



1129 Queens Avenue, Brandon, MB, Canada R7A 1L9

MWI Annual General Meeting
Friday, April 28, 2023 7:00 PM
Dugald Community Club Dugald, Manitoba
Hybrid Meeting (In person and Virtual)

Registration
Call to Order
Greetings & Housekeeping
Mary Stewart Collect.
President's Report
Adoption of Standing Rules
Adoption of Agenda
Review of the 2023 AGM ballots
Celebration of Life
Open Mic
Invitation for AGM & Women's Day 2024
Closing Remarks
Installation of the 2023/2024 Board
Adjournment
Meet and Greet

MWI Women's Day
Saturday, April 29th, 2023 9:30 AM
Dugald Community Club Dugald, Manitoba
Hybrid Meeting (In person and Virtual)

9:00 am Registration starts
Coffee and muffins
Greetings and Housekeeping
Diversity & Inclusion speaker – Diane Burelle
Women's Heart Health speaker – Ellen Swistun
Rural Safety speaker – Springfield COPPS
Lunch
Scams speaker – Springfield Police
Microgreens – Joel Weber of Fresh Forage Farms
Make & Take activity
Thank You and Farewell

DOMAIN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

75TH ANNIVERSARY

Domain Hall Wednesday May 10th 2023



Catherine Wreford Ledlow - Keynote Speaker

Winner of the 2022 Amazing Race Canada

Tickets: \$15 full day \$10 afternoon speaker
Registration: at 9AM. Lunch @ noon Speaker @ 1
Register by May 3 to Domain WI Box 38 Domain
ROG OMO

Or call: Carol 204-736-2681 cmmp50@hotmail.com
Jane 204-736-4072 ejanewm@icloud.com

Silent Auction

Everyone is welcome

Registration forms for both events were in the February newsletter mailed to all members or contact mbwi@mymts.ca for a copy.

Manitoba Women's Institute

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Eastern: vacant

Northwest: vacant

Southwest: vacant

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Mission Statement

"Manitoba Women's Institute is an organization that focuses on personal development, family agriculture, rural development and community action... locally and globally."

Vision Statement

Manitoba Women's Institute strengthens women, families and communities.



Visit www.acww.org.uk for a new ACWW experience, updated resources, new presentations, more information, easy membership renewals.

Visit the FWIC website
<https://www.fwic.ca/>

President's Report

Greeting everyone,

It has been a busy time for the Board as we organize the Annual General Meeting and the MWI Women's Day. The speakers promise an interesting and education packed day. Since our ballot went out we have had the great fortune of Maria Christina Diores agreeing to become a regional representative to the Board. Maria will be a great addition with her high energy, positive attitude and strong personality.



We also have a change to our MWI family with the resignation of Angela Pickett from our MWI office. Angela decided last year to pursue a career opportunity at which she quickly excelled. Angela loved working with struggling individuals and became a valued resource for the mental health team in the Brandon area. Her dedication to the job recently earned her a new position working with addictions and withdrawal. Therefore, Angela thought she could not longer dedicate herself to MWI, her new employment position plus her young family. Angela's last day will be on May 8th, feel free to send her messages of congratulations and good wishes. She will continue to act as a resource to MWI while our office assistant and bookkeeper learn the job. On behalf of the Board we truly wish Angela all the very best life can provide. We expect to hear great reports on her continued accomplishments throughout the coming years. She will be missed!

Our monthly Zoom presentations will also end in May for the summer months and if members desire they may reappear in the fall. Thank you to all the members who participated in these sessions. The presenters always said they enjoyed the interest, well thought out questions, and respect shown by MWI members who attended the Zoom presentations. If you have a topic you would like to learn about in the fall let us know and we will try find a speaker. Enjoy your summer activities and outside projects!

