



# NEWS & NOTES

Monthly newsletter from President Linda Toews

June-July  
2024

We are certainly experiencing unusual weather conditions this year. Although it seems we avoided the terrible fire season that started so early last year, we are not out of the woods yet. The unprecedented heat wave we are currently going through is breaking records all over Alberta. And now, once again, we have the familiar catch in the throat and difficulty breathing of wildfires. Driving north of Red Deer and through Edmonton the other day on the way to a Memorial, we experienced the haze and smoke once more. Edmonton and east was the worst and I hear it is even greater further north and further west near Rocky Mountain House and Water Valley where many of the fires seem to be burning, not to mention the smoke coming into Alberta from the BC fires. And most recently, the fires that swept into Jasper and destroyed homes and buildings in the west part of the town. Thank goodness we have had no loss of life to date. I hope that our firefighters can keep the spread and damage to a minimum and that no lives are lost.

I hope everyone has a good summer and is spared from the fires and other issues with which we are plagued this year.

As always, feel free to contact me at any time at [lindat4awi@gmail.com](mailto:lindat4awi@gmail.com) or 403-224-2881.

## Upcoming Events

**August 30** Deadline for AWI employment opportunity

**Sept 17-19** FWIC Convention, Truro, Nova Scotia

## AWI News

### *Executive Director*

We are sad to say goodbye to our Executive Director, Bernadette Logozar. She has been with us for 4 years and has kept AWI's office running and running well during that time. We thank her for the time she has spent with us and for the great job she has been doing. She has brought new expertise to our social media and other projects she has tackled for AWI. Her last day is July 31, 2024. We are sorry to see her go.

***Thank you, Bernadette!***

## ***We are Hiring!***

Bernadette's departure means that we are looking for a new Executive Director. See below for information on the requirements for this important role in AWI. If you, or someone you know, is interested in this position, please contact me directly.

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### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**



The Alberta Women's Institutes (AWI) is looking for an outgoing, hardworking, community-minded individual to join our team as Executive Director. This person should be a member of AWI, or be familiar with AWI and in agreement with its aims and objectives.

We are looking for someone with excellent communication, interpersonal, office management, and computer skills who will take direction from the AWI Executive and Council. This person should have experience working with volunteers and boards, particularly non-profits, and be a team player. This individual must be willing to attend conventions, workshops, committee and other meetings as required, and take minutes as needed.

The successful candidate will have a good working knowledge of Microsoft Office, particularly Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, and have basic understanding of finances/bookkeeping. Skills in website development and management, as well as social media platforms, Google Meet, G-Suite and Zoom are an important part of the job. We will consider a strong candidate who has excellent abilities in some of these areas who would be willing to learn the other skills.

The successful Executive Director must be willing to supply an office space (some compensation may be available for this), as well as storage for AWI's equipment and materials.

This is a permanent part-time position, currently averaging 10 hours/week, which could work into more hours by mutual agreement. Compensation \$17.00/hour.

Please send resume with cover letter to:

Linda Toews

President, Alberta Women's Institutes

[lindat4awi@gmail.com](mailto:lindat4awi@gmail.com).



**Deadline for applications: August 30, 2024**

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## ***Convention***

The Convention went very well with great speakers and some fun activities. We try every year to keep the Convention cost as low as possible. The best way to keep the

fees down, though, is to sell the raffle tickets. The raffle subsidizes the cost of the Convention, and the amount charged to attendees is less than the actual cost of the Convention. I know that selling raffle tickets is not the easiest thing to do for many people; it's not my favourite activity either, but I sell them wherever I can as it helps to keep the costs down. The more raffle tickets we can sell the lower we can keep the fees in relation to the actual costs. Hopefully this will mean more of you can attend.

There will be more information on the Convention in the next issue of Home & Country.



## 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!" For more information, visit <https://www.fwic.ca/triennial-meeting>.

### **FWIC Contests Open to all WI members**

FWIC has several contests which will be awarded at the FWIC Convention. Any Women's Institutes member can enter any of these contests: limit one entry per person per category. If you have an entry, they can be taken or sent. There are a number of AWI members going so one will likely be able to take and return your entry.

**Handicraft Competition** Project: applique wall hanging in any medium, maximum size 30"x 42" (76.2cm x 106.68cm), by hand or machine, finished and ready to hang. The back must be visible for judging.

**Cultural Competition**: Project: "Your Memories of the Queen" – a short story of when the Queen visited your area. Maximum 6 typed and double-spaced pages in 12 pt. arial font. Pictures may be included.

**History/Heritage Competition** Project: Share a story of a family member or friend that was involved in a war: poem, song or short story. Length 300-1000 words, typed and double-spaced in 12 pt. arial font. Up to 2 pictures may be added.

**Community Competition Project**: Write an essay talking about a branch community project. Length 500-1000 words, typed, double-spaced in 12 pt. arial font. May include pictures.

**Senator Cairine Wilson Competition (2021-2024)** Topic: Empowered Woman – describe an empowered woman or someone who empowered others using an artistic medium. This could be an article in fabric, paint, sculpture, etc. Include a short description of the submission. Mailed entries to be sent by **September 1st** to Lynn MacLean 1365 Heathbell Road, Scotch Hill, NS B0K 1H0. If brought, they must be in by noon on **September 17th** at the Registration Desk at the Hotel.

**Past-President's Competition**. For 2024 it is to contribute any item that can be sold at the Adelaide Hunter Homestead Store. There is no limit to the number of entries which will be judged by viewer's choice during the Convention. Prizes will be awarded in

each of 3 categories: knitted or crocheted clothing for a child under 1 year; quilted table runner, under 40 inches long; set of two Christmas tree ornaments. Entries will be sold in the Store and not returned.

For more information on entering, general rules, scoring, and awards, go to <https://www.fwic.ca/triennial-competitions> Good luck to all who enter.

## ACWW News

### ACWW / UNESCO Podcasts

#### *Episode 1: Launch*

In 2024, why should we continue to argue for gender quality in leadership? Gabriela Ramos (Assistant Director General for Social and Human Sciences at UNESCO), Magdie de Kock (World President of the Associated Country Women of the World) and rosie Agoi (Secretary-General of the Ugandan National Commission for UNESCO) advocate for a change of mindsets and policies. This first episode sets the goals of the podcast, to amplify the voices of women leaders and empower younger generations around the world.

#### *Episode 2: Pathways to Leadership*

In this second episode, we delve deeper into the journeys and insights of our guests to offer actionable takeaways for aspiring women leaders all over the world. **Blanca Jiménez Cisneros** (Ambassador of Mexico to France), **Tugrug Uugan-Erdene** (Director of Sain Tus Development Bridge NGO, Mongolia) Her daughter, **Khongorzul Batsukh**, and **Judith Juma** (Advocate of the High Court of Kenya and Co-Founder of the Social Justice League, Kenya).

#### *Episode 3: Women Thought Leaders*

Guided by the Philosophy and Management of Social Transformation programmes of UNESCO, this new episode gives the floor to inspiring women thought leaders. **Nastassja Pugliese, Kathryn Sophia Belle and Divya Dwivedi**, to discuss how concepts of gender and leadership shape each other and how traditional understandings of leadership have overlooked and dismissed women's potential.

#### *Episode 4 Women for Social Change,*

Meet powerful leaders Desirée Cormier Smith, US Special Representative for Racial Equity and Justice; Bushra Ahmed, Board member of the Lloyds Bank Foundation and CSW68 Delegate; and Agnes Siteya, Director at Beats for Beads and Maasai Community leader, and ACWW member.

To hear these podcasts, go to <https://acww.org.uk/podcast>

