



# CHICKADEE CHATTER

Vol 16 No 3

DKG New Brunswick

Spring 2025

*DKG -Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide*

## DKG NB Installs New Executive 2025-2027



Credit: M. Goodin

DKG NB installed its executive for the 2025-2027 biennium at the May 21, 2025, AGM held in Fredericton. Marjorie Sinclair (L) and Dianne Caron (R) will serve as Co-Presidents. Geri Kilburn will serve as Vice-President and was honoured with a rose. Joan Somerville will be continuing in her role as Secretary. Margaret Dryden who was unable to attend will be Treasurer.

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## DKG NEW BRUNSWICK EXECUTIVE 2023-2025

### President

Dianne Caron

### First Vice President

Marjorie Sinclair

### Second Vice President

TBD

### 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 Motto *Shine in DKG*

**Light the path to Education  
Glow with Friendship  
Sparkle with Leadership**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dianne Caron  
2023-2025

Spring Greetings to all DKG NB members,

With the global uncertainty that exists in the present day, our DKG International President Dr. Beverley Hall-Maughan has informed us that the DKG Administration is concerned for all DKG members of our Society. Our Society is built on respect for one another with the purpose of impacting education excellence worldwide.

Although DKG NB is small in number, we have been working diligently to increase our membership and work towards our DKG purposes. This year, we have given 2 - \$100 bursaries for early career educators and we have added 4 Collegiate members to our register. The scholarship committee has granted 4 - \$500 bursaries to teacher candidates at the University of New Brunswick. Two of our Collegiate members received Isabel Kane Scholarships to assist with their education.

We will be hosting our DKG State Cultural Exchange with Maine, USA in September. Maine State President, Priscilla McFarland, and I have written an article for *The Collegial Exchange* on our cross-border experiences that began in 1962 and are continuing in the future.

DKG needs all of us to maintain our membership. There are many opportunities to participate in our chapter / province and I encourage all members to get involved.

I urge you to consider attending the DKG Canadian Forum Conference in Brandon, Manitoba July 10-12, 2025. If you are planning on attending, the provincial budget has funds to assist members with costs.

I would like to thank and acknowledge members of DKG NB Executive: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Marjorie Sinclair, Secretary - Joan Somerville, Treasurer – Margaret Dryden, Parliamentarian – Margie Goodin, and Beta Chapter President – Geri Kilburn. These women have been very helpful in decision - making and I appreciate their commitment to DKG NB.

Enjoy the summer. I hope to see you all in September.

*Dianne Caron  
DKG NB Provincial President*

## News from the ARC Desk



Dr. Shar McGowan  
2024-2026

It's so lovely to pen these few words for your wonderful newsletter now that spring has arrived! I hope this short message finds you all well.

We are rapidly heading toward our Canadian Forum Conference in Brandon, Manitoba, from July 10 – 12 (with an extension day on Sunday, July 13) to be held at the Victoria Inn Hotel and Conference Center. The theme is *Unite, Uplift, Inspire!* The program features a number of wonderful speakers and guests. Please consider registering and attending if you have not done so already. The link is <https://simpli.events/e/e28b4c>. Please also remember the other terrific DKG Conferences that will likewise be held this summer: The 2025 DKG International Conference will be held in New Orleans July 29-August 2 with SOLT (State Organization Leadership Training) occurring two days prior to the conference. The European Forum Conference will be held at

the University of Essex in Brighton, England, July 18 – 20, and the Latin America Forum Conference will be held September 25-28 in Monterrey, Mexico. All are welcome to attend one or more conferences. There is nothing like getting to know our DKG friends from far-away places!

There have been several conversations and questions insofar as travelling to other countries amidst current news events. The Administrative Board of DKG International is aware of members' concerns and is actively engaging with members to offer acknowledgement of these concerns and support for all members' personal decisions insofar as travel. You may wish to view our International President's message in the latest edition of DKG News which is available once you log onto DKG.org.

