



A Message from FWIO Executive Officer to FWIC, Christine Reaburn

As year's end approaches, I look forward with great interest to receiving your entries for the Senator Cairine Wilson Competition and the three Tweedsmuir Competitions for Handicraft, Cultural and History. So far, I have one entry in the Senator Cairine Wilson Competition. Entries are to reach me by December 31, 2011 or can be brought to me at the FWIO Annual Meeting in Barrie, January 5-6, 2012, by yourself or an attending Member.

Following the Provincial judging, the winning Tweedsmuir entries will be sent to British Columbia for National judging. The Senator Cairine Wilson winning entry will stay with me for National judging. All other provincial entries will be returned to their owners after judging. The Provincial winners will be returned following the National Convention.

I also look forward to receiving your "Walk Across Canada" steps at year's end. The Canadian Member who accumulates the most steps will receive a paid registration to the National Convention. If you have held a "Women's Heart Health" program and you have pictures, reports, press clippings etc., please send them to me for inclusion in a power point presentation at the Convention.

The 19th FWIC Convention is being held June 12-16, 2012 in the Mary Winspeare Centre, Sidney, BC. Full registration information will be available online at www.fwic.ca along with pre and post conference tours.

Further information on any of the above can be obtained from your Regional Board Director, Area Voting Delegate, the FWIC and FWIO websites and myself.

Christine Reaburn can be reached by mail at 720 Lookout Road, RR 1, Westmeath, ON, K0J 2L0, by email at christinereaburn@hotmail.com or by phone/fax at 613-582-3569.

ACWW Agriculture Committee Information

The committee has met three times, once in person and twice by email. Under discussion has been the Resolution, "Stop Use of Plastic Bags and Reduce use of Packaging", proposed by the European Area Conference and the Recommendation, "Tree Planting Project", proposed by the Canadian Area Conference. Both were sustained at the 2010 Triennial Conference in Hot Springs, Arkansas and action on both of these is being developed.

Both the importance of water and country of origin labeling are a link between the committee members who come from South Africa, Australia, Scotland, Bulgaria and Canada.

In ACWW's statement issued for International Day of Rural Women on October 15, 2011, it is noted that women produce half of the world's food but own only 1% of its farmland and that two-thirds of the illiterate adults in the developing world are women. The article further states that women lack access to public and

social infrastructure; education; health care; credit and respect for achievement.

We are being challenged to join in "Women Walk the World" on April 29, 2012. Everyone will start walking at the same time in different time zones which will result in members walking at all times during a 24 hour period. The walk is to raise ACWW's profile and funds.

The next ACWW Triennial Conference will be held in Chennai, India September 26 –October 2, 2013. FWIO and partner, Collette Vacations, are working on a group tour to attend the conference and tour India.

The next ACWW Canada Area Conference will be hosted by Alberta Women's Institute in 2014. For continuing information on ACWW activities, please check their website www.acww.org.uk.

Christine Reaburn has sat on the ACWW Agriculture Committee since 2010.