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PLEASE POST – 10213

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## Election Campaign School for Women

Are you a woman considering either running for elected office, or working in a key position in a future election campaign? If so, then the annual Canadian Women Voters Congress Women's Campaign School is for you.

**Dates: March 27-29, 2009**

**Location: SFU Harbour Centre, Vancouver, B.C.**

The **Canadian Women Voters Congress** is a nonpartisan, grass roots organization, dedicated to encouraging Canadian women to become strong, effective voices at all levels of government. Women constitute 51% of the population, yet the number of women in elected positions across Canada remains less than 25%. The Congress is working to balance the scales of political representation and to hold all parties accountable for including women in the decision-making process.

BC will hold its next provincial election on May 12, 2009 and a federal election could be called at any time. Women seeking a nomination that is likely to be contested need to plan and implement their campaigns well in advance of an election. The Congress usually offers the Women's Campaign School only once a year, so now is the time to take advantage of everything the school offers to potential candidates and to those who plan to play a key role in upcoming elections.

The **Women's Campaign School** explores the political skills, strategies and tactics required to win nomination and election campaigns. The intensive and interactive program is non-partisan and non-issue-based. Over the course of 3 full days, participants will:

- Examine their motivation for running
- Identify the resulting changes in lifestyle
- Find out how to secure a nomination to run for office
- Learn how to manage the nuts and bolts of fundraising, budgeting and campaign financing
- Discuss campaign ethics

- Strategize a successful campaign
- Discuss how to deal with local and regional issues
- Learn how to work effectively with the media
- Discuss international politics

HSA will provide financial support for a limited number of applicants to attend the campaign school, in accordance with HSA's financial policies governing member education. An application for financial support is attached, and is also available on HSA's website. Applications should be sent to Pattie McCormack at the HSA office as soon as possible, and **no later than Friday January 30, 2009.**

Members receiving financial support from HSA will be given the necessary forms to complete their application to the Women's Campaign School.

Further information about the Women's Campaign School is available at [www.womenscampaignschool.org](http://www.womenscampaignschool.org).

For further information on HSA support to attend the Women's Campaign School, contact Carol Riviere at the HSA office.

**Application Deadline: Friday January 30, 2009.**