

cfuw fcfdu

THE POWER OF WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER
LA PUISSANCE AU FÉMININ: ENSEMBLE POUR RÉUSSIR.

CFUW Fredericton Newsletter

Contact Information: <http://cfuwfredericton.com/>
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September 2021

Now that COVID-19 seems to be on its way out, we are organizing two in-person events in 2021. First, we are thrilled that St. Thomas University is generously facilitating our annual **CFUW Fredericton Open House**, Sunday, September 26 from 2 to 4 pm (Rotunda Room on the 3rd floor of Brian Mulroney Hall). Elevator is available. All are welcome. We will still require wearing a mask and will respect social distancing. Lite refreshments will be served.

On Friday, and Saturday, November 5 and 6 (9am-6pm), we will have a special fundraiser to sell books, **The CFUW Fredericton Harvest Book Sale**, that have been in storage since pre-COVID-19 times. It will be held in the Brookside Mall. We will set up a sorting schedule for the month of October. Please consider helping us sort the books. If you are not a CFUW member, but still would like to help out, please contact baukjemiedema@gmail.com.

Our Membership Chair, Wendy Johnston, is going to call as many members as possible to find out what our membership feels about alternate Zoom and in-person meetings. You may have already been called, or will be called soon. Thanks for you cooperation.

Bo Miedema, President CFUW Fredericton

We are back with two special in-person events
this fall!

Open House



CFUW Open House
Sunday, September 26
2 to 4pm
St. Thomas University
(The Rotunda Room, 3rd floor Brian Mulroney Hall).

During the Open House, we will present the scholarship winners, and are open to the public who are interested in the CFUW Fredericton activities (light refreshments will be served).

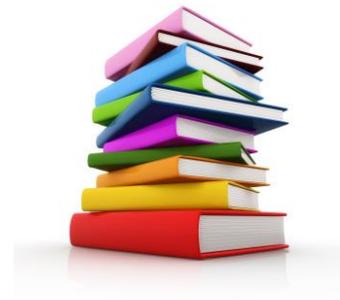


Please bring a friend and wear a mask.

A Special Fundraiser!

On Friday, November 5 and Saturday, November 6, 2021, we will have a *CFUW Fredericton Harvest Book Sale* at the Brookside Mall (9am-6pm)

Bring your own bags and wear a mask.





Calendar of Events

2021

Wednesday, Sep. 8:	12.00 Luncheon
Thursday, Sep. 16:	13.30 Executive Meeting
Sunday, Sep. 26:	14.00 Open House, St. Thomas University
Wednesday, Oct. 6:	13.30 Book Club
Wednesday, Oct. 13:	12.00 Luncheon
Thursday, Oct. 21:	13.30 Executive Meeting
Thursday, Oct. 28:	13.30 General Meeting
Wednesday, Nov. 3:	13.30 Book Club
Friday, Nov. 5: & Saturday, Nov. 6:	09-18.00 CFUW Fredericton Harvest Book Sale Brookside Mall
Wednesday, Nov. 10:	12.00 Luncheon
Thursday, Nov. 18:	13.30 Executive Meeting
Thursday, Nov. 25:	13.30 General Meeting
Friday, Dec. 3:	18.00 Happy Yappy
Wednesday, Dec. 8:	13.30 Book Club via Zoom
Wednesday, Dec. 15:	12.00 Christmas/Hanukkah Luncheon

2022

Wednesday, Jan. 5:	13.30 Book Club in person
Wednesday, Jan. 12:	12.00 Luncheon
Thursday, Jan. 20:	13.30 Executive Meeting
Thursday, Jan. 27:	13.30 General Meeting
Wednesday, Feb. 2:	13.30 Book Club
Wednesday, Feb. 9:	12.00 Luncheon
Thursday, Feb. 17:	13.30 Executive Meeting
Thursday, Feb. 24:	13.30 General Meeting
Wednesday, Mar. 2:	13.30 Book Club
Wednesday, Mar. 9:	12.00 Luncheon
Thursday, Mar. 17:	13.30 Executive Meeting
Thursday, Mar. 24:	13.30 General Meeting
Wednesday, April 6:	13.30 Book Club
Wednesday, April 13:	12.00 Luncheon
Thursday, April 21:	13.30 Executive Meeting
Thursday, April 28:	13.30 General Meeting
Wednesday, May 4:	13.30 Book Club
Wednesday, May 11:	12.00 Luncheon
Thursday, May 19:	13.30 Executive Meeting
Friday to Sunday May 27, 28, and 29:	09-18.00 Book Fair Brookside Mall
Thursday, June 2:	18.00 CFUW Fredericton AGM
Wednesday, June 8:	12.00 Luncheon

All dates are tentative and events can be cancelled or moved to Zoom. All our members will get additional information about the location of the various events.



