

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL



# CHICKADEE CHATTER

Vol 17 No 1

DKG New Brunswick

Fall 2025

*DKG -Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide*

## Building Cross Border Connections



Credit: R. Tome

DKG New Brunswick welcomed members from Maine Organization of DKG International for a weekend of fellowship while growing professionally and personally. A theme of *Passion for the Arts* introduced us to local artists along with visits to the public library and the art gallery. A more in-depth look at this event begins on Page 6.

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## DKG NEW BRUNSWICK EXECUTIVE 2025-2027

### Presidents

Dianne Caron  
Marjorie Sinclair

### First Vice President

Geri Kilburn

### Secretary

Joan Somerville

### Treasurer

Margaret Dryden

### Past President

Margie Goodin

### Parliamentarian

Margie Goodin



### MISSION STATEMENT

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

### DKG NB Theme

**D—Diversify**  
**K—Kickstart**  
**G—Globalize**  
**N—Network**  
**B—Believe**

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Dianne Caron  
2025-2027



Marjorie Sinclair  
2025-2027

Welcome to fall and a new style of leadership for DKG NB.

Working as co-presidents we hope will open the door for other members to think about stepping into leadership positions as this way they won't feel overwhelmed with responsibility. Our first event was attending the Canadian Forum Conference in Brandon, Manitoba in July where we met members from other provinces and states including our International President Beverly Hall-Maughan and some other members of the administrative board.

Our Northeast Regional Director Eileen Little holds monthly meetings which keep us informed of what is happening in the northeast states and at the international level. Using Basecamp we continue to stay connected between meetings.

We have a new theme for this biennium which we hope will

allow us to grow our membership and to focus on being an international organization. We hope to build on our present community networks as we believe the strength of our present members will give us the impetus to grow into a stronger organization.

Your executive was very busy preparing for the Cross-Border Meeting the first weekend in October. We were delighted to welcome our ARC Dr. Shar McGowan as our International speaker. We received many positive comments on the event especially the tour of the Beaverbrook Art Gallery given by our talented Roberte Melanson.

We encourage you to make time in your busy schedules to attend the meetings we have planned for the coming year. We welcome your suggestions on what you need to have a more meaningful membership.

*Dianne & Marjorie*

## News from the ARC Desk



Dr. Shar McGowan  
2024-2026

We have had a lovely autumn, I think, in most parts of Canada. As I pen these words, I am hearing geese overhead from the open window in my home office. I hope this short message finds you all well.

I want to first of all thank you for your wonderful invitation to attend the Cross-border meeting in early October. I had such a terrific time seeing Fredericton and visiting with all who attended from New Brunswick, Maine, and several other locations. You made my husband and I feel like royalty! The exceptional meeting, fellowship, and hospitality will be remembered by me for many years to come.

Our international organization is busy! If you have not yet checked out the great opportunities that exist within the Visionary Networks, I invite you to do so by logging onto DKG.org. These opportunities cast a wide net to include a

diverse range of topics and involvement for DKG members. When we say “there is something for everyone,” we truly mean it! While you are on DKG.org, look for information about *DKG Ignite*, one of the best leadership professional development opportunities around. It would be fantastic to see more Canadian members apply for this fantastic event. The Educational Excellence Committee also has a feature on DKG.org called *Impact Spotlight* that allows us to view the awesome initiatives that exist within specific Chapters. And don’t forget about our own publications: the *Collegial Exchange* and *Bulletin Journal* offer excellent opportunities for members to publish ideas, initiatives, and research.

Please also continue to join *Inside International* Zoom meetings and the Treasurers’ Talks. Remember, too, that the next International Convention will be in Aurora, Colorado, June 30 – July 4, 2026. As we head toward our second century, there is a lot for us to celebrate in DKG.

I invite you to view the website at DKG.org frequently. There you will find links to numerous resources including the Zoom link for *Inside International* and more information about the Visionary Networks.

Thank you for being an involved member of DKG. I encourage you to investigate leadership opportunities (which are endless) that exist

within DKG as a member. In the meantime, I wish you health and joy as we head into cooler temperatures.

