

## From the President's Pen

As Canada celebrates 150 years and WI 120 years, we will be surrounded by 'movement' whether it is at local 150 celebrations, creating a Peace Garden, watching Canada 150 tulips bloom or any other way you will be celebrating. Be proud of what the WI has accomplished and be prepared for what the future will bring.

We are proud of our long history as an organization, as we continue to evolve and adapt for today's issues. We remain united in preparing for our future, to ensure that the FWIC and the WI movement stays strong for another 100 years.

**Founder's Day - WI Week is  
A chance to REMEMBER where we've been,  
look FORWARD to where we're going,  
to CELEBRATE who we are.**

**CELEBRATE the road you've travelled  
that has led you this far.  
It's a road leading you to WI friends, fulfilling  
experiences, and a deeper understanding of  
Women's Institute.**

**CELEBRATE the road you're travelling...  
and all the wonderful places it will take you in  
the future.**

Yours for Home & Country

*Linda Hoy*  
FWIC President



FWIC President Linda Hoy and FWIO President Margaret Byl celebrating WI Founders Day through "Tea at the Lee" on February 19, 2017

## Dates to Remember



March 31, 2017 - **Erland Lee Award**

- Nominations from provinces due to FWIC

March 8th 2017 – **International Women's Day**

- Theme: #BeBoldFor Change

April 2017 – **Erland Lee Award**

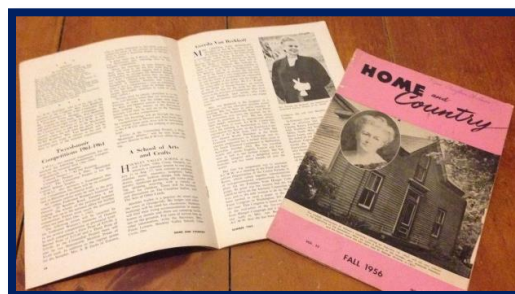
- recipients announced

April 30, 2017 – **Provincial Reports**

- FWIC Committee & Provincial Reports due

May 2017 – **'Preserving our HERitage: a Womyn's Perspective' Exhibit**

- A look at how women, specifically through the W.I. movement, have preserved our Canadian history



Home and Country magazines from 1957 and 1962. These artifacts are part of building the 'Preserving our HERitage' Exhibit at the Homestead.

June 20-22, 2017 – **FWIO Conference**

- Pembroke, ON
- March 15 2017: Early bird registration

June 23–25, 2017 – **ACWW Canada Area Convention**

- Being held in Pembroke, ON
- March 15 2017: Early bird registration

June 25–28, 2017 – **FWIC Board Meeting & AGM**

- Being held this year in Fort Coulange, QC

## **FWIC Executive Committee 2015-2018**

### **PRESIDENT**

Linda Hoy  
Chair: Education and Extension; Personnel  
[lhfwic@gmail.com](mailto:lhfwic@gmail.com)

### **PRESIDENT ELECT & BCWI Executive Officer**

Joan Holthe  
Committee Chair: Finance  
[threerivers@abnorth.com](mailto:threerivers@abnorth.com)

### **ALBERTA**

Diane Dammann  
Chair: Canadian Industries & Environment; Unity  
[pandd@wildroseinternet.ca](mailto:pandd@wildroseinternet.ca)

### **SASKATCHEWAN**

Karen Gerwing  
Chair: Agriculture  
[j.k.gerwing@sasktel.net](mailto:j.k.gerwing@sasktel.net)

### **MANITOBA**

Liz Chongva  
Chair: International Affairs; Convention 2018  
[chongval@mymts.net](mailto:chongval@mymts.net)

### **ONTARIO**

Evelyn Peck  
Chair: Editorial & Publicity; Recruitment & Extension  
[eppeck1963@hotmail.com](mailto:eppeck1963@hotmail.com)

### **QUEBEC**

Norma Sherrer  
Chair: Credentials; Projects  
[norma4qwi@gmail.com](mailto:norma4qwi@gmail.com)

### **NEW BRUNSWICK**

Holly Hersey  
Chair: Tweedsmuir History; Nominations  
[hersey99@hotmail.com](mailto:hersey99@hotmail.com)

### **NOVA SCOTIA**

Coni Murray  
Chair: Citizenship & Legislation  
[conimurray8@gmail.com](mailto:conimurray8@gmail.com)

### **PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

Doreen Cole  
Chair: Education & Cultural Activities; Fundraising  
[stanleybridgeschool@live.ca](mailto:stanleybridgeschool@live.ca)