DKG International has announced the launch of the Centennial Celebration Campaign—an initiative to raise funds that will support our commemorative activities, programs, and events. The campaign will officially launch on May 11 of this year, and we invite all members to join in honouring 100 years of impact and sisterhood by contributing \$19.29—a meaningful nod to the year DKG was founded.

To keep informed of all the wonderful programs and initiatives of our International Society, I invite you to view the website at DKG.org frequent-

ly. There you will find links to numerous resources including the Zoom link for *Inside International* and the DKG publications.

Thank you for being an involved member of DKG. I wish you health and joy as we head into summer.

Shar



## Canadian Project Update

Soaring Circle shared a number of amazing events on their Facebook page. Indigenous students in Grades 7-12 were invited to submit a drawing for the 2025 WOVEN Blanket Design Contest. The winner was Prairie from Sturgeon Lake First Nation.

Gwen Harper and students at St. Theresa Point First Nation learned about Red Dress Day by making red skirts and shirts.



Posted with permission: <https://www.facebook.com/SOARINGCIRCLE>



## BETA CHAPTER CHATTER

### February's Online Program



On February 5, 2025, DKG NB invited Canadian and US members to join us for our celebration of *Black History Month*.

Our speaker was Thandiwe McCarthy, an advocate for community wellness, who grew up in Woodstock, NB. On a personal note, he deeply loved his grandmother where race was not in her language. She would tell him “2 feet and a heart beat” whenever he came to her with a problem. Identity wasn’t taught by his grandmother rather faith in life. He was being raised brave and not black.

As a young man who enjoyed reading and writing, he frequently uses poetry instead of prose to make his message more engaging and passionate. His poetry has been published in *AfriCANthology: Perspectives of Black Canadian Poets* and his essays in the *Nova Scotia Advocate*. In 2022 he performed his poetry at the Atlantic Frye Festival and his exhibit *Rediscovering the Roots of Black New Brunswickers* was featured at the University of New Brunswick’s Art Centre. He is a culture-correspondent for Maritime EDIT, a program that highlights Black community leaders and artists. He has co-founded the New Brunswick Black Artists Alliance and has assisted in the republication of a 1972 history book titled *The Blacks in New Brunswick*. His future work *Still Here* celebrates 15 Black NB families through print and photos that will include an exhibition at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery in Fredericton in 2026.

Information adapted from [canadacouncil.ca/spotlight/2023](http://canadacouncil.ca/spotlight/2023) and <http://www.byblacks.com/entertainment/books>. Photo credit: Thandiwe McCarthy



### DKG NB Honours 40 Year Member

Congratulations are extended to Beta member, Anne Mitton, in recognition of her 40 years as a member of DKG New Brunswick. During her years of service she participated in committees, presented programs, and was a speaker at our Cross Border Meeting in 2019.

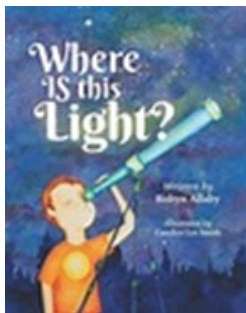
Ann is an author and she shared one of her recent writings with us. It can be found in *The Writing Corner* on page 8.

## BETA CHAPTER CHATTER

### Local Author Inspires Beta Members



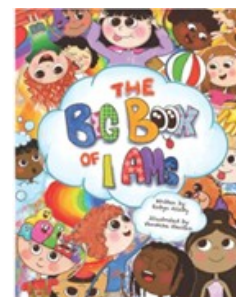
DKG NB was delighted to have award winning educator and best-selling author, Robyn Allaby, speak to the Beta members at their April 2, 2025, meeting. Robyn has taught a variety of grades and worked in high school administration. In addition to writing, she is a certified yoga instructor, and Canfield Trainer helping others reach their potential and achieve their dreams. She also enjoys quilting and knitting and is very active in nature. President Caron presented her with a red rose.



Robyn's book, *Where Is This Light?*, encourages young children to use positive self-thought that leads to good behaviour. It has an accompanying book as a guide and children develop a sense that their light is within them and it grows stronger when they are kind and helpful to others.

