

Report from The President

Welcome to a new year of Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement. I would like to thank all of our returning and our new members for your continued support. We really couldn't have the success we have had without the support of our membership.

This year AWLE has met a milestone we are celebrating our 25th Annual Training Conference and our Silver Anniversary. The Conference will be held November 7-10, 2017 at the Membertou Trade and Convention Centre located on beautiful Unama'ki (Cape Breton Island) in the Mi'kmaq community of Membertou.

The theme of the conference will be "Believe in the Possibilities" and will feature keynote speaker 3-time Olympian and 2-time Olympic gold medalist Heather Moyse. The conference theme is her personal motto.

This year's theme is the perfect theme for our Silver Anniversary as this year we are happy to announce we have formed a corporate partnership with the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement (OWLE) and Axon Public Safety Canada.

With Axon's support we are able to send our Officer of the Year to the 55th International Association of Women Police (IAWP) Training Conference in Cairns, Australia Sept. 17-21, 2017. Our Officer of the Year was named at our Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia in October of 2016 and is Saint John Police Force Officer Cst. Tanya Lawlor. We look forward to seeing Cst. Lawlor at this year's Annual Awards Banquet on November 9th in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia to hear all about her trip to Australia.

I would like to invite all past AWLE Executive members and our retired members to attend our Banquet this year and help us celebrate 25 years of AWLE. It is because you believed in the possibilities of the AWLE Organization that we have been able to achieve the success we have today.

Thank you to the AWLE Winter Warriors who took part in the Polar Plunge in Halifax, Nova Scotia in support of Special Olympics. On March 4th I took the plunge along with AWLE Executive member Sgt. Nancy Rudback, AWLE member CO Christina MacMillan and my son Logan Nichols. With us to cheer us on were AWLE Executive member Louanne McQuaid and my daughter Kaiya Nichols. Thanks to all those who donated to this worthwhile cause.

I will be sending out our nomination packages in late Spring for this year's annual AWLE Awards Program. You will also find nomination forms on our website. Please consider nominating in the following categories Officer of the Year, Leadership, Mentoring, Community Service, Excellence in Performance, Team Endeavours and Medal of Valour.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you in Cape Breton.