

# News

## 100 Women Who Care meet on March 18 to hear presentations

By Cathy Weetman  
Western Review

In its simplest form, this is what happens when the Drayton Valley 100 Women Who Care group gets together every three months:

Bring together 100 Women Meet for about an hour  
Hear three presentations from local organizations.

Jointly select through voting a local group.

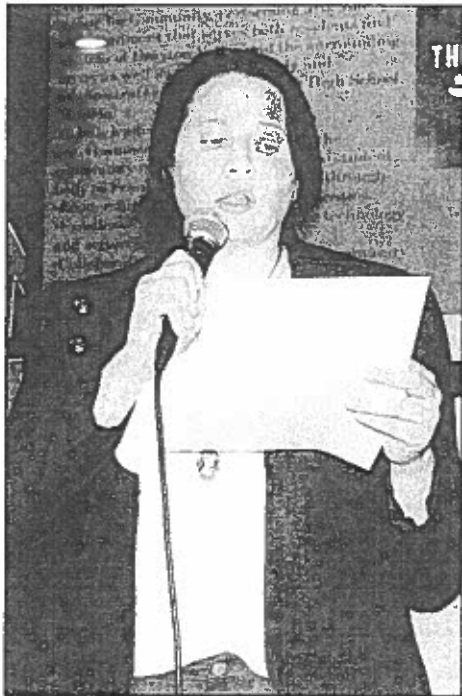
Each Woman or Team write a \$100.00 cheque to the Drayton Valley Community Foundation (another great local charity) of which the Foundation will flow through to the chosen organization, 5% will be used for the Drayton Valley Community Foundation to issue tax receipts to the members and look after all the Canada Revenue Agency reporting.

Do that four times a year and watch the impact on our community.

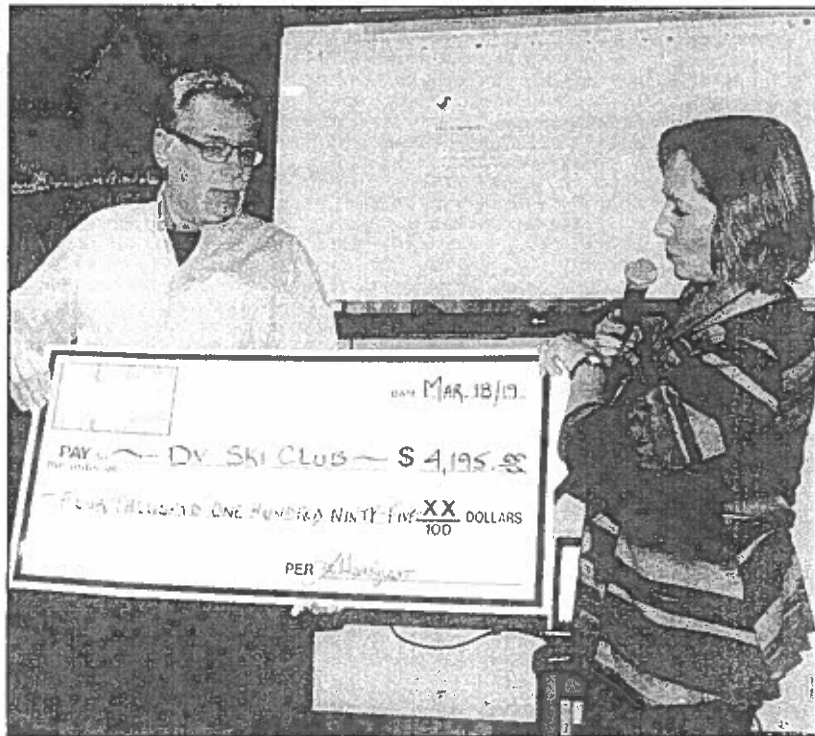
To see the impact 100 Who Care is making on our world check out [www.100whocarealliance.org](http://www.100whocarealliance.org)

On March 18 100 Women Who Care met for the first time this year at OCT to hear presentations from representatives of The Max, the Community Scholarship Foundation and Warming Hearts as to why they need funding.

