

The Tweedsmuir Involvement and the Purpose of the Tweedsmuir Histories

During Lord Tweedsmuir's term as Governor-General of Canada, Lady Tweedsmuir, who was a Women's Institute member in England, took a great interest in the Women's Institutes of Canada.

At a meeting of Athen's Women's Institute, now of Leeds East District, Lady Tweedsmuir stressed the need for preserving the interesting history of our Canadian people, the places, customs and activities of our developing land. This was 1936. In 1940, the Provincial Board proposed that Branches begin "Village History Books"

This was the official launching of the "Tweedsmuir Histories" for local communities and it has become one of the most outstanding and valuable projects of the Women's Institute and its contribution to the welfare and development of the community; general community including the geography and topography of the locale, municipal government, farming in all its aspects, homes, education, trade and commerce, and recreation; complete histories of individual farms and families, the churches and their organizations, schools, libraries, industries past and present, war records of the community, as well as many other historical facts. Altogether, the community history is a comprehensive, factual collection of historical data and treasured pictures of a local community.

It is the recognized responsibility of each Women's Institute Branch to record this history, and to prevent our individual identity from being lost.

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