Shar



## Canadian Project Update



Photo credit: Soaring Circle

On November 1, 2025, young designers will once again be showcasing their skills at Sask Fashion Week at the Soaring Circle Indigenous Youth Sewcase.

You can support the Sew Shapes Campaign by cutting your unused fabrics into basic shapes to be used to build sewing project kits for students.

New Brunswick’s donations to the Canadian Project have been sent to the treasurer.

Posted with permission from:  
[www.facebook.com/SOARINGCIRCLE](https://www.facebook.com/SOARINGCIRCLE)



## BETA CHAPTER CHATTER

### Beta Chapter Supports Women in Transition



Photo Credit: D Caron

Beta Chapter welcomed Jan Hicks, Executive Director of Women in Transition, as guest speaker at our September meeting. Jan began by saying that she had been a member of the Fredericton Police Force for 25 years when she decided to retire. At that time a position was being created for an Intimate Partner Co-ordinator for the city and she was hired in 2017 for the position. The Transition House Mission Statement personifies their purpose : “Transition House is a home for abused women and their children. It provides refuge, comfort and a time for healing. A measure of our success is achieved through clients who strive to live happier and healthier lives through self-improvement thereby providing hope for the future.”

The work at Transition House includes women (men sometimes) of all ages and social-economic backgrounds. Not everyone enters the Shelter which has eight rooms useable in various combinations to accommodate families. WIT is able to accommodate up to thirty clients most of whom have lost their “voice” and are unable to understand that they are being abused. In recent years partner abuse has changed due to the increase of internet use and cell phones. Now it is more apt to surface as psychological rather than physical abuse. The DEEP method of counseling is used.

D: Don’t Defend

E: Don’t Explain

E: Don’t Engage

P: Don’t Take It Personally

There are 7 full-time employees and an equal number of part-time employees. The employees are responsible for the crisis phone line, danger assessments, counselling, managing cases and monetary support. Funding is stronger now with most of it coming from the province as part of Women’s Equality.

At the end of the presentation Jan was thanked and presented with a rose by Co-president Marjorie Sinclair. A monetary donation along with school supplies was given to Jan to support the work of Transition House.

*Submitted by Joan Somerville*

## DKG NB AND MAINE STATE CROSS-BORDER CONFERENCE

### Passion for the Arts

October 4-5 was a splendour of fall colours as members from Maine, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Kentucky arrived in Fredericton, NB to participate in our DKG NB-Maine Cross-Border Conference. Thirty-six members attended the event that was hosted by DKG NB.

Following our welcome at the Chickadee Hall, Fredericton Public Library, we enjoyed meeting old and new friends during lunch. We were so pleased that our ARC (Area Representative Canada) Dr. Shar McGowan was able to attend and shared DKG information from DKG International, Canada and NB Province/State.



Photo credits: D. Phillips

We enjoyed a tour of the library situated with beautiful views of the Saint John (Wolastoq) River with its bountiful literary selections, programs, services, and local artworks for children, teenagers and adults.

Then we continued with our passion for the arts theme by walking to the Beaverbrook Art Gallery.



Our tour director was Roberte Melanson, a docent at the gallery and a member of DKG NB. Roberte gave an overview of the beautiful facility and then we moved on to the Salvadore Dali Chapel. *Santiago El Grande*, a centrepiece of the gallery's collection (1959) has been permanently placed in its own space. Its religious imagery is exceptional and Roberte explained

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Dali's faith and philosophy as she helped members interpret the masterpiece. Members were then given the privilege of spending time exploring all the creative works of art at the gallery and downtown shops displaying art and artifacts. Some members were drawn to the trail that bordered the river with its autumn scenery.

The Banquet brought members together later in the day. Our guest speaker was Joanne LeBlanc-Haley, a Canadian educator, professional storyteller, and children's author. Joanne held us in awe as she shared a story and then talked to us about her personal journey as a storyteller.

The evening had a delightful twist when DKG NB members surprised member Roberte Melanson with the Influential Woman Award for her leadership in the arts.

We had an opportunity to discuss topics relevant to DKG, our successes and challenges in our chapters, provinces and states. Members shared their experiences and gave worthwhile suggestions.

Our evening ended with a Mindfulness Activity led by our ARC, Dr. Shar McGowan. We used philosophical cards to meet and discuss personal experiences and had a terrific time networking with members.



