

**CANADIAN FEDERATION OF
UNIVERSITY WOMEN
ST. JOHN'S**



ANNUAL REPORT

2015

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EXECUTIVE REPORTS

President's Report

Hazel Pritchett Harris

Our Club has had another successful year! Of course, we are all aware of how busy we seem to be throughout the year but reflecting on the year as a whole brings into focus just how active and productive we have been. When you read through the reports from the Committees and from various Study and Interest groups, you will see the breadth and depth of our activities.

There is no need for me to recapitulate all that is written in the individual reports contained in this Annual Report but I should like to make a few comments about the year which is just ending. As many of you know, I am a mathematician and my graduate work was done in a field allied to Category Theory, so you will not be surprised if I categorize my comments! You will notice that I use the word "record" quite a few times!

Membership: When Barbara wrote her president's report last year, she was proud to point out the increase in membership, which then stood at 104. This year we reached 112! Thank you to all those who introduced friends and colleagues to the pleasure of being a member of our Club. I hope that all new members have enjoyed their first year with us as much as we have enjoyed having them. It is gratifying to see how actively involved our newer members are and they have made valuable contributions through their participation in Study and Interest Groups. Some of those who joined a year or two ago have already taken on increased responsibility for Committees. All of us are aware of what can be accomplished through the "power of women helping women". We can feel that we are making a real contribution (on local, national, and international levels) as we raise money to fund scholarships for women and through our advocacy and outreach activities.

Scholarships/educational Ventures: We gave away a record number of scholarships and bursaries last year and the budget for 2015-16 (which we passed in April) will continue to fund the same number of awards as in 2014-15. In addition we were able to increase the amount which we give to the national Charitable Trust. A very exciting addition this year is the creation of an "Anniversary Scholarship Fund" which will fund one-off scholarships to mark some significant anniversaries: our Club's 70th this year and our 75th in 2020, and the 100th anniversary of the founding of (the national) CFUW in 2019. The amount in this fund now stands at \$5000 and we hope to be able to add to this in the coming years. I have found that the greatest pleasure of being President comes when I attend award ceremonies to present our

scholarships and bursaries and to meet the recipients. They are always so enthusiastic about their work and so grateful to us for the award.

Advocacy and Local Outreach: Our Issues and Resolutions Committee had a record number of members this year. We continued our emphasis on the elimination/prevention of violence against women, starting with our guest speaker at the Open House, Michelle Smith, Director of Violence Prevention at the Women's Policy Office. Do take the time to read about all the issues which that Committee addressed; they cover a wide range of activities. Through our New Beginnings Baskets, we also continued to support those women leaving Iris Kirby House to set up independent living.

Program: The Program Committee is to be commended for their interesting choice of speakers. I am sure that this is one of the reasons why we had such good attendance at our meetings.

Communication: As Barbara predicted in her report last year, our website has been used as the method of communication with our members. There we are able to find timely and up to date information about events and activities. With the encouragement of the Executive, I started the monthly Notices and News in October to replace the quarterly Newsletter. There have been many favourable comments so we shall continue with that.

Fundraising: Yet another record this year: our Book Sale raised over \$55 000! We had a very large Committee and it was good to see how many members, both new and old, were involved. The budget will show how we plan to disburse these funds over the coming year. It never ceases to amaze us that the proceeds from the Book Sale increase every year. In addition to the money we raise, it is gratifying to note that books are still popular; we shall not soon forget that long queue around the Arts and Culture Centre on the opening Wednesday night.

Club Members: We were all saddened by the passing of Elizabeth Piper, a valued Club member. She had served on the Executive as Secretary and as a member of the Program Committee. We shall remember her cheerful presence, her outstanding organizational abilities, and her wonderful cooking and baking. Some of Elizabeth's talents lay hidden from many but her closest friends and family. The display of her beautiful paintings and exquisite quilts and wall hangings at the funeral home attested to how creative she truly was. We will miss her but are the richer for having known her. Through this past year, many of our members have had to cope with their own personal losses and illnesses. We have shared their sorrow and their pain.

Events and Meetings: It has been my great pleasure to have represented the Club at many meetings and events this year. As incoming president, I attended the 2014 CFUW AGM at Kitchener-Waterloo with Barbara. We were impressed by the high regard in which our Club is held. In October I attended the Atlantic Regional Conference in Saint John, NB. Grace Hollett, as VP Atlantic, chaired the events and

Barbara Clancy, RD for Newfoundland and Labrador, also attended, taking an active part in proceedings. Also in the fall, Joyce Noseworthy and I were the guests of the MUN President at an interesting lecture and lovely reception for Scholarship donors. I was in England at the time of the MUN Chancellor's Circle Dinner for patrons but our Cub was ably represented by Grace Hollett and Bertha Schofield. There were four award ceremonies during the year: I presented two scholarships at the Marine Institute in November and Sharon Kieley accompanied me; I presented scholarships to two other students at the Marine Institute in March; I attended the awards ceremony at the College of the North Atlantic in late April. Also in late April, I presented the Women in Policing scholarships to the four newly commissioned special constables and was pleased that Gillian Brown came with me.