Member Updates

Our president, Bo Miedema, was featured in a National Magazine in her native Holland. The article is in Dutch. The article describes her unusual educational career and life. The Dutch educational system is based on early streaming. She was streamed to a vocational school at the age of 12. She moved to Canada in 1981. By that time she had earned two Nursing Degrees but was not able to nurse in Canada. Eventually, 15 years after she moved to Canada, she managed to earn a PhD degree in her second language. For almost 20 years, she worked as a university professor and published more than 75 scientific papers until retirement. Canada has been good to her.

WIE VOOR EEN DUBBELTJE GEBOREN IS...

‘Ik wilde naar de mavo, maar was niet goed genoeg’

Baukje Miedema (67) leek als arbeiderskind voorbestemd om huisvrouw te worden, maar schreef het tot doctor in de sociologie. Ze doceerde aan de universiteit, schreef drie boeken en publiceerde 75 wetenschappelijke artikelen.

“Ik had nooit gedacht dat ik zover zou komen. Als was als kind een middelmatige leerling. Als je een onvoldoende had, vond men het kennelijk nodig om dat met een rood potlood te benadrukken. Ik heb een aantal rapporten met rode strepen erin, vooral onder rekenen. Na de basisschool ging ik naar het voorgezet lager onderwijs. Toen ik op mijn vijftiende mijn diploma haalde, had ik de smaak van het leren te pakken. Ik wilde door! Ik had mijn zinnen op de mavo gezet, maar daar vond het schoolhoofd mij niet goed genoeg voor. Onvoorstelbaar toch, dat je dat tegen een kind zegt en het de kans ontnemen?”

Mijn ouders vonden het wel best. Doorleren was totaal niet voor de hand liggend, al helemaal niet voor een meisje. Mijn vader werkte op een scheepswerf en mijn moeder was huisvrouw nadat ze trouwde. In het Friese dorp waar ik opgroeide had je aan de ene kant de villa’s van notarissen en dokters en aan de andere kant de arbeiders in veel kleinere huizen. De kloof was enorm. Het was onvoorstelbaar dat je als arbeiderskind uit je sociale cirkel brak. Zo kwam ik op mijn vijftiende op een typekamer van de PTT. Doodongelukkig. Mijn baas, de enige man daar, zei tegen me: ‘Luister, ik ben al oud en getrouwd en kom hier nooit meer weg. Maar jij kunt zoveel meer dan dit.’ Die steun was fantastisch. Het vraagt best wat om het anders te

doen dan de generaties voor je. Ik besloot een schriftelijk mavo-diploma te halen via de LOI en tegelijkertijd, parttime, in een bejaardentehuis te werken. Ook daar had ik een baas die me aanmoedigde om verder te studeren. Na de mavo ben ik de verpleging in gegaan. Dat beroep was niet een bewuste keuze; het leek me gewoon wel leuk en ik kon naar de grote stad verhuizen. Mijn ouders waren er ook blij mee. Verpleegkundige was een mooie baan voor een meisje. Mijn carrière vond pas echt zijn weg toen ik in 1981 naar Canada verhuisde. Op vakantie in Mexico was ik verliefd geworden op een Canadees en ik volgde hem naar zijn vaderland. Omdat het een ontzettend goeie was om mijn verpleegkundige diploma’s in Canada om te zetten, besloot ik sociologie te gaan studeren. Wat er zich afspeelt in de maatschappij heeft me altijd geboeid. Het bleek een uitstekende keuze. Ik was 43 toen ik promoveerde en heb twintig jaar als docent op de universiteit gewerkt. Ik schreef drie boeken, 75 wetenschappelijke artikelen en reisde de hele wereld over voor conferenties. Nee, dat voelde niet als een afrekening met mijn verleden. Dat was ook niet nodig, want niemand heeft me bewust klein willen houden. Het was gewoon hoe dingen destijds gingen. Wel denk ik nog bijna dagelijks aan mijn afkomst.

