



## Welcome to the first newsletter of the Zonta Club of Kanata-Stittsville!

Although the club has yet to be chartered, I want to provide some updates on events that members have attended/supported over the last two months: Zonta District 2 Spring Workshop, Rally on Parliament Hill, Stittsville Multicultural Festival, Zonta Says NOW to gender-equal climate action and the North American Inter-District Meeting.

### Zonta District 2 Spring Workshop – Lake George, NY, 20 May 2023

After several years of virtual District conferences, seminars and workshops, it was exciting to once again attend the District Spring Workshop in person with so many District members attending. We were excited to welcome the District 2 Jean M. Coon Humanitarian Award recipient, Emma Pitts, who was nominated by the Zonta Club of Montreal. Emma is pictured with her mother, Governor Liz Tesiero (left) and Betty Sundstrom (right), Chair, ZD2 Jean M. Coon Committee. Over lunch, Emma talked about her research on gender-based violence. On behalf of the Zonta Club of K-S now forming and the Canada Caucus, I gave a presentation on Climate Change and Gender – A Canadian Perspective.



### Rally on Parliament Hill – 5 June 2023

Elsbeth Nickle attended a rally on Parliament Hill where the David Suzuki Foundation and eight other environmental organisations presented a 40,000 signature petition from people across Canada to Minister Guilbeault, Environment and Climate Change. There is a loose coalition of non-profit/activist organisations in Ottawa working on climate change that the new club could probably join. This would be an avenue to consider on how the new club could be effective and help reinforce a progressive message for climate change and social justice.

### Stittsville Multicultural Festival – 17 June 2023

Thanks to Camelia Dubic, the Zonta Club of K-S organised a booth at the festival. Councillor Glen Gower presented the club with a Certificate of Participation. Elspeth and I greeted many festival attendees with information about Zonta and the new club now forming. We let everyone know about Zonta's mission, local projects and international programs. Please get in touch if you would like to find out more!





### **Zonta Says NOW to gender-equal climate action intercontinental Think Tank – 18 June 2023**

I attend the monthly Think Tank meetings organised by Carole Theobald, member of the Zonta Club of Perth, Australia and ZI Chair, Zonta Says NOW Working Group.

Each month, representatives from two countries present on the effects of climate change on women and girls in their country. At the June meeting, I gave a presentation on Climate Change and Gender in Canada. Carole posted my presentation to YouTube! (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRtCPosxs84>)



Me, ZD2 Governor Liz Tesiero,  
ZI President Ute Scholz,  
ZD2 Lt. Governor Amy Quinn

### **North American Inter-District Meeting – 30 June-2 July 2023**

With the U.S.A. Caucus, and on behalf of the Zonta Club of K-S, I gave an updated version of Climate Change and Gender – A Canadian Perspective, emphasising the wildfires across the country as well as escalating climate disasters. Attendees were also treated to informative sessions on Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence, mentoring club members, the power of technology, ending child marriage, membership WOW! and the hand signal for help responder training that Zontians from Canada and the Canadian Women's Foundation presented. It was great to meet Zontians from across the continent as well as International Board members.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events and let's plan to attend:

- District 2 Fall Conference, Clifton Park, NY, 13-15 October 2023
- Zonta International Convention, Brisbane, Australia, 27-30 June 2024
- Zonta North American Inter-District Meeting, 2025
- Zonta International Convention, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 11-14 July 2026

These are wonderful events to connect, reconnect and be inspired to build a better world for women and girls!