

SOROPTIMISTS IN ACTION

Western Canada Region – Fall 2022

2022-2023 Board

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Governor's Message

Eyes on the Prize

I love my Governor-Elect, Chari Grant. She is on top of everything. She immediately recognized that I need someone to back-stop me and occasionally rein me in. And she's so gracious. She very gently cautioned me that perhaps some clubs were feeling a tad overwhelmed with all the . . . opportunities in the Region . . . Members and clubs can get involved in No Barriers. Period., our Regional menstrual equity program. We have an Advocacy Committee to address The Bigger Picture. We talked about social media and other strategies for recruiting at Retreat.

I'm hoping clubs will respond to the challenge to add one more Live Your Dream Award to the portfolio, and participate in Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls, either alone or partnering with another club. The Virtual Career Library is poised to become a huge asset, by finding, interviewing and adding more mentors. The templates for the Soroptimist Leadership Institute, pioneered by SI Victoria Westshore, are available to clubs for adding a keen younger member and a sponsor. Our Fundraising Team is poised to assist you in finding sponsors. Phew.

Okay, here's the deal. Years ago a business colleague said, "Suzanne, we do the best we can with the resources we have." So I will keep on tossing opportunities your way. Opportunities to be involved at the Region level, meet new people, learn new skills. Opportunities to take on a new responsibility in your club (even something nobody has done before!), to try new ideas on for size, to reach out in your community on behalf of women and girls. All with our eyes on the prize: vibrant, active, fun clubs that are part of investing in the dreams of half a million women and girls in the next 10 years. And remembering that we do the best we can with the resources we have, I invite you to try some of these opportunities and, as Governor-Elect Chari said at Region Conference, Dare to Suck! (because you won't actually suck, you know? you are awesome)





One in three women and girls experience physical or sexual violence in their lifetime, most frequently by an intimate partner.

One hundred thirty-seven women are killed by a member of their family every day.

Fewer than 40 per cent of the women who experience violence seek help of any sort.

25 November is **The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women**, and the first day of the 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence.

The **16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence** is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November and runs until 10 December, **Human Rights Day**. It was started by activists at the inaugural Women’s Global Leadership Institute in 1991 and continues to be coordinated each year by the Center for Women’s Global Leadership. It is used as an organizing strategy by individuals and organizations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls. Save the date for a Canada-wide webinar on December 3.

Soroptimist International provides resources to check out:

<https://www.soroptimistinternational.org/16-days-of-activism-what-is-it-and-what-can-you-do/>

Violence Against Women Word Search by Cathy Waters

E	R	E	B	Y	D	R	D	E	C	R	O	F	A	T
V	T	A	E	R	H	T	O	G	R	N	S	W	S	L
I	A	H	E	N	J	U	M	G	I	U	Q	Z	P	U
O	B	G	L	A	U	X	E	S	M	I	O	I	O	A
L	U	N	R	S	J	E	S	E	E	E	H	S	U	S
E	T	I	H	E	R	E	T	B	E	S	D	R	S	S
N	A	K	G	O	S	N	I	S	N	C	O	T	A	A
C	I	L	R	N	A	S	C	O	F	E	I	D	L	O
E	L	A	L	P	A	R	I	S	D	G	R	I	E	F
I	E	T	M	E	A	T	S	O	M	R	Q	U	A	V
F	R	S	T	E	A	I	R	A	N	E	E	S	T	E
H	B	U	L	L	Y	I	N	G	E	S	Q	G	U	R
I	C	K	E	B	R	O	N	D	W	U	N	F	N	B
O	X	R	U	O	I	V	A	H	E	B	J	U	M	A
P	P	H	Y	S	I	C	A	L	E	A	D	O	V	L

- Abuse
- Aggression
- Anger
- Assault
- Behaviour
- Bullying
- Crime
- Domestic
- Fear
- Forced
- Grief
- Pain
- Physical
- Relationship
- Sexual
- Spousal
- Stalking
- Stigma
- Threat
- Verbal
- Violence





SI of Chilliwack Purple Lights Night – submitted by Lori Jackson

Fall has come to the Soroptimist club of Chilliwack and one of the highlights for us was being an active part of the Purple Lights Night campaign. Every October, our club partners with several other community groups, including Chilliwack Victim Services, Wilma's Transition House, Chilliwack Fire Fighters and Chilliwack RCMP to participate in Domestic Violence Awareness month. The international awareness campaign invites residents and businesses to shine a string or purple light bulb on their front porch or front window to help shine a light on domestic violence and that it has NO place in our community.



