



BPW New Zealand Federation Circular February 2007 Theme for the year "New Dimensions of Leadership-in the Workplace"

[ANNAN PRAISES UN WOMEN'S PANEL FOR BEING 'AHEAD OF ITS TIME'](#)

The world is beginning to recognize that empowering women and girls is key to development thanks to a United Nations women's commission that is "ahead of its time," UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said, marking the body's 60th anniversary.

"The world is also starting to grasp that there is no tool for development more effective than the empowerment of women and girls," Mr. Annan said addressing the Commission on the Status of Women today. "Study after study has taught us that no other policy is as likely to raise economic productivity, or to reduce infant and maternal mortality."

That policy also improves nutrition and promote health - including the prevention of HIV/AIDS, and increases the chance of education for the next generation, Mr. Annan added.

He praised the Commission for helping to develop legal measures, shape new policies, and raise awareness of the challenges confronting women. "The Commission not only moves with the times: it is ahead of its time." In 1979, the Commission paved the way for the General Assembly's adoption of the landmark Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which 185 countries have ratified to date. In 2000, the commission laid the groundwork for the adoption of the Optional Protocol to CEDAW, which women in 80 countries can now use to seek remedies for violations of their rights, Mr. Annan said.

Mr. Annan voiced hope that the Commission will play a supportive role as the UN works to strengthen and consolidate its gender architecture, drawing on the recommendations presented yesterday by the High-level Panel on System-wide Coherence.

"Women have an absolutely crucial role to play in reinvigorating our human rights machinery, in managing the difficult transition from war to peace, in strengthening democratic institutions and ensuring that all people can exercise their democratic rights," Mr. Annan told the commission. "Your leadership can help make the voices and needs of women heard in all those areas."

Also in this newsletter: President's Message, Global Women's News, Fiber Lowers Breast Cancer Risks, Congratulations, Legislation Report.

[President's Message – February 2007](#)

Kia ora tatou, greetings to all BPW members and friends.

The celebrations of Christmas and New Year are but a memory, a happy and safe one I hope, for you all.

We are setting out in 2007 on another year of stimulating BPW activities advocating for the rights of working women and supporting the personal and professional development of all women.

The BPW International theme for the current triennium is **New Dimensions of Leadership** and this year we will be focusing on **leadership in the work place**.

In an article about defining leadership, our BPW International President Nok Viravan wrote last year - "One good thing about our theme "New Dimensions of Leadership" is the word "New" and the "s" after "Dimension". It reflects that leadership can be viewed from various perspectives and can be defined in various ways. There is no one definition-fit-all". "-- leadership is not defined by the post we hold, but by the deeds that we do and the values we uphold". "-- just because some people have a lot of followers, that's not enough to say that they are good leaders. They have to lead people to do good things too". Hold on to these ideas as you meet at the beginning of this new year to set goals and plan your club program.

There are **two particular issues** that I ask you to incorporate into your programs in some way this year as part of your activities to advocate for the rights of working women.

The first is the perennial one of **violence against women**, not only physical assault, but also the verbal, psychological and institutional behaviors and attitudes that intimidate women and limit their ability to live safely and achieve their true potential for themselves and their families.

The second is the silent health issue of **osteoporosis**. 90% of New Zealanders know of osteoporosis but less than 20% do anything about it. It affects more than half of women and nearly a third of men older than 60 so it

is vital that we raise awareness amongst our members about how to prevent or ameliorate it. Since 1999, BPW International has had a partnership agreement with the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) to support the fight against osteoporosis and skeletal disease. The IOF works to ensure that people with osteoporosis receive the best standard of care possible. Activities include promoting awareness of the disease, research and medical innovation, and, where needed, lobbying for change to meet these aims.

I strongly recommend the **BPW Mentoring Program** as a key development tool for clubs in working towards supporting the personal and professional development of all women. Register as a Mentoring Club and tap into all the resources and benefits that are available, including the New Member kits and the Individual Development Course.

