



PRAIRIE REGION UPDATE

The Prairie Region Update is intended to keep grandmothers groups across the Prairies connected to each other and informed about the SLF Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign.

August 2015

NEWS FROM OUR PRAIRIE REGION

Introducing...our new Prairie Region co-Liaison for Saskatchewan



Gail Greenberg, the new Regional co-liaison representing Saskatchewan, has been an active member of G4G Regina since the group's launch nine years ago. Over this period of time, she has worn numerous hats including member of the executive for two terms, coordinator of a variety of fundraisers, as well as standing committee member and chairperson. She looks forward to working with Manitoba's Deb Radi in this exciting year leading up to the Prairie Region Gathering in September 2016, and is pleased to continue to share with one another the efforts of Saskatchewan and Manitoba groups committed to the Grandmothers Campaign.

Welcome Gail! And a fond farewell to Sheila as she leaves the GRL role.

Thank YOU, Sheila, for your dedication to the role of Grandmothers Regional Liaison (GRL) for the Prairie Region since 2010! A lot has been accomplished in our region due to Sheila's passion and energy for the GRL role. As the first regional liaison for the prairies, Sheila brought new ideas and a desire to support local grandmother groups with her gentle wisdom and genuine interest in spreading the word of the grandmothers who are raising their grandchildren despite the prevalence of the AIDS pandemic.

Under her watch a number of initiatives came to the forefront namely:

- the creation of a co-liaison role for the Prairies – encouraging the SLF to create a Manitoba linkage to the team
- the Regional News Update which is shared monthly with all of the G2G groups in our Region
- And finally, supporting and leading the development of the Regional Gatherings over the years.

While Sheila may be stepping down in a formal leadership way as a GRL, she has graciously agreed to continue to support our Region by compiling the Prairie Region Update. Gail will collect the articles from each group, and Sheila will do the layout.

Sheila, we wish you all the best in your future endeavours and look forward to your continued support of the GtoG work in our region. With deep appreciation and gratitude on behalf of us all ~ Deb ~

Prairie Region Gathering 2016

Planning is underway for the 2016 Gathering in Winnipeg. Tentative dates are Friday, September 16 and Saturday, September 17. The Planning Group hopes to be able to confirm that date by the end of August this year. Watch this space for more information.



G4G Prince Albert



The Grannies in Prince Albert are very excited and have a new project for the fall. A great dance band that disbanded a few years ago has offered to do a reunion dance with all profits to our group. The musicians themselves only want "in kind payment" which I hear is a tax receipt. This dance will be on Nov. 21. We have struck all the committees and are certain this will be a great success. It will also be a wonderful way to socialize within our group.

G4G Regina

Even though our group does not meet in July, many members have been busy in various ways. Our Merchandise group staffed a booth at Canada Day Celebrations in Wascana Park, at AfroFest in Victoria Park, and at an international conference for women educators. They are looking forward to a couple of mornings at the Farmers' Market in late summer. The Art from the Attic pricing team has cleaned and priced almost 500 items for our sale on September 26th. Another team has been measuring and sorting fabric, yarn and notions for the October 31st sale, Fabric Yarn and More, a new venture for our Regina group. Our 10th anniversary year will kick-off with a members barbeque on August 18th.



G4G Saskatoon

Currently G4G Saskatoon is on a well-earned summer hiatus. In May, we held a successful Art from the Attic sale at Grace-Westminster United Church followed by participating in the National Stride to Turn the Tide walk in early June. We closed off our season by having a strawberry social at our last membership meeting and having a display at our local Farmers' Market - always a fun and enjoyable event.

Fall plans for events have been planned and organizing committees are in place. We will start off our year by holding a "Welcome Back Pot Luck Luncheon" on Thursday, September 10th. Our group will be having a display at an event called Spotlight on Seniors held at TCU Place on October 6th followed by our fundraiser, the Fabric Sale, on October 17th at St. Martin's United Church.



One of the discussions with our Executive and membership in the fall will be around fundraisers and events, trying to sort out how much we do, and when we do it, to ensure our membership does not become overwhelmed. We are a keen group and we really enjoy the activities we do, but it is easy to try to do too much...a discussion we are sure that all of our groups have on a regular basis. As an added note, ever trying to keep up with technology, you can 'Like' us on Facebook now 😊.

Grandmothers Giving, Portage la Prairie

Grandmothers Giving outlined our plans for this year's fundraising projects in the June report and since then have been busy carrying out the following activities:

- **Granny Jar Campaign:** This Campaign was not as successful as in past years, but we managed to raise about \$600 in our Granny Jars during the month of May. We will re-evaluate this project next year.
- **Stride to Turn the Tide Walk 2015:** This year's Walk was on Sunday, June 14th in Island Park, Portage la Prairie, starting at 1 p.m. with a BBQ lunch and followed by the Walk in the Park at 1:30 p.m. Everyone had a great time! A picture from our Walk is included below. We raised about \$2,400 for the Foundation, so we were pleased with the results again this year.