SI of the Langleys Candlelight Vigil – submitted by Diane Summers

SI of the Langleys has been hosting a candlelight vigil for over twenty years to recognize the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. On November 25 we will once again be gathering to raise awareness of this issue and to offer support to the women who are victimized by these crimes.

Nearly 1 in 3 women have been abused in their lifetime. In times of crises, the numbers rise, as seen during the COVID-19 pandemic and recent humanitarian crises, conflicts and climate disasters.

Please join us for this very important event, and dress for the weather, as it will be held outside (usually around 6:00 pm) Location and exact time will be posted on our Facebook page and on the Western Canada Region Facebook page closer to the date.





Club Profile SI of Central Alberta Submitted by Sherri Smith

SI of Central Alberta was chartered in 1988, by SI Calgary. We are a small but mighty club and since our inception we have granted 48 Live Your Dream awards, 21 Violet Richardson awards, and 23 Ruby Awards to women and girls in our community. Our past world famous club fundraiser was the original Pyjamas and Pearls event, envied for the fabulous Elvis tribute artist we loved to have perform!

In 2016, our club brought the Purple Light Nights campaign to Alberta and we have won a Celebrating Success award regionally for it. This campaign has grown tremendously with many municipalities, individuals, and organizations shining purple lights, making declarations for Family Violence Awareness Month, wearing our purple shirts, buying our purple wreaths and lights, and joining to create awareness that Domestic Violence has NO place in our community.



In 2021, we received a grant from the Red Deer and District Community Foundation and the Fund for Gender Equality for the Period Promise Pilot Project. We partnered with the United Way of Central Alberta and brought the Period Promise to Alberta. Our pilot equipped 4 schools in the Red Deer Public School District with dispensers and free menstrual products in every washroom. Cross country coverage was achieved, as were connections with other menstrual equity advocates, and since then the



Government of Alberta has funded 50 more schools in the province, based on the results Central Alberta achieved. The Period

Promise Pilot Project received a Celebrating Success award regionally and also a Mayors Recognition award from the City of Red Deer. SI of Central Alberta itself received a 2021 Education and Engagement award from the United Way of Central Alberta. Two municipalities in Central Alberta, two libraries, and many businesses and organizations have started to supply free menstrual products in their facilities. The Period Promise Dress was also created by two amazing artists in Central Alberta and was worn by one of our members at the Mayors Recognition awards and displayed during Alberta Culture Days.



We are excited that we have been recent recipients of grants for our Live Your Dream awards. We are in the running for \$4000.00 from Field Law 2022 Community Fund Program. Please vote for our club project until November 10, 2022, once on each of your devices please!!!

Here's a direct link to vote. <https://fieldlawcommunityfund.com/ideas/live-your-dream-education-and-training-awards-for-women/>

The upcoming events we have are attendance at the Domestic Violence conference on November 4 in Innisfail with our Purple Light Nights and our Dream It Be It girls conference on Sunday November 6. Planning is underway for some exciting fundraisers and we continue volunteering at Meat Draws with the Penhold and District Optimist Club.

We are accepting applications until December 31, 2022 for our Live Your Dream awards, Violet Richardson awards and Ruby award – for Women helping Women.



Advocacy

Submitted by WCR Advocacy Chair Janneke Lewis

Welcome to the 2022/2023 Soroptimist year. Carell Wingrave and I are the chairs of Region Advocacy Committee (RAC). We have all had a couple of challenging years adapting to a world with a pandemic and even though covid is still with us, we are returning to life as it was before covid with travel and in-person meetings.

This is a new year with new plans and new ideas. Carell sent out a letter to the presidents in the middle of August asking clubs to:

- appoint an advocacy chair for each club – a person with whom the regions advocacy committee can communicate; and
- to provide the RAC with ideas for advocacy projects. We would like to know which projects clubs would like to see the region work on.

Please send this information to Carell Wingrave at carellw@telus.net

On June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court of the United States overturned Roe v Wade. In essence, the Supreme Court decided that each state could determine their own abortion laws. As we know, many states have adopted very restrictive laws essentially making abortion next to impossible.

This caused, understandably, and uproar not only in the US, but around the world. It caused our federation SIA, to put out a statement.: <https://blog.soroptimist.org/blog/sia-statement-on-roe-v-wade>

SIA has decided to sit on the fence so as not to upset some members.

Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc., is a global organization with a diverse membership whose opinions on this matter span the full political spectrum.

During this time of political division, let us remain united by the Soroptimist mission, ensuring that every woman and girl has the opportunity to pursue an education, achieve economic empowerment, and live her dreams.

What has followed, are discussions around the federation, and in this Region about what does it mean to advocate. Does taking a stand mean we are political and, can we be political. As we start our Soroptimist year, I would like to address those questions and look at what our purpose is.

Soroptimist International states its purpose as:

Advocating for human rights and gender equality, at the heart of Soroptimist International's advocacy is its work across seven UN Centres, where our UN representatives ensure that the voices of women and girls are heard. Our membership work on grassroots projects that help women and girls achieve their individual and collective potential, realise aspirations and have an equal voice in communities worldwide.

The principles of Soroptimist International:

The principles of Soroptimist are to strive for: • The advancement of the status of women • High ethical standards • Human rights for all • Equality, development and peace and • The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace.

Advocacy is the act or process of supporting a cause or proposal. Any advocacy work we do must promote the principles of Soroptimist. And this will likely mean taking an unpopular position. As Soroptimists, we want to improve the lives of women and girls. We cannot do that by kowtowing to society or one political belief IF that belief does not support the best for women.

Advocacy means that we challenge law makers and politicians. We write to MP, MLA's and municipal officials. This has nothing to do with being partisan. Is the overturning of Roe v Wade wrong? Are women harmed as a result? If the answer is yes, then we MUST take stand. That is who we are.

Please consider what issue you would like the Region to address through advocacy. This can include issues that you would like to discuss. Let's make a difference for women and girls in Western Canada.

Take care of yourselves and each other.

What Happened at Region Fall Retreat?

Led by the very inspirational Pat Masters we listened, we discussed, we laughed, and we played games, all while learning a ton about Membership. Recruiting different generations of women. Making members feel valued. Building capacity in our clubs. And we ate together, of course.

Here's a small sample of the feedback from members.

- Pat Masters was fun. She kept the audience engaged. She made it easy to be heard. Games were very revealing about ourselves and our clubs.
- Because the group was small, it felt more intimate.
- The agenda was kept short. Speeches by others were kept short, relevant to the audience and to the point.
- We were able to address many concerns and frustrations we have as members and as clubs. And realize we are not the only ones.
- There was time to chat and connect before and after the meetings.
- It was great having others at our table.
- Emphasis on the fact we would better as a team



What was your role in this team challenge?



How does your group incorporate someone new?

both as a club and as a region sharing. And supporting each other. Our commonality.

- Revisit our values. Why are we a member?
- Very worthwhile – definitely enjoyed myself and learned a lot.

- Strengthened my bond with others, especially newer members I didn't know as well.
- Re-invigorated my commitment to the So-roptimist cause.
- Got lots of ideas for recruitment as well as reaching out to "reluctant" club members.
- This is a "must attend" event for newbies!
- Such fun – I wish our business meetings could be so much fun!

- The WCR retreat was amazing. I was only there for the Saturday but really enjoyed the whole day, particularly Pat Master's session. I found that she gave very practical suggestions on not only member retention strategies but leadership best practices.



*Saturday dinner at Red Robin for those who stayed.
Photos by Vinny Awasthi.*

Soroptimist Friends Around the World

Submitted by Darlene Jameison

WCR Friendship Chair



“The global friendship between Soroptimists is an essential part of the culture of Soroptimist International building a better world for women and girls through Awareness, Advocacy and Action.”

We had the opportunity to connect and visit with Soroptimists from four of our five federations. Hilary Laidler of SI Ellesmere Port and District SIGBI and her husband David visited Western Canada in August and were warmly greeted at the airport by Soroptimists from SI Calgary for a White Hat Ceremony before boarding the Rocky Mountaineer to Vancouver.



Sharon Lockhart of SI North and West Vancouver met our UK visitors for a dinner.

Unfortunately, they

tested positive for Covid. They were unable to attend a lunch in their honour or board their Alaska cruise. Several Soroptimists still gathered at my home for lunch and friendship, with Hilary on Zoom from her hotel room.

Soroptimists included SI past president Sharon Fisher, USA visitors Sue Riney and Carolynn Kaetterhenry SI Oak Harbor, Dede Olson SI Bellevue Metropolitan, members from SI Tri Cities, White Rock and Surrey Delta.



