

# From the Homestead



Lois Foster of the Alford and Park Road WI presents Joanna Rickert-Hall with a generous donation towards the new exhibit. A great many thanks to these wonderful WI women. Because of them we have been able to purchase and install modern track lighting to illuminate the new gallery space.

THANK YOU!

The Hoodless Homestead is pleased to announce the unveiling of a new exhibit entitled, 'The Empty Crib: A Tribute to Adelaide's Loss, Resilience & Legacy'. Joanna Rickert-Hall, the museum's Exhibit Developer has conducted new research over the last few months asking contemporary questions about Adelaide and her legacy. The result is a transformative new look at the woman behind multiple initiatives to support Canadian women and their families. The Hoodless Homestead would like to invite all Women's Institute members to join us in an exciting and social event to celebrate the new exhibit and one of the key driving forces for the establish of WI, the National Council of Women, the VON and the YWCA in Canada. The April 19th pre-opening event will be exclusively for WI members and their families before the public unveiling May 3rd. The event will run from 1pm to 3pm. Joanna will deliver a short talk about her research and the new developments. A public opening will be held on May 3 from 1pm to 3pm.

## What's 'Developing' at the Homestead!

There have been some new and exciting 'developments' in the area of fundraising for the Homestead. Development Coordinator, Wendy Hamilton was hired on contract to support fundraising and awareness efforts for the museum. Various activities include: a review of tour entrance fees, planning & promotion for our 3rd Annual 'Easter at Addie's' Egg Hunt and Petting Zoo on Good Friday April 3rd, 2015 from 10am-1pm, revision of the 'Friends of Addie' Membership Program, developing partnerships with local businesses and researching private & corporate foundations for program grant applications.

Throughout the winter months the Homestead has offered a number of craft and WI inspired back to basic workshops to engage the public and introduce the concept of WI to potential new members. Workshops included a six week social 'Sit n' Knit', several sold out Needle Felting workshops, a 'Spin In' and a Seed Planting workshop. The workshops have been a great avenue for engaging the community during the winter months.



Members meet to plan FWIC Convention. (Left to Right) Angela Faubert, Chair of Hospitality and Volunteers; Carol MacLellan, PEIWI Executive Officer; Angela Scott, President of NBWI; Marie Kenny, President of FWIC; Holly Hersey, Co-Chair of Host Committee; and Terry Spragg, Co-Chair of Sales and Displays.

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## FWIC prepares for an Exciting Convention

President Marie Kenny, accompanied by PEIWI Executive Officer Carol MacLellan, recently travelled to Fredericton, NB, in preparation for the 20th Triennial Convention from June 9-13, 2015. The Host Committee, Co-Chaired by Holly Hersey, greeted them with enthusiasm. All were very impressed with the State-of-the-Art Convention Centre and the conveniences it offers as they were conducted through their tour of the facility. Right across the street is the Crowne Plaza Hotel where many of the delegates will be staying. Shuttles will transport the remaining delegates from other nearby hotels.

While reviewing the schedule, President Marie was encouraged by the detail to which the Committee had planned the various events. Tuesday evening will be the Official Opening with Special Guests, followed by the President's Reception in the Foyer adjacent to a Trade Show set up by the NB Craft Council which is open to the public and will remain open for the duration of the Convention. Wednesday begins three days of plenary sessions, creative workshops, and Guest Speakers. As Marie Kenny always says, "Every voice is important. We value the input of our membership from coast to coast. The strength of women supporting women on issues and projects that benefit family and

community continues to be the heartbeat of our organization." Thursday, NB Day, will provide an interesting break as several buses will be transporting delegates to scenic and Historic places throughout the province New Brunswick. The week will conclude with a Closing Banquet on Saturday after the Installation of a new Slate of Officers in the afternoon to prepare for a whole new Triennium of FWIC. Nothing can match the experiences of meeting new friends, reuniting with old ones, experiencing new places and ideas, and working together with people sharing similar concerns from across this wide and diverse nation of ours.