Notes of Thanks and Appreciation: Our Executive deserves special thanks for all their hard work and dedication. I should like to thank them on your behalf and to say how grateful I am to them for all their kindness and support this past year. Here is the list of those who served this year (but some have served for two or three years in their current roles and some have served in two different positions over the last few years) :

- Joyce Noseworthy ~ Vice-President
- Bertha Schofield ~ Secretary
- Sharon Kieley~ Treasurer
- Elsie Wells- Membership
- Barbara Clancy~ Past President
- Daphne Lilly ~ Public Relations
- Sharon Walsh, Dianne Reddy, Chris Gill ~ Program

Thank you to all those Committee Chairs and Study and Interest Group Convenors for organizing so many meetings and events and making sure that we were all informed.

Thank you to Barbara Clancy who also serves as Regional Director for NL and who has helped keep me organized in so many ways.

Thank you to Grace Hollett, the Vice-president Atlantic, who is a constant source of advice and encouragement to us all.

Thank you to all of you for your support, cooperation, encouragement, and kind words. I have enjoyed my first year as President enormously.

Treasurer's Report

Sharon Kieley

CASH BALANCE AUGUST 1, 2014

\$47,126.54

INCOME:

Member Dues	8,685.00
Book Sale	55,233.45
Scholarships, bursaries and Awards – Includes Collection for École Polytechnique, Scholarship and donations from Book Clubs	714.91
Other – Includes interest credit, member payments for Christmas Social, member purchases of CFUW credit card cases and scarves	3,132.79

TOTAL INCOME

\$67,766.15

EXPENSES

Member dues (national and regional)	5,890.00
Book Sale	6,639.12
Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards - Includes donation to École Polytechnique scholarship	31,332.46
Outreach	273.60
NAPS	1,386.96
Conferences	1,122.71
Meetings and Administration	1,921.94

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$53,813.69

Opening balance + Income – Expenses = Balance (May 31, 2015)

\$47,126.54 + \$67,766.15 - \$53,813.69 =	<u>\$61,079.00</u>
TD 1 Year Cashable GIC (matures Sept. 16/15)	8,089.92
TD 5-year Stepper GIC (issued Nov 21/11)	6,218.56
ACTUAL BALANCE	\$75,387.48
Less Commitments*	59,954.79
<u>BALANCE AVAILABLE</u>	<u>\$15,432.69</u>

*The commitments include \$4,054.79 in remaining commitments for fiscal year 2014/15; \$5,000.00 committed to one-time anniversary scholarships; and \$50,900.00 committed for the 2015/16 fiscal year.

Secretary's Report

Karen Gill

The following motions were voted on by CFUW St. John's during the 2014/15 fiscal year.

October Meeting

1. That CFUW St. John's host the ARC in October 2016, during the Club's 70th anniversary year.

Moved to accept: Linda Patzold. Seconded: Elisabeth Moulard. Carried.

November meeting

1. That CFUW St. John's replace the quarterly newsletter with monthly e-mails from the President, e-mail being the primary vehicle for communication.

Moved to accept: Ann Hinton. Seconded: Gerri Andrews. Carried.

March meeting

1. That CFUW support clause 1, and clauses 2 and 3, as amended, in Resolution 1, "Saving our Pollinators and Our Environment: Moratorium on the use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides."

Moved to accept: Gillian Brown. Seconded: Riva McKee. Carried.

2. That CFUW St. John's support clauses 1 and 2, and the omission of clause 3 from Resolution 2, "Reducing Climate Change Through the Use of Carbon Taxes."

Moved to accept: Gillian Brown. Seconded: Joyce Noseworthy. Carried.

3. That CFUW St. John's suggest amending the CFUW national proposed articles and by-laws amendment regarding 'Urgent Resolutions' so that "Urgent Resolution" be defined, so that a four-fifths majority is needed for an urgent resolution to pass, and so that there be on-floor discussion about how electronic voting will work.

Moved to accept: Joyce Noseworthy. Seconded: Gillian Brown. Carried.

4. That CFUW St. John's support the establishment of a VP Education on the national Board of Directors, but not support the elimination of the position of VP Communications and Governance, unless the tasks assigned to this position listed in Schedule D are permanently reassigned to (an)other position(s).

Moved to accept: Joyce Noseworthy. Seconded: Barbara Clancy. Carried.

May meeting

1. That CFUW St. John's set up a special anniversary scholarship fund using the unspent \$5000.00 from the 2014/15 scholarship budget.

Moved to accept: Joyce Noseworthy. Seconded: Jean Dymond. Carried.

