

Monthly Newsletter of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada

WI Connections



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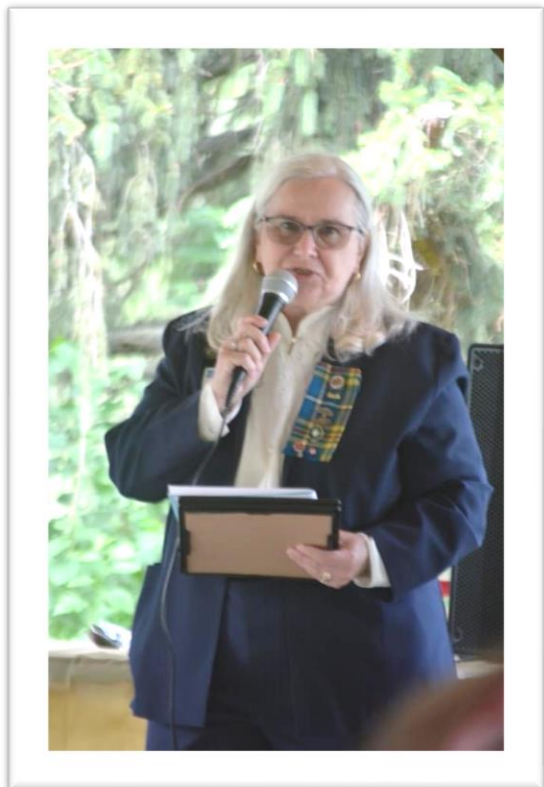
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Margaret's Message, Submitted by President, Margaret Byl

Greetings to all from Coast to Coast to Coast, wishing everyone a pleasant day as we celebrate the Civic Holiday!

Just a brief update on the happenings at the FWIC/WI Canada National Office, located at the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead, 365 Blue Lake Rd., St. George, Ontario. On July 12 we held a hybrid AGM from the Homestead. The day began at the Pavilion with an Indigenous Lands Acknowledgement; greetings and recognitions of Mr. Hollie Archer and the County of Brant for their continuing support of the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead and FWIC/WI Canada. County of Brant Mayor David Bailey (shown in photo to the right) FWIO President Michelle Phillippi, President-elect Lynn MacLean and I planted trees to commemorate 125 Years of WI in Canada. A delicious luncheon preceded the FWIC/WI Canada Annual



General meeting. Congratulations to Faye Mayberry who received the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Canadian Woman of the Year Award! After the AGM a reception was held to honour Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. Thank you to the County of Brant for their support!

Special thanks to the FWIC/WI Canada Board of Directors and Provincial Presidents for their contributions of their extraordinary skills and talents. It has been a pleasure working with you and I look forward to working with the new board for this term.

There has been a staffing change at the Office. We would like to thank Sally Thorne for her time with us and wish her all the best in her future endeavours. We welcome Larry Gillis as our new bookkeeper.

Wishing you fair weather as we sail into the future with a recipe for success!



Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead Report Submitted by Margaret Byl, President



The displays that Lauren Marco, our Museum Assistant created for the 125 Years of WI Canada and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee are available for viewing at the Homestead. Thank you to Margaret Lang for donating the Royal Family memorabilia for the displays and to FWIO for loaning us the original constitution and minute book for display during the AGM and reception. The Queen's cut-out currently still on loan and is available for photos with the Queen.

We are looking for Volunteers at the Homestead and wish to thank Mrs. Marco for taking care of the gardens. Lauren and Jaiden have been busy with watering the trees and planters as well.

New improvements will be made in the coming months. Homestead Tours and Pavilion Rentals continue to be booked. Friends of Addie Memberships are available. Contact Lauren at the office for more information.



Our Keynote Speaker for this year....

Gail Cuthbert Brandt was our keynote speaker for the AGM this year. We felt her talk might be of interest to each of our members in all of the provinces. A former president of the Canadian Historical Association, Dr. Cuthbert Brandt is also a founding member and former executive officer of the Ontario Women's History Network and a member of the Canadian Committee on Women's History.



A BRIEF HISTORY OF WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS IN CANADA

Thank you for the invitation to speak to you this afternoon, on this auspicious occasion – the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Women's Institutes. It is indeed an honour to have been invited to share this celebration with you.

When Margaret and I discussed the topic I would address this afternoon, we settled on the history of women's organizations in Canada. For me, this is one of the most important and still undervalued components of our national history, for women's groups have played a fundamental role in shaping Canadian society for the last two hundred years.

There is no way over the next 20 or so minutes that I can adequately cover the contributions hundreds of women's voluntary groups have made to our country. What I propose to do is to describe their characteristics and their impact in three different eras: prior to 1920, from 1920 to 1990, and since 1990 and to speculate a little on their future. In this way, I hope to underline continuities and changes as they relate to women's organizations and their importance for Canadian society.

Given our time constraints, I will focus my remarks on national anglophone women's groups.

Pre-1920

Some of the earliest records of women organizing around



specific goals go back to the early nineteenth century. For example, a group of Church of Scotland women in Montreal formed the Female Benevolent Society in 1815 to assist needy immigrants; by 1832 the same organization had created the Montreal Protestant Orphan Asylum.

Similar charitable organizations sprang up in cities and towns across British North America. Not only white women, but also Black women organized to care for the poor, the sick, orphans, and widows.

