**WEG’s Embroidery Stitch Samples Project:**

**THE BISON**

The “Bison Project” was adopted by the WEG Executive after the 2013 Prairie Pacific Regional meeting. It was our response to EAC/ACB’s “Rose Project” which used different stitch techniques in individual samples to demonstrate for the public the wide variety of stitching which falls under the umbrella of “embroidery”. We felt that we would like to use a Manitoba icon to create our own collection of stitch samples. We believe this idea originated with long-time member Linda Lassman who also spearheaded the project.

Linda chose the bison for the motif to be stitched because of its identification with Manitoba and because a simple line drawing was available online (in the public domain) for use as the pattern. She felt that this would give stitchers a great deal of freedom when choosing the techniques and fibres to be used. At the same time, the motif isn’t so large that it would take a long time to stitch.

This is an on-going project currently being managed by Helen Bartel ([hazelsneedle@shaw.ca](mailto:hazelsneedle@shaw.ca) or 204-326-1291.) We have four early samples matted in a large format to display on stands. Additional samples have been matted for inclusion in display binders.

Originally it was conceived that the colours should be in shades of brown on cream fabric, either even weave or plain. WEG would provide the fabric. A specific palette was determined so that the different samples would be harmonious. We asked that the main colours fit within the DMC 437-3371 range. However, over time and with some of the techniques – such as silk ribbon embroidery – being given to more colour, we have abandoned the original palette. In addition, WEG has not been providing fabric and threads, but if anyone is interested in stitching a sample and needs fabric we invite them to speak with Helen or the WEG President. The binder mattes are a dark mottled brown; we would appreciate the use of ivory fabric if possible. Samples should measure at least **7” high by 10” inches wide** to allow for consistent framing; a pattern is included.

Our current collection includes samples of:

* Appliqué with Embroidery
* Assisi
* Bargello/Florentine
* Blackwork\*
* Canvaswork (modern)
* Crazy Quilting
* Cross Stitch
* French Knots
* Mountmellick
* Needle Felting\*
* Sashiko
* Silk Ribbon Embroidery\*
* Surface Embroidery with Wool\*

\* These pieces are created in the larger format for standalone display.

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In order to expand our samples for public display we invite members to stitch and donate pieces created using the following techniques:

* Battenburg Lace
* Brazilian
* Casalguidi
* Crewel
* Cutwork (Opus Scissum)
* Deerfield
* Dresden Lace
* Goldwork
* Hardanger
* Hedebo
* Laid Filling (couching, latticework)
* Machine Embroidery (free motion)
* Needlepoint
* Pattern Darning
* Pulled Thread
* Punto Antico
* Schwalm
* Shadow Work
* Thread Painting
* Ukrainian Whitework
* Wessex

**Note:**  Many other embroidery techniques exist; feel free to offer a different choice if it is not listed above.

(Pattern on next page)

