



Tweedsmuir Report

~ By Tweedsmuir Coordinator, Irene Robillard

A draft of the Tweedsmuir Manual is now on the website for your review and use. Please take time to look at it. Feedback is much appreciated. For a printed version, it is probably better to wait until it is finalized. You can print portions from the website.

There is a correction to the privacy guidelines. I had noted that biographies should remain private until **20 years** from date of death. It should be **30 years** from date of death. This correction is in the Tweedsmuir Manual.

Noted in the Manual's foreword are suggestions for new topics for your Tweedsmuir Collection. Here are samples. If you have other suggestions, please contact me.

1. Afghanistan War – With the end of the war in 2011, list the men and women involved from your community. How was the community affected? How did you support them?
2. War of 1812 – How did your community celebrate this 200th anniversary?
3. 100 mile diet – How is your community supporting this initiative?
4. Internet – Add information on the arrival of high speed internet connections.
5. Utilities – Provide dates when you received municipal water and sewers.
6. Solar or Wind Turbine Farms – Add information on any solar panel or wind turbine farms created.
7. Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017 – Review century farms to see which ones are still within the same family and what has happened to the others.

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Advocacy Update

~ By Advocacy Coordinator,
Glenna Smith



Greetings fellow Members,

What is the first word that comes to mind when you hear the words **ADVOCACY** or **RESEARCH**?

Is it "work"?

I would challenge each Branch to look beyond the work and see the issues and concerns that should be addressed locally and further afield. Research can be very rewarding and very educational.

Do you have an Advocacy Coordinator in your Branch and do you give her and all Members an opportunity to bring topics of concern that could result in a resolution or letters to the appropriate person or government?

Our Women's Institute has not survived, well over 100 years, by Members, "sitting on their hands", and saying, "oh well, they won't listen anyway", or "let Jane do it". Women took a stand and they spoke out. Just think of all the resolutions that have been sustained and put into action as a result of WI's.

We will attract new Members if they can see we stand for change that is needed and stand against change that is not good. How is your Branch doing?

On a positive note, some of you have been studying the issues such as wind turbines and quarries. Good for you! A couple of Branches have written resolutions on very good topics, but have not done the research. I do hope they tackle these topics again.

Remember, keep your request, whether it be a letter or a resolution, **SHORT, PRECISE, ACCURATE**, and make sure it is **SIGNED** with a contact address or phone number. Back-up material is a must.

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