The first female temperance organization formed in Lower Canada (Quebec) in 1822, and by the 1840s, large numbers of women in the various colonies were active in the formation of temperance societies.

Following Confederation in 1867, women's groups began to develop national networks, thus helping to knit the new country together. Like their earlier counterparts, they often organized along religious lines. Starting in the 1870s, women's missionary societies developed within the major Protestant denominations and soon became national entities. They established autonomous administrative structures, did their own fundraising, and sponsored their own women missionaries, thereby providing important opportunities for women doctors and teachers to go overseas.

Local women's temperance groups also joined together to form a national

organization in 1883. By the 1890s, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) had over 9000 members and was the largest non-denominational women's group in Canada.

There was a proliferation of other national women's organizations formed in the last two decades of the nineteenth century, including the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), the National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC), the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), and the Victoria Order of Nurses (VON).

Most of these groups were rooted in the evangelical Protestant tradition. Their main goals were to reform society and improve the lives of women and children. Historians describe them as maternal feminist organizations, dedicated to using women's presumed innate nurturing qualities to clean up society. While they ostensibly reinforced the nineteenth century domestic ideal of women as wives and mothers, by organizing women and giving them administrative skills, women's groups brought their members into the public, male-dominated sphere and trained them to be public speakers, petition organizers, and lobbyists. Like the WCTU that had already endorsed female suffrage in 1888, by 1910 several national women's organizations were actively campaigning for votes for women.

By the early 1880s there were also local and national groups that were advocating for female



suffrage based on equality with men. They were grounded in what we call equal rights feminism. However, individual groups and their leaders, such as Nellie McClung and Emily Murphy, readily combined arguments from both types of feminist ideology. Together the maternal and equal rights feminism espoused by Canadian women's organizations comprise "first wave feminism".

First wave feminism reached its peak during WWI due to the exceptional economic and social contributions of women's organizations to the war effort and its aftermath. Victories for the movement included finally winning votes for women federally and in most provinces, the implementation of temperance for a brief period, and the election of women to federal parliament and to some provincial legislatures. In the wake of women's increased war-time activism, your own Federation of Women's Institutes (FWIC) was created in 1919, as was the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW).

1920s-1960s

Although generalizations have been made about the period from 1920 to 1960 as a quiet, even retrograde period for women's organizations and Canadian feminism, this was not the case.

New national organizations appeared, such as the Federation of Medical Women of Canada (FMWC) in 1924 and the Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW) in 1930. Characteristically, they were more secular and career-focussed than most of the nineteenth century groups had been and were more likely to promote equal rights feminism. Older organizations such as the Women's Institutes and the YWCA, however, continued to flourish. Together the old and new groups lobbied provincial and federal politicians for important economic and social legislation such as improving opportunities and

working conditions for women workers, mothers' allowances, old age pensions, improved child welfare, and equal treatment of women and men in divorce cases.

During the Second World War, women's organizations again played a pivotal role especially after 1941 when the federal government organized the Women's Voluntary Services Division. Women's groups provided the human resources needed to operate blood donor clinics, recycling programs of household items to produce essential war materials, armed forces canteens, victory gardens, employment services, rationing programs and price monitoring surveys to control inflation. In fact, over 10,000 women were enrolled across Canada to perform the latter function, an effort that led to the establishment of the Consumers Association of Canada following the war.

After 1945, national women's associations such as your own organized annual lobbies with politicians on Parliament Hill. Some successes included getting the federal government to drop "for men only" from its job ads and to appoint more women to federal boards and commissions. For its part, FWIC, with 95,000 members by 1958, lobbied for the introduction of equal pay for equal work.

In conjunction with universities and provincial departments of education, local WIs offered evening courses specifically designed for married women in paid employment. Stories abound of the extraordinary lengths rural women went to attend WI meetings. Mrs. J.D. Ross, a member in New Brunswick, found herself "snowbound at home atop a hill and unable to persuade her husband to shovel her out." Undaunted, she climbed aboard her son's "flying saucer" sled. "With a half-knitted afghan in one hand and a fresh pie in the other, she sped downhill and thumbed a ride" to the institute meeting. By time she

returned home, the path had been shovelled.¹

In the 1960s, women's groups worked on issues such as government funded daycares and birth control clinics, equitable property laws, broader grounds for divorce, and legal abortions. In doing so, they laid the groundwork for second wave feminism.

In 1966, representatives from 32 national women's groups came together to form the Committee on Equality for Women and sent a request to the federal government to set up a royal commission on the status of women. When Lester Pearson failed to act, Laura Sabia, the vice-president of CFUW who had organized the initial meeting, threatened to lead a march of two million women on Parliament Hill. Bowing to this effective lobby, the government appointed a commission in February 1967.

This Royal Commission proved to be ground-breaking in many ways. It travelled across the country, holding meetings with a wide cross-section of Canadian women including Indigenous women, rural women, women workers, union representatives, as well as delegates from women's organizations. Its report, containing 167 recommendations and issued in a single inexpensive volume, became a best seller of sorts.

In addition, the activists who had been involved in the Committee on Equality for Women transformed it into a new, powerful umbrella group of more than forty organizations – the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC) – to keep pressure on the government to implement the Royal Commission's report.

The constitutional debates of the 1980s also created conditions for concerted action by women's groups who were lobbying for adequate provisions for gender equity in the proposed Charter of Rights and Freedoms.