Sunday morning brought a different aspect of the arts to our members. Judy Blake is a renowned artist of pottery. She has extensive displays throughout Canada, United States, Europe and Korea. She works in a variety of processes and her creative works are fabulous. Judy explained her works and we were able to see some of them on display.

The conference ended at noon and what a wonderful event we experienced. We met former DKG sisters and made new friends in our Delta Kappa Gamma Society while we were experiencing a passion for learning about the arts. We are looking forward to our next Cross-Border Conference!

*Submitted by Dianne Caron  
Photos credit: D. Phillips*

**Influential Woman Award 2025****Roberte Melanson**

Roberte Melanson has had a passion for the arts during her life. She is a creative artist, a retired art teacher, and a community volunteer. She serves on the Board of the Fredericton Arts Alliance, an organization that supports, promotes and advocates visual, musical, literacy and performing arts in the Fredericton region to create an inclusive platform that empowers local artists in our community.

Roberte is an active member of DKG and held the office of state/provincial president from 2017-2019.

Following her retirement from teaching in 2013, Roberte continued to teach art classes at the Fredericton Senior Centre giving workshops on art techniques such as in line-drawing.

Roberte also volunteers as a docent at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery and as an usher at The Playhouse.

We were very pleased to present Roberte with the *2025 Influential Woman Award*. She has inspired many to express their creativity and feel confidence in sharing their art.

*Submitted by Dianne Caron  
Credit: D. Phillips*



## Joanne LeBlanc-Haley's Passion for Storytelling



Joanne is a teacher, school administrator and adjunct professor. She is a founding member of the Storytellers of Canada.

This woman has a creative spirit, using the art of story-telling drawn upon her experiences working with children, university students, colleagues and community organizations.

Story-telling is her passion and her art has been enriched through teaching in Canada and beyond, in Bhutan, China, St. Lucia, and the United States. Joanne is not only a teller of stories; she has a passion for listening to others telling stories and learning from them also. She shares a love of language with members of her family.

Joanne has a Ph D in oral language development and has published a curriculum guide for teachers and university teacher candidates to involve story-telling as a component of literacy in their classrooms.

She is a published author of children's books including *Fiddleheads* and *Sidney, the Grade Three Mouse*.

*Submitted by D. Caron  
Photo credit: D. Phillips*

## Leading With Passion



DKG NB Co-presidents Marjorie Sinclair (L) and Dianne Caron (R) were joined by DKG Maine State President Rachelle Tome and Area Representative Canada Dr. Shar McGowan at the Cross-Border Meeting in Fredericton. Connecting with other leaders opens the doors to new ways of serving our present members, appealing to new members with a focus on the future.

Credit: R. Tome



## Judy Blake's Passion for Pottery



Judy Blake is a renowned Canadian artist. One of her passions for her pottery work is experimentation on unglazed products using alternative firing techniques such as smoke-fired, sawdust firing, naked raku and saggar firing to create unique results. Her works of art have depth and intricate characteristics.

Judy, as a child, moved to New Brunswick from Ontario. She became an elementary school teacher, working in Labrador City and took pottery classes in the evening. Following her teaching career, she decided that art was her passion and returned to NB. Presently, she has her own studio in Lincoln, a community just outside Fredericton.

Throughout her life, Judy has travelled and studied in Canada and the United States. She has been inspired by Southwest American Indian and Mexican pottery. One area of her recent creativity is her artistry using birds as a theme.

Judy has received numerous awards and has displayed her works at exhibitions across Canada, United States and Korea. Jonathon Bancroft-Snell, owner of Canada's largest Ceramic Art Gallery has written a book about Judy's work entitled *Judy Blake*.

Judy is a mentor for young local artists as she continues her creative work

*Submitted by D. Caron  
Photo Credit: D. Phillips*

## Canadian Forum Conference

July 10-12, 2025

Brandon, Manitoba

Submitted by DKG NB Co-presidents Dianne Caron and Marjorie Sinclair



Photo: L. McDevitt

The theme of the conference was *Unite, Uplift, Inspire* and indeed those words symbolized our days at the conference. We were uplifted by excellent keynote speakers including Roseann Runte “Canadians Who Innovate: The Trailblazers and Ideas that are Changing the World”, Dr. Yvonne Vizina “Indigenous Epistemologies in Teaching and Learning”, and Dr. Brenda Stoesz “Empowering or Undermining? Understanding the Role of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Today’s Teaching and Learning Context”. Our learning did not stop there.

