SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

Connecting with Cindy

Fall is officially here and with Thanksgiving this month, On September 28th there was a webinar on the new emblem from SI (Soroptimist International) Limited. The old emblem (see below) was misused. It was too busy so did not reproduce easily, the colours varied by different federations, and it did not reflect diversity as it featured a white woman.
remember your "Blessings"!

Congratulations to the DIBI (Dream It Be It) committee as another grant was received from the Soroptimist Foundation of Canada for $1,000! Well done Devona for submitting this.

The **Yard Sale** was the best ever so far! A great turnout by members and their families and friends to work at it over 3 days of delivering, set up, actual event, take down and distributing leftovers. It was a lot of fun and a good opportunity to get to know each other better. I think our members contributed to our sales as well.

The **Leadership Academy** had a ZOOM meeting and I was pleased to see 7 members participate. Theresa Randles was the speaker and is a member of SI Hamilton-Burlington. Her theme was Understanding Leadership as Belonging and Empowering. She reminded us to be aware that we are all different personalities with strengths and weaknesses and have different reasons for joining Soroptimist.

This is **the new federation image** (see below). It is to be black and white with the yellow background. The woman has features of different ethnic backgrounds and is looking upwards to be more hopeful. It reproduces better and represents a "Global Voice for Women". The tagline is **Educate Empower Enable with a yellow letter E** (see below). For things like banners, flags, etc. we have 5 years to embrace this new emblem and remove the old. Any electronic use is to be effective immediately.

Keep in mind that the **"S"** logo is a SIA (Soroptimist of the Americas) emblem which is a federation and can still be used.

E

Educate

Empower

Enable

Registration for the **Fall Area Meeting on October 19th by ZOOM at 7 pm**. Is open and you have to register through Eventbrite which is free as the Club as paid the fee.

Another ZOOM event is Saturday Nov. 4th the **Soroptimist of Canada Foundation General Meeting from 2-4:30**. **Charlene Hipfner** has agreed to be our voting delegate but others are welcome to attend at no cost.

Membership is planning a **Friends of Soroptimist event in November** which will be discussed further by them.

Your **very proud** President, Cindy

A ROOMFUL OF TREASURES

This years Yard Sale was another great success. The Cardinal Room was filled to capacity with items that would catch the eye of someone looking for that perfect something. Thank goodness the weather held out for us, this enabled us to place the bigger items outside, as there wasn't a corner to spare inside. Attired in our blue shirts, we officially opened at 8 A.M. but we had some keeners wanting to peruse at 7:30. There was a constant flow of traffic right up to closing time and beyond. Kudos to Judy Anderson's granddaughter and Faith's friend, Kyan, for handing out flyers at the Country Market to encourage people to come take a peek. It was a happening place, buzzing with friendly people, smiling faces, satisfied customers AND a few inquiries as to what we are all about. Fingers crossed. Perhaps that could end up being OUR prized treasure (aka new members). The tremendous amount of goods collected and the variety of items clearly gave the consumer a lot of choices. THANKS to all who donated. It was because of people's generosity that we were able to gross $2063.20!!!

The collaborative effort and unwavering commitment of our members, family and friends is pure AWESOMENESS! The items that didn't sell were distributed to a variety of agencies throughout the city. The Underground Gym, Once Upon a Child, The Humane Society, Teen Challenge, CAS, Salvation Army, **Grace Place, Clothing Assistance(The Mission) and MEMO,** Twice as Nice, June-Steeve Lendrum Centre, Plat It Again Sports will all benefit from the leftover items.....THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING.

Kind Regards
Shirley and Kathleen
Co-Chairs Fundraising

Donation to June Steeve Lendrum Centre

Pictured is Danielle from the June-Steeve Lendrum Centre. She is proudly perched on the play structure which was purchased with the funds raised at the Two Bit Auction.

She stated that the youngsters have had a lot of fun enjoying the new addition to their play area and the centre is extremely grateful for our donation.

It's rewarding to see our fundraising efforts making a difference in the community.

Breast cancer awareness month

A reminder to our membership to get tested .
Besides myself under treatment for breast cancer., I have two close friends who were recently diagnosed with breast cancer . Also I am aware that some of our members have also battled with this condition.

Big thank you to all our members for their support, and offers of rides and food.
I am doing ok and expect a full recovery. The people at the cancer clinic are amazing. I am extremely grateful to all my friends and support I have been given, love my S.I. friends.

Love Joan

DIBI NEWSLETTER UPDATE

OCOBER 2023

Grants Received

DIBI Thunder Bay has received a grant from Soroptimist Foundation of Canada in the amount of $1000.00 This grant, along with the grant from Soroptimists International of the Americas, means that we will have $2800.00 to support DIBI activities and resources this year.

DIBI Yard Sale Coupons

DIBI provided the young women who participated in the March 2023 DIBI conference, a $35 gift certificates for the September Yard Sale. One person used her coupon.

The DIBI committee will continue to search out other ways to reach out to these young women to show the young women that we continue to support them.

ECR DIBI

Devona attends the ECR DIBI chair meetings, via ZOOM every 3 months. The meetings allow participants to share and learn from each other and the ECR DIBI Coordinator, Keshala Fernando-Dissanyake.