The two Sharons and I dropped off and picked up care packages for and gifts from Hilary. Hilary made bracelets as a fundraiser for Ukraine and as gifts in friendship. SI Past President Sharon Fisher did a quick trip to Seat-Bellevue to meet with a visiting Soroptimist from SI Calcutta who has a friendship link and had a gift for SI Surrey Delta. My thanks to the Sharons and SI Calcutta.

I had a request from SI France to help find

accommodations for a young woman who attended a summer Leadership Academy in France and was moving to Vancouver. I was able to find shared accommodations for Selin near the Vancouver Film School where she is attending. Selin has a degree in architecture from McGill.

In September we had two visitors from two Kenyan clubs -Dr. Pamela Were who met with Soroptimists in Calgary and the Vancouver Lower Mainland. Upon her return home, Dr. Were wrote a lovely thank you letter about sisterhood and gratitude.



Many of you met Khayanga Wasike at the Western Canada Fall Retreat and at your various club meetings. Khayanga travels between her homes in Kenya and Port Coquitlam. Khayanga's daughter

Mona is a member of the Canada West Online club.

This summer, Dr. Poonam Kochhar (SI Surrey Delta) connected with Soroptimists during her trip to India. Our club now has Friendship links with SI Calcutta, Bangalore and Delhi. Sudha Manandi of SI Bangalore who was in Vancouver following an Alaska cruise, met Poonam and Khayanga for a quick visit at her downtown hotel. They became fast friends and visited for hours.



To learn more about friendship links between clubs email darjameison@gmail.com.



Meet the Charter Members of

SI of Canada West Online!



At our Spring Conference in Victoria, Linda Cunliffe, Region Membership Chair 2020-2022, announced that we finally had the required 12 members to charter our first online club! Here they are, some seasoned Soroptimist members and others brand new. They live right across our Region from Manitoba (Chyler and Robin) to Alberta (Carell) to BC (everyone else in different parts of the province).

The club held an online charter ceremony on June 25th MC'd by that SIA President-Elect (now President) Stephanie Smith and SI Public Relations Liaison Sue Riney. Special guests included SI International President Maureen Maguire, Immediate Past President Sharon Fisher, SIA President Kazuko Morita, SIA Associate Director of Membership Allison Sylvester, and our own Western Canada Region Governor Suzanne Heron. Look for a link to the recording of the ceremony in our next newsletter.

Bella Montgomery of SI Victoria Westshore has moved to Manitoba and is transferring her membership to the new club, so their membership is growing. We can expect more news of them in the coming months. Does your club have former club members who no longer live near a club? Why not suggest they join SI Canada West Online?



Let's Meet Our Region Treasurer

Hello

I just wanted to take a little space here in our Fall newsletter to say 'Hi' and introduce myself to those members who I haven't had the pleasure of meeting yet. My name is Susan Barber, a member of SI Chilliwack and for this biennium, 2022 – 2024, your Western Canada Region's Treasurer.

I know I have some pretty efficient big shoes to fill, and I just have to say '*Phew! So glad my predecessor and mentor Donna Duvall is close by*'. THANK YOU DONNA for the amazing, dedicated Treasurer you have been for our past two biennium.



I would like to ensure that everyone has the updated contact information for WCR Board Treasurer, the email address is siwctreas@gmail.com the mailing address is 9829 Angus Drive, Chilliwack, BC V2P 6A8 and the phone number is 604-785-3194. I will send an email to all club Presidents and club Treasurers, along with any updated forms you may need.

I've recently received a few emails regarding insurance liability coverage and I will be sending out the process for that to all clubs shortly.

I also wanted to take a moment here to say a BIG THANK YOU to our Governor-Elect Chari Grant for the wonderful recent Leadership Retreat she orchestrated this year, finally in person again! Chari – You are a Rockstar! The presenters and tech staff were all fantastic, and again inspiring. It was great to see all of you that could make it, and if you haven't been to a WCR Retreat, please treat yourself, you won't be disappointed, but I'm sure you'll be smiling a lot.

Thank you all for the amazing work you do, time you give and support you provide.

Where are these blankets now?



Rhona Beaumont, instigator of the blanket project, reports: I have been trying to track them down after the conference. Some went to retreat and have now been given out to other clubs. The blankets have been spread across Western Canada. Lol. Sandra SW gave two away at retreat. The blankets we kept have been given out to Ukrainian families. I still have two left to finish !

Member Profile Haley Serrano

Submitted by Linda Braun

A Conversation with Haley Serrano, Soroptimist International of Saskatoon.