The big event of our BPW year is our **Federation Conference to be held in Invercargill on 4-6 May**. Plans are well under way and a superb venue, exciting program and social activities have been arranged for you. Our International President Nok Viravan (Thailand). International Vice President Liz Benham (New York), and other international guests will be joining us. Do have at least two club members attend together to bring back all the news and good ideas for your club.

I look forward to seeing you there and wish you all a very fulfilling, productive and enjoyable year with BPW NZ.

[Faye Gardiner](#)
President

President's Calendar 2007

Feb	10	BPW Executive meeting in Auckland
	19	Tauranga Club meeting
	21	Tamaki Club meeting
March	14	Tamaki Club meeting
	19	Hibiscus Coast Club Study Award Presentation Dinner
April	11	Tamaki Club meeting
	14	BPW Executive meeting – Teleconference
May	4-6	BPW NZ Conference in Invercargill
	9	Tamaki Club meeting
	13-15	BPW Asia Pacific Regional Meeting in Seoul, Korea

[Funding Convener](#)

Heather Newell of Upper Hutt Club will be acting as Funding Convener until Conference in May. Heather has her own consultancy business in communication, publicity and sponsorship. We welcome Heather to the BPW NZ Committee and are very appreciative of her willingness to share her skills and expertise in support of our Aims. Heather is happy to advise clubs about seeking funding for projects. Her email is heather@foresee.co.nz

[Asia - Pacific Regional Conference](#) "New Dimensions of Leadership in Asia-Pacific"

The BPW International Asia Pacific regional meeting is being held in Seoul, Korea, on 13-15 May. The program and further details are available from President Faye Gardiner, f.gardiner@clear.net.nz

This event is a very good opportunity to experience BPW International activities and make friends with BPW members from other countries, and enhance their understanding of the diversity of our region.

If you are interested in coming to Korea with the NZ delegation, please contact Faye by 28th February latest.

[Women on Boards](#)

Seen in *Her Business* (Annah Stretton supports New Horizons for Women in various private ways, including sending members of the Board a copy of her magazine!)

"Three new databases are being established to make it easier for private sector companies to find women with the skills and experience necessary for board jobs"

1. Sandy Maier and Jens Mueller from Waikato University's School of Management
2. Auckland Chamber of Commerce (Michael Barnett) in partnership with the Equal Employment Opportunities Trust (Phillippa Reed)
3. Roasanne Hawarden (Computer Support Enzed Ltd and Syspro New Zealand Ltd) is setting up a web-based initiative

CEDAW Ratifications Up to 184!!

The Cook Islands has become the latest party to the CEDAW Convention, having acceded to the Convention on 11 August 2006. This means that 184 countries, i.e. over ninety percent of the members of the United Nations, are now party to the Convention. For a list of State parties, see <http://www.iwraw-ap.org/convention/parties.htm>.

Issues Addressed by BPW - Legislation Convener Noeline Reisch

Submissions

- In favour of Human Rights (Women in Armed Forces) Amendment Bill, in line with our policy and our commitment to CEDAW. Submitted 20th October 2006.
- On the review of the Regulation of Alcohol Advertising, Submitted 31st October 2006

Lobbying

- Form letter sent to all clubs to send to their MP's quoting BPW NZ Policy and urging them to vote for the proposed raising of the age limit for purchase of alcohol.
- Action alert to all clubs with the details for them to either make a submission or answer the questionnaire from the Labour department on the Flexible Working Hours Legislation, requesting that they support the section on legislation.
- Flyer and Leaflet sent to all clubs from the Flexible Working Hours Coalition for print it off and distribution as widely as possible to gather support for this legislation.

