



CFUW St. John's Newsletter December 2013

Website: www.cfuwstjohns.org



President's Message

Here it is, December already! Can you believe it? We are all busy with the hustle and bustle of preparing for special times with family and friends and looking forward to everything that this happy and wondrous season has to offer.

CFUW St. John's has had a very busy couple of months since our Open House in September. The October and November general meetings were very well attended with interesting speakers at both. We have been involved in community outreach and in the national anti-violence initiative – the reports for these are in this newsletter. A very busy couple of months indeed!!

Welcome to our 12 new members! I encourage you to make the most of your membership – get involved by joining interest groups and committees, attend meetings, and participate in events. Unfortunately, we have lost a few members as well – some have not renewed due to personal and family reasons and, sadly, we lost our lifetime member and past president with Elinor Eaton's passing this fall. Our membership currently stands at 97 with several members still to renew. Won't it be great if we could hit the 110+ mark in membership!

We were very fortunate to have our national president, Susan Murphy, visit with us in October.

Her speech to members on Saturday afternoon, October 26th, made a very positive impression on our members. Susan attended a Shalloway concert, went on the historic Women's Walk in the city's east end, toured the exhibits at The Rooms, participated in the Women on Tap class, and had dinner with many members of our club at the Golden Phoenix. Many thanks to our two Graces for hosting Susan during her visit.

In the new year we will continue to be a very active club. We will carry on with our work on the National Initiative – The Prevention of and Response to Violence Against Women and Girls – and with our community outreach. Our interest groups and committees will continue to meet. Our big focus, however, will be our annual used book sale. You will be very, *very* pleased to hear this good news - we have the same sorting and storage facility that we had last year!! The first meeting of the committee will be in January and then the work begins in earnest. The sale this year is from Wednesday, March 26th, to Friday, March 28th.

I wish each and every one of you a blessed and joyful Christmas with family and friends! Enjoy, relax, and have fun!

Barbara Clancy



Upcoming Events

Tuesday, December 10th

CFUW St. John's Christmas Dinner at the Ramada, 6:30 for 7p.m. *If you can, please bring an item for the Iris Kirby House Fresh Start Baskets, a Christmas ornament (\$10 price limit) for the ornament exchange, and a donation to the CFUW Charitable Trust/Ecole Polytechnique Scholarship.*

Wednesday, December 11th

Healthy Living Group, Sobey's Howley Estates, 10:30 a.m. Topic - *Healthy Christmas Appetizers*

Wednesday, December 11th

M & M Book Club 7:30 at Jennifer Gill's home
Cleric/clergy mysteries

Thursday, December 12th

Crafteas at Linda Bartlett's 10 a.m.

Tuesday, January 14th

January General Meeting. Guest Speaker –
Barbara Fitzgerald Topic - *Travels in Africa*

*Other interest groups may or may not have
December meetings. Please check with your
group co-ordinator.*

Barbara Clancy



***Message from Susan Murphy
President, CFUW***

Greetings! I am sending you this holiday message again this year in late November in the hope that you may be able to share it with your members in some way before the holidays.

I wish you all a very happy and peaceful holiday season; I hope you are able to share the spirit of caring with family and friends, and that you have had a fall season full of CFUW Club activities and fellowship.

Last year, in lieu of sending a mailed card to each Club, I made a personal donation to the CFUW Charitable Trust to support our national Fellowships Program. You responded very positively to this initiative, and I appreciated your responses.

I have chosen to donate to the Charitable Trust again this year.

It was wonderful to visit with so many of you this fall during my trip "down east"; thank you again for all your hospitality.

I hope to see you again at our AGM and Conference in Kitchener/Waterloo in June.

Best wishes,

Susan



**CFUW PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS
2014**

These are the proposed resolutions for the national AGM in Kitchener-Waterloo. These resolutions are still subject to amendment before the AGM. We will be discussing these proposed resolutions at our meeting in February. If accepted at the AGM, these resolutions will become CFUW policy and items for action by National office and clubs across the country.