We also have a couple of new ideas that have been suggested. The ideas are a Pen Pal Club and a Craft Club, both would take place virtually on Zoom. The Pen Pal Club would mean you could see and chat with your pen pal and others on Zoom every 2 to 3 months. The Craft Club would have crafters demonstrate new crafts of interest to members. This club would also be held every 2 to 3 months on Zoom. If you have an interest in either club let the office know so we can set up the club/s over the summer and start them once fall sets in and we begin to be more house bound again. Contact information for the office is included in each newsletter.

Another topic we need your help with is our Made in Manitoba Project 2023. Michele Gorman will be taking over the reins in October and would appreciate any ideas you may have for a fall/winter project. Projects are meant to be of value to all areas of the province, such as the food bank collections of last year and the collection of household items to assist our Ukrainian refugees/immigrant settle into their new homes across the province.

I cannot end this report with out a bit of bragging. The women who wrote about the Challenges they experienced during COVID hit the news big time. The Winnipeg Free Press, March 25th, wrote a full page article on the digital book collection, the CBC radio did an interview with myself, April 3rd about the story collection, followed by Ann Mandziuk

being interviewed by Joan Airey for an article in the AgriPost, the first week of April. The story authors also made news in the Manitoba Legislature when the Honourable Eileen Clarke spoke on the digital book and its value as a resource to women of future generations. Ms. Clarke's kind words can be found in Hansard for April 3rd. If you would like more information please contact the office and we will help you find the article/s you seek.

Lastly, if you would like to attend the ACWW Triennial World Conference from the comfort of your home, you are invited to attend virtually. The information is on the ACWW website or contact the office and we will provide you with the information and registration cost.

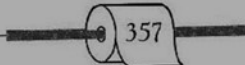
I look forward to seeing many of you at our AGM and MWI Women's Day in Dugald, Manitoba. Many thanks to Eileen Swistun and the Springfield WI members for their ideas, assistance, and true WI spirit in bringing the events to life. Much appreciated!

Don't forget the Domain WI's 75th Anniversary on May 10th. Congratulations, I am sure your dedication to the residents in your area will be sung loudly and proudly for many more years.

Wishing everyone a safe, healthy, and sunny summer! If you have a summer event and would like a Board member or myself to attend let us know and we will try our very best to attend.

Regards,
Debra Barrett

Some light reading courtesy of Uncle John's Bathroom Reader *Weird Canada* by the Bathroom Readers Institute copyright 2013. Lighthearted but informative reading in the dozens of books they have published.



THE LAST LAUGH

*Some unusual epitaphs and tombstone rhymes from Canada,
sent in by our crew of wandering BRI tombstone-ologists.*

<p>Weep not for me, Weep for me never For I'm going to do Nothing for ever & ever (Okotoks, AB)</p> <p>Here lies the body of Jonathan Blake. Stepped on the gas instead of the brake. (Niagra Falls, ON)</p> <p>It's not that I am always right It's just that I am never wrong (Barryvalc, ON)</p> <p>He did his bit. (Moose Jaw, SK)</p> <p>Died February 31, 1860 (Picton, ON)</p> <p>To be continued. (Red Deer, AB)</p> <p>Here lies all that remains of Charlotte. Born a virgin, died a harlot. For 16 years she kept her virginity, a marvelous thing for this vicinity (Welland, ON)</p> <p>This wasn't my idea (Salmon Arm, BC)</p>	<p>I told you I was sick. (Pleasant Home, MB)</p> <p>Here lies Petter D. Brodair In his last and best bedroom (Pictou, NS)</p> <p>She loved, was loved, and died. (Vernon, B.C.)</p> <p>A victim of fast women and slow horses. (Kirkland Lake, ON)</p> <p>Here lies Ezekial Aikle Age 102 The good die young. (East Dalhousie, NS)</p> <p>Here lies the body of Ephraim Wise. Safely tucked between his two wives. One was Tillie and the other Sue. Both were faithful, loyal, and true. By his request in ground that's hilly, his coffin is set tilted toward Tillie. (Niagra Falls, ON)</p> <p>Let 'er rip. —Leslie Nielsen's tombstone</p>
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Happy Spring MWI members,

Spring brings sunshine, mud puddles, and new growth, and sometimes new opportunities .