In January 1981, when the federal government cancelled a national conference on women and the constitution, the chair of its own advisory council on the status of women, Doris Anderson resigned. With a small group of women, she organized a three-day conference that took place just one month later and brought 1300 women from across the country together. Following continued lobbying, the government included in the final charter the guarantees of equality set out in Section 15 (“Every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to equal protection of the law and equal benefit of the law” and Section 28 (“Notwithstanding anything in this Charter, the rights and freedoms referred to in it are guaranteed equally to male and female persons”).

By 1992, NAC had nearly 500 women’s groups connected to it. Unfortunately, it was increasingly weakened by internal debates and schisms as the phenomenon of identity politics increased in strength. New, more militant women’s groups — based on race, ethnicity, class, and sexual orientation — were highly critical of the leadership that white, middle class women and their organizations had exercised for so long. By 2001, NAC was a spent force. Since its demise, there has been no overarching organization that draws together Canadian women’s groups in a similar way.

More recent women’s groups tend to focus on their local community, on issues related to their ethnic or racial identity, or

on a specific cause; for example, the #ME Too Movement launched in 2017. Such movements often reject traditional organizational structures and mobilize using social media platforms to advance their causes.

Nonetheless, national organizations, including your own, NCWC, YWCA, CFUW, and BPW continue to exist and to render valuable services to Canadian society. Rather than trying to establish a new national organization along the lines of NAC, they have opted for ad-hoc coalitions focussing on specific issues. For example, in 2015 some 170 organizations joined together to lobby for a federal leaders’ debate on women’s issues. The same year a network of women’s organizations recommended that the federal government set up an inquiry into missing and murdered aboriginal women

We still need national organizations, such as the Women’s Institutes, to participate in key public policy issues and to empower girls and women. As you are very aware, however, it is increasingly difficult for traditional voluntary organizations to attract new members as their memberships age. Canadian society is much more diverse than it was in 1897, and women under the age of 65 work outside the home but still carry the primary responsibility for child rearing and domestic duties. The current pandemic has certainly highlighted the resulting daily stress that women experience. Recent generations of women are typically not joiners – what leisure time they have is spent with their

families, on social media, or getting together on a more casual basis with their friends.

Existing national women’s organizations must be increasingly creative in recruiting and retaining new members. I suspect that you have devoted a considerable amount of time on these issues over the past decade. You have perhaps the greatest challenge as you have traditionally been a rural-based organization. When you started in 1897, Canada was overwhelmingly a rural, agrarian society; in 2021, only 17 percent of Canadians lived in rural areas, and farm families comprised only two percent of the Canadian population.

As a result, you will have to be even more strategic and resourceful than other national women’s organizations. You may already be considering some new approaches such as enhancing your social media presence on a variety of platforms; establishing junior chapters and/or strengthening your links with 4-H clubs; offering free, on-line nutrition, budgeting, and cooking classes; reducing the number of formal club meetings; and building coalitions with other groups to improve communities.

Congratulations on your past 100 years of accomplishments and all the best for the future. Canada certainly continues to need you!

¹ Gail Cuthbert Brandt et al., *Canadian Women: A History, 3rd ed* (Toronto: Nelson Education, 2011), 394

E-BOOK TITLE CONTEST

Thank you to all who have submitted your COVID stories and/or pictures for the E-Book.

It is ready to be “published” for online distribution, however it needs a catchy title. What do you think would be an appropriate title? Why not put on your creative thinking hat and submit a title for this book? Please send entries on or before September 1st to Lynn

MacLean, president-elect@fwic.ca.



Ellen's Corner

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.



Just a few days after my last Corner I read something that I think would be of interest to all our members. The article was about the Platinum Jubilee and that the Queen launched the celebrations on February 6th the day she began her reign. That day she hosted a reception, and then again one on February 7th “She hosted a reception for volunteer groups, pensioners, and fellow members of the local Women’s Institute (W.I.)” I knew that Her Majesty belonged to the Sandringham Branch, and also that from time to time she has attended the AGM of the National Federation of Women’s Institutes in England.

Reading that made me think about something else. I looked in the 1961 FWIC History and read “The organization is honoured to have Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as Patron” I remember National Conventions where Greetings from Her Majesty were read during the Opening Ceremonies. I don’t remember when that stopped and that must also mean that the Queen is no longer our Patron. In my “poking around” I have as yet not found an answer to that.

July 12th was the hybrid 2022 FWIC AGM. It was an opportunity for our members to attend in person or virtually. Our appreciation goes to our President Margaret and the Board for making it possible to be there either in person or by Zoom. The guest speaker Gail Cuthbert Brandt gave a most interesting address. (I hope that we may be able to receive a copy of the address). She gave a history of women’s organizations in Canada going back to the 19th century like our Women’s Institutes. “I had almost forgotten about some of these groups like the Women’s Christian Temperance Union). That history was very interesting but what really “hit home” for me was when she brought us into the 21st century and what was happening to these organizations. And what do we as members of the W.I. needs to change to attract new members. She spoke about the many women who don’t want to attend meetings. And could we reach them by providing virtual programs. She gave us so much to think about, and I trust that our provincial leaders will look closely at what we can do, and then do it. I think that communicating virtually is wonderful, but I still feel the need for social interaction, for the friendship and sociability that being together provides. Once again, we are reminded that we live in an era of change. I am still doing a lot of thinking about what my own Branch needs to do, and I know that is the case wherever we go across Canada. Enough of my musings in days of heat warnings!