We had several break-out sessions with “top” women educators, most of whom were DKG members with expertise in their fields. It was difficult to choose the special interest sessions with the varied topics.

We also discovered about the lives of other DKG members through chatting, gathering for meals and events, and we gained knowledge about their life experiences. Through networking, we made new friends and enriched former friendships. We were thrilled to have our DKG International President, Dr. Beverly Hall-Maughan (Tennessee), global education specialist Connie Rensink (Texas) and several members and guests from United States and Canada.

Our last day was eventful. We drove to Winnipeg for an extension day of learning. Our first stop was *The Forks*, a meeting place at the junction of the Assiniboine and Red rivers. Historically it was a gathering place for over 600 years as an Indigenous and European trading post and settlement area for builders of the railway and thousands of immigrants. We enjoyed shops and eateries on our visit.

The Assiniboine and Red rivers area is one of the most picturesque in downtown Winnipeg with its River Path, pedestrian bridge, and multiple historical sites on the banks. During our river

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boat excursion, we learned about the history of Louis Riel who fought for his people's rights and is known as the founder of Manitoba.

Our last adventure was a self-guided tour of the *Museum of Human Rights*. It was a creative architectural structure that opened in 2014 at *The Forks* in Winnipeg. The museum explores the human rights of people in Canada and beyond for the purpose of enhancing public understanding, promoting respect for all cultures and diversities.

We encourage you, as DKG members, to attend at least one of our International or Canadian Conferences/Conventions. You will have an experience of learning and socializing in an enjoyable, warm environment of international women educators.



### **Find Inspiration Through the Art and Science of Guided Imagery** Special Interest Session presented by Diane Phillips



This would be a wonderful activity for teachers to quiet children and have them reflect upon whatever is important to them. It teaches collaboration, respect for others, appreciation for personal artistry and inner passion. It takes little preparation but is a very worthwhile project.

I would like to share an experience that I had when I attended this special interest session on July 12<sup>th</sup>. Several attendees were seated at tables with items in the centre of each – cotton balls, watercolour paints, a glass half filled with water, a few small inexpensive paint brushes, and Q-tips.

Diane Phillips explained the rationale behind Guided Imagery. Science and art impact our brain and evoke a range of emotions. We learned that when we view art, our mind and body are connected. Art can foster empathy and comfort or it can be very disturbing. When we close our eyes and engage our senses, we experience physical sensations. When we reflect upon a scene in our mind's eyes, we are painting images that cannot be taken from us. Thinking about

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a happy or calming place calms our blood-pressure and releases our stress. There is no art without science because it affects our bodies and our minds. It is an individual process since people when viewing art often see totally different perspectives.

The Activity: We were instructed that we were not allowed to talk, not allowed to say one word. We were allowed to indicate our needs by using hand signals. Once we began the process, there would be complete silence in the room. No one was allowed to get up until the end when we were instructed to do so.

We each picked up a piece of paper, some larger than others, our choice and take it back to our seats. We were told to close our eyes and think about a scene that captured us – it might be our happy place, our calming place, an experience that we liked, etc. When we were ready, we could open our eyes and use the implements in the middle of the table to paint the picture in our mind. We had to share because there was only one set of watercolours and one-half glass of water. We were not allowed to ask for an item, but we could point and we often had to wait for our item of choice if someone else was using it. Even if there was spillage or breakage, still it was silent. Each person was focused on the creation.

After a designated time, the leader directed us to stop, rise and view every painting or creation. Some were completely finished, some only partially but it did not matter. If you did not want to have someone else look at yours, you just turned it over. We could not speak during the viewing. It was non-judgemental and showed respect for the work of others. If we wanted to share our “awe” about a painting, we might indicate using a thumbs up or a smile if we caught the artist’s eye. Every person walked from table to table to view the artistry. At the end of the session, Diane asked if anyone would like to share what they had painted and why it was important to them. Only a few did this. There was no pressure to speak.

