

Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario

Provincial Board Highlights

November 2004

Financial Statements

Chartered Accountant Linda Bailey from the firm of Robinson, Lott & Brohman in Guelph presented a draft of FWIO's audited Financial Statements to the Provincial Board. For the first year in several years there was no deficit. After the presentation of the final Statements at the Annual Meeting, copies will be forwarded to each Branch, District and Area either by email or mail. Watch for these in the new year. Additional copies of the Financial Statement are available from the Provincial Office for \$5 to cover the cost.

Annual Reviews

The Provincial Board reviewed and updated all the Provincial Roles & Responsibilities, as well as the Provincial Policies. The updates are distributed to the Provincial Officers at the Annual Meeting. Provincial Officers include the President, President-Elect, Regional Board Directors, Coordinators, International Officer, Area Voting Delegates and the FWIO Executive Officer to the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC). All Provincial Officers are eligible to vote.

FWIO Handbook

The Provincial Board reviewed a draft of the FWIO Handbook submitted by the Handbook Committee. The printed inserts are expected to be ready prior to District Annuals. Each Branch, District, Area and Provincial Officer will be mailed a revised insert. Additional copies can be purchased through the Provincial Office. Each member is encouraged to buy an insert to take to the District Annuals and/or Area Conventions.

Resolutions Sustained

Refer to page 5 in this issue for the FWIO Resolutions sustained at the November Board Meeting.

ACWW Resolutions

Nine resolutions were reworked from the resolutions and recommendations passed at the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) Conference in Hobart, Tasmania, in March 2004. Refer to pages 6 and 7 of the Fall 2004 issue of the *Home & Country* newsletter for these resolutions and their accompanying notes. The FWIO Provincial Board sustained all nine resolutions at the November Board Meeting. One additional ACWW resolution will be forthcoming after re-wording and Board approval.

ROSE Program

ROSE Program Manager Julie Wheeler (Annett) advised the Provincial Board that the evaluation of the ROSE Program by the University of Guelph's Department of Rural Planning & Development is in progress. The University hopes to support the ROSE Program with the evaluation.

Branches that have not yet received their ROSE package, which included a *Planning Guide*, should contact Julie Wheeler and she will arrange to have one sent. For updates about the ROSE Program, watch for another issue of *The ROSE Garden* newsletter, which will be coming with your Winter 2005 issue of the *Home & Country*.

Area Voting Delegates

This year the Provincial Board will be extending a warm welcome to the Area Voting Delegates attending the Annual Meeting held in January 2005 at the Kempenfeldt Conference Centre in Barrie. All Delegates are advised to contact the Provincial Office if they have not yet received a *Concise Procedures for Meetings* by King and Kerr from the past Provincial Advisory Councillor.

Communication

All Branch, District or Area suggestions or questions should be forwarded to or discussed with your Area Voting Delegate or your Regional Board Director. For items to be included on a Board agenda they must be in the Provincial Office 30 days prior to the meeting date. This allows time to mail any backup material to the Provincial Board for their review and consideration. Watch for your contact information in an upcoming Branch mailing.

Woman of Excellence in Agriculture

Although there was a call for nominees for the Woman of Excellence in Agriculture Award this past year, none were received. For the first time since it was initiated, this prestigious award was not granted. FWIO invites you to recognize a deserving woman who has tirelessly contributed to "excellence in agriculture" at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. Please seek out a deserving woman to nominate for this year's award. Currently, the winner attends the President's Luncheon at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair where they are presented with the Award. Contact the Provincial Office for additional information.

FWIC Project

Next year's FWIC project is to adopt a northern community. The title of the project is "FWIC - Into the North." More information will be forthcoming once a specific community is selected.

Focus High for WI Project

FWIO Bookkeeper Mary Poodry reported the summary of the Focus High for WI Projects:

Year 1 - FWIO Headquarters Operating	\$31,384.77
Year 2 - Adelaide Hoodless Home Upkeep Fund	\$20,893.76
Year 3 - ACWW Special Projects	\$13,947.64
Year 4 - Erland Lee (Museum) Home Operating Fund	\$17,736.19

The Focus High for WI Projects are completed and closed. Any additional monies received for the last year will be allocated to the Lee Operating Fund but will not be part of the total project dollars.

FWIO President Attends the Erland Lee Annual Meeting

After a three-day November Board Meeting, FWIO President Elsie Stephenson was scheduled to attend the Annual Meeting at the Erland Lee (Museum) Home. Items on the agenda included upcoming events for 2005, appointing a new committee and the budget for 2006. Read more about the upcoming Lee events in the President's column and on the last page of this issue.

Erland Lee Award of Appreciation

The Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC) annually presents the Erland Lee Award of Appreciation to a man who most exemplifies those qualities of Erland Lee. Ontario is entitled to two nominations per year due to the size of its membership. Nominations can come from the Branch, District/County, Area or province. For guidelines regarding this Award refer to page 9 of the Spring/Summer 2004 issue. Remember, the deadline is March 1 of each year. For more information about this Award, contact the FWIO Provincial Office at 519-836-3078 or email fwio@fwio.on.ca

Provincial Office News

As you know, a Membership Recruitment Challenge was once again issued for 2004-2005. The Branch who gains the most new members in the period up to March 31, 2005, will win one paid registration to the FWIO Provincial Conference, plus \$50 in FWIO Bucks. The second place Branch will win \$100 in FWIO Bucks and the third place will win \$75 worth of FWIO Bucks. To date, the Washago WI (Simcoe East, Simcoe Area) is in the number one position with seven new members. The Second Line of Drummond (Lanark South, Eastern Area) is in second place with four. And Norland WI, Leonard WI, Kawartha Woodlands WI, Purple Valley WI, Navan WI and Woolwich Everfaithful WI are tied for third place with three each. Congratulations to all members. Keep up the good work!