

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 15, 2009  
TO: Branch Presidents and Members  
FROM: Joy Trimble, FWIO President  
Re: The Erland Lee (Museum) Home

Dear Members:

Before I begin to explain the maintenance and repairs required at the Erland Lee (Museum) Home I have included some history for the benefit of Members who are not familiar with the Home.

### *Some history of the Lee Home*

FWIO purchased the home in June of 1972 from the Lee family for the sum of \$40,000. In the original purchase agreement there is a clause that states the home can only be used for the purpose it was set out for. It may only be sold or transferred to a recognized Society or authority for the sole purpose of the preservation of the property as a "Historical Site". The original part of the home was a log cabin that is 201 years old now.

### *Mandate*

The Erland Lee Home exists in memory of Erland and Janet Lee, who, along with Adelaide Hunter Hoodless, co-founded the first Women's Institute Branch in Saltfleet Township, Ontario, in 1897.

As a National Historic Site of Canada, the Erland Lee Museum promotes awareness of the establishment and history of the Women's Institutes service organization by interpreting the history of the organization, from its grass roots in Stoney Creek, Ontario to its rapid growth throughout Canada and across the world. The Erland Lee Museum emphasizes both the role in founding of the Women's Institutes by Erland and Janet Lee and the 170-year influence of the Lee family on the development of the Stoney Creek region from rural township to city suburb.

### *Objectives*

The Erland Lee Museum will continue to preserve the history of the founding of Women's Institutes and of Stoney Creek and seek to be a driving force of community identity by pursuing research information pertaining to the heritage of the Lee family, their connections to the surrounding area, and the continuing story of the Women's Institutes. Exhibitions will present this research to the general public. The museum will complement these programs by reaching out to the local community through the use of