was called "leadership development," since a trained volunteer then would "lead," or at least coordinate, activities necessary to the YW enterprise while at the same time "developing" individual skills through the opportunities provided.

Leadership development was already in place for staff who, initially, had one to one and one-half hours of orientation of the YW building, beliefs and workings. This was done through talks and slides. The time was Spring 1977. Anne Broughton, who was in charge of leadership and volunteers, called together a group of six women who had some experience in these fields to form the leadership development committee. Committee members included Heather Gates, Laura Taylor, June Marshall, Marina Johnson and Sheila Petersen. One advantage of taking such a course was that it offered the chance to be part of training courses being given throughout the province, and then, later, to help put on similar courses for the YW. Some of the groups that worked with the committee were the Rural Education and Development Association (REDA), the City of Edmonton, Edmonton Community Leagues, Boy Scouts, Community Planning and Women's Shelters.

A first for the YW was a budget for volunteers so that if necessary parking, babysitting or lunch could be purchased or fees paid to upgrade volunteer skills. By the mid-1980s, many agencies gave leadership training, so the YW phased out the committee. Since then leadership training has been given in physical education areas.

-Sheila Petersen



Daycare



IV. New Initiatives, Changing Times

The prospect of a new building promised to solve many YWCA organizational problems, so it is not surprising that bringing it into being was the focus of energy for many members for at least five years. The new building itself has been the basis for recent new initiatives, for example, the Fitness Centre, and the Y's Choice Shop. But other initiatives, such as the special housing project, are not dependent on the existence of the YWCA building. During this period, there has been major organizational restructuring, one feature of which has been an increase in public relations activity. The topics in this section include the new building, the Y's Choice, the Fitness Centre, public relations, special housing, the Tribute to Women celebrations, and a special tribute to friendship. There are three main thrusts: communication, affirmative action, and confirmation of old values in new guises.

-Murina Bauer

Communicating: Public Relations

It was important to maintain the visibility in the community of the YW that was established during the campaign for the new building. Indeed, given the technologizing of communication media and the growing intricacy of community life, communication became crucial for YW survival. Communication systems internal to the organization, for the sake of morale and efficiency, and continuous interpretation externally, to the community, became necessary parts of achieving YW goals in the eighties. Also, skill in communication processes has been a major aspect of affirmative action on behalf

of women. As well, the confirming of new vehicles of YWCA traditional goals relied strongly on communication processes and tools.

The first permanent Public Relations Manager, Wendy MacDonald, was hired in 1981. Wendy had been a volunteer for eight years, so was no stranger to the YW. Prior to 1981, the publicity function had been achieved in several different ways. Carol Fraser had done special publicity for the opening of the new building. Most program staff did their own publicity. For many years, Sandi Draper, as Program Director, coordinated the production of a comprehensive program brochure, ensured high profile publicity for new initiatives and, generally, enthused both staff and public about YW activities. But as the organization grew it was increasingly evident that a coordinated communication strategy was essential to ensure public awareness of the wide range of benefits accessible through the YW's social service and social action programs, as well as the recreational ones. Wendy MacDonald created a network of people and materials through which to get out the YW message.

The task was complex because of the diverse nature and volume of issues to be dealt with. It required making and maintaining contacts throughout Edmonton, not only with different media (newspaper, radio, television), but also with community agencies of various sorts (such as community leagues, churches, the United Way, the Edmonton Social Planning Council). What is more, the task required that the messages sent out be consistent, so considerable work had to be done within the organization to ensure understanding and solidarity.

Internally, Wendy MacDonald undertook two main measures: one, creating publicity materials for the many different programs; and, two, establishing house organs so that board, staff and members were kept informed of each other's

activities. The first was difficult, in that she had to be sure materials for different programs were of comparable quality. The second undertaking included a weekly bulletin for staff and volunteers called *Y Week*, and a more ambitious newsletter for members first called *In Touch*, then called *Contact*. Both were started in 1983. The newsletter was attractively formatted, with pictures and articles of general interest written by staff members with particular expertise in an area. A major undertaking, in addition to *Y Week* and *Contact*, was preparing the "Program Brochure," a catalogue of all programs offered, distributed even more widely than strictly to staff and members. Since the opening of the new building the number of programs had increased, so this brochure was often forty pages long. It was produced seasonally, three or four times a year.

The public relations function required working in cooperation with other groups in the community for common goals. For example, to assist the United Way (one of the YW's chief funders), Wendy MacDonald contributed organizational time for the United Way drive itself, and also helped other member agencies who did not have public relations resources in their individual organizations. Another umbrella group was the Edmonton Association for Continuing Education and Recreation (EACER). The Edmonton YWCA was a founding member of EACER, along with such groups as the YMCA, the University's Faculty of Extension, and the Edmonton Public School Board. The number of groups involved now is probably a hundred or more. One major EACER project which Wendy and Sandi helped put together was the *Learning is Living* Brochure in which programs of all EACER member groups were promoted. The *Edmonton Journal* circulated it twice a year. A spin-off of the publication was EACER sponsorship of a "Learning is Living" Fair, held at the Convention Centre, with information booths and promotional activities.

Creating promotional materials was another main task of the Public Relations Department. Portable displays, slide-tape exhibits, posters, and brochures all helped tell the community about the YW, but all had to be constructed. Some materials were designed to be part of exhibits travelling through the province. In addition to purveying information, the YW examined its iconic communication, and designed a logo, thought to be appropriate to a more modern image. This logo emphasized the W in "YWCA" and was in magenta and black (rather than the blue of the original blue triangle logo). The Public Relations Department was called upon also to generate a full promotion for the expanded YoWoChAs Centre since it had become a year-round facility in 1981. Here again, designing a logo was important. The YW held a contest to decide on the name. The name sounds Indian, but is simply the first two letters of each word: Young Women's Christian Association.

The cooperation of other media has been of major benefit to the YW. In particular, the *Edmonton Journal*, through editorial content and special sponsorship of programs, has been supportive of YW goals for many years. Sponsorship meant that the YW provided planning for an event and the *Journal* provided publicity for it. Over the years, the events have varied greatly: social dance, adult swim, aquafitness, women's fitness escape weekends, Aquarama and marathons. The relationship continues as a positive one and the YW values it.

The range of public relations involvement has been important, too. The countless news releases, public service announcements and news conferences were essential, but so also was involvement with the Public Relations Committee of the YWCA of Canada.

Doing public relations in the early eighties was challenging. Some efforts succeeded better than others, sometimes unpredictably. For example, the YW's Kaleidoscope

of Education Float in the Klondike Days parade was well received, but the promotion featuring Olympic swimmer Alex Baumann got no media coverage. The day of the latter event was the very day of the Chernobyl disaster, the Stanley Cup playoff in Edmonton, and the announcement of a provincial election. It was during these years that the previous more informal networks of community communication were articulated and built upon.

Wendy MacDonald left the YW in 1986. Since that time the communications function has been carried on by Christine Watson, Nancy Saul-Demers and Lesley Howard-Stafford. As an outgrowth of the restructuring of the internal organization of the YW, in the later eighties communications, volunteer coordination, and fund raising, work together closely.

-Murina Bauer

Affirming: The Tribute to Women

This event, now affectionately called "TTW," was pioneered by a small group of women in 1982, the 75th anniversary year of Edmonton YWCA.

Dinners honouring women had taken place throughout North America for a few years and been well received. In 1979 Cathy Palmer and Joan Fargey attended such a dinner at the Calgary YWCA and were very positive about it. Upon their return they advocated that the Edmonton YW do something similar. Some time later a committee was struck with Marilyn Rhodes as its chairman. The small group of volunteers who pioneered the event included Dagny Alston, Ewa Burton, Susan Carberry, Joan Fargey, Grace Gleiner and Alice Major. Wendy MacDonald was the staff coordinator. Some of the above people were YW staff, but for this function gave time as volunteers.

Some of the planning was done on computer. This was new for the committee members, some of whom had never seen let alone used a computer. Volunteer Joan Parsons gave time and her employer donated equipment. The small committee made all the decisions from the colour of the serviettes to the large budget items. Little was delegated.

The aims of the dinner were to honour outstanding contributions of women in Edmonton and to celebrate the YW's contribution to women's issues. A nominating committee composed of Betty Mullen, Jackie Charlesworth and Tommie Kennedy decided on the categories for awards and criteria to be met. Fifty-six nominations were received for the six award categories. A selection committee of women knowledgeable about the community in cultural, professional, community and volunteer services selected the winners. The awards were presented at a banquet in the Westin Hotel with Jean Forest, Chancellor of the University of Alberta, as Master of Ceremonies. Each award was a silver pin designed by Dan Medland and using a logo designed by Susan Coburg which used a lowercase *e* for Edmonton, the women's symbol, and a cross. Some interpreted the cross as the "Christian" portion of "YWCA."

The event got much media attention. Five-minute slide tape presentations on each winner appeared on a large screen. Alice Major wrote the biographies, Alex McDonald and Colleen Finlayson produced the show which Kris Purdy narrated. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) was very supportive.

Since the first dinner the attendance has grown from 350 to 700 plus. The committee structure has changed and the number of contributing volunteers has grown. Besides honouring women in the community TTW is now a YW fund raiser because of business sponsorship. Twenty-five dollars of the sixty-dollar ticket is tax deductible and there are early bird

draws for donated prizes. Men are encouraged to attend the dinner and many do.

Over the years the following women have chaired the TTW: Marilyn Rhodes, 1982; Sheilah Grant, 1985; Shirley Myers, 1987; Helen Otto, 1988; Joan Fargey, 1989; Marion Brooker, 1990; and Sue Davis, 1991. Winners of the awards are listed in Appendix 5.

-Sheila Petersen

Confirming: The New Building

By January of 1967 it was obvious that the old building on 103rd Street needed to be replaced. There was a 110 percent occupancy rate (the extra ten percent was due to cots set up in hallways). There were even concerns that the boiler might blow up! The Board decided that a new building was needed in a downtown location. They would need to approach governments for money and consider hiring a "Fund Raising Counsel."

Mrs. T.G. Cook reported that there was a possibility of buying the Ex-Servicemen's Children's Home (McDougall House) which stood on the corner of 100th Avenue and 103rd Street and, in 1968, a bid was made on this property. Mrs. Margaret Williamson (Executive Director) approached the provincial government with the idea that McDougall House could be used as a halfway house for girls and women released from the Alberta Institute and Fort Saskatchewan jail until the YW was ready to build. The government provided a grant of \$360,000 for this purchase and in September 1969 the house opened with twenty girls who paid \$7.00 per day.

A New Building Committee was formed with Margaret Thomas as Chairman. The committee studied what was needed in a new building to be constructed on the McDougall House property. In December 1970 John A. MacDonald was appointed Architect. In March 1971 a Building Advisory Committee was formed consisting of Keith Cumming, Marjorie Bowker, Fred Dorwood, Don Milne, George Prudham and Mrs. D.W. (Joan) Harrison. Since it was obvious that a capital fund campaign would be needed, a YMCA fund raiser was hired. Mrs. A.V. (Rita) Calhoun became Chairman of the YW New Building Committee. In November 1972 two lots adjacent to McDougall House were purchased.

The United Community Fund approved a capital campaign to be held in February 1973. A Campaign Planning Committee was formed with Sherrill MacLaren as Chairman and Bruce Sansom, Bill Pearson, John Schlosser, Keith Cumming, Peggy Miller, Rita Calhoun, Cathy Dunlap and Margaret Williamson as members. Marjorie Bowker was named Honorary Chairman with R.A. Bradburn and F.M. Hughes as Cochairmen.

The goal was \$1.5 million. A list of possible donors was compiled and modest suppers were held in the basement of First Presbyterian Church to raise the enthusiasm of the 1,100 volunteer canvassers recruited, and to tally the results of monies collected and pledged. Betty Jean Buchanan spent a lot of time following up people not contacted (such as friends of the YW who were on holiday in Hawaii during the cold weather).

In all, 5,110 donors gave \$1,075,000 in gifts ranging from forty-two cents to \$25,000. Also available was one million dollars from the City of Edmonton and \$800,000 from the province.

In June 1974 McDougall House was demolished although some people felt it should be saved. (Some of the

bricks were saved and these, along with a picture of the house, stand inside the front door of the new building).

John MacDonald was instructed to proceed with working drawings despite the fact that construction costs had gone up 30 percent—from three million to four million dollars.

The proposed structure was to house 247 women—fifteen in studio suites, the remainder in dormitories and single rooms. The parallel function (as a recreation facility) would include a twenty-five-metre pool, an instructional teaching pool, a physical activity room, a multipurpose room, meeting rooms, craft rooms, kindergarten and nursery rooms and space for administration.

In September 1974 when the plans were put out to tender, the only bid received was for \$5,185,000! (At this time there was an energy crisis and, since there was almost 100 percent full employment, wages were very high.)

This amount of money was not available, so, after much consideration, the building was redesigned, eliminating the residence tower on the south and east side with its bachelor apartments for single women, although a foundation for the tower was included. (It is interesting to note that by 1990 the YW was managing three apartment buildings.)

It was important to make the building accessible to the physically disabled. Before drawing up plans for the YW Day Care, Mary Gander and Rita Calhoun toured three day care centres. It was also decided to have a Fitness Centre and racquetball courts since these were in short supply (although by the time the building was constructed other courts had been built in the city).

All three levels of government had been asked for money by various delegations. The provincial government was reminded that the YW residence served girls coming to Edmonton from other places in the province. The City was told

about people coming from all over the city to take part in many activities. Rita Calhoun and Betty Jean Buchanan even went to Ottawa to request federal help. Eventually Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation approved a mortgage for \$1,100,000 (later raised to \$1,461,380).

Finally, in April 1975, the Board accepted the bid of Stuart Olson Construction, Ltd. for \$3,272,694 with work to begin May 8. With related project costs, including land, the total cost was to be \$4.8 million. On May 30, a sod-turning ceremony was held.

On October 1, 1976, the cornerstone was unveiled at a ceremony chaired by Anne Broughton. The program shows Greetings from the Lieutenant Governor and representatives of province and city. Remarks were made by special guests Mrs. Eric C. Ansley, YWCA Board President in 1952, and Mrs. C.E. Learmonth, daughter of Mrs. D.G. McQueen who gave the Prayer of Dedication at the first Cornerstone Ceremony in 1921. The box in the Cornerstone contains items from October 21, 1921, August 30, 1953, and October 1, 1976.

Volunteers were given a tour of the new building in November. On December 15, 1976, the new building was in use. The Board held their meeting in the Soroptomist Room on December 29.

The Official Opening and Dedication of the new building was held on February 23, 1977. It was chaired by President Rita Calhoun. There were Greetings from provincial government representative Minister of Hospitals and Medical Care the Honourable Gordon Miniely; Mayor of Edmonton Terry J. Cavanagh; United Way of Edmonton and Area President Lorne C. Leitch; Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation Program Manager Andrea Moen; YWCA of Canada Board member Isobel Padwick and YMCA President Pat MacDonald. Edmonton Historical Board Chairman Mary

Lobay was introduced. The official ribbon cutting was performed by Lieutenant Governor Ralph G. Steinhauer. (Mrs. Steinhauer had stayed at the Y when she was a young girl.) The dedication Prayer was given by Estelle Amaron, YWCA of Canada. "Bless This House" was sung by Muriel Garrick with Elizabeth Stuparek (Duke) at the piano.

At last the building was built and operating thanks to many of the original committee members who had worked towards this goal and to many other people in the community who had helped in so many ways.

-Frances Reynolds

The Fitness Centre

The YWCA got in on the ground floor with its Fitness Centre as there were very few private spas and fitness centres in the late 1970s. Reasons for beginning this were its potential as a revenue-generating agent, and the fact that fitness clubs were becoming very popular.

Participants could buy annual, quarterly, or monthly memberships. Day passes were added attractions for volunteers and those contemplating membership. For many years other programs benefitted from monies generated by the Centre, as there was a very large group of members loyal to the Centre and to the YW.

The Centre was quite luxurious, with whirlpool sauna, weight room and exercise room. Exercise bikes were available and hair dryers, lotions, et cetera, were provided. Fitness Centre members could also take classes. At first the emphasis was on "land fitness" then on "aquatic fitness." The Fitness Centre facility is separate from the swimming pool, although

participants in some of its programs may make use of the swimming pool.

Staffing the Fitness Centre was a challenge for the three staff who kept it open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. The first Director was Susan Cary who held her master's degree in Exercise Physiology. She was assisted by Shannon Cape who had similar training and Lynn Rock, a graduate in Home Economics. Lynn's job entailed helping women with weight control plans, including diet, exercise and proper nutrition.

Tests were given to determine levels of fitness. These were done individually and included an electrocardiogram (ECG), a bicycle test for strength and mobility and a flexibility test.

Although women's activities remained the priority, a men's locker room was set up for men wishing to swim or jog. After the 1980s, the YW struggled with the question of trying to provide for complete services for both men and women. At the present time, again plans are under way to change the fitness area.

-Sheila Petersen



Joggers - Welcome Lunch Hour Break

Y's Choice: The Expanded "Shop"

What was called "The Shop" became part of the YW scheme when the new building opened in 1977. It was staffed by one employee earning \$800 per month. The sales did not warrant this paid position, so in 1978 Anne Broughton, the Volunteer Coordinator, staffed the Shop with volunteers. It started out in the lower level of the YWCA and sold fitness and swimming attire for women, children and men. It was also an outlet for racquetball equipment, swimming goggles, weights and novel gifts for the athlete. A service it provided was towel rental. (Towels were donated by YW members.) A little later the Shop sold articles made by the Y Stitchers group and, on special occasions, baking. The Shop was supervised by a staff member, Carol Mennie, and volunteers donated at least one half day a week. Not only did the Shop fulfill a need, it created a profit.

When major renovations took place at the YW in 1986-87, the Shop moved to a more prominent location on the main floor. The operation was reconceptualized and renamed. It became "Y's Choice," and included much more than athletic supplies. The volunteers who ran Y's Choice formed an advisory committee to help set policy for it. The Chairman at this time was Pat Cook. On September 9, 1987, the elegant new premises opened. There were three components: new athletic wear, slightly used clothing sold on consignment, and an international gift boutique. For the first year Y's Choice had a staff member as manager, and then Pat Cook took over for a year and a half, doing the buying with Helen Young. At present there is a part-time paid manager and the rest of the staff is volunteer.

The role of volunteers in the success of Y's Choice (and the Shop) is not to be underestimated. Anne Broughton mentions the example of Klazina Rip who came to Canada after

the Second World War from Holland. She and her husband worked very hard to build a life for themselves and their family. Klazina had a health problem which her doctor thought could be aided by swimming. When the Volunteer Coordinator spoke to her class about becoming volunteers Klazina decided to try. First she dressed dolls to sell, then she worked in the Shop, then she became buyer and volunteer manager of the Shop despite the fact that her English was not fluent and she had only recently learned to write the language. She gave freely of her time for many years. She made customers and volunteers alike feel welcome.

The aims of the Y's Choice are as follows: to provide revenue for other programs at the YW; to illustrate the international aspects of the YW with the items in the boutique; and to train and use volunteers as staff so that, with experience, they can apply for jobs in the retail field.