*The Big Book of I AMs* is a workbook tool for children to learn positive affirmations that lead to building self-confidence and self-esteem.

These books are available locally at Westminster Books and Chapters in Fredericton and online from Amazon Canada or Amazon US.



## DKG NB Recognizes Young Educators



L to R: President Dianne Caron, Collegiate Member Ebunoluwa Agholor, UNB Teacher Candidates, Julia DiCarlo, Stephanie Cornect, Jacob Lyons



Kate Giberson  
Teacher Candidate



Omolola Oyerinde  
Collegiate Member

DKG NB members presented Isabel Kane Scholarships to two of our collegiate members, Omolola Oyerinde and Ebunoluwa Agholor. Four UNB Teacher Candidates, Julia DiCarlo; Stephanie Cornect; Jacob Lyons and Kate Giberson, were given \$500 bursaries. At the April 9, 2025, meeting some of these talented young educators were able to be presented with their bursaries and a certificate recognizing this achievement. Students in our schools will be in good hands when these young people enter the work force.



### Tip of the Hat

DKG NB First Vice-president and Editor Marjorie Sinclair was honoured with a Certificate of Merit at the New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers Annual General Meeting held in the Miramichi on May 14, 2025, for her research on the history of the organization. The research culminated in the book *The Bell Rang 50 Years Ago: A Brief NBSRT History*.



## Gathering in a Spirit of Fellowship



Credit: D. Caron

Beta members recognize the value of personal meetings and in order for those to happen we rely on having a space that provides the opportunity to host guest speakers, conduct our business and enjoy refreshments. Member Kathie Berry has provided that space by reserving the social room in her apartment building and assisting with organizing it to meet the needs of the users. DKG NB Secretary Joan Somerville presented Kathie with a red rose in appreciation of all she does to promote the Society in Fredericton.

### **Cross Border Conference with NB and Maine**

### **Passion for the Arts**

**October 4-5, 2025**

**Fredericton, NB**

**Guest Speaker: ARC Shar McGowan**

**Explore a variety of artistry by touring the Beaverbrook Art Gallery, checking out craftsmanship displays and learning about local artists**

## *The Writing Corner*



### **Echoes**

by

*M. Anne Mitton*

Amara sits near the four sentinel trees outside her home. The trees were named elephant legs by the children. She holds a maize dinner in a wooden bowl, awaiting the return of her husband, Mandla. He is a member of the anti-poaching unit, men who patrol for those who slaughter the largest animal on earth. Elephants are sought for their tusks and as trophies for rich men, while knowing the risk of extinction for these animals. Their ivory tusks are ground for a medicinal promise of male prowess or made into ivory trinkets to sit on glass tables.

Mandla is from the Zulu tribe where the elephant is revered. Each year he has watched men shatter the habitat of the elephant. He believes ancestral spirits live in them. He organized the campaign to close the black market sales of ivory, making poaching a crime. His hunting of poachers is legendary.

Last month, the patrol found the carcass of their favourite elephant, Nellie, named after a storm that had swept the village. She was the matriarch of the herd. For close to two years they had watched her body grow and give birth to a male calf. When it was born, there was a contest among the children to see who would name it. Mandla knew the night it would have happened. It was a poacher's moon, full of light to reflect the pearl gleaming on her tusks. She often slept standing up with her calf beside her, its trunk curled into a pillow.

There was an avalanche of grief in the village when it was known Nellie's tusks had been severed, allowing infection to rage through her body. Mandla had witnessed her herd standing in a grieving circle. Each beast gathered earth and sticks and placed them on her decaying carcass. The tranquilizer dart was covered first. They stood in a communion of sorrow. The bull elephant alerted the Gods with a roar to open the heavens to acknowledge Nellie's spirit had found another home.

It was after Nellie's death, Mandla's nightmares began. They were always the same, Nellie walking softly as a cloud, her feet creating musical rumblings in the earth, until a shot is fired. He shouts a warning but it was too late. His shouting does not stop until Amara holds him.

