

Vol. 2 Issue 3  
March 2019

# MANITOBA GRAM-A-GRAM



Photo by:  
Alexis MacDonald

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### Sharing with Grandmothers

#### Winnipeg

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AWARENESS  
SOLIDARITY  
FUNDRAISING

## From the Desk of the GRL (Grandmothers Regional Liaison)

The GRL Retreat was held in Toronto from Feb 4-6, 2019. My greatest appreciation to Thelma Hanson, from Grands 'n' More Winnipeg, who attended in my stead.

So, what did they talk about during these days in Toronto, anyway? (See the Thematic picture on p.2)

To break it down in a pragmatic manner. It all comes down to:

### A) Communication:

- how can we best talk and learn together?
- are we on message with the language of the Campaign?
- how do we manage the message of the Campaign?

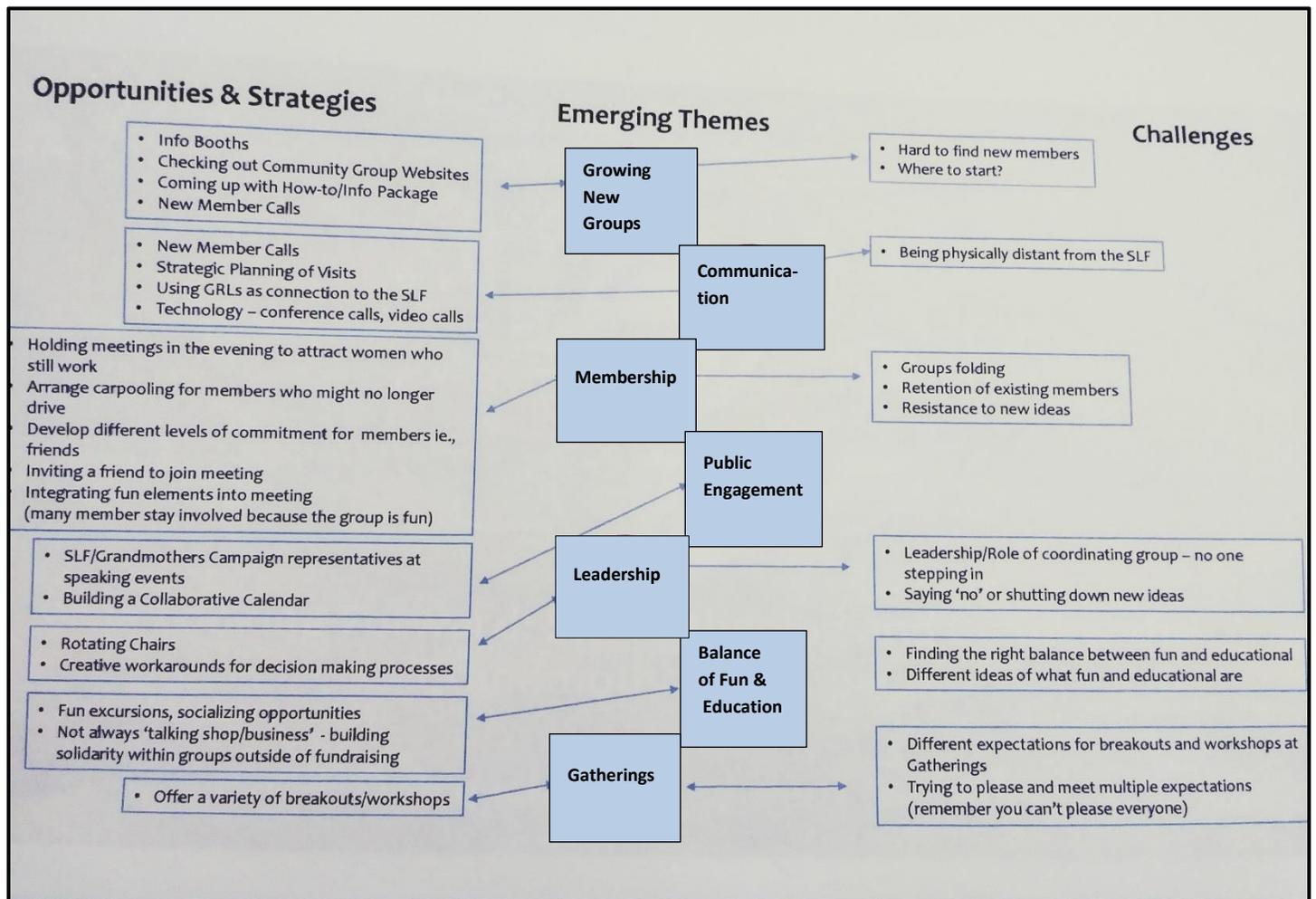
### B) Collaboration:

