

P O V E R T Y

is more than a once-a-year event.
For the millions of women in Canada living in poverty, it is a daily reality.

P O V E R T Y

is a major issue for the women's movement. Women who live below the poverty line are in the front lines of the struggle against women's oppression.

- * Women make up the largest percentage of the poor. Women of colour and native women make up the largest percentage of poor women. The majority of native women in Canada earn less than \$5000 a year.
- * 85% of single-parent families in Toronto are headed by women. The average annual income of a single mother with 3 children on Family Benefits is \$12,000. That's \$9,000 **below** the poverty line. Meanwhile, the average corporation pays proportionately **less** in taxes than the average poor family.
- * For the thousands of women living in city-owned housing projects, safety is an important concern. Lack of security in housing projects attracts drug traffickers and their buyers--who mostly come from outside the communities. From street-lighting to trafficking, women are pressuring the Metro Toronto Housing Authority to make subsidized housing a safe place for women and their children.
- * The Thompson Report is a document produced by the Social Assistance Review Committee, which studied briefs and presentations by anti-poverty groups across Ontario, for 2 years. It made 274 recommendations to the Ontario government, for changes in social assistance programs, in three stages, including an increase of \$8 million. Stage 1 has yet to be committed to.

WOMEN FOR ECONOMIC JUSTICE

*is a coalition of anti-poverty activists, feminists, and poor women.
We've organized an afternoon of talking, workshops, and information exchange
at the International Women's Day Fair after the march.
Anti-poverty groups from across the city will be represented.
Strategies for on-going organizing will be discussed. Plan to be there!*

Join us in the

ANTI-POVERTY NETWORKING ROOM

Joergenson Hall, Ryerson Polytechnical
2 to 5 p.m.

For more information about Women for Economic Justice call 531-3460.