RESOLUTION 1 *An Enhanced Canada Pension Plan* ~ Proposed by CFUW Burlington

RESOLVED, that CFUW urge the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to work together to enhance the CPP/QPP by gradually doubling the maximum insurable earnings;

RESOLVED, that CFUW urge federal, provincial and territorial governments to create policies compensating women for reduced pension contributions incurred because of withdrawal from the work force for childbearing, child rearing and care-giving of the elderly, beginning by extending the drop out provision for a minimum of fourteen years in total.

RESOLUTION 2 *Culture of Peace* ~ Proposed by: CFUW Standing Committee on International Relations

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge the Government of Canada to fund, support and develop policies and programs that:

1. Include non-violent conflict resolution processes in peace negotiations, nationally and internationally;
2. Respect Canada's international commitments to human rights instruments, gender equality, and social justice; and
3. Support a culture of peace.

RESOLUTION 3 *Preservation of Democracy: Increasing Voter Participation in Canada ~ Proposed by CFUW Southport*

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women and its member Clubs initiate, engage in, and promote activities and programs to educate Canadians about the importance of participating in a democracy and to urge them to exercise their hard-won right to vote in all elections – federal, provincial and municipal – in order to preserve democracy in Canada.

RESOLUTION 4 *Promoting Plain Language ~ Proposed by CFUW Saugeen*

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge the Government of Canada to adopt and implement a policy, that Plain Language be used in all documents released by government departments and agencies.

RESOLVED, That CFUW urges all levels of government in Canada to support existing programs that raise Canadians' awareness of the importance of using Plain Language.

RESOLVED, That CFUW urges all levels of government in Canada to support the mandatory use of Plain Language in

- legal documents, business and consumer contracts for the general public
- medical reports intended for patients and staff
- education-related communication intended for parents and guardians

RESOLVED, That CFUW supports the rights of all to have written material available in language

appropriate to their reading skills in Canada.

Barbara Clancy



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

On October 30TH, CFUW St. John's provided a hot and hearty meal for approximately 65+ people at the Gower Street Lunch Program, a community outreach program of Gower Street United Church. Every Wednesday, various community and volunteer groups provide a nutritious lunch for disadvantaged citizens of the downtown area. Our members thoroughly enjoyed this experience – just a couple of hours work on our part which was very appreciated by the clients of this lunch program. We prepared and served delicious beef and vegetable soup, chocolate cake and ice cream, tea, coffee, and juice. We have agreed to provide another meal on Wednesday, May 28th. There will be more information coming in the New Year and a sign-up sheet will be circulated at a meeting in the new year.



The morning shift at the Gower Street Lunch.... Shirley Clarke, Barbara Clancy, Linda Patzold, Bev Gardner, Daphne Lilly, Glenda Haynes, Grace Hollett, Linda Bartlett, Lyn Moore, and Bertha Schofield



Wanda, Lois, and Maureen ladling up delicious soup!

Barbara Clancy



CFUW NATIONAL INITIATIVE 2013-2014

Preventing and Reacting to Violence Against Women

A Report by the Issues and Resolutions Committee

CFUW St. John's has been quite active since September in terms of participation in the National Initiative which was approved at the AGM in Saskatoon in July. Here is a summary of events and activities that we participated in since September:

1. Members of the Issues and Resolutions Committee participated in the *Sisters in Spirit Vigil* at the St. John's Native Friendship Centre on October 4th.
2. As part of our on-going affiliation with Iris Kirby House, we have been working on a plan to distribute their "*Dating Violence Checklist*" to students in junior high schools. This checklist contains information about what constitutes a healthy dating relationship and contact information where one can go to for help if the relationship is unhealthy. Right now the document is in the hands of officials at the Department of Education and we hope to have

approval of our plan in time for us to get the checklist to the schools by February which is Violence Prevention Month.

