

Lord and Lady Tweedsmuir

Lord Tweedsmuir was Governor-General of Canada from 1935 to 1940. His wife, Lady Tweedsmuir, had been a devoted Institute member in England and took a great interest in the Women's Institutes of Canada.

In 1936, in an address to a Women's Institute meeting, she stressed the need for preserving the interesting history of our Canadian people, the places, customs and activities of our developing land. Her proposition to preserve local history was forwarded to the Provincial Board of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario. In 1940, it was proposed that branches begin "Village History Books" - later called "Tweedsmuir Histories" - to preserve the history of the community where the branch was located and the surrounding area.

In 1947 Lady Tweedsmuir donated three silver cups as prizes at the Triennial Conventions - one for Tweedsmuir histories, one for a Cultural project and one for a Handicraft. These contests are still a part of every Federated Women's Institutes of Canada Triennial Competition.

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