Carol MacLellan,  
Executive Officer from PEI

## Application for "Friends of Addie" & NEW "Addie's Group of Friends" (Homestead Help Membership Program)

Receive regular updates and photos from our e-newsletter. Help support important children's programs and community events.

Individual Membership \$20

WI Branch Membership \$25 + \$1 per member

Name or WI Branch Contact: ..... WI Branch.....

Date:..... Address:.....

Postal Code:..... Phone:..... Email:.....

Individual Membership \$20.00 per year or WI Branch memberships \$25 + \$1 for each WI member per year

Send to:

Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead, PO Box 209, St. George, ON N0E 1N0

Visit [www.adelaidehoodless.ca](http://www.adelaidehoodless.ca) email [curator@adelaidehoodless.ca](mailto:curator@adelaidehoodless.ca)

Donations to the Homestead can be made electronically from the Hoodless website via CanadaHelps

## From the President's Pen



FWIC President Marie Kenny with her Granddaughter's hosts a brunch at her home to raise funds for FWIC.

**Greetings Ladies and welcome SPRING!**

For many of us from coast to coast to coast we are more than delighted to have winter behind us and are now counting the days until the mountains of snow melt and we can once again begin spring gardening and making plans for wonderful summer days. Spring and Summer also marks the time in our organization for conventions, conferences and workshops. These are opportunities for Women's Institute members to gather as district, region, or provincial units to share the work accomplished, learn from each other, and be inspired to move forward with even greater excitement. I am looking forward in May to attending both my home Province Provincial Convention as well as the Quebec W.I. Convention at MacDonald College. June 9-13 will be the Triennial FWIC Conference in Fredericton New Brunswick, where Women's Institute members from across Canada will come together to share ideas, attend educational workshops and envision the future. The FWIC Board Members and Convention Committee are busily preparing for an exciting and productive Conference. I invite all members and associate members to come and invite

a friend to join you. She will be glad you did! I wish both Ellen Simpson and Joan Holte the very best as they seek the position of President Elect. Both these ladies are very capable. Over the past three years as we have developed our triennial theme: "WI Planting Seeds of Change!" we have worked on improving communication, publicity, recruitment, and leadership. Partnerships continue to be a vital part of this organization: The Vesey Seeds partnership to support of the branch members, The FWIC/ Peace Garden Scholarship partnership to raise awareness and promote the organization as well as give a tremendous educational opportunity to participants, and the Willy the Worm Fundraiser where we partner with you to keep the organization vibrant. Since our last newsletter, I am delighted to inform you that the FWIC website update has been completed. The website is now much more user friendly and has a greater capacity for us to provide much more effective intercommunication among the provinces. Please take the time to check it out. We look forward to your input and suggestions. As my term as your National President comes to an end, I want to express my sincere thanks to you the membership for giving me this incredible opportunity. Your support and encouragement has been greatly appreciated. The beauty of this organization is no one walks alone; we walk in partnership with each other. As I have travelled this country my greatest privilege has been to visit with you the membership. I have learned a great deal as I have listened to your stories. I have been so inspired as I have been enlightened to the tremendous work being carried out by our membership and I have full confidence that the future of this incredible organization is in very capable hands. Thank you to the FWIC Board members for your leadership and dedication. You are all very dear friends. Thank you also to Kate, Executive Director at FWIC Office.

You are a delight to work with. Best wishes ladies in all your projects at all

levels of this tremendous organization. You are the heart beat of W.I. You are Inspiring Women.