3. Judy Prior, Hazel Pritchett Harris, and Barbara Clancy met with Michelle Smith and Leanne Lane of the *Women's Policy Office* of the Government of NL. We were very impressed with the dedication and excellence of the staff at the WPO and the scope of the work that they are doing. We discussed many different topics of mutual interest and decided that the contribution of CFUW St. John's would be to raise awareness of the prevention of violence against women and girls by:

- ✓ Distributing purple ribbon magnets and pins to our members and friends
- ✓ Giving out 2000-2500 Respect Women bookmarks at our book sale in March
- ✓ Acting in a supportive role for any initiative the WPO may develop in the future – aging, etc.
- ✓ Inviting Michelle Smith to be the guest speaker at a future general meeting of CFUW St. John's

4. CFUW St. John's became a member of the Coalition Against Violence - Avalon East at their AGM on November 21st. The Coalition is an organization consisting of community and government agencies whose mandate, in part, is to advocate for victims of violence in all its forms, to increase public awareness of the issue of violence in our communities, especially gender-based violence, and to work in partnership with the Violence Prevention Initiative of the provincial government to bring about positive change in strategies and policies around violence against women.

Our first event as a member of the CAV - AE was the Purple Ribbon Magnet event on November 25th, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the beginning of 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence. A white van covered with purple ribbon magnets was visible throughout the city as we distributed magnets at the Confederation Building, post-secondary schools and colleges, local coffee shops, the two malls, and other venues around the city. We estimate that about 3000 magnets were given out in total. As well as purple ribbon

magnets, we handed out notepads containing the message "End Violence Against Women and Girls!" with the CFUW St. John's logo and contact information.



Santa has a purple ribbon magnet on his sleigh!

5. The YWCA Rose Campaign works year-round to reduce violence against women, increase public awareness and prevent violence before it starts. At our dinner on December 10th, you will have the opportunity to send a message to your MP about violence against women. If you cannot attend the dinner, please visit the website <http://www.rosecampaign.ca/send> to participate. Remember to add "member CFUW St. John's" after your name.

"I welcome the chorus of voices calling for an end to the violence that affects an estimated one in three women in her lifetime. I applaud leaders who are helping to enact and enforce laws and change mindsets. And I pay tribute to all those heroes around the world who help victims to heal and to become agents of change."

*Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon
United Nations*



Congratulations!



Ellaline Smith on her 90th Birthday

(Photo submitted by Wanda Saunders)

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Bridge Group #1 – Pat Rahal

The first Bridge for 2014 is scheduled at Natalie Butler's on January 9th. We meet on the second and fourth Thursdays.



Bridge Group #3 – Sharon Butler

Our group meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. We have eight regular members. We often need spares, so if you are available, please let me know. We break during the Christmas season, and meet again on January 15th at Mary Hood's.



CLUB HISTORY

The Club History group requests anyone who has material that would be of interest to their project to please contact Hazel Pritchett Harris.



Atlantic Regional Council Conference Report

The CFUW Atlantic Regional Council (ARC) met in Moncton, NB, on October 18th and 19th. The theme of the conference was *WAVES – Women – Active, Vital, Educated, Skilled*.

The conference began on Friday afternoon with a round-table meeting of the presidents of the CFUW clubs in the Atlantic region. The main focus of this meeting was retention and recruitment of members. Patricia DuVal, chair of the National Membership Committee and past national president, met with us for our discussion. It was a worthwhile exercise of discussing our successes and challenges in recruiting new members as well as sharing ideas for increasing membership and retaining current members. Patricia offered many practical suggestions and ideas on the topic of membership and club presidents shared what worked well with their club. Patricia also conducted a workshop on membership during the sessions on Saturday afternoon.

On Friday evening there was a reception for all delegates where we had the opportunity to network, renew old acquaintances, and meet some of the new Atlantic region club presidents.

The agenda on Saturday morning was concerned with the business of the ARC and a town hall session consisting of reports about the special award projects of Atlantic Region clubs, a review of the New Beginnings Membership Survey, and discussion of issues of concern to the clubs.

The keynote speaker at lunch on Saturday was Dawn Arnold, city councillor in Moncton and recipient of the Order of New Brunswick. She

spoke on the topic, “Why Women Need To do It”. The focus of her speech was that women need to “speak up and speak out”, get involved in politics and community affairs, and be part of the serious conversations about the issues that matter in our communities.

In the afternoon, there was an excellent panel discussion on cyber-bullying and the various programs and initiatives that are being developed to deal with this “new face of bullying”. Panel members were Heather Smith, past-president of the NB Teachers Association, Norma Dube, Asst. Deputy Minister, Executive Council, NB Women’s Equality Branch, and Beth Lyons, Associate Director of YWCA Moncton.

