See also

CURRENT FOCUS

SAFE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

In 1994, The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario decided to focus on work towards safe and healthy communities. It also become a member of the Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition (OHCC), whose mission is similar to that of FWIO - to achieve social, economic, environmental and physical well-being for individuals and communities throughout the province.

Currently, FWIO has partnered with the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Canada to promote "Knowledge is the Best Medicine" and the Osteoporosis Society of Canada to deliver "Changes: Choices and Challenges"- an awareness program about menopause and Osteoporosis. The fight against violence has been ongoing with recent resolutions concerning violence on television, changes in the Young Offenders Act and clear labelling of violent, abusive or pornographic materials. FWIO is on the advisory board of the Community Abuse Program of Rural Ontario (CAPRO) which is looking for rural solutions to societal problems. Individual communities are being encouraged to take a look at their neighbourhoods, develop plans and to make the changes required so that everyone can feel safe, happy and proud.

See also the

page.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

RESOLUTIONS

FWIO believes in taking action. If individuals have concerns, they can draw up resolutions which are discussed at Branch, District, Area and Provincial levels. These resolutions have resulted in many changes in our laws.

Some examples of changes initiated by WI resolutions that have made a difference in the lives of all citizens include:

- mandatory stopping for school buses with flashing lights;
- signs at railroad crossings;
- o painting of white lines on provincial highways;
- o use of easily understood labels on food products;
- enforcement of the proper use of slow-moving vehicle signs;
- o inclusion of music and family studies in the school curriculum;
- o installation of three-point rear seat belts.

EDUCATION

The FWIO has actively worked to educate its members and provide educational opportunities for others in the community. Leadership training and life skills workshops are available at both the provincial and local level.

The School of Family and Consumer Studies at the University of Guelph owes its origins to Adelaide