2. That CFUW St. John's accept the proposed budget for fiscal year 2015/16.

Funds Available for 2015 - 2016	\$51,824.21
Projected Expenses and Commitments for 2015 - 2016	Amount Budgeted for 2015 - 2016
Conferences	\$4,000.00
Meetings/Administration <i>Includes Advertising, Website, P.O. Box Rental, Liability Insurance, Bank Charges, Office Supplies, Printing, Archives, etc.</i>	\$2,000.00
Pre Book Sale Expenses	\$5,000.00
NAPS	\$700.00
Outreach <i>Includes Gower Street lunches, New Beginnings Baskets, Donations to Charitable Organizations, etc.</i>	\$3,000.00
Sunshine Committee	\$100.00
Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards	\$36,100.00
Total Commitments	\$50,900.00
Excess Funds Available After Commitments	\$924.21

Moved to accept: Sharon Kieley. Seconded: Ann Hinton. Carried.

3. That CFUW St. John's accept the proposed schedule of Scholarship/ Bursary donations for 015/16.

Police Studies Cadet Program	
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\$1000 each to a maximum of \$5000.	\$5000.00
Memorial University of Newfoundland	
Edith M. Manual and Olga Anderson Entrance Bursaries Top-Up	\$1000.00
Gender Studies Graduate Scholarship	\$2000.00
Faculty of education Post-Graduate Scholarship	\$2000.00
Department of Human Kinetics	\$1500.00
Faculty of Arts	\$1500.00
8 Bursaries – Departments to be determined in consultation with MUN	\$8000.00
Marine Institute	
4 Bursaries – Programs to be determined in consultation with MI	\$4000.00
College of the North Atlantic	
Early Childhood Education 2 @ \$1000.00	\$2000.00
Women in Non-Traditional Occupations 3 @ \$1000.00	\$3000.00
Lanai Saba Primary School – Kenya	
4 Tuitions @ \$450.00	\$1,800.00
School Supplies / Administration	\$400.00
Kiwanis Music Festival	
4 scholarships @ \$100.00	\$400.00
MUN Campus Food Bank	
Donation	\$2500.00
CFUW Charitable Trust	
Donation to CFUW Scholarship Foundation	\$1000.00
TOTAL	\$36,100.00

Moved to accept: Joyce Noseworthy. Seconded: Sandy French. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Membership Committee

Elsie Wells, Chair

Our first meeting of the year was the Open House and Membership Tea which place Saturday, September 20, 2014 at EB Foran Room, St. John's City Hall. During the social, existing members renewed their membership for 2014/15 and guests who expressed interest in the CFUW were given general information. At that time, membership kits and program information were given to new members and to those who later joined. All were welcomed to our club.

During 2014/15, club membership increased from 103 to 111 members. As of May 31, 2025, our membership numbers were:

- 100 renewed members
- 1 student member, Karen Gill
- 11 new members,

Sandra Clarke
Bea Courtney
Natalie Duchesne
Stella Evans
Joan Keating
Sarojini Lang
Beverly Lee
Gwen Mercer
Katherine Side
Susan Simms
Effie White

Three members did not renew their membership for 2014-2015 and sadly one member, Elizabeth Piper, passed away in May, 2015. CFUW St. John's Club extended condolences to her family.

As my term as Membership Chair has ended, I would like to thank the Executive and the membership for their kindness and support over the past three years.

Report of the Program Committee

This year's Program Committee consisted of Dianne Reddy, Chris Gill and Sharon Walsh. The Committee would like to thank the Executive for their support, and to also thank the telephone callers, all those members who donated food and refreshments for the monthly meetings, and the members who introduced and thanked speakers.

The year began with a Membership Reception held on September 20 at the E.B. Foran Room, City Hall. Guest speaker for the event was Michelle Smith, Director of Violence Prevention, the Women's Policy Office and Violence Prevention.

The speakers for our monthly meetings were well-received; we all appreciated their taking time to share their interests and expertise with us. This year's speakers were:

October 14 - Dr Sandra Clarke - Department of Linguistics, MUN.

November 11 - Dr Jill Allison – Global Health Coordinator, MUN Medical school

January 13 - Catherine Parsons R.N. - Women's Health Issues

February 10 - Kevin O'Shea - Public Legal Information Association

March 10 - Sister Mary Tee - The Mercy Centre for Ecology and Justice

May 12 - Elisabeth Mouland - Travels in Tibet

The Christmas Social was held on December 9th at the Ramada Inn with a record number of members in attendance and the 2015 AGM is scheduled for June 9th at the Ramada.

The year- end outing is being planned. We are currently waiting for confirmation to visit the Marine Institute in July.

Report of the Public Relations Committee

Daphne Lilly, Chair

The Public Relations Chair maintained an e-mail contact list of members as well as local media, churches and other institutions. These lists were used to notify members and the public of our club activities and projects. Members were also made aware of other non-CFUW items of interest. The Telephone Committee contacted members during the year for special events.