Congratulations to CFUW Moncton for hosting a great conference! The 2014 meeting will be held next October in Saint John on the occasion of the 90th anniversary of CFUW Saint John.

Just so you don’t think it is all serious business attending the ARC, there were a couple of “perks” along the way the beautiful autumn foliage on the drive from Halifax to Moncton and watching Shaun Majumder “surfing” the tidal bore on the Petitcodiac River!

*Barbara Clancy
President, CFUW St. John’s*

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

It was my pleasure to represent CFUW St. John’s at two scholarship events during the month of November. On Tuesday, November 19th, Hazel and I attended the scholarship presentation at the Marine Institute. One of our scholarships went to **Courtney Munn** from New Brunswick. Courtney is a 3rd year Naval Architecture student.



Barbara and Hazel with Courtney Munn at the Marine Institute Awards Presentation.

On Friday, November 22, I attended the Awards Presentations at the College of the North Atlantic. **Nicole Lane** of Catalina, a student at the Ridge Road campus, was the recipient of one of our women in non-traditional occupations bursaries. Nicole is in the Geomatics/Surveying Engineering Technology Co-op Program and will be working as an intern with an oil-related industry company in Houston in January.



Barbara and Nicole Lane at the CNA Fall Awards Presentations.

Other CNA recipients of our bursaries are:

1. **Stephanie Sooley** of Mary's Harbour who is studying Civil Engineering Technology at the CNA Corner Brook campus.
2. **Jade Marshall** of Gander who is studying Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Technology at the CNA Gander campus.

3. **Karen Hennessey** of Happy Valley - Goose Bay who is studying Early Childhood Education at the CNA Happy Valley - Goose Bay campus.

4. **Franciska Mitsuk** of Hopedale who is studying Early Childhood Education at the CNA Happy Valley - Goose Bay campus.

Barbara Clancy



News From CFUW National Office

(Ed. Note: The following article has been sent to Newsletter editors to be included in our newsletters. Barbara Clancy has provided a description of the awards mentioned in the article below for your clarification.)

[“The Ecole Polytechnique scholarship, according to the CFUW website, is called the CFUW 1989 ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE COMMEMORATIVE AWARDS. There are 2 awards - one at the Masters level and 1 at the Ph. D level. The Memorial Fellowship is a different award.”](#)

CFUW École Polytechnique Commemorative Award

In Canada, December 6th is recognized as the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

Over twenty years ago the CFUW Charitable Trust added a new Fellowship award to its programme of Fellowships and awards in commemoration of the fourteen women who lost their lives in Montreal on December 6th, 1989.

This new award was aptly named the CFUW 1989 École Polytechnique Commemorative Award. The first award was given in 1991.

Over the years many CFUW Clubs from across the country have made donations to the Charitable Trust for this award. Typically, clubs have taken a collection, usually in November or December,

and have sent the proceeds to the Trust in the form of a single donation or as individual donations from members, who in turn receive a charitable receipt from the Charitable Trust.

Other clubs, in particular the Toronto Caucus (the six clubs in Toronto), CFUW Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo and Cambridge and more recently CFUW West Vancouver have held events open to members and the public to raise awareness of the significance of December 6th. The events were usually a luncheon or dinner with net proceeds being donated to the Charitable Trust.

The Toronto Caucus in the year 2000 under the guidance of Kathryn Manzer, who at the time was the Regional Director Ontario Central and initiator of the idea of commemorating the 14 women, held their first December 6th luncheon. This year will mark the fourteenth event and to date over \$20,000 has been raised.

Similarly, CFUW Guelph, Cambridge and Kitchener-Waterloo together hosted commemorative lunches and dinners. From 2003 to 2009 a total of just under \$20,000 was raised.

Recently, CFUW West Vancouver has held informal luncheons to raise awareness for the award and has contributed the proceeds to the Charitable Trust.

