

# Women's Institute

## *Celebrates 120 years*

On February 19, 2017, FWIC President, Linda Hoy, joined FWIO President, Margaret Byl, at the Erland Lee (Museum) Home in Stoney Creek, Ontario for "Tea at the Lee" and a special presentation to celebrate the 120th Anniversary of the Women's Institute.

Attendees included Paul Miller, MPP; Fred Eisenberger, Mayor of Hamilton; Brenda Johnson, Hamilton City Councillor; Wendy Hamilton, FWIC Executive Director; Alyssa Gomori, Erland Lee Museum Curator and many other honourable dignitaries, Provincial Officers, staff, volunteers and friends.

Margaret Byl declared February 19th as WI Day and asked that our Members of Parliament, both at the Provincial and Federal levels, help support us in this endeavour.

After the initial presentation, dignitaries were invited to attend a re-lighting of the chandelier in the dining room of the Erland Lee (Museum) Home, where it all began in 1897. The ceremony was recorded on Facebook Live so that the guests and WI Members throughout the world would be able to see it. The honoured guests were asked to sign the guest book which was positioned on the original dining room table, next to the First Constitution & Minute Book of the Women's Institute.

Guests then retired to the Carriage House for cake and refreshments. Special thanks to our FWIO Staff, Volunteers and our Sisters in WI for the wonderful work that they continue to do to promote the living history, ideals and work of the Women's Institute movement, For Home and Country.

Special remembrance of Charlotte Johnson was given, who passed away January 8, 2017. Charlotte served as President of FWIO from 1983 - 1986 and President of FWIC from 1994 - 1997.

By Margaret Byl,  
FWIO President



*Pictured: Paul Miller, MPP for Hamilton East-Stoney Creek presents a certificate to FWIO President, Margaret Byl, in recognition of the WI's 120th Anniversary.*

## **FWIO President Attends New Year's Day Levee at Queen's Park**

FWIO President, Margaret Byl, celebrated 2017 by representing the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario at the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario's New Year's Levee.

The New Year's Levee took place on Sunday, January 1, 2017 in the Lieutenant Governor's Suite at Queen's Park in Toronto.

This annual event provides a unique opportunity for the public to meet Her Majesty's representative in Ontario, learn about the Lieutenant Governor's role and responsibilities, and enjoy local entertainment.

*Pictured: FWIO President, Margaret Byl, with The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell.*

