

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE RAISING AWARENESS FOR STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

# Rare plants, flowers depicted on quilt

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**PORT AU CHOIX** — With needle and thread, a local group is doing its part to raise awareness for the rare flora on the Northern Peninsula's

limestone barrens.

Members of the Port au Choix branch of the Newfoundland and Labrador Women's Institute recently crafted a quilt depicting 11 of the rare plants, and the area of the peninsula in which they grow.

Dulcie House, co-ordinator of the Limestone Barrens Habitat Stewardship Program, says the idea came about after a presentation she gave to the group.

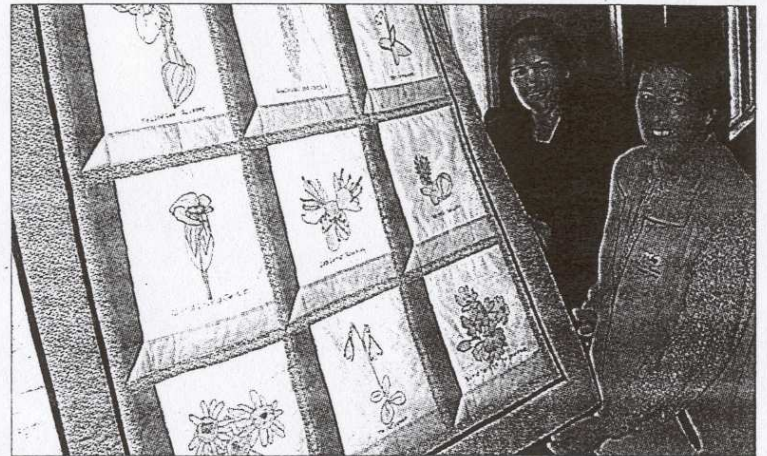
"This is exciting because it shows that people are responding to the awareness program," she remarks.

Stella Mailman, president of the Women's Institute, says the quilt, called *Attic Windows*, was one way the institute thought it could assist the stewardship program.

"The Women's Institute is very big into heritage and creating, and the plants are part of our natural heritage," she says.

"We're hoping this will promote awareness of the limestone barrens and how important it is to protect these plants so that generations to come will have them to come and see."

The process was started when Ms. House gave Sylvia Gould, a former member of the institute, photos of flowers such as the Yellow Lady Slipper and the Long-stem Braya. Ms. Gould outlined the plants on cotton material and coloured



The rare flora of the Northern Peninsula's limestone barrens are depicted on a quilt displayed by Dulcie House (left), co-ordinator with the Limestone Barrens Habitat Stewardship Program, and Stella Mailman, president of the Port au Choix branch of the Newfoundland and Labrador Women's Institute.

them in. After she finished the squares, Gladys Gould, another member of the institute, put them together, put the backing on the quilt and completed the top stitching.

"Out of this quilt we hope, that as Dulcie goes to places, it will make people more aware

of the rare plants and flowers," says Sylvia Gould.

She adds since the pictures are on a quilt, it will attract the attention of other quilters on the peninsula.

"Then we would be educating people about the plants in a quilting way," Sylvia

explains.

Ms. House says the quilt will be displayed during future talks she gives about the barrens

"The Limestone Barrens Stewardship Program is meant to instill pride in people about the barrens," she explains.

"This shows it's working."



Sylvia Gould applies designs of rare plants on the sections of a quilt.



Gladys Gould sews sections of a quilt which depict images of rare plants on the Northern Peninsula.