



Women in Local Government

Increasing our participation

Women in Local Government Committee Update

Presentation to UNSM Delegates

Mayor Anna Allen, Chair, WILG Committee

September 18, 2008

Achievements over Past Year

- Municipal Campaign Schools for Women
- Bursary Program for women municipal staff
- Mentorship Program – *to be implemented in November 2008 following municipal elections*



Municipal Campaign Schools for Women

- **Project Goal** - to have greater participation of women in municipal government
- **Project Objective** - to have at least 30 per cent of all candidates running in the October 2008 municipal elections to be women



Municipal Campaign Schools for Women

Campaign School Organizing Committee:

- Mayor Anna Allen (Town of Windsor)
- Councillor Shirley McNamara (County of Richmond)
- Councillor Sheila Fougere (HRM)
- Linda Fraser (CAO, District of Digby)
- Jacquie Farrow-Lawrence (Municipal Clerk, County of Annapolis)
- Denise Moore (NS Advisory Council on the Status of Women)
- Dianne Grant (Policy Analyst, SNSMR)
- Lyle Goldberg (UNSM Policy Analyst)



Municipal Campaign Schools for Women

- Four schools held in April-May in Sydney, Yarmouth, Dartmouth and Stellarton
- 94 participants (113 registered)
- **Media Coverage** - Halifax Chronicle Herald, New Glasgow News, Cape Breton Post, Breakfast Television and CBC Radio Cape Breton



Municipal Campaign Schools for Women

Budget

- Total budget \$25,000
 - \$10,000 from SNSMR
 - \$15,000 from Status of Women Canada
 - In-kind contributions from UNSM, AMANS and NS Advisory Council on the Status of Women



Municipal Campaign Schools for Women

Evaluation

- 98 per cent of participants rated their overall experience as either excellent or very good
- Overwhelming majority rated each session as either excellent or very good
- Some participants indicated they would run as a result of attending the schools



Municipal Campaign Schools for Women

Recommendation

- Offer schools again in four years with the possibility of adding a few more to cover more of the province.
- Keen interest expressed by County of Kings and Town of Lunenburg



Bursary Program

- Launched in July 2008
- Objective – to further knowledge and skills of women who work in municipal government by providing advanced career opportunities
- Application deadline: October 15
- Bursary Selection Committee to finalize successful applicants by November



Bursary Program

How is it funded?

- UNSM - \$6000 over three years at \$2000 per year
- AMA - \$1500 over three years at \$500 per year
- SNSMR - \$2500 for 2007-08
- Received donations from 24 municipalities for 2007-08 totaling \$5890
- Donation from Democracy 250: \$1000
- **Total available for 2007-08: \$11,890**



Voluntary Municipal Contribution

Municipal Population	One-year	Three-year
under 5000	\$100	\$300
5000-10,000	\$300	\$900
10,001-20,000	\$600	\$1800
20,001-50,000	\$1000	\$3000
50,001-110,000	\$2000	\$6000
110,001-300,000	\$4000	\$12,000
over 300,000	\$6000	\$18,000



Bursary Program

24 Municipalities Contributed to the Bursary Program:

County of Annapolis	Town of Hantsport
County of Antigonish	Town of Kentville
District of Barrington	Town of Lunenburg
District of Chester	Town of New Glasgow
District of Clare	Town of Pictou
District of Digby	Town of Port Hawkesbury
District of Guysborough	Town of Stewiacke
County of Richmond	Town of Trenton
District of Shelburne	Town of Truro
District of Yarmouth	Town of Windsor
Town of Antigonish	Town of Wolfville
Town of Bridgetown	Town of Yarmouth

Mentorship Program

Goals:

- develop and foster the knowledge and skills of women municipal leaders in Nova Scotia
- improve and enhance inter-municipal cooperation and communication
- expand personal networks
- provide the advantage of experience to women who are new to municipal government



Mentorship Program

- Launch Date: November 2008 during orientation session for newly elected municipal officials
- Will be seeking mentors and mentees following election



Questions???

