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As President-of-the-Month for September, I enjoyed the explosion of activity that typically happens with the kick-off of the CFUW year. This September was particularly joyful because many of us were venturing out to the General Meeting or Interest Groups in person for the first time in thirty - yes - 30 months!

I will start off with a big vote of thanks to the many people who made September such a great month. Much appreciation goes to Anne M for setting up CFUW Brantford's first ever hybrid meeting so that members could participate in the September General Meeting by Zoom or attend in person. We hope that we will be able to offer hybrid meetings every month. Thank you to Bev G and the Social Committee for sourcing delicious cupcakes for the General Meeting, to the Executive who generously donated the cupcakes, and especially to Maria T who donated a Gift Certificate for Sweet Bakery, the baker of said delicious cupcakes.

The Executive would also like to give a big vote of thanks to the members who retired from the Executive at the AGM in May: Anne M (Chair, Program), Brenda M (Past President), and Gay H (Secretary). Thank you for the many hours that you have dedicated to CFUW Brantford over the past year(s). We are grateful that Anne M is continuing as one of the Presidents of the Month, and that Brenda M is continuing as the Member at large on the Scholarship Committee.

The 2022-23 Executive had a busy start to the year, reviewing the list of monthly tasks that provide the President-of-the-Month with guidance about what key jobs need to be done during 'their watch', approving the code of ethical responsibilities that will guide us in our meeting and decision-making processes, dissolving the ad hoc committees who ably fulfilled their mandates, and approving initiatives such as 'Hope for the Holidays' to be then brought to the membership for final approval. We also agreed to a few priorities for our term

of office: to consider how we store our Club's records, how social media can help to raise our profile and attract new members, and how to stay vital and connected with one another. Please look for articles in this newsletter regarding: how you can send photos and a brief description of an Interest Group or CFUW Brantford event to Sandra H, Marsha S, and Mary P so that they can keep our newsletter, webpage and Facebook presence vibrant and current, a membership outreach to organizations and friends. We will also send an email with an 'ad' that might help you when you want to initiate an outreach.

This month's newsletter features an article about how to allocate the portion of our dues from 2021-22 and 2022-23 that are earmarked for international initiatives. We hope that you are actively involved with not-for-profit international organizations that work for the rights, freedoms, and education of women and children, and that you would like to profile them in the hope that they are chosen to receive a portion of our international funds.

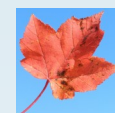
We are also wondering what to do about our annual Holiday Party that typically happens on the second Wednesday evening in December. After two years on Zoom, are you ready to attend a Holiday Party in person? If so, do you have a home large enough to host a party or do you know of a facility in Brantford that might provide a 'homey' atmosphere where we could gather to enjoy our traditional pot-luck? If you wish to offer any ideas, please talk to one of the Executive or send an email to [cfuwbrantford45@gmail.com](mailto:cfuwbrantford45@gmail.com).

The President for October is Anne M.

I wish you a very happy and healthy Thanksgiving and thank you for all the many blessings that you bring into our lives through your participation in CFUW Brantford.

Kindest regards,

Lin F, President-of-the-Month, September



## Members

How do we keep CFUW Brantford vital and thriving?

One way is to attract new members who share our passion for education, human rights and interest groups. The Executive will be sending you an e-mail with the "Membership Ad" below so that you can forward it to women in your neighbourhood, family, circle of friends, or community groups and invite them to a General Meeting. Consider whether you would like to connect in person or send a note.

With technology allowing us to reach farther afield with meetings on Zoom, you may know of women in neighbouring communities who would like to attend meetings and interest groups by Zoom.

You may also belong to an organization in Brant County or Brantford that has women members who may be interested in joining CFUW. Please consider sending the organization this ad and request that they print it in their newsletter or place it on their social media. Organizations such as PROBUS, RTO, Rotary, community groups and churches are a good place to start.

Our goal is to reach a membership of 100 in 2023. Evidently 100 is an indicator that a club is sustainable over the long term.

Please talk to anyone on the Executive if you have questions or ideas.



**Are you a Brantford woman who values education and human rights?  
Do you enjoy socializing with other women who share your interests?**

**Consider joining CFUW Brantford, welcoming women of all ages and stages, regardless of education.**

CFUW Brantford has about 80 members from a diverse range of professions and backgrounds. We welcome any woman who shares an interest in education and human rights. We provide an easy way to meet people if you are new to Brantford, newly retired or interested in feeling part of a new community.

Our General Meetings are on the fourth Wednesday evening of the month at 7 pm. They are hybrid meetings, allowing members to meet in person at Thorpe's Carriage House or by Zoom. The meetings feature a guest speaker and a quick business portion, followed by refreshments and social time.

We have a Scholarship Trust from which we allocate awards to graduating high school students as well as mature students. Our interest groups are hugely popular: Books, Bridge, Food for Thought, Golf, Creative Cooking, Dining Out, World Awareness, Film, Games, Care-giver support, and Walking.

For more information, please visit our website: [cfuwbrantford.org](http://cfuwbrantford.org) or e-mail [cfuwbrantford@gmail.com](mailto:cfuwbrantford@gmail.com)

### CFUW NATIONAL

CFUW is a non-partisan, voluntary, self-funded organization with over 100 CFUW Clubs, located in every province across Canada. Since its founding in 1919, CFUW has been working to improve the status of women, and to promote human rights, public education, social justice, and peace.