**"Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties."** -Helen Keller

*Blessings always,  
Marie Kenny  
President FWIC*

### Executive Committee 2012-2015

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Citizenship & Legislation – Barb Taylor  
Education and Culture – Ellen Stachiw  
Home EconomicHealth–Diane Dammann  
International Affairs – Ann Mandziuk

## Resolution Reflections



Recently I chanced upon the book, Women's Institutes of Canada - The First One Hundred Years, 1897-1997. Reading through it I couldn't help reflect on how much WI is the same, and how much it has changed over the years. It is interesting to note that in the section on Overview and Origins "Ask any member of a Women's Institute Branch why she belongs to WI and chances are her answer will be sociability, education and activism." We certainly have not lost the sociability aspect of the organization with our teas, dinners, fundraisers and outings, all contributing to the fun and fellowship we have at our meetings. Education also continues to play an important part in our WI meetings. We are still pursuing

learning experiences by having guest speakers, discussions on current topics, and participating in community projects. Activism seems to tell a different story. In 1919 when FWIC was formed, the originating members passed nineteen resolutions. In fact, since 1919 well over 200 hundred resolutions have been sustained and acted upon by FWIC, and this does not include those initiated within the Provinces. In the early years there were few issues about which FWIC didn't make known its opinion. As a result of FWIC activism many of our members were asked to serve on provincial and federal government committees. This doesn't seem to be happening today. I can't help but wonder if we have lost the activism part of our organization? When WI gets publicity it is usually because we have done some good deed for our community, such as presenting a scholarship, organizing a fundraiser, catering to a function. We go about our business quietly and without fanfare. Have we become too complacent? At the Board meeting in PEI in June 2013 we had a Workshop on Resolutions conducted by Dr. Marion Reid, a longtime WI member and former Lieutenant Governor of PEI. She ended her presentation by saying "if we are really serious about an issue and we have followed all avenues without results then we "lobby, lobby, lobby". It is also interesting to note when Dr. Ellen

McLean was President of FWIC she stated in one of her speeches, "Canadian Women have to be determined in their approach to government, continually pressing for action. If nagging becomes necessary, then let's nag". (I love that line) After the 2012 Convention, three resolutions were sustained and six reaffirmed. The Citizenship & Legislation Committee wrote letters (as required in our list of duties) to all agencies and government departments. Some replies were received thanking us for our concerns, reported on and filed, and that was that. Should we have done more, and if so what? If we feel our Resolutions are important, we have to find a more effective way to deal with them. Perhaps only passing one or two that concern all the Provinces, then all Provincial Associations can participate in the process. We write letters, call our MPs, or wave placards in front of the banks and government agencies. We would make the news then!! Resolutions is one area where we can make our voice heard nationally. By becoming more active with our issues we might catch the eye of potential new members. They don't even have to be younger. Older women can still express their opinions quite readily!

*The opinions expressed above are those of the writer and not as Committee Chair.*

*Barbara Taylor*

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**Editor** – Kate Belair & Carol MacLellan

**\$10,103.43 was donated to the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead from April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015.**

**\$410 was collected for "Friends of Adelaide" memberships.**

**\$1292.97 was donated to FWIC in 2014.**

**Thanks to all WI Branches and individuals who made contributions.**

**Deadline for Fall/Winter Issue of Federated News is September 1, 2015.**



## Looking in on the Provinces *continued*

Celebrating Creativity at Every Age, with special focus for 2015 on Aging; 2016 on Young Adults; and 2017 on Women in Business.

Closing out this report we look forward to saying Welcome, Bienvenue to everyone in June 2015. Come and help us celebrate our home and country here in New Brunswick. Travel safe and we'll see you when you get here!

*Angela Scott, President  
New Brunswick Women's Institute*

### NOVA SCOTIA

Nova Scotia Women's Institutes members have had a busy year. WI continues to support Women's Shelters, Community Halls, Fire Brigades and local hospitals. This year the Back to Basics program continues with great success. One branch has hosted their fourth session and has plans to hold another one in the future. Many branches and/or districts have held sessions or are planning to hold one in the near future.

A new initiative for the province is Reflective Armbands for school children in Grade 5. The armbands are made by the branch members then, distributed to the children in area schools. Members attend along with an RCMP liaison officer, who does a short safety lesson with the children. This project has received a very positive response from the RCMP, teachers, parents and the children.

