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1. To provide educational material which cultivates more knowledgeable and responsible citizens and promotes good family life skills, leadership development and community action.
2. To provide a "communications link" among all members of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario and other related organizations.

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January 4, 1999

Dear Editor:

I would like to say a few words in praise of the WI and how in this modern age it is truly global. I have been a member of the WI for 11 years, belonging to a Branch in the UK called Ardeley WI. When I accepted an expat assignment to come and work in Canada for Nortel, I was determined to continue my WI membership.

Prior to leaving the UK, the President of Ardeley WI gave me the phone number of the Secretary of the Eastern Area. On arrival in Ottawa, I contacted Peggy McLeod who sent me a really helpful letter providing names and addresses of WIs that were in the Carleton West District.

After studying a local map, I found that South March WI was the nearest Branch to where I live in the centre of Ottawa. I rang the President Shirley Yakabuski and we had an interesting chat. She gave me the time of and directions to the next South March Branch meeting. On my arrival I was greeted with such warmth and enthusiasm I was truly touched. It was all the nicer as, at that particular time, I was going through a period of homesickness missing friends and family. The South March welcome was a great comfort to me.

Needless to say, I became a member and have learned so much about Canadian culture through this wonderful group. I have found it interesting to observe how similar and how different our groups are in so many ways.

I have shared some of the activity and program items we have in the UK and I shall certainly be taking back many ideas when I return in two years time. In the meantime, I will enjoy the friendships and the warmth of this small sample of the Canadian WI.

Yours Sincerely,

Rita Beasley,
Ottawa

November 24, 1998

Dear Janine,

During the week of October 17 to 24 I was on a visit with WI friends staying in Toronto. On Wednesday the 21st, 38 WI ladies visited Stoney Creek. It was the highlight of our week! Would you pass on my thanks to the Curator, also the two delightful ladies who served us in the souvenir shop. On my way out I picked up a copy of the *Home & Country*, the fall edition, which I've enjoyed reading.

My husband and I enjoyed our holiday in your beautiful, interesting country. "Best Wishes" from myself and fellow members of my Institute.

Joyce Willis,
Lexden Colchester,
Essex, UK

Paving the Way!

The Erland Lee (Museum) Home has a new driveway. It was installed at the conclusion of the Dewitt and Ridge Road intersection repairs. This was done at no cost to the Museum as part of a compensation package for damage done to the original gravel driveway by heavy construction vehicles while the road works were proceeding.

"It was a wonderful surprise, because City Hall previously indicated all they were prepared to do financially to repair the driveway was to put down new gravel," said Michael Gemmell, Curator of the Lee. "I returned from a four-day out-of-town trip to find our driveway paved. It was definitely a welcome early Christmas present."

After the official road-opening ceremony, the Erland Lee hosted a small reception in the Drive House for municipal and Hamilton-Wentworth regional politicians and the construction contractors.

Submitted by Michael Gemmell, Curator, Erland Lee (Museum) Home.

Onalighter

note...

Some people insist on going through life pulling doors marked "push."

