

Regional Synod of Canada Women's Ministries

Background

The Regional Synod of Canada is quite different from our church family south of the border. We need to remember that Canada's culture is different. We are far spread covering our entire country, and will probably need another Co-ordinator in the future to better serve both east and west. Travel will be an issue if only one serves. These issues may need to be dealt with at a later date. However, we are making a beginning, knowing these issues may make it difficult to meet all women's needs.

Thankfully, tools such as the internet will facilitate in spanning the distance from coast to coast. It would be beneficial if the regional co-ordinator had a pre-existing connection with a variety of churches and women across the country.

Now that the RCWM programming is no longer in place, most groups are struggling with meaningful programming, and numbers have dwindled. The age-old question is "How do we attract younger women to help with women's ministries?" This position is being created in order to expand and develop the diversity of Women's ministry in Canada. Women's ministries currently encompasses all groups such as Coffee Break, Story Hour, Appleseeds (a program for Grade 5 girls), Weekend Sleepovers, etc.

Our goal for this Co-ordinator is to have a person that we can all connect to, for the exchange of program ideas, to build an e-network, and become familiar with what others around the country are doing. We want to be connected with each other, and have a person who we can turn to for any information concerning women's ministry in Canada and the RCA. We want to work together furthering the outreach and ministry of the church in Canada and throughout the RCA. Women are a large part of the RCA population, who need resources, training, information, and are often prayer warriors for the work of Christ in this world.

Regional Synod of Canada Women's Ministries Co-ordinator

Strengths:

The Regional Synod of Canada Co-ordinator:

- needs to be a person who has a strong faith,
- is able to share her faith openly with others
- has a passion for women's ministries of all ages
- be a well organized person,
- have the ability to meet and understand women where they are at,
- have good computer skills, including internet, and email,
- committed to the ministry and mission of the RCA and ultimately to Kingdom building.

Responsibilities:

- be a resource person, which could span **all age groups**, for programming, bible study material, etc.
- have a good knowledge of the structure of the General Synod, the Synod and the Classis, how they are interconnected, the responsibilities of each, and the people who staff them.
- know the issues under discussion at the General Synod.
- be the voice of the Canadian women at the tables at which she is requested to be present
- be a resource for leadership development,
- can recommend leadership development material,
- be the women's presence at Synod and Classis
- can facilitate or personally co-ordinate leadership training
- gather information
 - begin a data base of names, addresses, etc.
 - names of women who would be or are good leaders
 - what women are doing,
 - programs that work, etc.
- write a column for women ministries in "Northern lights"
- explore ways to connect women from coast to coast,
- be a speaker
- one flight a year to west or east to attend an RCA women's conference,
- to find creative ways to finance this annual trip,
- be the liaison between women across the country.

Evaluation:

- do a self-evaluation to determine where personal strengths and weaknesses lie,
- annual evaluation with John Kapteyn and Mary Clark to encourage growth.

Responsible to:

Mary Clark, Reformed Church Women Ministries Co-ordinator for the RCA
Work together with Rev. John Kapteyn, Executive secretary of the Regional Synod of Canada.

Remuneration:

To start 20 hr. a month. \$5,000 /annually.