From Anne’s initial iconic and heartrending cry in *Anne of Green Gables*—“You don’t want me because I’m not a boy”—to the pressure on young men to join the war effort in *Rilla of Ingleside*, and from the houseful of supportive co-eds in *Anne of the Island* to the tyrannical grandmother in *Jane of Lantern Hill*, Lucy Maud Montgomery’s work highlights gender roles: how formative and deterministic they seem, and yet mutable they may be. Much Montgomery criticism of the past several decades has regarded her work from a feminist and gender studies perspective. Given that Canada is fast approaching the centenary of women’s suffrage in the province of Manitoba (1916) and nationally (1918), the twelfth biennial conference hosted by the L.M. Montgomery Institute at the University of Prince Edward Island, which will take place 23-26 June 2016, invites proposals for papers that re-consider the role of gender in L.M. Montgomery’s work, broadly defined: her fiction, poetry, life writing, letters, photographs, and scrapbooks, as well as the myriad adaptations and spinoffs in film, television, theatre, tourism, and social media. To what degree do Montgomery’s works, or works inspired by her, challenge or re-entrench normative gender roles? Do her works envision new possibilities for girls and women, boys and men? Or, is our contemporary fascination with her world, in part, nostalgia for what people imagine to be the more clearly-defined gender roles of a bygone era?

Engaging the rich scholarship of the past, possible topics might examine the intersection of gender with:

- Sexual identity, queerness, bachelor- and spinsterhood, and/or heterosexual romance;
- Friendship of all kinds; relationships with personal and professional acquaintances;
- Geographic, cultural, linguistic, racial, or ethnic identities, such as Scottishness;
Voting and politics; careers and/or education for women (or men); domesticity;
Levels of ability and mobility;
Childhood, particularly orphanhood;
Mental and/or physical illness, addiction, and/or failing health.

Please submit a proposal of 250-300 words, a CV that includes education, position, publications, and presentations, and a list of A/V requirements by 15 August 2015 by using our online form at the L.M. Montgomery Institute website at http://www.lmmontgomery.ca/. Abstracts should not only clearly articulate a strong argument but they should also situate that argument in the context of previous Montgomery scholarship. All proposals are blind reviewed. Any questions or requests for further information can be directed to the conference co-chairs: Dr. Andrea McKenzie (acmcken@gmail.com) and/or Dr. Laura Robinson (Laura.Robinson@rmc.ca).