Last week, during a full moon, it was rumored the poachers were seen where Nellie's herd had gathered. Mandla and two others left to patrol the area. They were to have returned three days ago. A shadow of fear crept through the village. Some said the roar of the bull elephant could be heard each night they were late.

Amara heard the truck before she saw it; she placed the wooden bowl on the ground and shielded her eyes from the sun. She prayed it was the brightness that made it appear there were only two men in the truck.



## Nomination for ARC 2026-2028

*Editor's Note: This year we only have one nomination for ARC 2026-2028. The voting procedures to select a nominee require the SOP to conduct an election by secret ballot at the provincial Spring Conference or Convention or Annual General Meeting.*

### Nominee Angela Voutier



Angel Voutier is a dedicated, hard-working, DKG leader and educator. She was born in Perth-Andover and attended UNB for her B Ed before moving to Manitoba. She is sincere, honest, and pleasant. This year she is chair of the Canadian Forum Conference in Brandon, Manitoba. She has extensive experience in DKG leadership and serving on committees.

I have included her academic accomplishments:

**PhD Candidate Inclusive Education.** University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Canada. Dissertation in progress: *Developing Inclusive Schools. School Leaders' Perspectives on Policy to Practice.*

**M Ed Curriculum and Instruction.** Brandon University, Brandon, MB, Canada.

**B Ed Secondary Arts.** University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, NB, Canada.

Her current research focuses are:

- Critical Theory
- Inclusive Education
- School Leadership
- Women in School Leadership
- School and Staff Development
- Indigenous Education

### Wanted—DKGIEF Directors!

Immediate Past President Dr. Debbie LeBlanc spoke to the Northeast Regional Presidents about the opportunity available to 2 members to serve as a director for the foundation.

DKGIEF is a working board and as a director you will be responsible to fundraise, manage and distribute funds according to the foundation's mission statement and bylaws.

Check the International website under DKGIEF Directors for the information sheet, rubric and application form. The application deadline is September 1, 2025. As a director you will serve for a term of 4 years and will be expected to attend conferences/conventions and possibly present a workshop. You will meet twice a year in Austin, Texas and remotely on Zoom at other times.



**DKG Canadian Forum Conference - Brandon. Manitoba - July 10-12, 2025****Theme: Unite, Uplift, Inspire**

Venue: The Victoria Inn - Brandon, Manitoba

Registration: Early Bird before May 15 - \$200 Member \$250 Non-Member

After May 15 - \$250 Member \$300 Non-Member

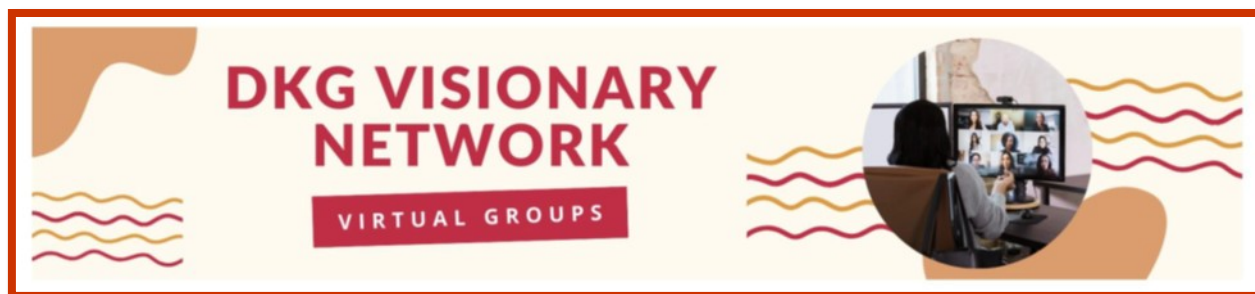
**Registration is now open!** There will be many interesting speakers on a wide variety of topics, including DKG Fraser Shores member Sarah Wethered who will be speaking on "From Dewey to Deer" and the new library organization with which she is involved.