ACWW Conference

Good morning. I can now say with confidence we have a trip organizer and a travel agent working hard to finalize a tour that will happen around the conference probably before. As soon as we know the tours etc. that the ACWW conference committee is organizing we will finalize the itinerary. Airlines can not confirm flights and prices this early.

Would you please publicize this announcement in your respective newsletters?

A tour is being organized in conjunction with the ACWW Conference in Malaysia. May 17-25, 2023. If you are interested in receiving the details as they become available, please contact Barbara Weese, bweese@powergate.ca. This will give a clearer picture of the number of participants. Please indicate your closest airport.

All tour arrangements are being made by an individual that specializes in small group tours and has extensive experience in Malaysia. All travel arrangements including airplane tickets are being arranged by a fully licensed experienced travel agent who is also a long-standing WI member

Yours for Home and Country, Barbara Weese

New Dundee Women's Institute Celebrates 115 years

Several members of the New Dundee Women's Institute gathered June 21st to celebrate their Branch's 115th Anniversary. The NDWI began June 19, 1907. A history of NDWI was recounted by Eleanor Berry, a member for over 50 years. We reminisced about the events of the past: teas, and hat and wedding shows that were organized by our WI. Strawberry shortcake was enjoyed by all.



The women in the photo are (left to right): Ruth Cressman, Linda Stoltz*, Joan Good*, Pat Geiger, Eleanor Berry, Nancy Birss, Judy Lewis, (back row) Trudy Huggins, Joanne Rush* and Pauline Stirling* (*past presidents).

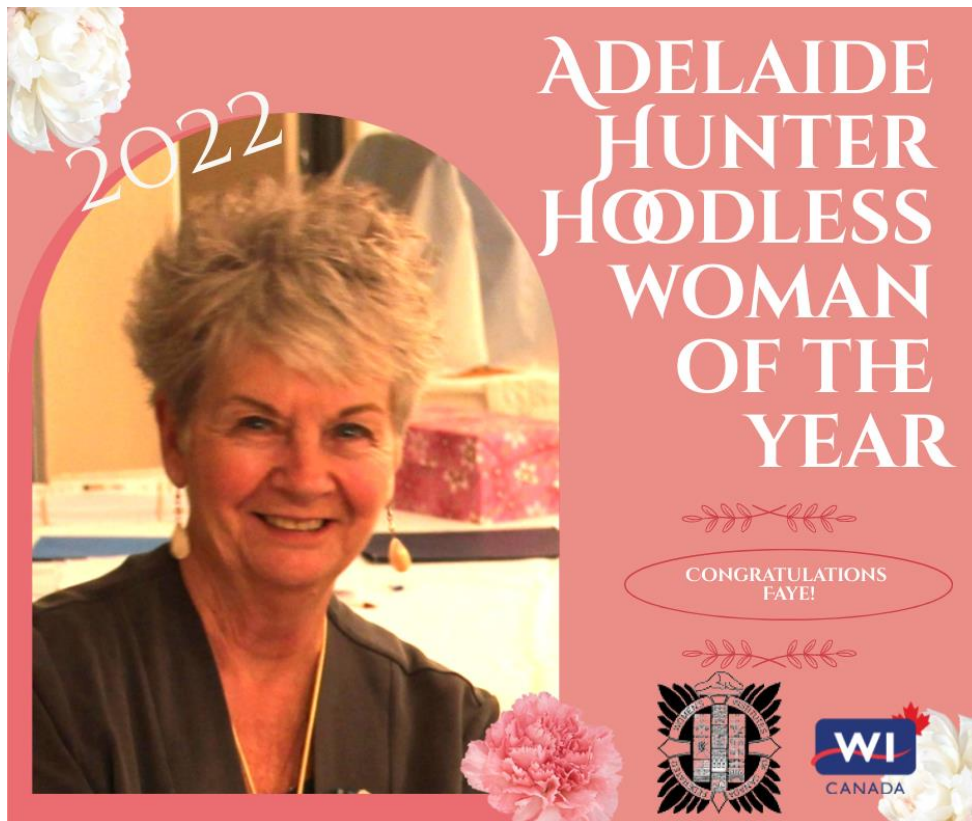


New Dundee Women's Institute Installs Commemorative Plaque

Current and past members of the New Dundee Women's Institute celebrated their 115year history with the installation of a plaque in the New Dundee Park on June 28, 2022. Several honorary members and past presidents were present to commemorate the New Dundee WI's history and contributions to the community since 1907.



Congratulations Faye!



Since joining the Ridgewood Women's Institute in 1967, Faye Mayberry has been a very busy member of Alberta Women's Institutes. She served in all Branch positions (some more than once), was the Red Deer Constituency Convener twice, as well as District 3 Director for one term. She was the AWI Executive Officer for Federated Women's Institutes of Canada from 1994-1997, before becoming the FWIC President Elect, and then FWIC President from 2000-2003.



In 2011 she was elected AWI President Elect and held the position of AWI President from 2014-2017.

While holding these positions she was busy promoting Women's Institute, mentoring future WI leaders, and increasing the general public's knowledge of agriculture by bringing it into the classroom.