Y's Choice has extended into the community by having goods for sale at YW meetings in other cities and at the Women's Escape Weekend at Jasper. Although its main thematic time is Christmas, the store offers gifts for Easter, Valentine's Day, Hallowe'en and Mother's Day, to name a few. At Christmas a special weekend is set aside to sell crèches that are made in many areas of the world. Over the years Y's Choice has gained a favourable reputation for having the "hard to find" size, colour, or style of bathing suit. From humble beginnings the revitalized Shop, now Y's Choice, definitely adds a positive image to the YWCA.

-Sheila Petersen

“New Start” Housing Options

In 1989, the YWCA met the long-standing need for affordable housing by undertaking to manage property owned by Alberta Mortgage and Housing.

As of 1990, the YW managed three properties. The first one, at 10641 103 Street, is a three-floor walk-up which is used by single mothers requiring low-cost housing and some other women in need of support services such as counselling. The second building, a nine-storey highrise, accommodates ninety low income adults in sixty-three suites. This property, at 10324 98 Street, is for women, men and families. The third building, at 9335 105 Avenue, known as Ashton Apartments, has some two-bedroom units and fills a need for many immigrants, qualifying for low-cost housing.

The YWCA housing project is for people who:

- are actively making changes in their lives and requiring some support
- have a mild disability and are able to live independently
- are single parents
- are active in treatment, recovery, and counselling programs
- are leaving abusive family situations
- are involved in vocational or academic upgrading programs

Subsidized by Alberta Mortgage and Housing, the rent is calculated at 25 percent of gross family income plus \$100 (single person) or \$150 (family) per month. The latter fee helps with support services offered by the YW in each building. Social assistance clients receive special rates.

Criteria for tenants include: being over eighteen; being capable of living independently; having a source of income

which allows them to pay for rent and support services; not engaging in alcohol or drug abuse; and agreeing to a probationary period in some instances.

The YW gives support in life skills (such as nutrition, budgeting, cooking and positive parenting), refers people to other agencies, and provides self help groups for medical, legal, educational or financial needs. In addition, an experienced and professionally trained support worker is located in each building.

The housing program is another brick in the structure of the YWCA's meeting community concerns.

-Sheila Petersen

A Tribute to Friendship

What follows is a tribute to a major dimension of YW activity—friendship. These particular friendships were formed before the period under review began, but they were nurtured and enjoyed all during it.

Betty McCoy, Madeleine Reynolds and Mary Shaw lived at the YWCA South Hall Annex in 1944-45 near the end of World War II. Betty and Madeleine had moved to the city to find work. Betty felt that she was lucky to get a job in the hardware department of Woodward's where she started at \$12 per week, and she did not know anything about hardware! Madeleine only made \$51 a month, while Mary, who was a legal secretary, made about \$22 a week. Out of these salaries they each paid \$40 a month for a small room with a single bed and board. The bathroom was down the hall. When Betty first arrived there were no rooms available, so she had to sleep on a cot in a curtained-off part of the hall. She did not even own a suitcase.

The YW provided inexpensive, decent accommodation

which was hard to find at that time since the city was crowded and apartments were being rented to servicemen's wives.

The cafeteria, run by Mrs. Sarah Golden, served good food. Of course, since it was wartime, the YW kept the girls' ration books for meat, sugar and butter.

Betty remembers the long, high counter inside the front door of the main building—like a hotel desk. Lillian Toth, the office manager, worked behind the counter and the General Secretary's office was there, too. Mrs. Cora Casselman, the General Secretary, was available if a young woman needed help.

Usually the young women managed to solve their own problems. One night in January, one of the women saw a man's face at the window when she got out of the shower! The girls plotted together and, the next time the Peeping Tom showed up they were ready for him. Some of the women watched for him and gave Betty a signal. She leaned out of an upstairs window and poured a pail of water on him! He did not come back.

The women were well supervised. There were strict house rules. The residents had to be home by 10 p.m. on week nights and 11 p.m. on weekends. (Men could not go upstairs—not even Mary's father with her suitcase.)

The residents became good friends since they were "all in the same boat." Their wages were low and there was no unemployment or health care insurance. To obtain welfare assistance a means test was given which was humiliating. The girls were "expected to stand on their own two feet," but they did give each other emotional support.

Both Mary and Betty learned to swim while they were living at the YW, as did many residents. Mary Barclay was in charge of the swimming pool and lessons, and was well on her way to becoming a legend in that role. When she retired in 1979, Mary Barclay had completed forty-one years of service to the YW, of which eighteen had been spent teaching swimming.

(Later she worked as a receptionist, and in the program department).

Some of the young women were hostesses for the American Red Cross and went to dances held for the American soldiers.

Mrs. Arnold Taylor of the Canadian Red Cross organized girls to do hospital visiting. Betty remembers visiting a soldier in the Mewburn whose name was Bruce. She was told that he was very depressed and withdrawn since he had become a paraplegic. However, Betty went into his room, opened the drapes and started talking to him. She said: "One day you're going to dance with me!" Bruce replied: "You're crazier than a hoot owl." Betty went out of his room, running into the Head Nurse, who was furious with her. However, Betty visited Bruce each week, taking a box lunch and making sure she shared it with him. Finally, with her encouragement, he was getting out of bed and was able to be up in a wheelchair every day. Eventually, he married the Head Nurse.

Living in residence in those days was certainly not luxurious, but the friendships these three young women made have lasted over forty-five years, and they have many good memories of the time they spent at the YWCA. Although Betty thinks the new building is "beautiful" she was sorry to see the old building torn down.

-Frances Reynolds

V. Conclusion: Running the Organization

The time period under review for the YWCA History Project was one of enormous change in management styles in the business community. Also, specifically in Edmonton and Alberta, it was one of enormous *variability*, both social and economic. There were boom years, and there were downturns. The internal structure of the organization was undergoing a transformation (professionalism, unionization, external standards) at the same time as the organization was trying to meet needs, not knowing how long lasting the demands would be. Changes in mores occurred as the community expanded and became more complex: one example is the shift to suburban living, with the development of malls as consumer centres. Parents do not send young children downtown on their own as they used to. Over the years there have been extreme physical demands on the YW facilities: increased use means increased wear and tear. All these factors have stressed the YW enterprise considerably, as they did most other charitable organizations.

It is important also to note the impact of factors entirely outside the Y's purview, factors of *material* change, so extensive that their influence must be noted. Consider as examples the impact of: (a) newer, more complex systems of bookkeeping; (b) technologized office equipment (photocopying machines, electric typewriters, computer systems et cetera); (c) legal, governmental requirements (building codes, child care standards, systematic reporting, tax systems); (d) more sophisticated funding structures (from the Community Chest to the United Way, the need for grantsmanship, contractual services).

There has been a major change from a "being charitable" emphasis (kind hearted, generous, good-natured), to

PART TWO

ESTABLISHING FACTS



◀ *Two Outstanding Volunteers
Louise Johnson & Pat Cook*



One Fundraiser early 1980s.

The Old Pool — Mary Barclay (employee for 41 years)

a greater emphasis on "running the business." One cannot be naive in today's world: there is much more competition for the charity dollar. Therefore each area of the operation must be at least cost efficient, must ideally carry its own load. The most obvious reasons are (1) a budget deficit to be eliminated; (2) the escalating costs of maintenance (the building is no longer new); and (3) new programs (especially to meet new, unexpected needs) make inroads on finances, because their costs have not been established. Hence, the strategy is to make each operation self-sufficient, and to build up a capital fund to get ahead of the game (interest rates have been high, our dollars are inflationary, our costs continue to rise). One hopes that, a few years down the road, the YW may be able then to explore some more flexible options with regard to the building, the services and programs, the location of management and the structure of the organization.

Currently the community the YW serves is *not* small and stable as in its early years, but large, spread-out physically, complex, changing. Moreover, the services offered are not limited, specialized vis-à-vis other organizations: on the contrary they are offered in a marketplace. Since there is such great competition for the charity dollar, our operation must be streamlined. The more profitable segments of the organization (for example, recreation) are important in themselves but important also because they allow some other segment to be maintained. The change in emphasis from being charitable to being businesslike makes a difference also in fund-raising practises. At one point it would have been frowned upon to fund raise professionally, or even to acquire more than one's immediate need. In the sixties radio sponsorship of the YWCA by a brewery was refused. Games of chance of any sort, even bridge playing (especially on a Sunday), were not favoured. Nowadays we seek our share of provincial lottery profits, of

bingos and casino opportunities. Times have changed. Our Board members, volunteers still, often bring professional expertise to their task. Personnel have specialized training in their varied job skills, whereas, thirty years ago many learned on the job. It is only since that time, after all, that employment benefits have been part of the picture (such as Medical Services Incorporated [MSI], Workers' Compensation Board [WCB], a Retirement Fund). Thus pressures from outside the organization have helped shape it as well as those within. One curious place where the contrast in times shows up clearly is in the role and duties of Board members. Always they have been volunteers, but have volunteered different gifts; perhaps in former years a Board member would have had considerable "hands-on" experience within the day-to-day running of the YW (downtown or the camp): inventorying linens, helping out at the front desk, baking for the Christmas party, sewing curtains. There was a "family" feeling of involvement in the total enterprise. Today a Board member often has professional expertise of some sort, or a background of experience sufficient to be a resource in making major policy or financial decisions for a four million dollar enterprise. There is general recognition that the simple days are done. The YW is into a new era, socially and financially.

In a complex organization such as the YW it is impossible to say one aspect is more important than another. Nevertheless there are two aspects in which the Edmonton association has been distinctly fortunate, one, in its Executive Directors (EDs), and, two, in its volunteers.

Re the first aspect, the story of the EDs would indeed tell the story of the organization, but that is impossible here. The crucial significance of the position rests on its being the YW's interface with the community, and thereby the Y's opportunity to interpret itself, and to make contacts productive

to its work. EDs have been distinguished women, well recognized in the broader community not only for their own gifts, but also as symbols of YW endeavour. The current ED, Carol Gilfillan, is one of these. Consider two further examples from the illustrious group, Cora Casselman and Estelle Amaron. Cora Casselman was the first person with the title Executive Director. When she was appointed Executive Director in 1945 (first she was General Secretary) of the Edmonton YWCA Cora Casselman was already well known in Edmonton, having been involved at the executive level in several local organizations. Cora Casselman was a Liberal Member of Parliament in the Mackenzie King government until the general election of 1945 when she was defeated. She was the first woman invited to take the Speaker's Chair in the House of Commons (March 13, 1944) and was Deputy Speaker for a short time on several occasions. She was sent, as an adviser, with the Canadian Delegation to the International Labour Conference in Philadelphia in 1944. Probably the highlight of her career was in 1945 when she was a member of the delegation from Canada taking part in the organizational meeting of the United Nations in San Francisco. Cora Casselman brought her experience and her vision to the task of Executive Director, and enhanced the organization in so doing.

Another example of a significant Executive Director is Estelle Amaron, who, at the time of her appointment in 1961, had done YWCA work around the world: Rangoon, Colombo in Sri Lanka, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Egypt, Italy and India. In days before we were familiar with third-world terminology she was described thus in the *Montreal Star*: "Miss Estelle Amaron wearing the badge of the YWCA world movement, has contributed greatly towards the progressive march of underdeveloped countries; she does great credit to her native land." Her service to the Edmonton YWCA in the 1960s was of a

similar calibre; during a period when one major social action area was that of discrimination, she brought distinctive leadership because of her background. All the Executive Directors coped distinctively. For these two there was a specially apt matching of backgrounds with emergent problems.

The second aspect in which the Edmonton Association has been distinctively fortunate is in its volunteers. A recent YW brochure states, "Without our dedicated volunteers the YWCA would not exist. During the past year [1990] over 500 volunteers devoted close to 50,000 hours of service to all areas of our organization." As we have said, there have been dramatic changes in the nature of what is volunteered, but the spirit has not changed. The current size and complexity of the organization is reflected in the breakdown into "program, service, and administrative volunteers." In simpler days a volunteer might have been put to a variety of tasks instead of having such a choice. The volunteer aspect of the functioning of the YW is a whole story in itself that should be told. Here, our purpose is only to stress that it is the backbone of the YWCA operation, and not to undertake the story. The organization is mindful of its debt to volunteers: it says "thank you" as warmly and ceremoniously as it can. In 1990, as a special tribute to an outstanding volunteer, the YW created the Pat Cook Award, to be given to a volunteer who had served in several areas over a large span of years. Pat Cook's own distinguished record as a volunteer dates back to camp counselling as a teenager, and it spans many levels of executive responsibility including representing the Edmonton YW nationally and internationally. Louise Johnson was the first recipient of the Pat Cook Award, in 1991.

It has sometimes happened, within the YW organization, that a person will have assumed different roles at different times, perhaps moving from volunteer board member

to employee, or from employee in one area or level of the operation into another. These occasions have been highly beneficial to the Edmonton YWCA, because the person brings her previous experience to bear upon each task, and she works with greater insight for the benefit of the whole enterprise. A clear example of this is the career of a third Executive Director, Margaret Williamson, who moved from a staff position, then to the Board, and then back to a staff position. Margaret Williamson was first appointed in 1960 as Director of Health and Physical Education. When she resigned from this position she was elected to the Board, and subsequently chaired varied committees of the Board (residence, individual services, camp, finance). At one point she was Vice-President of the Board, and she represented the YWCA at the YWCA World Council meeting in Denmark. It was after a five year stint on the Board that Margaret Williamson became a staff member once more, this time as Executive Director. She saw the YW through the crucial years of the new building planning and construction. Similar patterns of movement of personnel have shown up numerous times over the years, symptomatic of the "family" feeling mentioned previously, and undoubtedly benefitting the organization.

The point is important that many staff both gave and gained more than is common in many workplaces. Staff often acted as specialists and generalists at one and the same time. They had few support services available to them, and lower salaries and benefits, yet they often worked long hours in dual roles, volunteering their services much of the time. It was possible to maintain this unusual working climate because, in return, staff were part of a unique multidisciplinary organization which allowed for considerable skill acquisition and personal development, and which allowed also great freedom in the development of responsive programs, as well as

the satisfaction of seeing ideas implemented quickly.

The YWCA has not always been as hardheaded as now it must be in managing its affairs. However, it *has* always been practical, looking to beds and showers rather than sorting out ideologies. It has always found ingenious ways to solve problems. These characteristics have not changed; but they now show up in a different fashion. Despite the fact that the constituency is more extended than in the past, the contacts are personal, immediate and rewarding, as has always been the case.

How far flung now are the banners of Cushing House, with its rooms for ten residents, its potato patch, its homemade jams and pickles! Since the fifties the YWCA has invented many different kinds of ways to put roofs over heads, and to provide sustenance. Its own domicile is the base of these efforts, but the base is not the whole story. Similarly, fostering a healthy lifestyle has taken the YW far from its own premises—into city parks for day-camps, to YoWoChAs, into neighbourhoods, into the workplace. Educational ventures may shape up as part of a conference taking place in a hotel, or at a film festival, as much as in a seminar or a course held in the YW building. In order to foster international links through the Y's Choice shop, buyers go far afield. Ways of serving the original goals of the YWCA have been transformed, but the goals themselves have stood up well under close to forty years of drastic social change, in addition to the previous fifty of change at a slower, more predictable pace.

We are left with many speculative questions. In the "global village" how will an organization fare that has a targeted group to serve? Will scrupulous management policies erode or transcend the original mandate? When social equity for women is achieved, what then? These questions now are unanswerable, but at least we can affirm that the Edmonton Young Women's Christian Association's destiny will transpire

"not by might, not by power, but by spirit," if events follow past patterns. Our "retrospect" attests to that.

-Murina Bauer



Y's Choice (Our Shop)

CHRONOLOGY 1957—1990

This Chronology comprises highlights in the life of the YWCA as recorded in the minutes of the Board of Directors and Annual Reports. It retains, as far as possible, the style of the records used and therefore reflects the changing language (for example, in the names of Board members, from Mrs. John Smith to Mrs. Mary Smith to Mary Smith) and attitudes of the YWCA during the years 1957-90.

-Barbara Blackley and Jean Monckton

1957

- JAN.** **City Grant.** Board applies for increase in City Grant because of greater cost to operate pool and overall increase in maintenance and repair.
World Service. Board decides not to have rummage sales, but instead to have white elephant or other sales at markets. Best sellers are mystery novels, costume jewelry and aprons.
Hungarian Girls. YWCA agrees to care for single Hungarian girls arriving in Edmonton. Takes in several.
- FEB.** **Officers:** **President**—Mrs. F. Armour Ford
1st VP—Mrs. George Conquest 2nd VP—Mrs. R.D. Haryett
Secy.—Mrs. C. Diamond Treas.—Mrs. H.A. Elford
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. C.B. Kenway
Community Chest. Request \$34,563 from Community Chest. (Expenses \$123,210. Receipts \$90,450.)
National Allocation. Board agrees to pay \$2,500 as Allocation.
- MAR.** **Staff.** Meeting held March 13 to recruit staff from among University of Alberta students in Physical Education and in Arts and Psychology.
Travellers' Aid very busy: 294 interviews held, 228 phone calls made, 97 trains met, and 69 persons assisted in month.
Poster Contest inaugurated. Open to all young people who come to YWCA. Artist Murray MacDonald to select winners. Prize to be 10 free plunges.

- APR.** **Y-Teen Conference** held on "How World Affairs Affect Teens," and "Social Problems Regarding Teens."
Swim Show successful. Makes \$153.50.
Community Chest willing to give only \$25,448. Board decides to try to reduce other expenses but not to reduce salaries.
- MAY** **Travellers' Aid.** Hungarians, Indians, Metis, and hitchhikers make up majority of 81 persons counselled. Lately an influx of young women from England.
Health Education. A Post-Natal Class and a slenderizing Keep-Fit Class inaugurated. Gym Demonstration profit about \$227.
- JUN.** **Mrs. Mary Mooney** agrees to be Honorary President.
Community Chest agrees to grant an extra \$4,000 for salaries.
Building. Special Committee set up to consider repairs and alterations to gym and pool dressing room. Gym needs new floor and renovations that would cost \$10,000.
- JUL.** **Staff.** Board decides to hire various part-time and full-time people in order to stay open longer, but hopes to keep within salary budget.
- SEP.** **Building.** Board accepts \$1,000 from Hudson's Bay Company to ventilate kitchen and light space between the new Bay Parkade and the north side of the YWCA. Decides to build parking lot for 10 cars between south side of YWCA and M & M Building and rent 6 of the stalls at \$12.50 per month to the public.
50th Anniversary Tea a great success. Book, *First Fifty Years Edmonton YWCA 1907-1957*, compiled by Louise Johnson, ready and on sale. Cost \$4 but sells for \$1.50, proceeds to World Service. Cost was covered by donors.
Cafeteria. Residents to pay \$5 more per month effective January 1.
- OCT.** **Advisory Board.** Executive Committee meets with Advisory Board "to get advice from businessmen about situations that have arisen that women cannot handle alone," such as development of YoWoChAs camp at Lake Wabamun and pool and gym repairs.
Residence. Forty-seven permanents. Three girls left when rates increased and some have "asked for room service."
Program. YWCA running afternoon "Slim & Trim" program on CFRN TV
Cooperating with YMCA with a Co-Ed Group—South Side "Hi-Y" and Y-Teen girls.
- NOV.** **Building Fund** stands at \$92,600.

