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Who would have predicted that our club's 75th Anniversary would fall in the middle of a pandemic, or that we would not be able to greet one another in person in September at our first meeting of the 2021-22 year?

As disheartening as it is to miss out on hugs and face-to-face conversation, I have been awfully impressed with our resilience and creativity as we have launched into our second year of Zoom meetings and masked-in-person gatherings. Our focus on getting to know one another better through the Program portion of our General Meetings has been a lot of fun. I have learned so much about professional and personal accomplishments, places we have travelled, and some very impressive hobbies, arts and music capabilities.

The General Meeting in September provided an opportunity to showcase five of our members who support not-for-profit organizations outside of our affiliation with CFUW. It is heartening to see our members focus on the rights, freedoms, and education of women and girls, particularly in third world countries.

In early October, we will conduct a Survey to determine if our club would like to allocate the money that CFUW National is returning to us in January 2022 to these organizations or hold onto the funds until we get clear direction from the Opt-out Clubs and the CFUW International Relations Committee. In the meantime, we were delighted to learn about grassroots education in Bangladesh, an orphanage in Africa that provides education 'until (the child reaches) independence', and activities in CUSO, the Stephen Lewis Foundation Grandmothers-to-Grandmothers, and World Vision that support education for women and girls. I heard a lot of feedback from our members about how impressive it is to see the work that individuals are doing to support these worthy causes.

On a social note, our Interest Groups are thriving in the midst of this pandemic, rallying to meet in person when possible. I

see that the walking group, biking group, and creative cooking group rose to the challenge of gathering with social distancing. The Book Clubs have enjoyed engaged and animated literary discussions by way of Zoom, just to name a few of the activities this month.

As we enter our new season of CFUW Brantford, your Executive made some tough decisions about how to proceed in light of the restrictions and protocols in place for Covid and the pandemic. We reluctantly postponed our 75th Anniversary and hope that it will fold into our May AGM and Banquet if the Covid protocols allow. We also voted to hold our September, October, and November General Meetings virtually on Zoom.

In October, the Executive will be developing 'In-person meeting guidelines' for our club based on those provided by CFUW National and informed by the Province's guidelines re proof of vaccine. At this stage it appears that members will be required to have a double vaccine to attend in-person meetings.

I will build on Betsy C.'s comments last month, and conclude with how impressed I am with our membership. We are a strong, tenacious, resilient, kind and compassionate group of women. I look forward to watching us thrive in our 75th year as a club. Covid or no Covid we will continue to support one another - and advocate for women and children locally, provincially, across Canada and internationally. "

Stay healthy and safe.

Kindest regards, Lin F., your President for September 2021



News from National and Provincial

CFUW national is planning on going ahead with a National AGM, in person or hybrid, should COVID allow. The Sheraton in Hamilton has been booked. The date is August 25, 26, & 27, 2022.

National is looking for individual clubs to participate and will be providing a breakdown of various tasks that can be taken on by individual clubs, including the organization of excursions for attendees.

Reception by the club presidents to date is lukewarm with at least one of the opt-in clubs refusing to participate. However, National sees this as an opportunity to heal some of the wounds of the past few years.

There will also be regular meetings of the Advocacy chairs for the exchange of ideas.

Respectively submitted,
Betsy C.



Traditionally we thank the outgoing Executive at our May Banquet and present them with a bouquet of flowers as a token of our appreciation. When the pandemic forced us to cancel our Annual Banquet last May, these tributes were rescheduled to take place at our 75th Anniversary on September 30th. Unfortunately, the pandemic persisted, and the 75th was cancelled, resulting in the tribute happening at our September 22nd General Meeting. Jane B hand-delivered the bouquets and Rhynda B expressed the club's appreciation for the hard work and dedication provided by Lynn H, Diane M, Janet R, and Mieke S.

Membership Report for October/21

First, I'd like to welcome our 2 new members, Sandee B. and Carol M. Sandee has joined the cycling group and is interested in starting a fibre art group, so please let her know if you are interested. Carol M. has joined the Thursday evening Book Club and the Tuesday morning Walking group.

We are sorry to hear that two of our members have moved away from Brantford.

Lian Lawrence recently moved to Ottawa. She provided legal counsel for the Scholarship committee so we thank her for her excellent work. We wish her all the best and will miss her.

Mary Laurie-Pile has moved to Toronto to live with family. This former family doctor was a member of both the Cycling and Walking groups. We all hope she enjoys city life and keeps in touch with all her Brantford friends.

I'd like to remind members that our membership list is a confidential document for members' use only. It contains personal and confidential information that should not be shared with any person or business.