It brings me great joy that a new opportunity has come my way, but great sadness that I will be leaving MWI.

This was not a decision that I made quickly or easily. Since September, along with working as EA for MWI, I have been working a second job in mental health.



Recently, I received a new position that will be challenging in many ways, bringing me to the decision that the time has come that I must make some changes in my life to obtain the work/life balance myself and my family requires. I also feel that MWI would benefit from a fresh face with new ideas and energy.

I can't even begin to express the gratitude that I have for the Manitoba Women's Institute. I have learned so much in the near 5 years I have been in the role of Executive Administrator. I have learned the value of volunteers. I have learned the dedication of our members. I have learned how resilient an organization can be.

Together we survived a global pandemic, completed our first e-book, became a fixture on social media, and became technology friendly. A new virtual institute was created. That is only a small list of the accomplishments we have achieved. MWI Women's Day, MRWD, the Made in Manitoba project and the list goes on and on.

Our finances are in great order, our office is organized with a paper copy for every digital copy we have of the last 5 years of minutes, resolutions and more. Everything is backed up in case our technology fails.

Policy manuals have been made, a Book of Motions was created for reference, a mail-in vote system was created to include every member, not just those able to attend the AGM. I did not do any of this alone. The Board and committees work so hard to achieve the goals of MWI and to keep things running smoothly and I feel privileged to have been a part of this amazing, inspiring group of women.

I can not express enough love for the board, the current and the past, for all of their support and encouragement. To the two Presidents in my time, Debra and Denise, I could only aspire to be as great as you both one day. Your love for the community and our organization shines bright, and has not gone unnoticed.

I plan to become a member as soon as my role is complete as EA, and I will remain a contact to help transition the new employee into the role as seamlessly as possible.

I want to thank each and every member. Throughout the years, I have had so many meaningful conversations, and have got to know so many of you, through emails, phone calls, and of course our Zoom sessions. One last time: remember to update your phone, email and address and send your photos for our social media! (I did say that a lot, didn't I?)

I will miss the role of EA, but I will hopefully see you around every now and again. Love to you all, stay AMAZING like you all are!

Now, I do not like good-byes, so I will say, as I always do... until next time...

Yours truly,
Angela

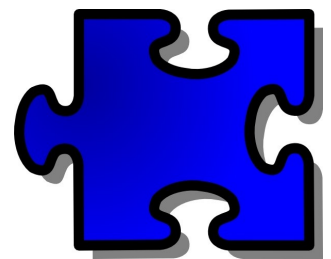
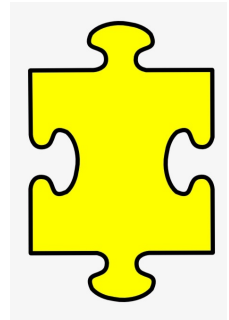
PS: Send a shout out to Ann every now and then for creating the newsletter! She does a fantastic job!

Bits and Pieces

"CHRONICLES OF COVID"

Manitoba Women's Institute shares stories of pandemic's daily impact" Those words and pictures of 2 MWI members shared the front page of the Winnipeg Free Press ARTS LIFE section on March 25, 2023. Journalist AV Kitching spoke with Debra Barrett and other members who had submitted stories for our *MANITOBA WOMEN COPING WITH COVID CHALLENGES* book. What wonderful publicity for MWI!

Debra was also interviewed by CBC Radio for their noon show on Monday April 2. And be sure to read (on page 6) what MLA Eileen Clarke had to say about MWI in the Manitoba Legislature recently. Thank you, Eileen.



Looking for a way to celebrate the Coronation on May 6, 2023. High Tea might fit the bill.