Counselling. Counsellor resigns. Board searching for a replacement trained in social work.

Travellers' Aid at station discontinued.

DEC. **Membership** now 1,211, including 314 electoral and 25 life.

World Service. World Service Chairman congratulated for having sent National what they asked for World Service, \$1,782—for the first time. Fund raisers included International Dinner (attended by 363) and a Trinket Sale.

1958

JAN. **Health Education.** Five hundred children attended parties at Christmas, bringing white gifts worth \$230 for World Service. Extension service for Ladies' Day Out being set up in Jasper Place.

FEB. **Annual Meeting.** Mrs. Vuchnich, National YWCA First Vice-President, speaks on state of National office and value of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) at United Nations

Officers: **President**—Mrs. George R. Conquest
1st VP—Mrs. C. Diamond 2nd VP—Mrs. E.C. Macdonald

3rd VP—Mrs. S.A. Keays Treasurer—Mrs. H.E. Elford
Finance Chairman—Mrs. Bruce M. Webb

Recording Secretary—Mrs. A.S. Rumbelow

Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. H.B. Collier

Budget for 1958: Balance \$5,913, from Community Chest \$31,371, income \$137,934. Board decides to ask Community Chest for \$6,500—to add to \$3,500 YWCA already has—to "do over" the gym.

Building. Board sets up a Building and Property Committee, to include building and engineering experts.

MAR. **Board.** Eighteen Committee Chairmen and 5 community representatives appointed. **World Service.** International dinner raised \$141.65, with 214 present.

Camp. Four summer camps to be held. Fees \$30.

Program. Teen dances cancelled owing to "rowdyism."

Swim Show "I Saw a Ship A-Sailing" held: 350 attend. Proceeds \$173.41.

APR. **Building.** Executive is authorized to enter into a contract with architect, Mr. MacDonald, regarding gym renovation.

MAY **Building.** Board decides not to use the Building Fund for gym renovation, unless absolutely necessary.

Gym Demonstration at Jubilee Auditorium a great success. Profit \$650.

Staff. Counsellor appointed. Position vacant since November 1957.

Program. Board decides to assess Teens and other groups a "social group" fee in the fall—adults \$4 above membership fees and Teens \$1 above membership.

Tea honouring Mrs. F. Armour Ford, former president, who resigned from Board upon leaving Edmonton.

Budget for 1959. Income \$104,625, disbursements \$138,573, asks Community Chest for \$33,948.

JUN. Biennial Conference held in Banff run by Alberta YWCA's. Topics—Your Role As a Woman; Your Role As a Christian; Capital Punishment; Nuclear Tests; Liquor Problems amongst Teenagers.

Program. While gym being renovated, McKay Avenue School being used for active games 4 hours per week.

SEP. Building. Gym remodelling completed.

Residence girls form a Council, and hold Sunday evening programs.

Community Chest. YWCA catered at First Presbyterian Church for Community Chest canvassers.

OCT. Program. Total registrants 1,023 children, 305 adults. Ladies' Day Out has 3 classes—191 ladies and 171 children.

NOV. Fund Raising. Letter received regarding 1949 YM/YWCA/Salvation Army Campaign enclosing cheque for \$285.15 and asking permission for the books to be closed. Board accepts.

Membership. Questionnaire to 300 electoral members got 12 replies.

Membership to run from September to August. Junior members under 16 and electoral over 16.

Building. Board decides on renovation of pool dressing room. \$750.

1959

JAN. Residence. Forty-seven girls, approximately 20 more than same date previous year.

Camp. First Camp reunion held January 3.

Staff. Board votes "that Miss Gardiner [Executive Director] be empowered to interview prospective employees."

FEB. Illuminated Purpose, a memorial to Miss Marion B. Kay, unveiled at Annual Meeting.

Constitution. Revised Constitution accepted at Annual

Meeting.

Officers: **President**—Mrs. G. Conquest

1st VP—Mrs. A.S. Rumbelow 2nd VP—Mrs. I. Telmer

3rd VP—Mrs. J. Oliver Rec. Secy.—Mrs. D.F. Wi

Treas.—Mrs. B. Webb Corresp. Secy.—Mrs. H.B. Collier

Building. YWCA enters into contract for twice-monthly inspection and maintenance, including minor repairs, of building. Check boiler, pumps, valves, traps, fans, air filters, and plumbing fixtures and equipment. Report each time in book kept at YWCA. \$25 per month.

MAR. World Service. Coffee party at Bay, held instead of International Dinner, made \$504.22, less expenses of \$42.16.

Building. Architects have been asked to draw up plans to add 15 feet forward from present building and to the lane from the rear. Board wants a room to hold 250 people, a sitting room for staff and a sitting room for girls.

Staff. Board appoints Counsellor, at salary of \$3,400. Duties to include Rooms Registry and supervision of Travellers' Aid.

Program. While rejecting Residence girls' request to advertise Sunday Bingo and card playing, Board votes not to have Bingo or any other games of chance open to the public at YWCA.

Residence. Used washing machine purchased for residence use.

APR. Swim Show "The Little Mermaid," held: 400 attended; profit \$189.40.

Staff. Need to appoint an *older* woman to assist in Travellers' Aid. To be on call 24 hours so set wages rather than hourly payment.

Residence. New iron has vanished and washing machine has broken down.

Community Chest approves Allocation of \$26,279 for 1959.

MAY Health Education. Board agrees that deaf girls be accepted in regular gym classes. Pool rented to Deaf School every Tuesday.

Membership. 2,093, with 907 electoral.

JUN. Gym Demonstration "Rhythm in Wonderland" at Jubilee Auditorium nets \$638.78 for World Service and Camp.

Residence. Present gas stove condemned by Gas Co.

SEP. Staff. Miss Gardiner, Executive Director, conducted "Morning Devotions" on CBC for 1 week in August. "I felt it was good for the YWCA to take our place in the Christian Community." First woman to do so.

- Camp.** Four held, with 120 girls and 8 leaders. Golden Craft Hall curtained and fireplace installed.
- Travellers' Aid.** YWCA counselling service used by Welfare agencies in summer as an aid in placing or sheltering young girls "for a temporary start."
- OCT. **Membership Tea** and Open House September 30 not as well attended as hoped, but made approximately \$210.
- World YWCA.** Mrs. Diamond reported enthusiastically on the World YWCA meeting in Mexico in September, at which she was one of nine Canadian delegates.
- Refugees.** Board voted a resolution to the Government of Alberta Minister of Health to make "such provisions as are necessary for the admission of some of these refugees to this province," that is, refugees who cannot conform to usual health standards.
- Reception.** Counselling and Travellers' Aid Committee helped with "very delightful" wedding reception for Elsa Daley, a member of the West Indian girls club.
- Finance.** Bonds: \$96,100—placed in Bank.
- Extension.** Board votes to hire one person for Extension work.
- NOV. **Refugees.** Mrs. Conquest and Mrs. Diamond met with Dr. Ross, Minister of Health, regarding YWCA resolution, and learned YWCA was first organization to approach his government concerning World Refugee Year. Alberta willing to take 20 families provided expenses shared 50-50 with Canadian government
- Program.** Board decides that adult programs should be self-supporting if possible and Community Chest monies be reserved for children's programs.
- National YWCA.** Past Presidents of Edmonton YWCA to raise \$7000 for Special Development Fund regarding extension for YWCA of Canada.
- Residence.** Counsellor has been helping to develop a program for residence girls, who are getting to know each other better "and griping has dropped to a minimum."
- DEC. **Program.** Leader Corps, Fireside Group, Over-30 Club, Business Girls, Jasper Place Y-Teens. All teen groups have completed 4-week courses on Social Etiquette and been informed of Refugee Year. Dance for young Indians has largest attendance ever.
- Hanging of the Greens** (a party to decorate the building for Christmas) attended by 400. Organ playing in Cafeteria.
- Extension.** King Edward Park program to go ahead—one class in Health Education and one in Charm and Personal Development.

Residence. Coin-operated washing machine installed at no cost to YWCA.

World Service. To raise money by taking magazine subscriptions.

1960

- JAN.** **Mrs. Percy Page**, wife of Lieutenant-Governor, and Mrs. Elmer Roper, wife of Mayor of City of Edmonton, accept invitations to become Honorary President and Honorary Vice-President respectively.
Clubs. New Year's Eve dance sponsored by Y-Teens and Business Girls attended by only 110 instead of the expected 250; \$200 debt incurred.
- FEB.** **Annual Meeting.** Twenty-eight staff members introduced; announcement that YWCA also has 75 part-time staff.
Officers: **President**—Mrs. A.S. Rumbelow
2nd VP—Mrs. W. Spencer 3rd VP—Mrs. J.D. Clark
Treas.—Mrs. E.C. Macdonald Secy.—Mrs. J. Armstrong
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. C.H. Martindale
Program: Business Girls to sell refreshments when costume material sold "to meet financial obligations for the New Year's dance."
- MAR.** **Residence.** Problem of disappearance of or damage to irons donated to Residence referred to Girls' Council.
Social Issues. Letter received asking for YWCA's feeling for the need for a hostel for Metis, Eskimo and Indians in Edmonton. Board response: "We are in favor of a hostel for all needy families."
- APR.** **Finance.** \$4,000 bonds purchased. Wizardry of Miss Gardiner praised. \$34,134 accepted from Community Chest. Board accepts suggestion of auditors that more bookkeeping be done by our staff; \$100 extra given auditors for 1959 since they did much more work than they were paid for.
Community Chest. \$34,134 accepted from Community Chest.
Residence. Room and board now \$70 per month.
Health Education. Fees raised for plunges and programs.
National Allocation. Board accepts \$4,481 as Allocation.
- MAY** **Community Chest.** Miss Gardiner and Mrs. Rumbelow attended Community Chest Annual Meeting. Also, first Annual Meeting of United Community Fund (UCF).
Staff. YWCA to do "Morning Devotions" on CBX June 13-18. Six persons to do one each.

- Gym Demonstration** "Maytime Carnival" profit \$583.62. Board votes 25% of proceeds to Local Fund World Refugee Year and 75% to World Service.
- Staff.** Board votes that when staff employed at least one year leave they be given a coffee spoon with YWCA crest on handle and Edmonton engraved on bowl. Approximate cost \$5.
- World Service.** Coffee party proceeds \$438.37.
- Finance.** City taxes \$6,571.65, of which YWCA pays only \$160.50 local improvement taxes. Also city gives \$750 for Travellers' Aid.
- JUN. **Fund Raising.** Cotton Picking Day (collecting cotton rags) nets \$125.50.
- Program.** Happy Hobbettes disbanded as an Overseas Wives group and opened to all married women.
- SEP. **Camp.** Registrations low, and Camp runs at a loss.
- Building.** Report of boiler explosion July 19—Mr. Boyd (on maintenance staff) hurt hand but now back at work. Repairs cost \$3,446.71.
- Staff.** Letter from Government of Alberta asking that overtime not be given to staff, but someone else employed.
- OCT. **Program.** Mothers' Day Out has 172 mothers and 196 children participating. Interest groups going well; 37 attending a class in everyday law. Eleven girls in Senior Y-Teens.
- Residence.** Residence rules changed to "Privileges and Responsibilities."
- NOV. **Cafeteria** makes a profit this month. Board decides to continue as at present, not open to public in evening, gradually raising prices if necessary.
- Staff.** Miss Gardiner resigns as Executive Director.
- DEC. **Camp.** Lease for 10 years with rent raised to \$15 year received from Alberta Government.

1961

- JAN. **Building.** Residence Committee thoroughly inspects building and finds all in need of repair.
- UNICEF** thanks YWCA for selling \$1,086 worth of Christmas cards.
- FEB. **Annual Meeting.** Mock Board Meeting held to demonstrate how Board works. Afterward appeals for Committee members.
- Officers:** **President**—Mrs. A.S. Rumbelow
1st VP—Mrs. C. Lange 2nd VP—Mrs. J.D. Clark
3rd VP—Mrs. D.F. Wilson Treasurer—Mrs. L. McKay

Rec. Secy.—Mrs. A. Ingall Corresp.Secy.—Mrs. J. Tweddle

MAR. Residence. Board votes to raise age limit in residence to 35 years. Residence is underused, with only 20 of 50 rooms occupied.

APR. Residence. Board votes that if after two years residence rooms are required by younger girls, then the 25-35 age group would be asked to leave. Girls to have a temporary sitting room which they will fix up themselves with \$20 grant from the YWCA.

Public Relations Committee formed.

Building. Roof in gym is leaking, and boiler in a bad way.

Camp. Calgary Power has now reached Camp, at cost of \$750.

MAY United Community Fund agrees on appeal to pay amount of deficit of \$4,968 as submitted in 1961 Budget.

Program. Convention Fund increased through successful "Night in Japan" and Bridge Club's "Bridge Party."

Miss Christina Gardiner presented with letter and cheque in appreciation of her years of service to the YWCA.

JUN. Building. On recommendation of the Advisory Committee, Board decides to proceed with outside repairs (\$7,680) and basement bathroom (\$1,955), to be charged to Building Fund. Main project, Advisory Committee says, should be done in 1962.

SEP. Miss Estelle Amaron welcomed as new Executive Director.

Cafeteria. Shows profit. Staff pay 5 cents per cup of coffee.

Program. Board votes to "accept request from Youth Services Division of the Council of Community Services to plan a program designed exclusively to assist in the rehabilitation of delinquent girls."

United Community Fund. Board votes to accept Allocation of \$38,500 instead of \$48,031 requested.

OCT. Staff. Because of considerable variation in salaries, Board decides to invite National Personnel Secretary to come and conduct a survey on Personnel Policies and Job Descriptions etc.

Program. Fifty young people at the Indian Residential School are functioning as a YWCA Hi-C Group.

Staff holidays at Christmas: Professional staff to receive 4 extra days, secretarial staff 2 extra days, besides Christmas and New Year's.

NOV. Residence. TV installed. Upstairs maid unhappy with

her wages, which were then raised by \$5 per month. Board votes that Residence Committee Chairman and Residence Director have the power to expel girls if deemed necessary (two girls were expelled for bad behaviour).

World Service During 1961. Allocation of \$2,523 reached. Some projects are Cotton Picking Day; Penny Project, requesting everyone to save their pennies during July and August for World Service; bake sale at Membership Tea; Christmas cards and gifts at Trinket Sale; Whist and Bridge party.

1962

JAN. **Staff.** Board votes to enter into staff retirement plan contract with Manufacturers Life Insurance Co.

FEB. **Annual Meeting** starts with Board members filing in and all present singing *Oh Canada*, accompanied by Mrs. C.A. Smith. After adjournment, *The Queen* is sung. Gym demonstration held.

Officers: **President**—Mrs. C. Lange

VP—Mrs. E.G. Capling

VP—Mrs. J.D. Clark

VP—Mrs. S.A. Keays

Treasurer—Mrs. L. McKay

Recording Secretary—Mrs. J. Tweddle

Building. Tender for renovations accepted, totalling \$93,895. Work to start April 24.

MAR. **Program.** Over-30 group has average attendance of 35. Some other programs are Sewing, Millinery, Bridge, Interior Decorating, Landscaping and Gardening. Most youth groups have planned outings from City orphanages to Game Farm.

Indian-Metis Friendship Centre. YWCA one of the groups involved in plans for this.

Swim Gala attended by 445, with \$190 profit to World Service.

APR. **Finance.** Board ratifies budget:

Revenues: \$112,795.

Expenses: \$158,680. Deficit: \$45,885.

JUN. **Camp.** Waterfront bulldozed and seeded: 30 lb. of weed killer used.

Gym Demonstration. Profit \$113.

SEP. **Silent prayer** at Board meeting for Mrs. E.P. Wellwood, a former Executive Director of the YWCA of Edmonton who died recently.

Building. Renovations completed, and by August 31 "a full house of girls."

- OCT. TV lounge proving popular.
Program. Mothers' Day Out has 159 mothers and 191 children in the three programs. Application made to Welfare Department of Provincial Government for a Day Nursery licence. Babysitting course doing well, after age requirement and fees lowered.

1963

- JAN. **Membership.** Juniors: 1,144; 592 electoral; 80 associate; 1,088 general.
Fees were increased September 1 from \$1 to \$2 per member.
Building. Architect shows drawings for future possible renovations totalling \$500,000, including pool renovation of \$85,000, new dressing room \$25,000, and new south wing of \$350,000.
Program. Will be necessary to limit English programs to women only as registration has gone from 4 to 70 in little over a year. New program for 'homebound mums', with children too young for Mothers' Day Out, being started, to be called Take-a-Break.
Members' Council elects an Executive.
Building. Board votes to proceed with alterations to pool and dressing rooms up to \$12,000.
- FEB. **Annual Meeting.** Guest speaker is Miss Agnes Roy, National Executive Director.
Officers: **President**—Mrs C. Lange
VP—Mrs E.G. Capling VP—Mrs. J.D. Clark
Secretary—Mrs. E.H. Murray Treasurer—Mrs. L. McKay
Service of Installation of Board conducted by Executive Director at Board meeting.
Building. Building and Property Committee meet with Advisory Committee regarding possible extension to building to the south, to cost at least \$500,000. Care urged by the Committees, who say it is not a good time. Advise \$12,000 pool area renovations be done during August.
- MAR. **Program.** Day Nursery licence received. Namateg, a constructive group experience for girls on probation, holds successful meeting (had not been doing too well). Club O'Mantiw to continue although its program in some respects overlaps with that of Canadian Native Friendship Centre.
Swim Gala "Fanta Sea" well attended and nets \$240 for World Service.
- MAY **Culmination Week** held instead of Gym

Demonstration; very successful.

Health Education. Swim Club to be a Club, instead of a class, and pay \$400 for a year for up to 75 people, for total of 180 hours of pool time.

Day Camp. Eighty-nine register. Low registration for late camps owing to pool closure. Suggestion made that in lieu of swimming it might be possible to conduct classes in conversational French!

JUN. **Program.** Active during the year: Blue Triangle Supper Club; The Outing Club; BeeGees; Over-30 Club; Bridge Club; Take-a-Break; Mothers' Day Out; Millinery; Sewing; Activity Night; Holiday Highlights. Also many groups within Y-Teens, such as Kia Ora, Varsco, EDS.

SEP. **National.** There are now 7 regions in YWCA of Canada, one region comprising Alberta and B.C. Regional conference being planned for 1964.

Camp. Report of an incident at camp involving 3 Scouts ages 16 to 20, who tried to pull down a YWCA tent. Charges were laid but later withdrawn on understanding that the youths would be punished through their church and Scout associations.

OCT. **Opening.** Mrs. Margaret Williamson gave the devotional, the closing prayer said at the World Council Meeting in Denmark which she had attended.

Program. English program reorganized. Enrolment not to exceed 40 daytime and 50 evening students.

Health Education. "It has been brought to our attention that some of our girls have transferred to other places for instruction because these dancing schools have given them opportunities to appear in public." YWCA girls are now planning their first show, and Gym Demonstration to be reinstated.