Dian K.

Just a note of thanks for the flowers which Jane delivered. They were a lovely Fall bouquet and much appreciated. Mieke

CFUW Brantford Draft Policy For In-Person Meetings

October 13, 2021

Our CFUW Brantford Draft policy for in-person meetings is evolving as the province, country, and CFUW National respond to information about Covid, vaccinations, variants, and hospitalizations. Our priority is to keep our members healthy and safe, and to take precautions to minimize the risk of contracting Covid, especially with respect to our aging population. Currently, the highlights of our policy AT THIS TIME are:

ATTENDANCE IS RESTRICTED TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN DOUBLE VACCINATED.

1. Be prepared to show proof of double vaccination at all CFUW Brantford in-person events
2. All members must wear a mask at all times at CFUW in-person meetings, practise social distancing, use hand sanitizer, and ensure that your priority is to minimize the risk of Covid transmission to your colleagues.
3. If you are not fully vaccinated, you may not attend in-person events.
4. If you have a medical exemption from vaccinations, you may attend in-person events, if you wear a mask at all times and stay six feet physically distanced.
5. If you are feeling ill or have been in contact with someone who is ill, do not attend in-person meetings until you have tested negative for Covid.



Basketeers Initiative

Nova Vita put their annual Basketeers Program on hold last year, and is continuing with “Hope for the Holidays” for 2021. We look forward to participating.

Lin F.

Hope for the Holidays 2021

Nova Vita Domestic Violence Prevention continues to experience an increase in demand for their services as the pandemic continues, and many women and children are not safe at home. CFUW Brantford voted to support this initiative at our September 22nd General Meeting, and members have volunteered for the Committee to raise funds for women and children at Nova Vita. Please contact Janet K, Bev G, Maria T or Lin F if you would like to join the committee. An e-mail will be sent out in the next month to outline how to participate in this Holiday donation initiative.

How Will You Make a Difference This Holiday Season?



Sponsor a Family

Determine your budget or team capacity: family size varies so sponsors can request maximum persons in family or number of families to be sponsored.

This personalized option will provide you with a list of items to help make your sponsor family's holiday season a little more merry and bright.



Donate Gift Cards

Requested Values: \$10, \$25 & \$50

Suggested Stores: Giant Tiger, Walmart, Grocery Stores, Best Buy, Canadian Tire, Sport Chek, Indigo, Toys R Us, Visa or MC, Local Eateries, and Businesses.



Make a Financial Donation

Donations can be made online at canadahelps.org or by contacting a member of our Community Development Team. You can request how you would like us to direct the funding.



For Everyone's Safety

- Due to COVID-19, we cannot accept physical donations without an appointment. Last date to donate is December 23.
- Donations are placed in quarantine for a minimum of 2 days before they can be forwarded on to recipients.
- We can only accept items that are new, in original packaging, safe (check expiry dates), and unwrapped.

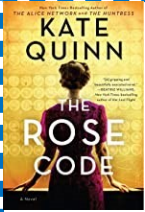
We are grateful for the support of our community partners and wish you all a safe and healthy holiday season.

To help bring comfort & joy this holiday season, please contact:

Kara Bailey
Hope for the Holidays Coordinator
519-752-1005 x216 | kbailey@novavita.org

Anne Herbison-Ruddell
Community Development Manager
519-752-1005 x228 | aruddell@novavita.org

Interest Groups



Thursday Night Book Club: The club met this week to discuss "The Rose Code" by Kate Quinn. The rose code was broken 3 years after the Second World War, by a group of codebreakers from Bletchley Park, to out a spy from their group that sold information to the Russians. This is a story of an amazing group of people working in secret to break the German enigma, allowing the allies to win the war. Although fiction, the descriptions of the work are fascinating, as are the personal stories of the codebreakers themselves. The discussion was lively-- but not as eccentric as the Mad Hatters book club at Bletchley. We were all happy to be together again, if only virtually. The group gave the book "two thumbs up" as we enjoyed it and got emotionally involved in it. It is definitely worth the read. Look for an eight-part TV series by the same people who produced "The Imitation Game". It should make a great series.

Monday Night Book Club:

The group met by Zoom to discuss "The Mother Tree" by Suzanne Simard, with Naomi K. as the discussion leader. Naomi's review of the book is as follows: Suzanne Simard brings us into the intimate world of trees. In her scientific research she conveys the message that trees are complex and form a circle of life. Forests are social and all creatures (plants) in the forest are connected through underground fungal networks.



