



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.

February 2015

NEWS FROM THE STEPHEN LEWIS FOUNDATION

Aeroplan Miles Matching Day



Aeroplan Miles play a critical role in the work of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. On February 19th and 20th your donated Aeroplan Miles will go twice as far. Please consider donating Aeroplan miles to “double up” your support for the work of the SLF.

Mark your calendar and watch for more information from the Foundation.

Stride to Turn the Tide

Just like last year

The official Stride weekend is June 13/14, 2015. The weekends before and after will be covered by insurance as long as groups send in their forms to the SLF. The process for this year is much the same as it was for last year. Please be in touch with Yasmin, our Prairie Region contact, to register your Group's Walk (among other things, you need to do that for insurance reasons): ymussa@stephenlewisfoundation.org.



Try a 'virtual' walk instead

Too many walks in your community? Your group involved in other initiatives, leaving little time and energy for a Stride Walk? That doesn't mean individuals can't participate along with the rest of the country. Instead of holding the actual physical event, you can hold a “virtual” walk. Create a goal (a place, certain distance), log your own activity, collect pledges, and let the kilometres add up! We'll include more on this creative twist on the walk in the next Update.

2016: Celebrating Ten Years of the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign



Discussions and planning for the 10th anniversary are moving forward. Watch this space and the Granny Bulletin for the latest news!

GRL Conference Calls



The next Grandmothers Regional Liaison conference call, with SLF staff, is scheduled for Monday, March 2nd. If your group has any issues, concerns or wonderings you would like your Prairie Liaisons, Sheila or Deb, to raise during that call, please let us know in advance.

NEWS FROM OUR PRAIRIE REGION

Grandmothers 4 Grandmothers Prince Albert

The Prince Albert G4G group has been very busy these last months raising money for our Foundation. A gift of two beautiful hand-made quilts from Rose & Jackie at Candle Lake, gave us the idea of having a raffle. The lottery application came through and we raffled one quilt which brought in \$1439. Now we are ready for our second raffle. We participated in Riverside Craft Fair, sold a ton of grannie cookies and AIDS Angels and raised \$1475. Our fellowship supper held on a snowy night was very successful and the auction raised \$1634. On World AIDS Day we sold our Angels at the Victoria Hospital.



These last few months we are busy making unique bags and scarves to be sold at our Annual Heart to Heart Tea, being held on February 14th. We will serve tea to 100 ladies and of course we are looking forward to a very successful sale.

March 29th is the annual Arioso Concert with performers Linda Jensen, Eunice Mooney and the Jazz Guise; all proceeds are donated to the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

At our January meeting our members enjoyed viewing the Stephen Lewis Foundation Tribunal Film.

Grandmothers 4 Grandmothers Regina

Women, Wisdom, and Wine

This is the theme for a planning session we'll be having at our February meeting. Our plan for the evening is to enjoy a sip of wine and some nutritious food as we celebrate our strengths, acknowledge our challenges, and come up with ideas for moving forward.



Tribunal Film Screening

On Monday, March 9th, we'll mark International Women's Day with a public screening of the film "African Grandmothers Tribunal: Seeking justice at the frontlines of the AIDS crisis". The event will be held at Campion College, University of Regina, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Jabula! A Fundraising Evening



As mentioned last month, G4G Regina's signature fundraising event – Jabula! A Fundraising Evening – will be held on Friday, April 24th. This is the group's 9th annual fundraising dinner, and features Ida Nambeya as guest speaker, entertainment by Inyamamare Dance Group of Rwanda, a silent auction, and raffle. The MC for the evening will be Ruth Smillie, Artistic Director and CEO of Globe Theatre. And of course, we'll have the silent auction and raffle to round things out. If you'll be in or near Regina that weekend, do consider getting a ticket and attending the evening. Just contact us at g4gregina@sasktel.net.

In the News

G4G Regina was thrilled to be part of Global TV's weekly half-hour current affairs program 'Focus Saskatchewan'. Two members of the group were interviewed about the important work of the Grandmothers Campaign. Footage provided by the SLF and photos from the 2014 Africa trip accentuated the story. To view the clip, just click or tap here: <http://globalnews.ca/video/1793601/grandmothers-for-grandmothers-3>

Grandmothers 4 Grandmothers Saskatoon

We are gearing up for two major fundraising projects at this time, our Fundraising Dinner and Art from the Attic. These are exciting times, a bit hectic, but we are looking forward to both events with anticipation and excitement.

