



# Grand Connections

## NEWS FROM YOUR REGIONAL LIAISON

Although the new regional liaison grandmothers from across Canada are still chatting every two weeks, we have been saying less that is relevant enough to warrant a Grand Connections each time.

One thing we have talked about is Bill C-393 and the fate it endured. I am sure we are all aware that the bill died when government was dissolved. Because the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign is non-political and we are now in the midst of an election campaign, the grandmothers will not as a group take a position about this now deceased bill. Once the election is over, however, we understand that it would be possible for a new bill to be introduced and then the whole process would start again at the beginning.

*-Carol Judd*

## NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

### Documenting Events

You likely all know that there are three documents the Foundation would like to receive each time a grandmother group hosts an event.

**Document 1:** Event Registration Form, which should be filled out and emailed, faxed or mailed to the Foundation every time a group plans on holding an event or starting a new initiative.

**Document 2:** Funds Submission Form, which should be filled out and submitted every time a group sends in funds from an event. If your group's treasurer has any questions or concerns about this form, please have her contact Helen Silbiger at the Foundation.

**Document 3:** Donation Form, which groups can personalize.

These forms can be found at:

[http://www.stephenlewisfoundation.org/grandmothers\\_forms.htm](http://www.stephenlewisfoundation.org/grandmothers_forms.htm)

### Providing membership information

Another important item is sharing your grandmother group membership information with the SLF. The foundation has two main reasons for wanting membership lists:

## NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION CONT'D

**1)** To ensure that all grandmother group members can be properly identified in its database and to ensure you're your group's members do not receive general solicitations.

**2)** The more groups that can send in their membership lists, the better able the Foundation will be to have a true sense of the number of women actively involved with the Campaign.

We have been asked to reassure your members that the SLF does not trade or sell this information (nor any of our donor information, for that matter).

Group membership lists should be emailed directly to Helen Silbiger, preferably in Excel format, but Word works as well.

Please provide, wherever possible:

- Members' full names
- E-mail addresses
- Mailing addresses
- Phone numbers

### Tracking Funds

Joanna Henry asked to clarify the last issue of Grand Connections so that groups weren't left thinking the foundation is not able to track particular funds that should be credited to them. "We can! We do! In fact we often investigate large donations that come from individuals earmarked for the Grandmothers Campaign to see if we can link them to a group so we can do additional soft crediting!"

She said there are two different "totals raised" within the Grandmothers Campaign:

**1)** The total amount of funds directly raised by the Grandmother Groups - through fundraisers, donations on behalf of others, all the ways groups raise money. This

includes all soft crediting.

**2)** The total amount of funds raised by the Campaign. The Grandmothers Campaign gets a lot of press, both through publicity of the Foundation as well as local media from grandmother groups. The Foundation receives quite a number of donations that are earmarked for "The Grandmothers Campaign" - but not raised by a group or credited to a group.

For example:

- Gala dinner was held in Toronto by a group of retired professional elder women - all proceeds went towards the Grandmothers Campaign. These women were not part of a grandmother group.
- Whenever an African grandmother visiting Canada speaks on behalf of the Campaign, donations come in.

Joanna added, "When I said we can't track all totals to groups, I simply meant that the Foundation knows that many donations that come in from the public are as a result of someone hearing or knowing about a Canadian grandmother group - but we have no way of confirming this."

"So, the annual totals for how much the Campaign brought in will always be larger than the actual totals of what Grandmother Groups raised in a year. When looking at financial reports it is important to make this distinction. We tend to report on Campaign totals over group totals (which are a percentage of the whole), although there are occasions when we do not."

## NEWS FROM THE REGION

### Grand Ideas

Our PaGo Granny group tried a new variation on the "Dare To Dine" fundraiser. We contacted local school staffs and offered to provide a luncheon with an African theme.

One of our members' husbands spent time in Africa and brought back a great recipe for a Beef Curry. We serve this with a selection of desserts.

Going into the schools provides an opportunity to reach another segment of our community and inform them about the Grandmothers Campaign and the SLF. We have had a great response from the teaching community in Port Alberni.

Maureen Brechin  
[mobrechin@shaw.ca](mailto:mobrechin@shaw.ca)

### Grand Events

St. Andrews Grandmothers Helping African Grandmothers – Sidney

### SPRING BONNET TEA & FASHION SHOW

May 7, 2 p.m. at the church hall  
 Tickets are \$15. Please buy in advance from Margaret Rothe or Ruth Howland.

Note from Margaret, "The hats are judged although it isn't necessary to wear one. They will be judged after the Fashion Show – which is being put on by Sidney Casuals using our models. We are having scones, jam and cream and dainty sandwiches (very English). I think it will be a fun afternoon."

For more information contact:  
 Margaret Rothe at [kmrothe@shaw.ca](mailto:kmrothe@shaw.ca)

Glacier Grannies – Courtenay/Comox

### 'GATHERING OF GRANDMOTHERS' - VANCOUVER ISLAND & GULF ISLANDS

Glacier Grannies of the Comox Valley have volunteered to host a "Gathering" of all the Grandmother groups on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. This "Gathering" will be similar to the first one held in Nanaimo in October 2009. The purpose of a "Gathering" is to reinvigorate ourselves by sharing fundraising ideas, products, lobbying strategies and information.

THE DATE: Saturday, September 24, 2011 with activities starting at 9 am and finishing about 3:30 pm.

THE PLACE: Courtenay, BC at the Filberg Centre.

Lunch will be served.

Our members will billet anyone from out of town who would like to arrive the night before. We would like you to mark this date on your calendar and plan on attending. Everyone is welcome.

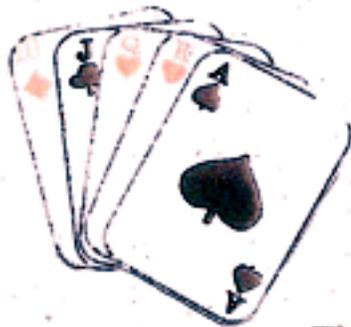
We need feedback as to what you would like to hear and learn at our "Gathering". We would like volunteers from other groups to help us with planning, and our first organizational meeting by email will be in April 2011. We hope to finalize the agenda, speakers, and workshops by the end of June so we can enjoy the summer.

For further information contact:  
 Lorraine Waring  
 Co-Chair Glacier Grannies  
[lgwaring@yahoo.com](mailto:lgwaring@yahoo.com)  
 250-703-4734

**NEWS FROM THE REGION CONTINUED**

Oceanside Grandmothers 2 Grandmothers – Parksville

**PARTNER BRIDGE LUNCHEON**



**KNOX UNITED CHURCH**

**PYM ST, PARKSVILLE**

**MONDAY APRIL 11, 2011.**

**12:00 NOON**

**TICKETS \$15.00**

Available at

**PARKS WEST — HIRST ST PARKSVILLE**

**ARBUTUS EMPORIUM — 2<sup>ND</sup> AVE QB**

**KNOX UNITED CHURCH — PYM ST PARKSVILLE**

**OCEANSIDE**

**GRANDMOTHERS 2 GRANDMOTHERS**

**(Stephen Lewis Foundation)**

Co-sponsored by **KNOX UNITED CHURCH**

**For more information phone Anne Collie 250-951-0644**