

Camrose hosts A.W.I. convention

By Brett Browne

Delegates from throughout the province gathered in Camrose last week for the 89th annual convention of the Alberta Women's Institutes (AWI), June 9 and 10.

This is the fourth straight year that the convention has been held in Camrose at Augustana University College. This year it attracted 250 delegates.

The theme of this year's convention was "The Challenge of Change into the Next Century" and many of the presentations on the convention agenda centered around change and working towards the future.

Alberta Women's Institutes

President-elect Maxean Brigley, from Cochrane, says one of the things the Women's Institute will continue to focus upon is the promotion of farm safety. At last year's convention AWI unveiled a farm safety book called *Tractor Trouble* which was distributed free of charge to nearly 2,000 Alberta schools.

Also during the past year AWI, along with Alberta Agriculture Food and Rural Development, developed an interactive CD ROM on farm safety entitled *Lost on the Farm*, which was also distributed to Alberta school students.

Brigley says the Institute is currently working on another safety book which will be printed

early in the new year. Brigley says a title hasn't yet been chosen for the book, but it will be about safety around large animals.

"We're pretty excited about that, it's our big project for 1999," says Brigley.

She says AWI will also be involved in a project to recognize "the famous five" who won the vote for women in Alberta with statues. One of the women was Emily Murphy, a member of the Alberta Women's Institutes.

"I guess we feel a real close connection with the famous five because of Emily Murphy and we will be helping the committee that's doing these statues to do a celebration in 1999," she said.



A parade of flags and dignitaries marked the opening of the 89th Alberta Women's Institutes annual convention held at Augustana University College.