

## Digitizing Underway!

*By Digitizing Coordinator, Irene Robillard*

We received funding to continue digitizing! Library and Archives Canada, through their Documentary Heritage Communities Program, is providing \$100,000 per year for three years to help us digitize more Tweedsmuir collections and other record books and add them to our Virtual Archives. This is about 85,000 pages per year. While the original documents will remain locally, WI Members and researchers everywhere will be able to access these historical documents.

The books being digitized will be picked up by the digitizing company in selected pickup centres. Books in need of repair will be taken to a company to provide new covers or repair pages. The documents will be added to our Virtual Archives and a digitized copy will be returned with the books.

The strategy is to drive along a loop each year to a different part of the province. The northeast is the target for this year, with pickups along the way. In 2018, the target will be the southwest. If you are interested in having your books digitized, please contact Alyssa Gomori ([digital@fwio.on.ca](mailto:digital@fwio.on.ca)), and we will add your name to the list.

Are your Tweedsmuir or record books already digitized but not on the internet? If so, please send a copy to Alyssa at the Provincial Office address. Most, if not all, can be put in the Virtual Archives without needing to be digitized again.

Are you prepared for digitizing?

- 1) Do you know the location of your Tweedsmuir and record books?
- 2) Is the Branch name on each book?
- 3) Does each minute book or Tweedsmuir have a volume number or date?
- 4) Can more names and dates be added to photographs?
- 5) Do you know which books are in need of repair?
- 6) Do you want to get a head start on privacy reviews? If so, contact Alyssa.

*Irene Robillard can be reached by email ([irener@renfrew.net](mailto:irener@renfrew.net)) or phone (613-432-6987).*

## WI 120 – Project Documenting our Halls, Monuments and Community Involvement Continues

*By Digitizing Coordinator, Irene Robillard*

An overview of the contributions was given at the Provincial Conference in June. There were 65 contributions at that time. Congratulations to Reid's Corners WI (Bruce County District) for being the top Branch, having submitted 4 items. The top District is Renfrew South (Eastern Area) with 14 items contributed.

Besides the expected halls, benches and plaques, there was a wide variety of others items, including gardens, trees, cairns remembering pioneers and their communities, support to hospitals and community health and road safety improvements. They really reflect our community involvement – women involved!

Please continue to contribute. As part of the digitizing funding, we have a target of 200 additions each year. We will also be creating a permanent virtual exhibit this year in celebration of the 120th Anniversary of the WI movement.

There are many items still to document – our museums and many more plaques and special spots. Are you doing something special in your community to celebrate either our 120th Anniversary or Canada's 150th? If so, take a photo and submit it. For example, Glasgow WI (Renfrew South District, Eastern Area) erected a Peace Pole at a local park (see photo).

To view what has been submitted, go to [collections.fwio.on.ca](http://collections.fwio.on.ca) and use 'Advanced Search' on the left hand side, scroll down and choose 'Was Contributed?' near the bottom of the search criteria. Or click on "What's New" on the left hand side of the page and this will show most. To contribute, click on "Share Your Story" on the left hand side of the page and follow the instructions. If you need help, contact Alyssa at the Provincial Office ([digital@fwio.on.ca](mailto:digital@fwio.on.ca)).

Let's capture our community involvement for the world to see!

