



WI Connections

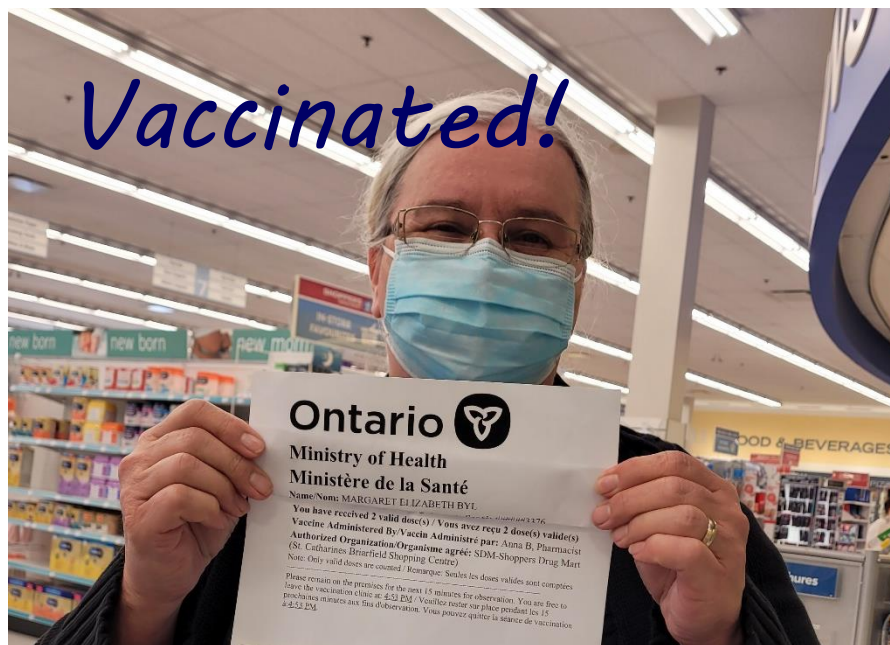
Monthly Newsletter of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada

Are you up for the challenge?

WI Members all over Canada are walking towards the next 20 years in WI. What do you think the vision and direction should be?

Send in your ideas for next month's WI Connections please!

Send to Angela.Scott@bellaliant.net





Special thanks to Mary Ellen Edgar who surprised us with a most generous donation of \$15,000.00 on behalf of herself and her daughters-in-law, Marsha Deans Edgar and Jennifer Edgar. All 3 are Past Presidents of the Whitman's Creek WI, Paris, Ontario. Mary Ellen is also a Life Member. The greeting card in the photo is the creation of Artist Marsha Deans Edgar.

Margaret's Message Margaret Byl, President

As the provinces start to lift their restrictions and borders begin to open, families and friends rejoice in the ability to meet each other face to face once again. Thank you to our doctors, nurses and front line workers who have been working non-stop since the beginning of the pandemic.

We are now facing the disturbing effects of the Covid-19 Delta Variant. Keeping our communities safe and healthy is one of our main priorities. For those that are able to, please consider getting your vaccinations and for those that have immune deficiencies, medical conditions or religious beliefs that keep them from receiving the vaccinations, please wear a mask and practice social distancing. Let's protect our families, neighbours and friends.

Together we can make a difference!

As the summer turns to fall, and our rural communities prepare for harvest, some Branches are



making plans to meet in person, while others will continue to meet virtually, for the time being. The next FWIC/WI Canada Board Meetings will be virtual ones and are being held on September 13th and 15th where we will be focusing on plans for the future. If there is an issue of a national concern, please contact your Representative to FWIC/WI Canada who can bring your concerns to our meetings.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and let us remember the communities that are facing the raging fires in the western provinces and northern Ontario.

Don't forget to look at the Homestead Updates for information about the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead. Stay safe and stay healthy.

Yours for Home & Country,

Margaret Byl

Urgent Request

We are accepting handicrafts and knitted goods for the gift shop at the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead. To donate please contact WI Canada at info@fwic.ca to arrange shipment. Thank-you!

Due to technical difficulties, Dr. Ellen McLean's column is not available this month. Watch for its return in September!

