

“Ordinary to Extraordinary” Book Launch Takes Place at Provincial Conference

By Irene Robillard, Canada 150 Chair

Your Canada 150 book was officially launched on June 20th, the first night of the Provincial Conference. The room was at capacity and 50 authors helped celebrate by being part of a Canada Day Parade skit. Everyone enjoyed finding authors to get them to sign their book. It was a great success. Thanks to those who attended, those who helped that evening, and to the book committee for their dedication and work behind the scenes.

Although this project was not intended to be a fundraiser, it has become one. The advance orders covered all expenses for the book creation and printing. Therefore, all profits from further sales will go to the WI. Please continue to sell the book at fairs and other events and to friends and neighbours. The price is now \$25 + \$1.25 tax.

Besides books at the Provincial Office, there are some Members across the province with books available. This will save you on mailing costs. Contact the Provincial Office or your Board Director, if interested. Online purchases are now open. E-books should be available by the autumn.

Thank you for your support and enthusiasm over the last few years. Thanks to those who sent their story – 350 in all. I wish all could have been included.



Pictured: Irene Robillard cuts a special cake in honour of the book launch.

A Message from the ACWW World President



Hello to all WI Members from Ontario. It was wonderful to meet some of you at the conferences in Pembroke in June and if these

women are examples of you all, then you have a wonderful organization. It was great to be able to talk with you whilst we were waiting in queues for meals, walking back to our rooms or whenever there was a chance to “talk”.

The conferences were very well organized and I congratulate the various ladies who were part of the committees, especially Christine Reaburn, Barbara Weese, Debbie Bauer and my chauffeur and home hostess,

Margaret Byl. With Members from across the country, it was encouraging to witness the support for the work of the Associated Country Women of the World and I thank you for your enthusiasm.

Congratulations to Sheila Needham for overseeing the ACWW Canada Area Conference and for the work she does in Canada. Sheila brings a breath of fresh air to our Board meetings in London.

Thank you also to SOS who are avid supporters and who do a great job in spreading the news of ACWW.

I have also just completed reading the wonderful book that was launched at the Provincial Conference, “*Ordinary to Extraordinary*”. I read a few stories each

night before going to sleep and found the stories very inspiring and certainly opened my eyes to the lives of migrant women in Canada in the 1900’s.

Another interesting part of my trip was being able to visit both the Erland Lee Museum and the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead. To be able to see the beginnings of the WI in Canada was awe inspiring and to be able to sit and read the first minutes of the WI was a “moment in time” I will not forget easily.

Thank you for making me feel so welcome and I hope that sometime in the future I might have the opportunity to return to Canada.

Best wishes to you all,
Ruth Shanks