# How did women's rights evolve at SFU? The answer is in the Archives.



In 1965 there was just one woman, Letty Wilson, in administration at SFU. There were few women on faculty. Male students outnumbered women 62% to 38%

Women students wore long, elegant gowns to the President's Ball and the Arts Formal. They were invited to pos in swimsuits to compete for the titles of Miss SFU and Miss Clansman. But there were no courses about women in society, no daycare facilities, and not much awareness about equal rights issues. All that was about to change!

# Women's Caucus rises to the challenge

the rebellious summer of 1968, women students, staff and faculty granized the Women's Caucus. They held protests, published scathing ticles, and battled for birth control and abortion, employment rights and minist course content.



## Beauty is redefined

Beauty is reclefine
Jania Ioliny of the Women's Casuserolled as a candidate in the 1970
Miss Canadian University contest.
As the final winners were about to
be announced the nose and
denounced 'contests that glorify
women as plastic sex objects.'
Supporters in the audience aring
"We Shall Overcome" while others
scorn. The event received plenty of
publicity, sparking debate and
raking awareness.



#### Women's work is recognized

Never Done, the first history of women in Canada, was published in 1974 by Andrea Lebowitz and other Women's Caucus members. The rapid development of resear on women in Canada kickstarted with revolutionary books like this.



## Credit is given where credit is due

Andrea Lebowitz was a veteran of the US visil ejables campaigns when she joined SFU's English Department in 1965. Maggie Benston held appointments in chemistry and computing scient Strong advocates for social justice and women's fights, they too their proporal for a Women's Studies Program to the SFU Senat in 1975.

in 1970.
Sextancis were worried that such a department would become a women's academic johettu, without disciplinary academic johettu, without disciplinary academic johettu, without disciplinary academic johettu, without financial control of the control of the

Today Women's Studies is a full-fledged department offering undergraduate majors and M.A. and Ph.D.





### The Child Care Centre has a tempestuous birth



### At last: a room of their own

SCUS Women's Centre is a legacy of the first one, a small room in the Transpo the Women's Centre is run by a volunteer collective and two part-time staff. It offers support and information, a library, outreach activities, and a safe space for women working and studying at the university.



sanctuary from oppression

New Womyn's Centre offers

nctuary' from oppression

A. A new and higger facility for we opened in 1980. SFU Week.

# Your Archives. Your University.

The SFU Archives has collections from the Women's Bookstore, the Childcare Society, SFSS Women's Centre, and Andrea Lebowitz. Do you have questions about feminism and activists at SFU? The answers are in the Archives.

