

Monthly Newsletter of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada



# WI Connections

## Margaret's Message, Submitted by President,

Margaret Byl

Greetings to all from Coast to Coast to Coast. So much has happened in September, harvesting is in full swing, WI branches across Canada are meeting either virtually or in person, the children are back in school and summer weather has changed to the unpredictable temperatures of fall.

According to Wikipedia, "Hurricane Fiona was a powerful and long-lived tropical cyclone which caused widespread damage over portions of the Caribbean and Eastern Canada. It is regarded as the worst natural disaster in recorded history to affect Canada in 19



years.” I wish the people of the maritime provinces a speedy recovery from the effects left behind of this devastating hurricane.

On September 19, 2022 I represented FWIC/WI Canada at the National Commemorative Ceremony in honour of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. Queen Elizabeth was the patron of the Federated Women’s Institutes of Canada and a sister

in WI. Our deepest sympathies are extended to the Royal Family and members of the Sandringham WI Branch in the UK.

October will see the leaves change colour and preparations for the fall and winter seasons will begin. Fall Fairs and craft shows will highlight the talents of the WI members and herald in the holiday season. Wishing you all good health, stay safe.

I leave you with this quote from Her Majesty The Queen, Halifax, Nova Scotia, June 28, 2010 –

*“Canadians have, by their own endeavours, built a country and society which is widely admired across the world. I am fortunate to have been witness to many of the developments and accomplishments of modern Canada. As Queen of Canada for nearly six decades, my pride in this country remains undimmed.”*

God Bless the Queen and God Save the King.



## Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead Report Submitted by Amanda Weber, Museum Manager

Our lovely flowers and lush gardens have now given way to the rich, vibrant colours which loom above us. The 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of September, the Homestead held activities at the museum for the **St. George Apple Fest**. It was spectacular to have an event at the museum again and we look forward to continuing this trend into the fall and winter. We have a few events to announce that are coming up as the end of the year approaches.

If you are a lover of spooky stories and want to learn more about what goes “bump in the night”, look no further! Our **Haunted Willows** event features the stories which only get told once a year. Running on Saturday, October 22nd and Saturday, October 29th from 3pm-8pm, travel through the Homestead learning all the stories that will make the hair on



your body stand straight. Tours run every hour, are approximately 50 minutes in length and include a maximum of 10 people per time slot.

If Hallowe'en isn't up your alley, we also have events planned for the holiday season that you can mark on your calendars. Join us on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 11am-4pm for our holiday open house

**Ho Ho Holidays.** This event features tours of the fully decorated Homestead with treats to enjoy in the back after your visit! We also

have **Whisking Memories**, an opportunity to teach baking from one generation to the next. Round up grandparents, parents and children to create a take-home Victorian dessert and tour the Homestead learning about Christmas traditions while the treats cook away in the oven. This event runs on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> from 10am-4pm. Slots begin every two hours, and your visit should be about 90 minutes in length. There is a maximum of 8 people per time slot. Tickets for all these events will be found on Eventbrite and linked on our website as we get closer to the dates. If you would like to help us out by volunteering for any of these events, please let us know. A little help goes a long way!

Come join us for our

# Ho Ho Holiday Open House

Experience the sights, sounds and tastes of a Victorian Christmas

---

Event Info

Sat. Dec. 10th, 2022  
11am - 4pm  
Tickets purchased at the door

---

Homestead Address

Adelaide Hunter Hoodless  
Homestead  
359 Blue Lake Rd., St. George, ON  
519-448-3873  
[www.adelaidehoodless.ca](http://www.adelaidehoodless.ca)





STORIES & HAPPENINGS FROM THE

# HAUNTED WILLOWS

50 min. guided Hallowe'en tours of the home

Oct 22 & 29, 3-8 PM | Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead

Prebook tickets on Eventbrite or on our website

359 Blue Lake Rd.

St. George, ON

N0E 1N0

519-448-3873

[www.adelaidehoodless.ca](http://www.adelaidehoodless.ca)



# Whisking Memories: Holiday Baking

Create Victorian treats  
and tour the decorated  
Homestead

Dec. 4 & Dec. 18 10am-4pm  
90 minutes of baking and learning  
Tickets must be prebooked on Eventbrite or  
our website

Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead  
359 Blue Lake Rd., St. George, ON  
519-448-3873  
[www.adelaidehoodless.ca](http://www.adelaidehoodless.ca)



The PEIWI Board of Directors is pleased to expand on details for WI's popular fall workshops and holiday events.

PEIWI is once again bringing fall workshops to members across Prince Edward Island. This year's schedule and themes include Invasive Species Identification, Farmers Helping Farmers, and Rock Painting (October 25<sup>th</sup>, Summerside); Updates on WI in the UK (online), and Rock Painting (October 26<sup>th</sup>, Vernon River); and Invasive Species Identification, Indigenous Affairs, Farmers Helping Farmers, Rock Painting (October 27<sup>th</sup>, North Milton). The deadline to register is October 14.

