I MUST FIRST THANK my husband, Greg, for hearing out all of my anxieties over the years and dutifully reading and providing the comments of a "real person" for each chapter. He kept my perspective down to earth with his rich knowledge of and experience in Russia. Late at night after work and during precious weekend hours, he ploughed through each chapter without even dozing off. I can only hope that I would be as patient and dedicated a partner if the roles were reversed. Thanks also to my son, Nikolai, now aged two, who had the grace to wait to enter the world until just after I submitted the manuscript for review, was a good napper through various parts of the process, and always reminds me that some things are much more important than my book manuscript. My parents, David and Pam McIntosh, by pushing me onto that first airplane to Russia, lending childcare support in desperate times, and assuring me that "of course" my book would be a success, helped me to see the project through.

This book began as a doctoral dissertation, so I naturally owe a tremendous debt to my dissertation advisers at Stanford University. David Holloway deserves the greatest praise, especially for his skills of subtle guidance—leading me to understand where the project was going without ever imposing a particular perspective. It takes considerable talent to grant students freedom and positive reinforcement, while still managing to make clear when they have stepped out of bounds or not met expectations. Michael McFaul has been a wonderful mentor, a gold mine of field contacts, and when needed, a young colleague to whom I could vent when I had lost all hope for political science. Gail Lapidus has been my solid and sustained tie to the Russian women's movement and academic thought on it from the very beginning of my graduate studies. She and Mike McFaul have challenged me the most concerning the empirical details of the book. I thank Gail particularly for her special way of singing the praises of her graduate students to others in the

field. Finally, Steve Krasner has been my most formidable source of criticism on the logic and theory behind the project. I have discovered, though, that a friendly and supportive mentor lurks beneath the sometimes prickly exterior, and an honest, productive hunger for knowledge and debate is what drives his questions and doubts.

Many others have been generous with their comments on various versions of the material in this manuscript. In particular, Alfred Evans, Elisabeth Friedman, Sarah Henderson, Kathryn Hochstetler, Tomila Lankina, Masha Lipman, Kelly McMann, Richard Price, and James Richter offered constructive and thoughtful advice. I must especially thank Sarah Mendelson, who knows this topic at least as well as I do, for reviewing the manuscript and spending countless hours on the telephone with me giving detailed comments. Valerie Sperling also gave tremendously helpful feedback and suggestions as a reviewer, and it was an honor to obtain such constructive comments from this pathbreaking author on the contemporary Russian women's movement, who has inspired a great deal of work in those who have followed her.

I could not have seen this project through without the love and support of many friends. I can never adequately repay Jeanette Lee-Oderman in the Stanford Department of Political Science, who jumped at the numerous emergency requests I e-mailed to her from overseas during the field research for this book. Jane Edsell in David Holloway's office also helped me enormously with my long-distance filing of the final dissertation. Kathleen Collins and Laura Henry have always been willing to hear my ideas and read my work; they have been able to provide apt and objective criticism despite our close friendships. Inna Sayfer (with Grisha and Hannah) and Jennifer Daniell Belissent (along with Jacques and Nicolas) have been great friends, good listeners, and graciously opened their homes to me during my endless visits between trips to Russia.

My colleagues in the political science department at the University of British Columbia have been models of support, collegiality, and friendship. It is truly a rare blessing in this profession to work in a department of high scholarly calibre combined with generous warmth and humanity.

I must also thank the wonderful people who opened up their homes to me during my field research in Russia: Valia, Masha, Sasha, and Liubov Borisovna in Moscow; Liuba in St. Petersburg; Vadim in Ekaterinburg; and Liuba, Volodya, and Nastya in Izhevsk. Thank you all for being such welcoming hosts (even by Russian standards!), and for teaching me so much about your country.

My editors at Stanford University Press did a superb job of guiding the book through its final revisions. I am grateful to acquisitions editor Amanda

Moran and copy editor Mary Barbosa, who helped tremendously to limit my tendency toward verbosity.

Finally, I am grateful for several generous sources of financial support. They include the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada; the Institute for the Study of World Politics in Washington, D.C.; the Center for Russian and East European Studies and the Institute for International Studies at Stanford University; and the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX). These organizations made the research and writing of the book physically possible.