The Newsletter was discontinued this year and members were encouraged to access the CFUW St. John's website for up-to-date information. Joyce Noseworthy managed the site and we are grateful for her efforts to ensure that details of club

activities were made available to members. Our website address is <http://www.cfuwstjohns.org> .

President Hazel Pritchett Harris provided members with a monthly Notices and News bulletin which was also very informative and timely. Grace Hollett, Regional Director NL, represented our club at the national level and ensured they were kept informed of our activities.

The Book Sale was publicized heavily with Grace Hollett, the Publicity Chair for the Book Sale Committee, organizing the printing and distribution of posters and flyers for both the Blitz and the Sale. These notices to members and the public were also e-mailed by the Public Relations Chair to the local media, churches and various educational institutions. Grace and Hazel also organized TV and radio interviews and live coverage which were very successful in promoting the sale and the activities of our club.

The publicity that our club has received as well as the support from the community that resulted in a record profit for our Book Sale are due to the tremendous effort of our members this year. Well done!

Report of the Scholarships Committee

Barbara Clancy, Chair

CFUW St. John's awarded scholarships and bursaries to young women at Memorial University, the College of the North Atlantic, the Marine Institute, and the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Police Studies Program during the 2014 – 2015 academic year.

As a result of profits from our tremendously successful 2014 book sale, the following proposal for scholarships and bursaries for the 2014 – 2015 academic year was approved by the membership at our May 2014 finance meeting:

Police Studies Cadet Program (Women in Policing)

5 @ \$1000.00	\$5000.00
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Memorial University

Manuel/Anderson Entrance Bursaries (top up)	\$1500.00
Gender Studies Post-Graduate Scholarship	\$2000.00
Faculty of Education Post-Graduate Scholarship	\$2000.00
Department of Human Kinetics Scholarship	\$1500.00
Faculty of Arts Scholarship	\$1500.00
8 bursaries – Departments to be decided in consultation with MUN	\$8000.00
	\$16,500.00

Marine Institute

4 bursaries @ \$1000.00 Departments to be decided in consultation with MUN	\$4000.00
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College of the North Atlantic

Early Childhood Education 2 @ \$1000.00	\$2000.00
3 bursaries to women in non-traditional occupation 3@ \$1000.00	\$3000.00
	\$5000.00

Lanai Saba Primary School - Kenya

4 tuitions @ \$450.00	\$1800.00
Donation towards school supplies/administration	\$400.00
	\$2200.00

Kiwanis Music Festival

4 scholarships @ \$100.00	\$400.00
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CFUW Charitable Trust

Donation to CFUW Scholarship Foundation	\$400.00
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TOTAL \$34,500.00

The recipients of our scholarships and bursaries at MUN, the Marine Institute, and the College of the North Atlantic, and Women in Policing for the academic year 2014 – 2015 are as follows:

Memorial University

- Dr. Edith M Manuel Entrance Bursary : Kelsey Blair , Lourdes
- Ms. Olga Anderson Entrance Bursary : Kaitlyn Wiseman , Deer Lake
- Gender Studies Post-Graduate Scholarship: Erin Mobley
- Edith Creighton Post-Graduate Scholarship: Xiaolin Xu
- Department of Human Kinetics Scholarship: Samantha Ranscourt, St. John's
- CFUW St. John's Faculty of Arts Scholarship: Krista Burton, Mt. Pearl

The CFUW St. John's Undergraduate Bursary – 8 bursaries @ \$1,000

- Computer Science: Lesley Chard St. John's
- Geography: Natalya Dawe, CBS
- Psychology: Andrea Power, Bedford NS
- Folklore: Blair Kerr, Smith Falls, ON
- Religious Studies: Dakotah Noseworthy, Glovertown South
- Linguistics: No candidate for 2014. They will award 2 for 2015
- Newfoundland Studies: No candidate for 2014. They will award 2 for 2015
- Sociology: No candidate for 2014. They will award 2 for 2015

Marine Institute:

- Coralie Brown, Mt Pearl: 2nd yr., Underwater Vehicles
- Danielle Pinksen, Burin Bay Arm: 2nd yr., Marine Engineering Systems design

- Kaelyn Burke, St. John's: 2nd yr. Naval Architecture
- Catherine Ducey, Mt. Pearl: 1st yr. , Remotely Operated Vehicles

College of the North Atlantic:

- Vanessa Cheeseman Geomatics/Surveying Engineering Technology
- Megan Clarke Welding Engineering Technician (Burin Campus)
- Heather Elliott Early Childhood Education (2nd yr)
- Stephanie Sooley Civil Engineering Technologist
- Carolyn Wheeler Early Childhood Education

Women in Policing:

- Brittany Abbott
- Jenna Currie
- Nicola Holden
- Leslie McCarthy

We would like to thank Kathrin Gill, Office of Alumni Affairs & Development at Memorial University of Newfoundland, and Evelyn Hyde, Alumni and Advancement Officer at the College of the North Atlantic for their guidance and assistance over the past year.