She helped educate and mentor WI members through such programs as "Thinking, Feeling, Doing" which focused on the roles and duties of the various positions in WI, hosting the opening of the WI exhibition at the Red Deer Museum, and facilitating such workshops as "Train the Trainer" and "Communicate with Confidence". She helped arrange for the commemorative rock and Hoodless rose garden for the 100th anniversary of AWI.

During her appointment to the Alberta Farm Women's Network she helped publish the Farm Women's Talent Bank Directory and initiated the Farm Food Contest resulting in the Farm Food Festival in Banff. She was a member of the Canadian Farm Women's Education Council and the Farm Women and the Law Committee and contributed to "Taking Charge – Agriculture Leadership", a film produced by Alberta Agriculture. She chaired *Kids Farm Safety Day Camp* which led to her being on the committee for Red Deer's Safety City. She developed the "Food and Farmers – What's the Connection?" project which was delivered to about 10,000 children in 100 schools throughout Alberta.

During her years at FWIC she was appointed to the National Agriculture Environment Committee. She was also a member of the Coalition of Farm Women Leaders. While FWIC President she was involved with the rededication of the Peace Bridge and the moving of the national office to the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead. She chaired the Fundraising Committee and the Staging Committee for the 2006 FWIC Convention in Red Deer and chaired the committee hosting the 2014 ACWW Canada Area Conference in Camrose.

In her spare time, she was involved with the RCMP Community Policing Committee, Victims Services Committee, Advocate Training and Employment Network for Women in Alberta Committee, the Rural Community Projects Advisory Committee (Olds College), and Ridgewood Disaster Services. She sat on a sub committee for the Alberta Council on Women's Issues and the Western Fair Committee. She set up meetings with Canadian Mental Health to study the needs of rural women and was involved in government consultations such as employment standards, farm management training, and other farm related topics.

Faye always held training sessions during Council meetings while president of Alberta Women's Institutes. These sessions were not only for the members on Council but were open to AWI members and the general public. The goal of these training sessions was to help women develop leadership skills and to encourage more women to take on leadership roles, not only in WI but in other organizations as well. She wanted more women to be involved in roles that could make real change.

As a mentor she shared her knowledge and skills with others and continues to do so, while letting them do things their way – no "we've always done it that way" with Faye!

As you can see from the information above Faye Mayberry exhibits the qualities of leadership, involvement in the community, and inspiration required in the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Canadian Woman of the Year. And as for the qualities of Adelaide Hoodless, they are there too, in everything Faye does for Women's Institutes and her community and ours.



Food Security & Food Waste ...A Teaser! Submitted by Brenda Devauld

After our roundtable regarding Food Security and Food Waste there were requests for more information and ideas that the Branches could use as part of their meetings. So we put together a program for Branches to read and to take part in at a branch level. This will be shared with you all in September, but we thought we would put out a small sample of the program in the WI Connections just to let you know it is coming! The following is in regards to the UN 17 Sustainable Goals and how we could educate ourselves on them: Start a conversation about the UN Sustainable Goals, many people are not aware of these. Educate yourselves and each other. One idea is to read one at each of your Branch meetings and discuss it.

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**Elgin County District Women's Institute
"AFTERNOON TEA"
Celebrating 125 years of Women's Institute in Ontario
1897 – 2022**

Elgin District WI enjoyed a social afternoon from 2-4 pm at the Elgin Masonic Centre, Fruitridge Line, St. Thomas. Several WI members were dressed in period costume and 61 registered for the event. Elgin President, Mary Clutterbuck welcomed with "O Canada" and Annie Isobel Tait, Pianist.

Greetings were brought from MP, Karen Vecchio; Mary French, Warden of Elgin; (Deputy Mayor of Central Elgin, Tom Marks read her greetings with regrets); Mayor of Central Elgin, Sally Martyn; Mayor of St. Thomas, Joe Preston (regrets); Director of Community & Social Services, Brian Masschaele; Manager of Museum & Archives, Michael Baker; FWIO President, Michelle Phillippi (regrets); FWIO President-Elect, Margaret Ogar; Southern Area Board Director, Laura Green (regrets); Southern Area Voting Delegate, Nancy Muir; Associated Country Women of the World, Anne Innes; Oxford District President, Sheila Greason. Mary opened the meeting with singing of "The Ode" and reciting "Mary Stewart Collect" in unison.

The program "The Early Years of WI" was directed by Joan Jackaman, who also prepared the script.

The re-enactment was at the beginning with Adelaide Hoodless giving a speech on February 19, 1897 at Stoney Creek, Ontario. The meeting was at a Farmer's Institute with Erland Lee chairing. Adelaide stated that this could be modeled as a Women's Institute with information on domestic science issues being taught to women. She stressed the need for women to learn more about sanitation after the death of her 14 month old son, because he was fed milk which had not been pasturized. Domestic Science was not taught in the schools then. There were 101 women attending that special evening where the constitution was signed by Janet and Erland Lee. The home is presently a museum and FWIO office.

Our objective was to raise enough money with donations going to the 4-H scholarship fund in Elgin. Mary Clutterbuck,



Chair; was ecstatic with achieving this goal today. Our gratitude was expressed. There were several displays; Tweedsmuir books, Elgin Exhibits, Memorabilia from the past, Elgin Book Sales, Southern Ontario Support (SOS) Jewellery sales, Elgin Banner with branches displayed.

