



Contents	Pages
CFUW News	1- 6
Club Initiatives	2-4
Interest Groups	5
Events	1- 6

Leadership Team

President's Message

September was a great month for CFUW Brantford. We were able to enjoy a wonderful meeting. Our September guest speaker, Linda Schuyler, was amazing. As someone who watched Degrassi I was fascinated to learn how it all came about.

As we all heard, many of our members have been busy this summer on CFUW Brantford activities. We learned about the member survey and I, for one look forward to learning the results of the survey--- which will be coming soon. We also heard about the work being done to create the CFUW Brantford Procedures Manual 2024. As always, at our meetings, the September meeting treats were great! Many thanks to the Social Committee.

As we head into fall we can certainly look forward to more great speakers, more wonderful treats, as well as enjoying our interest groups and the company of our fellow members. Have a great October my CFUW friends.

Respectfully submitted by
Betsy C.
President of the Month for
September



September General Meeting



At the September 25, 2024 General meeting. CFUW Brantford was very lucky to have Linda Schuyler, the creator of the Degrassi franchise, as our Speaker. Linda gave an amazing talk that told the history of Degrassi while intertwining her own personal journey and how it was pivotal in the creation of Degrassi.

Betsy C.

Allocating Dues for International Endeavours:

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RE: ALLOCATION OF OUR 2024-25 DUES TARGETED FOR INTERNATIONAL ENDEAVORS

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 21, 2024

For 2024-25, we will continue our practice of allocating the portion of our dues allocated for international activities as follows:

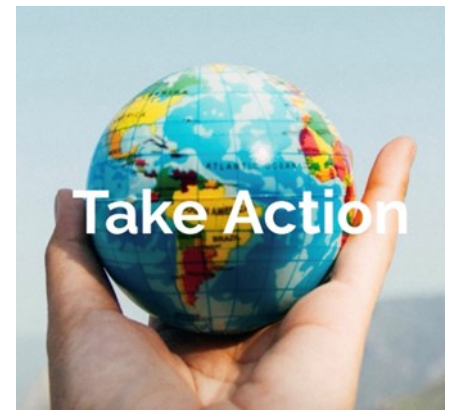
1. All members are invited to nominate a not-for-profit international organization/charity outside of CFUW that they are actively engaged with that supports the rights, freedoms and education of women and girls, particularly in third world, war-torn or otherwise compromised countries.
2. All submissions must be received by Kate G., Advocacy by **Monday, October 21st, 2024**.
3. The submissions will be summarized and published in the November newsletter and sent out to the membership by e-mail prior to the November 27th General Meeting.
4. A Motion will be made at the November 27th General Meeting, 'that the not-for-profit international organizations nominated by the membership be approved to receive the portion of our 2024-25 membership dues allocated for international endeavors'.

To submit your nomination:

Please send an email to Kate G. by **October 21st** with the following information:

1. Your Name
2. The Organization that you are nominating
3. Details about how this charity empowers women and girls internationally in countries that are either third-world, war-torn or suffering from natural disasters.
4. Your involvement in said charity

Kate G., Advocacy Chair



Southwestern Regional Fall Gathering on November 2 in St. Thomas

2024 CFUW SOUTHWESTERN REGION FALL GATHERING Saturday, November 2, 2024 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Elgin Harvest (Wood Fired Oven) Pizzeria, 400 Sunset Drive, St. Thomas, ON

Come and join us as we explore the theme “**GREEN & GROW**”! A full day of learning about environmental initiatives in Elgin County and a chance for fellowship with other CFUW members from the Southwestern Ontario region. Maybe you will find an idea to spark a personal or community environmental initiative!

REGISTRATION Register by email message to Ellen Luft at lufte@rogers.com, including your full name, which club you belong to, and your phone number. Please advise if you have any dietary restrictions. Registration fee of \$75.00 to be e-transferred to lufte@rogers.com.

Registration deadline: Friday, October 25, 2024

Changing the Face of CFUW Brantford: Results of the 2024 Membership Survey

Introduction

The survey was completed on October 1, and approximately 61% of members (45 out of 73 members) completed it. The Survey Committee met on Oct.4 to review the results of the survey and prepare a report based on the results.

The survey was general, had no agenda, and aimed to find out what members were thinking. In that it succeeded. I will outline the main themes that came out of it, and give a brief summary of main points from each question. Then I will present several recommendations that the committee is suggesting that the Leadership Team act on.

