

Board Briefings

March 18 – 20, 2002

The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO) Board met at the Provincial Office for a three-day March meeting. As always, the agenda was full. The following are some of the items covered at this Board Meeting:

FWIO Strategic Plan, 2002-2004

Input for the FWIO Strategic Plan was requested from the grassroots members of the organization in the form of a Membership Survey, which was mailed to all Branches with the Winter 2001-2002 edition of the *Home & Country* newsletter. As well, the Survey was posted on the FWIO website. Board was thrilled to learn that a total of 357 members and/or Branches responded by the deadline of February 28, 2002. They extend a sincere thank you to all who took the time to respond. In addition, five key agencies affiliated with the organization were interviewed to obtain information regarding external perceptions of the FWIO.

Marketing & Resource Development Director Kelly Marshall-Rutherford, Membership Coordinator Cindy Lockhart and Glenna Ladell representing Education Coordinator Joan King joined the Board of Directors for the presentation of the draft Strategic Plan.

Board reviewed and finalized the wording of the Strategic Objectives and Strategies, detailing a time frame in the Implementation Plan in which to accomplish them. The Marketing & Resource Development Director will use this critical document for funding purposes. Board approved the draft of the revised Strategic Plan for 2002-2004, part of which was a revised Vision and Mission Statement as outlined here.

Vision Statement

The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario will be the premier organization responding to the diverse and unique needs of rural and urban Ontario women, their families and their communities. Our vision features the delivery of innovative and dynamic self-supporting educational programs and services, the development of proactive lobbying and advocacy practices, and the continual provision of personal growth opportunities. Communication methods reflect-

ing both contemporary and interactive technology and upgraded news magazines will inform, educate and challenge members at all levels of the organization.

Mission Statement

The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario is a not-for-profit charitable organization with affiliates around the world working with and for rural and urban women and their families. Through the network of Branches, we offer high quality education and support programs and services, advocate for social and economic change, and work towards the personal growth and empowerment of all women.

Friends of the Erland Lee Museum

Board approved a new program entitled Friends of the Erland Lee Museum. The intent of the program is to stimulate interest among the general public in this important heritage site. The annual cost of the various membership categories in the Friends of the Erland Lee Museum program, include:

Student/Senior - \$10

Adults - \$15

Family (of 4) - \$30

Friends of the Museum will enjoy the following privileges:

- free, unlimited regular admission to the Museum
- early bird notices of and discounts to special events at the Lee Home
- a biannual newsletter about the Museum's history and activities
- pay no taxes on Erland Lee Home souvenirs in the Gift Shop.

Special Donations to the Lee Museum

Special donations to the Lee Museum are also accepted. The categories for Special Donations are as follows:

Bronze Level Donation – between \$500-\$999

Silver Level Donation – between \$1,000-\$4,999

Gold Level Donation – \$5,000 or more

Bronze and Silver Level Sponsors are recognized with a walnut maple leaf, approximately 8 inches in diameter, with an engraved black and metallic plate bearing their name. The leaf is mounted on the south wall of the Carriage House Picture Gallery. Gold Level sponsors are recognized with a larger walnut wood plaque, approximately 8 by 12 inches, with an engraved black and gold metallic plate bearing their name, which becomes part of the Friends of the Museum board denoting those benefactors who have made an exceptional donation.

Situation in Zimbabwe

The FWIO Board advises Provincial Advisory Councillors (PAC) to encourage all their

Branches to contact their Members of Parliament re: the situation in Zimbabwe. questions, in person and in writing, about what is currently being done and what can be done in the future to help ease the situation. Let your MP know today how concerned you are with this horrendous situation.

Nominating Committee for PAC Elections

As a result of feedback on the Annual Meeting Evaluation Forms, the Provincial Board has decided to appoint a Nominating Committee to help organize and coordinate the process of electing Provincial Advisory Councillors (PAC) to various committees. Eastern Regional Board Directors Evelyn Peck and Norine Empey will work with Past President Christine Reaburn to help streamline this election process.

Other Items Covered:

Ask your Provincial Advisory Councillor (PAC) or Board Director for more information on the following items covered:

- "Focus High for WI" Project
- FWIO Website Development
- Video of Peace Bridge Plaque
- Membership Coordinator's Request
- FWIC Competition Deadlines
- Unity Essay Competition
- WI Plaque Dedications
- Motions

Area Convention Dates

Northwestern - Sept 16-17

Cochrane-Temiskaming -
Sept. 25

North Central - Sept. 27

Northern - Oct. 5

Eastern - Oct. 7

Kingston - Oct. 15

Trent Valley - Oct. 16

Central - Oct. 18-19

Simcoe - Oct. 21

Grey Bruce - Oct. 22

Guelph - Oct. 23-24

Hamilton - Oct. 28

London - Oct. 29

Southwestern - Oct. 30