Ik heb het financieel heel goed. Vroeger moesten we flink zuinig zijn. Als ik nu thuis mijn boodschappen uitpak, realiseer ik me hoe fijn het is om te kunnen kopen wat ik wil. Ik voel me heel dankbaar, vooral voor de mensen die me aangesmoedigd hebben op moeilijke momenten in het leven.”

Baukje Miedema in Halifax met kleinzoon Sebastian, 18 maanden oud.

Links: met kleine zuster Aaltje, 1956. Onder: Als leerling-verpleegkundige in Groningen, 1974.

Baukje Miedema werd doctor en docent aan de universiteit

Linksboven (in zwart-wit): Baukje in 1970. Boven: in juli 2019 toen Baukje met haar gezin in Leeuwarden was op familiebezoek.

‘Je brak als arbeiderskind niet uit je sociale cirkel’

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Plus Magazine februari 2021 23



Sharon Crabb, Past President of CFUW Fredericton and a member of CFUW Moncton



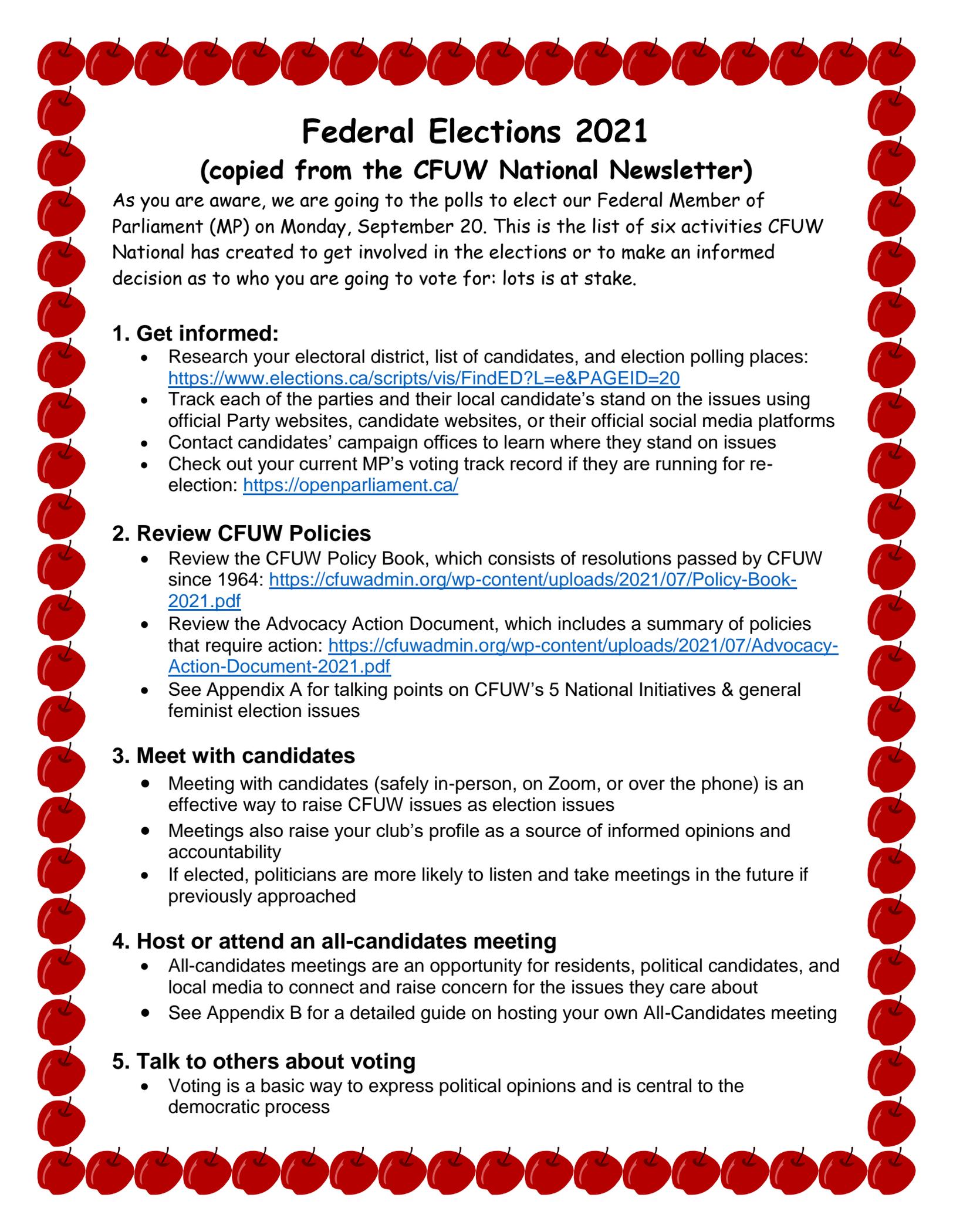
These wonderful summer days have brought warmth, happiness and outstanding growth of plants. I am sharing with you my Rose of Sharon, supposed to be a bush and not supposed to survive in this New Brunswick climate. As you can see, neither of these are proven to be correct. Planted in 2004, it has been cropped twice and this year it has grown so broad and so tall that many of the branches fell forward. This Rose of Sharon has almost completed its blooming season; however, it is still beautiful to look at—so full of pink roses.