General Themes

1. The members are satisfied with how the club is running, and are enjoying being members.
2. The membership wants the general meetings to be relaxed and without tension, with less emphasis on rules. They want controversies to be dealt with outside the meetings. They would like leaders to feel supported, not intimidated.
3. The theme that stood out, was the need to recruit new members. This came up through the answers to several questions and there were suggestions as to how to do go about doing this.

Main Points from Specific Questions

Word of mouth is how people found out about CFUW Brantford.

Friendships and Interest Groups were the main benefits of belonging to the club.

Main points were more relaxed meetings and more social opportunities at meetings.

The meeting venue is not adequate for the needs of hybrid meetings.

Members suggested ways that the General Meeting can be streamlined.

Women's Issues and Health Care led the list in terms of Advocacy.

Chairs of Interest Groups should lay out expectations for new members e.g. times of meeting, hosting, car pooling.

Cost of ticket for banquet: 51% selected \$70 to \$80.

Most were willing to pay at least \$10 to \$20 more for a program at the AGM.

The need for new members was emphasized. Most members have already been on the executive, are currently active in leadership, or feel that they cannot be active because of aging and changing priorities. As well, new members need time in the club before taking on leadership roles.

Those who take on new roles may need on-going support or mentorship. Make leadership positive for people taking on new positions.

Again, recruiting new members will make the club thrive in the future.

Recommendations:

Strike an ad hoc committee to recruit new members, starting in early 2025.

Strike an ad hoc committee to find a venue more conducive to hybrid meetings. (A couple of people have offered to work on this).

The Leadership Team find ways to assure that newer members are spoken to, and made to feel welcome at general meetings.

Social, Program and Treasurer meet to plan the 2025 AGM, based on feedback from the survey.

The Leadership Team look at ways to streamline the business portion of general meetings.

Reporting to members on results of survey

Individual suggestions or comments to be sent to individual chairs of committees

Report published in the newsletter

Report sent to members via email

Report be put on the agenda of General Meeting in October

Report by Colette W. (chair of Survey Committee), October 5, 2024

16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until

10 December, Human Rights Day.

The campaign was started by activists at the inauguration of the Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991. It is used as an organizing strategy by individuals and organizations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls.

In support of this civil society initiative, the United Nations Secretary-General launched in 2008 the campaign UNITE by 2030 to End Violence against Women, which runs parallel to the 16 Days of Activism.

Every year, the UNITE Campaign focuses on a specific theme and this year's is

“UNITE! Invest to prevent violence against women and girls”.

If you are interested in learning more please follow this link: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/unite/16-days-of-activism#:~:text=The%2016%20Days%20of%20Activism,10%20December%2C%20Human%20Rights%20Day.>

Suggested by Barb M.



NOVA VITA
Help • Hope • Heal

24 Hour Crisis & Support Line
519-752-HELP
info@novavita.org



Thank you to the members who make sure the Newsletter is correctly spelled and grammatical,
Anne M. Naomi K.

Thank YOU!

Share Updates in our Newsletter and on our Website and Facebook page.

Please send articles and photos to Sandra H. for the newsletter, Marsha S. for the website and Mary P. for our Facebook page, with a copy to our club's e-mail address.

1.Format: FOR THE NEWSLETTER: Sandra asks that you create a Word document or create a text and jpeg using Calibri 10 font and send it by e-mail as soon as the event happens or at least by the first Friday of the month for inclusion in that month's newsletter.

FOR THE WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE: All Marsha and Mary need is a brief blurb in the body of an email and a photo attached in jpg (jpeg) format. Take a look at the website and Facebook page for ideas.

2.Photos: As stated above, please send photos in jpeg format by e-mail to both Marsha and Sandra.

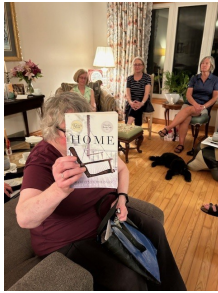
Most photos are saved in jpeg but if you are wondering, you can click on the photo, then click File which will provide you with a dropdown menu. Click Export and the file type will be listed. You can select jpeg if your photo is saved in something else, such as tiff or png.

We are very excited about providing you with the information you need to stay in touch - and to increasing our visibility in the community so that women will know about us and hopefully feel welcome to connect with us.

Interest Groups

Monday Evening Book Group:

We had a lively discussion lead by Naomi K. about the book **Home** by Marilynne Robinson. Thanks to Barb M. for hosting.