PROJECT REPORTS

Report of the Book Sale Committee

Joyce Noseworthy, Co-Chair

This year our annual book sale was held on April 15-17 and it was an unprecedented success! We sold nearly \$55,000.00 worth of books and, even accounting for our expenses, made a profit of more than \$48,000.00!

Planning for the sale began with the first meeting of the 24-member Book Sale Committee on January 31. At that time, we made revisions to our book sorting and pricing guidelines and agreed to introduce the concept of student vouchers – giving students who spent \$10.00 or more during the sale a pass to collect as many free books as they wanted once the sale was over. This initiative proved very successful as quite a number of books were taken away at the end of the sale.

We also decided to schedule only one collection blitz this year. It was held on February 28 and was wildly successful, both our 17-ft collector trucks being filled to capacity after just 2 hours of collection. We continued to accept books dropped off at the sorting site for the next two weeks.

Once again, we were fortunate to have the use of the former Pennington's

Superstore on Hamlyn Road, thanks to the generosity of CrombieReit. This large space allowed us to sort, price and store our books in comfort. We had the room to alphabetize our fiction sections and to expand the number of our non-fiction categories. One of the new categories we introduced this year was World War I and II; this category proved to be so successful that all the books even remotely related to this were sold almost as soon as they were placed on the table!

The Royal Newfoundland Constabulary cadets were available to help again this year. They were involved in moving the books to the Arts and Culture Centre on Monday, April 13 and in setting up the tables and bringing the books to the appropriate tables on Tuesday, April 14. Their availability meant that we did not need to hire additional workers.

Other groups and individuals outside our Club helped to make the sale a success. The MUN School of Music generously allowed us to use their MMaP room for both storing our books and allowing us to sell books in it. Members of WAMUN volunteered, as always, to help with both the sorting and pricing and the book sale set up. Several of our members brought friends to help at all stages of the process. And the male relatives of many of our members were invaluable at all stages, from the initial table set-up at Hamlyn Road to the move of our gear at the end of the sale to our storage locker at U-Store-It, kindly donated free of charge by Eldon Bessey. Thank you to everyone who participated in the book sale effort!

Report of the NAPS (Newfoundland Art Posters in Schools)

Committee – Karen Butt and Judy Mallam, Co-Chairs

Sixteen CFUW volunteers have continued this year to distribute Newfoundland art posters to schools throughout the Avalon Peninsula and Eastern Newfoundland. In January all principals in the Eastern School District were contacted via email informing them about our program and, as a result, six new schools were added, including Holy Name of Mary Academy in Lawn on the Burin Peninsula. Several new posters were also added to the collection this year.

We would like to thank our wonderful volunteers who make this program possible. To each and every one of them who faithfully drive to the schools to distribute and collect posters, and who help clean and maintain the collection in the spring – again we say many, many thanks.

Next year two new members will take over the co-ordination of the NAPS program. Bea Courtney and Jennifer Jeans will help close out this year at our collection day in June, and will be at the helm in September. We have enjoyed working with such dedicated women during the past eight years and we wish all the best for the NAPS program in the future.

STUDY GROUP REPORT

Report of the Issues and Resolutions Study Group

Gillian Brown, Chair

Resolutions passed at the national AGM of CFUW are used in four ways: as a tool for public awareness; to positively express our concerns; to create partnerships and coalitions with like-minded organizations; and to react to issues and governments' agendas.

CFUW St. John's wrote letters to MP's Ryan Cleary, Scott Andrews and Jack Harris, on the following issues:

- Enhancing Canada's Pension Plan for those people whose earnings are reduced because they must withdraw from the workforce for child rearing or to care for family members who are seriously ill.
- Restoring and maintaining Canada's documentary heritage by restoring and preserving the collections of the Public Library, research documents, and collections of scientific institutes and departmental libraries.
- Redrafting election reforms for federal elections so that fairness and impartiality in voting is guaranteed.

At AGM 2014, CFUW decided to continue its emphasis on the elimination and prevention of Violence Against Women for another year. CFUW St. John's took the following actions in support of this initiative:

- i. Letters were sent to the provincial government from Hazel (club president) and Grace (V.P. Atlantic Canada) asking for the reinstatement of the NL Family Violence Intervention Court. This court essentially provided intervention in situations of family violence and served as a means of helping people who were willing to admit their behavior was wrong and who showed a willingness to change it. (Note: In the last budget this court was reinstated by the government.)
- ii. Members of the Issues and Resolutions Committee (I &R) attended meetings of the Coalition Against Violence Avalon East (CAVAE) and participated in the White Van/Purple Ribbon campaign. Once again we provided notebooks with an anti-violence message. Members also attended the CAVAE Vigil for murdered women that took place in Bowring Park on Oct. 23rd.
- iii. November 25 was the International Day for the Elimination of Violence and the beginning of 16 days of action to eliminate Violence Against Women (VAW). In an effort to bring attention to VAW, two members of the Issues and Resolutions committee drafted a letter for publication in

the telegram. The letter was sent under the signature of our president but once again, the letter was not published. The White Van project took place during this period as well as the vigil for those young women who were killed at Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal. The I & R committee was pleased to see twelve club members attend the December vigil – the largest attendance to date!!