As Simard writes of her scientific findings she writes of her own human journey of observation and change, showing us that the human scientific journey exists beyond the data and technology. Conclusion: Trees live in communities and must connect with the community around them just like people in society. At the center of all this is the Mother Tree that connects and sustains all the other trees. Check out Mother Tree Project at <https://mothertreeproject.org>. What kind of tree are you?

Biking Group:

The biking group is still riding each week,



alternating the "loop" with out-of-town trails. We encountered a few obstacles on our ride to Waterford and during September we watched for puff balls in the woods. Future rides will depend on our fall weather.



Bridge Group: The former 1st Monday Evening Bridge Group has combined with the 3rd Monday Afternoon Group to become the 1st Monday afternoon Bridge Group, with a potential of 20 members, meeting in person. Because of continuing Covid restrictions and concerns, the group is playing Bridge online with only 8 players interested in this format. The first Bridge was played on Monday October 4, with the assistance of Catherine S. and Dian K. setting up the tables. Future plans are pending for in-person playing as the Covid situation evolves. Members will continue to receive relevant communications.

Games Group: The Games Group had their first meeting of the fall outdoors at Glenhyrst on October 14th. Seven were in attendance and there were a few lively rounds of charades, lots of laughter and catching up. Going forward, we will be meeting in person at private homes in groups of 4, expanding as health considerations become more relaxed. Meetings take place at 1:30 pm on the second Thursday of the month. Contact Marsha S. at mskrypuch@gmail.com if you'd like to join.

Community Learning Opportunities:

Laurier Association for Lifelong Learning

The Laurier Association for Lifelong Learning is offering a number of online learning

opportunities this fall. The link to the list is lall@wlu.ca. The offerings range from Chair Yoga to Laurier's Music at Noon to a talk on Canada's Role in Peacekeeping.



To see the YouTube video of the 15th year celebration of Grandmothers to Grandmothers and learn more about it click on the following link:

[Here's where you can access and watch a full recording of the celebration.](#)

Canadian Artists Series:

BRIDGE & WOLAK: ACCORDIAN, PIANO, CLARINET

Sunday, November 14, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts

In-person attendance... Adult: \$30 Student: \$10

Child (Grade 8 and under): Free

Virtual attendance: \$15

For tickets call 519-758-8090 or go to

www.tickets.sandersoncentre.ca

2021 –2022 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT IN NAME:

- Elizabeth Capitano

PAST PRESIDENT:

- Brenda Malvern

ROTATING PRESIDENTIAL TEAM:

- Elizabeth Capitano
- Lin Fines
- Maria Timmons
- Adrienne Roberts
- Anne Martin
- Catherine Sawyer
- Bev Golden
- Jenny DeAlwis

SECRETARY: Gay Henley

TREASURER: Maria Timmons

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

- Advocacy:** Elizabeth Capitano
- Communications:** Sandra Hughes
- Interest Groups:** Jane Binkley
- Membership:** Dian Kuzyk
- Program:** Anne Martin
- Scholarship:** Naomi Kral
- Social:** Rotating

October General Meeting

October 27, 2021

Location: In your home, at your computer on a Zoom call

Time: 7:00 p.m.



Program: Women's

Contributions to Civic Life in Brant and Haldimand Counties

Our speaker for the general meeting this month will be **Meghan Cameron**, Department Head of Humanities at Cayuga Secondary School and an active volunteer with the **Great War Centenary Association of Brantford, Brant County and Six Nations**. Her talk will be about local women in Brantford and Haldimand County in the time between World War I and World War II. She will be speaking primarily about three different women who contributed to their communities - one a nursing sister, the other a grieving mother and the last a judge. The focus of the talk overall will be how women found agency through activism, volunteerism and philanthropy to improve their communities.

AGM

The Social Committee is pleased to report that the May Banquet (AGM) has been booked at the Brantford Golf and Country Club for Wednesday, May 25th, 2022.

Fingers crossed!

Bev G.



CFUW Brantford

Meeting Dates for 2021 –2022

September 22, 2021

October 27, 2021

November 24, 2021

December Potluck: Date and Location TBD

January 26, 2022

February 23, 2022

March 23, 2022

April 27, 2022

May 25, 2022 : Banquet and AGM

SURVEY MONKEY

A reminder to complete the Survey Monkey if you have not already done so, voting whether to allocate the funds being returned from CFUW National to the five not-for-profits profiled at the September 22nd General Meeting or to hold the funds until 2022 in the hope that we receive direction from CFUW National and the Opt-Out Clubs.

The Survey will close on October 31st and results will be published in November.



Dynamic Women Can Make a Difference