

Women Inspiring Women WI

First Meeting of New Brant County Branch Attracts Nearly 100 Women

The new Brant County Women's Institute held an Information Open House at the Arlington Hotel on Thursday, February 12, 2015. The event more than met the expectations of the organizers, Kate Belair and Maggie Wilson. It was a bitterly cold night with threats of snow squalls. At first, they had their doubts. Who would want to be out on a night like that?

As it turned out, 96 women were eager to learn more about the WI! Doors opened at 7pm and the women were already lined up.

The excitement carried over the next day on the group's Facebook page. Women immediately RSVP'd for the March 12th meeting. The new WI group held a fashion accessories fundraiser for a local women's charity on March 28th at Lansdowne Children's Centre in Brantford. The event was open to the public and was family friendly.

The inaugural meeting took place on April 9th when it was announced that the Branch's official name would be the



Photos by Sara Naim

Women Inspiring Women WI – this being decided by an earlier vote. The WIW WI become a part of Brant District and Hamilton Area.

The Branch meets on the second Thursday of each month. They are active on social media and would love for you to visit their Facebook group, www.facebook.com/groups/NewBrantWI or follow them on Twitter @brant_wi.

Congratulations, ladies and welcome to WI!

Prince Edward District WI Donates \$25,000 to Community Groups

On December 15, 2014, the Prince Edward District WI (Trent Valley Area) donated a total of \$25,000 to various organizations in Prince Edward County. This money was raised through the District's annual Art & Craft Sale, which takes place on the Thursday leading into the Civic Holiday weekend.

Prince Edward District consistently donates to local organizations, its mandate being that they want to help those groups that deal with health, women's issues and children. Just recently, the District donated to Quinte Access Transportation, Reaching for Rainbows and the ROC, a registered charity that builds relationships, provides opportunities and creates connections through programs that support personal and social development for youth, ages 6-18, in Prince Edward County.

The District also donated to the three local Santa Claus Parades, decorated a tree for the Festival of Trees and each year sponsors a \$1,000 scholarship to a young person living in the county who has been accepted to an

institution of higher education. This year the District had 8 applications. Many more donations are made as needs are brought to their attention. The bulk of the monies raised comes from the District's annual Art & Craft Sale.

The District's 32nd annual Art & Craft Sale will take place JULY 30, 2015 in Picton, Ontario.

Pictured Below: Just in time for Christmas, Prince Edward District WI Members gathered to present their donation of \$25,000 to numerous community groups.