What did I learn from this activity? Participants were able to seek their own mind’s eye view and express it in any meaningful way. Science and art were connected through our brain and our hands. We collaborated through sharing and showed respect for others at our table and for all those who allowed us to view their works while calming our bodies.

*Submitted by Dianne Caron*

## **Leadership Discovery Centre Presentation**

Heather Meginbir LDC NW Member

I received a call in August 2024 from Tennessee. I immediately thought it was a scam. I know no one in Tennessee and a scam artist was not going to pull a fast one on me...at the same time I received a message regarding DKG. Once I realized my mistake, I took the call and after a few minutes I realized I was talking to our International President, Beverly Hall Maughan. She very graciously asked me to join the Leadership Discovery team. I said I would give my answer in a few days. I knew absolutely nothing about the Centre located on the International website. However, when the international president asks for your input and

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commitment it is hard to say no. SO....

Leadership is one of the pillars that our society is built on., and that is the main objective of the LDC. Our LDC committee is made up of members from Norway, Canada, New Mexico, Pennsylvania; our chair, Dorrie Powell from Tennessee, has done a phenomenal job leading the committee and of course, our International President Beverly Hall Maughan and our IT fellow, Victor, provides us with a vision, wisdom and information. Thus we have a variety of perspectives to draw from.

What do we do?

Keeping in mind **Leaders are not born, they are created** the society has made an enormous effort for our members to take on leadership roles and training within the organization. The Leadership Discovery Centre is a relatively new branch of the society wanting to support all leadership roles, not just in DKG. We solicit/select/curate materials related to leadership whether for PD or for use with the DKG leadership at all levels both inside and outside of DKG. We encourage members to take on leadership roles. We provide opportunities for professional and personal development. We want to provide resources and training to support educators to improve job performance and satisfaction. A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way. A leader does not necessarily need a podium. She can be in any chair in the room...even on the edge, mentoring or throwing out ideas. We want to share how being a leader can be implemented. Being a leader means learning according to JFK and the Leadership Discovery team wants to share those materials with you.

The Leadership Discovery Centre has its own tab on the *dkg.org* website with 2 drop down choices:

- Leadership resources: You will find articles, power points, poetry, videos, blogs all related to leadership. Anyone can submit these texts. Some presentations will have to be redone in a different format. The committee often scavenges texts from the *Bulletin* or the *Collegial Exchange* so one can publish on both forums. The section is fluid and is updated at times and created by the committee.
- External resources: These items are links to books, blogs and videos recommended by the society.
- Submissions: We look forward to receiving any materials regarding leadership. At the **Submit Here** button you will find the list of all the DKG Applications. Scroll down to the **Leadership Discovery Centre** to find the rubric, submission guidelines and electronic cover sheets.

Currently we are looking for state training models such as the one Tennessee has posted on the LDC site.

### Virtual Events:

If a state or chapter is planning a special virtual event and wants to open it up to the whole membership, we can do that.

- Recorded virtual events cannot be stored, but can be advertised before hand for members to

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join and observe. (The rotating banner across the DKG International Website.) We are hoping in the future we can provide a link for a number of days for a member to view the event if she could not join at the time. Chapter or state organizations, standing committees can post an event with a guest speaker; it can include virtual webinars, workshops, seminars, panel discussions, programs or any other virtual activities. The approval and posting process will take at least 10 days.

- To submit virtual leadership events for the shared activities calendar, complete the electronic cover sheet available under the “*Submit here*” button at the LDC tab of the DKG website. Many of you have observed the rotating banner on the International web page.

We heartily encourage state, chapter presidents and committee chairs and members to utilize this tool.

I am so very thankful that my husband did not pick up the phone that day Beverly called as he is often rude to “criminal scammers.” I would like to end with encouraging members to take the opportunity to participate in committees or take on positions if you are able. You will learn lots, meet new people and “up lift” your well being as a DKG member.

