

From the

Hills of Northumberland



As I am writing this message, we are having our first major winter storm of the season in Eastern Ontario. The freezing rain has arrived along with the howling winds. I realize that in many parts of our province this is old news.

The Provincial Board held their November meeting in Guelph and it does not seem possible my two years as Provincial President is coming to an end. It has been an exciting experience and an opportunity to learn so much. I have traveled many miles, met many new friends, and I believe I became a more educated and dedicated Women's Institute Member.

The Area Conventions that I attended this fall were a rewarding experience -from Fort Francis in the Northwest to Cornwall in the East (plus all the many communities in between). It was inspiring to learn about the exciting activities and I thoroughly enjoyed the speakers, workshops, and entertainment.

As I spoke at the Conventions, I mentioned our Provincial Board Members and the tremendous dedication they possess. These volunteer positions are invaluable to our organization and these women consistently and diligently strive to keep our organization strong and vibrant. I would like to thank these women for their input and help throughout my term and ask that all Members continue to support their efforts in the coming years.

Congratulations and welcome to our newest Branch – Nouveau WI. It is wonderful to see a group of energetic, career women who realize the value of Women's Institute. Kicking off their Branch with a ROSE Event called "An Evening of Women's Leadership" was a great way to let people know that WI is alive...and thriving in Guelph! We wish you all the success in the future. If you know anyone who is interested in starting their own Branch, an information kit outlining all the details will be available shortly.

Change is inevitable and it is very hard for some to accept – but it is imperative to have continued growth of any organization. It is time for our organization to move forward and try new ideas. I am sure the women before us had many of the same growth problems and challenges that we do today however, they did not give up on their organization or we would not be here 110 years later.

I wish to thank all the wonderful WI Members who supported me during my time as FWIO President and encouraged me to do and be better. It is an experience I will never forget and wish you all the best in your upcoming endeavours in WI.

Yours in WI,
Rosemary

Welcome Joy!

A new year brings many things including a new FWIO President. We are pleased to introduce Joy Trimble, from The Maples WI in Dufferin-Peel District who will hold the office of FWIO President for the next two years. Be sure to keep a look out for Joy at various WI meetings and activities across the province, as well as in her newsletter column.