BPW Represented at the following events

- 3rd October – Presentation by Dr Anamah Tan, a member of the CEDAW Committee at the Human Rights Commission, on the % of women in governance throughout the world, and the importance of increasing this.(Legislation Convener)
- 6th October - Inaugural meeting of the coalition for the Right to Ask for Flexible Hours Legislation instigated by Sue Kedgley, the author of the Amendment to the original Bill.
- 20th October - Second meeting of the coalition for the Right to Ask for Flexible Hours Legislation.(Legislation Convener, Vice President)
- 6th November – Vice President Angela McLeod, spoke as BPW NZ representative on the coalition, at the launch of the coalition on the day the Government released the Flexible Working Hours discussion paper.(Legislation Convener)
- 17th November - 4th meeting of the coalition. .(Legislation Convener, Vice President)

Thank you Noeline for all the great work you have been doing on behalf of BPW NZ

Congratulations to -

Linda McCallum Jackson of BPW Dunedin and ex BPW Tamaki and her husband Ian of Havoc have won the prestigious Meridian Energy Trophy for retail business excellence at the recent Aoraki Development Trust Awards. Havoc produces the only paddock to plate antibiotic free pork and pork products in New Zealand and cater to the discerning market. Havoc is instantly recognisable by their logo of three little pigs and their motto: Hear no evil, see no evil, eat not evil.

Congratulations Linda

Asha-Rose Migiro, Tanzanian Foreign Minister, only the second woman in history to be appointed as Deputy Secretary General of the UN.

Nancy Pelosi - the first woman Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States of America.

Women Invited to Join Global Village

In celebration of women - their insights, courage, and cultures, D.G. Fulford, Dr. Sarah McCue, Willa Shalit, Co-Founders of "**Women with 20-20 Vision**" invite women of all ages and from all walks of life to join www.MyWordsMyVoice.com, a global networking platform for women to do what comes naturally -- to converse and connect by writing about a moment in her life and to read the honest vignettes of other women from everywhere in the world.

We invite you to submit an essay or memoir -- mothers, daughters and sisters, artists and entrepreneurs, educators, office workers, political activists, scientists, students, taxi drivers, and waitresses. If you are a woman, you have a story to tell. And we invite you to read the Featured Memoirs currently highlighted to learn about women who live such different lives around the world.

Women everywhere share universal experiences of birth, death, love, loss, struggle and triumph. These and other essays will range from gasp-inducing funny to instantly real -- sometimes sad, often triumphant, opinionated, indignant, gentle, or nostalgic but always powerfully female.

Women love telling stories, and women love talking to each other. We've created a place for women to read, write, and connect. Just go to www.MyWordsMyVoice.com and click Join. Within minutes, you can write your story, read others', and begin connecting with women who have been moved by your words. We can't wait to read your story.

Global Women's News

I. GLOBAL SUMMIT OF WOMEN 2007 UPDATE: MEET PARTICIPATING LEADERS

The President of Latvia, Vaira Vike-Freiberga, leads a stellar group of women leaders from business and government who are planning to be part of the 2007 Global Summit of Women to be held in Berlin, Germany from June 14-16th. The first woman president of Latvia, Dr. Vike-Freiberga is credited with enabling her country's inclusion in NATO and in the European Union. Nominated by three Baltic States for the post of Secretary-General of the United Nations, President Vike-Freiberga was initially appointed by Kofi Annan to be part of the commission looking into implementing reforms within this international organization.

The Vice President of El Salvador, Ana Vilma de Escobar, will be attending her second Summit and will be presenting in the session on "Corporate Social Responsibility." An economist by profession, Vice President de Escobar once headed up her country's export commission before she became its first female vice president.

On the corporate side, the head of IBM France, Francoise Gri, will be part of the Summit's CEO Forum. Named one of Fortune 'Top 50 Powerful Women', Ms. Gri is an IBM veteran. She will be joined at the Summit's CEO Forum by the Chairwoman of Microsoft Russia and CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States), who has grown her company's presence in the region; and by Cornelia Groehl from Germany, who serves as President-Europe of a Johnson & Johnson division. Several women executives are also slated to participate in the Summit program, some of whom are featured in the Summit's website.