Thursday Evening Book Group:

The Thursday evening book club read **Beneath the Surface of Things** by Wade Davis.

The author, Wade Davis, is a professor of Anthropology at UBC and well known for his many books, lectures and work in the field of exploration, travel and cultural study. The essays in this collection are reflections of many world issues as seen through an anthropological lens. The diverse subjects include Climate change, Israel, the art of exploration, the unravelling of America, and a touching and hopeful message to his daughter and her generation. We found this a thoughtful read and a good discussion starter. We recommend this book. Suzanne M.



Creative Cooking:

We enjoyed a delicious meal at the home of Nora L.



Dining Out Group: The Dining Out Group kicked off the 2024-25 season with dinner at The Twisted Lemon in Cayuga. The food, as always, was both creative and delicious. The service was attentive, efficient and personable. There were 16 of us, happy to catch up with one another after the summer. Lin F.



Games Group: On the 12th of September some of us rode on the

Mexican Train. It is a type

of Dominoes game which is fun to play. A big thank you to Barb S. for organizing this at the Brant United Way on Morell Street. Norah O.



Bicycling Group: The bikers have been enjoying fine fall weather. We alternate weeks cycling the Brantford loop. Recently we biked to Waterford and visited the favourite bake shop. In early October, we biked the Lynn Valley Trail to Port Dover and viewed the scenery from the pier.



Walking Group: Lovely but damp day for our Tuesday morning walk at Mohawk Park.



Mahjong Group: North American Mahjong is a game of strategy, skill and luck. The objective of the game is to be first, by drawing and discarding, tiles to match a specific hand from a National Mahjong League card. This past week our group of keen CFUW women were introduced to rules and strategy, made more decisions in an hour than they thought possible and shared a few laughs. We are all looking forward to a fun year ahead. Arlene C.



Day Trippers: 9 lovely ladies ventured to Dundas on a warm and beautiful Saturday for art, culture, shopping, friendship and dining. The Dundas Studio Tour presented an opportunity to observe creative works of pottery, painting, fabric, wool, wax and silver, to discuss techniques with artists and in some cases to bring a little something home. Lunch at Bangkok Spoon was delicious as always. A good time was had by all but, unfortunately, there are no pictures since we were too busy shopping.

2024–2025 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT IN NAME:

- Barbara Melara

PAST PRESIDENT:

- Janet Kempster

ROTATING PRESIDENTIAL TEAM:

- Anne Martin & Teddy Buzek—June to August,
- Elizabeth Capitano— September
- Pat Clemons—October
- Cookie Hadley—November
- Maria Timmons—December, January
- Catherine Sawyer- February
- Linda Tripp—March
- Dian Kuzyk—April
- Barbara Melara—May

SECRETARY:

Penelope Jeffery / Arlene Cass

TREASURER: Maria Timmons

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

- Communications:** Sandra Hughes
- Interest Groups:** Roma Makkreel
- Membership:** Barb Scott
- Program:** Colette Wilson
- Scholarship:** Karen Innes
- Social:** Lynne Duncombe

Scholarship

The applications deadline for the B Award scholarships is Oct 31.2024.

Eligible applicants are female living in Brantford or Brant County, and have been out of school for at least two years. Please encourage eligible candidates, who you may know, to apply for the \$1000. Application forms are available by Email.

Karen I.



October

General Meeting



Time: 7:00 p.m., October 23, 2024

Location: Thorpe Carriage House or in your home, at your computer on a Zoom call.

Program:

Chuck Beach is an environmentalist in the Brantford area and with the Brant Community Foundation. He was instrumental in the planting of thousands of trees in the New Forest near Garden Avenue and was recipient of the 2010 Watershed Award from the Grand River Conservation Authority.

I'm sure Chuck Beach will be an interesting, stimulating speaker for our October General Meeting.

Dian K.

AGM

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and BANQUET will be held on May 28th, 2025, at THE WALTER GRETZKY GOLF CLUB. Please reserve the date for this occasion. Lynne D.



It is time once again to plan for our annual pot luck Holiday get together.

PLACE : LYNNE D'S HOME
ADDRESS : BRANTFORD
DATE: DECEMBER 11, 2024
TIME : 5:30 pm

Traditionally we have enjoyed finger foods, appetizers and desserts for the evening meal.

Please choose from ONE of those categories to bring that night. Before the event it would be helpful to know which category you will be bringing to ensure variety.

I can be reached by
Text, email, phone and in person at a general meeting.

Lynne D.