Building. United Community Fund (UCF) to pay \$10,000 over 3 years towards cost of pool renovations; YWCA to pay other \$4,000 needed. Purchases totalling \$6,489 approved for residence furniture, cafeteria equipment, camp equipment, record player, and mats for Health Education Department.

NOV. **United Community Fund.** 1964 Allocation request \$37,746 (\$163,931 less \$126,185).

DEC. **World Service for 1963.** Some projects during the year: Coffee Party; Trinket Sale; silver collection at Culmination Week.

Members' Council. Freedom from Hunger campaign collects \$415.59.

1964

- JAN. Residence.** "The Residence girls held their Xmas banquet on December 12 and presented to the Residence a Gissing painting with the name and address of each girl written on the back."
"A gavel was presented to Mrs. Lange which she handed over to President elect Mrs. Clark."
- FEB. Officers:** **President**—Mrs. J. D. Clark
VP—Mrs. E.G. Capling VP—Mrs. A.S. Rumbelow
VP—Mrs. E.N. Stewart Secretary—Mrs. E.H. Murray
Treasurer—Mrs. T.G. Cook
- MAR. World Service.** Board members asked to save dimes in empty cigar holders in their purses for World Service.
- APR. Camp.** Donations of money and labour to extend dining hall, build two new cabins and extend dock.
Program. Y-Teens given permission to enter a Float in the Exhibition Parade.
- JUN. Camp.** Board votes to hire someone for month of June each year to clean up and do general repairs, since volunteers unable to do everything required.
Gym Demonstration "Down to Earth" made profit of \$280 (\$200 to World Service and rest to Camp).
Staff. Board appoints Mrs. Dortie Carnie of New Westminster as Executive Director, to start October 1, 1964, at \$6,900 a year.
Presentation to Miss Amaron: gift spoon from Board; also a camera and \$600 at her Farewell Dinner given by YWCA.
- SEP. Tribute to Mrs. Cora Casselman,** Executive Director 1945-53, who died recently.
Camp. All successful. But stove, freezer, and refrigerator all broke down, milk delivery unsatisfactory, and drinking water problems. Two cases of outsiders causing trouble.
United Community Fund. Allocation \$36,180; had requested \$46,890.
- OCT. Program.** Over-30 disbanded for lack of interest. Mothers' Day Out, Take-a-Break, and English all have waiting lists. Seminar for Foster Parents of Teen Ageds being attended by 15 couples and seems very worthwhile. Referral Group, a program for girls on probation undertaken at request of City Probation Department, dropped, as "girls had failed to develop a sufficient degree of communication to benefit from the group experience."
Building. One year after renovations, many problems

with pool, e.g. peeling paint and a drain smell. Advisory Committee consulted. Many ramifications: a new pool is needed since repairs as costly as new pool, but does YWCA really need a pool, or is it a luxury? Possibilities of a capital campaign.

- NOV. **Program.** New Teen Group called "Meokie" study religions and plan to visit a mosque. Quanda Quo visit a Hutterite Colony.

1965

- JAN. **Building.** Pool drained and cleaned, but new traps in drains have not prevented offensive odour. The facility is clearly in poor condition.
Annual Meeting plans. "Mrs. Webb will endeavour to borrow a new Canadian flag" as part of decorations of flags and dolls.
- FEB. **Annual Meeting.** Tribute is paid to Mrs. Cora Casselman, the former Executive Director. Guest speaker on "Responsible Christians in a Changing World." Executive Director's Report is presented as Mock Trial; YWCA found not guilty of charges that it had failed to fulfil its Purpose.
Officers. **President**—Mrs. J.D. Clark
VP—Mrs. E.G. Capling VP—Mrs. J. Williamson
VP—Mrs. E.H. Murray Secretary—Mrs. O. Kingsep
Treasurer—Mrs. T.G. Cook
Camp now requires government licensing and accreditation.
- MAR. **United Community Fund.** 1966 Allocation request \$53,620 (\$196,714 less \$133,094).
- APR. **Camp** Director for June to mid-December appointed.
Staff. Executive Director resigns.
- MAY **Camp** Committee went to inspect Camp but, "Due to the blizzard which blew in shortly after arrival, little business was accomplished." Decides to clear more land and enlarge play area. Suggests using sponsored "camperships" to help own YWCA members, e.g. children of those attending English Classes for New Canadians.
- JUN. **Fund Raising.** Board decides that raffles are against both the policy of the YWCA and the Criminal Code and will not be allowed.
- SEP. **Program.** Leader Corps renamed "Y's Workers."
Staff. Mrs. Abol Ziai, who has been serving as Acting Executive Director, agrees to continue her work on a 2/5 week basis from her home on 2/5 salary.

- 1965** **GENERAL. Community Study and Survey** undertaken during 1965 to evaluate the total operation of the YWCA in relation to the Purpose of the YWCA and to the community, to determine our role in serving the future needs of our membership and this City and how this will affect long range planning for our physical requirements.

1966

- FEB.** **Annual Meeting.** Life memberships presented to Miss Nora Wakelam (staff member for 26 years), Dr. Mary Johnstone, and Mrs. Sara Golden (Cafeteria Director for 25 years). Panel discusses "The What, the 'Y' and the How."
Officers: **President**—Mrs. A.S. Rumbelow
VP—Mrs. J. Williamson **Corresp.** Secy.—Mrs. O. Kingsep
Treas.—Mrs. D.M. Buchanan
Rec.Secy.—Mrs. J.D.G. Walker-Brash
Community Study and Survey. Self Study now complete, and Board establishes a special committee to undertake the second phase of the Community Study and Survey, a study of the program and services of the YWCA in relation to the present and future needs of the community.
- MAR.** **Day Camp.** Mill Creek Ravine obtained for 1966 Summer Day Camp.
Staff. Miss Margaret Hart, Individual Services Secretary of National YWCA, is welcomed by Board as temporary Advisory Secretary in the Edmonton YWCA on the retirement of Mrs. Ziai, Acting Executive Director.
United Community Fund. On appeal, Allocation increased from \$39,600 to \$48,039.
- APR.** **Health Education.** Wee Swim class for mums and children 6 months to 3 years commences 27 April, 1966.
Finance. Board reduces the 1965 deficit by sale of bonds and cash from the Building Fund.
- MAY** **Health Education.** Boys to be admitted to Tadpole and Minnow Swim Classes.
United Community Fund Hearing held to discuss 1967 Budget and possibility of including the YWCA Camp in the operating budget.
Staff. Mrs. Margaret Williamson appointed Administrative Secretary for summer.
- AUG.** **Staff.** Mrs. Margaret Williamson appointed Executive Director for 1 year.

- SEP. **Building.** **United Community Fund** will pay cost of installation and additional increase in rent of the new switchboard. Because of overcrowding, some rooms converted to different uses and some programs moved out of building.
Pool. \$22,000 spent on pool in last ten years. New one would cost \$100,000, or repairs to present one \$2,190. Maintenance Supervisor gives pool a touch-up costing \$30 instead.
- NOV. **Program.** Over 70 students in English classes, 23 in French classes, 14 in Outing Club. Board votes to discontinue requirement that medicals always be given as a prerequisite for gym and swim programs.
Publicity. CBC filmed some of the swim classes and will return for the Wee Swim.
- DEC. **World Service.** Rummage Sale makes \$430 profit.

1967

- JAN. **Program.** Y-Teens' groups are now nearly nonexistent.
Building. Board decisions concerning a new building: stay in downtown location; approach government for a specific amount of money; approach City to provide money to build the pool; consider engaging a Fund Raising Counsel.
Staff. Mrs. Margaret Williamson appointed to indefinite term as Executive Director at a salary of \$8,100 per annum.
Centennial Tea on February 7, sponsored by Tri-Y.
- FEB. **Annual Meeting.** Executive Director's Report speaks especially of the Boyle Street Project which was initiated in September by the YWCA, an attempt to plan with and work with other groups in the area.
Officers: **President**—Mrs. A.S. Rumbelow
VP—Mrs. L.H. Thomas Secretary—Mrs. R.C. Sheldon
- MAR. **Building:** "Mrs. Cook gave a very exciting report on her investigation of the possibility of buying the Ex-Servicemen's Children's Home [McDougall House] on 100 Avenue and 103 Street which is to be closed."
United Community Fund. Board approves United Community Fund Budget for 1967, with projected deficit of \$79,956.
- APR. **Program.** Over 1,000 children attend Easter Snoopy Club. In response to concern expressed concerning Indian and Metis girls arriving in the Edmonton area with no place to stay, Board decides to institute a

- Travellers' Aid type program to give the girls advice and assistance on accommodation and employment.
- JUN. Halfway House.** Board sets up a committee to look into making Argyle House, 102A Avenue and 95 Street, a halfway house for girls and women from the Alberta Institute and Fort Saskatchewan jail, to be leased by the government and run by YWCA.
- Program.** Board accepts recommendation of Youth Program Committee (who had completed a nation-wide study) that "the Y-Teens as programmed and defined by the National YWCA be discontinued indefinitely and our attention be directed to meeting the needs and interests of young people in new or experimental programming."
- United Community Fund.** Allocation is \$66,291.
- SEP. Camp.** Wilderness Outpost Camp and the Lake Camps (Girls and Family) were very successful. Two Wilderness Camps, a Centennial Project, followed routes taken by early explorers and pioneers.
- Program.** Mothers' programs are filled and Extension courses to start soon in Pleasantview, Trinity, Norwood, Sherwood Park and North East Edmonton. The new Youth Summer Program was not well registered.
- OCT. Health Education.** Pilot program for handicapped preschoolers to begin October 30.
- DEC. Travellers' Aid.** After YWCA consultation with various Indian welfare groups, Travellers' Aid was in attendance at Bus Depot in November and December.
- World Service in 1967.** Fund raising events included: Rummage Sale (\$434.33); Coffee party at Molson House (\$200); Selling food and drink at Promenade Sunday at Klondike Days (\$260). 1967 Allocation met in February 1968, with profit of \$78 Rummage Sale and \$475 from Caribbean Night Dance held at Faculty Club. Tickets for dance were hand painted by Oriental Brush Group. Allocation for 1968 is \$3,000.

1968

- JAN. New Building.** Building and Property Committee makes a bid on the property at 103 Street and 100 Avenue. Executive Director meets with government concerning using this McDougall House as a halfway house until the YWCA would be ready to build, government having withdrawn support for Halfway House at Argyle House location.
- FEB. Officers:** **President**—Mrs. L.H. Thomas

- VP—Mrs. R.E. Phillips Rec. Secy.—Mrs. R.C. Sheldon
Treasurer—Mrs. D.M. Buchanan
- Provincial YWCA.** Board agrees to ratify the formation of a YWCA Provincial (Alberta) Committee made up of the chairmen of the boards of Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge, and Medicine Hat.
- MAR. **Travellers' Aid.** Mrs. Jamoye works 5 evenings a week at the Bus Depot. People have volunteered rooms, for which government will assume responsibility for one month's room and board.
Program. Native Youth Club now publishing a newsletter.
Building. Board votes to accept the Department of Youth's offer to do a study of YWCA's functions and facilities.
- APR **Residence.** Board sponsors 6 girls from Residence for Miles for Millions Walk on May 4.
- AUG. **Middle Earth Project.** Board votes confidence in Executive Director and President concerning their cooperation with the All Saints' Cathedral's Middle Earth project (a drop-in centre) in allowing young people from the project to use YWCA swimming pool.
- SEP. **Fund Raising.** Promenade Sunday made \$326 profit (at Klondike Days) to go to Campership Fund and to send a delegate to World Young Adult Conference.
Archives. Board votes to accept Provincial Museum and Archives' invitation to send YW minute books and photos, up to 1960, for permanent preservation in the Archives division.
- OCT. **Program.** Babysitting to be included in the Mothers' Day Out programs. Programs for mothers and preschool children continue to be a major focus and have been extended into 9 areas of the city through the Y-Neighbors program.
New Building. Government to give \$360,000 in 6 annual instalments towards purchase of McDougall House site. If YWCA is unable to carry out the building program in next 6 years, ownership will revert to Public Works. Government also gives \$10,000 to put present building on the site in good repair.
Building. Board agrees to purchase new TV, and that painting in YWCA building be done annually as necessary, during the Christmas holidays, without further reference to the Board.
- DEC. **World Service in 1968.** \$19,000 received from Miles for Millions going to help a building in Fiji (\$11,000), to buy a jeep in Ceylon (\$2,000), to pay off debts to Gift Fund, for World Service Allocation, and for reserves. Other

fund raising projects during year included Koffee Klatch, running cafeteria at Y'D Open Gates (March 31 Open House), rummage sale.

1969

- FEB. Officers: President**—Mrs. L.H. Thomas
VP—Mrs. R.E. Phillips Treasurer—Mrs. Walter R. Badun
Recording Secretary—Miss Evelyn Wilson
- APR. Program.** Easter Snoopy Club very successful, with attendance of 1,088 over 3 days.
- MAY Travellers' Aid.** "Native Voice's" warning of the pitfalls in the city may have had some results as the problems at the Bus Depot have dropped off.
United Community Fund reimbursed YWCA with \$6,000 towards 1968 Deficit, but still \$5,037.26 short.
- JUN. "Crash Pad."** Board votes to use the North Club-room on an experimental basis as a Crash Pad for transient girls during summer.
Program Publicity. YWCA to join with other agencies in presenting Fall Program release in tabloid form with theme "Learning is Living"; the cost will be \$483, the same as YWCA's former half-page ad in the *Journal*.
United Community Fund will reduce YWCA's proposed 1970 Allocation from \$108,000 to \$88,473, and suggest YWCA increase membership fees, camp fees and prices to the public in the cafeteria to make up the difference.
- SEP. President** is now Mrs. D.W. Harrison, Mrs. Thomas having left Edmonton for a year.
YWCA Research Project prepared by Department of Youth adopted by YWCA as a Study Book and released to United Community Fund.
World Service Allocation for 1970 of \$4,888 not accepted by Board in order not to set a precedent (although money is available from YWCA share of Miles for Millions).
McDougall House. Halfway House opened June 29, with 20 girls, at \$7 per day. House Board is to become a standing committee of the YWCA so that YWCA may be the Administrator for government funding purposes, as required by regulations.
Program. Nets \$392.13 from providing program and care for children of parents attending Seed Growers Convention in July.
- OCT. Program.** Board votes policy changes including: men

and boys may register for any class unless otherwise stipulated in the program; no preregistration for men and boys; volunteers and part-time staff to have free babysitting while they are giving service.

- DEC. **Fort Saskatchewan Correctional Institution.** Recreation program offered on Thursday nights, with emphasis on providing activities of interest to participants.
Program. New programs include Adult and Folk Guitar, Facial Care, Oil Painting, and Young Adult Drop-in on Sundays.

1970

- JAN. **President** in report at Annual Meeting, says that the apparent changed Membership policy at National level will be reflected locally, and will "have the effect, presumably, of altering the orientation of the Y.W.C.A. from being primarily concerned with the needs and wishes of its members to the requirements of the community at large."
Officers: **President**—Mrs. D.W. Harrison
Rec. Secy.—Miss E. Wilson Treas.—Mrs. M.G. Grace
- MAR. **United Community Fund.** Board congratulates Mrs J. Grant Sparling on her election to the Board of the UCF.
Edmonton Native Youth Club. Board votes, in response to request from club, to allow it, on a trial basis, to use YWCA building for their meetings without YWCA staff supervision. This club is unique in Edmonton.
- APR. **Gym Demonstration,** "Fables, Fantasies 'n Follies" held in Students Union Building, nets \$652.32, which will go to Campership fund.
Program. Snoopy Club during Easter Holiday had an attendance of 1,040 children.
Emergency Shelter for Women at All Saints' Cathedral. YWCA has been involved since November 1969, and Board votes to support idea of the shelter and to cooperate with the management committee, but to have no financial involvement such as collecting or administering funds.
- JUN. **New Building Committee** has updated "1967 self-study" and considers enough self studies have been done and time now for constructive action. Board votes that the New Building Committee prepare a brief to be submitted to funding agencies to secure money for the salary of a full time Redevelopment Officer.
Transient Youth. Board votes that Transient Youth

Committee Stop-Over 9-9 be accommodated in the basement of the YWCA until they find other facilities.

SEP. **Policy on Priorities: Individual Services and Program.** Board votes that both are equal, parallel priorities.

OCT. **New Building.** Board approves Motion from New Building Committee that, "In view of research proving a need that a new YWCA building, to serve the functions set by this Association, be constructed on lots ninety (90) to ninety-three (93) inclusive in block three (3) in the Hudson's Bay Company reserve, a subdivision of the City of Edmonton, commonly known as McDougall House property." Board confirms the New Building Committee has full power to move forward without delay towards the construction of a new YWCA building.

Emergency Shelter for Women. YWCA will continue to provide free breakfasts for the women only until end of October.

Program. Program department is cooperating with the city at the Boys' Club in the McCauley district. A program of arts and crafts was taken to the Sucker Creek Indian Reserve by two YWCA staff members in cooperation with Department of Indian Affairs and the Indian Association.

World Service Committee helped financially to send Vera Radio to Gambia with Cross-Roads for six weeks.

DEC. **New Building.** Board votes to confirm the appointment of John A. MacDonald as architect.

1971

JAN. **Annual Meeting.** Speaker is Miss Isabel MacMillan, on "The Royal Commission on the Status of Women."

Officers: **President**—Mrs. D.W. Harrison
Recording Secretary—Miss Mary Rendell.

Other positions vacant.

Life memberships to Mrs. E.C. Ansley, Mrs. J.D. Clark, Mrs. Carl Lange, Mrs. R.B. Wishart, Miss Dolly Sinfield, Mrs. B.M. Webb and Miss Evelyn Wilson.

United Community Fund Allocation for 1971 is \$107,109, a cut-back of 15% from the previous year.

MAR. **Building Advisory Committee** being appointed to serve until one year after new building completed.

Open House attended by 500-600.

APR. **1972 Budget.** Board accepts some major changes in revised 1972 Budget, e.g. paying only \$5,000 of National Allocation. Program fees to be raised.

- "Functional budgeting"** enables a realistic relation of each program to costs.
- JUN. **Membership.** Only 170 paid-up memberships.
Camp. Registrations down, so 2 wilderness, 1 residence, and 1 daycamp cancelled. Committee notes that City Parks and Recreation programs are free, and Government Opportunity for Youth projects had a major effect on the number of drop-outs.
- SEP. **Transient Youth.** YWCA Hostel had the best attendance of any of the registered hostels: average attendance was between 7 and 35, total attendance May to August was 2,729, and the average age was 20. Need for donations of blankets from the Board, since blankets being used for Transient Youth were from the Camp.
- OCT. **Staff.** 1972 deficit of \$21,279 expected. As cost-saving measure, Travellers' Aid position eliminated (other agencies are filling this need) and other staff deletions will save \$11,459.
YM-YW Study Committee. Board votes to conduct a study of the pros and cons of amalgamation of the YM-YW in Edmonton, in light of the proposed new building.
- NOV. **Finance.** Requests for funds have been made to UCF and to Government: need a qualified person to do costing of programs and also need assistance regarding functional budgeting. Finance Committee recommended to Camp Committee that there be no staff hiring or brochure printing until government grants are assured.
- DEC. **Individual Services.** "Rooms Registry is now cancelled. The staff time thus released will be put to conversing with the unmotivated girl." New program to be called "Training for Living."
New Building. Board votes to hire YMCA Financial Services to run the building campaign.
United Community Fund. Allocation is \$113,076, about \$3,000 more than last year. YWCA can still call on them for capital maintenance grant.