On the other side of our home are 4 raised garden boxes filled with garlic, carrots, beets, onions, peppers, beans and tomatoes. The tomatoes seem to think they are Queen of the Garden boxes as their branches now flow over all 4 boxes and provide a crop faster than we can pick. Oh well, I guess there will be a lot of spaghetti sauce for the winter.

Sharon Crabb





Federal Elections 2021

(copied from the CFUW National Newsletter)

As you are aware, we are going to the polls to elect our Federal Member of Parliament (MP) on Monday, September 20. This is the list of six activities CFUW National has created to get involved in the elections or to make an informed decision as to who you are going to vote for: lots is at stake.

1. Get informed:

- Research your electoral district, list of candidates, and election polling places: <https://www.elections.ca/scripts/vis/FindED?L=e&PAGEID=20>
- Track each of the parties and their local candidate's stand on the issues using official Party websites, candidate websites, or their official social media platforms
- Contact candidates' campaign offices to learn where they stand on issues
- Check out your current MP's voting track record if they are running for re-election: <https://openparliament.ca/>

2. Review CFUW Policies

- Review the CFUW Policy Book, which consists of resolutions passed by CFUW since 1964: <https://cfuwadmin.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Policy-Book-2021.pdf>
- Review the Advocacy Action Document, which includes a summary of policies that require action: <https://cfuwadmin.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Advocacy-Action-Document-2021.pdf>
- See Appendix A for talking points on CFUW's 5 National Initiatives & general feminist election issues

3. Meet with candidates

- Meeting with candidates (safely in-person, on Zoom, or over the phone) is an effective way to raise CFUW issues as election issues
- Meetings also raise your club's profile as a source of informed opinions and accountability
- If elected, politicians are more likely to listen and take meetings in the future if previously approached

4. Host or attend an all-candidates meeting

- All-candidates meetings are an opportunity for residents, political candidates, and local media to connect and raise concern for the issues they care about
- See Appendix B for a detailed guide on hosting your own All-Candidates meeting

5. Talk to others about voting

- Voting is a basic way to express political opinions and is central to the democratic process

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- Voting is an empowering opportunity to directly influence the direction of our country
 - High voter turnout across all demographics ensures democratic health, legitimacy, and equitable representation
 - Don't forget to vote yourself! Voting for the candidate who most accurately represents your views ensures that those in power bring important issues to Parliament

6. Be creative! Get CFUW issues on the map

- Host a local debate on women's rights and gender justice in your riding. Remember to remain non-partisan. Learn more here: <https://up4debate.ca/>
- Score your candidates and publish a "report card" in local media or on social media. See Appendix C for a sample survey & scoring system. You can send them the survey to complete or conduct your own research on how each of the candidates would respond based on their platform.
- Are you an artist or graphic designer? Create posters to hang around your community (grocery stores, shopping streets, busy intersections) that highlight important gender equality and social justice issues. Or design a postcard to send to all candidates in your riding. Try using free software like [Canva](#) or [Crello](#)
- Love theatre or music? Perform a short play or song in support of women's rights and feminist ideas – safely in-person or online (record a YouTube video or host a Zoom performance!)
- Collaborate with another group in your community to strengthen your message and expand your influence! CFUW policies are expansive and overlap with many other interest groups such as seniors' centres, faith-based groups, environment groups, teachers' associations, women's shelters, youth groups, newcomer and immigrant centres, community service groups, among others.



Please do not hesitate to send this newsletter to friends and family.

For more information contact us by email:

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