Another new project being undertaken by members is "Days for Girls", an organization that supplies menstruation kits to girls in third world countries. Paula David, the Nova Scotia coordinator, spoke at our Annual General Meeting in August and sparked interest among the members.

Over the past year we have lost several members to death or aging. However we have continued to get new members so our membership remains at approximately 700. The Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia continue to oversee the Nova Scotia Adopt-a-Highway program as well. We have representation on the Federation of Agriculture Council of Leaders, Ag Awareness and Farm Safety.

*Coni Murray,  
(On behalf of L. Munro,  
President NS WI)*

### PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Our annual provincial fundraiser, Spring Is In The Air Gala Dinner and Auction once again was a resounding success. The April 2014 event raised \$15,306.47 for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) Day Surgery Redevelopment (for eye surgery procedures).

Our annual Roadside Cleanup, now in its 41st year (2014), was renamed 'Island Wide Cleanup', as we are now promoting keeping all of PEI litter free – not just the roadsides. A special treat this year for PEIWI was to be included in the 2014 Royal Visit – an interactive WI booth was set up and viewed by Prince Charles and his wife Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall. Select WI members were also able to meet, shake hands and speak to the Royals. Camilla is a WI member herself and was thus really interested in what PEIWI has to offer to its members.

September saw our second Health Fair – with all aspects of women's health being showcased in the form of booths, where ladies could get information and samples. Everyone considered this to be a very successful venture. A committee is now compiling a scrapbook of our 2013 centennial year celebrations – of both Provincial, District Area, and Branch events.

In the fall of 2014 we held our first ever PEIWI Cooking Contest, in conjunction with the PEI Department of Agriculture. George Webster, Minister of Agriculture, came up with the idea of a cooking contest for students and asked PEIWI to organize it. It was open to students across PEI in grades 7-12. Recipes in 4 categories (appetizer, soup, main dish, dessert) had to feature at least 3 agricultural based ingredients (fruits, vegetables, beef, dairy, pork, grain, etc.). Top entries in each category prepared appetizer sized portions for the final cook-off, which was held during our second Festive Country Christmas.

Membership Awards/Pins are presented during the year to well-deserving members. Branches continue to donate funds, items, and their time to many worthwhile charities and causes.

PEIWI is now on Facebook and has developed an email database using Mailchimp to send electronic newsletters

and memos to all subscribing members.

*Cynthia Mitchell, President PEI WI*

### NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

This year, 2015, The NLWI is recognizing its 80th Birthday. I have asked our members to send in their "tidbits" and stories gathered over their years in NLWI. I have called it 80 Years, 80 Stories. The first 80 submissions will be used for a collection in booklet form. Our theme for 2015 is "We Journey Together"

Last fall Her Honour, our Patron, Patricia Fagan hosted a reception at Government House in St. John's at which time the 100th anniversary of The Women's Patriotic Association was recognized with the planting of a tree on the grounds of Government House in St. John's. In the speeches that took place it was indicated that The Women's Patriotic Association had been a fore-runner of the Jubilee Guilds, which in turn was a fore-runner of the NLWI. Our history certainly does back a long way.

In January of this year, we welcomed Jill Marshall as our new Office Administrator. We are grateful for the expertise and knowledge which Jill brings to this position. Jill's real passion is genealogy, a passion which should serve us well, given our age. During WI Week in February, our Patron, again graciously hosted a reception at Government House. Approximately fifty members of our WI gathered to hear greetings from Sheila Needham, Canada Area Representative on the ACWW, and greetings from Marie Kenney, FWIC President. Also at this time, Her Honour presented the NLWI Scholarship to Toni Jerrett of Clarke's Beach. Toni is this year's winner of the NLWI Provincial Scholarship and is pursuing a degree in Engineering at Memorial University of Newfoundland. On this occasion, as well, Delores Jones, NLWI President-Elect and member of Gander Branch was presented with a Life Membership. Delores had been nominated by Central District.