The optional excursion after the conference on Sunday, July 13 is a trip to Winnipeg to visit the Canadian Museum of Human Rights, explore The Forks, and enjoy a scenic River Cruise Tour along the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. The price for this excursion is \$150.

The Victoria Inn - DKG Conference Rate (Hot breakfast is included) – Single - \$140.99, Double - \$150.99.

More information and the registration link is available on the DKG Manitoba website: <https://www.dkgmanitoba.org/>

It is open as well at the DKG International website: [https://www.dkg.org/DKGSII/DKGSII/Events/Related\\_events.aspx?hkey=95309d6e-39a6-42c6-a61e-14875fb5fadc](https://www.dkg.org/DKGSII/DKGSII/Events/Related_events.aspx?hkey=95309d6e-39a6-42c6-a61e-14875fb5fadc)

**DKG Visionary Network Groups !**

Looking for an affinity group to foster your professional or personal growth?  
Interested in building a network of like-minded DKG members?  
Seeking a system for offering and /or receiving support?

***Look no more....The DKG Visionary Network is the answer!***

Want to know more about the upcoming DKG Visionary Network groups?

***View the DKG Visionary Network Group Details or visit the DKG Visionary Network.***

<https://www.dkg.org/DKGSII/Events/Virtual-Events-Around-DKG/Visionary-Network.aspx>

## Building the Next DKG Slate of Nominees Begins With YOU

Your invitation to DKG highlighted your leadership potential. Are you ready to apply for an elected position at the international level, or can you encourage another member to do so? The International Nominating Committee (INC) will begin accepting applications in the summer of 2025. The deadline for applying is September 15, 2025. The time to plan and recruit is now! As a DKG member, you can take steps to move our organization into #SecondCenturyDKG. Leadership is crucial for the growth of our organization, so please give careful consideration to this important task.

All qualifications and recommendations for applicants for each position are listed in the *International Standing Rules* (ISR) 8.103. These are the **only** qualifications the INC will consider when evaluating applications. Act now! Assess your interests and skills alongside the qualifications listed in ISR 8.103.

### Ignore commonly assumed misconceptions.

Applicants do not **need to** have. . .

- Earned a doctorate
- Attended Leadership Management Seminar (Ignite)
- Attended a given number of international conferences/conventions
- Held a certain number of specific state positions
- Been a member for a minimum number of years

The duties and responsibilities of the elected INC members are detailed in the *Constitution* Article VIII Section B.8.b.

INC members MAY NOT...

- Recruit applicants
- Assist applicants in any way with the application process
- Discuss an application with anyone other than another INC member
- Support or advocate for a nominee in any manner

Guidelines and applications will be posted on the DKG website in May 2025. Additionally, the International Nominating Committee will present at two Inside International sessions to review the application process.

Mark your calendars for one or both sessions:

- ~ Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 12:30 p.m. Central Time
- ~ Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. Central Time





## DKG International Educators Foundation



Vision: Giving to Educate the World

November 1, 2025 DKGIEF CISP Application

November 1, 2025 DKGIEF CIPD Application

### Submissions Deadlines

July 24, 2025 Last day to register for International Conference

August 1, 2025 *Bulletin: Collegial Exchange* Submissions

September 1, 2025 International Speakers Fund Application

September 15, 2025 Arts & Humanities Gallery Submissions

Ongoing Bylaws Revisions Task Force Submissions

### Save the Date

July 10-12, 2025 Canadian Forum Conference, Brandon, Manitoba

July 18-20, 2025 European Forum Conference, Brighton, England

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

September 3, 2025 DKG NB Beta Chapter Meeting, Fredericton

September 25-28, 2025 Latin America Forum Conference, Monterrey, Mexico

October 4-5, 2025 Cross Border Meeting, Fredericton, NB

## NEXT PUBLICATION DEADLINE September 15, 2025

**Beta members submit items to Dianne Caron [dicaron47@gmail.com](mailto:dicaron47@gmail.com)  
Editorial Staff - Marjorie Sinclair, Dianne Caron**