1972

- JAN. **Residence.** A pantyhose machine has been installed, and residence girls have requested a cigarette machine. Permission given to residence girls to provide their own paint and to paint their rooms.
- FEB. **Annual Meeting.** Mrs. P.J. Chadsey, President of the YWCA of Canada, is the speaker; her topic is the work of volunteers.
Leader Corps. Annual Report Highlights say during

1971 Leader Corps had many activities, e.g., running a program for boys and girls at M.E. Lazerte School during teachers' convention, helping with Easter Snoopy Club. A total of 31 leaders are in the two Leader Corps.

Officers: **President**—Mrs. I.G. Dunlap

VP—Mrs. L.G. Grumble Secretary—Miss Mary Rendell

New Building. United Community Fund has approved a Building Campaign for April, 1973.

MAR. President speaks of desirability of Board members using first names. Minutes now use first and last names, with no Mrs. or Miss attached.

United Community Fund Allocation frozen until 1976.

MAY **United Way** (formerly United Community Fund) deficit 1973 Budget accepted by Board.

Program. \$1,300 raised by swimathon to support subsidy of rehabilitation swim program.

New Building. Board votes that Building Campaign goal be \$1.5 million. Campaign Planning Committee formed.

SEP. **New Building.** Provincial government is making \$800,000 grant for residence, over 5 years; reassessment of plans needed. Board discusses possibility of decentralizing program and just building a residence.

OCT. **Building.** Need to spend \$1,500 to replace 70 locks, with one master, to open all doors within 2 minutes in case of fire.

NOV. **New Building.** Board votes to borrow \$120,000 for purchase of 2 lots adjacent to the McDougall House property for addition to new building site.

World Relations (formerly World Service). Rummage Sale nets \$125.

DEC. **Liquor policy.** Board votes to "support our understood policy re no liquor in present building."

1973

JAN. **New Building.** Campaign organization now consists of over 1,000 workers. There are 632 people at the Campaign kick-off.

Camp. Board votes to have no residence camp this summer. YM changed their camp emphasis to group rentals and skill schools so a joint camp is not really possible. Alternative uses for Camp are being investigated; site in poor condition, capital repairs needed, but no money available.

World Relations. "The children of Ugandan immigrants

- (ages 7—15) have begun their swim program."
- FEB. **Officers:** **President**—Mrs. L.G. Grimble
VP—Mrs. L.P. Arlette Secretary—Mrs. John Dowsett
- MAR. **Building.** Board votes to do the \$7,000 renovations to the downstairs of present building required by fire regulations so that the area can continue to be used for nursery purposes. Half of the money needed will be paid by UCF; YWCA will pay for rest somehow.
- APR. **New Building.** Money available: \$1,000,000 (City of Edmonton), \$800,000 (Province of Alberta), \$775,000 (Public Campaign). "Considering demolition costs, architect fees, and other receipts the net total is \$2,400,000."
- MAY **Fund Raising.** Board votes that it "approves of Raffles as a means of Fund Raising for the Y.W.C.A."
Residence. Rate of board raised by \$5 to \$90 per month.
- SEP. **United Way.** Board approves 1974 Budget, with the new increases (salaries, minimum wage increases, food costs etc.). Budget shows increase in income of \$18,500 , increase in expenses of \$51,200.
- OCT. **New Building.** Board votes to sever contract with Building & Furnishings Services of National Council of YMCAs, who were hired in April, after much discussion of the cost of professional advice with high travelling expenses and the capability of local firms under the direction of architect Mr. Jock MacDonald.
Building. Board votes to have appraisal of the present YWCA building updated.
Program for Handicapped. An ad hoc committee is investigating possible programs for the handicapped in the new building.
- NOV. **World Relations.** Nine percent of \$82,000 was YWCA's Allocation from Miles for Millions, this share to go to needy areas of Rhodesia and Bangladesh. Trinket Sale realizes \$105.
Regional. Request from Grande Prairie for a YWCA discussed, but nothing further heard. At YM/YW Regional Conference in Banff, there had been a strong feeling that any Extension work in these northern areas should be done jointly.
- DEC. **New Building.** Amount in Building Fund is \$984,608.39. Application made to Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation for \$1,100,000 mortgage.

1974

- JAN. **Camp.** Board votes reluctantly "that our lease with the

Provincial Government be terminated." Reasons: no money to restore resident camp site, and "there also seems to be a change of attitude toward camping." Board votes that a standing Committee be formed to deal solely with camping.

- FEB.** **Annual Meeting.** Mr. Roy Leadbeater, the sculptor of the candlestick the raffle of which netted \$1,076 to the Building Fund, is welcomed.

Constitution. Amendments, designed to satisfy the CMHC that the YWCA is a charitable organisation, are adopted.

Officers: President—Mrs. L.P. Arlette

Vice-President—Mrs. O.J. Broughton

Program. Board votes change in priorities (in view of expansion of city programming): (a) total fitness; (b) leadership development; (c) social action; (d) unique and flexible programs; (e) camp.

New Building. Board votes to enter into agreement with firm of John A. MacDonald, Architects, regarding new building.

- MAR.** **Regional.** YMCA and YWCA, who had each given \$250 for study of situation in Fort McMurray, make a joint expedition to Fort McMurray. Local people elect a Board and undertake to match \$1,500 from National YW and Regional YM to pay a worker for 3 months.

Residence. Rates raised to \$105 per month for room and board.

Program. Profit on sale of crafts at Open House was \$200. Easter Egg Break instead of Snoopy Club for 6-12s.

New Building. Mortgage of \$1,200,000 obtained; some concern over the size of the annual payment of \$96,000.

- APR.** **Rape Crisis Centre.** A member of the Individual Services Committee is active in the group attempting to form a centre.

United Way. Board votes to accept the 1975 proposed budget, which shows a deficit balance of \$61,306. (Auditor's fees increased, at their request, from \$100 to \$135 per month. Membership fee to rise from \$2 to \$5.)

- MAY** **National.** Eight delegates to the National YWCA Meeting in June are nominated and elected at a General Meeting of the membership. Concerning the status of YWCAs and YM/YWs in Canada ("The distance between two Triangles") Board instructs delegates to vote for Model Number 3 of four proposed in a National report: "Formalized committee co-operation and would see integration of certain services etc. Responsibility for co-operation would have to be accepted." [Convention did adopt this Model.]

- New Building.** Mr. J.A. MacDonald instructed to proceed with working drawings despite fact that construction costs have gone up 30% since December—from \$3 million to \$4 million.
- JUN. **New Building.** McDougall House has been demolished.
- JUL. **New Building.** Board approves a rather complicated method for financing the Building, involving additional government help, all contingent upon an increased contribution by the YWCA of \$200,000, \$100,000 of which is in sight. Final Campaign total \$917,000.
- SEP. **Rape Crisis Centre.** Board approves motion carried at Individual Services Committee meeting to “call a public meeting of agencies and persons interested so that from this meeting a committee can be formed so that they can take the next step in the formation of a Rape Crisis Centre in Edmonton.” About 50 attended. Name changed to Sexual Assault Centre.
- New Building.** Only bid from a contractor for construction of new building is for \$5,185,000, \$1,185,000 higher than most recent estimate. YWCA to ask provincial government to support an increase of the mortgage to \$1,400,000.
- OCT. **New Building.** Since bid for construction far exceeded any available funds, and no further financial support seems to be forthcoming, Board votes that plans to construct the tendered project be terminated and that capital fund contributions continue to be placed in trust pending disposition by the Board. Board appoints an ad hoc committee to clearly present priorities and make new plans based on them in light of the financial position. Mrs. Arlette resigns as President, succeeded by Anne Broughton.
- National President** Florence Campbell is entertained at a luncheon.
- Camp.** Condition of Camp so poor, possibility of Wilderness Camping.
- Individual Services Committee** suggests that New Building be a residence only, eliminating program area whose needs are being increasingly met by city. Board, however, approves a motion “that the priorities are still parallel, residence and recreational programming.”
- NOV. **World Relations.** Trinket Sale nets \$126.00. \$4,440 has been allotted to the YWCA from the Miles for Millions. \$4,806.37 raised in all.
- Camp,** “The Camp had been cleaned up.” Board votes to rescind the motion of January 30 to terminate lease with the provincial government.
- DEC. **New Building.** Board votes to rescind the October

motion to terminate the plans to construct the tendered project, and votes to support endeavour to fund plans for original building planned, and to go to tender by March at latest with available funds to build basement, subbasement and main floor with provision for additions.

1975

JAN. Finance. Special Board Meeting held to discuss deficit position. Deficit for 1974 was \$34,660; \$18,000 needed for repairs to meet fire regulations; \$50,000, approximately, needed for approved salary increases.
Camp. Plan to reestablish camping program and to enter into negotiations for joint use of site with other agencies.

New Building. Board votes to add the recreational portion of the second floor to plans to go to tender.

Residence. Rates raised from \$105 to \$125 per month.

Program. Attendance is 45 in Exercise and Dance and 30 in Self-Protection (given by Police). 9,316 attended YWCA programs in 1974. United Way to grant \$10,000 for a salary for a worker to operate YWCA programs out of Kirk United Church.

World Relations. Alberta YWCAs receive \$6,532 from Alberta Government as a matching grant for Bangladesh Nursing Aide and Midwives Training School.

Officers: President—Anne Broughton

VP—Rita Calhoun 2nd VP—Tommie Kennedy

Treas.—Isabel Sewell Secy.—Marjorie Dowsett

FEB. Building. Board votes to proceed with sale of present site to City of Edmonton; to accept a bid for \$23,000 to repair the existing building [the cost covered later by a grant]; and that money from the sale of the present site, not to exceed \$100,000, be used, if necessary, to meet the 1975 deficit and repairs.

New Building. Board instructs architect to prepare for tender both recreation area (Phase I) and residence (Phase II).

Budget. Revised 1975 Budget adopted: Income \$461,098; Expense \$541,572; Projected Deficit \$80,474.

Camp. YWCA going ahead alone to build up the facility as a wilderness camp.

Publicity. TV cameras from Access film part of a series on women's activities.

MAR. Staff. Board votes to reduce working hours of staff from 40 to 35 hours a week.

- APR. **National.** Nine voting delegates to the YWCA National Meeting May 25-28 in Toronto are elected at a Special General Meeting.
New Building. Board votes to accept bid of Stuart Olson Construction Ltd., for \$3,272,694, work to begin May 8. With related project costs, including land, total cost to be \$4.8 million.
- JUN. **Public Relations.** Open House week makes \$771.94.
Camp. 1975 camping program, which has obtained a \$7,000 grant, will include handicapped camping and leadership training programs. Camping committee are building canoes which can be rented or sold.
New Building. Sod turned May 30. First Recreation grant of \$500,000. has been approved by City Council. Board votes to use the day care area in the new building to continue present services of casual babysitting.
- SEP. **Staff.** Public Relations Director appointed, a new staff position.
Fund Raising. Five hundred prints of the Old Post Office donated to YWCA by Gas Company to be sold.
- NOV. **New Building.** Board votes to obtain a mortgage of \$1,461,380 from CMHC, to be repaid at 8% in monthly instalments of \$8,196 from November 1976, to October 1, 2026.

1976

- JAN. **Rape Crisis Centre.** Board reaffirms YW support for the centre, but cannot fund it.
Miss Estelle Amaron, YWCA of Edmonton Executive Director 1961-64, to be honoured by National for 50 years of YWCA work.
- FEB. **Officers:** **President** —Rita Calhoun
VP—Sue Secord 2nd VP—Tommie Kennedy
Secy.—Marjorie Dowsett Treas.—Isabel Sewell
Finance. Board votes to transfer the sum of \$41,062.46 (received from the sale of the YWCA site to the city) to pay off the 1974 and 1975 accumulated deficit, as authorized by the Board in 1975.
World Relations. Raffle of filigree jewelry brought to Edmonton by visiting representative from India nets \$239.
- MAR. **Program.** Babysitting will be known as "Child Care Services" starting September.
- APR. **Fund Raising.** Flea Market held in Gym and attended by 1,200-1,500 nets approximately \$4,000.
Staff. Director of Services for the Disabled appointed (a

- new staff position). Volunteer Coordinator appointed.
World Relations. Garbage Patrol around Legislature will be YWCA's contribution to Miles for Millions.
- JUN.** **Staff.** "Ella's Evening," an Appreciation Night held May 31 for Ella Gustafson, retiring as bookkeeper after 26 years with the Edmonton YWCA, attended by 150.
- SEP.** **Extension.** YWCA discontinued programming in the Kirk United Church July 1, 1976. Some programs being offered at St. Pius Church. Also cooperatively at Grant MacEwan College in Mill Woods.
New Building. Construction costs have escalated from \$3.5 to \$4 million.
- OCT.** **New Building** Cornerstone unveiled October 1 at ceremony chaired by Anne Broughton. Contents of Box in Corner Stone include items placed in box October 21, 1921, items added to box August 30, 1953, and items placed in cornerstone October 1, 1976.
Cafeteria. Board votes to name the Cafeteria in the New Building "The Sarah Golden Cafeteria" in honour of Mrs. Golden, who worked 25 years at the YWCA, 20 of them as Cafeteria Supervisor.
Camp Report. Day Camp, Canoe Adventure, Cycle Adventure, CIT Training public programs held; contract camps held; Hébertisme course held; master planning for the site being done; publicity slides taken.
Residence. Room and board \$200 as from January 1.
Fund Raising. Board votes to apply for a monthly Bingo. [first time]
- NOV.** **Public Relations.** First newsletter of Edmonton YWCA to be published.
New Building. New volunteers had November 8 dinner and tour of new building.
Fund Raising. November 18 Doll Fair (dolls dressed by volunteers) and sale of home crafts nets \$1,441.50 for Leadership Development.
- DEC.** **Board Meeting** held December 29 in Soroptomist Room of New Building.
Fund Raising. Board votes to apply to run a Casino for two nights.

1977

- JAN.** **Finance.** Board votes to take \$44,253.99 from site sale account to cover 1976 deficit.
Cafeteria. "The public has found us." "Receipts at noon had more than doubled and evenings have quadrupled."

- Camp.** Person has been hired to develop a Master Plan for the Camp.
- FEB. Fund Raising.** Volunteers participating in Knights of Columbus Bingo earn \$600.
- Fund Raising.** "\$366 had come in from the Tea Bag project."
- New Building Official Opening and Dedication February 23** chaired by President Rita Calhoun.
- Annual Meeting.** Treasurer notes the end of an era with the termination of Mr. Gee's association with the YWCA as auditor; Mr. Gee has been a very long-time and helpful friend for 45 years.
- New Building Report 1976.**
- | | |
|--|------------|
| Campaign Fund | 1,453,986 |
| Alberta Gov't Grant | 960,000 |
| Major Cultural/Recreation Grant (MCR)* | 1,000,000 |
| Sale of Old Site | 600,000 |
|
Paid to Date: Site Preparation |
23,969 |
| Building Costs | 3,563,843 |
| Consultant's Fees | 266,527 |
| Equipment & Furnishings | 111,769 |
| Start-up Costs | 88,848 |
- * From Parks and Recreation: applied for through City of Edmonton
- Officers: President—Muriel Garrick**
 1st VP—Jackie Charlesworth 2nd VP—Tommie Kennedy
 Secretary—Sue Secord Treasurer—Isabel Sewell
- MAR. Program.** New programs being offered: Edmonton's History, Puppetry, Nutrition, Preschool class for discovering art.
- Fitness Centre.** Membership is 400. Busiest hours 5-7 p.m.
- APR. Fund Raising.** First Casino run by YWCA (with help from North-East Rotary Club) makes approximately \$33,800 for YWCA.
- Staff.** Mike Screpnek, Building Superintendent, retires after 16 years with the YWCA; he "literally held the 'Old Building Together' with his determination and ingenuity."
- Membership** fees increased to \$10 as of January 1978; \$4 per member to be set aside for Convention delegates.
- MAY Fund Raising.** \$150,000 of \$200,000 goal set previous October for building has been realized; revenues continue to roll in with Canoe Raffle, Doll Fair, Home & Craft Sale, Bake Sales etc. YWCA nets \$380 from participation in Flea Market held at Kinsmen Field

House.

Camp. YoWoChAs receives total federal grant of \$20,000 to hire workers for the camp site.

JUN. **Camp.** Board votes to make Wabamun Camp a capital funding project second only to the achievement of a mortgage-free building.

Open House. Baking and crafts sale raises \$634. "The 'forgotten' 10 cent cup of coffee—the cafeteria served 3,660 cups of coffee at 10 cents during the week of Open House which resulted in a lot of good will generated for the YWCA despite the \$732.00 cost."

SEP. **Extension.** Programs now at 8 locations outside YWCA.

OCT. **Program. Seniors' Bingo** held. Event marred by thieves stealing the cheese and fruit basket which was to have been the Grand Prize.

Child Care. In August 510 registered in Babyfold and 1,281 in Playrooms.

1978

JAN. **Staff.** Employee Pension Plan becomes effective January 1978.

Camp. Board advances to the Program Committee \$16,315 to continue Camp redevelopment.

FEB. **Annual Meeting.** Annual Report shows deficit of \$113,182.25: Fitness, Cafeteria, Health & Physical Education show surplus; Referrals & Counselling and Child Care show deficit. Life membership given to Rita Calhoun.

Officers: **President**—Jacqueline Charlesworth

1st VP—Elizabeth Stuparek 2nd VP—Shirley Giffo
Secy.—Norma Youngberg Treas.—Ellen Thompson

MAR. **National.** Edmonton Board member Mary Rendell is now a National YWCA Board member.

Fund Raising. Receipts to date from Bingo total \$31,400.

APR. **Fitness Centre** has a waiting list of people wanting to join.

Camp. Three miles of hiking and cross-country ski trails will be completed by September 1978, financed by grant from provincial government. The \$50,000 Canada Works Grant now completed: dining hall and triple cabin (accommodation for 24-28) are winterized and the recreation hall is 3/4 completed. Camp having an Open House June 25.

MAY **Program.** New programs being set up for fall: Law for Women; Fat is in Your Head; Health Care for Seniors; Adult Guitar; Mental Health Program; Drama for Fun

for Youth; English for Tots and Moms.

Jean Funk, staff member, nominated by YWCA, receives an Outstanding Young Woman of Canada award.

JUN. Fund Raising. Board agrees "that we continue with the bingos if we are offered the opportunity and that the proceeds go to the Camp."

SEP. Newsletter, begun during year, named "Y Newsbreak."
Youth Hostel for Commonwealth Games served 189 people. Fees received \$915; expenses \$2,421.75. (Mattresses and covers will be used by Camp and Residence.)

