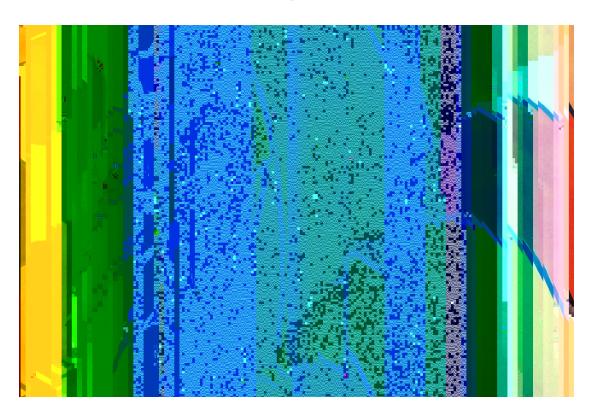
# Achieving Employment Equity at Queen's

Part 1: Challenges



Council on Employment Equity

Office of the University Advisor on Equity

Queen's University May 2008

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Alternate formats of this booklet are available upon request

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#### Employment Equity in Canada

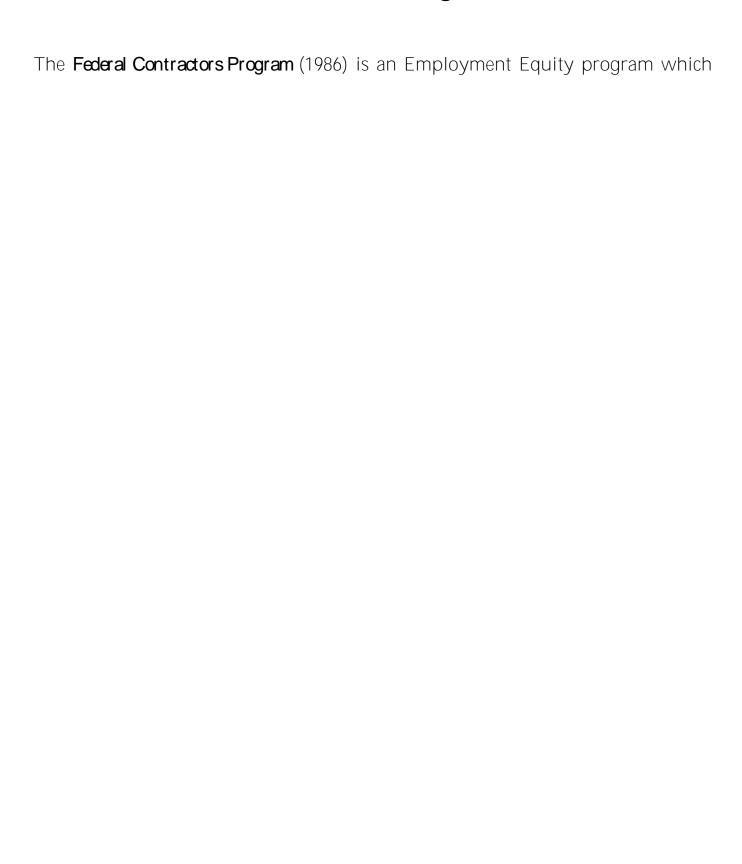
In 1984, Judge Rosalie Abella was commissioned by the Government of Canada to chair the Commission on Equality and Employment. The **Abella Report** (1984) compared the composition of the actual workforce (Canadian employees working in Canada) to that of the available workforce (Canadians between the ages of 16-64).

It revealed the presence of deeply embedded discriminatory barriers that denied certain groups access to equal opportunity in the areas of recruitment, retention, promotion, accessibility, accommodation, compensation, benefits, pension plans and training opportunities. These groups were: women, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities and visible minorities (racialized persons).

The Commission made a series of recommendations to the government, including:

- 1) Requiring employers to take concrete measures to promote Employment Equity in the workplace.
- 2) Ensuring that women, Aboriginal peoples, people with disabilities and visible

# The Federal Contractors Program



### Equity Structure at Queen's

"Queen's University is committed to fostering an institutional culture which recognizes and respects the equal dignity and worth of all who seek to participate in the life, work and mission of the University, by developing policies, programs, practices and traditions which facilitate their free, safe and full participation and by eliminating direct, indirect and systemic discrimination, particularly against members of disadvantaged groups."

Queen's Employment Equity Policy

In 1997, the University created a three-part equity structure to help Queen's achieve Employment Equity. This structure is composed of the Office of the University Advisor on Equity (the "Equity Office"), the Council on Employment Equity (CEE) and the Senate Educational Equity Committee (SEEC).

