

## **Congratulations to Thelma Long!**

Thelma Long joined the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society in 1987 and soon saw the need for a branch in north east Saskatchewan. She began to organize and establish the North East Branch of the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society (SGS) in 1988 and becoming the Charter President. She served in that capacity for several years.

Thelma volunteered the North East Branch to host the 1989 SGS conference and was selected as the chairperson.

Over the years, Thelma has conducted many genealogy seminars for the north east area, as well as organized trips to the SGS Library in Regina, the LDS Family History Centre in Saskatoon and the Provincial Archives in Regina. She volunteered and contributed to the SGS' Saskatchewan Residents Index (SRI), cemetery and obituary indexes and other database projects.

Thelma, along with other North East Branch members, recorded many rural cemeteries and the Melfort Mount Pleasant Cemetery. On behalf of the Branch, she published the original Mount Pleasant Cemetery Recording Book in 2005, followed by an updated version in 2010 and assisted with the recently updated book No. 2 in 2022.

Thelma clipped obituary notices from newspapers, collected obituary cards and any other forms of death notices throughout the north east and continues to do so to this day. These are now filed at the Melfort and District Museum and accessible to the general public during hours of operation.

Thelma travelled to the LDS Family History Centre in Salt Lake City, Utah four times to do family research and also went to Ireland approximately 12 times with her husband to visit his relatives and research his heritage. Upon her return she was always eager to share her experiences and tips on visiting cemeteries, etc.

Thelma is always eager to gain new and updated information on genealogy. She has attended several SGS Conferences and other seminars. She is an active member of the local book club and supporter of the Melfort and District Museum and is always advocating for the recording of genealogy and family history. Thelma has donated several reference books, micro fiche film and readers, and micro film for use by the members of the North East Branch.

Thelma is a strong advocate for genealogy and family history and her favorite saying is "Cite Your Sources."

Thank you, Thelma.