



NEWS & NOTES

May 2021

Monthly Email Newsletter from our President - Diane Dammann

WI 101



It has been suggested that we have some information on Women's Institutes.

When I first joined back in 1983, Senator Martha Belish gave a session at the Provincial Convention in Olds and as a new member it really impressed me.

The structure is founded on the local branches which are combined into Districts. There are 5 districts in Alberta. District 1 is north in the Grande Prairie area. District 2 stretches across the province just below that and includes branches along the Highways 16 and 14 corridor. District 3 runs from Camrose area to Red Deer area and border to border. District 4 is Calgary and south. District 5 pops up between Red Deer and Calgary. Each District has a District Director (District 2 is not represented at present) who is elected for a 3 year term. These Directors along with the President, President-elect and the representative to the FWIC form the Provincial Council of Alberta Women's Institutes.

Some Districts have Constituencies which are made up of a few branches. With lower membership many of the constituencies have ceased.

The Provinces are part of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC) and we are all a part of the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) which is a part of the United Nations.

So you see together we can be heard.

STAYING CONNECTED

Your Provincial Council meets about every 6 weeks virtually.

We would like our members to be involved or informed about one of the ACWW's projects to have container or community gardens as a means of economical food sustainability. There are several YouTube videos about container gardening some recommended on the FWIC website.

There is so much information on the internet and we are still an educational institute so I will be encouraging each of you to learn how to use the internet.

Libraries have excellent internet connections for free and library managers can help. Hopefully all will soon be open again.



UK PENPALS

There is a request from WI members in the UK for pen pals in Canada. These ladies will do regular mail or email. Let me know if you would like to have a pen pal. I certainly enjoy my pen pals.

POOL RATE?

On the annual dues report there is a charge of \$25 called pool rate. This is not for our swimming pool.

This money is collected and divided for mileage expenses for branches having to travel long distances to get to Convention. We will have a convention again!!!!



SCHOLARSHIPS

We had an email telling us about a grant for a scholarship for a returning student. The Scholarship Coordinator at Alberta Women's Science Network (AWSN), a non-profit organization, whose mandate is to connect, unite and support and promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). There are 10 scholarships available to 3rd year students and re-engagers who have had a 2 year gap. <https://www.awsn.org/awsn-scholarship>



FINAL THOUGHTS

We would like to have a virtual visit with any and all members on Monday June 21 at 7 pm. This will be on Google Meets so you have to register(RSVP) TO awipresident20@gmail.com. There is no charge.

Invite a friend to come to the virtual visit. Invite a friend to join WI. If we just grow by one, one at a time we will thrive. There is no such thing as staying the same. There is always movement ahead or behind, up or down. Let us make WI grow. Thanks.

May 5 was a day to wear red in solidarity with Murdered and Missing Women. May 15 is International Day of Families, May 20 is World Bee Day, May 29 is International Day of UN Peacekeepers. Happy Mother's Day for May 9th.