The program plans were initiated by the Elgin District Executive; President, Mary Clutterbuck; Past-President, Madeleine Jenkins, Secretary, Joan Mansell; Treasurer, Kathy Minnema; Education Programs, Joanne Erickson; and Assistant Programs, Joan Jackaman. A floral display was won by Nancy West, Oxford District. The tables were decorated with blue & yellow silk posies and blue coasters sewed by Madeleine Jenkins. These are our WI colours.

Tracy Gordon, Dutton, historical seamstress, donated costumes for the actors in the play. Courtesies were given by Kathy Minnema. Elgin WI Branches: Crinan, Middlemarch, Wallacetown, Yarmouth Glen

Southern Area WI Districts: Elgin, Kent, Middlesex, Oxford, Perth South

Adjournment with singing "WI Grace" and enjoyment of refreshments provided by Kathy's Catering.



CHARACTERS BACK LEFT:

Erland Lee (Mike Baker); Lord Tweedsmuir (Mark Richardson) Lady Tweedsmuir (Tracy Gordon)
F.W. Hudson / 3 Superintendents (Brian Masschaele) Modern WI Member (Kathy Minnema)

CHARACTERS FRONT LEFT:

Adelaide Hoodless (Joan Mansell) Janet Lee (Madeleine Jenkins) Mrs. E.D. Smith (Joan Jackaman)
Laura Rose (Joanne Erickson)



FWIO President Michelle Phillipui with President Margaret



She believed she could...

So she did!



A Quilting Bee submitted by Mary Shortt, Community York Road WI, Ontario



Trent Valley Area WI, Ontario With great participation there were 20 Home and Country Rose Quilt Blocks created by members of the Trent Valley Area which includes the 2nd place winner. FWIO Past Presidents Donna Russett and Evelyn Peck proceeded assemble the quilt top and purchase the batting, backing, and sashing. Donna was able to provide a location for it to be set up on it's stretcher until completed at the Wellman's WI Hall in Hastings District. On July 8th WI members from Prince Edward and Hastings Districts assembled to begin the hand quilting of this wonderful quilt. Lunch was served by Cecelia Maines and Jane Schuell, Hastings District President.



More days like this will be needed and members are encouraged to come and enjoy the camaraderie of a Quilting Bee as we put stitches into this memorable quilt on our 125th anniversary year. It will be completed and on display at the International Plowing Match in September along with quilts from Northern, Central, & Grey-Bruce Areas.



Resolutions & Legislation submitted by Brenda Devauld, BCWI

At our recent Northside WI meeting, we had our Local MLA as our guest. He was speaking on how to bring Resolutions and Campaigns forward so that they would gain interest and support. Very few pieces of Legislature get approved, so it is best to aware of this and be diligent in the request. It is also important to look at the Political Environment in power and to shape requests within that framework.

1. How to Bring Resolutions Forward The ASK: (Issue or Problem) - Do not leave any work for the Ministry to do, all research must be done. - Have as much information as possible associated with the request. If other provinces are doing it, include what it has entailed, what has been successful. etc. - The Science behind it - Everything is put before the ASK, so it is easier to approve and there is no research work for the Ministry to do.

2. Letter The letter regarding the Ask should be very concise, easy to read, with at the very most 3 paragraphs, with all other information attached. No one is going to read anything other than 1 page.

A) State the Issue or Problem B) What is needed C) The solution D) Supporting documents included E) CC the letter to Opposition as well, this helps to force a response

3. Presentation A) No more than 5 to 10 minutes B) Present the problem C) How to Solve it D) Leave time for questions

3. The Chain of Letter writing: A) Visit, send a letter, or better yet do both, to your local MLA . The letter should be straightforward and precise with all the supporting documents attached. B) Also always send a copy to the Opposition, this helps to force a response. C) Ask for a letter of support from your MLA that can be sent along with the letter D) Once the letter goes to your MLA, that is the time to send it to the appropriate Ministry. E) Letters can also be sent out to other MLA's. If there is enough support this information can then be brought to a Legislative meeting

Leadership Modules

The remaining Leadership Modules will continue January 4th, 2023.

Dear Module Participants

Due to follow up meetings from last year's Membership Round Table, we will postpone the remaining leadership modules until January 2023. The remaining modules include Planning & Goal Setting for WI, Communications/Public Relations, Leadership Identity, and a review session.

Thank-you all for your participation and wishing you a great summer.

Communications Committee, WI Canada FWIC



FWIC WI Canada 2022 AGM submitted by Lynn MacLean

Under a blue sky, WI members and guests arrived at the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead to attend in person the annual general meeting of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada. In conjunction with the AGM, a tree planting and luncheon were held to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Women's Institute movement in Canada.

Members and guests gathered in the pavilion to hear welcoming words from FWIC President Margaret Byl, the land acknowledgement by president-elect Lynn MacLean, as well as greetings by FWIO president Michelle Phillippi, and mayor of Brant County David Bailey. President Margaret took the opportunity to present a certificate of appreciation to Mayor Bailey for the support Brant Council has shown to the Homestead and to Mr. Hollie Archer for his generous donation to replace the roof on the Homestead and the pavilion.