PEIWI is pleased to collaborate with the Canadian Red Cross to bring COVID testing kits to branches and communities. WI branches can apply for rapid tests and masks through the Red Cross. To validate requests please contact the WI office for the PEIWI registry information. "Help keep your organization and your community safer through the Stop the Spread and Stay Safe! program." *Members of the public are encouraged to contact their local WI branch for participation.*

The Board has organized their annual Festive Country Christmas Gala Dinner and Yuletide Auction for hospitals. Baked holiday goods and festive decorations will highlight the event. Proceeds this year will go towards the Western Hospital and Community Hospital O'Leary.

This event is planned for Friday, November 25 at the Delta Hotel by Marriott Prince Edward in Charlottetown. Tickets are now on sale for \$100 with a portion of the proceeds eligible for a tax receipt. Tickets can be obtained by emailing [wi@gov.pe.ca](mailto:wi@gov.pe.ca) or by calling 902-368-4860. E-transfers accepted.

The Board of Directors reminds students there are several scholarships offered throughout the year including a \$1,000 scholarship for studies in agriculture. Another opportunity is for the Dr. Helen Herring Scholarship for students entering their third year of university. Deadline is September 30 and details on these scholarships are available online at [www.peiwi.ca](http://www.peiwi.ca).

At the onset of the fall season, the PEIWI Board of Directors wishes to remind all to slow down in school districts, farming equipment areas, and stop for school buses with flashing lights.



## 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.*



My apologies because Ellen's Corner is going to be empty this time. Post tropical storm Fiona left me without power for a week, and only to-day do I have Internet again. I was ready to send off my musings Saturday morning the 24<sup>th</sup>, but the storm had hit with vengeance that night. Our buildings were not damaged, the silos are still standing, and my old house lost a few shingles. But almost all the trees around the house are gone or so severely damaged they will have to be cut down. One of my sons still doesn't have power. However, we are all fine, and didn't suffer the devastating damage that has occurred. We have so much to be thankful for. It was the worst storm that I can remember. But I do apologize for my silence. Regards, Ellen

.....

## WI Membership Rally

Last fall, WI started a round table discussion about membership. An issue that affects every province, we went forward with other projects, but kept remembering the conversations regarding membership. Then at the AGM in July of 2022 our guest speaker, Gail Cuthbert Brandt provided the history of WI in Canada. At that time we formed a small committee to come up with some ideas that Branches across Canada could use. We also defined a central cause and vision that we could all work at together.

The presentation and initial details will be presented on Wednesday evening via Zoom. Each member and Branch across the country is invited. It is free and via Zoom. The presentation will be recorded and available via You Tube. There will be take home sheets and a follow up workshop on social media on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (also via Zoom and open to everyone).

We look forward to seeing you all at the Rally!



Login: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84346693105?pwd=T0UzMDBTU1ZnbDluNmU1T2ZxUXQydz09>

Meeting ID: 843 4669 3105

Passcode: 115380

Dial by your location

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

+1 780 666 0144 Canada

+1 204 272 7920 Canada

# WI Membership Rally

**Why  
WI?**

***Because WI Cares!***

Everyone is invited

We are having a membership rally to launch our new project for WI 2022-2024. Please plan to attend this fun time and invite anyone from your Branch to attend also. There will be some skits and presentations during this hour long Zoom call.

It is absolutely free to participate and all you have to do is log in to the link provided. The Rally starts at 7 pm Eastern time. It is being put on by WI members from across Canada, and the program will be for every Branch in the country.

The date: Wednesday October 12th, 2022

The time: 7 pm Eastern Time

Location: Zoom - please see attached address





## Alberta WI

Argyle WI members Karin McCracken and Julia Feltham pose with the newly planted trees, a Spruce , Mountain Ash, Lilac, Pine and Apple. Planted as part of FWIC 125th and Muriel's park



## SAVE THE DATE

FWIC has tentatively set the following dates for upcoming events.

**Remembrance Event – November 10, 2022**, Guest speaker to be Sargeant Edith Scott.

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

**Empowering Women and Youth International Women's Day – March 8, 2023**

**Energy- April 19, 2023**



Wellington-Halton 125<sup>th</sup> Celebrations submitted by Annemarie MacDonald



Former and current members of the Wellington-Halton District Women's Institute were invited to An Old-Fashioned Tea on June 18th to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the world's first Women's Institute.

Over punch, dainty sandwiches, tea, and special cupcakes, a happy hum of many voices was heard in Aboyne Hall at Wellington County Museum and Archives.

Senator Rob Black, Michael Chong (MP), and Ted Arnott (MPP) were present to extend their congratulations on this momentous occasion.

