 **How Did Women’s Roles Change?**

**Dr. Emily Stowe (1831-1903)**

* Emily Jennings became the first female principal of a public school in Canada West;
* Married John Stowe in 1856;
* After raising three children she wanted to become a doctor;
* Enrolled in New York because Canada wouldn’t accept her;
* Her daughter was the first graduate from a Canadian medical school.

**Ishbel Maria Gordon, Lady Aberdeen (1857-1939)**

* Husband was governor general of Canada from 1893-1898;
* Lady Aberdeen opposed the working conditions that women faced in factories;
* Also opposed the limits society placed on women;
* Helped create the National Council of Women of Canada (1893) and the Victorian Order of Nurses (1897).

**Nellie McClung (1873-1951)**

* Became a member of the Woman’s Christian Temperance Union;
* Supported efforts to prohibit the sale of alcohol, obtain better labour laws, and allow women to vote;
* 1921-1926 was a Liberal member of the Alberta Legislature;
* Prominent speaker and writer.

**Emily Murphy (1868-1933)**

* Lobbied government to improve the legal rights of women;
* Persuaded Alberta government to pass act guaranteeing widows one-third of husband’s wealth;
* 1916 was appointed a Magistrate which allowed her to act as a judge in some court cases;
* Worked to change the law in 1920s to ensure women were legal persons.

**Conclusion**

* Role of women in society was severely restricted in the late 1800s;
* Married women were expected to devote their lives to their family;
* Extremely rare to find women involved in business or politics.