



Photo credit: Alexis MacDonald

October 2015

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.

NEWS FROM OUR PRAIRIE REGION and the SLF

Gathering 2016

With the recent SLF announcement of Stephen's availability to do a limited number of speaks across the country, Gail and I, as regional liaisons, have indicated interest in having Stephen come for our Prairie Gathering. There will be a GRL call on October 19th with this item being one of the many items discussed. Right now there is a team in Uganda with the SLF so no decisions as to where Stephen will speak will be made until they return and this discussion with the GRLs has occurred.

So for now, we are in wait mode ... waiting for the SLF to decide where and when Stephen will speak, and also waiting to hear back on our New Horizons grant application (January 2016). We know the timing is important to other fundraising events across the Prairies.



Once more is known to answer these questions, we will be in touch again. If there are other considerations that you would like Gail and Deb to raise on October 19th, please let us know.

Grandmothers 4 Grandmothers Regina

September 26th was G4G Regina's third Art from the Attic fundraiser (AFTA) and if truth be told, it was a roaring success. Approximately 1800 pieces of 2-dimensional art, donated over a period of five months, was priced collaboratively by a team of four members, women who spent a considerable chunk of their summer immersed in researching the value of art, and selectively reframing and refreshing pieces that needed TLC. A wide range of price points, from \$5-\$1000, with the majority in the \$10-90 range, attracted a varied demographic, which no doubt contributes to AFTA's success. In addition, the expert appraisal of a number of pieces valued between \$100-1000 led to the reserve pricing of some exciting treasures, something of particular appeal to buyers.

Some interesting facts: a planning committee worked from the spring through the fall to execute this event; at least 1/3 of our membership participated in some component of AFTA, which is heavily dependent on volunteers in the set-up and sale day; a steady stream of customers confirms that the community continues to

respond favorably to what it perceives as a G4G annual fundraiser; and media's far-flung reach to all corners of our city and beyond, yielded a huge stash of art donated by people who explicitly expressed their support of G4G's mission.

With minimal overhead costs, the **\$25,000** raised by the sale will go directly to the SLF's Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign. However, we anticipate this amount will increase, as there are a number of pieces submitted to an on-line art auction, to be held this fall and again in the spring. Will we go for AFTA #4? Only time will tell, however I have a strong hunch you'll know where to find us next year at this time!



Jabula! A Fundraising Evening 2016



At G4G Regina, we are excited to announce the speaker for next year's Dinner. Ilana Landsberg-Lewis is confirmed!

Some volunteers are already in place – we're aiming to make this the best fundraising dinner yet, in celebration of 10 years in our community and 10 years of the Campaign!

Plan to join us on Saturday, April 30, 2016.

Grands 'n' More Winnipeg

AFTA – A Huge Success!

Grands'n'More Winnipeg's first Art from the Attic event was a great success. Generous Winnipeggers donated over 2000 pieces of art, which were cleaned, sorted and priced by some very talented and hard-working members, and made ready for the September 20th sale. With the weather co-operating, we were able to load all the art into trucks, vans and cars for delivery Sunday morning to the sale location.

We received excellent media coverage in the week leading up to the sale, and our members did a marvelous job getting the word out to potential buyers. By opening time, we had a line-up out the doors of the community club, and business was brisk.

Thanks to the generous donations of a handmade quilt and book bag created by Judy Cumberland, and an African artifact donated by Heather Colquhoun, with your support, we raised over \$1800 from the raffle, which helped to cover costs for the event so that more of the proceeds could be directed to the SLF.

We are pleased to let you know that by the end of the sale **over \$31,000 dollars** was raised for the Grandmothers campaign. Our thanks to all Grands'n'More members, family and friends who supported AFTA. Watch for AFTA 2016!

Scotia AIDS Walk

Grands n More Winnipeg participated in the Scotia AIDS Walk For Life organized by Nine Circles Community Health Services. The Awareness display highlighted our yarn bombing exhibit in conjunction with the Inspiring Change Gallery at the Canadian Human Rights Museum. For that display, twenty three Grands n More members participated in yarn bombing a facsimile of the jacaranda tree originally yarn bombed by the Hillcrest South Africa AIDS clinic showing solidarity with the 130 African Grandmothers and 140 school children who created the original yarn bombing tree.