### Highlights from International

#### Bylaws Task Force

- At the 2026 International Convention, a new set of Bylaws will be presented for members to consider and vote on. States may continue with their bylaws and rules as long as they do not conflict with international governing documents. The Administrative Board will be meeting in November to review and discuss the draft Bylaws. Once they have completed their discussions the draft Bylaws will be posted to the *dkg.org* website. Town Hall meetings are planned so you can have an opportunity to review and discuss the draft document prior to voting at the convention in Colorado. ARC Dr. Shar McGowan is on the Bylaws Revision Task Force.

#### Membership

- At the September Northeast State Organization Presidents Meeting Membership and Expansion Committee Chair Patti Belknap and other members gave a presentation on their role with a special focus on how to connect with colleges and universities with the goal of creating a collegiate chapter. You can check out the amazing things collegiate members are doing at East Texas A & M University by following the Delta Kappa Gamma East Texas Collegiate Facebook page.

#### Centennial Celebration

A special Centennial Celebration Committee has been formed with Chair Marcie Erickson. Under *Events* on the website you can find information about the plans for the centenary. US members are advocating for an Annie Webb Blanton stamp.

**International Conference**  
New Orleans, LA  
July 31-August 2, 2025



Credit: S. MacKay

Thank you for inviting us to write an article about *The International Conference* held in New Orleans this summer.

The conference was held from July 31st to August the 2nd in the beautiful city of New Orleans. We went down a few days early to enjoy the sights and the food of the city. New Orleans is often referred to as *NOLA* or *The Big Easy*.

We were particularly interested in practicing our “Acadian French”, but we could not find anyone who spoke French. The French are referred to as *The Cajuns*, *les Cadjins* or *les Cadiens*. We took a “sightseeing trip” and learned about the history, the floods, burial rituals etc. It’s a fascinating city. As well, the food is delicious. We had gumbo, beignets and lots of sazeracs. The keynote speaker on Friday was Merlyna Valentine. Her bio reads. “Merlyna is a brilliant woman who lost her limbs to sepsis and has gone on to be a powerful speaker, making a huge impact in this world”. She shared messages about the limitless possibilities people with disabilities possess. Using her book, “Daisy”, she also spoke about accepting ones’ differences. She promotes inclusive environments with her powerful story of persevering and reminding others to accept and celebrate ones’ differences. She talked about what’s possible in the face of daunting obstacles.

One of the interesting “Breakout Sessions” was done by Nita Scott. Nita was a previous Executive Director of DKG International. The title of her session was “Reflections from the Barn to

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the Boardroom: Embracing Life's Lessons".

As a member of the International Communications and Marketing Committee, I (Anne MacKay Clifford) did a session called "Write Like a Pro: How to Create Dynamic Content for Publication."

We attended the DKGIEF event aboard the *Creole Queen* on Friday. This was a dinner cruise on the Mississippi River. The fundraiser money goes to support and encourage intercultural understanding, encourage standards of excellence in education and assist and cooperate with schools, colleges, universities, and other persons, organizations, trust funds, or foundations in support, encouragement, and improvement of education.

Congratulations to Dr. Debra B LeBlanc! She was the winner of the 2025 International Achievement Award. Debbie was the International President for 2022-2024.

Members from Finland, Japan, Mexico and the Netherlands provided *Inspirations* in their native language. The DKG song was sung in Spanish.

The Conference provided a unique opportunity to network with other DKG members "while soaking in the vibrant atmosphere of New Orleans".

Submitted by: Sheila MacKay & Anne MacKay Clifford

## Members Matter

Members belonging to DKG NB's Beta Chapter live in various areas of the province that are a distance from the Fredericton location of the majority of the members. Due to distance these members are unable to attend meetings regularly. The Executive wanted these members to feel valued and connected to the chapter. On August 22, 2025, a group of us met at the Big Stop Restaurant in Salisbury to socialize and enjoy a meal. This was deemed a successful outing and it was decided that we would plan some other events during the year.

President Caron keeps members informed about events happening in the lives of all members. We are invited to send cards and notes to members who are ill, had surgery or grieving. We want those members to know we are concerned for their welfare and are sending them positive thoughts that brighter days are ahead. We look forward to having them join us at meetings or social events.

Students are back in school for another year of learning. Our working members will have a very busy year ahead of them as the NB Government begins a restructuring of K-12 education across the province which will include incorporating more Artificial Intelligence into the classroom.