The Equity Office: The Equity Office is charged with promoting the

#### Representation of Designated Groups

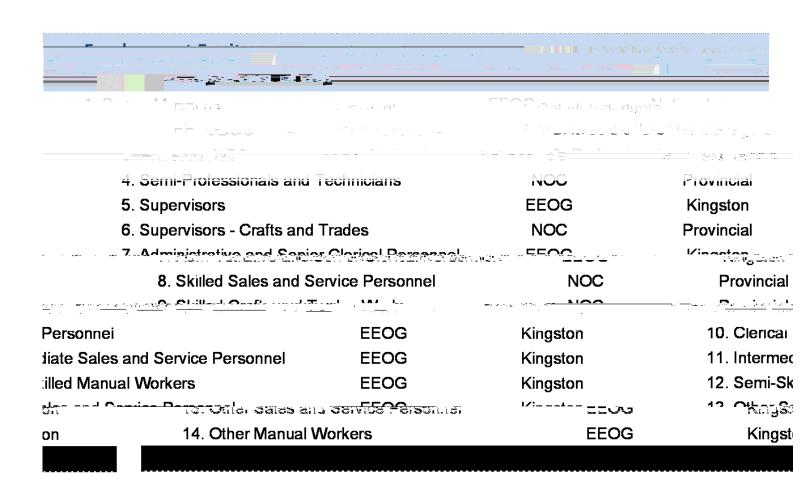
Nationally and at Queen's

Source: 2006 Canadian Census, 2006 PALS, 2009 Queen's Employment Equity Data Warehouse

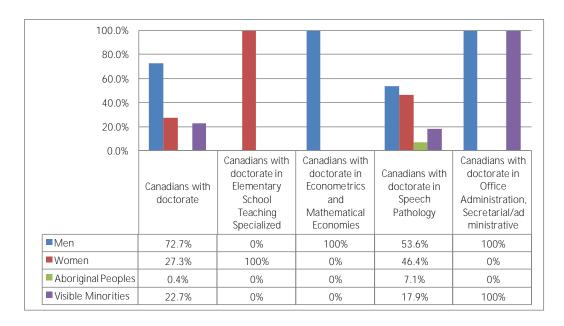
Achieving equity in a workplace means attaining an employee population that reflects the representation of the four designated groups (Aboriginal persons, per-

#### Employment Equity Occupational Groups

A workplace whose overall population reflects the diversity of Canada would still not have achieved equity if the majority of employees from equity-seeking ("designated") groups worked in the lowest paying, least stable jobs. To ensure that members of designated groups obtain equal opportunity for success in all positions, the FCP requires that the University determine its designated group representation at either the Employment Equity Occupational Group (EEOG) or National Occupational Classification (NOC) occupational detail, depending on the occupation, then compare its internal designated group representation to that in the workforce at a specified level of occupational detail and geographic region (national, provincial or census metropolitan area):



#### Challenge #3: Educational Achievement



Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. **2001 Census of Canada: Representation of designated groups by major field of study.** Ottawa: Policy, Reporting and Data Development, Labour Standards and Workplace Equity, Operations Directorate,

Another statistical factor that presents a challenge to achieving equity is educational achievement. Across Canada in 2001, around one hundred thousand employees had a doctorate. 72.7% of those employees were men, 27.3% were women, 0.4% were Aboriginal persons and 22.7% were visible minorities. Given this educational achievement distribution, it is challenging for equity-seeking universities to meet their national employment equity goals for teaching faculty.

Within certain major fields of study, this challenge either increases or decreases. For example, consulting the chart above we can see that if Queen's wanted to hire a professor of Econometrics and Mathematical Economies, its pool of candidates would consist entirely of white males. On the other hand, if it needed an Elementary School Teaching Specialized professor, its pool of candidates would consist entirely of white women. Aboriginal candidates would be available in Speech Pathology, and male visible minority candidates would be abundant in the field of office administration (Secretarial/Administrative).

#### Resources

Council of Canadians with Disabilities www.ccdonline.ca

DAWN Ontario: Disabled Women's Network <u>dawn.thot.net</u>

Department of Canadian Heritage www.pch.gc.ca

Federal Contractors Program <a href="www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/lp/lo/lswe/we/programs/fcp/index-we.shtml">www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/lp/lo/lswe/we/programs/fcp/index-we.shtml</a>

Office the University Advisor on Equity at Queen's <a href="https://www.queensu.ca/equity">www.queensu.ca/equity</a>

Ontario Human Rights Commission <a href="www.ohrc.on.ca/">www.ohrc.on.ca/</a>

Ontario Human Rights Commission's Publication on the Duty to A ccommodate <a href="https://www.ohrc.on.ca/english/publications/disability-policy\_3shtml">www.ohrc.on.ca/english/publications/disability-policy\_3shtml</a>

Queen's Ban Righ Centre <a href="www.queensu.ca/dsao/ind/banrigh/index.htm">www.queensu.ca/dsao/ind/banrigh/index.htm</a>

Queen's Council on Employment Equity <a href="www.queensu.ca/equity/cee.php">www.queensu.ca/equity/cee.php</a>

Queen's Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre <a href="www.queensu.ca/dsao/4dasc/4D-1.htm">www.queensu.ca/dsao/4dasc/4D-1.htm</a>

Queen's Human Resources <u>www.hr.queensu.ca</u>

Queen's Human Rights Office <u>www.queensu.ca/humanrights</u>

Queen's International Centre <u>www.queensu.ca/quic/home.htm</u>

Queen's Multicultural Calendar <u>multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-queen</u>

Queen's University's Policy for Employees with Disabilities www.hr.queensu.ca/policies/personaW@98f\*0 1 RG[03(r)10i800480051\$0.qww

# Notes:

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