

**CFUW Fredericton Newsletter**  
**January/February 2017**

[www.cfuwfredericton.com](http://www.cfuwfredericton.com)

CFUW-Fredericton Facebook

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***Celebrate Together***

**CFUW Fredericton—Supporting Literacy**



September 8 is International Literacy Day and January 27 is Family Literacy Day in Canada. Let's make literacy an important part of our daily lives.

How is CFUW Fredericton supporting literacy? The CFUW Fredericton Book Club currently holds a monthly book club get together with sandwiches, coffee and conversation. On February 13, CFUW Fredericton will be holding a fundraiser at Chapters in the Regent Mall. A percentage of sales that night will go toward supporting the Devon Middle School library. Come out and support this worthy cause.

Each year CFUW Fredericton provides \$3000 in grants to local schools in support of their school libraries. This year CFUW Fredericton will hold its 52<sup>nd</sup> Book Fair on May 26-28 with proceeds going toward scholarships for women, school libraries, international students, Fredericton Music Festival and local issues. This Book Fair event is also a wonderful opportunity for readers of all ages to browse through the hundreds of boxes of books.

At the February Book Club get together, two books were discussed, “Run” and “Boys in the Boat”. The March get together will include discussions on “The Illegal” by Lawrence Hill and “They Left Us Everything”, a memoir by Plum Johnson.



### ***Take Action***

#### **International Women’s Day—March 8, 2017**

The theme of this year’s United Nations Commission on the Status of Women is “Women’s Economic Empowerment in the Changing World of Work”; the review theme is “Challenges and Achievements in the Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for Women and Girls” and the emerging issue is “The Empowerment of Indigenous Women. For more information, visit [www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org), and [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable Development Goals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable_Development_Goals).

Let’s consider what CFUW Fredericton might do in recognition of International Women’s Day:

- Watch/review a pertinent film, such as “Equal Means Equal”
- Identify a topic and research and share
- Focus on fundraising or assisting some way at transition houses and/or women’s shelters or the MATCH International Women’s Fund
- Is there something in the area of literacy
- What about learning more about STEM
- Learn more about our multicultural community and the Newcomers Program
- Your ideas/thoughts?

This is a call for a member of CFUW Fredericton to volunteer to lead an International Women’s Day activity. Contact me at [sharonacrabb@gmail.com](mailto:sharonacrabb@gmail.com) so we might talk further. --

## ***Interest and Information***

### **An Opportunity to Showcase our Club**



There are a number of deadlines for submissions of applications, all of which afford an opportunity for us to showcase CFUW Fredericton:

- ✚ CFUW 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Notable Woman Award—application deadline March 28, 2017. The recipient can be a current member of CFUW, women who have made contributions within the aims and objectives of CFUW or women who have been recognized for sustained efforts over a period of time and have made a distinct and describable difference in their communities. Is there someone you wish to nominate? Please send me your nominee information.
- ✚ Special Projects Award—application deadline April 30, 2017. This is for an interesting project planned or held before the end of April 2017. I am thinking of our Speakers Forum event scheduled for April or it could be our Chapters event or something else that might in planned in the months ahead. Please send me your thoughts.
- ✚ International Relations Award—application deadline May 1, 2017. This award is given to a CFUW individual member, group or club in good standing in recognition of efforts in advocating for the rights and advancement of women and/or girls at the international level (advocacy, events, on-going projects). Please send me your thoughts and recommendations.
- ✚ CFUW Creative Arts Award—application deadline March 1, 2017. This award is granted biennially. The amount is \$4000 and is set by the CFUW Charitable Trust budget. The applicant must be from academic institutions, community centres, cultural centres, youth organizations or any community based organization/team/group. Is there some one/group you wish to nominate? Please send me your recommendations.
- ✚ CFUW National Initiative: Preventing and Responding to Violence Against Women and Girls Award—application deadline April 30, 2017. Please send me your recommendations
- ✚ Small Club Grant to attend CFUW AGM—deadline for application March 30, 2017. Eligibility of Club to apply for this grant is: (a) the Club has fewer than

50 members in total, (b) the Club has paid its dues to National for this year and (c) the designated Club Attendee must be an incoming/continuing Club Executive member. If you meet the criteria and are planning to or would like to attend the CFUW Conference/AGM in Richmond, BC in June 2017, please contact me.