After the official greetings, four trees were planted as part of the FWIC 125 Project. They were planted by President Margaret Byl, Mayor David Bailey, FWIO President Michelle Phillippi, and FWIC Board members Lynn MacLean and Linda Mason. To wrap up the morning event a luncheon was held in the pavilion.

The AGM officially began at 2 pm ET in the Homestead. President Byl welcomed those who attended in person as well as those that joined virtually. Michelle Phillippi, president of FWIO read the land acknowledgement. President Margaret read official greetings from the MP and the MPP for Brant County. David Bailey, mayor of Brant County joined virtually bringing greetings on behalf of Brant County as well noting the support that his council has for the Women's Institutes. On behalf of ACWW Canada Area, president Linda Hoy, brought greetings which was followed by President Margaret sharing written greetings by ACWW World President Madgie deKock.

President Margaret introduced Joan Holthe as parliamentarian and noted the presence of six past FWIC presidents. Denise Joss repeated the Mary Stewart Collect.

The motions for the agenda, minutes from the AGM part of the national convention 2021, the financial statements, the budget, and the appointment of the auditor all passed with no negative votes.

The first guest speaker was Prof. Gail Cuthbert Brandt, retired professor, and author from the University of Waterloo. Prof Cuthbert Brandt explained about the rise of women's organizations over the last hundred years and their purposes. She also provided some suggestions to help WI continue.

Reports from the Communication, Outreach, and the Homestead Committees were highlighted. Lynn MacLean provided details on the upcoming FWIC WI Canada online auction as well as the e-book. Both will be launched in September.

The second speaker was Fred Fulkerson, local apiarist, where he shared information on the care and function of honeybees. President Margaret welcomed the provincial presidents to give a short report. She thanked them for their reports and presented a certificate to Karen Gerwing for her dedication and commitment to FWIC. Unfortunately, this was Saskatchewan's last meeting as Saskatchewan had voted to disband.

President Margaret then announced the winner of the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Canadian Woman of the Year Award, Faye Mayberry and presented her with a certificate.



Linda Zelem, director from Ontario, and Elizabeth Moss, president of NLWI were installed to the FWIC Board by Joan Holthe.

Joan Holthe read the Institute Ode.

The meeting ended with God Save the Queen.

Footnote: Following the AGM a reception was held in the pavilion and a Toast to the Queen was made. The attendees were invited into the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead to view the new exhibits: 125 Years of WI and a Tribute to Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee. Many items on display for the Queen's Jubilee were donated by Margaret Lang, a resident of Brant County.



President Margaret presents a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Hollie Archer for his donation to repair the roof





*Our two Lindas –
Linda Mason-Treasurer & Linda Zelem-Homestead Specialist*

Pause, breathe, smile, and have a cup of tea...



SAVE THE DATE

FWIC has tentatively set the following dates for upcoming events.

Membership Roundtable (Part 2) – September 28, 2022

Remembrance Event – November 10, 2022, Guest speaker to be a woman currently in active duty. Suggestions welcome.

WI Day – February 22, 2023- Have two-three new members from each province share why they joined WI.

Empowering Women and Girls International Women’s Day – March 8 2023

Energy- April 19, 2023



Advertising Rates for WI Connections

1/3 Page \$50
2/3 Page \$75
Full Page \$125

Please contact
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Prince Edward Island WI Scholarships submitted by Ellen MacPhail

This month's column focus is on WI scholarships and the 97th year of PEI Women's Institute's involvement with Old Home Week.

PEIWI and its member branches are pleased to be continuing a scholarship valued at \$1,000 in honour of agriculture. The origin of the agri-based scholarship came from book sales from the recount of Prince Edward Island's Famous Five, as published by the Interministerial Women's Secretariat. The book tells the story of how five women made political history, holding five of the most influential positions of government in the province in 1993. Copies are still available by contacting the WI office at 40 Enman Crescent in Charlottetown.

The WI Agriculture Scholarship will be offered to a student entering a career in agriculture in an academic program in a college or university. Along with the application form, the applicant must provide resume, two references, short essay and transcripts from their current or most recently attended school. The essay is to elaborate on career choice and factors in selecting agriculture as a main study. Applications must include the name of the program and proof of acceptance for the program of study from the educational institution. Applications can be submitted by September 30.

The Helen Herring Scholarship of \$500 will be awarded to a student from Prince Edward Island, who by September of the current year, is enrolled in their third year of a university program leading to a degree in Foods & Nutrition/Dietetics, Family Science/Studies, Human Ecology, or a related discipline. The course of study should include a broad spectrum of courses relating to areas of knowledge and skills necessary for the welfare of families in their homes and communities. The deadline to apply is also September 30. Helen Herring played an integral role on PEI in the development of WI on PEI.