So many ladies later remarked how wonderful it was to have had this opportunity to meet with each other again.

As each guest left, they were presented with a commemorative book, which included a short history on the founding of the first institute, a listing of all the branches in Halton and Wellington counties over



the years, and descriptions of the current branches. A special time spent with special women celebrating a very special occasion - WI 125! [photo taken by Sharon Richardson]

.....

### *ChateauguayHuntingdon WIs*, submitted by Judy Page Jones

On September 11<sup>th</sup> the ChateauguayHuntingdon WIs, of Quebec, gathered to honor and celebrate 125 years of Women's Institutes in Canada. The gathering was hosted by Ormstown mayor Christine McAleer and the ladies of the St. James Anglican Church. Earlier in the summer County President, Linda Janes, approached the mayor to ask her if the WIs could plant a tree. The mayor loved the idea. Together they organized the event.

Everything was perfect! The sun was warm, the mayor and the church set out a lovely luncheon and everyone enjoyed each other's company. The mayor wore a Quebec Tartan sash and spoke of the long list of WI accomplishments and thanked us for the work we do in our communities.

Linda Janes, spoke of the difference WIs have made in her county. It was in ChateauguayHuntingdon County in 1955 that the resolution was initiated leading to laws regulating the pasteurization of milk. At that time the rules were a mishmash of town regulations and individual dairy rules.

Indeed, WIs have a made a difference throughout the whole of Canada. ChateauguayHuntingdon presented a resolution requesting the federal government pass laws regulating the labeling of food products sold in Canada. After acceptance by all the Canadian Women's Institutes this resolution was presented to the federal government by the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.

Reverend Michael Robson said a prayer over the proceedings reminding us of our roots by including the words of our own Mary Stewart collect.

The highlight of the day was the beautiful red oak tree that the town planted to mark this special anniversary. Brunet Monument donated a stone and Claire IsaBelle, area MNA, donated the money to have it engraved.

The land under the tree is very special. It belongs to the church. The congregation is hoping to realize plans of a meditation park at the location. The WI Oak is the first new tree planted. Oak trees represent longevity, strength, life and growth. The symbolism reaches back through WI history and forward to the park the oak will one day sit in.

Congratulatory greetings from MNA Claire IsaBelle and MP Claude DeBellefeuille were presented. Today was truly a day when all levels of government gave tribute to all that Canadian Women's Institutes has done for Home and Country.

(PC)