Growing Manitoba Ag
Inform. Influence. Inspire.

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/online-resources/signup-for-growing-manitoba-ag.html>
If you would like this newsletter, please go to the link to receive an email sent directly to your inbox.

Manitoba Women's Institute

Hon. Eileen Clarke (Minister of Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations):

Today, I'd like to pay tribute to a rural women's group that has existed in Manitoba since 1910 and originated in Morris, Manitoba. For more than 100 years, Manitoba's Women's Institute has committed to providing education and skills and development opportunities for women, particularly those in rural areas. They have advocated on behalf of rural families to safeguard the rural way of life and to make their community better places in which to live. MWI members are recognized in their communities and throughout the province as women who make a difference. Manitoba Women's Institute is a member of the Associated Country Women of the World with a membership of 9 million women in 72 countries. ACWW has consultative status in the United Nations, with members serving on such UN bodies as the World Health Organization and food and agricultural organizations, UNESCO and UNICEF. MWI currently has several resolutions before either our federal or provincial governments. A couple of their past—many successful resolutions include establishing safe houses for abused women and children in 1986 and having mandatory flashing lights on school buses. The Women's Institute presents two \$1,000 scholarships annually to rural applicants taking a Manitoba recognized academic or vocational course. More recently, the members of the Women's Institute compiled a collection of stories to ensure the history of Manitoba women coping with COVID-19 and its variants is reflected in written format for generations to come. As future pandemics come and go, it is their belief that many will be wondering how to cope with required lifestyle changes that these illnesses will demand. It is their hope that the written stories will be a source of inspiration, comfort, hope and humour to those who come after us. Thank you to the Manitoba Women's Institute for your commitment to rural women and the families and for including my story about COVID, as a politician, in your publication. We wish you much—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Member's time has expired.

Hansard April 3, 2023 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA 1117

SCHOLARSHIPS

It's time to have 'the scholarship talk' with the young people in your life.

MWI sponsors 2—\$1,000 scholarships. They are administered by the Red River Ex Foundation. The online application is found at <https://www.redriverex.com/scholarships-and-bursaries/>. Be sure to check out the other scholarships/bursaries that are also listed on the website. *Deadline to apply: second Friday in May by 11:59 pm*.

MEET A MEMBER

What a lovely way to spend a beautiful sunny morning! I am just off the phone after interviewing **Colette Buckley of Woodmore Women's Institute.**

Colette, her husband and son moved to Winnipeg in 2020 after purchasing a farm in the Ridgeville area. COVID-19 played havoc with many things and moving to their farm was one of the casualties. In 2021 they were finally able to move to their new home.

Colette's son was going out with a girl from the Gardenton area and Colette was introduced to some of the women in the area whilst helping with perogy making. Several of the women were members of Woodmore WI and they invited Colette to come see what it was all about.

She joined in July of 2022 just in time to take part in their summer trip to Winnipeg to Rainbow Stage. It was an excursion she thoroughly enjoyed.

Through Women's Institute she has met lots of women, made friends and is participating in a very busy social life in the community. Colette is enjoying her new friends, young and older, in the group and is learning from the combined wisdom of the group.

Colette is from Ireland and still has 3 children ranging in age from 22-27 in Ireland. Son John 24 is farming with them in Ridgeville.

A nurse by profession, Colette, has completed what she needs to be able to write her nursing exam and start practising nursing in Manitoba. Good luck, Colette.

She was aware of the Irish Countrywomen's Association (similar to our Women's Institute) but was never a member as she was busy raising her family.

Colette is becoming accustomed to life in rural Manitoba – but still getting used to being 1 hour away from shopping. (I can totally sympathize and we are only 20 minutes to our closest grocery store. The continually updated grocery list is a necessity!) She loves the idea that neighbours will check if she needs anything from town if they are going shopping.

