



NEWS & NOTES

March
2024

Monthly newsletter from President Linda Toews

Well we did get some of the much-needed moisture at the beginning of March. Where I live we had over a foot by the time it finished snowing! And we still have quite a bit of it that hasn't melted, although I see in other areas that it's all gone. Not only that but the Little Red Deer River which is close to us has overflowed its banks and is filling up the ditch with water. It does this every year, and sometimes the flooding is bad enough that the road is closed – but it's usually much later in the year when the snow melts in the mountains and fills the rivers. And now there is more snow on the way. Let's hope it helps somewhat with the drought and early fire season that is being predicted. And speaking of fires, I understand there is something in the neighbourhood of 63 burning now, some of which held over from last year. It is to be hoped that we do not have as bad a year as we did last year!

Our branches and districts are gearing up for activities. It's great to hear about all the wonderful things all of you are doing, and the district meetings where everyone in the district can get together. I will try to make as many as I can but sadly cannot get to them all. I appreciate all the invites and hope that I can make next year the ones I cannot get to this year.

AWI News

Convention Planning

Thank you so much to everyone for getting your responses in to our Convention questionnaire as quickly as you did. That enabled us to make a decision for the Convention dates based on those responses.

A third of respondents attended the 2023 Convention while 2/3 did not. All percentages reported here are a percentage of the total number who answered, as some questions allowed more than one option to be selected and some people selected multiple options which was okay as we needed to know all the dates that would work so we could select the dates that worked for the most people. For 38% of those who did not attend it was because they could not attend on weekdays due to work or other commitments; for 32% it was the cost. Some people checked both. 70% preferred to attend Convention in person rather than virtually, but 33% said they would appreciate a virtual option. When it came to days of the week, 54% said any days were good for them; some also picked a preference. 32% of people preferred the current days of Tuesday and Wednesday, and Thursday in an election year. 41% of people preferred the weekend. Those who preferred the weekend weren't all in agreement as to which days

of the weekend were best, however Friday & Saturday were selected by 61% of those who preferred weekends. Handicrafts were very well liked: 44% of respondents reported that they entered handicrafts while a further 44% of respondents really enjoyed looking at the handicrafts.

As a result of the responses, the Convention Committee recommended to Council, and Council agreed, that we select June 7&8 for this year's Convention.

The whole point of this exercise was to select dates for our Convention that work for more members and therefore enable more to participate, so I hope that we will get a good turnout of those people who have been unable to attend in the past, as well as those who usually come to Convention. The Convention registration package will be coming out shortly.. Be sure to register soon to get the Early Bird Rate which is good till May 1st. The deadline to send in your branch list of Handicrafts is May 15.

As always, feel free to contact me at any time at lindat4awi@gmail.com or 403-224-2881.

Upcoming Events

- March 23** District 3 Conference, Round Hill Community Centre, 10am
- April 27** Stony Plain/Lac St. Anne Constituency Conference, Family Connection Center, Stony Plain, Contact: Paula Martin paula124@shaw.ca, 780-962-2574
- June 7&8** AWI Convention, Norsemen Inn, Camrose

Upcoming Deadlines	
March 31	Creative Writing Resolutions
April 30	Early Bird Registration for FWIC Convention
May 1	Early Bird Registration for AWI Convention
May 15	Handicraft List to be in

FWIC News

FWIC Triennial Convention, Sept 17, 18 & 19, 2024 in Truro, Nova Scotia

The theme is "Sailing into the future with a recipe for success!" Mark your calendars if you think you might like to attend. Early bird registration is \$375 and is now open until April 30. From May 1 to July 15, registration will be \$425. Rooms at the Inn on Price begin at \$164 plus 15% tax. There is an optional tour on the 20th. For more information, visit <https://www.fwic.ca/triennial-meeting>.



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