**Contacts for these applications should be made to  
sharonacrabb@gmail.com**

### ***Of Interest to You (and Possible Action)***

#### **What's Happening—CFUW Membership**

In a recent article by Dr. Madeline Kalbach, CFUW VP Membership she highlights the work of the Membership Committee:

- ✓ Adjudicates the applications submitted for various Awards—Violence Against Women, Special Project, New Members, Member Increase and Small Club Grants
- ✓ The Committee is a resource for the CFUW Board, Regional Directors, CFUW Vice Presidents, Clubs and the National Office
- ✓ Monitors CFUW membership across Canada
- ✓ Currently tracking membership retention
- ✓ Recently collated a list of various clubs' interest groups
- ✓ The focus this year is community partnerships

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The University Women's Club of North York recently distributed their "Recruiting and Retaining Membership" document. They substantially increased their Club's membership this past year by focusing on the areas of (a) community presence, (b) membership recruitment and (c) retention. Some of ideas/actions were:

- ✚ Leave club brochure at libraries and community centres
- ✚ Advertise/put an article in the Retired Teachers magazine
- ✚ Participated in the Shoe Box project
- ✚ Scholarships

- ✚ Strong advocacy
- ✚ Send a member package to potential new members
- ✚ Encourage members to bring guests to the meetings/events
- ✚ Develop promotional materials
- ✚ Assign a buddy to new members
- ✚ Host a “Get to Know Us” meeting

These are just a few of North York’s suggestions. Do you see something or some things we might utilize in our club? Share your ideas with me at [sharonacrabb@gmail.com](mailto:sharonacrabb@gmail.com).

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### **Did You Know—Council on Aging New Brunswick**

The NB Council on Aging has an excellent, and very informative, website with a plethora of information in the areas of services, publications, children and youth, individuals and families, seniors, persons with disabilities. The segment titled “seniors”, for example, addresses the specific areas of financial assistance, healthy aging, residential services and long-term care, protection and a series of helpful links. The mandate of the Council as stated on their website is, “to guide the development of an aging strategy to address both short-term (1-3 years) sustainability and long-term (10 or more years) transformational change”. The current committee co-chairs are Ken McGeorge (from Fredericton) and Suzanne Dupius-Blanchard. For more information, please google “Council on Aging New Brunswick.

### ***Advocacy and Action***

### **World March of Women New Brunswick—“Women’s Rights Are Human Rights”**

This was a slogan often heard during the World March of Women New Brunswick rally and march on January 21, 2017, and elsewhere as women around the world gathered in a show of solidarity. This most important event began outside City Hall, Fredericton, as people gathered to hear various speakers present on issues of importance to women, yes, but issues important to people everywhere--equity,

equality, violence against women, reproductive rights, economic sustainability, families, diversity, respect, safety.



From City Hall people proceeded to march down Queen Street and gathered on the grounds of the Legislature. Along the way the march grew in size as people continued to join. Women marched with their children as they felt it was important for children to understand what the day was about.



Women marched for their daughters and for other women who couldn't be in attendance today. This gathering reinforced the importance of never taking anything for granted. CFUW Fredericton members, Jennifer, Jayne, Renee, Paula and Sharon were in attendance at this rally/march. If I missed others, please know your support was most appreciated.



This quote in a recent Daily Gleaner article titled “I Feel Power” resonated at both the rally and during the march and will continue to resonate during the days, weeks and months ahead, “I’m here today to join in solidarity with women around the world to fight back against racism and to help with women’s rights and human rights around the world. And to show that this is not acceptable here,” said marcher Lynaya Astephen.

### ***National and International News***

#### **What is Currently Happening Nationally and Internationally Relative to CFUW?**

- The UNCSW61 (United Nations Commission on the Status of Women) Conference will be held in New York City from March 13 to March 24. Again this year, a delegation of 20 women from CFUW Clubs across Canada will be in attendance. This is an exciting opportunity to network with other women and women’s organizations from around the world.
- On February 1, CFUW issued a press release condemning the attack on the Quebec Islamic Cultural Centre
- Recently CFUW signed on to the Joint Statement against President Trump’s Global Gag Rule Re-enactment. Read more about this action in the CFUW National President’s Message bulletin dated February 1, 2017.
- The “Women in Universities” study materials/questionnaires are currently being distributed to specific universities across Canada. The study was first conducted in 1992 so this is a “revisit” to those universities who participated in the initial study. In New Brunswick, those universities are Mount Allison University and the Universite de Moncton. Congratulations to Margaret Therrien, CFUW Halifax.
- Read more about past CFUW presidents by visiting [cfuw.org](http://cfuw.org).
- The newly formed Committee to Develop a Code of Conduct/Ethics/Ethical Behaviour for CFUW is looking for members. If this is of interest to you, email Robin Jackson at [cfuwed.@rogers.com](mailto:cfuwed.@rogers.com) with your expression of interest.
- Sarah Schattmann is the newly hired CFUW Advocacy Coordinator replacing Maddie Webb who is currently in France pursuing her studies. We welcome Sarah.

