



NEWS & NOTES

September
2021

Monthly Email Newsletter from our President - Diane Dammann

2021 PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

Ready. Set. Ready. Set. Set. Ready. Set. Go. That has been the way for the last 2 years. We have the Convention planned and all set to go. There has to be a minimum of 50 in person registrations in order for it to work. The first registration in was Fern Killeen.

We are apologize that the deadline for Early Bird registrations is so soon after the information was out and then the handicraft notification was so very short but with all of the COVID restrictions and uncertainty it was the best we could do. All of the information had to go out on the internet and we realize that many Branches will not be meeting in this time frame.

Linda Toews has planned a wonderful, fun convention for us and I do hope that we can see many of you face to face (even if we have to wear masks). There will be much of the convention that you can join in virtually but you have to register for that so it can be set up. Deadline for virtual registration is also Sunday, Sept. 5. The pre convention and post convention tours are open to all as are the workshops, Registration is required.

The Handicraft display will be open for the public to view on Tuesday and I hope that they will put in a donation in recognition of all of your fine work.

We have 2 speakers on Tuesday afternoon. Sharon Anderson will be speaking about Family Caregivers; The Backbone of the Health Care System and Society. Sylvia Wold, a motivational speaker will be speaking on New Beginnings. Sylvia has a great sense of humor. The public may attend to hear these two great speakers for \$25 at the door or \$20 in advance. See pg 2 for details.

When you are donating items for the on line silent auction please send a picture to the office and the name of the Branch and the location of the item by noon Friday, Sept 17. This will give Bernadette time to get our auction going a week before convention. The on line silent auction will end on Sept 28.

There will also be a silent auction at the Convention as we have done before.

One of the new and fun things is the Closet Fashion. Virtual attendees can send in photos for this. The classes are Dressy Clothing, Night Apparel, Outdoor Clothing and Footwear. It is people's choice judging with proceeds going to ACWW/FWIC travel fund.

If you have lost Branch members due to death please send a picture and write up in so she can be honoured at the Memorial Table and put into Home and Country.

All of the cash raffle tickets are out so I do hope they are being sold.

I am so looking forward to seeing you and you and you too at the convention in Camrose Sept 28-29.

Diane Dammann

President, Alberta Women's Institutes.



SPEAKERS

We have some exciting speakers for the Convention.

Dr. Sharon Anderson will be talking about Family Caregivers: The Backbone of the Healthcare System and Society. A caregiver herself, Sharon has Masters degrees in Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies, and Public Health, and a PhD in Human Ecology Aging Studies. She has been conducting the survey we recently forwarded to AWI members on caregivers in Alberta and how COVID has affected them, and may have some early results to share with us.

Sylvia Wold is a motivational speaker and will be speaking on "New Beginnings." She has 30 years in public service including 20 as Administrative Manager of Seniors Supportive Housing in Castor. She is also a partner in 5 Directions Consulting, developing programs for Baby Boomer Women who want to be surprised and inspired to participate in prevention focused health decisions.

Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Government of Alberta. A fifth-generation local farm owner and Albertan, he was appointed as Alberta's Minister of Agriculture and Forestry on April 30, 2019. He has a wealth of previous experience in Ottawa where he was a policy advisor to Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz from 2008 to 2015. He has brought a number of new initiatives to Agriculture and Forestry taking over this portfolio.

FASHION & WORKSHOPS

Closet Fashion

Dig in your closet to see what is your oldest clothing and let us all enjoy it with you! This is one fun event in which virtual attendees can also participate by sending us pics ahead of time. Get digging in those closets today!

Workshops

We have two great workshops for you this time around. And we've staged them so you can enjoy BOTH workshops if you wish!

Card-making with Hilda Tomaszewski will give you 10 great handmade cards to take home with you. Come early and enjoy this great workshop using all kinds of techniques. Cost \$20 advance registration.

Creative Writing with Linda Toews. Last year, we almost brought the house down with the laughter coming from this workshop. Plan to be part of the fun this time around. Cost \$10 advance registration.



TOURS: PRE & POST CONVENTION

For the first time, we have pre and post-convention tours for yours and your family's enjoyment. , Each tour is 3 hours long and costs only \$20.00 per person, advance registration. Family members are welcome to attend also.

Come early and enjoy our pre-convention Camrose Highlights Tour. Stay after Convention's end on Wednesday and enjoy our post-convention Shopping Plus Tour.

Pre-Convention Tour #1 – “Camrose Highlights” departing Monday, September 28, at 3:00pm

Hop on the Rose City Bus to visit the Bailey Theatre, the Camrose Heritage Train Museum for tea, and Augustana Campus. If there are more people than fit on the bus, a second tour will be added at noon.

Post-Convention Tour #2 – “Shopping Plus Tour” departing Wednesday, September 29, at 1:30 pm.

The Rose City Bus will be stopping at the quilt shop, shoe store, and dress shop, plus any other 1 or 2 places attendees would like to go. Final destinations up to attendees.

SILENT AUCTIONS & MORE



Remember to bring or send your silent auction items. Branches and individuals are asked to please provide at least one item for the Silent Auction table with a minimum value of \$10.00. There will be an in-person and an online silent auction.

Anyone can bid on the online auction; only those present at the Convention will be able to bid on the in-person auction. If you wish to provide an item for the online auction, please provide to Bernadette a picture, description, name of donor, branch, location and value of item so she can put it on our website and Facebook. Deadline to submit online silent auction items is noon, Friday, September 17th. Bidding for online silent auction items will start the week before the Convention. The on line silent auction will end on Sept 28. Email your online silent auction items to awioffice@abwi.ca, please put "Online Silent Auction items" in the subject line.

Value Village Fundraiser

Remember to bring your clothing (soft) or hard items (household items such as DVDs, etc.) donations for our Value Village fundraiser. These can be in bags or boxes of 18lbs or more. Linda Mason will be collecting these donations to take to Value Village at convention. If you are attending virtually and would like to donate to Value Village - contact Linda Mason directly for details on where to drop your donation. ph: 403-224-2273