Ellen's Corner

See you all soon!



Ellen McLean has been an active WI member for close to seventy years. Over that time, she has served in many roles including President of the Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia, President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC) and President of the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW). Testimony to her excellent leadership and service, Ellen has received a honorary doctorate degree from St. Francis Xavier University, been inducted to the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame, received the Order of Canada as well as being the first recipient of the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Women of the Year.





Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead Update

Submitted by Margaret Byl, President

After receiving letters, phone calls and emails expressing dismay over the decision to sell, the FWIC Board has taken the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead off the market. Thank you to the Government of Canada for a Young Canada Works grant that has allowed us to hire Emily Jackson and Roxana Maturana as Archival Assistants until the end of March, 2022 and thanks to a MAP Grant the digitizing and updating of the collections and archival materials is well underway.

Thank you to the many donations that have been received! We appreciate any and all that you are comfortable donating. Special thanks to Mary Ellen Edgar who surprised us with a most generous donation of \$15,000.00 on behalf of herself and her daughters-in-law, Marsha Deans Edgar and Jennifer Edgar. All 3 are Past Presidents of the Whitman's Creek WI, Paris, Ontario. Mary Ellen is also a Life Member. The greeting card in the photo is the creation of Artist Marsha Deans Edgar.



A Look to the Fall

submitted by Ellen MacPhail, Prince Edward Island Women's Institute

This month's column has a focus on provincial fall planning with an eye on next year's main summer event.

One of the highlights during the WI year is the Women's Institute's Handcraft, Horticulture and Arts Show of Old Home Week. However exhibitors will have to wait one more year before showcasing their exhibits during the provincial exhibition. For the second year in a row, Old Home Week, an annual mainstay festival since 1888, will not take place in its traditional format. Instead for this year, Old Home Week has partnered with the City of Charlottetown and Discover Charlottetown to create a new event with activities for everyone in downtown Charlottetown.

Kari Ferguson and Pat MacKinnon, Board members heading the WI component of the exhibition, look optimistically at what the future will bring in exhibiting at the multi category event in years to come. Ferguson and MacKinnon also stated "the WI segment of the exhibition will continue to have something for all ages of Islanders including newcomers. It is free, easy to enter and an ideal way to display arts from all cultures". Pending health measures at the time, the committee hopes to have details on the 2022 WI exhibition early in the new year.

WI Fall Workshops are being organized for late October and will include themes such as *Meeting Etiquette*, *The Newcomer Experience*, and *Field to Table - Our Agriculture Connection*. An additional session will include an online twinning event with Women's Institutes in the United Kingdom to complement their centurion celebration and to create friendships. The workshops will be a blend of in person and online.

In November, the PEIWI has altered course in their annual fundraiser event for hospitals. Traditionally the annual fundraiser is held in the spring. With the recent health easements the Board has decided to re-organize the event into a Festive Christmas Gala Dinner and Christmas Baking Auction. This event is planned for November 17 at the Delta Prince Edward Ballroom in Charlottetown.

As students return to school, PEIWI was pleased to present two scholarships. The provincial Women's Institute recently awarded the WI Education scholarship for 2021 to Erin Viger from Crapaud, PEI who is enrolled at the University of Ottawa. Also recently awarded was the Marie Kenny Community Builder's Scholarship to Shaelynn McCardle, from Kinkora, PEI. Shaelynn is enrolled at St. Francis Xavier University. The Board thanks all applicants and extends best wishes in their continued studies.



PEI Women's Institute reminds all students there are several scholarships offered throughout the year including the two newly named scholarships of \$1,000 each for studies in health and agriculture. Another opportunity is for the Helen Herring Scholarship for students entering their third year of university. Deadline is September 30 and details on all scholarships are available online at www.peiwi.ca.