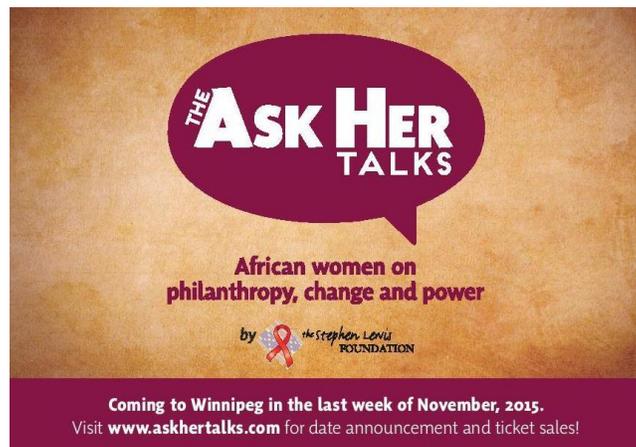


- **Other Events:**
 - **Catering Lunch at Portage Collegiate:** This opportunity came up and we had several members who catered lunch at the school for a student group. "Win Win Win" is the way Tina Lequier described it – for the students, for us and our role in the community as well as the Foundation – for which we raised about \$375 from this small project. It was successful and the students appreciated the special lunch.
 - **Plant and Bake Sales:** In co-operation with Fairholme Colony ladies who donated plants and did our baking of fresh dinner rolls, bread and cinnamon buns for two Community Garage Sales at a members home, we had a very successful sale – raised \$1,200 for the Foundation and many future customers who loved this idea. We will explore doing this again. Lots of fun too.

UPCOMING EVENT: *Grandmothers Giving Fall Dinner will be on Sunday, September 13th at the Herman Prior Centre in Portage la Prairie at 5:30 p.m. Once again there will be an **African Marketplace** starting at 5 p.m. with the sale of totes from Grands 'n' More Winnipeg, art cards, and baking from Fairholme Colony. Everyone is invited. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$6 for children. To reserve tickets, call Janet at (204) 857-4309. Hope to see some of you then!*

NEWS FROM THE STEPHEN LEWIS FOUNDATION

The Ask Her Talks



It's time to shift the conversation—to challenge our understanding and beliefs about how philanthropy can truly improve the human condition.

There are remarkable leaders in Africa at the community level. Women are at the heart of the response to AIDS, are overwhelmingly the frontline health care workers, are tackling the epidemic of sexual violence—and yet we rarely, if ever, hear from them. African women are leading the way, and are experts on what works, what kind of support is most effective, and what challenges need to be met.

In the week leading up to World AIDS Day (Dec 1st), the Ask Her Talks will be coming to **Winnipeg**, Edmonton, and Toronto. Five dynamic African women will speak about philanthropy, change, and power in the context of women's rights and AIDS in Africa.

Enlightening, stimulating and provocative—it's time to hear directly from the experts.

The Ask Her Talks in Winnipeg promises to be a powerful evening. We hope you'll join us!

Stay tuned to www.askhertalks.com for ticket information and to see videos from the inaugural Ask Her Talks held in Montreal, Toronto, and Ottawa in May 2015.

Please email Grands 'n' More Winnipeg at grandsmore@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Grands 'n' More Winnipeg: working for the grandmothers and AIDS orphans of Africa.

The Stephen Lewis Foundation works with community-level organizations that are turning the tide of HIV/AIDS in Africa by providing care and support to women, orphaned children, grandmothers and people living with HIV and AIDS.



Beds Without Breakfast

Did you know that the SLF has a home stay program for members of grandmothers' groups travelling in Canada? Linda Taberner from Gathering for Grannies in Newcastle, Ontario is the organizer of the program for both hosts and guests. She is very happy to share all of the information you may need to sign up for the program. Contact her at lindataberner@yahoo.ca or 905-903-0235.

To learn more about the Beds Without Breakfast Program, please follow this link:

<http://www.grandmotherscampaign.org/news-resources/products-and-services/beds-without-breakfast-2>



IDEAS FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY

Malaika Grandmothers of Halifax
 Invite You to
 Celebrate
 World Storytelling Day
 Tales of Wishes and Wonder

Featuring the Storytellers Circle of Halifax

Refreshments and Desserts at Intermission

Saturday, March 21, 2-4 pm doors open at 1:30 pm
 1540 Summer St. - across from the Public Gardens
 Tickets \$20
 To reserve, call (902) 454-7269

*Please let us know of any events your group is holding, or has held recently, and we'll post it here. **The deadline for all news is the first day of each month.** Disclaimer: we try to get the information accurate – but please be sure to check with the local group before you venture out to an event in case there are any errors or changes.*

If you would like more information on any of this material, please do let us know. We are here to support you and your groups with information sharing and connections, so please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

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