### **NEWFOUNDLAND**

June Young  
Chair: Home Economics & Health  
[june.young@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:june.young@nf.sympatico.ca)

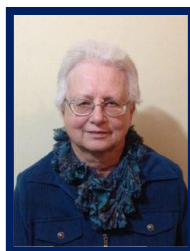
### **FWIC HEAD OFFICE**

Wendy Hamilton  
Executive Director  
[fwican@gmail.com](mailto:fwican@gmail.com)

## **FWIC Spotlight – Liz Chongva Executive Officer, Manitoba**

*Committee Chair: International Affairs; Convention 2018*

*I joined the Women's Institute in November 2001, became the Eastern Region Representative on the Manitoba Women's Institute Provincial Board in April 2002, and held that position for five years. I was co-convenor for the 2005 MWI Provincial convention.*



*As well, I was committee member on the MWI Centennial Provincial convention held in 2010, chair of the 2013 MWI AGM Rural Convention, and was committee member on the 2008 ACCW Canada Area Conference held in Winnipeg. Currently I am the Regional President and*

*FWIC Executive Director of Manitoba.*

*My 4H involvement included being a 4H Program Assistant, Head Leader and District President of the local 4H District, and judging numerous speaking competitions and achievements. I strongly support the 4H program for youth as they prepare to become tomorrow's leaders in whatever endeavors they pursue. I have strong organizational skills and the flexibility to make last minute re-arrangements as needed.*

*My husband and I have three children, four grandchildren and one great grandchild, living east of Winnipeg, Manitoba. I enjoy travelling and meeting people from different parts of the world especially when I travel by train.*

*Women's Institute is a local, provincial, national and international organization that promotes women, families and communities. Our goal is to empower women to make a difference. I look forward to working with the FWIC Board and intend to follow this mandate.*



**FEDERATED WOMEN'S  
INSTITUTES OF CANADA**

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# Announcements

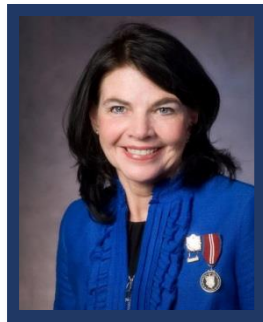


## The 2017 Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Canadian Woman of the Year Award Winner

Congratulations to the 2017 Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Canadian Woman of the Year

Award recipient - Marie Kenny, PEIWI! Through Marie's outstanding leadership, inspiration and commitment to her communities at home and afar, she exemplifies those attributes held highly by the WI's co-founder, Adelaide Hunter Hoodless!

The FWIC would also like to recognize the great work and accomplishments of the other worthy nominees who too showed their leadership and commitment to women and their families: Ruth Fenner, BCWI and Roma Hicks, NLWI.



Marie Kenny, PEIWI



## FED News Bulletins & Newsletters Online

The FWIC website is continuing to undergo regular updates and 'renovations'. Most recently, since the FWIC will no longer be producing a printed FED Newsletter, previous issues of the FED Newsletter and the FED News Bulletin are now accessible from one centralized location on the website.



Visit <http://fwic.ca/news/fed-news-bulletin/> to see both current and past issues of all FED News publications! There is also a place to sign up for our electronic FED News Bulletin. Any individual, WI member or non-member, can subscribe to receive these e-bulletins!



## WI Conferences, AGMs & Conventions!

What better way to stay connected with the goings-on of provincial & national

WI's then attending some of the many conferences, AGM's and conventions being planned across the country for 2017. These are great opportunities to network, share, and grow together!

MWI: May 5-6, 2017

**Manitoba WI Conference**  
Russell, MB

SWI: May 26, 2017

**Saskatchewan WI Convention**  
Foam Lake, SK

QWI: May 26-27, 2017

**Quebec WI AGM & Convention**  
Centennial Ballroom, MacDonald College,  
St Anne de Bellevue, QC

AWI: May 30-June 1, 2017

**AWI Convention**  
Norseman Inn in Camrose

PEIWI: June 3, 2017

**PEIWI Convention**  
Credit Union Place, Summerside, PEI

FWIO: June 20-22, 2017

**FWIO Conference**  
Pembroke, ON

ACWW: June 23-25, 2017

**ACWW Canada Area Convention**  
Pembroke, ON

FWIC: June 25-28, 2017

**FWIC Board Meeting & AGM**  
Fort Coulonge, QC

BCWI: July 5-8, 2017

**BCWI 37th Triennial Convention**  
Vanderhoof, BC

WINS: August 2-3, 2017

**WI Nova Scotia Convention**  
Cape Breton University, Cape Breton, NS

**Comments? Questions? Concerns?  
Contact us!**

[fwican@gmail.com](mailto:fwican@gmail.com)  
519-448-3873





## WI Month and Founder's Day: Looking Back on 120 Years



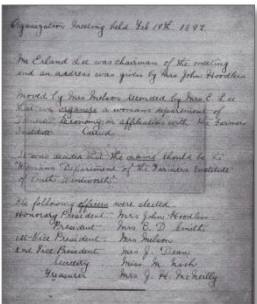
### Looking Back 120 Years Ago: The History of the first WI