It is always refreshing for me to see what my fellow Soroptimists are doing. Let me introduce you to Haley Serrano, a member of Soroptimist International of Saskatoon and a friend of mine. Haley is a young woman with ambition, integrity and empathy for all. It's been wonderful working with her these past few years and I love learning more about these young leaders. Haley and I had a brief conversation about her latest educational experience and it went like this.

Where were you studying?

The Columbia Journalism School based in New York City offers a 4-week course called the Columbia Publishing Course. It is a four-week intensive course in all aspects of book publishing. They offer the course at Columbia University in New York, and a sister program hosted in the UK by Oxford. I was offered a placement in either, but of course, couldn't resist the opportunity to study at Oxford University!

What were you studying?

Publishing! The course consisted of several daily lectures from professionals in the industry. This included editors, literary agents, designers, publicists, and even authors. Each shared the path they took to get into the literary world, and the valuable lessons they have learned on the way.

Why this path of education?

Books have always been my passion! From spending free time as a teenager volunteering at my local library to a degree in English literature, and five years spent working in a bookstore, this was my dream program. I don't think I realized until just a couple of years ago that I could turn my passion into a career by pursuing publishing.

Did you like England?

Oxford is truly one of my new favorite places in the world. It is filled with history, has the

most beautiful buildings, and the lifestyle is so lovely. Exeter College (where I studied) includes notable alumni such as J.R.R. Tolkien and Sir Philip Pullman!

Tell me a bit about what you did while not studying?

Spare time at Oxford was filled with walks around the city, high tea, trips to the local bookstores and coffee shops, museums, libraries, and nights with friends in cozy pubs.

What are you hoping to do now?

I am open to all the possibilities! Ideally, I would like to work in marketing for a publishing house, but I would be happy to work with books in any capacity. Publishing in Saskatchewan is limited, so I could end up elsewhere in Canada or maybe back in the UK.

Why are you a Soroptimist? (Ps I'm glad you are!)

I first heard about Soroptimist through my grandmother, Melanie Kenny, who has been a very involved Soroptimist. She was always telling me about the incredible work that Soroptimists do, and I quickly became interested. I love being a Soroptimist, and believe the organization does such incredible work for women globally, and that's something I hope to be a part of for a long time!

Anything else you want to tell me?

This course was so incredibly valuable to me. I felt so lucky to be there every day, and I cannot wait to see what this experience leads to! It was also a reminder of the value of education in any form, and I believe everyone deserves to have the opportunity to become educated in some way.

Note from Melanie:

The building is called the Radcliffe Camera. It is the history faculty research library and the view is from a special perch at Exeter College that we got to go up on because Haley was a student there.



Club Events SI of North & West Vancouver

Submitted by Lourdes Rodriguez de Hall

After two years of a hiatus due to COVID, SI North & West Vancouver held their annual Lobster Dinner on September 23, 2022. It was a very successful event, with a large attendance, and many interesting items in the silent auction as well as raffles.

The West Vancouver Yacht Club was the perfect location for the event, which was totally sold out. The lobsters were enormous and were cooked to perfection...they had everyone licking their fingers. Emcee Kevin Evans kept the event moving along smoothly with a wonderful sense of humour.



There was happiness in the air which was also filled with live Caribbean music. The ambience was bubbly, with people mingling, chatting, and just being happy to get together again after COVID restrictions for a very worthy cause in support of women and girls.



The event was attended by the Mayor of West Vancouver, Mary Ann Booth, and several members of the West Vancouver Council. Guests came from all over the North Shore and some Soroptimist members came from other areas of the Lower Mainland such as SI Victoria Westshore, SI Surrey/Delta, SI Langley, SI Tri Cities, SI Vancouver. We are grateful to all of them for their support!

Governor Suzanne delivered greetings and the event guest speaker Stella Ita, who was awarded second place in the 2022 WCR LYD awards, brought guests to tears with her story about her life's journey, what it has meant for her to win the award and how it has changed her life.

We also had a presentation from Dr. Pamella J. A. Were-Kogogo, visiting from SI Kisumu, Kenya Country.



Another highlight of the evening was when Colin Dobson who won of the \$1,000 Travel Voucher, generously donated it to Stella Ita!

Throughout the evening the vibe was very positive with many attendees already enquiring about the next Lobster Dinner.



Club Events SI of Victoria Westshore

Submitted by Rhona Beaumont

Fun and Games at United Way Block Party!

SIVW was excited to be asked to attend the first ever United Way South Vancouver Island Neighbourhood Block Party in downtown Victoria.