- how can we best share together?
- is there availability of materials and information amongst groups?
- how do we look for opportunities to share ideas for region building?

### C) Cooperation:

- how can we best work together?
- how can we engender leadership within groups?
- how do we balance group autonomy with regional harmony?

*Submitted by Cathie Hiller*



## Congratulations!

Frances Molaro (Grands 'n' More Winnipeg) became a first-time grandmother on December 25, 2018 with the birth of a grandson named Avon.

Donnie Fridfinnson (Grands 'n' More Winnipeg) added another grandchild to her brood on February 16, 2019 with the birth of a granddaughter named Arcadia Vienna.

## REMEMBERING:

Carol Hibbert (Grands 'n' More Winnipeg) and family suffered the loss of Bob - husband/father on February 2, 2019. Bob greatly supported all of Carol's fundraising involvement with Grands 'n' More Winnipeg.



Bernice Maxwell (Grandmothers Giving, Portage la Prairie) passed away on February 23, 2019. Bernice played a huge part (co-cook) in assuring the Portage Fall Supper was a successful event year to year.

May their memory be a blessing to their family and friends.

*Submitted by Cathie Hiller*

## More News from the Desk of the GRL

Last month, I informed you that the SLF would provide an opportunity for new members, and all members for that matter, to engage in conversation with the Grandmothers Campaign Officers. The call would take place on the 3rd Monday of each month at 11:30 am CST.

Today, I would like to talk a little bit more regarding this opportunity and why you may enjoy it and wish to engage in conversation with members across Canada.



**Interested in Joining the  
Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign?**

**Monthly Campaign Information Calls give new members and those wanting to get involved an opportunity to learn more about the Campaign and ask questions. Join us!**

**Monday, March 18, 2018 12:30 pm EST**

Send us a FB message or email [campaign@stephenlewisfoundation.org](mailto:campaign@stephenlewisfoundation.org) for more information or to RSVP

It has been decided that each month the conversations will cover a theme. Please note the following direct from a recent GRL correspondence: April 18: Recruiting and retaining new members, an information and best practices/tips and tricks exchange.

May 16: Rejuvenating members - the fun, social and educational components to groups and the relationships you create within groups.

June 20: Fundraising: ideas exchange, tips and tricks. Fundraising catalogue as a resource. Maybe queue up a group or two that have successfully applied for grants to also talk about grants as a way to support their fundraising and awareness raising - we could do this as a separate call if there was a lot of interest. July 18: Engaging youth – finding opportunities for awareness raising and fundraising with young people. (Should the summer months not be optimal for a call, another date could be considered.)

