



Doris Katherine Northey

Doris was born in Innisfail, Alberta, the daughter of John & Elsie Bennett of Knee Hill Valley. She grew up on the mixed farm, attended the Pleasant Valley one room school, later attending the Red Deer High School. Doris continued her education in the Calgary Branch, University of Alberta to become a School Teacher. Graduated in 1948, she taught in one-room schools at Cottonwood #2, Clarendon, and Balmoral #3. Later in 1969 – 1973, she taught Junior High in River Glen School in Red Deer.

On July 19th, 1950, Doris was united in marriage to Chester Vernon Northey. When first married they resided in Red Deer where Doris continued to teach until the end of the school term. At that time, they moved to the farm in the Balmoral District. In January 1952 their son was born, the first of a family of seven children, five boys and two girls named: Brian, Douglas, Robert, Garry, Debra Lynn, Beverly Gail and Gregory.

Doris was introduced to the Women's Institute during her early girlhood through her mother's membership, so she was pleased to join the Balmoral Branch in 1952. Her first term of office as President was 1957-1959. She was Treasurer from 1965-1968, Secretary for several terms, and served on numerous committees. Whenever it became difficult to get members to fulfill offices, Doris was willing to agree to be re-cycled through extra terms as President and Secretary to keep the branch operating. Doris was

the Alberta Women's Institutes Health and Home Economics Convener for the 1970-73 term. In 1984, Doris was elected as Constituency Convener for Red Deer Centre Women's Institutes for a three-year term with thirteen branches. Also served as Alberta Women's Institutes representative to the Alberta Council, on Aging Organization, and on the FWIC Historical Committee for the 100 years of the Women's Institute Organization, which was held in Hamilton, Ontario in 1997. Alberta's member won the play contest and it was presented in a radio broadcast theme to approximately 2000 in the audience from all over the world. Doris was the farmer and his dog, but also celebrated a birthday that day. A memory never to be forgotten. Canada was very proud of the 100th birthday and all members across our nation assisted in accomplishing this celebration.

Doris worked for the Red Deer & District Museum for 22½ years at which time she served on the Alberta Museums Association Workshops, Vice President, then President for a term. She presented workshops on collections management in Central Alberta, at Spring & Fall workshops in the province and one at National level. The Board rewarded her with a trip to Boston, USA, to the Celebration of the Bi-Centennial of the United States and The National Museums of Canada. Her retirement of the Museum on June 30th, 1995, allowed her to devote her time fully to the Alberta Women's Institutes being President in 1997-1999 and the 100th Anniversary.

Doris has always been active in community affairs over the years; teaching in the Sunday School, serving on a variety of committees in Gaetz Memorial United Church, active member of Red Deer Second Ladies Auxiliary, Riverbend Library Board, Parkland Regional Library Board, Home & School Organization, Anderson's of Craigmile Local Alberta Teachers' Association and the Balmoral Community Association as the MC for 100 Years Celebration and the Community & Referral Services Board. Sharing her experience with all age groups in the community, Doris has been on the 4-H Public Speaking Competitions for several years.

Throughout her constantly busy schedule, Doris has always found time for her family, her friends and her community. By her example, she is indeed a true ambassador for "Home & Country".