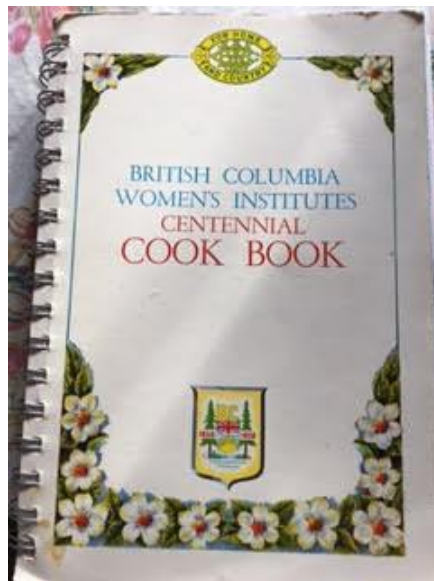




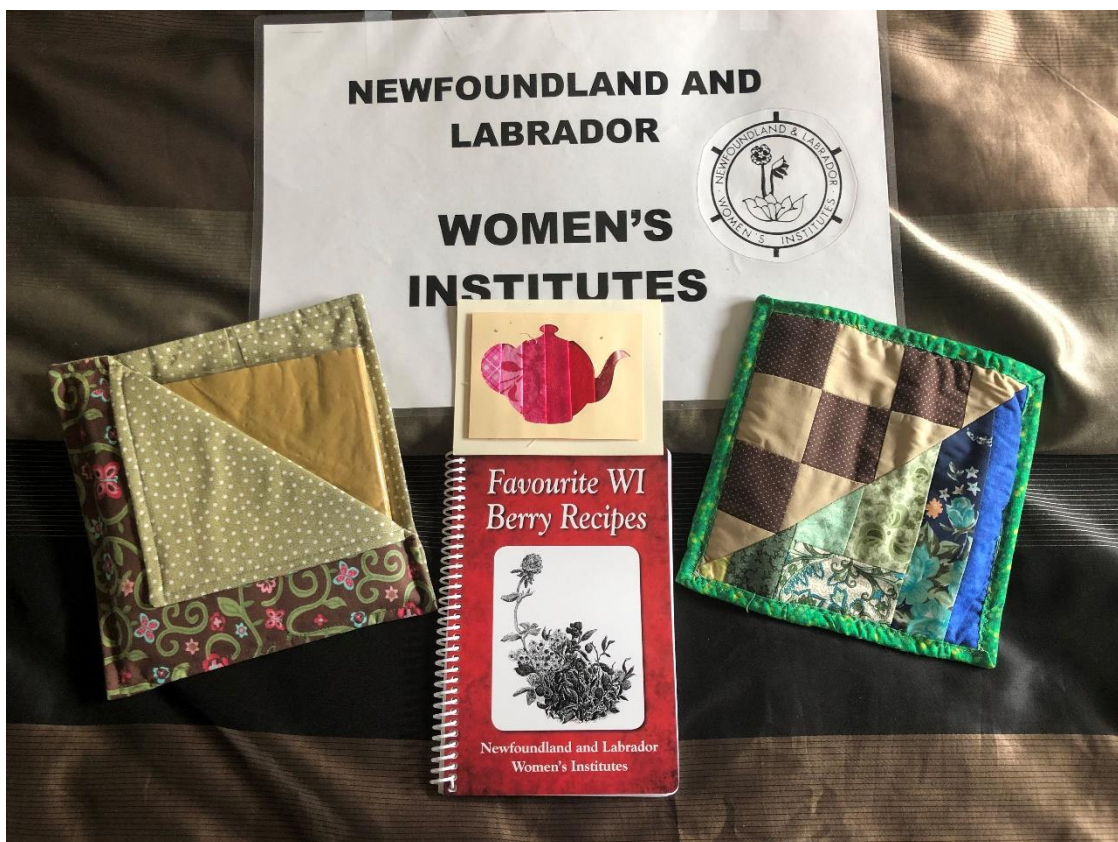
## FWIC WI Canada On-Line Auction

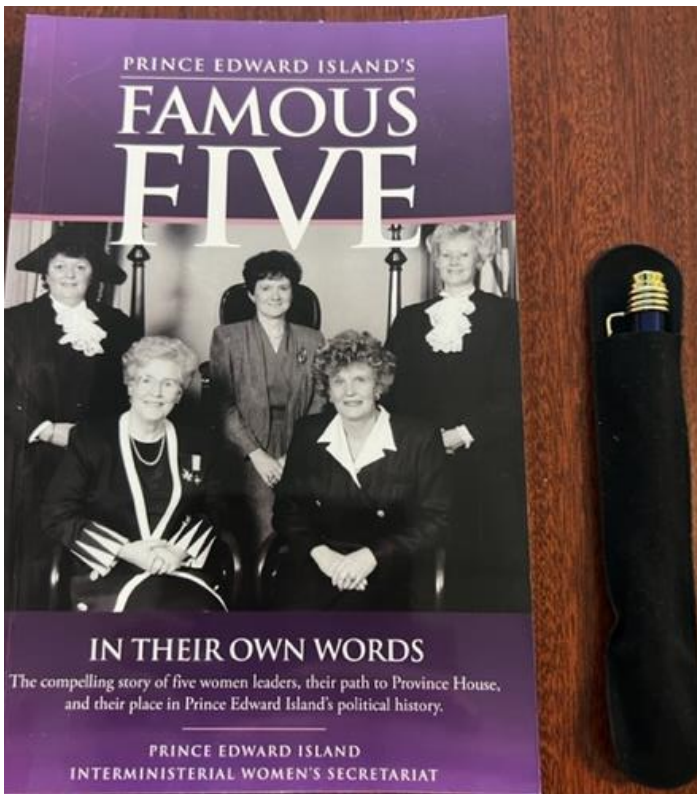


FWIC WI Canada will begin an on-line auction in late October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Each province is donating three or more items to be auctioned. The auction closes Nov 1, 2022.



This is a fundraiser for FWIC WI Canada. Special links will be published soon. We have had some challenges due to the storm Fiona, but we will keep on going. The E-Book on Coping with Covid 19 will also be available during the auction.





## Cross Canada Book Club

7 pm Eastern Time -October 27th - Flown into the Arms of Angels - Mac Moss

There will be an interesting discussion about how the Gander WI participated in welcoming planes and passengers on Sept 11, 2001. We noted that the author's wife, Nellie Moss is also a member of the Gander WI.

[fwicacrosscanadabookclub@fwic.ca](mailto:fwicacrosscanadabookclub@fwic.ca) I look forward to hearing from you – Elizabeth Young.

WI Canada FWIC

359 Blue Lake Road, P.O. Box 209

St. George, ON, NOE 1N0 [info@fwic.ca](mailto:info@fwic.ca) 519.448.3873

Margaret Byl, President

Denise Joss, MB

Lynn MacLean, President Elect

Judy Page Jones QC

Colleen Hooper, BC

Angela Scott, NB

Linda Mason, AB Executive

Doreen Wall, PEI

Eleanor Lilley, NS

Elizabeth Moss, NL

Linda Zelem, ON



Rest in Peace Queen Elizabeth II