This year, our membership remained steady. We bid farewell to many longtime members, whom we will miss. But we also welcomed many new members. Our strength now is in the strong friendships that are binding members together.

*Jane Laite, President Newfoundland WI*

## FWIC Fundraising Efforts - Willie the Worm



Where's Willie - Can you spot the Willie the Worm?

## FWIC Fundraising Efforts - Willie the Worm



President Marie Kenny asked you to "Feed Willie" by collecting donations at meetings or special events during the triennium. We are just a few months away from revealing the total amount of funds collected to be announced at the FWIC 2015 Convention. These funds will be used to help FWIC achieve financial stability without the need to increase membership fees.

Create your own Willie the Worm and bring them to the FWIC Convention in June 2015. Judging and prizes will be awarded. Find Willie hiding on the FWIC website, Facebook and Twitter pages! Look for Willie at Convention!

*Willie the Worm*

## FWIC Convention - June 9-13, 2015 Fredericton, NB



Registration deadline is April 30/15.

Registration package is available on FWIC's website [www.fwic.ca](http://www.fwic.ca)

Donna Henderson (a WI member from Listowel, ON) has made a beautiful for the FWIC Convention. \$2 tickets for the quilt are on sale now and will also be available at the convention. The draw for the quilt will take place at the closing banquet on June 13, 2015.

## Versey's Fundraising For WI Branches

Vesey's offers a proven fundraising program, which will also provide an opportunity for WI branches to increase the awareness of WI in their communities as well as raise funds. The way this fundraiser works is that the selling branch keeps 50% profit of all items sold, with no costs to them. This is an incentive for branch members to sell to friends and neighbours, make a profit, and also promote WI.

Contact Vesey's at 1-800-363-7333 for more information on this fundraiser for your branch.



# Looking in on the Provinces

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

The goal of British Columbia Women's Institute is to keep the members informed through all avenues; the Fed News, Take Ten , ACCW News , BCWI newsletter and my newsletter WIFYI news. These are sent out via mailchimp, emails, Facebook, website or snail mail to all members in order to keep them up to date of what is happening at all levels of WI.

We are diligently working at encouraging the membership to cover all aspects of the convenerships (Educational Committees) to help educate and get the members involved in their communities. Other areas we are working on are looking for grants to help fund programs the branch and districts are involved in. BCWI uses the interest from Victoria Sallis Creative Arts Legacy Fund which the members can access to help with the cost of bringing in instructors for their workshops.

Another project we are working on is to get our policy and procedure book and our constitution all up dated. We are hoping to have one book with Policy, Procedure, BCWI Handbook, FWIC Policy and ACWW Policy in it.

Our membership goes up and down, as the membership is getting older we are always looking for younger members. We have lost one branch over the last year but gained 47 members. Keeping the members interested is a key component of WI. Between Workshops, Resolutions, Social Media I think we are heading the right direction.

*Janet Bangs, BC Women's Institute*

## ALBERTA

2014 was another busy year for Alberta Women's Institutes members and Council. Our annual convention was held in June with many interesting and informative speakers. We were pleased to welcome FWIC President Marie Kenny, ACWW Canada Area President Sheila Needham and ACWW World President Ruth Shanks from Australia as well as a number of out of province WI members. A number of awards and honours were presented. Many of our non WI supporters received "Friends of AWI" framed certificates. The Cornelia R. Wood Scholarship was

awarded to Chantelle Strom to help cover the costs of a course to enable her to help seniors in her area. This award is open to all AWI members who wish to obtain additional education opportunities. Mr Fred Neubecker received the Erland Lee Award. The Sophie Miles Award is given annually to a new member, and brings her into the convention at no cost to her. AWI was honoured to host the ACWW Canada Area conference, immediately following our own convention. Two years of planning made for a very successful and enjoyable time.