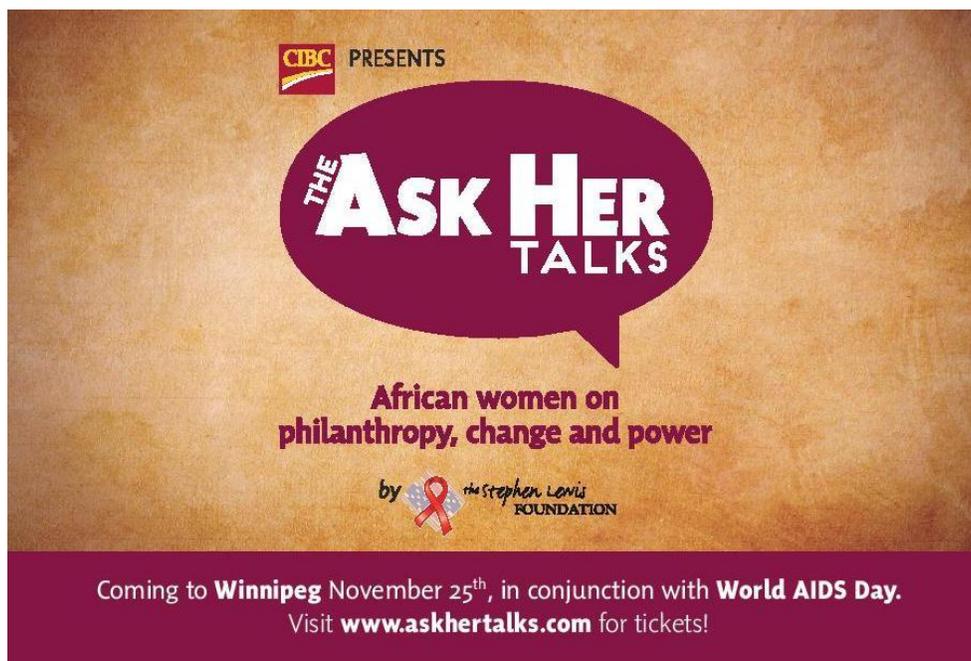
Peace Day, 2015

About 500 elementary students and their teachers gathered nearby the Canadian Museum of Human Rights on a beautiful autumn day to celebrate Peace Day. Each student carried a "peace message", which they exchanged with another student as part of this event.



Grands'n'More Winnipeg was there to make the link from the students' local efforts to our global focus – all befitting this year's theme of Empathy. As a manifestation of that focus, students donated new or gently-used shoes – globally, that footwear represented the millions of empty shoes of those who have died of AIDS, and the shoes into which the African grandmothers have stepped. Locally, they represent our walking in solidarity with those grandmothers, plus - all the shoes will be distributed to Winnipeg homeless shelters, women's shelters, inner-city organizations, etc. It was a great inter-generational, cross-cultural, multi-organizational event.

Ask Her is coming our way!



It's time to shift the conversation...

The *Ask Her Talks* feature African women challenging our understanding of how philanthropy can truly improve the human condition. Women are at the heart of the response to crises affecting their communities and yet we rarely, if ever, hear from them. They are the experts on what works, what kind of support is most effective, and what challenges need to be met.

The Winnipeg Ask Her Talks

Wednesday, Nov 25th, 2015
 The Metropolitan Entertainment Centre (The Met)
 7 pm | Tickets \$20

The *Ask Her Talks* in Winnipeg will feature grassroots leaders and HIV-positive activists from Kenya, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe and South Africa, speaking about philanthropy, change, and power in the context of women's rights and HIV & AIDS.

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

Visit our website at
www.askhertalks.com

or email
askhertalks@stephenlewisfoundation.org
 for more information.

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.



IDEAS FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY

Each month we share an idea from another Grandmothers group. Some of these were held a year or two ago, some are more current. But all are shown to give your large or small group on the Prairies some ideas in case you're looking for something new to take on.

Mariposa Grandmothers 3rd Annual Mini Golf and Lunch



The Mariposa Grandmothers invite you to their 3rd Annual Charity Mini Golf and Lunch at Red Caboose Mini Golf, 454 Laclie St. in Orillia, ON. The cost is \$20 per player. Sponsorship is available at \$100 a hole.

The mini game will be followed by lunch. There will be prizes and sales of some donated items.

For pre-registration or hole sponsorship, contact Tina at 705-259-2725 or tinablasz@rogers.com.

*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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