

I was invited to attend this year's National Convention in Saskatoon as part of my role as the organization's Administrator. I didn't know what to expect. I'd never been to a National Convention of any kind. Though I've been working with the Executive Board for almost two years now, all of my work has been delegated virtually, via email or virtual meetings. To have finally had the opportunity to put faces to the names has been wonderful. However, the absolute best thing about this trip is having seen BPW in action. To meet so many amazing women who are all driven and dedicated to the betterment of our communities, countries and the world and see them in action is something I will never forget. As I write this on the plane home, my mind is running a mile a minute with ideas to bring forward to the new board at its first board meeting this September.

I believed in BPW when I attended my first local meeting in 2012.

I believed in BPW when I began working for the National Club as its Administrative Officer. But now, having attended the National Convention, I not only believe in the organization, I believe in its members.

There is so much dedication and enthusiasm out there and we need to find a way to tap into it locally, provincially, nationally and Internationally. The key ingredient we're struggling with however, is: communication.



National Convention is a great jumping off point for members to break some of the communication barriers. By attending this event (and others like it), members are opening the lines of communication with other members. Clubs are opening the line of communication with other clubs and with National. I loved observing members from different clubs sharing strengths and best practices, making plans to better communicate and collaborate on current and/or future projects.

I plan on working even harder with the board this biennium to help improve the support and communication for all members of this organization. There is too much good to let it fall to the side! And I welcome any ideas and/or suggestions from members across the country.

I had the distinct pleasure and privilege of meeting BPWI's Immediate Past President, Freda Miriklis. There aren't enough positive adjectives in the universe to describe this amazing woman. Her passion and dedication to BPW is inspiring and infectious. In hearing her story of coming up in BPW (from BPW Australia to BPW International President), it makes you realize that anything is possible, you just have to do it!

Upon my return to the city I live, I plan on enrolling myself as a member of this wonderful organization. While I work for the organization and trying to better the support and communication within it, as a member I will work to recruit new members and to make this world a better place for all.



Thank you BPW Canada for inviting me. Thank you for inspiring me and helping me find the courage to keep working for things I believe in.