Food and Farmers - What's The Connection, was quite successful again in 2014 and we have funding in place for at least one more year. The Second Stage Shelter project culminated this year with funds being sent to Dol Mar Manor Interval House in Lloydminster. This project was held over several years, with members raising fund and in kind donations which were sent to Sucker Creek Abused Women's Shelter in the north and Musasa House in Medicine Hat. Cancer caps were again made by members, this time being sent to the Tom Baker Cancer Clinic in Calgary. A letter of support, requested by "Sustainable Canada Society" regarding their land owner rights in regards to the Greater Sage Grouse, was sent.

We were in receipt of an Estate Bequest and a sizeable contribution to our funds from a branch who sold their property. Thank you to them.

A new Council was installed at the end of our convention. The theme "AWI Taking Action" was adopted and we are pleased to boast 1 new branch at the end of 2014.

*Faye Mayberry, AWI President*

## SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan membership is staying constant, with only four WI branches but many members at large. Distance is our biggest problem. The branches we have are very active in their communities, helping with Meals on Wheels, libraries, museums, cemeteries and scholarships for schools and 4H.

March is the month we declare Rural Women's Month. Through the Status of Women we are able to access grants for speakers on women's issues. WI branches

generally have speakers, papers or short talks on various news worthy issues.

Summer is a time where most branches take tours, have picnics or help at local fairs. We have WI members on the University of Regina Senate, University of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon, at the Agriculture Hall of Fame, at the Western Development Museum in Saskatoon. Saskatchewan gives a scholarship to a second year Secondary School Student. We have gone to a one day conference, it was held in Foam Lake with Speakers and displays, general meeting business, competitions and fellowship. It is a great opportunity to see old friends and meet new ones.

The main fundraising focus of Saskatchewan WI this year is to raise funds for the new Children's Hospital to be built in Saskatoon. The printed newsletter is our main drive to keep WI members informed regarding FWIC, ACWW and local issues. Our newsletter is sent out 4-5 times a year. Our annual rally this year will be held in Yorkton, Saskatchewan. It will be sponsored by the Executive.

*Lynn Ballhorn, Saskatchewan President*

## MANITOBA

After our AGM we welcomed a new President and a new Executive Administrator.

In October we had governance training for the Provincial Board and continued into our second year of a three year Strategic Plan. One of the projects we will be working on is producing an information kit for all new provincial board members. Our regional structure is another area of concern. All of us are losing members because of age so we need to think about changing things in our organization to suit the times. We are also trying to improve our website.

Our Planned Program Committee has been working with the topic of food for the last two years. Last year it was Food Security and this year it is Food Literacy. They are doing an excellent job. The committee has written articles for each newsletter and has sent the information into FWIC. We are continuing to work with partners. We are completing a project with Manitoba Farm and Rural Support Services to have information for

# Looking in on the Provinces continued

farm families about stress and depression on our website and facebook. We are supplying volunteers to Ag in the Classroom for Ag Literacy Week, Made in Manitoba Breakfasts and The Amazing Ag Adventure. We are working with the 4-H on a Strategic Leadership Project.

We were able this January to meet with Minister Kostyshyn, our Agriculture Minister. He was able to sign our MWI Proclamation and get a photo-op for MWI Day.

The FWIC/Peace Garden Scholarship is continuing for a second year this June. MWI members will be supplying the bedding and towels and transportation to and from the airports. Also we will have members there to insure that everything runs smoothly.

Everyone is looking forward to attending the 2015 FWIC Triennial Convention in Fredericton. MWI should have a fairly large contingent there as we are planning the next convention in 2018. We are looking forward to it.

*Donna Young, MWI President*

## ONTARIO

2014 was a year of many changes! In March, work on insulating the Carriage House at the Erland Lee (Museum) Home was completed.

On April 2, 2014 the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario held its first "WI Rocks the World Rally", 474 members and guests from all over the province were registered. It was a day of celebration, inspiration, friendship, education and fun. Greetings were sent by The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario while other officials attended in person. During the spring and summer, the Erland Lee (Museum) Home saw renovations to accommodate the move of our Provincial Head Office.