Please contact Asmita Persaud at the SLF regarding your intention to participate. Her email is: [apersaud@stephenlewisfoundation.org](mailto:apersaud@stephenlewisfoundation.org)

Conference call: 1-888-884-4538,

Guest Code: 3443606#

*Submitted by Cathie Hiller*

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## AROUND THE REGION

### Grannies Go2gether (Treherne, Rathwell, Holland)

#### **A Special Event for the interest of members in the Manitoba Region**

The Grannies Go2gether group have invited an area resident, Linda Jonk, to show slides and speak about her recent trip to Africa. Just after Christmas Linda, her husband Tim and their family, including the four African children that they adopted some years ago, travelled to Africa to visit the families and communities of their adoptive children. In her presentation, Linda hopes to illustrate the rich heritage and culture of Africa and to share her images, her experiences and her ongoing desire for the support of the African people as they develop their own health care and education.

Our group welcomes this opportunity to educate those who attend about the Stephen Lewis Foundation and to hi-lite the efforts of our small group to raise funds in support of African grandmothers. Anyone who is interested in the work of Grannies Go2gether is most welcome to join us in our local efforts.

All are welcome to join us at Treherne United Church on Thursday, April 4 at 2pm.

*Submitted by Sandra Rex and Shirley Tate*

## Grandmothers Giving Portage La Prairie

Grandmothers Giving held their first meeting of the New Year in January. The purpose of this meeting was to determine which fund-raising events would take place and to select committee chairs. Grandmothers Giving will hold a Perennial Sale on May 11 – Mother's Day Weekend. As well, a Plant (annuals) and Bake Sale will take place at Peony Farm on May 25. Annuals and baking will again be provided by Fairholme Colony. Brenda Miller-Adams is co-coordinating these events.

We will participate in a Virtual Walk for Stride to Turn the Tide. Our new Co-Chair, Linda Sigurdson, offered to be the co-coordinator for this event. As well, Linda will chair a new project – a Fifty-Fifty Draw. A decision will be made at the April meeting of Grandmothers Giving whether or not to once again organize a Fall Supper in honour of Grandparents Day in September.

It was with sadness that Bernice Maxwell, a member of Grandmothers Giving, passed away on February 22 after a long battle with cancer. Bernice was a valued and enthusiastic supporter of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. She, and her partner Doug, contributed greatly to past fall suppers. Together, they were responsible for ensuring the turkeys were there and that the dressing and gravy were cooked and prepared to perfection. Bernice always volunteered to pick up plants and baking from Fairholme Colony where she was well known and welcomed. Always ready to volunteer, Bernice helped out with many plant sales and BBQs. She will be deeply missed.

*Submitted by Kathy Wightman*

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## Grands On The Red Selkirk



On February 8, 2019, Grands On The Red held their first Fundraising Activity - a Potluck Supper. Despite the freezing temperatures outside, one of the coldest days in February, great food and high spirits warmed everyone who attended. Placemats depicting the 15 sub-Saharan countries in which we are involved, created by member Joann Richter, provided a great deal of comment and awareness at each table. Door prizes, craft sales, 50/50 winnings, registration and donations exceeded \$900.00. Deb Radi and Nina Logan provided a presentation on their SLF trip to Rwanda, Ethiopia, Kenya and South Africa.



Photos by Kay Shewfelt-Boyd



Table Placemat - Larger photo p. 6

Cathie Hiller has shared a sample with Asmita Persaud, the SLF Campaign Officer. The template for a complete set of placemats, 15 sub-Saharan countries, will soon be available to all Grandmother Groups who hold potlucks/African themed luncheons and suppers. Our appreciation to Joann Richter for her creativity and generosity in sharing her work).

## Grands 'n' More Winnipeg

With Spring on the horizon and March trying to find a way to roll out with a lamb, we are happy to report that Grands 'n' More Winnipeg committees have been in full swing through-out this very cold time. A lot has happened since our last newsletter and there are many fun and exciting events in the planning for April.

Our Awareness team will be showing the film 'City of Joy' in conjunction with a project study they are preparing for our April Member Meeting. The Awareness team has also been asked to do a presentation at Temple Shalom on April 3. The Fundraising team will be accompanying them to display and sell our exceptional merchandise. Early May brings our annual Mother's Day Sale at Grant Park Mall and a Fundraising Luncheon is planned for the end of May with lots of activities in the planning in between.