- iv. The I & R Committee is researching the possibility of providing a scholarship to a woman who has suffered domestic violence and is looking to improve her skills through education.

In the fall members of the I & R Committee watched two films available from the NFB: *Buying Sex* (a film about prostitution and ways to ameliorate it), and *Sexy* (a film about the hyper-sexualization of young girls). *Buying Sex* inspired Natalie Duchesne, CFUW member and teacher in Women's Studies at MUN, to develop a three-day workshop entitled **Sex Work: Soliciting Reflection**. The workshop encouraged discussion about sex workers in the community and challenged pre-conceived notions about sex workers. Students and the general public were invited to attend.

Two Resolutions were researched and presented to CFUW St. John's at the February general meeting. Resolution One pertained to saving pollinators and placing a moratorium on the use of neonicotinoid pesticides. Resolution Two spoke to reducing climate change through the use of carbon taxes. The club approved both resolutions with some suggestions for changes to wording.

Finally, the I & R committee brought to the club's attention the **UP for Debate Campaign** which calls for all political parties to commit to a federal leaders debate on issues identified by women. The last such debate took place 30 years ago. Members can encourage the political parties to hold the debate in the following ways:

1. **SEND A MESSAGE** to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau and Bloc Québécois Leader Mario Beaulieu through the upfordebate.ca/take-action website.
2. **SIGN the CHANGE.ORG PETITION:** <http://chn.ge/1BDDaDh>

Thank-you to committee members Grace Hollett, Jean Marks, Bea Courtney, Jennifer Jeans, Natalie Duchesne, Hazel Pritchett Harris, Dianne Reddy, Judith Prior, Barbara Clancy, Gwen Mercer, Elizabeth Cahill and Linda Patzold for their work during the past year.

INTEREST GROUP REPORTS

Alley Cats Bowling – Gillian Brown, Convenor

This was a great year for the Cats! We had the most bowlers yet (15) and the new members were most enthusiastic! It wasn't exactly a great year for scores but the Cats scorn the scores! They are only interested in Turkeys (3 strikes in a row) and a number were achieved.

The Alley Cats bowl for fun and exercise twice a month on the first and third Wednesdays. The Alley Cats met at Plaza Bowl on Ropewalk Lane from late September to June. Bowling began about 3:50pm and two games were bowled each day. Being rather independently minded, the "cats" did not bowl in teams. Individual scores were kept and averages and other bowling feats were celebrated at the Annual Awards Breakfast where the trophy for the highest average was presented.

All members of CFUW St. John's are welcome to become "cats" as no real skill is required, just a desire to throw a few balls and have a good yarn.

Book Clubs

Afternoon Book Club – Diane Reddy, Convenor

This was the first year for this book club. We currently have 9 members with a cap of 10. We read the following books this year:

Daniel Silva, *The Messenger*

Avad Ahktar, *American Dervish*

Gavin Menzies, *1421: The Year China Discovered the World*

Antony Doerr, *All The Light We Cannot See*

Aimee Molloy, *However Long the Night*

Sue Monk Kidd, *The Invention of Wings*

Scott Anderson, *Lawrence in Arabia*.

We have had lively discussions, thought-provoking comments and pleasant socializing.

Morning Book Club #1 – Fran Field, Convenor

Morning Book Club # 1 met on the third Thursday of each month from September to June, at the home of a member. We met with Book Club #2 in December and June.

Attendance varied from 8 to 14 persons.. Discussions were lively and interesting with differing opinions being expressed.

We read and discussed the following books:

Charles Todd, *An Unmarked Grave*

Colleen McCullough, *Bittersweet*

Mary Beth Wright, *Grace Sparkes: Blazing a Trail to Independence*

Kurt Palka, *Clara*

Ross King, *Leonardo and the Last Supper*

Margaret Duley, *Cold Pastoral*

Chris Hadfield, *An Astronaut's Guide to Life*

Rebecca Skloot, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*

Joseph Boyden, *The Orenda*.

I was able to borrow several "Book Club To Go" kits from the St. John's Public Libraries, a helpful service.

Thanks to members who hosted us in their homes, and those who provided food for coffee breaks, and those who helped in other ways.

We start again in September 2015, on the third Thursday, the 17th, and look forward to another interesting year.