OCT. Camp. Two residence camps held, one for mentally retarded teenagers and one for mentally retarded adults. Improvement of camp facilities continues.

Special Services: Family Relief. A coordinated program to provide respite care to families who have a handicapped child or adult to begin 1979. Program would: find host families; coordinate and utilize existing relief beds in Group Homes and Institutions; train homemakers and babysitters in care of handicapped. Supported by United Way and outside sources.

NOV. "On Our Own" (Triple O's), an association for widows, has been formed. "At present, they meet every other Sunday afternoon with approximately 40 in attendance. They have keep fit, group discussions and socializing time."

Fund Raising. Flea Market makes \$1,900; \$5,256.84 net profit from Fall Fair. \$7,753.85 to date in Camp Development Fund.

Finance. Board empowers Executive Director to invest the \$1,190,000 mortgage money to the best financial advantage for the YWCA. Interest on it is used to make the monthly mortgage payments (CMHC rules do not allow YWCA to pay off the mortgage.)

DEC. Camp. Board votes "That we proceed with the master plan for the camp immediately." The cost would be \$402,000.

1979

JAN. Special Services brochures ready. Seven care providers available to take the

Family Relief training program, which is to be operational by February 1, 1979.

United Way Allocation \$190,000 (increase of 12%).

FEB. Annual Meeting at Edmonton Plaza Hotel. Evening

Chronology 1957-1990

ended with a performance by Connie Kaldor, singer-songwriter, with song, piano and guitar.

Officers: **President**—Margaret Thomas

1st VP—Gertrude Lambert

2nd VP—Doris Watt

Treas.—Ellen Thompson

Secy.—Rita Alfrey

Program Committee's Aquatics subcommittee to run a raffle (1,000 tickets at \$1 each, prize is a Family Plunge ticket good for one year). Trying to lower deficit in Aquatics.

MAR. Finance. Revised 1979 budget accepted, showing a projected deficit of \$148,737. Thus, taking 1978 and 1979 deficits together, need to find \$181,000 from somewhere. **National Allocation** set at \$25,115. YWCA had estimated it at \$15,300. YWCA tried to have Fitness Centre calculated like Cafeteria for Allocation purposes, but National did not agree.

APR. Special Services. \$1,400 donation received for purchase of equipment for Fun 'N Splash swimming program for handicapped children.

Family Relief. \$2,000 donation to subsidize families so they can use Family Relief Service.

JUN. Camp. Profit from Casino \$26,015; Bingo \$1,973. (Bingos, held regularly, yield \$60-\$100 per volunteer per evening.) Camp Fund stands at \$54,415.

JUL. Reproductive Rights. Motion passed at Special Board Meeting supporting freedom of choice, removal of abortion from the Criminal Code and emphasizing education and counselling on family planning and family life education.

SEP. Leadership Development. Formal volunteer programs are now Shop, Registration and English As a Second Language.

Fitness Centre. Massage discontinued.

OCT. National Allocation. Board decides to pay no more on Allocation for the year (paid approximately half).

Camp. Twenty-year lease approved.

Child Care. No outside grants available. YWCA seeking seniors to help.

NOV. Shop. 1979 Shop surplus to date is \$7,618.

DEC. Staff. Mary Barclay retiring after 41 years of devoted service to the YWCA. Retirement party on December 19.

Camp. Costs of development have come in over budget. Committee working on replanning to stay within budget of \$500,000.

Fund Raising. Fall Fair. \$6,054 profit.

1980

- JAN.** **Special Services.** New programs to start in February—the Players Club (creative activity for mentally handicapped young adults), and Cooking Course for Mentally Retarded Adults (for the latter the gas company will provide the instructor and facility).
Family Relief. Seventy-nine families registered, 63 with handicapped children and 16 with handicapped adults. Fees collected cover only one-third of the care provider's salary. Projected deficit is \$11,000.
Long-Range Plan. Board sets up a Steering Committee, with several task groups, to study YWCA's operation and formulate a long-range plan for following three years.
- FEB.** **Officers:** **President**—Betty Mullen
1st VP—Cathy Legate 2nd VP—Doris Watt
Secy.—Rita Alfrey Treas.—Sheila Petersen
Finance. Accumulated deficit at end of year \$211,500, up from \$183,000 accumulation at end of 1978. Money raised by Bingos, Casinos and Fall Fair all went to Camp Redevelopment Fund.
- MAR.** **Health and Physical Education.** "No programs will be offered to youth as they do not register."
Building (formerly New Building). Ad Hoc Committee has been meeting regarding Phase II (i.e., the construction of a residence tower on foundations laid for the purpose under the present ground floor child care area). Committee decided more information on housing needs, etc., required, and research teams appointed.
- APR.** **Camp.** Redevelopment Project's cost now expected to be \$827,500. Still waiting to hear answer to request for Major Cultural/Recreational matching grant of \$270,000. Board votes to form a committee to develop a plan of action for fund raising for the Camp Project.
Outdoors Alberta Program. YWCA selected by provincial Parks and Recreation Department to do a 3-year program costing \$250,000. It is "a mobile recreation project to provide leadership training and program development assistance to municipal recreation boards, educational institutions and community organizations in Northern Alberta communities."
Fund Raising. Spring Fair nets \$2,837.67. \$283 for books for Cooperation for Development (formerly World Relations).
- MAY** **Camp.** Board votes to set a goal of \$400,000 to raise for Camp development (\$350,000 to be solicited from

corporations, foundations etc., and \$50,000 to be raised from the "Y family").

Finance. Board votes to increase salaries for permanent staff by 25 cents per hour effective January 1, 1980. Board votes to use \$25,000 of accrued interest from the investment of the mortgage money to renovate the pottery studio (closed in March because of lack of interest) to make it into a Women's Resource Centre.

Regional. Association of YWCAs in Alberta is seeking incorporation to promote cooperation, development of volunteerism, contact with provincial government departments etc.

JUN. Fund Raising. Board decides to continue with bingos and casinos in the next year, proceeds to go to Camp redevelopment.

Budget for 1981 approved—\$283,720.

SEP. Board. Mary Rendell agrees to fill the Vice-President vacancy.

Camp. Board ratifies the signing of the contract with Spectrum Contractors of Spruce Grove on August 17 for the redevelopment of Camp YoWoChAs.

Building. Committee reports on Phase II survey, which was inconclusive, but showed individual needs for affordable housing downtown.

Cooperation for Development. Board votes to endorse a boycott of products by Nestlé Company, and votes to ask the YWCA of Canada to endorse the Nestlé Boycott.

Hanging of the Greens. Board votes not to have it this year.

OCT. Building. Board votes to leave the housing portion of Phase II in abeyance until there is a need demonstrated, and to do further research on the recreation portion of Phase II to determine the need in that area.

National. Board decides to pay 1980 National YWCA Allocation.

Camp. Y Family and Friends appeal over. Raised \$33,031. Public campaign to begin November 3.

NOV. Camp. MCR 1980 grant of \$208,742 to upgrade Camp YoWoChAs received.

DEC. Cooperation for Development. \$4,950 raised in Miles for Millions (the money to go to new YWCA building in Gaborone, Botswana). Board votes to pay the \$222.46 shortfall in \$1,650 commitment to YWCA of Canada for Cooperation for Development.

Finance. YWCA asking City for further grants to help cover deficit.

1980 GENERAL. PROSPECTS inaugurated, a program for adult literacy, cosponsored by YWCA, Edmonton Public

Libraries, Alberta Vocational Centre and Grant MacEwan College, funded by Department of Advanced Education, with office in YWCA.

1981

- JAN. United Way Allocation** for 1981 is \$239,400.
Finance. Bank Debt is \$180,013 (17 3/4% on \$100,000 and 21% on rest).
- FEB. Annual Meeting.** Changes made in Constitution and By-Laws to bring them in line with National YWCA. Family Relief, which started in 1979, almost broke even in 1980 and provincial government, "now realizing the worth of the program," is providing grants for 1981.
Officers: President—Mary Rendell
1st VP—Pat Cook 2nd VP—Cathy Palmer
Secy.—Barbara MacGregor Treas.—Sheila Petersen
Camp Campaign total raised \$129,458 of \$200,000 aimed for. Board feels that total can be reached.
- | | |
|---|-----------|
| Total project estimated cost | \$990,120 |
| Spent to date | \$534,750 |
| Cash on hand + outstanding pledges + bingos | \$600,000 |
| Still required | \$400,000 |
- Application for a 1981 MCR grant updated to \$286,300—no reply yet.
Fund Raising. "The first order of tooth brushes has sold well and a second order of 250 has been made."
- MAR. Policy.** Board votes that Housing and Fitness are parallel priorities; Fitness must show a surplus, and Program area must show a surplus or break even.
- APR. Fund Raising. Spring Fair** nets \$3,320.38. Sale of books \$356.95. Bridge games raise \$915 (held in homes, four tables, each person, except hostess, paying \$5).
Camp. City of Edmonton not recommending application for 1981 Major Cultural Recreation grant. Board to appeal.
- MAY Outdoors Alberta.** \$88,500 received by YWCA from provincial government to run this government program for it.
- JUN. Family Relief.** Cost to be shared equally by province and City.
Friends of the YWCA Society to be established, primarily for Fund Raising.
Extension. Multicraft program at Fort Saskatchewan Correctional Institution discontinued in June as the Institution hires its own Liberal Arts Supervisor.

- SEP. **Camp (YoWoChAs Centre)** formally opens September 20, 1981; over 200 people participating.
Staff. Public Relations-Communication Coordinator for YWCA appointed (a new, full-time position).
Policy. Board votes to allow liquor at YoWoChAs and, with permission of Executive Director, the Edmonton building.
- OCT. **YoWoChAs.** YWCA will receive \$100,000 of the \$241,300 MCR grant asked for in April appeal. Board still hopes to get the rest.
- DEC. **Cooperation for Development.** 1981 pledge of \$1,650 to the World YWCA has been met.
Membership. Swim cards no longer to be part of membership as "they now cost more than memberships resulting in some individuals purchasing memberships for the wrong reasons" and is discriminating against men and children by confining privileges to members.

1982: 75th ANNIVERSARY YEAR

- FEB.** **Annual Meeting** guest speaker is Judge Marjorie Bowker. Annual Meeting highlights the history of the YWCA of Edmonton.
- Life memberships** presented to Anne Broughton, Betty Mullen, and Margaret Thomas.
- Program Report** at Annual Meeting notes that during 1981, English As a Second Language was discontinued because of an abundance of community ESL programs and budgetary constraints.
- Officers:** **President**—Mary Rendell
1st VP—Pat Cook
2nd VP—Cathy Palmer
Secretary—Swee Sim Tan
Treasurer—Jean Meier
- Finance.** Child Care fees to go from \$1.50 to \$1.65/hour; membership dues to increase from \$10 to \$15.
- MAR.** **Finance.** Transit strike affects revenues in Child Care and Cafeteria, and attendance generally down; Shop closes temporarily.
- World YWCA** Special Appeal for a capital fund to support World YWCA Head Office in Geneva. Board votes a commitment to raise \$5,000 for this, of which \$3,350 is already in hand.
- YoWoChAs Centre.** \$367,900 still needed. Quilting group has completed banners for dining room and is willing to make curtains.
- Membership.** Theme of “Violet Days” and Fashions of 75 years ago for Membership Tea.
- MAY** **Fund Raising.** Board decides to continue holding

- Bingos and Casinos in 1983, proceeds to go to general operating deficit of the YWCA.
- JUN. **1983 'No-growth' Budget** accepted. Staff and salary cuts agreed to in order to reduce deficit by \$100,000, cutting 3 positions and 8% cost-of-living increase. Projected surplus depends on Board commitment to raise \$120,000. Board votes to negotiate a \$100,000 term loan (5 years) at prime rate, with Bank of Montreal pledging \$100,000 from \$1,000,000 investment to secure the loan, with monthly repayment as part of general operating costs.
- World YWCA.** Swee Sim Tan, Edmonton's nominee, elected as a delegate from YWCA of Canada to 1983 World Council in Singapore.
- Friends of the YWCA.** Board accepts the proposed by-laws of the Society of Friends of the YWCA.
- SEP. **Finance.** Board votes to increase amount of loan from Bank of Montreal, authorized by Board on June 17, from \$100,000 to \$200,000.
- YoWoChAs Centre** granted "special project" status in summer of 1982 to enable it to qualify for further matching grants. At Mayor's suggestion, YWCA applies for 1983 Major Cultural/Recreation (MCR) grant.
- Cooperation for Development.** Request from National to divert 1981 Miles for Millions funds from Peruvian project to YWCA of Lebanon in response to an emergency situation. Pledge for World YWCA support raised from \$1,650 in 1981 to \$1,800 in 1982.
- NOV. **Alberta Council on Women's Affairs.** "Proposed Alberta Council on Women's Affairs—Edmonton Steering Committee" now set up: meets in YWCA which donates coffee and secretarial services, has one representative from the YWCA, and comprises 18 women representing 15 organizations.
- DEC. **Fund Raising.** The approximately \$1,700 that the Casino lost was made up by two "friends of the Y."
- 1982 **GENERAL. 75th Anniversary.** Hadassah Wizo sent funds to Israel to plant 18 trees in Canada Park in the name of YWCA to mark 75th Anniversary of YWCA of Edmonton. Tribute to Women Dinner held September 22 as part of 75th Anniversary celebrations; very successful.
- Open House. Membership Tea** to honour long-time friends of the YWCA.
- Women's Community Resource Fair** representing 70 organizations was held.

1983

- JAN.** **United Way** Allocation is \$255,937, of \$308,200 asked for.
Finance. Board votes, on recommendation of Account Manager, Bank of Montreal, to redeem \$500,000 of the one million dollars investment and use these funds for repaying outstanding bank loans, reducing present revolving bank operating loan to nil, and leave small amount for ongoing capital needs for the next year.
Friends of the YWCA Society is refused approval for a Casino because it is deemed to be too closely affiliated with the YWCA.
- FEB.** **Annual Meeting. Life Memberships** presented to Mary Barclay, Judge Marjorie Bowker, Margaret Brine, Ella Gustafson, and Kaye Sherman.
Constitution and By-Laws (revised) approved.
Finance. Difficulties emphasized: YoWoChAs needs \$328,480: Operating deficit during 1982 was \$226,905.
Officers: President—Pat Cook
1st VP—Cathy Palmer 2nd VP—Beth Young-Checkland
Secy.—Swee Sim Tan Treas.—Lorna Gawlinski
YoWoChAs Centre Three-Year Plan approved by Board: goals are to preserve the fragile environment at the campsite through environmentally sensitive programs; to develop a leadership model and a committed group of supporters and users; to become economically self-sufficient. Application for 1983 MCR Grant is rejected.
- MAR.** **Cooperation for Development.** "Poster for Peace" contest being run: children in four age categories submit posters that communicate their understanding of peace. For display at May International Brunch.
- APR.** **Finance.** Board establishes a Financial Review Special Committee to review quarterly financial statements with staff and report to Board, to compare operations to budget, and represent YWCA at United Way hearings.
Fund Raising. Bridge Tournament raises \$905.
Membership dues raised to \$20, effective January, 1984.
- MAY** **Fund Raising.** Giant Flea Market, Auction and Raffle nets \$16,180.99; \$405.89 from Book Sales given to Cooperation for Development.
- SEP.** **Building.** Most of the building was painted in summer, using about \$36,000 worth of labour and materials received under federal government NEED program.
PROSPECTS program moved to Alberta Vocational Centre.

- OCT. **Shop** to sell UNICEF greeting cards, for the benefit of UNICEF primarily but also the Shop itself and Cooperation for Development.
- NOV. Board notes death of Miss Christina Gardiner, Executive Director 1953-61.
YoWoChAs Centre is on schedule with 3-year plan. Summer Camps are now 40% of Camp's market but only 2% of the profit. Propose to reduce camp sessions next summer and rent to groups part of the time.
Fund Raising. "Stitchers" clear \$176 at a table at the Riverbend Craft Sale, the money to go to Special Services. Board names an insurance firm "agents of record" in setting up and administering a "deferred giving plan" (individuals purchase life insurance policies naming YWCA as beneficiary; premiums are regarded as charitable donations).
- DEC. **Finance.** Y's present line of credit is \$250,000, YoWoChAs loan is \$244,478. Board votes not to pay the 1983 National Allocation of approximately \$22,200, and not to pay the 1984 National Allocation unless YWCA of Edmonton is in a surplus position at the end of 1984. Staff receive no increase this year.
Fund Raising. Board votes Giant Cash Raffle, called Y-Win, be held February 1 to May 30, 1984, with 4,000 tickets at \$100 each, break-even point to be 1,750 tickets sold.
- 1983 **GENERAL. In-Touch**, informative bimonthly newsletter, started during year.

1984

- JAN. **Cooperation for Development** organizing children's series for 3rd World Film Festival in March.
- FEB. **Annual Meeting. Life memberships** presented to Greta Ballantyne, Cathy Dunlap, Alice Heapes Imrie, Mary Rendell and Miriam Watson.
Officers: **President**—Pat Cook
1st VP—Helen Young 2nd VP—Mary Dalla Lana
Secy.—Barbara Blackley Treas.—Lorna Gawlinski
Finance. \$345,000 of Building Fund term deposit liquidated: \$244,478 used to pay off YoWoChAs Centre loan, and \$100,522 to go to operating account.
- MAY **Policy.** Board votes to discontinue boycott of Nestlé Company.
Organization Review Task Force established by Board, authorized to choose and hire a consulting firm to do an Organization Review, the price not to exceed \$35,000.

Board notes that the YWCA's deficits have been financed through the sale of investments which have now been depleted.

YoWoChAs Centre. MCR request of \$33,500 is turned down and the Major Cultural Recreation program has ended.

Social Action. Board approves A Brief to the Special Committee on Prostitution and Pornography on Child Prostitution (the "Frazer Committee") prepared largely by the Residence Committee.

JUN. Organization Review going well. Board members receive copies of the Organizational Review Project Design, prepared by Woods Gordon, the Consultants hired.

Fund Raising. Y-Win Raffle nets approximately \$53,100.

AUG. Organization Review. Special Board meetings held to discuss, amend and approve the YWCA Mission Statement, the nine Goals and the Objectives to achieve them, and the Priorization Criteria, submitted by Management Consultants.

SEP. Organization Review. Recommendations from Management Consultants on the Achievement of a Balanced Budget are dealt with by the Board in 36 motions. Decisions include wage and salary cuts (10% immediately, and 5% January 1, 1985), and many structural and administrative changes. Implementation Task Group set up as an advisory group to assist the Executive Director in implementing the motions.

OCT. Implementation Task Group. Executive Director notes that the initial "feelings of shock and anger" among the staff over Board's decisions made to achieve a balanced budget are gradually subsiding somewhat, but there have been some resignations. Board, as recommended by Management Consultants, to appoint a Manager of Business and Administration, and votes to have a panel for interviewing candidates for the position.

National. Board votes to propose amendments to proposed Revised Bylaws of YWCA of Canada, and expresses dissatisfaction with these Bylaws, and "the manner in which policy changes are being presented to Member Associations."

