

Housing for Women Book Society

NEWS RELEASE – June 01, 2020

***WINning: The Trials, Tribulations, and Triumphs of Opening a Women's Shelter***  
by Marsha Mildon, with Ardis Beaudry, Rose-Marie McCarthy, Phyllis Ellis, and Lynn Hannley

Edmonton, AB – Housing for Women Book Society proudly announces the publication of their book documenting the history and chronicling the stories of the determined people who formed the first women's shelters in Edmonton, Alberta.

In the late 1960s, women arriving in Edmonton without friends, money, or homes, had no good choices. The women – and a few men – who realized this, came together to find a way to help. The book records the 50-year history, and more importantly, the stories of how the founders got started, how they worked for years despite setbacks, how they fought to keep going, and how they won to serve those women in need through Edmonton Women's Shelter and WIN Houses, leading to WINGS, Lurana Shelter, A Safe Place, Nisa Homes, Jessie's House, and more.

“*WINning* reflects the ups and downs of fifty years of sheltering,” says shelter founder and long-time Board President Ardis Beaudry. Read the stories – heartbreaking and heartwarming – of the founders, funders, volunteers, staff, and the women who stayed in the shelters.

Society has changed a lot in 50 years, yet there are still women in need of shelter, and dedicated people working to provide it. These are their stories.

*This project is supported by the Edmonton Heritage Council and the City of Edmonton.*

-30-

***About Housing for Women Book Society:***

Housing for Women Book Society (HfW) was created in 2018 to record the history of women sheltering women. That story began in Edmonton some 50 years ago with one of Canada's first women's shelters, formed under the guidance of ordinary women who recognized a social problem and worked diligently to provide assistance to Women in Need. Four of the original founders of Edmonton Women's Shelter and the subsequent WIN Houses collaborated with a writer who had also been involved in the early sheltering movement to gather historical resources and publish the newly-released book, *WINning: The Trials, Tribulations, and Triumphs of Opening a Women's Shelter*.

***Contact*** (to arrange interviews with the author or founders):

Mary-Lou Veeken, Promotion | cell/text: 780-619-6723

orders: [www.enable.org/winning](http://www.enable.org/winning) | e-mail: [hfw2020@gmail.com](mailto:hfw2020@gmail.com)

fb: [www.facebook.com/WINningThe-Trials-Tribulations-and-Triumphs-of-Opening-a-Womens-Shelter-106781701057525](https://www.facebook.com/WINningThe-Trials-Tribulations-and-Triumphs-of-Opening-a-Womens-Shelter-106781701057525)