If visiting PEI, drop in to the WI office to pick up a PEIWI souvenir – a variety of items are available including *Prince Edwards Island's Famous Five*, a book launched by the PEI Interministerial Women's Secretariat. The 225 page read celebrates the contributions of *Prince Edward Island's Famous Five*: Hon. Catherine Callbeck;

Hon. Marion L. Reid; Pat Mella; Nancy Guptil; and Elizabeth Hubley. Book sales proceeds are going towards scholarships in honour of the Famous Five who made political history. These scholarships highlight both WI's roots in agriculture, and the leadership and team effort displayed in health care during COVID-19 on PEI. Books are \$20 and available through the PEI Women's Institute Office.



WI ONTARIO NEWS submitted by Mary Shortt, FWIO

Branch Good News Stories "Thunder Bay District Women's Institute had a summer picnic July 26,2021. It has been a long time since getting together. We had 22 members bring their own lunch and we sat outside. We did have a meeting but its was very social. The picnic was at the home of Susan McRury who, along with Michelle Barrie hosted the event. Both gals are Associate members. We have set a date for our next meeting, in hope that Covid is a thing of the past." We also decided at that meeting to donate \$500 to the Adelaide Hoodless Homestead. I am sending a cheque out this week. What a wonderful thing to do. So good to see our branches getting back together and helping others.



Batch cooking tips. "We hope you enjoy our recent video on batch cooking with Jena and Hannah of Sudbury Clever Clovers 4-H Club, thanks to funding from the New Horizons for Seniors Program!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b6sxaeFJCMY>. Batch cooking is great



for seniors, students, and anyone who lives alone or in a small household. Not only does it help you save time cooking every day, it also helps you save money and create a healthier lifestyle! What is batch cooking? Batch cooking simply means

cooking your meals in large batches so you have to cook less often.



Speaking up against the trafficking of persons. On July 30th WI Members across the Ontario joined the #EradicateChallenge and showed their support for #ProjectMapleLeaf to end the buying and selling of Girls and Boys, children in Canada. #EndChildTrafficking #ProtectChildren #StopExploitation #CourageForFreedom @CourageForFreedom



Erland Lee Museum Home reopens: After over a year, we are finally able to reopen our doors for house tours this week. We are so excited to welcome everyone back inside this very special home to explore the history of the Lee family, the Women's Institutes, and the Stoney Creek area together.



**WE'RE
OPENING**

Museum Hours

Friday 11:00 - 4:00

Saturday 11:00 - 4:00

TO BOOK YOUR TOUR OR FOR QUESTIONS
905-662-2691
ERLANDLEEMUSEUM@FWIO.ON.CA



Upper Gagetown WI Submitted Bonita L. Green

Upper Gagetown New Brunswick

Father's Day Lobster Cold Plate

Fundraiser June 2021

Father's Day 2021 was celebrated by the Upper Gagetown Women's Institute, Maple Leaf Branch, with a LOBSTER COLD PLATE offered to the community.



Fund raising has been challenging due to COVID restrictions, however the **TEN** members of the Maple Leaf Branch took it upon themselves to raise funds to support community projects. The Maple Leaf Branch may be few in number but definitely not in ambition; they are always willing organize an event.

Upper Gagetown Women's Institute, Maple Leaf Branch announced their event on social media, FACEBOOK, as well as on posters they distributed throughout the community. The response was favourable; many commented that it was a very good idea to treat Dad to lobster but also Mom to not having to make a meal. Their goal was to sell eighty Lobster Cold Plates; they were just short three of their goal selling a total of seventy seven.

Lobster was the main feature but the cold plate also included potato salad, pasta salad, coleslaw a homemade roll and dessert! This was the first Father's Day Lobster Cold Plate offered by the Upper Gagetown Women's Institute, perhaps not the last because folks were asking if there were plans for one next year!

Special **THANKS** to the Maple Leaf Branch, who NEVER seems to tire, always dedicated to supporting their community. Thanks also to the community for supporting Women's Institute and to the Government of New Brunswick,

Department of Agriculture Aquaculture and Fisheries for their financial support.



*Next Month
in WI Connections...*

Leadership Modules, knitting & Crocheting
poppies & fall roundup

*WI Canada
FWIC*

Margaret Byl, President
Lynn MacLean, President Elect
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Linda Mason, AB Executive
Eleanor Lilley, NS
Karen Gerwing, SK
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Mary Shortt, ON
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