She feels WI brings the community together, has awesome volunteers who do so much for others and have time to be friendly, fun and full of laughter. She gives credit to the WI program for having wonderful volunteers committed to the positions they hold in the organization and the work they do.

Welcome to WI, Colette.

Ann Mandziuk, PHEC



Volunteers are the life blood in our rural communities—how can we celebrate them?

Check out Volunteer Manitoba's website for ideas on how to celebrate.

https://www.volunteermanitoba.ca/blog_details.php?blog_id=40

MEN'S SHEDS

March 28, I received this email note from Gisela. "There was an article about men's sheds in the Country Guide. I saw there is a chapter in Neepawa. Maybe you can get some information from them and put a small article in the newsletter about their doings. It should be interesting since we are advocating for families as well, not just for women. Does not have to be right away!"

This all coincided with 2 Facebook posts I read highlighting the Neepawa and Minnedosa Men's Sheds groups.

There is a mensshedsCanada.ca website which states: *Men's Sheds is based on a simple concept. Improve our members' physical and mental health through activities men will actually join.* When we think of WI, we are doing something similar for the women in the community. What a wonderful idea for retired, newly retired, or any man to become involved with other men in the community. They share skills and camaraderie all while making new friends—sounds very familiar doesn't it!

There are 76 groups across Canada with 5 in the city of Winnipeg and 4 in rural Manitoba in Neepawa, Minnedosa, Dauphin and Beausejour.

I think this is a great idea/topic to share with the men in your life.

Ann Mandziuk, PHEC.



The Neepawa Men's Shed recently made a change table for ArtsForward that will get lots of use during the Mums and Toddlers programming. (top left) And daycare children in Minnedosa have a set of house blocks to use with their 'town' mats. My imagination is going wild thinking of how to use the blocks, so I can only guess how excited the children are going to be playing with them!



On March 21, 2023 **Grosse Isle W.I.** members met for their monthly meeting. Our program was Painting a Clay Pot for Easter. We had lots of paint and motifs to choose from. Three members brought their paints and brushes. All members were present and it was a fun evening.
Gisela Nolting

Members of the **Domain Women's Institute**. They are looking forward to their 75th Anniversary celebration in May.



Happy Birthday to members celebrating in May and June.





Ted Falk, M.P., Provencher-Steinbach, presenting **Sandra Draper** with the Platinum Jubilee medal. Sandra has faithfully served her community of Oakbank in various roles for many years. Whether she was volunteering with the Oakbank Community Club, helping with various hockey clubs or the **Springfield Women's Institute**, her dedication, influence and tireless, selfless approach have made a difference in her community. Sandra continues to give back to her community by volunteering in various local and church activities.

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George, a pharmacist from Emerson, spoke to **Woodmore WI** on what services a Pharmacist can provide and then answered a lot of questions from the audience. It was a very informative session.





On Thursday February 9, **Woodmore WI** hosted a Cheesemaking workshop. This was held at the Roseau Valley School in Dominion City.

There were 36 in attendance at the workshop, which included instruction on cheese, yogurt and cottage cheese making plus a tasting session of different types of cheese was enjoyed by all.



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Associated Country Women of the World

The 67th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women took place from March 6-17, 2023 in New York. The theme was “Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls”.



Representatives from all regions of the world were invited to contribute to the session. Three women from Canadian Women’s Institutes took part. The session also focused on trafficking of women as well as widows. In some countries widows don’t have any rights.

One of the conclusions was that advocacy work is very important and change is slow to come.

ACWW as part of celebrating International Women’s Day hosted an event to emphasise the role of “Rural Women as Agents of Change”, Less Talk and more Action.

Speakers for this event came from Kenya, Mongolia, Canada and New Zealand.

Submitted by Gisela Nolting



Margaret Nerberg passed away January 3, 2023. A long time faithful member of **Silverton WI**, Margaret was the very diligent treasurer for this group for many years, right up until her death.

