

**Legacy Linkages Reflections Bridging the  
Past and Future  
Diane Johnson, Historian**



**Mary Scott, Ontario CEC**

As we complete our 100<sup>th</sup> year of CEC as an organization, what better way to look at our legacy and linkage than to celebrate one of our Canadian legacies as she celebrates her own 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Thanks to Lynn Ziraldo for sharing this information about Mary and her legacy of leadership and impact on children and colleagues.

**Tribute to Mary Scott, Past President  
Ontario Federation of The Council for  
Exceptional Children**

The definition of a pioneer woman is a person who is among the earliest in her field thus opening it for the development by others.

Mary Scott is a pioneer in Ontario in Special Education through her leadership in the education, in-servicing and professional development of teachers and administrators in the education of differently abled children

and youth. Mary received The Fred Bartlett Memorial Award for Outstanding Contribution to Education in Ontario. Ms. Scott devoted many years in her career to making a commitment to every child in the York Region school system in King Township and as an instructor on Ontario Ministry of Education special education courses and as an Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Education, York University. In May, 2022 Mary celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

She believes that it is important to work with others for the good of each child and help parents to understand the programs and services available to their children. Early in her career Mary became concerned about students who were challenged in a rural county setting and in her work she became very interested in remedial reading and support for students with learning difficulties. Ms. Scott convinced many teachers and administrators to enroll in special education certification courses, and in her school system, encouraged many teachers to move into special education programs and was a mentor to many educators over the years.

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) has been a big and important part of Mary Scott's life and career. She devoted many years in support of the work of The Council for Exceptional Children locally and provincially. She participated in provincial, national and International conferences over the years and attended the World Council of CEC in Stirling, Scotland. She began her work in CEC as Secretary of York Region Chapter 543 and served as the Secretary of the Ontario Council for Administrators of

Special Education. Mary became a member of the leadership group of the Ontario Federation of The Council for Exceptional Children and served as the Provincial President in 1984 after being encouraged to do so by Marion McLeod, an Ontario CEC leader. The theme of the provincial CEC conference during Mary's leadership was "Commitment To Every Child".

Melinda Gates said that **a woman with a voice is by definition a strong woman. But the search to find that voice can be remarkably difficult.** Mary would tell you that she was never shy inside but she was challenged to speak in front of a group. But she found strength to speak out early in her career and continued to be a significant voice on behalf of students who had difficulty adjusting to the constant changes in education and teaching. Being of Scottish heritage and born in Indiana, Mary was resolved to make a difference as an educator. Through increasing her knowledge base and a resourceful approach, having empathy, being honest in dealing with others and having fun in the process Mary became a successful networker with school board officials and trustees. Mary valued a sense of humor in getting the job done. She provided information to people upon request. Later in her career, Mary became the Coordinator of the Jefferson Teacher Centre in York Region. Teachers found assistance there and speakers provided in-service at that resource centre.

Mary Scott began teaching in 1941, taking some leave time for family commitments. She retired from education in 1985, but in true Mary fashion, she continued to be active in her community. She has received an honor from King Township as Citizen of the Year for her

involvement in the Laskay Womens' Institute. Mary has written ten plays to tell the story of Laskay, a small village in York Region which involved students. She has raised funds for the work of the Womens' Institute.

Julia Child, American Chef, Author and Television Personality has advised to **find something you're passionate about and keep tremendously interested in it.** Early in life, Mary Scott found her passion – COMMITMENT TO EVERY CHILD. Mary's career has been exemplary in this cause.

Mary represents the leadership and legacy that has allowed CEC to be a successful organization for 100 years. She also serves as a link to future legacies with her example and the work done by the many that she has brought into the field and personally mentored.



**Lynn Ziraldo and Mary Scott**



**Treasurer's Report**  
**Lorrane McPherson, CEC Pioneers**  
**Treasurer**

**Financial Summary - 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report**

CEC Pioneers financial status has remained stable during the second quarter of this year. Membership dues make up the largest part of the revenue for the division. As of August 31st, we have received nearly 70% of our anticipated dues revenue for the year. The Engage Webinar spring series was successful and we earned over \$650 from those events. Our expenditures were in budget.

Registration for the Fall Engage Presentation on Closing the School to Prison Pipeline is looking good and income from this event should allow us to meet our budget for the year.

Cash on Hand as of August 31, 2022

Checking Account	\$ 7,001.64
Savings Account	<u>\$ 33,839.86</u>
	\$ 40,841.50
June Jordan Fund	\$ 85.20



**LEADERSHIP**

Are you ready to join a professional community with colleagues who are members of CEC for a period of at least fifteen (15) years, have you served as an officer of a CEC Unit or Special Interest Division, or are you a Past President of CEC?



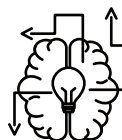
**LEGACY**

Are you ready to join a professional community that is dedicated to the cultivation of a bright future for individuals with exceptionalities?



**ADVOCACY**

Are you ready to join a professional community that has passion to uphold or defend a cause or who intercedes on behalf of individuals with exceptionalities?



**VISIONARY**

Are you ready to join a professional community that envisions a future with boundless possibilities for a profession which supports individuals with exceptionalities?



**INSPIRE**

Are you ready to join a professional community that provides leadership to positively impact the lives of exceptional children and youth?



**SERVICE**

Are you ready to join a professional community that contributes to both general and special education by rendering time, effort, expertise, and leadership to activities which promote the education and welfare of exceptional children and youth?



**UNITY**

Are you ready to join a professional community that embraces individual differences and diversity through leadership and legacy?

Join us

CECPIONEERS@GMAIL.COM