NOV. Implementation Task Group. Board votes to accept the job evaluation and compensation review proposal of Woods Gordon for a maximum price of \$10,500 plus disbursements of \$1,000. Board votes to delay the 5% wage and salary cut (due January 1, following earlier 10% cut) until the Salary Survey is completed or until March 31, 1985, whichever comes first.

Program and Outdoor Recreation. Report on research into "participant absenteeism" includes suggestions received that YWCA try drop-in programs.

1985

- JAN.** **Staff.** A change in management occurs. Barbara MacGregor is appointed Acting Executive Director, and a committee to search for an Executive Director is set up. An appointment is made to new position of Manager of Finance and Administration.
Building. Proposal from Edmonton Telephones to upgrade telephone system at cost of \$7,000 accepted by Board.
Social Action. Board approves a Response, prepared by a subcommittee of the Residence Committee, to the Report of the Committee on Sexual Offences Against Children and Youth (the Report known as the Badgley Report).
Cooperation for Development Committee discontinued for the time being.
- FEB.** As a result of Organization Review, Program Department now includes Fitness, Aquatics, Outdoor Recreation, and Camp.
Social Services Department created to include On Our Own Resource Centre, Family Relief, Childcare, and Special Services.
Officers: **President**—Helen Young
1st VP—Lorna Gawlinski 2nd VP—Elaine Barnes
Secy.—Barbara Blackley Treas.—Mary Alty
Residence. Board votes to approve a 39-week Independent Living Accommodation Demonstration Project proposal outlined by the Elizabeth Fry Society and YWCA Residence Committee. Project would involve not more than 10 Elizabeth Fry clients living in YWCA residence.
Staff. Board votes to consider areas funded by other funding bodies, such as
Family Relief, as "Special Projects" to which reduced YWCA salary schedules would not apply.
Beach Party at YWCA pool attended by 90 staff, volunteers and families.
- MAR.** **Building.** Pool cleaner bought for \$3,300, to be paid for out of saving of 1/2 time salary.
- APR.** **Staff.** Board votes not to implement the 5% salary cut for staff scheduled in the Meeting of November 28, 1984. Professional Salary Survey postponed until September.

- MAY** **United Way 1986 Estimates.** Board approves these: 1985 grant + 5% inflation factor, plus \$6,600 for a part-time person in On Our Own, for a total of \$320,330.
Staff. Board votes to appoint Caroline Gilfillan Executive Director. Sixty-five men and women applied for the position, and 6 were interviewed.
National Convention. Board recommends that Edmonton vote against the concept of Community YWCAs (membership open to men and women equally) but left decision to delegates. Board agrees that Edmonton should vote for a year's delay on National Fund-Raising Project. Board notes that the National Board took a "corporate stand" against Edmonton's membership amendment and amendment regarding voting being tied to Allocation payments.
- JUN.** **Fund Raising.** Casino held by Friends of the YWCA nets \$46,000.
- SEP.** **Management.** Executive Director's Report lists management changes needed to increase efficiency, e.g. ensuring proper records kept, ensuring consistency in Personnel Policies, creating a centralized filing system, examining budget and management procedures, devising marketing plans based on public need.
Finance. Two applications are being made to Community Recreation/Cultural Grants Program (Capital of \$161,300, for repairs, and Operational of \$65,700). Applying for City Grant-in-Aid of \$25,000.
Fund Raising. Idea of a giant flea market changed to holding several neighbourhood garage sales.
- OCT.** **Fund Raising.** YWCA to receive half of pledges for Skate-A-Thon, rest going to Kinsmen Club, who are running the event, and prizes.
- NOV.** **Management.** Board votes that YWCA of Edmonton accept Visa and/or Master Card for payment of charges for all programs and services except residence and cafeteria.
Special Services has broadened its scope to physically and mentally handicapped teens, as well as adults. Weekend camping program very successful.
- DEC.** **Finance.** Board approves extending line of credit at Bank of Montreal to \$200,000. Two provincial grants, for operating and for capital expenditures, applied for in September, received.
- 1985** **GENERAL. Domestic Violence Support Group** developed during 1985 served more than 60 women. Volunteer so far, but seeking funds.
Leadership Training. Includes **Preschool Leadership** (started 1981); **Fitness Leadership**; **Aquatic Fitness**

Leadership (started 1984 and taught throughout the province); Outdoor Recreation Leadership at YoWoChAs, which includes cross country ski instructor and canoe instructor courses.

1986

FEB. Building. A security officer now on duty every night 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Residence. Thirty-nine-week Elizabeth Fry-YWCA cooperative pilot program (approved February, 1985) ends.

Family Relief has gone to day relief only, because of difficulties in obtaining relief workers on a 24-hour basis. Difficulties due in part to low wages.

Annual Meeting. Amendments to Constitution and By-Laws pass to allow men and persons under 18 to be associate members, without voting privileges; and to allow members to receive benefits, such as reduced program fees.

Life Membership presented to Pat Cook, retiring President.

Officers: **President**—Helen Young

1st VP—Lorna Gawlinski 2nd VP—Elaine Barnes

Secy.—Barbara Blackley Treas.—Sheilah Grant

MAR. Finance. YWCA converting to the accrual method of accounting, as opposed to the cash method formerly in use (means “we will be recognizing revenue when it is earned and expenses when they are incurred—rather than recognizing revenue when the money comes in and expenses when the bill shows up”).

Building. Twenty-two false fire alarms in 1985. Following consultation with Edmonton Fire Chief, smoke detectors in the residence rooms are being replaced by smoke alarms, which don’t go off so easily as a result of such things as hair sprays.

United Way. Allocation preliminary estimate is \$421,452 which includes 5% inflation factor, \$33,000 for Social Service administration and \$51,320 for Battered Women’s Support Group.

APR. Fund Raising. Board votes to hire a Grants Coordinator/Funding Officer.

Public Relations. Alex Baumann, Canadian Olympic swimmer, visits YWCA promoting Egg Marketing Project. Three-hundred forty children (“almost too many”) registered for this project, a special series of four 1/2 hour classes for preschoolers. Paid for by Alberta

Egg and Fowl Marketing Board.

MAY Finance. Manager of Finance reports changes in accounting system, which is now computerized. Reports will come from the balance sheet instead of just from the income statement. Board votes to initiate a policy of capitalizing assets in excess of \$500, a policy which will enable the financial statements to distinguish between capital expenses and general operating expenses.

National Fund Raising Proposal. Board votes that Edmonton YWCA vote NO at National Biennial Special Meeting June 2 to proposal that National YWCA embark on a campaign to raise funds for the work of the YWCA of Canada.

Fund Raising. Board votes that January 1987 be designated as start of local Capital Campaign with a target of \$1.5 million to launch 80th Anniversary year.

City Police Satellite Office. Board votes to allow an office in YWCA building. It will be used about 1- 1/2 hours per day.

SEP. Fund Raising. Advertising firm hired to plan campaign for Shopping Spree Raffle. Board approves the promotional donation of YWCA services (such as some drop-in classes) to K97 (local radio station) for the Ladies of the 80s Program during promotion of the Raffle.

Building. Board accepts in principle a concept for building renovations and votes to proceed to next stage of more detailed planning and costing. Aim is to increase functional use of space and security by having most physical activities on lower two floors, staff offices and meeting rooms on second floor, and everything else with public access, including Registration, Child Care and the Shop, on the main floor.

OCT. Fund Raising. Board votes to hire a professional fund raiser to conduct the planning study necessary for the Capital Campaign, at a cost not to exceed \$17,000. 12 Bingos held to date in 1986 netted \$51,721; 32 volunteers needed for them every 26 days (448 working evenings per year).

Program. Two of the 5 racquetball courts converted cheaply to squash courts. Drop-in policy for fitness working well.

Child Care gift certificates available.

Memorial for Estelle Amaron. Board votes that the first \$300 profit from the International Boutique in 1987 and again in 1988 will be sent to the YWCA of Canada Cooperation for Development in memory of Estelle Amaron, Executive Director of the YWCA of Edmonton 1961-64 and a very active person in the YWCA

- movement in Canada and the world.
- NOV. Cooperation for Development and Shop.** Committees to meet to work on a total budget for the Shop, keeping in mind that the International Boutique is somewhat different from the rest of The Shop in that it has a strong education component.

1987: 80th ANNIVERSARY YEAR

- JAN. Social Action. Film "Rough Trade"** deglamorizing prostitution: Film is 9 minutes long, targeted for 12-18 year-olds, written and produced by Jeannie Bodnaruk (YWCA residence staff), and two others, assisted by City of Edmonton Police Department, and accompanied by an educational supportive package. Board views and approves the film, and votes to approve its distribution through a distribution company specializing in educational materials. Board accepts insertion of ten minutes of interview material on recommendation of distribution company.
- Fund Raising.** Shopping Spree Raffle loses \$6,989.74.
- Child Care.** Board approves policy changes in Child Care Financial Assistance: discounts set out for single parents in certain circumstances, and to permanent staff and Child Care staff.
- National Allocation** increased by \$12,000—to \$49,673—with no reason given. Total owing to National, including 1978, is \$212,044. Nothing paid since 1983.
- MAR. Building Renovations.** Board votes to use Construction Manager method for renovations to main floor: Construction Manager (his services donated by Stuart Olson Construction) and architect (Jim Wensley, also donating his services) work together until job done. Construction Manager to use sequential method of tendering of subtrades and services, giving YWCA control over contracts and prices at each stage. Cost estimate is \$87,791.76. YWCA has received \$148,000 in capital grants for renovations.
- Public Relations and Fund Raising Committee.** Board adopts new Mission Statement proposed by this Committee, part of which reads: "The Edmonton YWCA is a non-profit voluntary association. Sensitive to community needs, staff and volunteers strive for the improvement of individuals, enabling them to reach their full potential in body, mind and spirit."
- Fund Raising.** Martin Group's fund raising study report discussed by Board. Motion to proceed with a Capital

Chronology 1957-1990

- Campaign to raise one million dollars defeated, but to be reconsidered no later than September 1987.
- APR. Annual Meeting.** **Residential Program** for chronically mentally ill women starts April 1, with 18 residents housed on fifth floor. Project under Occupational and Community Health Department.
- Officers: President**—Lorna Gawlinski
1st VP—Marion Brooker Treasurer—Sheilah Grant
Secretary—Mary Layman
- MAY Building Renovations** to start week of June 1. Shop to be called “Y’s Choice,” will contain international boutique, “next-to-new” clothing and pro shop.
- JUN. Fund Raising.** Board votes to withdraw from the Jasper Place Bingo Association. Bingos everywhere losing money recently.
- SEP. Program.** Report of summer programs. AIDS Forum successful, with 150 people attending. Half Marathon run drew 342 registrants; there will be a small profit. School-age drop-in program worked well, and should show a profit of \$6,000 to \$7,000.
- Building renovations.** Total bill was \$91,000.
- OCT. First Women’s Escape Weekend** (held in Jasper) was a great success and will probably make \$11,000.
- Public Relations. Shop Opening** went well, as did Chamber of Commerce mixer.
- Smoking Policy.** Board decides no smoking in building or YoWoChAs Centre except in certain designated areas, although long-term goal is to be smoke free.
- NOV. Film “Rough Trade”** received an award from the Solicitor General’s department. (But only one copy sold by October 13.)
- 1987 GENERAL. 80th Anniversary Celebrations.** Special events held including 1907 Days Tea, special lectures (e.g., Dr. Sophie Freud discussing the changing role of women in society), Hanging of the Greens.
- Administrative Changes:** Special Services became part of Fitness and Recreation Department; a janitorial service is hired; a Community Relations Department is added; senior staff are realigned, resulting in adding a Department of Administration and Personnel.

1988

- JAN. Family Relief.** Family and Community Support Services (City of Edmonton) funding for Family Relief has been confirmed and will include a \$5,000 increase in

- 1988, despite their concern that overhead too high.
- Fund Raising. Bridge Fundraiser** raises \$1,109. Profits from sale of nuts, poinsettias and oranges approximately \$1,000. Doll House Raffle raises \$2,342.
- FEB. Women's Resource Centre.** A volunteer is anxious to research the potential of developing a Women's Resource Centre at the YWCA.
- 80th Anniversary Committee.** Board votes that motto of the 80th Anniversary—"Changing With You"—continue to be used by the YWCA while suitable.
- MAR. Finance.** Second mortgage of \$450,000 has been approved by Bank of Montreal.
- APR. Annual Meeting.**
- Officers:** **President**—Marion Brooker
1st VP—Helen Otto 2nd VP—Paula MacLean
Secy.—Mary Layman Treas.—Sheila Burns
- MAY Finance.** Board discusses On-Site Review 48-page report done by National. Edmonton YWCA has had a deficit for over 20 years (but achieved a profit of \$8,000 in 1987). Investments, which were to cover mortgage payments on 1974 building, were wiped out when bank loan on YoWoChAs Centre was called, plus 2 years of operating deficits.
- Women's Resource Centre.** To open in July for 2-3 days a week.
- Residential Program for Mentally Ill** to be expanded to fourth floor.
- Tribute to Women Dinner** makes \$13,000 profit.
- YWCA History.** Historical Resources Foundation gives YWCA a \$1,500 grant to offset printing costs of publishing an updated history of the YWCA.
- JUN. Finance.** Current deficit is \$92,000, just as budgeted. Cafeteria has made some changes and there are indications that sales are picking up. "It is expected that by August we will see the deficit turn into a surplus because of YoWoChAs revenues."
- Fund Raising.** Brainstorming session held and dozens of suggestions discussed.
- OCT. Women's Escape Weekend** realizes about \$14,000; the miniboutique taken to the weekend proved lucrative.
- YoWoChAs Centre** to be closed for 2-3 months over the winter period 1988-89.
- Outdoors Alberta,** the successful mobile outdoor education program, ended in August.
- Women's Resource Centre.** Board approves, in principle, the joint venture between the YWCA and the Royal Alexandra Women's Hospital to establish a Centre for Women.

NOV. United Way Budget. Requesting 4% increase over 1988, to \$367,767; and increases in Battered Women area and On Our Own.

November Women's Month. Films, Bridge, a fashion show and displays by Fitness Centre and by Big Sisters and Uncles at Large, Edmonton Weavers Guild, and Southwest Seniors.

1988 GENERAL. Program. New programs in 1988—Tai Chi classes and healthy lifestyle seminars. Programs and services in particular demand in 1988 were On Our Own, Support Program for Abused Women and Family Relief.

1989

MAR. Program. Grant MacEwan College Senior Studies Program runs two programs a week at the YWCA.

Housing. Renfrew Arms is now under YWCA management. Renovations have begun at Place 103 (for people with mental health problems and single mothers).

APR. Annual Meeting. Life Membership presented to Helen Young, recent President.

Officers: President—Helen Otto

1st VP—Joan Fargey

2nd VP—Margaret Witschl

Secy.—Lynn Friedrich

Treas.—Leah Taylor

JUN. Women's Resource Centre. Board votes that YWCA fully endorse the Planning Committee's Proposal for "A Centre for Women: Health, Information and Referral" and that the Proposal be presented to the provincial government for funding.

Fitness and Recreation. Majority of staff have been laid off; most "in house" summer programs will not run. Serious decline in revenues since 1983. Department needs restructuring to reflect changes in fitness trends nationwide.

Tribute to Women. Profit is \$16,000.

SEP. Staff. Board votes to contract with North America Life to implement a new employee group benefit by January 1, 1990.

Cafeteria. Barbecues held Monday to Friday in summer. Catering increases.

PACE (Professional Advancement Centre of Edmonton) Conference for women in and wanting to be in management, focussing on entrepreneurs (new initiative, Executive Director Carol Gilfillan's idea).

OCT. Tapestry Exhibition and Sale. YWCA is putting on,

together with two other groups, an Exhibition and Sale of tapestries from Bangladesh at the McMullen Gallery at the McKenzie Science Centre.

Women's Resource Centre is to have an independent Board, with one member designated by the YWCA and one by the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

- NOV. **Fund Raising.** "Fortune in Your Future" Lottery Calendar Project proceeding. Break even point in sales is 4,500 tickets; if all 12,500 tickets are sold, the net profit will be \$65,000.

Policy. Subcommittee unable to agree on criteria for YWCA donors, except that some discretion in accepting donations from groups such as breweries is necessary. No national policy on this issue.

Christmas Festival. Shop has gross sales of \$4,100 for that weekend. Bake sale and international foods. Christmas crèche display a tremendous success.

- 1989 **GENERAL. Residence.** Students and people just starting on their own in city: 26%; women with special needs in mental health: 59%; women with other problems and/or unemployed: 15%.

1990

- JAN. **Policy.** Board rescinds the Seniors' Discount policy, any discount offered to be at discretion of Executive Director.

Housing. Renfrew is full with a waiting list, and Place 103 has 4 vacancies and is expected to be full by March. At Ashton, the YWCA is now in management, to open April 1. Total of 175 suites in the 3 apartment buildings. The program provides subsidized housing and support services to individuals who are making positive changes in their lives. In cooperation with Alberta Mortgage and Housing and Alberta Health, Mental Health Service.

- FEB. **Program. Battered Women's Program** now has a full-time counsellor; uses group approach.

Staff. New Personnel Policies approved. Some changes regarding termination of employment made to reflect current Employment Standards Act; Christmas bonus days removed. Existence of maternity, paternity, and adoptive leave is noted.

Programs and Services. Some improvement in Fitness & Health. Shop surpassed last year's January and February sales; Residence and Housing projects full; waiting lists for bereavement and Family Relief programs; Child Care operating at full capacity.

Women's Month held in February is very successful,

with overall attendance of 300 women and 5 men, with the sessions on career, law, personal growth and fashion having the highest attendance.

United Way. Allocation request—\$419,260.

- MAR.. **Finance.** Board offers Coopers & Lybrand the position of Auditors for 1990-92, after inviting, for the first time, and receiving, tenders for the position.

Edmonton Community Foundation has advised that \$50,000 has been set aside in an Endowment Fund for the Edmonton YWCA, with all of the net income accruing to the YWCA; donor is anonymous.

Child Care. Board votes that Child Care institute a diaper service and increase child care fees to cover the service.

Tapestry Exhibition and Sale (which had not been expected to make money). Board votes to contribute \$500 from profits to Cooperation for Development.

- APR. **Annual Meeting.**

Officers: President—Joan Fargey

1st V—Lynn Friedrick

2nd V—Jenny Bain

Secy.—Sue Davis

Treas.—Heather Pick

- MAY **National Allocation.** Negotiations regarding debt to National completed. Of total outstanding, \$83,000 forgiven, balance of \$170,000 to be repaid on a generous 10-year schedule.

- JUN. **Tribute to Women Dinner.** Realized a profit of over \$21,000. Twenty-six high school girls in attendance by invitation. Evening was dedicated to Kathleen McCrimmon Love, a posthumous nominee.

- SEP. **Cafeteria.** Long-standing problems with the Cafeteria, which has never broken even, but until recently was able to recover direct expenses. As a temporary solution, Board votes to shorten hours of operation.

- NOV. **PACE** second annual Conference held in November, 107 women attending. Secretary of State funded 10 native women to attend. Three topics—small business, nonprofit management, and lifestyle.

