



August 2016

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.

SPECIAL BULLETIN

Prairie Region Gathering

REMEMBER ~ REFLECT ~ REVITALIZE

September 24 and 25, 2016, Winnipeg, Manitoba



Registrations for the Prairie Region Gathering have been rolling in however it is time to kick it up a notch. The success of an event such as this depends – to some extent – on bringing together our voices and sharing, collaborating and buoying up one another in the work we do towards our common goal of building awareness and raising funds for the SLF to disperse to grassroots community organizations supporting sub-Saharan grandmothers caring for orphaned and vulnerable children and adolescents impacted by HIV/AIDS.

If you plan on coming to the GATHERING please send in your Registration Form upon receipt of this reminder. If you are sitting on the fence and haven't yet decided, please know that we NEED YOUR VOICE and encourage your participation, so come join the prairie grandmothers and grand others and be energized by listening to Ilana and Stephen and sharing and collaborating with your peers.

Empowering Women Exhibit

The Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR) held a private reception on July 20, 2016 for the opening of a new gallery entitled "Empowering Women: Artisan Cooperatives That Transform Communities." Seven members of Grands 'n' More Winnipeg attended this event. Featured in the gallery are artisan objects from South America, Africa, India and Southeast Asia. We were able to meet, and witness the weaving skills of, two Guatemalan women who belong to the Trama Centre for Women. 'Trama' is the name of the shuttle used when weaving intricate designs on their weaving beams. The word is closely associated with the 'trauma' 400 women, who belong to the cooperative, witnessed during the Guatemalan massacre that pitted the military against rebel forces. 200,000 people died during this civil conflict. Many of the women, widowed and traumatized, joined together to once again embrace their culture, traditions and unite in creating intricate and dazzling designs on

their weaving beams. Supporting one another in claiming their social, economic and cultural rights as survivors of the massacre, these women embarked on a healing journey.

The Empowering Women: Artisan Cooperatives That Transform Communities Gallery will run from July 23, 2016 to the end of October, 2016. It will be one of the galleries featured on a tour of the CMHR during the Stephen Lewis Foundation's Prairie Region Gathering to be held September 24 to 25.



Please let us know of any events your group is holding, or has held recently, and we'll post it here. 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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