

a Fact Sheet on...

Women and Volunteer Work

- Nova Scotia has the highest rate of volunteer work in Canada.
- In 1997 Nova Scotia volunteered an estimated 134 million hours.
- Volunteer work was worth nearly \$2 billion dollars to the Nova Scotia economy in 1997.
- In 1997, the value of volunteer work in Nova Scotia was equivalent to 81,000 jobs, and nearly 10% of our GDP.
- If this voluntary contribution was withdrawn, our standard of living and quality of life would decline dramatically, and we would lose critical services on which our economic and social health depend. Yet this contribution remains invisible and unvalued in our current measure of progress. “The Economic value of Unpaid Work in the Housework and Childcare in Nova Scotia”, GPI Atlantic, Halifax, 1998.
- The majority (56%) of Canada’s volunteers are women. “Profiling Canada’s Families”, Vanier Institute of the Family, Ottawa, 1994.