Morning Book club #2 – Joyce Noseworthy, Convenor

We meet on the third Thursday of each month from September to June at 10:00 am. There are 16 members in the club, although normally we have around 10 members for each discussion. Our club dues are \$10.00 per member; the money is a contribution to our scholarship fund. Our members take turns either hosting the group or catering a snack.

This year, 10 of our members were randomly chosen to select a book, without regard to genre, author or any other factor. The books chosen were:

Martin Sixsmith, *The Lost Child of Philomena Lee*

Melanie Benjamin, *The Aviator's Wife*

Amanda Lindhout (& Sara Corbett), *A House in the Sky*

Mary Beth Wright, *Grace Sparkes: Blazing a Trail to Independence*

Chris Pavone, *The Expats*

Tom Moore, *Angels Crying*

Eleanor Catton, *The Luminaries*

J. P. Andrieux, *The White Fleet*

Jhumpa Lahiri, *The Lowland*

Joseph Boyden, *The Orenda*

We compared our reading list with that of Morning Book club #1 and, as a result, scheduled joint meetings with them for December and June. At our December meeting, we were fortunate to have with us Mary Beth Wright who kindly spoke about her experiences in writing about Grace Sparkes and answered our questions.

That discussion was followed by a pot lunch lunch.

We had quite lively discussions at our meetings and usually ended with our assigning an overall rating to each book (this was an average of the individual ratings provided by each member). The overall ratings we assigned were: *The Lost Child of Philomena Lee* – 8.0; *The Aviator's Wife* – 7.6; *A House in the Sky* – 7.6; *The Expats* – 7.1; *The Luminaries* – 6.4; *The Lowland* – 6.9. We did not rate *Grace Sparkes* (the author was present), *Angels Crying* or *The White Fleet*. We had not yet met to discuss *The Orenda* by the time this report was written.

We hope to have a partial list of books for 2015/16 ready for our last meeting in June.

Murder 'n' Mayhem Book Club – Joyce Noseworthy, Convenor

We meet on the second Wednesday of each month from September to June at 7:30 pm. This year, we had a total of 21 members, although the attendance at each meeting ranged from 13 to 18 individuals. Our members take turns hosting and catering to the group. This year, our members made suggestions about the authors to read at our first meeting in September; the final choices reflected our attempt to provide something for everybody, as we tried for a mix of male and female authors and protagonists, North American and European writers, historical and contemporary settings, and police and amateur detectives. We also take into account the availability of books we select. We plan to finalize our 2015/16 reading list by our June meeting this year, so that our members can get a head start on next year's titles and read some of those books over the summer.

For the second year in a row, we decided to read a book and watch a movie adaptation of the same work. This year we read and watched *Get Shorty* by Elmore Leonard, and had a great time comparing the two and discussing the differences. Most of our members preferred the movie to the book.

Our other choices for 2014/15 were the Liz Carlyle series by Stella Rimington; the Bess Crawford series by Charles Todd; the Tess Monaghan series by Laura Lippman; the Harry Hole series by Jo Nesbo; the Ruth Galloway series by Elly Griffiths; the Joe Pickett series by C. J. Box; *Mean Streak* by Sandra Brown; and *Live by Night* by Dennis Lehane (this book was scheduled to be read in 2013/14, but the meeting to discuss it was canceled due to bad weather and we decided to discuss it at our first meeting this year). Our members were almost unanimous in their approval of the Liz Carlyle and Ruth Galloway books and of *Mean Streak*; opinion was sharply divided on the merits of the other books, which made for some very interesting discussions. At the time this report was written, we had not yet met to discuss the Adelia Aguilar series by Ariana Franklin.

Bridge Groups

Bridge Group 1 – Pat Rahal, Convenor

Bridge Group 1 meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month from September to June. Eighteen games were scheduled this year. We have nine regular members and some spares. We would welcome new spares for September. Please contact Pat Rahal at prahal@nf.sympatico.ca .

Bridge Group 2 – Karen Butt, Convenor

Bridge Group 2 has met on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month since September, finishing up on May 13. We have enjoyed a good year of bridge with tasty treats provided by each member who hosts in turn. We look forward to starting up again in September. New spares are welcome. Please contact kebutt@nl.rogers.com .

Bridge Group 3 – Marion Hayden, Convenor

Bridge group 3 meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from September to May. We begin the year meeting at 1:30, but change the meeting time to 1:00 during the winter months so that our members arrive home before dark and the 5:00 traffic. We have eight regular members and a number of substitutes. Thank you to our members for their hospitality and company and to the others for filling in, sometimes at short notice. New spares are welcome to join us.

Bridge Group 4 – Joyce Noseworthy, Convenor

We meet Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am; we play bridge until 12:00 when we stop for lunch. We each bring our own sandwich and the hostess provides dessert. Afterwards, we continue to play bridge until about 2:30 pm. On the third Tuesday of each month, we join the Ladies Who Lunch and so we begin our bridge at 9:30 am.