DIBI 2024

Devona, Cheryl, and Kathleen met with Danelle Bobinski, the Program Director of the June Steeve-Lendrum Family Resource Centre (JSL) on October 1st.

The intent of the meeting was to share the focus DIBI program and learn if the DIBI curriculum meets the needs of the young mothers at the JSL Centre. Our discussions were very positive.

A follow up meeting will be held with our CAS representative, Danny Michaud, and the JSL Family Resource Centre program Director to discuss a combined DIBI event for both agencies.

Committee Meeting and Membership

The DIBI committee will be meeting on October 20th to start planning for DIBI 2024.

If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact Devona.

dcrowe48@gmail.com
807-623-6926

Fruit and Cheese Fundraiser

The Thunder Bay Symphony's fall fruit and cheese fundraiser is here again. If you are interested in seeing what is available, please call me at 344-6568 or email me at kfenwick@shaw.ca, and I'll get the order form to you.

Thanks,
Marilyn

On October 3, 1921...

A group of women in Oakland, California, USA, agreed to charter the first ever Soroptimist club.

These women pioneers, led by President Violet Richardson, united in their purpose to create an organization committed to improving the lives of women and girls.

102 years later...

Soroptimist is now a global organization with tens of thousands of passionate members.

This October, we celebrate President Violet's incredible legacy—that Soroptimists like **you** continue to build upon—with the second annual Violet Richardson Month of Giving

41,000 women have received financial assistance for their education
Your ongoing support carries on Violet Richardson's legacy and helps SIA serve more women and girls.

98,000 girls have received access to role models, mentors, and career guidance

500,000 more women and girls will benefit from our work by 2031

Donate This October, you are specially invited to **become a Soroptimist Stargazer**, joining SIA's prestigious circle of monthly donors. Or increase your contribution and your impact!

siahq@soroptimist.org

October Day of Action

International Day of the Girl: Call for Soroptimists to Participate

October 11 is International Day of the Girl. This year, Soroptimists can help bring greater awareness to challenges still facing many girls and the importance of providing education.

October 11 has been honored around the world as a monumental day to call attention to the **injustices that young girls experience across the globe,** while also celebrating the achievements and **progress made to advance gender equality.**

There are 1.1 billion girls in the world. That means 1.1 billion minds of intelligence, hearts of compassion, and lives of potential. However, lack of opportunity, inadequate investment, and inequality create a world in which girls are deprived of their basic human rights and a world that never really reaches its full potential because of it.
You can celebrate International Day of the Girl, with a special one-time gift to *Dream It, Be It!*

https://blog.soroptimist.org/blog/october-11-is-international-day-of-the-girl

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Did you know 1 in 3 women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime? Partner abuse is shockingly common, yet it doesn't always get the attention it deserves.
Learning more about domestic violence is the first step to taking action. Here are a few places to start!

Domestic Violence Awareness Pledge

Take the pledge to end violence against women and discover five ways you can support survivors of domestic violence this October through LiveYourDream.org.

1. Understand the issue.

2. Start conversations & raise awareness.

3. Donate to help organizations that support survivors.

4. Fundraise to help organizations that support survivors.

5. Be a political advocate.

Pledge to End Violence Against Women

I pledge to STAND against domestic violence.
To EDUCATE myself and my community.
To SPEAK UP against victim-blaming and discrimination.
To SHARE my time and resources to help survivors.
To EMPOWER survivors through the Dream Programs that provide access to education.

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https://act.liveyourdream.org/5-ways-to-help-domestic-violence-survivors/

October 24 commemorates the day the United Nations formed to join countries around a common cause of peace, prosperity, and positive change—similar to Soroptimist's founding mission.

Soroptimists have proudly supported the United Nations' mission and goals since the 1950s and in 2015, the UN put forth a new agenda called the Sustainable Development Goals. It is a blueprint to achieving an even better, more sustainable future for all.
Soroptimists help elevate the United Nations' aims by advancing progress on a number of these Sustainable Development Goals through our global Dream Programs, including:
Goal 1. End Poverty
Goal 4. Quality Education
Goal 5. Gender Equality
Goal 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
Goal 10. Reduce Inequality

Whether it's helping women increase their standard of living by obtaining education and better paying jobs, or providing career guidance to vulnerable teen girls, we're supporting these women and girls on the path to lifelong empowerment. And when women and girls are able to participate in society to the fullest, that leads to better outcomes across every single UN Sustainable Development Goal.

https://blog.soroptimist.org/blog/united-nations-day-2023

Soroptimist International of the Americas: Survey Series

SIA has launched an online survey series to gather member feedback on various topics. By participating in our survey series, you'll not only play a crucial role in shaping future decisions, but two members will also have the chance to win a $50 gift card! Take our first survey about Email Communications we send out.

https://blog.soroptimist.org/blog/sia-survey-series-take-our-email-communications-survey

Save the Date to Join Us in Beautiful Bellevue

Save the Date for Next Summer, July 24-27!