On February 12th, 1897, Adelaide Hunter Hoodless was invited by Erland and Janet Lee to speak at the "Lady's Night" of a Farmers Institutes meeting in Stoney Creek, Ontario. Adelaide challenged the women to form their own group, where they could meet regularly not just to socialize, but also to learn from and empower each other to improve their communities.



Adelaide Hunter Hoodless

After hearing Adelaide's words, Janet Lee was so inspired that she soon drafted the first constitution of the Women's Institutes on their home dining room table. One week later, Adelaide was invited to return to Stoney Creek where she found 101 women in attendance of the inaugural meeting of the Women's Institutes, with Adelaide as the honorary president.



This was on February 19th, 1897; 120 years ago. Saltfleet (now Stoney Creek) was the first branch of the Women's Institutes, but the movement soon grew.

Image of the minutes from the first WI meeting, courtesy of FWIO President Margaret Byl

Since then, the movement has spread nationally and internationally. Today in Canada, there are 672 branches distributed throughout 10 provinces, with approximately 8,000 members.

Over the last 120 years, the WI movement has inspired & empowered women to make a difference. Members have worked hard to strengthen their communities through volunteerism, fundraising, and the lobbying of all levels of government. Many members boast lifelong friendships across our country, and indeed all over the world.

Women's Institutes bring people together. What started as a group of 101 women meeting in Stoney Creek, has become an international movement of

incredible and passionate women (and men) who make a difference in our world.

We are honoured to celebrate what began 120 years ago, and continues to this day.

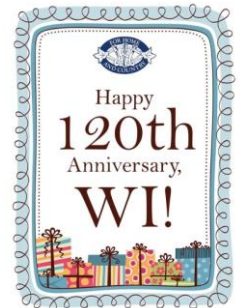
By Stephanie Pile, Communications Coordinator, FWIC



### FWIC & FWIO Celebrate 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with Tea at the Lee

On February 19<sup>th</sup> 2017, FWIC President Linda Hoy joined FWIO President Margaret Byl at the Erland Lee Museum Home in Stoney Creek, Ontario for Tea at the Lee, and a special presentation to celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> year of the of Women's Institutes.

Attendees included: Wendy Hamilton, FWIC Executive Director; Alyssa Gomori, Erland Lee Museum Curator; Paul Miller, MPP; Fred Eisenberger, Mayor of Hamilton; and many other honorable dignitaries.



After the initial presentation, dignitaries were invited to attend a re-lighting of the chandelier in the Dining Room of the Erland Lee Museum Home, where it all began in 1897. The ceremony was recorded on Facebook Live so that the guests and WI Members throughout the world would be able to see it. The honoured guests were asked to sign the guest book which was positioned on the original dining room table, next to the First Constitution & Minute Book of Women's Institutes.



Margaret Byl, President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO) and Linda Hoy, President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC).

Photo by Wendy Hamilton, Executive Director of FWIC

Guests then retired to the Carriage House for cake and refreshments. Special thanks to our FWIO Staff, Volunteers and our Sisters in WI for the wonderful work that they continue to do to promote the living history, ideals and work of the Women's Institutes Movement, For Home and Country.

Special remembrance of Charlotte Johnson was given, who passed away January 8, 2017. Charlotte served as Past President of FWIO 1983 - 1986 and Past President of FWIC 1994 - 1997.

Submitted by Margaret Byl, FWIO President



## WI Month and Founder's Day Celebrations Across the Country



### British Columbia WI Blog Post: A Lesson From Yesterday For Today

BCWI shared a wonderful blog post of their website in commemoration of Founders Day and WI Month. Here is an excerpt from the post:

"In this month, February 2017, as we look back through time, we must acknowledge the foresight and determination of Adelaide Hunter Hoodless and Erland Lee as they set out, 120 years ago, to found a new women's organization."

To see the full blog post, visit their website here: <http://www.bcwi.ca/a-lesson-from-yesterday-for-today/>



### Alberta WI: Art Trees & Tea Parties

For WI Month, Argyle WI Branch had a tea party this where they invited young moms to join them.

