

## The Last Word by Bebé Démelo

Word on the street is that the Leo Awards are postponed indefinitely pending sponsorship announcements. Should the money come, though, CEO of the fête, Walter Daroshin, has promised to deliver more than crumpled paper as tokens of industry esteem. But, hey, I think the crumpled paper works! It's a fitting symbol of the kind of leftovers the local indigenous industry gets to work with. And the esteem in which the BC government holds us. It's versatile, too: you can frame your award, or use it on location in an emergency.

Meanwhile, over at the real awards, kudos to Anne Wheeler Inc. and ForeFront Productions for cleaning up at the Gemini nominations this year! It's gonna be great fun watching Anne's movies compete with each other and the Fourfront gals battling it out for Best Youth Series. Imagine if all these women got together! They could call themselves ForeWheeler and ride roughshod over all those anal retentives who "don't do bodily functions." Speaking of which, I heard Wheeler's Diana Kilmury story was supposed to be called *Mother Trucker* but wasn't because of weak knees at the CBC. Or was that dirtied knees...?

Speaking of our national institution, another round of cuts and our idea of protest is a lawn sign consisting of a partial Canadian flag (oooohh, now

there's a stinging metaphor) bearing the message "The CBC Promise: Keep It!" Oh, let's face it, we'll bitch for awhile, forget about things, then the offending politicians will rise from the grave and nothing will have changed. Just ask Shelia Copps. No, what we need to do with those lawn signs is drive them straight through the hearts of a few MPs. Okay? Right, then: garlic, crucifix, mallet, signpost...

Further to the subject of parasites, may I offer this tip to the louse mentioned in the page two editorial: using "friends at the CBC" as a pick-up line is about as effective these days as boasting you commandeered the Exxon Valdez. So just, like, moor it sweetheart, no one wants to ride a sinking ship.

Now, I don't mean to harp on this sexual harassment thing, but I sincerely wish to echo my sister's belief that if you're going to screw your way to the top, start at the top – then let *him* work his way down! I for one don't get into bed for anything less than ten grand (and that's just for development; production's extra) and I encourage all my fellow filmmakers out there to settle for nothing less as well. So in closing, next time you're offered his lap try this for a reply: toss back your hair, stick out your chest, and say, "Only if what you're packin' there is a stack of unmarked hundreds."



### M A N D A T E

Women in Film and Video Vancouver (WIF&VV) is a non-profit organization of professional women founded to promote the achievements and improve the status and portrayal of women in film, video and television through education, training, lobbying, networking and advocacy. Vancouver Women in Film and Video is an independent entity internationally affiliated with Women in Film chapters throughout North America, Great Britain, Europe and Australia. Membership is open to all professionals in film, video and television and includes representation from creative, technical, administrative and service fields.

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