Germany's welcome to Summit delegates takes place at the German Historical Museum at a dinner sponsored by the Ministry of Family, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, The Museum is known for its entrance designed by renowned architect I.M. Pei, who also designed the Louvre's entrance in Paris. Minister von der Leyen will be joined by her fellow ministers at the Welcoming Dinner to be held on Thursday evening, June 14th.

II. MICROSOFT SCHOLARSHIP

Microsoft will sponsor one woman who has chosen technology as a career path to attend the 2007 Global Summit of Women in Berlin. Please note that the winner must reside in one of the following countries: Bulgaria, Poland, Slovak Republic, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Hungary, Germany, France, United Kingdom, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Greece, Italy, Austria, and Spain.

Microsoft's sponsorship signifies its support for women in technology and its understanding of the need to help women get together to leverage each other's strengths. This effort is one of many that the company undertakes to engage women in business and technology. More details on the process to enter will be provided in the next month's Globewomen newsletter and on the Summit's website, <http://www.globewomen.com/summit/2007/Summit.main.07.htm>

2007 Global Summit of Women will be held in Berlin, Germany from June 14-16th 2007. For this year, BPW members can get 5% discount from the registration fee if they want to attend. More details about the Global Summit program and registration, please visit <http://www.globewomen.com/summit/2007/Summit.main.07.htm>.

The BPW International Newsletter is online at the International website – www.bpw-international.org

Fiber Lowers Breast Cancer Risk

Pre-menopausal women who eat large amounts of fibre could halve their breast cancer risk, a UK study has suggested. The University of Leeds researchers, who studied 35,000 women, found those who ate 30g of fibre a day had half the risk of those who ate less than 20g. They said women should try to increase their fibre intake. Experts said the study was more evidence of the benefits of a healthy diet. The average person in the UK eats 12g of fibre a day. To eat 30g, a person would need to eat a high-fibre cereal for breakfast, switch from white or brown bread to wholemeal and ensure they have five portions of fruit and vegetables a day.

A team from the University of Leeds Centre for Epidemiology and Biostatistics have been monitoring the eating habits and health of more than 35,000 women for seven years. They were aged 35 to 69 at the beginning of the study. Unlike other studies looking at fibre intake and breast cancer risk, the women studied had a range of diets including groups who were wholly vegetarian or who did not eat red meat.

Just under 16,000 women were pre-menopausal when they entered the study, with 18,000 post-menopausal. 257 pre-menopausal women developed breast cancer during the study, which was initially funded by the World Cancer Research Fund. They were found to be women who had a greater percentage of energy derived from protein, and lower intakes of dietary fibre and vitamin C, compared to women who did not develop cancer. However, the effect was not seen in the post-menopausal group, in which 350 developed breast cancer. The researchers say this may be because fibre affects the way the body processes and regulates the female hormone oestrogen. Levels of the hormone are higher in pre-menopausal women.

Ed Yong, cancer information officer at Cancer Research UK, said: "We already advise eating a diet rich in fibre to reduce the risk of bowel cancer. "This study suggests that it could help protect against breast cancer in younger women too." He added: "Until now, the evidence that fibre could reduce the risk of breast cancer has been inconsistent. "This study suggests that this is because any protective effects are limited to women before their menopause. "It further highlights the importance of eating a healthy diet for reducing the risk of cancer."

HOW TO EAT ENOUGH FIBRE

Breakfast: A bowl of high-fibre cereal, two slices of wholemeal bread

Lunch: Half a tin of beans on wholemeal toast

Rest of day, including dinner: Five portions of fruit and vegetables

Full story at: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/health/6287915.stm>

Attachments

Resolutions for conference, BPW International and New Zealand Candle Lighting messages, Cover page for mail-out, Nomination forms for Federation Committee positions, Club Awards information, Daphne Chapman nomination form, BPWI Report - Violence Against Women.

Articles from clubs for the Circular need to be with Elizabeth by 15th of the month. Send to bhorrell@woosh.co.nz

Please note – from now on, February 2007, the Mail Out to Clubs will be electronic only unless Clubs specifically ask for a hard copy.

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