## Planning Your Next Fundraising Event Webinar

**When:** Wednesday, March 1, 2017, at 12:00 pm EST

**Register:** Elizabeth Whyte, CFUW Member Engagement Coordinator, at [cfuwgen@rogers.com](mailto:cfuwgen@rogers.com) or toll free at 1.888.220.9606 by February 17, 2017

**Highlights:** (a) how to define what your goals are, (b) where do you spend your time, (c) how to recruit new volunteers to help, (d) tips and tricks for sponsorship and (e) how to thank your participants

## CFUW Women on the Go

### Congratulations to



Pam Love: Pam is currently CFUW Fredericton Treasurer, Book Club Chair, Chair of the Study Group: Women Helping Afghan Women and has recently accepted the position of Chair of the CFUW Status of Women Subcommittee. The major work of this Committee is the “Sexual Assault Policies in Post-Secondary Institutions in Canada” project. The materials for this project are currently being translated and will soon be sent out to CFUW Clubs across Canada.

Paula MacQuarrie: Paul joined CFUW Fredericton last year and has been involved with our advocacy issues, specifically the World March of Women New Brunswick rallies and the “Just Vote” campaign. Paula is very involved with advocacy issues relative in women in positions in the church and she has recently been named Chair of the Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers



Fredericton. This group has a fundraiser, “Spring Bling”, scheduled for May 12. In



the meantime, if you have jewellery you no longer want but would like to give it a new home, please contact Paula as “Spring Bling” is a fabulous event where you can purchase wonderful pieces of “gently used” and “greatly loved” jewellery and support a great cause.



Janet Willwerth: Janet, the former CFUW Regional Director for Nova Scotia, is now the VP Atlantic. Janet has myriad experience in CFUW and, with her legal background, brings much to her new position. Best wishes and welcome, Janet

### ***Notice of Dates/Activities—Save the Date***

- ✓ February 8 (Wednesday)—CFUW Fredericton Luncheon Social—Diplomat—12:00 noon
- ✓ February 10 (Friday)—CFUW Fredericton Education & Scholarship Committee Meeting—Betty Lee’s Food Service Ltd.—10:00 am
- ✓ February 10 (Friday)—CFUW Fredericton Happy Yappy Appetizers Social—Shirley’s—6:00 pm
- ✓ February 13 (Monday)—Fundraiser at Chapters—6:00 pm
- ✓ February 15 (Wednesday)—CFUW Issues Committee Meeting—Prospect St. Second Cup—3:15 pm
- ✓ February 16 (Thursday)—CFUW Fredericton Executive Meeting—Althea’s—1:30 pm
- ✓ February 23 (Thursday)—CFUW Fredericton General Meeting—Forest Hill United Church—12:30 pm
- ✓ March 1 (Wednesday)—CFUW Fredericton Book Club Get Together—Maureen’s—12:00 noon
- ✓ March 1 (Wednesday) –deadline for submission of application for CFUW Creative Arts Award
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## ***Do you remember . . .***



On January 17, 2017, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau visited Fredericton as one of his across Canada stops on his Town Hall meeting tour. This Town Hall was held at the Cultural Centre in Fredericton where people lined up for admittance, a line so long that not everyone was able to enter the Cultural Centre and had to go to the Exhibition Centre as the alternate location. What were some questions of most importance to people in attendance: (a) the carbon tax, (b) the troubled federal payroll system, (c) safety issues specific to the pipeline projects, (d) funding for the New Brunswick energy infrastructure, to mention a few salient questions. Laura Shaw, a student at the University of New Brunswick asked, “What is government going to do to protect our citizens from sexual assaults and what changes could be made in regard to increasing sentencing lengths for those found guilty of sexual assault?” The Prime Minister’s response included such comments as there has not been enough work done to address violence against women, the importance of the role of the Minister for the Status of Women, more work needs to be done specific to the criminal justice system and more work needs to be done specific to education. The Prime Minister stated, “We need to make sure we are showing every step of the way that bullying, that harassment, that intimidation, that abuse of power is absolutely unacceptable.”

### **Electoral Reform**

Over the past few months CFUW Fredericton members Judith, Renee and Sharon have attended three Town Hall events specifically on Electoral Reform, the events being the Commission on Electoral Reform (Federal) held at the Delta Hotel, a round-table discussion organized by MP Matt Decourcey held in Oromocto, and NB Commission on Electoral Reform held most recently at the Fredericton Convention Centre. The common agreement evident at all these gatherings was the current first-past-the-post voting system did not appropriately represent Canadian voters and a new system should be considered. How it was to be changed and what that change might look like was another matter for discussion, often accompanied with the recommendation

that Canadian voters should be apprised of the various possible forms such a proportional representation and mixed-member proportional representation. On February 4, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that Electoral Reform was no longer be considered. Since then CFUW has sent a letter to the Honourable Karina Gould, Member of Democratic Institutions, and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expressing our disappointment in the Prime Minister's decision and reiterating our earlier recommendation in support of proportional representation and the need to provide Canadian voters with appropriate educational electoral reform materials.



*Best wishes for  
happy days, lots of  
sunshine, time  
spent with family  
and friends, time  
taken to do  
something special  
for yourself and*

*Happy February 14*

**CFUW Members—You can now save 40% on UPS shipping services.  
To enroll, visit: [www.membersbenefitprogram.com/CFUW](http://www.membersbenefitprogram.com/CFUW)**