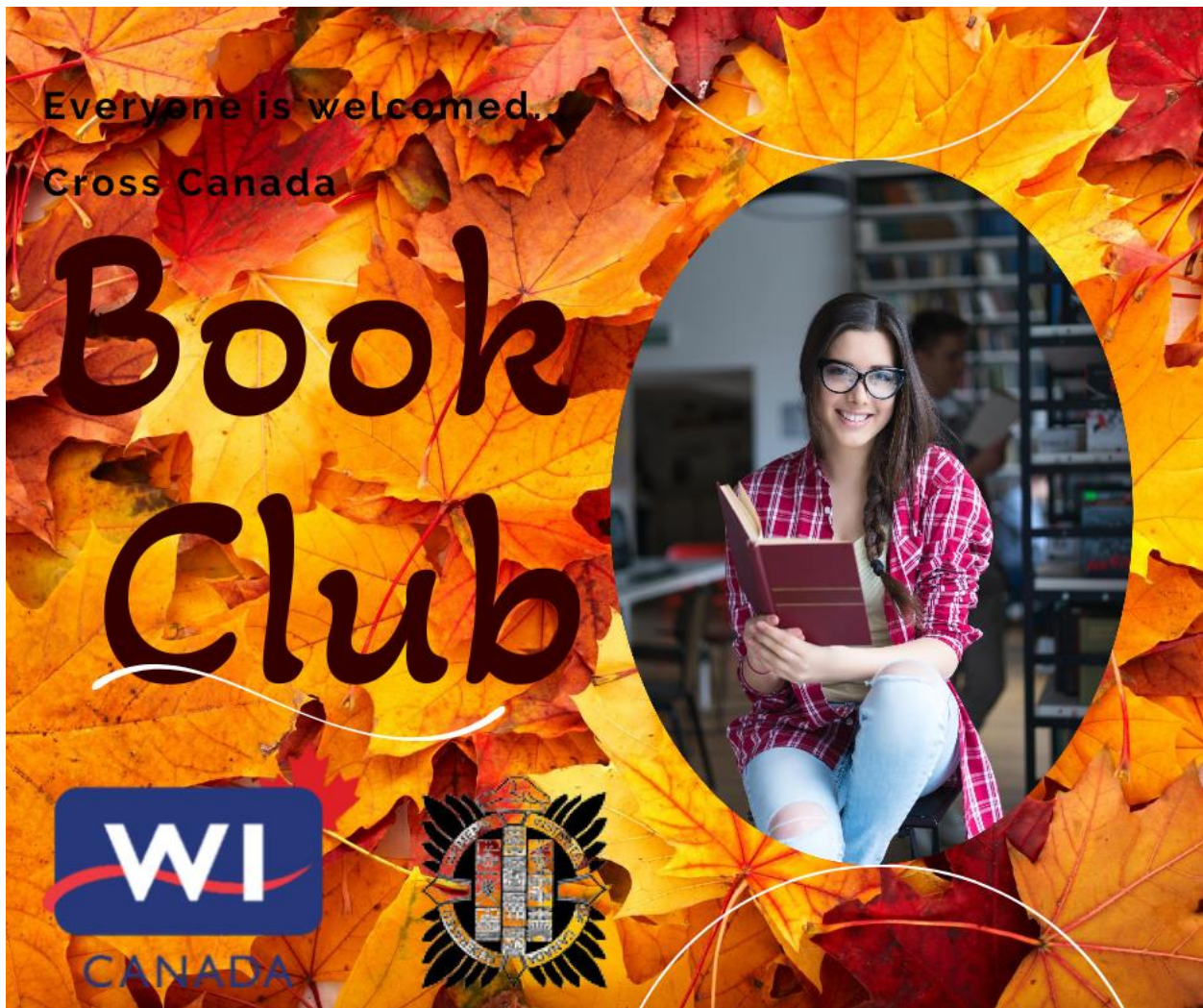
The PEI Women's Institute is adding a new twist to their presence at Old Home Week. Instead of traditional competition, this year the Board of Directors invite visitors to take part of WI's rich history and connection of Handcrafts and Agriculture in Prince Edward Island by visiting their booth on the main level of the Eastlink Centre during the provincial exhibition. To bring awareness to WI roots in both agriculture and handicrafts WI is pairing demonstrations and agriculture samples and prizes during Old Home Week. Highlights include demonstrations on quilting patch work, rug hooking, wool felting, Swedish embroidery, and needlework. Agriculture commodities represented this year will be from the blueberry, honey, potato, eggs, and dairy industries. The Board encourages residents to visit traditional competitions in county fairs, shows and exhibitions across the Island to see the wide variety of handicraft, horticulture, art and agriculture on PEI. A full schedule of WI's participation during Old Home Week will be listed in the August column as well as on Facebook and PEIWI website.



FWIC WI Canada On-Line Auction



FWIC WI Canada will be holding an on-line auction in late September. Each province is donating three or more items to be auctioned. Pictures of the donated items will be posted online for public viewing. Buyers will also pay for shipping. More details on how to view and bid on the donations will be available in September. This is a fundraiser for FWIC WI Canada.



Book Club Report submitted by Elizabeth Young

There will be no book club for July and August due to the summer break. December will have no meeting because of holiday celebrations.

Dates and books are listed for the following months

September 24th - Flown into the Arms of Angles - Mac Moss

October 29th - The Stranger -

November 26th - The Last Bookshop in London - Madeline Martin

There has been a suggestion to hold the book club on an evening, since Saturday afternoons are not convenient for everyone, so please let us know your preferences between now and September 1st. If you could kindly write to me, at the address provided it would be most appreciated. If you have book suggestions, I would appreciate your input.

fwicacrosscanadabookclub@fwic.ca I look forward to hearing from you – Elizabeth Young.

WI Canada FWIC

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Doreen Wall, PEI

Eleanor Lilley, NS

Elizabeth Moss, NL

Denise Joss, MB

Submissions for WI Connections

Please send to angela.scott@bellaliant.net

Recipes, stories, poems, and articles are appreciated.