Our **10th Annual Fundraising Dinner** will be held on Friday, March 6th, at the Western Development Museum, 2610 Lorne Avenue. Reception is at 5:00 pm with the dinner commencing at 6:30 pm. Entertainment is by a local vocal ensemble called Joy of Vox. Tickets are \$45.00 available through Jenifer Downer 306-242-4989 or at McNally Robinson Booksellers. We are excited to have our very own Jenny Neal as our guest speaker to celebrate this special dinner with us. For this 10th Anniversary we look back to acknowledge those who founded G4G Saskatoon and to our successes over the years. We have much to celebrate!



A new venture for us is the fundraiser **Art from the Attic**. We are holding the sale at Grace-Westminster United Church, 505 10th Street East, on Saturday, May 9th, 2015 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.

We have set our **Fabric Sale** for Saturday, October 17th, 2015 at St. Martin's United Church, 2617 Clarence Avenue South (time to be determined).

Grands 'n' More Winnipeg

We continue Awareness activities with Displays at events organized by others and where appropriate, joint Sales tables. An example is our promotion for **Awareness and Sales tables** at a concert on International Women's Day, March 8th, organized by the Institute for International Women's Rights and the Womyns Centre.



We will work with a **Social Studies class at a Junior High**. For part of the time we will use Alison Flensburg's "simulation game"! Thanks to Alison for sharing her materials at September 2014 Prairie Regional Gathering!

Deb Radi of Grands 'n' More Winnipeg and Chris Penner of Grannies Gone Global have again organized a get-together for the two groups. For our **Member Meeting in March** we will be hosted by this grandmothers' group in Northend Winnipeg.

Grannies Gone Global is a not-for-profit organization seeking to provide emotional and physical support to grandmothers locally and globally who find themselves in the rewarding but challenging position of being caregivers of their grandchildren.

"Scrabble for Africa 2015", popular fundraiser year after year, is coming up on April 18th.

Preliminary plans are set for **"Stride"** for June 13th, for the second year at the (enclosed) Grant Park Mall.

Also...Grands 'n' More Winnipeg, inspired by G4G Regina's success, is organizing an **"Art from the Attic!"** on Sunday, September 20, 2015, noon – 4:30 p.m. Corydon Community Centre (Crescentwood location), 1170 Corydon Avenue, Winnipeg.

FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY

Omas Siskona of Kitchener Waterloo have partnered up with Boston Pizza to bring you a great night out! Enjoy delicious food and learn a little more about Omas Siskona while a percentage of the food sales will go towards the Grandmothers campaign. This event will take place between 5 and 8 pm at the King St. N. Waterloo Boston Pizza location. For more information please contact Marg Tupling at tupling6355@rogers.com.



FROM YOUR CO-LIAISONS

The role of Regional co-Liaison for the Prairie Region, like that of other Liaisons across the country, is important for the work we do. It was created to enhance communications and connections between the Foundation and grandmothers groups in order to enhance and continue the strong relationships between:

- Canadian grandmothers and African Grandmothers;
- regional networks of Canadian grandmothers groups;
- Canadian grandmothers and the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

Sheila Fahlman from G4G Regina has acted as the Grandmother Regional Liaison (GRL) in Saskatchewan and the Prairies for the past four years, with the last two as co-liaison with Deb Radi from Manitoba. Sheila's term is now coming to an end, and she will be stepping down from this role.

We would like to continue to have a Regional Co-Liaison for the Prairies in Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan liaison will work closely with Deb Radi, from Grands 'n' More Winnipeg, to comprise the Regional Co-Liaisons from the Prairies.

“Being involved with the SLF as a Liaison has been enormously rewarding. It is a privilege to work with the passionate and committed staff at the Foundation. It has been an opportunity to connect closely with the other Liaisons across the country – their support and insight is invaluable. And on a personal level, I have learned so much and gained so much from these relationships. When a Co-Liaison for the Prairies was added, there was an even greater opportunity for collaboration which we hope has helped to strengthen the work of the Prairie groups. I encourage you to consider applying for this opportunity and move our region forward over the next two years.” ~ Sheila Fahlman

If you or someone you know would be interested in this position, please let Sheila, Deb or Yasmin know by **Monday, February 23rd**. If you have any questions about the role, please feel free to be in touch with Yasmin at ymussa@stephenlewisfoundation.org or by phone at 1-888-203-9990 ext. 230. Alternatively, if you know anyone who would be a good fit or would like to nominate someone, please let her know as well.

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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