As a new UW community partner, we were honoured to take our place amongst many of their long-standing not for profit organisations.

We acquired a giant Jenga game and were happy to set up our spot in prime position! Right next to the stage on the pedestrianised Government St.

We were right outside the historic Rogers Chocolate Shop- so we practiced great restraint!

There were over 20 booths for UW community partners set up on both sides of the street. The mood was fun, with local radio providing a soothing background of tunes to accompany the chatter from the stands.

We were provided with a tent, table and chairs, so were able to set up quickly with our pamphlets and our Jenga Game. Tru-Earth had donated laundry sheets for us to hand out, which we packaged in small eco-friendly paper bags with instructions and our Tru-Earth partner link on them.



We were busy! It was interesting to see that many people had heard of Anney's Closet but were not aware of Soroptimist International. President Sandra and I toured the other partners and made some great connections! How amazing to spend the day with so many like-minded individuals who are addressing the same local community needs! We chatted to our existing partners, who work with us, sending us "shoppers" for Anney's Closet and it was a great opportunity to thank them. We also made many new connections, which sparked an interest in how we can partner to offer even more services across our community.

We left the day feeling exhausted but inspired. There are many needs in our area, but there are so many great agencies who are ready to step up and help. We felt grateful to be amongst them.

Looking forward to the next time we get to join in and party!

Club Events SI of Chilliwack

Submitted by Lori Jackson



THIS IS WHAT A GOOD DAY LOOKS LIKE
The Heather's Hope Chest Crew on Donation Day



Our Chilliwack team held a Donation Day this past weekend for our Heather's Hope Chest and the community stepped up in a big way! We lost track of how many cart load and supplies we unpacked and are incredibly grateful for so many wonderful items. Thank you Chilliwack, we can't wait to share these items with our clients!!

Dream It Be It career workshops have been a huge hit in the Chilliwack community. We are excited to have 3 workshops scheduled so far at all of the local high schools. This past Friday, we kicked off the club year with new members and a new high school. While small in numbers, the girls were engaged and actively participated in the DIBI activities. We hope that it left a lasting impact, and helped support their future career decisions. We for sure know they were well fed and enjoyed their "lulu swag bags". Thank you Sardis Secondary - we hope to be back next year!





Membership

Submitted by Donna Duvall

Welcome to a new Biennium with new opportunities and new adventures. This Biennium I am currently joined by Rita Mackenzie (Abby-Mission) Lori Jackson (Chilliwack) and Christina Gower (Tri Cities) on Recruitment, Cari Moore (Chilliwack) on Retention, and Sandra Sterling-Weicker (Victoria Westshore) on Leadership to form a dynamic team. We have already seen an increase in new members joining this year and we look forward to working with all our Clubs to help educate, motivate and provide a positive experience for all members. Currently to start off, club leaders and members can go to the SIA website and click on "For Clubs" and go down to "Check our New Big Goal Resources" you will find great information tips there, where everything is laid out for you and a great refresher for those who have been long time members. You will find some helpful ideas as we welcome new members and retain all our valuable members! Here is the link to the page [Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.](#) We are schedule to have our first Committee meeting at the end of October and look forward to bringing you new helpful information.



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learn more at **wren.club**

Submission deadlines for upcoming issues:

December 14, 2022

February 15, 2023

April 19, 2023

June 14, 2023

Please let me know if there is something you would like to see in our newsletter. Colleen cpen@telus.net

Look What's in Our Future!

Sharing Soroptimist Stories Through Friendship

FEATURING
OUR SOROPTIMIST SISTERS FROM
KENYA



Saturday, November 5, 2022 10:00 AM PDT

Find out how Kenyan Soroptimists are empowering women and girls:

Dr. Pamella J. A. Were-Kogogo of SI Kisumu
Khayanga Wasike of SI Eldoret
SI Kenya Union President Madam Judith Apondo

Khayanga's Girls' Leadership Institute is a President's Appeal program!

When: Nov 5, 2022 10:00 AM Vancouver

Register in advance for this meeting:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpc-uuqjoiH9MuPhS-Ro3ExDX95eAm0gim>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the

Save The Date!

WCR Conference
April 27-30
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We Need You!

**FOR THE
CONFERENCE
PLANNING
COMMITTEE**

We are putting out the call for volunteers to help us plan this years conference in Kelowna.

Even if you already signed up please let me know if you are still available.

dmartin7@shaw.ca

