



Castleton WI Members Are Busy Cataloguing

Last fall, the Township of Cramache Public Library Board received a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for the purchase of an automated circulation and cataloguing system, including an internet package for the Colborne Branch Library. With a

generous grant from the Corporation of the Township of Cramache, a system was also purchased for the Castleton Branch Library. Three Castleton Women's Institute members have volunteered to catalogue items – Margaret McMichael and Joyce Murray

for the Colborne Library and Shirley McComb for the Castleton Library.

Submitted by Suzanne La Berge, Tweedsmuir Coordinator and Treasurer, Castleton WI, Northumberland East, Trent Valley Area.

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Note: Within the Women's Institute, we have a great opportunity to build mutual understanding, tolerance and respect in our own communities. "Us and them" will not vanish in one generation, but seeds of understanding can be sown. Let us invite our new citizens to be part of our societies. We can gain from their cultural and human qualities and they could receive similar benefits from us.

- That FWIO urge the Federal Government, through its UN Representative and the Foreign Affairs Ministry, to encourage the international community to pay more attention to the destruction of productive agricultural land throughout developing countries of the world and to take steps to reverse this trend.

Note: The world's land is turning to desert at an alarming rate. By 2025, two-thirds of arable land in Africa will

disappear, along with one-third of Asia's and one-fifth of South America's, leaving millions of people seeking greener pastures in other countries. Slash and burn agriculture, sloppy conservation, overtaxed water supplies and soaring populations are mostly to blame.

- That FWIO urge the Federal Government to support the use of biotechnology in agricultural production where it has proven benefits to consumers, the environment and food producers, and to encourage the acceptance of biotechnology where its ethical, social, economic and ecological implications have been fully debated.

Note: From a United Nations report of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) - Biotechnology offers a potential solution for many problems affecting crops and livestock production in developing countries. Agricultural problems are multidisciplinary in their nature and biotechnology in isolation is unlikely to solve them.

- The Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), a body set up jointly by FAO and the World Health Organization's (WHO) Food Standards Program, is considering the development of a general standard, which would apply basic food safety and food control disciplines to foods derived through biotechnology. All concerns must be clearly balanced, respecting ethical aspects but reflecting the actual and potential possibilities of increasing food supplies and alleviating hunger.

Refer to the Board Briefings on page 4 of this issue for the resolutions passed at the FWIO August Board Meeting.

Ruth Kennedy is the FWIO Advocacy Coordinator. She can be reached at
647 Thomas Dolan Parkway
RR 1, Dunrobin ON K0A 1T0
Ph: 613-832-1044
Fax: 613-832-0661
Email: culzean1@yahoo.com

