



"WHY IS THERE SO MUCH
MONTH LEFT AT THE END
OF THE MONEY?"



As bank employees and office workers we are amongst the lowest paid employees in the country. In Canada, the average female wage is 57% of the average male wage. There is no justification for this. We are skilled and responsible employees. These days women are often the sole support of their family, and even when our income is the second in the family it is a much needed income. We are not working for pin money.

SORWUC (Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada) has recently been certified by the Canada Labour Relations Board in several bank branches. Negotiations for a first union contract in the B.C. banking industry will begin soon. Bank employees in SORWUC met recently to discuss and vote on wage demands. They voted overwhelmingly in favour of a wage proposal of \$1140 a month, base rate.

The people who work in offices and banks are not only 'recent high school graduates who live at home', but also people with many years work experience and/or have families that are dependent on them. The bank workers decided to compile a monthly budget for a working woman with one child. The wage proposal was based on this budget.

Gross salary	CPP	UIC	TAX	NET
\$1140 a month	19.19	14.30	174.90	931.61

Monthly budget

Rent	\$275	2 bdrm apt- this is lower than the Jun'77 average for Vancouver released by the Real Estate Board
Food	\$180	weekly-\$41- Statistics Canada average
Transportation	\$40	
Hydro	\$20	
Phone	\$12	
Clothing	\$60	\$30 per person- Statistics Canada average
Entertainment	\$80	this would allow one adult one evening out a week- \$7 dinner, movie and baby-sitting
House/Apt. Ins.	\$ 8	
Life Ins.	\$10	
Furnishing/ Equipment	\$37	refers to appliances, cooking utensils, furniture, etc. a Statistics Canada figure
Medical	\$10	
Daycare	\$150	cost for 3-5 year old infant under 3 yrs. is higher
'Mad' money	\$43	this would include newspapers, magazines, lunches, hair cuts, etc.
Total	\$925	

****Note:** This budget does not include a car, Christmas or birthday presents, or savings.

JOIN US!

SORWUC #1114-207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, 681-2811
684-2834

I would like further information about SORWUC _____

I would like to join _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ WORKPLACE _____

all replies in strictest confidence