Margaret lived on the farm for most of her life, and in the past few years she and her husband moved back to the farm site where Margaret was born. She was one of six girls in her family. Margaret was the mother of 3, and was a Grandma and Great Grandma.

Aside from WI, Margaret’s interests included horses, gardening, dancing, travel, quilting and knitting. Margaret’s health had declined in the past few years, preventing her from participating in many activities, but she remained a regular attendee at WI meetings. She will be greatly missed.

costume museum of canada

presents

The 70th Anniversary Historic Fashion Review

Saturday, May 13
Norwood Hotel • 112 Marion Street • 2:00 pm

Tickets \$15
Available at [Eventbrite.ca](https://www.eventbrite.ca) • Search: Costume Museum
www.costumemuseumofcanada.com



Live models

showcasing fashion from
the past 200 years

The Costume Museum had its beginnings in 1953 in Dugald. It was the idea of the local Dugald WI. Looking for something to use as entertainment at an event, the WI members gathered older clothing and put together a Fashion Review that grew into the Dugald Costume Museum. The group formed their own committee separate from WI as the enterprise expanded in size and scope. The collection is now housed in Winnipeg. Replicas of the original garments are used in shows.

The Costume Museum of Canada Annual General meeting will be held the evening of May 9th, both in person at our workspace at 410-70 Arthur Street, Winnipeg and by Zoom. If you are interested in attending please email Angela at mbwi@mymts.net She will be receiving further emails with information on how to register for the AGM.

Coming Events

APRIL

- 22—Earth Day
- 24—Mail in Ballot Count
- 28-29—**MWI** AGM & Women's Day In Person and Virtual, Dugald
- 29—ACWW Women Walk the World

MAY

- 8—Zooming Monarchs WI Branch meeting
- 12—Deadline for Manitoba Women's Institute Scholarship Red River Exhibition Foundation
- 17-25—ACWW Triennial Conference, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 31—Deadline for newsletter articles/submissions

JUNE

- 1—World Milk Day
- 12—Zooming Monarchs WI Branch meeting
- 21—National Indigenous Peoples Day

JULY

- 1—Canada Day
- 30—Deadline for newsletter articles/submissions

SEPTEMBER

- 11—Zooming Monarchs WI Branch meeting
- 30—Deadline for newsletter articles/submissions

DECEMBER

- 8—International Peace Garden opening of the Conservatory Expansion (Cactus Garden)

ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card Size	\$15 per issue
Quarter Page	\$40 per issue
Half Page	\$65 per issue
Full page	\$90 per issue

Full information was in the February/March 2022 issue.

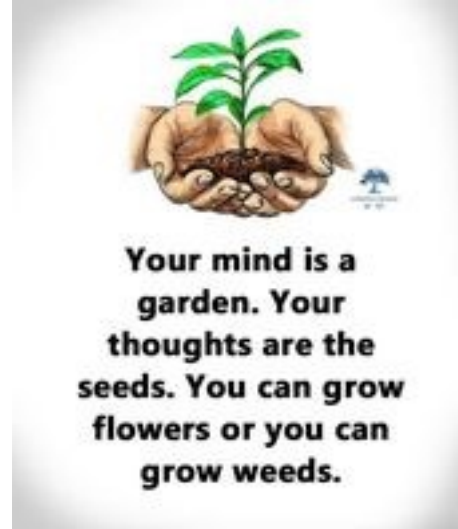


Image - Lessons Taught By Life

Test Your Knowledge.....

- There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name at least half of them?
- Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form except fresh.
- Name 6 or more things that you can wear on your feet that begin with the letter 'S'.

1. Period, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation mark, quotation marks, brackets, parentheses, braces and ellipses.
2. Lettuce
3. Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, slippers, skis, skates, stockings, stilts.

The **Institute News** is published six times per year.

ISBN 1188-0961

Next issue: June 2023

Published by

Manitoba Women's Institute.

To comment or to make a submission, please send an e-mail to:

mbwi@mymts.net

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