Membership. Board votes to increase Membership and Associate Membership dues to \$30 inclusive of GST. Effective January 1, 1991.

Christmas Festival. Includes workshops, an international brunch and the sale of used X-country skis from YoWoChAs Centre. Crèche and Shop sales at the Festival approximately \$34,000.

World YWCA. Agnes Mugati, director of Primary Health Care for the YWCA of Uganda, visits Edmonton YWCA for two days in November.

- DEC. **Special Services.** Name changed to Leisure Options

(Supporting People with Disabilities). Purpose is to assist people with special needs to take advantage of YWCA programs and services as well as to provide recreational and instructional programs especially for them.

Fund Raising. Capital Campaign still being planned.

The End



Those Were The Days

▲
Day Camp Here We Come, 1959
Photo Courtesy Alberta Provincial Archives
68-301-38-5



On Top of Whistler
Photo courtesy Alberta Provincial Archives ►
76-531

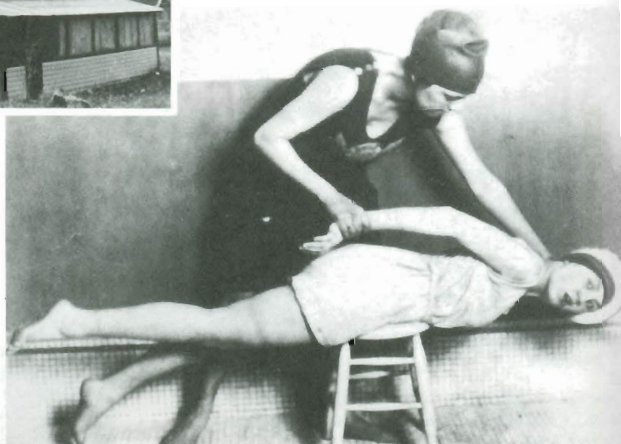


The Annual Review 1958

Retrospect: The Edmonton YWCA 1957-1991



Y.W.C.A. Seba Beach
 ◀ Photo courtesy
 Alberta Provincial Archives
 68-301-38-12



Instruction Old Days ▶



*Centennial Tea - February 12, 1955 Pouring - Mrs. W.D. McDougall.
 Standing - Mrs. Armour Ford, Miss Christine Gardiner, Exec. Dir.,
 Mrs. L.R. Archibald, Pres. of Board*

Appendices

1. YWCA of Edmonton Presidents

1957	Mrs. F. Armour Ford
1958	Mrs. George R. Conquest
1959	Mrs. George R. Conquest
1960	Mrs. A.S. Rumbelow
1961	Mrs. A.S. Rumbelow
1962	Mrs. C. Lange
1963	Mrs. C. Lange
1964	Mrs. J.D. Clark
1965	Mrs. J.D. Clark
1966	Mrs. A.S. Rumbelow
1967	Mrs. A.S. Rumbelow
1968	Mrs. L.H. Thomas
1969	Mrs. L.H. Thomas
Sep. 1969	Mrs. D.W. Harrison
1970	Mrs. D.W. Harrison
1971	Mrs. D.W. Harrison
1972	Mrs. I.G. Dunlap
1973	Mrs. L.G. Grimble
1974	Mrs. L.P. Arlette
Oct. 1974	Anne Broughton
1975	Anne Broughton
1976	Rita Calhoun
1977	Muriel Garrick
1978	Jacqueline Charlesworth
1979	Margaret Thomas (Mrs. L.H.)
1980	Betty Mullen
1981	Mary Rendell
1982	Mary Rendell
1983	Pat Cook
1984	Pat Cook
1985	Helen Young
1986	Helen Young
1987	Lorna Gawlinski
1988	Marion Brooker
1989	Helen Otto
1990	Joan Fargey
1991	Joan Fargey

2. YWCA of Edmonton Executive Directors

1953	Miss Christina Gardiner
1961	Miss Estelle Amaron
Oct. 1964	Mrs. Dortie Carnie (to April 1965)
1965	Mrs. Abol Ziai, Acting Executive Director
Mar. to June 1966	Miss Margaret Hart, Temporary Advisory Secretary
1966	Mrs. Margaret Williamson
1985	Barbara MacGregor Acting Executive Director
June 1985	Carol Gilfillan

3. Members of Board of Directors of YWCA of Edmonton

The names of the Board members are in the form most frequently used in the Minutes of the Board of Directors. The numbers (for example, 62, 65) after the names denote the dates (1962, 1965) when the member was elected to the Board. Usually members were elected at Annual Meetings for three-year terms; sometimes the Board elected members "to fill a vacancy" until the next Annual Meeting.

Alfrey, Mrs. D. (Rita), 77	Barnes, Elaine, 82,85
Algajer, Mrs. W., 73	Bauer, Murina, 85
Allen, Mrs. Dave, 68	Bayly, Mrs. G., 60
Alston, Dagny, 84	Bell, Darlene, 80
Alty, Mary, 85	Belmont, Mrs. S.A. , 57
Anderson, Mrs. A., 71	Bergman, Mrs., 64
Archibald, Mrs. L.R., 57	Bigg, Marlene, 88
Arlette, Mrs. L.P., 67,68	Blackley, Barbara, 82,85
Armstrong, Mrs. J., 59,62	Bondar, Mrs. G.F. (Ruth), 69,70,73
Ascher, Mrs. G.R., 66	Booth, Mrs. J.A., 59
Atkey, Liz, 89	Bootsman, Yvonne, 82
Badun, Mrs. Walter R., 67,68	Bowker, Mrs. W.F. (Marjorie), 62,65
Bain, Jenny, 88	Bracco, Mrs. J.D. (Laura), 71,74
Balanko-Dickson, Carol, 89	Bradford, Miss Jill, 71
Baldwinson, Florence, 90	Brooker, Marion, 84,87
Balke, Mrs. W.M., 69	Broughton, Mrs. O.J. (Anne), 74
Ballantyne, Mrs. E.E., 66,69	
Ballash, Margo, 83	

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- Brown, Mrs. F.U., 62,69
Brown, Mrs. R.K., 65
Brown, Ruth, 79
Buchanan, Mrs. D.M., 66
Burns, Sheila, 85
Burton, Ewa, 81
Buys, Sonya, 89
Calhoun, Mrs. A.V. (Rita), 72,75
Campbell, Mrs. D.L., 67
Capling, Mrs. A., 61
Carson, Mary Rose, 80,83
Charlesworth,
Jackie.63/4,67,74,77
Chornell, Mrs. George W., 57
Clark, Mrs. John D., 58,61
Colak, Alice, 89
Coleman, Mrs. W., 61
Collier, Mrs. H.B., 57
Conquest, Mrs. George, 57
Cook, Mrs. T.G., 64,67
Cook, Mrs. E. (Pat),
71,77,78,81,84
Currie, Sue, 85
Curry, Mrs. Victor R, 57
Dalla Lana, Mary, 82
Davidge, Mrs. G. (Marilyn), 76
Davies, Mrs. P.H., 66,67
Davis, Susan, 85,89
Davy, Mrs. G.R., 69
Diamond, Mrs. C. (Dorothy), 57
Dowsett, Mrs. J. (Marjorie), 71
Drackley, Dianna, 87
Drake, Mrs. E.A., 67
Draper, Sandi, 75
Duncan, Margaret, 87
Dunlap, Mrs. I.G., 67,70
Dunsworth, Mrs. B.L., 65
Dyck, Judith, 83
Eacott, Mrs. A., 58
Edgar, Mrs. J., 60
Edwards, Mrs. G.M., 62
Elford, Mrs. H.A., 57
Elgheti, Mrs., 60
Ellis, Mrs. S.B., 62
Esco, Rosemary, 75
Fargey, Joan, 85,88
Fitl, Mrs. N.A., 68,69,72
Fitl, Margaret, 76
Fleming, Mrs. P.G.A., 59
Ford, Mrs. F. Armour, 57
Franklin, Janet, 83
Frazer, Ms. Carol, 74
Freidman, Mrs. M.I. (Florence),
72,73
Friedrick, Lynn, 88
Game, Sheri, 90
Gardiner, Mrs. T., 60
Garnett, Mrs. E., 58
Garrick, Miss Muriel, 72,75
Gates, Heather, 76,77
Gauthier, Isabel, 90
Gawlinski, Lorna, 82,85
Gifford, Mrs. G. (Shirley), 76
Gilbertson, Dona, 90
Gilroy, Mrs. S.W., 71
Gliener, Grace, 82
Goodhand, Janet, 75
Gorman, Mariette, 90
Grace, Mrs. M.G., 70
Graham, Mrs. John S., 67,68
Grant, Sheilah, 84,87
Green, Jill, 87
Greenwood, Winnie, 81,84
Grimble, Mrs. L.G., 69,72
Guffei, Toni, 82
Harris, Mrs. D.I., 69
Harrison, Mrs. Donald W.,
68,69,72
Haryett, Mrs. R.D., 57
Heaps, Mrs. George, 58
(returning)
Heard, Mrs. Lou, 73
Heasman, Mrs. R.G., 68
Hill, Mrs. J.D., 70
Holmes, Mrs. A.H., 59
Holmes, Mrs. S., 66
Holmgren, Mrs. B.J., 68
Hoskin, Mrs. W.D., 63,70

Retrospect: The Edmonton YWCA 1957-1991

- Hunter, Mrs. Donna, 74
 Ingall, Mrs. A., 61
 Jenner, Gayle, 85
 Johnson, Marina, 80
 Jones, Mrs. Frank, 66
 Jones, Mrs. F., 62
 Keating, Anne, 87
 Keays, Mrs. S.A., 57
 Kee, Miss Dixie, 68
 Kelman, Mrs. J., 57
 Kennedy, Tommie, 75
 Kenway, Mrs. C.B., 57
 Kerr, Miss Charlene, 70
 Kingsep, Mrs. O., 63
 Kirkland, Mrs. J.W., 69
 Klinck, Louise, 81
 Kowbel, Kathy, 77
 Laird, Mrs. F.D., 64,67
 Lambert, Mrs. G.H. (Gertrude), 76
 Lammie, Mrs. J.A., 57,67,68
 Langager, Kaye, 86
 Lange, Mrs. Carl, 57,61,65,68
 Latham, Mrs. R., 62,63
 Laubman, Mrs. C., 61
 Layman, Mary, 85,88
 Learoyd, Sue, 84
 Legate, Cathy, 79
 LeMessurier, Mary, 79
 LePoole, Mrs. S.D., 69
 Lofts, Mrs. K.W., 71
 Lonergan, Mrs. Kay, 70
 Losie, Carol, 82
 Lynch, Mrs. J.J., 57
 Macbeth, Joan, 89
 Macdonald, Mrs. E.C., 57,62,65
 Macdonald, Mrs. H.P., 62,63
 MacDonald, Wendy, 80
 MacGregor, Barbara, 80
 MacGregor, Irene, 88
 MacLaren, Mrs. S., 72
 Maclean, Paula, 85,88
 Marshall, Bessie, 75
 Marshall, Kathy, 84
 Martindale, Mrs. C.H., 58
 Mauro, Aurelia, 86
 McClary, Mrs. R. (Nina), 74
 McCullough, Lilian, 79
 McDonald, Mrs. D.M., 67
 McGibbon, Mrs. J., 62
 McGraw, Mrs. Betty, 74
 McKay, Mrs. L., 60,63
 McKinlay, Sylvia, 88
 McWhinnie, Mrs. J.B., 64,67
 Meadows, Mrs. H.A., 67
 Meier, Jean, 80
 Mellon, Win, 89
 Menzies, Mrs. D.B., 57
 Millar, Mrs. W.A., 57
 Milligan, Mrs. W.M., 61,64
 Milne, Mrs. F.E., 68
 Moltzahn, Alaina, 80
 Monckton, Mrs. G. (Jean), 71
 Moreau, Cathy, 86
 Morgan, Marion, 85,88
 Morstad, Marion, 85
 Mullen, Mrs. R.P. (Betty), 74
 Murray, Mrs. E.H., 63,66
 Myers, Shirley, 82
 Newman, Carol, 75
 Nigro, Mrs. M.R., 71
 Norton, Mary, 83
 Nunn, Mrs. T., 61
 Oliver, Mrs. John, 58
 Orobko, Mrs. Wm., 57
 Otto, Helen, 85,88
 Paletz, Mrs. S.G., 69
 Palmer, Mrs. W.T., 72,73
 Palmer, Cathy, 79,80,83
 Petersen, Sheila, 80
 Philips, Shirley, 90
 Phillips, Mrs. R.E., 66,67
 Pietrzykowski, Shirley, 90
 Pitfield, Joan, 90
 Purcell, Geneva, 80,83
 Ravensborg, Mrs. S. (Sharleen), 74
 Redmond, Shirley, 79

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Rensaa, Mrs. E.N., 63
Rhodes, Mrs. J.A.(Marilyn), 76
Rivers, Mrs. George, 70
Robertson, Mrs. Ian, 70
Robinson, Lindsay, 88,89
Rumbelow, Mrs. A.S. (Ruby), 57,64,67
Russell, Mrs. J.S., 66
Scott, Peggy, 80,83
Secord, Sue, 74,75
Sewell, Mrs. R.T. (Isabel), 73
Shandro, Mrs. Rose, 67
Shearer, Mrs. B.W., 68
Sheldon, Mrs. R.C., 66,69
Sherratt, Mrs. K., 72
Simonson, Mrs. K., 60
Slack, Miss M., 62,65
Smith, Mrs. R. Douglas, 57
Smith, Mrs. R., 62
Smith, Isabel, 87
Somerfield, Theresa, 88
Sparling, Mrs. J.L., 57
Sparling, Mrs. J. G. (Saretta), 69
Spencer, Mrs. W., 57
Squair, Pat, 79
Stelck, Miss Marjorie, 72,75
Stewart, Mrs. E.N., 62,63,66
Strathearn, Gloria, 80
Stuparek (Duke), Elizabeth, 76
Sumka, Rose, 82
Supernault, Esther, 88
Sutherland, Mrs. L., 62,63
Tan, Swee Sim, 79,82
Taylor, Laura, 79
Taylor, Leah, 86,89
Tegart, Mrs. R.L., 69,70
Telmer, Mrs. Ingar, 58
Theodore, Mrs. Jules A., 66 67
Thomas, Mrs. S.H., 58
Thomas, Mrs. L.H., 66,69,70,79
Thompson, Mrs. E. (Ellen), 71,77
Timperley, Mrs. F., 71
Tomick, Mrs. Edward, 64,67
Traynor, Mrs. K.R., 66,68
Trerise, Kathy, 76
Trost, Mrs. W. (Margaret), 74
Turner, Mrs. R., 74
Tweddle, Mrs. J., 61,65,66
Tyler, Joan, 79
Upright, Mrs. F., 58 (returning)
Van Housen, Mrs. R.D., 66,67
Walker-Brash, Mrs. J.D.G., 64
Watt, Doris, 76
Webb, Mrs. Bruce, 57,62
Weese, Mrs. G., 64
Wheeler, Mrs. Wm., 70
Williamson, Mrs. J. (Margaret), 61,64
Wilson, Mrs. D.F., 58,61
Wilson, Miss Evelyn, 67,70
Wilson, Miss E., 59,62
Wishart, Jo, 76 77
Wiskel, Mrs. S.J. (Sandy), 70,73
Witschl, Margaret, 88
Woodbridge, Mrs. Clara, 69
Wright, Mrs. J.R., 62,63
Yakimets, Kay, 75
Young, Mrs. J.A., 68
Young, Helen, 82,85
Young-Checkland, Beth, 81
Youngberg, Mrs. A. (Norma), 76
Zariwny, Eya, 87
Ziai, Mrs. Abol

4. YWCA of Edmonton Life Members

Amaron, Estelle
Ansley, Mrs. E.C.
Ballantyne, Greta
Barclay, Miss Mary
Bowker, Marjorie M.
Brine, Mrs. C.A. (Margaret)
Broughton, Anne
Calhoun, Rita
Clark, Mrs. J.D.
Cook, Pat
Dunlap, Catherine
Gardiner, Miss Christina
Giffen, Mrs. A.W.
Golden, Mrs. Sarah
Gustafson, Ella
Imrie, Alice
Johnson, Mrs. Horace G. (Louise)
Johnstone, Dr. Mary
Lange, Mrs. Carl
McDougall, Agnes
Miller, Mrs. C.E.
Mullen, Betty
Munroe, Miss L.F.
Rendell, Miss Mary
Rumbelow, Ruby
Sherman, Kaye
Sinfield, Dolly
Thomas, Mrs. L.H. (Margaret)
Tompkins, Miss M.A.
Wakelam, Miss Norah
Watson, Miriam
Webb, Mrs. Bruce M.
Webber, Mrs. Roy
Wilson, Miss Evelyn
Wishart, Mrs. R.N.
Young, Helen

5. Tribute to Women Awards

Arts and Culture

Anne Anderson	1991	Alexandra M. Munn	1990
Margaret Perry Flynn	1989	Anne Wheeler	1988
June Bhatia	1987	Anne Burrows	1987
Violet Archer	1985	Ruth Carse	1982

Business, Management and the Professions

Mary Cameron	1991
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Business, Labour, Professions and Technology

Margaret Ann Armour	1990	Linda Duncan	1989
Sheila Campbell	1988	Catherine Anne Fraser	1987
Katherine Chernowski	1985		

Community Service

Betty L. Screpnek	1991	Zoie Gardner	1990
Mary Adam Morrison Davis	1989	Jessica Hanna	1988
Betty Mullen	1987	Saretta Sparling	1982
Jacqueline Charlesworth	1985		

Public Affairs and Communication

Marie Laing	1991	Doris Badir	1990
Marjorie Bowker	1989	Peggy Holmes	1988
Bettie Hewes	1987	Jean Forest	1985
Annyta Stevens	1982	Lois Campbell	1985

Athletics, Recreation and Fitness

Shirley Graham	1991
Barbara Bush-Dauphinais	1990
Elsie McFarland	1989
Gail Greenough	1988
Susan Natrass	1987

Health, Social Science and Social Services

Patricia "Paddy" E.Burns	1990	Mary Burlie	1989
Alice Colak	1988	Mable Sheppard	1987
Helen Hayes	1985	Shirley Stinson	1982

Social Science and Social Services

Marggo Pariseau	1991
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Health, Science and Technology

Antoinetta Rouget	1991
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Special Award

Edmonton Grads	1989
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Special Achievement by Women Under 40

Lynn Rock	1985
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Women Helping Women

Jean Lauber	1982
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Women in Education and Communication

June Sheppard	1982
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This book is the partial story of the Edmonton Y.W.C.A. It includes some background of the Y's beginnings and a more in depth look at it in the last thirty-five years. The volunteer authors/publishers of this book are a group of women dedicated to preserving the history of such organizations as the Edmonton Y.W.C.A. *The 1980's slogan "Changing With You" epitomizes what the Y.W.C.A. has always been so successful at doing — seeing and responding to community needs.* The chronology in this book follows that done by Louise Johnson in the book "The First Fifty Years" of Edmonton Y.W.C.A.

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