## The Book Nook

### Check Out These Good Reads from Joan Somerville

As the long days of winter approach, it's always comforting to curl up with a warm blanket and an interesting book. Here are a few suggestions that I hope you will enjoy.

#### ***Finding Flora***

Elinor Florence (2025)

This historical fiction is set in central Alberta in the early 1900s when the railway was being built and the Dominion of Canada was allotting homesteaders land.

Flora, a Scottish immigrant trying to escape from an abusive husband, claims a 320 acre homestead and joins forces with other like-minded women. It's an interesting story of how the characters show grit among the hardships and societal tensions that helped shape Canada's West.

#### ***The Teacher of Auschwitz***

Wendy Holden (2025)

This book, based on the experiences of Fredy Hirsch, shines a light on a remarkable individual, a 27 year old homosexual Jewish athlete who fought to protect the innocence and hope of hundreds of Jewish children amid the depravity and despair of the Holocaust.

For decades Fredy's memory was either forgotten or denigrated by Communists and homophobes which was a terrible betrayal to his survivors who in 2016 erected a memorial in Aachen to celebrate his commitment to the children in his care. Although many of the characters are fiction, the life of Fredy during the Holocaust was meticulously researched from archives and survivor testimonials.

#### ***When the World Fell Silent***

Donna Jones Alward (2024)

This book is set in Halifax (1917) when the collision of the "Mont Blanc" and the "Imo" vessels in the Halifax Harbour levelled an entire part of the city killing nearly 2000 and injuring 9000 more people.

Nora Crowell, a nurse employed at the new Camp Hill Hospital. and Charlotte Campbell, a young war widow, find their lives drastically changed when their lives intersect in the aftermath of the explosion. It is an unforgettable story of sacrifice, hope, and second chances.

#### ***The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot***

Marianne Cronin (2021)

This book is the story of two unlikely friends—Lenni is a 17 year old living in the "Terminal Ward" at the Princess Royal Hospital and Margot is an 83 year old resident waiting to die.

They meet in the Arts and Crafts class and when they realize that their ages add up to one hun-

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dred years, they devise a plan to create one hundred paintings showcasing the story of the century they have lived.

It is a story about the power of living each day to the fullest, a tribute to story telling and a reminder of friendship shared with others.

***the little liar: a novel***  
Mitch Albion (2023)

Albion examines the human repercussions of deception by interviewing the stories of Jewish siblings (Nico & Sebastian) and their friend Fannie. He reveals the consequences of each person's honesty and dishonesty through the war years, the concentration camps and the years followed until they travel back to Salonika, Greece where Jewish families have been rounded up and sent by train to their doom in Auschwitz.

The narrator is Truth who revealed that he had been cast out of heaven because he warned God that "Man will be false and tell lies." As a result he needed a voice that could warn that a lie told once is easy to expose but a lie told a thousand times can look like the truth. The novel is a moving parable that explores honesty, survival, revenge and devotion.

### Cross Border Memories





## DKG International Educators Foundation



Vision: Giving to Educate the World

March 1, 2026 DKGIEF Education Project Award Application

May 1, 2026 DKGIEF CIPD Application

### Submissions Deadlines

December 1, 2025 DKG Ignite Applications

December 15, 2025 *Bulletin: Collegial Exchange* Submissions

February 1, 2026 Scholarship Applications

February 15, 2026 Arts and Humanities Submissions for Spring Gallery

Ongoing Leadership Discovery Centre Submissions

Ongoing Membership Spotlight Submissions

### Save the Date

November 4, 2025 Inside International 2:30 PM AT on Zoom

November 5, 2025 DKG NB Beta Chapter Meeting, K of C Hall, Fredericton

November 11, 2025 Inside Connections (Membership & Expansion) 7:30 PM AT

November 20, 2025 Inside Impact (EEC) 7:30 PM AT

June 30-July 4, 2026 International Convention, Aurora, Colorado

### NEXT PUBLICATION DEADLINE January 15, 2026

**Beta members submit items to Dianne Caron dicaron47@gmail.com  
Editorial Staff - Marjorie Sinclair, Dianne Caron**