

**The Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women's Health /
Le Centre d'excellence pour la santé des femmes - région des Maritimes**

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MCEWH Mission Statement

To promote social change through policy based research in women's health.

MCEWH's Priority Focus for the next 3 years

- ☒ Social Determinants of Health
- ☒ Women's Social and Economic Security
- ☒ Women's Health and the Environment

Directions of the MCEWH

The Centre has also given priority to research initiatives that focus on the design and implementation of new gender equity lens tools and practices as well as initiatives that address the issues of Black or rural women and caregivers.

Ongoing Research

The Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women's Health currently has funded over 50 projects during the past two years, the results for which are starting to trickle in. Themes include:

- ☒ Aboriginal Women
- ☒ Adolescent Sexual Health
- ☒ Black Women
- ☒ Caregivers
- ☒ Depression
- ☒ Determinants of Health
- ☒ Diverse Women
- ☒ Doctor-patient Interactions
- ☒ Gender Equity
- ☒ Health Determinants

- ☒ Health Policy
- ☒ Health Reform
- ☒ Immigrant Women
- ☒ Midwifery
- ☒ Mothers / Poverty
- ☒ Pregnancy
- ☒ Rural Women
- ☒ Rural Women / Breast Cancer
- ☒ Social Reform
- ☒ Women and Poverty
- ☒ Women and the Environment

Check our website where information regarding research results for these projects is frequently updated.

Recent development and major achievements

- ☒ *“We need to have more contribution by women for women in different levels of decision-making so women’s perspectives are not overlooked”*

The MCEWH hosted an international symposium entitled **MADE TO MEASURE: Assessing Approaches to Eliminate Gender Inequity** at the Westin Hotel in Halifax, Nova Scotia, **October 3 to 6, 1999**. The Purpose of the symposium was to promote women's full participation in Canadian society through enhancing the skills and knowledge required for the mainstreaming of gender equity-based policies, programs and tools. The event was open to diverse groups working in public policy and programming, and included community based-organizations, women's groups, service providers, community and academic researchers, community and civil leaders and other public policy-makers. **CEWHP researchers** from all Centres contributed to the Made to Measure Symposium as panel presenters, moderators, and as authors of synthesis papers which are all still available on line at the MCEWH Made to Measure website. *Any profits from the symposium will be used to support community-based research in women's health.*

- ☒ The MCEWH has moved to its new offices, 5940 South Street Halifax, Suite 402. This 2200 square feet of office space and furnishings are provided by the IWK Grace Health Centre
- ☒ The MCEWH prepared and presented a brief on women's health research and the CIHR to the Canadian Liberal Women's Caucus, Halifax, August, 1999
- ☒ The MCEWH received a funding increase from Health Canada Atlantic for work on the Social Inclusion of Women, Children and Families, bringing the total funding of this project to \$170,500
- ☒ Professor Elizabeth May, first chair holder of the Elizabeth May Chair in Women's Health and the Environment, has taken up residence at the MCEWH, Dalhousie University. Professor May will be editing a book on women's health and the environment as well as teaching both an undergraduate and graduate level course. She will also convene public sessions on women's health and the environment in the four Atlantic Provinces.
- ☒ Carol Amaratunga represented the MCEWH at the the National Working Group on Health Protection, University of Toronto, June, 1999.

- ☞ Professor Elizabeth May, co chair of the Health and Environment Committee of the National Roundtable on the Environment and the Economy chaired a public forum in Halifax , August, 1999
- ☞ The MCEWH has been invited by the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre to review their gender training curriculum and to deliver gender equity training sessions to international military and civilian peacekeepers
- ☞ Voted best women's health website by the Canadian Medical Association, 1998.

Publications (Available on our website)

*Measuring Genuine Progress: Synthesis Paper prepared for Made to Measure Symposium, Halifax, October 3-6, 1999 [draft] Published with permission of the author, Ron Colman

*Gender Equality in the Genuine Progress Index: Synthesis Paper prepared for Made to Measure Symposium, Halifax, October 3-6, 1999 [draft] Published with permission of the author, Ron Colman

*GEL Resource Document: an annotated bibliography that serves as a reference tool for anyone interested in the gender-based analysis initiatives, and provides those who want to undertake such an analysis with a list of supporting texts.

*Moving Towards Women's Health: A Series of Policy Based Research Findings /Promouvant la santé des femmes: une série de résultats de recherche du Centre Maritime No 2., April 1998: Developing Understanding from Young Women's Experiences in Obtaining Sexual Health Services and Education in a Nova Scotia Community

*Gender and Health Policy Discussion Papers: Série de documents de discussion sur les politiques de santé et les différences entre les sexes.

*Health Promotion Atlantic Newsletter