Donna Willows from Stratford, ON was the recipient of the Woman of Excellence in Agriculture Award presented at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto. The 2014 FWIO Provincial Scholarship winner is Mary-Lynn Van Lankveld, Fenwick ON. The 2015 essay topic is "Thinking outside the box, how can Women's Institutes and youth collaborate to revitalize their communities?"

Holly Bus, Ontario's nominee of the International Peace Garden Scholarship gave a presentation at our Annual General Meeting which was changed from January in Barrie to November in Guelph. A hand-crafted doll, Addie, was presented to the FWIO Board and travels with the FWIO President.

On February 22, 2015 we will celebrated 118 years of WI at the Erland Lee (Museum) Home with a "Tea at the Lee". A donation of \$10,000.00 was given by the HRAI, Golden Horseshoe Chapter, to upgrade the heating and at the museum and FWIO Office. These funds, deployed through GHC member contractors and with the generous equipment donations from manufacture and wholesaler member partners will result in the Museum and Carriage House having new energy saving and reliable systems that are valued in excess of \$ 45,000.00 combined.

*Margaret Byl, FWIO President*

## QUEBEC

At the end of May 2013, we held our 99th Annual Convention at MacDonald College/McGill University in Ste. Anne de Bellevue. This year we are looking forward to celebrating the 100th anniversary of conventions being held at the college. Many of our Counties and Branches took the opportunity to raise funds by selling Vesey's bulbs, both in the spring and fall. What an easy way to augment our bank accounts!

In July, myself and several members attended the 4-H 100th Anniversary Rally in Cookshire, QC. In honour of the 100th Anniversary we presented a special commemorative plaque to the Quebec 4-H. Several of our members judged the various displays.

In September, Linda Hoy, FWIC President-Elect, and Sheila Needham attended the ACWW Triennial Conference in Chennai, India. We were excited to learn that Sheila was nominated Canada Area President. Congratulations Sheila! We know you will make us proud!

In October, members from across Quebec attended the Pontiac County's 100th Anniversary held in Bristol, Quebec. What a great day it was to meet and celebrate with this County!

QWI, Branches and Counties across

Quebec give many bursaries and scholarships to deserving students who are furthering their education at CEGEP (College) and/or University. We are also busy knitting (and crocheting) cancer hats and baby layettes for local hospitals. Wool gathering is ongoing, and many pairs of mitts, socks, caps, scarves, etc. are given to schools, youth Group Homes and Street People.

"Growing a Healthier You" is a part of our Branch and County Meetings. Periodically a "Keeping in Touch with QWI" letter is sent to the Counties and Branches.

*Norma Sherrer, QWI President*

## NEW BRUNSWICK

So what is going on with New Brunswick Women's Institute?

The task that has many members and Branch's attention is the 2015 FWIC Convention-Planting Seeds of Change. As our Past-President Holly Hersey will tell anyone, it is a lot of work, but with many hands the work goes better. We are excited and maybe a bit nervous to host the Triennial event, but with collaboration with President Marie, Kate, and Carol, it is coming together for all of us.

Our next focus is our work with HMCS Fredericton. A few years ago this relationship began through the auspices of Fredericton's Deputy Mayor Stephen Chase. We began making jams, jellies, pickles, preserves for the ship when they went out to sea, and we hope to do so again, since the ship went out just before New Year's Eve. Also with HMCS we help out with a bike ride around the province that is a fund raiser for the Children's Wish Foundation. Two teams travel in two directions and Branch's host them to meals, lodging, fellowship and fun. One of their favourite meals is baked beans and brown bread, which they say is a treat because it is home cooked.

Last year, NBWI had to face some challenging choices, and following discussion we decided to keep going after 103 years, so we continue to meet the challenge of finances with a recycled jar fund raiser for 2014 and cook books for sale for 2015. With a change in officers in 2014, I became the new President and the theme for the next three years is