

Thank you to

Dr. Theresa O'Donovan & Julie Maltby (Brescia) for their assistance.

To all the students who volunteered to be chairs.

All the presenters who shared their work with us.

### Organising Committee:

Dr. Rebecca Coulter, Western's Faculty of Education

Rita Gardiner, iWIL at Brescia

Kim Young Milani, The Circle Women's Centre at Brescia



Thank you to our sponsors:

#### At Brescia

The Circle Women's Centre  
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#### At Western

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Women's Issues

Their support made this conference possible.

**E-Conference proceedings will be posted in Spring.**  
Visit [www.iwil.ca](http://www.iwil.ca)



# Women Making Change

Conference



Friday 6 March 2009

9:00 am-3:00 pm

Brescia University College



A Sessions, Room 135  
B Sessions, Room 136

## A Sessions - Room 135

## B Sessions - Room 136

Chair: Jillian Curry

**Dana Serwotka (Brescia)** - *Inspired by Our Past: Women and the Elgin Settlement*

**Lucy Karanja (Western)** - *Victims as Saviours: African Refugee Women's Resilience and Courage*

**Beth Harding (Western)** - *Make Yourself a(t) Home: Gender, Place And Identity in the Poetry of Grace Nichols*

9:00am-10:15am

Chair:

**Hannah State (Queen's)** - *A Home Away from 'Home': Native Women's Perspective on City Living*

**Crystal Arnold (Western)** - *Exploring the Narratives of South Asian Women in Finding Employment: Using Research to Inform Change*

**Elida Sanchez Cruz (Western)** - *What is the Situation of Women in Graduate Studies?*

### 10:15am-10:30 am - Refreshment Break

Chair:

**Michelle Miller (UBC)** - *(Young) Women Making Change: On the Miss G\_\_\_ Project for Equity in Education*

**Jenna Mackay** - *Moving Beyond the Aesthetic of a Mandate*

**Alissa Mazar (Windsor)** - *Female South Asian Diaspora: Resisting Women as Static Bearers of Culture*

10:30am-  
11:45am

Chair:

**Kirsten Francescone (Windsor)** - *Un-veiling "Liberation": Women's Resistance to Western Occupation and Hegemony in the Middle East*

**Alfred Masinire (Western)** - *Moving Beyond a Colonizing Discourse: Names and Naming the Contribution of Rural Peasant Women in Making Change in Zimbabwe: Estere Zongomegwa: Herstory!*

### 11:45am-12:30 pm - Lunch Break

There's a café kiosk close to the classrooms with sandwiches. Brescia's Ursuline Hall has a café in the basement with hot and cold food.

Chair:

**Ramona Fernandez (Western)** - *Pregnancy Loss: A Social Conspiracy of Silence*

**Birgit Prodingner (Western)** - *An Auto-Ethnographic Approach: Self-Changing through Engagement in Critical Reflection and Reflexivity*

12:30pm -  
1:20pm

Chair:

**Kate Bryant & Tori Coates (Brescia)** - *Reflections on the WEW Student Leadership Conference*

**Ellen Leibman (York)** - *The Toronto Rape Crisis Centre/Multicultural Women Against Rape (TRCC/MWAR); Feminist Activist Herstory Forum*

Chair:

**Emily Macgillivray (Queen's)** - *No Access to Services: The Struggle of Injection Drug-using Women in Abusive Relationships*

**Maryanne Kamau (Western)** - *Overcoming HIV/AIDS Challenges in the Slums of Nairobi, Kenya: The Role of the Kenya Network of Women Living with HIV (KENWA)*

1:30pm -2:20 pm

Chair:

**Ana Taveira (York)** - *Finding Local Ways to Challenge Global Issues of Neoliberalism*

**Maryanne MacDonald (Western)** - *London Women and Grassroots Environmental Activism - The Case for Sustainable Change*

Chair:

**Jessica Balmer (Western)** - *Stretching the Lens: Culture Jamming as (In)Visible Feminist Activism*

**Marc Kosciejew (Western)** - *Documenting Michelle Obama: How Documenting the New First Lady is Helping Change (Black) Female Identities*

2:30pm - 3:20pm

Chair:

**Shirley Barr (Brescia)** - *Seizing the Opportunity: Redefining the Challenge of Climate Change*

**Carol Down (Western)** - *Women in Canadian Politics: Under-representation of Women in Municipal Government: Programs to Reduce Barriers and Increase Levels of Women in Local Government*