Grands 'n' More Winnipeg wishes you all a wonderful Spring.

*Submitted by Barbara Linklater*

## **Grands 'n' More Winnipeg Visit With Grannies Gone Global**

Grands 'n' More Winnipeg once again shared an evening with the Grannies Gone Global group on March 7, 2019. The wonderful grandmothers of GGG had prepared a meal of chilli, bannock and fried bread along with a luscious chocolate dessert.

As is our tradition when meeting with the indigenous grandmothers, when they prepare the supper we at Grands 'n' More Winnipeg provide the activity. This year, Barb Linklater, assisted by Donnie Fridfinnson, devised an art project whereby each person could take home their own unique art creation...and better yet, it was an art project that the indigenous grandmothers could do at home afterwards with the grandchildren in their care.

Now that is what you call a win, win, win evening.

*Submitted by Cathie Hiller*



Photos by Jean Sorko

**Note:**

*Christine Penner founded Grannies Gone Global in Winnipeg in 2006 to help meet the needs of some of those grandmothers facing child-rearing for the second time around, and this organization also supports grandmothers in Uganda who are looking after grandchildren whose parents have died of AIDs.*

## Fall Gathering Financial Statement Manitoba Region October 20, 2018

### INCOME

Registration	1,540.00	
Handmade Card Sales	109.00	1,649.00

### EXPENSES

Welcome Kits	51.47	
Napkins	43.21	
Fruit Trays	112.98	
Chocolates	77.97	285.63

### NET PROCEEDS

**1,363.37**

### Transfer to Stephen Lewis Foundation

Donation in appreciation of the Fairholme Colony hospitality	1,000.00	
Donation re: Handmade Card Sales	109.00	<b>1,109.00</b>

### BALANCE

**254.37**

*Submitted by Barb Fletcher*



**Grands on the Red**  
Selkirk, Manitoba  
Awareness - Solidarity - Fundraising

# AFRICA





**Swaziland** Capital – Mbabane

Population 1,343,088 – 2016 estimate  
1,093,238 – 2017 census

Area 17,364 (sq km.)

» It is estimated that 26% of the adult population is HIV-positive. As of 2018, it is the 12<sup>th</sup> lowest life expectancy in the world, at 58 years.

» At 581,730 sq km, Swaziland is one of the smallest countries in Africa.

Official languages: Swazi - English

**Below is the grassroots organization we are working with in Swaziland:**

- Swaziland Action Group Against Abuse
- Swaziland Nurses Association Wellness Centre for Health Workers and their Families
- Swaziland Positive Living

**The Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign**

The Grandmothers to Grandmothers campaign was launched in response to the crisis faced by African grandmothers as they struggled to care for millions of children orphaned by AIDS.

Since 2006, more than \$33 million has been raised! The Campaign has become a dynamic global movement driven by groups of grandmothers and grandmothers in Canada, Australia, the UK and the USA.

Through a variety of creative events, including concerts, Scrabble tournaments, selling jewelry and crafts, bike-a-thons, and garage sales, these funds—with 50% of those funds sent directly to community-based organizations run by and for grandmothers raising orphaned children.

Members of the Campaign know that when grandmothers are galvanized, nothing can stop them!



Photograph by Alexi MacDonald/SP

**Where we work**

The Stephen Lewis Foundation works with community-based organizations working to turn the tide of HIV & AIDS in Africa. Since 2003, we have funded more than 1,600 initiatives, partnering with over 315 community-based organizations in the 15 African countries hardest hit by the pandemic.

These grassroots groups are the lifeline for their communities: they provide counseling and education about HIV prevention, care and treatment; distribute food, medication and other necessities; reach the sick and vulnerable through home-based health care; help orphans and vulnerable children access education and work through their grief; and support grandmothers caring for their orphaned grandchildren.



The Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign  
is an initiative of