Now is the time of the year to think of how your Club would like to raise awareness of the ever growing issue of violence against women. If you would like to make a donation to the CFUW 1989 École Polytechnique Award you can do so by mailing a cheque made out to CFUW Charitable Trust and send it to:

CFUW Charitable Trust Treasurer
1007- 28 Elizabeth St North,
Mississauga, ON, L5G 2Z6

*Joanne Jamieson,
Charitable Trust Treasurer*

Frequently Asked Questions about the CFUW Charitable Trust

1. How can we make a difference with our donations to the CFUW Charitable Trust?

The CFUW Charitable Trust is very grateful for all the donations received from Clubs and individual members. We are also pleased to work with individuals and Clubs to use a donation in a manner which is in agreement with the individual's or Club's wishes. The Trust is open to discussion as to how it can help all donors achieve their goals. Here are some ways in which we do all help now:

- On-line donations - The CFUW Charitable Trust is registered with CanadaHelps for on-line donations.
- By mail - Cheques made out to "CFUW Charitable Trust" can be mailed to the Treasurer at the address which is available on www.cfuw.org website.
- CFUW AGMs - host several events to support the Charitable Trust - sale of HerStory calendars; a boutique or silent auction; the Charitable Trust breakfast and individual donations.
- Clubs and Regional Councils - raise money for the Trust in a variety of ways, such as luncheons, theatre events, such as the Shaw Festival, holding boutiques and auctions, hosting speakers, book sales and many others.

The Trust has recently developed a philosophy or policy which encourages individuals and Clubs to support the Trust. The document was approved at the AGM Victoria 2013 and is available on the national website.

2. How much of members' dues go to paying the CFUW Fellowships and Awards?

None of the membership dues is used to pay the winners of the CFUW Fellowships Program; the awards are entirely funded through the CFUW Charitable Trust. However, a small portion of our CFUW dues does support the international Dr. A. Vibert Douglas Fellowship which is administered by the International Federation of University Women (IFUW).

3. What is the cost per member for supporting the administration of the Fellowships and Awards?

The cost of administering the fellowship program, which includes costs for staff, mailings, office expenses, rent, telephone, internet etc., is less than \$4.00 per member. Our fellowships program usually receives between 450 to 600 applications each year; and the CFUW Fellowships Committee, who are all volunteers, carry out the adjudication to determine the winners. The program would not be possible without the hundreds of hours donated by the Fellowships Committee and the local club's generous donations.

4. What is the value of the IFUW Dr. A. Vibert Douglas Fellowship and who can win it?

The IFUW Dr. A. Vibert Douglas Fellowship is an international award of \$12,000 which is given once every three years. It is sponsored by CFUW and awarded through IFUW, to any student, including a Canadian, who is studying in a country other than her own. Both the application timeline and the winners are announced on the IFUW website. The winner is paid \$6,000 in the year that the award is announced and an additional \$6,000 after the completion of the 1st year of study.

5. Can someone set up a new CFUW award to honour a person or Club?

The CFUW Charitable Trust would be happy to discuss with Clubs and members what options may be possible to leave a legacy and honour a special person or a Club. A single gift or gifts received over several years may be made to establish an endowment and create an award. To ensure that awards are sufficient in size to assist a post-graduate student, the Trust policy has

established a minimum annual award of \$5,000. Currently a capital gift of \$150,000 is the minimum required to earn sufficient income to sustain the award and pay the required annual administration fee of \$500. Please contact the Trust to discuss further.

6. Are there other options for new awards?

Yes - there may be other options available for funding awards with amounts less than \$150,000. Please contact a CFUW Charitable Trust trustee to discuss this further.

7. What are the eligibility criteria for CFUW Fellowship Awards?

Eligibility criteria for our current awards are listed in the Fellowship section of the national website and they vary depending on the award. The CFUW Charitable Trust is a registered charity, is governed by the Canada Revenue Agency's Charities Division, and the CFUW Fellowship Program is guided by the mission and mandate of CFUW.

JOËLLE TAILLON:

**A valuable contribution to the doctoral
work of a wildlife biologist
Winner of the CFUW Memorial Award
2012**



Having been awarded a CFUW Memorial Award was a major financial contribution during the final year of my PhD. This award provided security and independence for completing my thesis and also allowed me to pursue my efforts in

communicating with general and scientific audiences.