Mark your calendars—we're heading to breathtaking Bellevue, Washington, in the Pacific Northwest for SIA's 48th Biennial Convention! If you haven't experienced a PNW summer,

Mark your calendars—we're heading to breathtaking Bellevue, Washington, in the Pacific Northwest for SIA's 48th Biennial Convention next summer! If you haven't experienced a PNW summer, you're in for a treat.

https://blog.soroptimist.org/blog/save-the-date-to-join-us-in-beautiful-bellevue

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Thursday October 19, 2023

6:30-9:00 pm Virtual via Zoom

GUEST SPEAKER

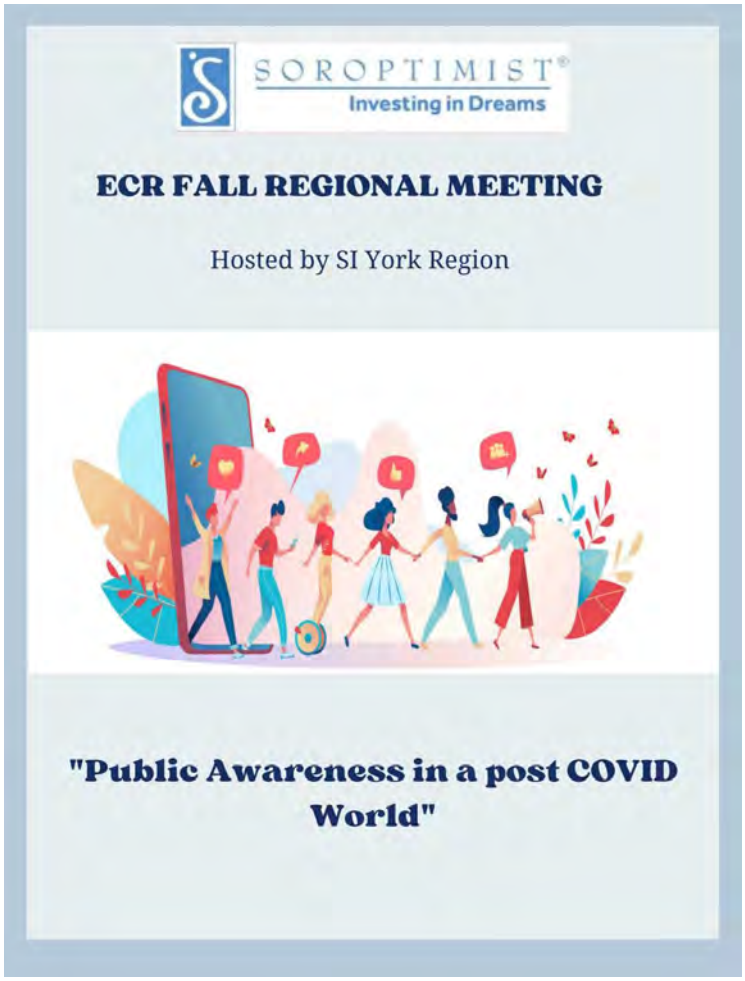
Lara Mills,

Professor, Public Relations Program, Algonquin College, Ottawa

Registration: Register on Eventbrite

https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/ecr-fall-region-meeting-public-awareness-in-a-post-covid-world-tickets-716177053847?aff=oddtdtcreator

NOTE: The Zoom link and any other materials required will be sent to registrants in the week prior to the meeting.



October 9th

A short history of Thanksgiving in Canada

From Indigenous celebrations thousands of years ago, to today's turkey and stuffing, the October holiday has evolved and brought people together.

The origin of Thanksgiving in Canada isn't completely clear. Indigenous Peoples marked the fall harvest with prayer, dance and potlatch thousands of years before colonial settlers celebrated. In 1578, it's believed, privateer and mariner Sir Martin Frobisher was the first European to celebrate "Thanksgiving" with his crew. The meal was decidedly less glamorous than today's feasts: mostly salt beef, biscuits and mushy peas. The locale, too, was less inviting. Frobisher and his men celebrated in current-day Nunavut, likely aboard one of the 15 ships that had set sail to discover a northwest passage to Asia's trading areas.

In the early 17th century, French explorer Samuel de Champlain celebrated a large meal of thanks in New France. Part of Champlain's reasoning for a festive meal was to deter scurvy, which had earlier wiped out a colonial settlement. He established a series of varied meals with better nutrition (cranberries, high in vitamin C, were a regular staple). By the 18th century, Nova Scotia settlers feasted a Thanksgiving meal closer to today's turkey and accompaniments.

Today's Thanksgiving is more about family and gratitude, but early 19th-century Thanksgiving celebrations included significant recognition of church and God. Meanwhile, the first post-Confederation Thanksgiving took place in 1872 as a civic holiday rather than a religious one, and also observed the monarchy. Through the years, the holiday varied in dates including, following the First World War, overlapping Armistice-Thanksgiving days in November. The Thanksgiving we know today, falling on the second Monday in October, only became official in 1957.

Good memories of holidays often stem from meals and time spent with friends and family.

Mel Simoneau https://nationalpost.com/opinion/simoneau-a-short-history-of-thanksgiving-in-canada/wcm/772e3158-8fb8-45aa-8a87-09688cee6e4f