Communications/Social Media – Grace Hollett, Convenor

This interest group was connected with community services offered by the Ross King Library of Mt. Pearl and the A. E. Hunter library of St. John's. I contacted both libraries, and forwarded their course offerings to our members who personally reserved time at the libraries. Among the topics of instruction were: Email, Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Power Point presentations, Microsoft word, Basic Computer

Skills, and Digital Camera. Much of this was done by students employed for a set number of weeks. Drop in sessions were also offered.

Crafteas – Maureen Leat, Convenor

The Crafteas Interest Group continued to meet every second and fourth Thursday morning of most months including the summer months. We meet at members' homes. This year we met once in December before the busy holiday season and once in April as many people were busy with preparations for the annual "Gigantic" book sale. Poor weather did cause a cancellation again this winter.

Everyone brings along a project to work on. It could be needlework, knitting, quilting or a hand-sewn project that the individual hopes to finish in good time or see some progress. A good time is held by all who are able to attend our Crafteas morning. We share ideas, consult, encourage, show and tell, and best of all chat and have some laughs. Thanks to our hosts we enjoy a light snack with coffee and tea before heading off to other events/appointments or to do the day's errands.

We enjoy the time we spend together as "crafty" people.

Dining Out – Jean Dymond, Convenor

The Dining Out Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month from October to June at 6:30 PM. This year there were a total of 35 members on our list. Between 12 and 20 of our members attended our monthly dinners.

Despite the closure of some of our chosen restaurants and a cancellation due to a snowstorm in March, we had a successful year. We spent enjoyable evenings dining with friends at Rio Steak House, Saltwater, Magic Wok, Magnum & Stein, Milestones, Portobello's, Red Rock Bar & Grill. We are looking forward to dining at the Oppidan on 3 June.

We would be happy to have you join us for dinner each month. A signup sheet will be available at our Membership meeting in September.

Globetrotters Travel Group – Brenda Martin, Convenor

Members of the Globetrotters share travel experiences and general travel tips, and help members connect with travel buddies. This was the second year for this group and we had about fifteen members each year. Meetings were held on the third Wednesday evening of the month. Members have presented information about their

trips to Las Vegas, Australia, China and cruises to Asia and the Baltic. Notes were presented to members to record specific details of each trip. The group shared lists of where they have been to help others in arranging visits to these places, and wish lists of where they would like to go to allow for shared future planning. Members have been asked to share their travel plans with other members in the group to allow other interested people to join the trip.

Ladies Who Lunch – Clarissa Hiscock, Convenor

The Ladies Who Lunch group meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 12:30.

Twenty seven members signed up this year. We met at The Wedgewood Cafe, The Outport Restaurant, Montana's, City Lights, Mama Soula's, Oppidan and Press and Bean. You are welcome to join us at The Pantry on June 16th; Tiny's Bar and Grill, Conception Bay South on July 21st; By-da-Beach, St. Philips on August 18th, and Milestones, Stavanger Drive on September 18th.

My sincere thanks to Joyce Noseworthy who has been doing the organizing since February.

Summer Saunters – Gillian Brown, Convenor

Once again members of CFUW St. John's enjoyed the companionship and exercise provided by this interest group. Members of the group met on weekday mornings at 9:30am to walk the various trails available to residents of St. John's and Mount Pearl. On some days there were as many as 10 participants and on others as few as two. Thirty-five members showed an interest in the group. Most "saunters" were 40 - 50 minutes long. Participation in the group was flexible with members deciding each weekend when to take part during the coming week. Dogs were always welcome! There was an interest in morphing from the Summer Saunters into the Autumn Ambles but time constraints precluded this from happening - perhaps another year!

Sunshine Committee – Sharon Walsh, Convenor

The members of the Sunshine Committee are Gerri Downey, Patricia Collins and Sharon Walsh. This year, we continued to send get well cards to the ill, to visit those in need of company and to offer transportation to meeting to those without access to a vehicle.

Women on Tap - Judith Prior and Riva McKee, Choreographers

The members of Women on Tap deserve a standing ovation for their accomplishment in their sixth year. With their usual enthusiasm and dedication they managed to "fold in" some eager new tappers, only one of whom had any dance background.

Needless to say, this was our year of cooperation. Our original group now has six polished routines and the ability to keep moving on. We had also planned to have finished a new routine by the end of the year. Fortunately we are a group who know the value of review, revise and practice, three magic words which brought everything together.

By the end of April the new group had been exposed to the entire repertoire. With hard work they were able to participate with confidence in some numbers. When all else failed laughter took over. In May we finished our intricate new routine, which worked for everyone - new and old.

Thanks to everyone for a great year. Special thanks to Joyce Noseworthy for remembering and to Francine Fleming for going the extra mile.