Jocelyn Beatty, representing The Max, noted the building opened its doors in 1999 to cook for students and staff, functions ranging from weddings to performances and to teach students how to cook. It also provides free meals for students that can't afford them. The kitchen is utilized over 200 days of the year and serves thousands of people every year. Kitchen equipment purchased for the Max kitchen in 1999 was second hand and is now more than 20 years old. A replacement dishwasher (not installed) now costs approximately \$7500, and a gas range now costs approximately \$7200 (not installed). Beatty added that if they are successful in receiving money from 100 Women Who Care, they would apply for matching funds from the CFEP grant



The Max representative, Jocelyn Beatty, gives her presentation before receiving congratulations from 100 Women Who Care presenter Patty Piironen and a \$4,465 cheque to go toward refurbishing the kitchen.



Randy Beckett from the Drayton Valley Ski Club accepts his cheque of \$4,195 from Patty Piironen.

so they could afford one of the two appliances. The main priority is the range, which Beatty said keeps the kitchen going.

Next Joanne Duperron and Kelly Forster, representing Warming Hearts made their presentation. March 27 will be the seventh year Warming Hearts has been in existence. It runs weekly on Wednesdays and has expanded to the point where Kelly is busy 365 days a year. She picks up bakery items from the bakery five days a week, and picks up from IGA. Some of the bakery items are used in the kitchen while some of the excess is placed in the two public pantries in town. One is located across from the Legion while the other is at Serenity House. People in the community that knit also put items in the pantry such as socks, mitts and toiletries. Referrals for assistance come in from schools, FCSS, Pembina Crisis Connection, the

MLA's office and other organizations. Warming Hearts has also served two funerals and are funded solely through donations from the community. "We have no government funding," stressed Duperron. "With the funds that we have, we provide hampers for Easter and hampers for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The number of people attending the soup kitchen vary from 29 to 74. On average we're seeing one new family per week. With spring break coming and more layoffs, we're going to get busier.

The last presenter was Colin Webb, representing the Community Scholarship Trust Society. Webb noted the Society has been around for 26 years, one of the longest completely volunteer boards in the province. It has served the high schools in Drayton Valley and Breton.

"We raise money for local high school students

by asking businesses and individuals to donate as much as they can. The problem is a lot of our students attending post-secondary institutions can't stay in Drayton Valley so they go off to Edmonton, Calgary, NAIT, SAIT, U of C, U of A. You can go into the trades. You can do whatever you want. But the problem being is our students are at a little bit of a disadvantage because when they go away, unlike living with mom or dad, they have to pay for their own rent, they have to pay for their own bus passes, they have to pay for everything. So what we do is try to raise some money so we can help them out a little bit. It's our belief that tomorrow is starting today in our schools. So we believe education is a terrific way to get ahead.

Webb noted that about 26 years ago, the Society started off giving students \$200, then it went up to \$300 then \$500, then \$600. Now we're

at a \$1,000. Unlike other scholarships they may apply for, every single student that applies to a post-secondary institution. It could be the trades. As long as it's an accredited institution, students get \$1,000. Last year we had about 66 students. That's about \$66,000 that we gave away last year.

"We've been lucky enough through our fundraising," said Webb, adding that for the past 25 years, the Society has held a St. Patrick's Day fundraiser; however they didn't hold one last year or this year because "We've been going into the same pockets every year and we found it was tough going to those same people every year."

Instead the Society did some presentations and sent out letters to see if they could get a little bit of money that way. At the Society's meeting last week, board members discovered donations were down from the previous year and that's why they

decided to apply for 100 Women Who Care. Webb stressed that the money goes to local students and after taking their post-secondary education, they'll come back to Drayton to help make it a bigger and better society.

Following a short Question and Answer period, 100 Women Who Care individuals and teams voted, and for the first time ever, there was a tie between the Max and Warming Hearts. After a second round of voting, \$4,465 in funding will be going to the Max.

The next 100 Women Who Care meeting will decide between Drayton Valley Libraries, River Valley Players and All Animals Rescue Society.

The recipient of the meeting before Christmas was the Drayton Valley Ski Club. However, neither Doreen nor Randy Beckett were able to attend, so Randy picked up the check at the March 18 meeting instead.

Cathy Weetman photos