AWI is hard at work organizing and promoting the Art Tree Project. This project is a creative initiative in which families, organizations and other groups come together to create their own 'Art Tree masterpieces'. To learn more, visit [www.facebook.com/pg/arttreeproject](http://www.facebook.com/pg/arttreeproject)

From the AWI Facebook Page & Newsletter



### Manitoba WI: Filling Purses

For WI Month, each member of the Springfield WI in Manitoba filled a purse with feminine items to be given to women in the women's shelter for Valentine's Day. This WI project was also part of our 'Adopt a Shelter'



national project. This took place at the monthly meeting with representatives from Manitoba CAA speaking about travel insurance. About 20 residents from a seniors housing attended the presentation.

Submitted by Liz Chongva, Executive Officer, Manitoba WI



### FWIO: Tea at the Lee

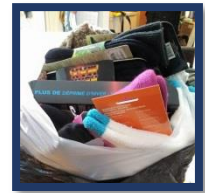
FWIO hosted 'Tea at the Lee' on Feb. 19th 2017 to celebrate the 120th Anniversary of Women's Institutes and Founder's Day.

Please see the article "FWIC & FWIO Celebrate 120th Anniversary with Tea at the Lee!" on page 4 for more details.



### Quebec WI: Socks for the Homeless

Following FWIC's 'Adopt a Shelter' Project for this triennium, Aubrey Riverfield WI answered rollcall with new winter socks for the homeless in downtown Montreal. Way to go ladies!



From the QWI Facebook Page



### Newfoundland & Labrador WI: Afternoon Tea with Gander WI

For Valentine's Day and WI Month this year, Gander WI celebrated afternoon tea on February 11 2017. Staff from the Cancer Clinic joined in the festivities, and Afghans were donated to the clinic. The far table was lined with door prizes and Fidget Quilts, and over 50 ladies were in attendance! Special presentations were also made to the Gander Boys & Girls Club and the Gander Girl Guides.



Executive Officer June Young presents the Valentine Embroidery set prize to the winner. Photo by Mabel Miller.

From the Gander WI Facebook Page

Want to share your province's updates here?  
Email them to FWIC monthly at [fwican@gmail.com](mailto:fwican@gmail.com)



# Updates from the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead



ADELAIDE  
HUNTER  
HOODLESS  
HOMESTEAD

## What's Up at Addie's March 2017!



### Upcoming Events at the Homestead



Good Friday April 14, 2017

#### Easter at Addie's

- Annual Easter Egg Hunt and family day

#### May 2017 – 'Preserving our HERitage: a Womyn's Perspective' Exhibit

- A NEW joint exhibit with the Brant Historical Society (BHS) and the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead
- Promoting WI involvement in capturing WI history and sharing it with future generations

May 3, 2017

#### 'Preserving our HERitage' Exhibit Launch

- Joint launch with the Brant Museum

May 13, 2017

#### Lynden Park Mall

- Promotion of the Homestead with other local museums

May 23, 2017

#### 'Preserving our HERitage' Open House

- Open House event as part of the 'Brant Museum Crawl'

May 28, 2017

#### Glenhyrst Family Art Day

- Family outreach for the Homestead



The Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead in Winter

Learn more at [www.adelaidehoodless.ca](http://www.adelaidehoodless.ca) or follow the Homestead on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!



This year, Homestead staff celebrated Adelaide Hunter Hoodless' 160th birthday! "Addie" Hunter was born on February 27th 1857 in rural St George, Ontario, and is the inspiration for the WI movement.



Far from her humble beginnings, personal tragedy propelled Addie to become an internationally renowned advocate for education reform in the areas of agriculture, home economics and domestic sciences.

Homestead staff and volunteers celebrated with a cake from SWEET bakery – a local bakery in Brantford Ontario. Staff shared trivia and blog posts about Addie on social media and our websites, and these were very well received. Some posts were seen by as many as 5000 people, internationally.



Homestead staff and local committee members celebrating Addie's 160<sup>th</sup> birthday.

We encourage all WI members to contribute to the Homestead's **#Addie160 fundraising campaign, challenging 160 donors to light 160 candles on Addie's birthday cake!** The fund will be used to help the Homestead transition into a living museum, so that children and families can come and experience Addie's childhood home through tactile learning and skill-based workshops.

Donations are eligible to receive a charity tax receipt, and can be made online at CanadaHelps (link below) or mailed directly to the Homestead. Join us in celebrating all that Adelaide achieved in her life, and the incredible legacy that she left behind.

Happy Birthday Addie!

To help light 160 candles on Addie's cake, please send contributions to:



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

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/addie-160/>