The CFUW award allowed me to stay focused on my work, to finalize the writing of my thesis and prepare for my PhD defense. These are major events for a PhD student and being free of financial worries was a blessing.

This award is an honor and an important encouragement for students during their graduate studies. I am also very proud of having been supported by an organization promoting graduate studies for women - who are increasingly represented at the graduate level, and successful at completing masters and PhD programs. Finally, adding the CFUW award to my CV was also an important contribution, as it strove forward the quality of my work.

* * *

After a year working in New Zealand, I decided to return to Canada to complete my PhD at the Université Laval because it is a top-ranking francophone university with high-profile research on wild ungulates. My research was conducted under the supervision of Dr. Steve D. Côté (Université Laval) and Dr. Marco Festa-Bianchet (Université de Sherbrooke), who are both leaders of Caribou-Ungava research program (<http://www.caribou-ungava.ulaval.ca/en/accueil/>). In 2013, I received my Doctorate in Biology; my thesis is titled: Body condition, maternal allocation and spatio-temporal use of calving grounds by migratory caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*). During the completion of my PhD, I also collaborated at the initial stage of the research program Caribou Ungava that was officially launched in 2009. Caribou Ungava is now led by top-ranking academic researchers in wild ungulates ecology and involves several wildlife biologists from Quebec Government.

The major objectives of my PhD work were to better understand the factors influencing the change in the location, the selection and the use of calving grounds of two migratory caribou herds in Northern Quebec and Labrador and to better understand the factors influencing the body condition of females and calves from birth to weaning. I believe my work can help identifying

factors influencing population dynamics and better protecting calving grounds of migratory caribou herds, which are identified as critical habitats for this species. Very few studies have quantified changes in the use of seasonal ranges, yet this data is essential for habitat protection.

In the light of novel threats such as industrial development and climate change, I believe that the work done through my PhD and the networks created by research programs such as Caribou Ungava are highly relevant and essential for the conservation of migratory caribou. I believe that research results and collaborations are urgently needed by managers, conservationists and scientists dealing with declining populations of caribou and reindeer throughout the circumpolar.

Since completing my PhD in early 2013, I have been working as a wildlife biologist for the wildlife division of Quebec government (secteur de la faune, Ministère du Développement Durable, de l'Environnement, de la Faune et des Parcs, Gouvernement du Québec). I am currently in charge of writing the new management plans for the two migratory caribou herds ranging in northern Quebec. My position involves analyzing data to establish the status of the herds and identifying research and management objectives. Writing up a management plan also involves working in collaboration with several collaborators such as research groups (Caribou Ungava), networks (CARMA), wildlife biologists from the provinces of Quebec and Newfoundland-and-Labrador, and different partners and stakeholders involved in the conservation of caribou in the North: government agencies (Québec and Labrador), Aboriginal peoples, Hydro-Québec, outfitting and hunting federations and industrial developers (e.g. miners). It is a great challenge.

I believe it is the best place to be if I want to use my knowledge as a researcher and a biologist to plan for the future of the migratory caribou in northern Quebec.

Joëlle Taillon



More Christmas Events - Barbara Clancy

The **Eastern Edge Quilters Guild** is holding a quilt show, *Deck the Walls*, at the MUN Botanical Gardens until December 17th. If you are looking for some Christmas gifts for family and friends, several of the wall hangings are for sale, as are fabric-covered journals and colourful fabric birds. The proceeds go to the Garden's children's education program. The Gardens gift shop is also open.

The **St. John's Choir** will present its Christmas concert, *Noel, Noel!*, this Sunday, December 8th, at Mary Queen of Peace church at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00 each and you can get them from Wanda Saunders, Linda Patzold, Ann Marie Salter, Barbara Clancy, or at the door.



Thank you to all who contributed to this newsletter. The next newsletter will be published in March. The deadline for receipt of items to be included is March 6, 2014.

Please send your items to Daphne Lilly.
(dlillyisla@gmail.com)



*If you like drinking tea or coffee at the meetings,
please remember to bring your mug to all
meetings at MUN.*

*This Edition of
the CFUW St. John's Newsletter
was edited by
Daphne Lilly
with thanks to Jean Marks
for Printing and Mailing*