**95+**  
Clubs Across Canada

**7,500+**  
National Members

**\$1M**  
Annual Scholarships

**100+**  
Years of Advocating for Women's Rights

## Hope for the Holidays 2022

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 28th 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 shortly, to outline how to participate in this Holiday donation initiative. Bev G.

### 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](http://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](mailto:kbailey@novavita.org)

*Anne Herbison-Ruddell*  
Community Development Manager  
519-752-1005 x228 | [aruddell@novavita.org](mailto:aruddell@novavita.org)

### Updates from the Southwest Region

On September 22, 2022, there was a meeting of the Ontario South Presidents. There are 9 clubs in the Southwest Region. Generally, membership is down among the clubs and members are reluctant to take on leadership roles. The exception was St. Catherines which has a membership of 215 and had 120 people at an in-person meeting.

There was a robust discussion about the current drive for members and the re-branding that is being discussed at a National level. This led to a discussion of credentials and whether such are included in applications and membership lists. Only two clubs, Brantford being one, still include degrees or credentials in their application and membership lists. The majority of clubs have removed credentials to promote inclusiveness, and to remove any sense of elitism or any sense that there are different classes of members.

What was also interesting is that two clubs still have a toast to the king at special dinners and there was discussion of whether this is a colonial holdover which should be reconsidered.

There was a discussion at the Southwest level as to the positioning of Advocacy within the various clubs. In some clubs Advocacy is an executive position, which is the case for CFUW Brantford, although it is currently unfilled. In other clubs it is an interest group, and in others it is spread throughout the club with different members or groups of members taking on advocacy issues of interest.

Respectfully submitted, Betsy C.

### CFUW National Returned Funds for Opt-Out Clubs

Do you support a not-for-profit international organization (charity) outside of CFUW that does great work supporting the rights, freedoms and education of women and girls?

If so, your participation may result in having some of the dues that our club allocates to international work allocated to your charity. This year we will have double the amount that we allocated last year because we are dealing with dues from 2021-22 and 2022-23, and this is about \$3500.

You are invited to showcase your organization at our October General Meeting in-person at Thorpe's Carriage House or on Zoom at 7 pm. Please share how your charity empowers women and girls internationally - with emphasis on countries that are either third-world, war-torn or suffering from natural disasters.

The purpose of the presentation is to nominate your organization to be included in the allocation.

Following the General Meeting, we will be sending out a ballot through Survey Monkey so that our membership can vote on how to allocate the dues that we set aside for international support for 2021-22 and 2022-23.

To participate, contact Lin F at 519-717-0635 or [e-mail lin.fines@icloud.com](mailto:lin.fines@icloud.com) by October 22nd if you would like to be included on the agenda.

**Dining Out Interest Group:** The Dining Out Group had lunch at Cambridge's Langdon Hall, fifth best restaurant in the Country according to Canada's Top 100, complete with award-winning cuisine prepared by one of Canada's most celebrated chefs. The dining room overlooked the gardens with their vibrant autumn colours and the Carolinian forest in which the grounds are nested. We enjoyed great conversation, lingered over dessert, and some of us walked through the gardens afterwards.

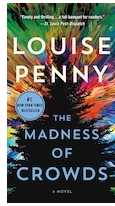


**Games Group:** The group met in September and October to enjoy a number of indoor games at Patty K's and Anne M's homes.



# Interest Groups

**Thursday Night Book Club:** The Thursday evening book club met to discuss "The Madness of Crowds" by Louise Penny, published in 2021. The author twins moral issues and absorbing character studies into a challenging murder mystery. We discussed issues such as how statistics are manipulated, the thin line between free speech and hate speech, how rising numbers of people support lunatic theories, the implications of euthanasia as well as the author's style of prose. This book is available at the library. Thanks go to Dian K for hosting and Bev G for delicious treats. Linda S.



**Monday Night Book Club:** The Monday evening book club discussed "Between Two Kingdoms" by Suleika Jaouad. This poignant memoir touched on the highs and lows of Suleika's journey from a life



threatening illness to recovery. Re-entering the world of the well became more of a challenge than she expected. Suleika is a gifted writer who has won an Emmy for her New York Times column Life, Interrupted. She chronicles her challenges of survivorship in a very engaging manner. We had a lively discussion and highly recommend this book. Linda S. The book for October 17th at Dian K's is "The Forest of Vanishing Stars" by Kristin Harmel.

**Creative Cooking:** The group met over appetizers and desserts on the last day of summer. It was the first time since the pandemic except for Zoom and non-food gatherings in the park at Glenhyrst. Each person put lots of effort into creating their dish for the 'finger-food feast' but the most delicious part was the in-person connection!



It was good to visit with Bea C., our guest of honour, and her daughters Joan and Barb! Lin F.

**World Awareness:** This group takes on the issues that concern us in these "interesting" times. World Awareness is a group that debates and learns together on such topics as "hate speech" - our theme this September and carrying on into October. We are meeting on Zoom still, and the next date is Monday October 17th, at 9:30 A.M. Nora F.

**Thank You!**

Thank you to the members who make sure the Newsletter is correctly spelled and grammatical!

Anne M. and Carol K. have done a brilliant job over the past few years. Carol is moving on to other CFUW commitments. Thanks to Naomi K. for agreeing to take on the challenge.

## Invitation to Share Updates on our Website and Facebook page.

In addition to submitting photos and updates to be published in our CFUW Brantford Newsletter, please contribute updates for our website and our Facebook page. It is hoped that your efforts will encourage new membership with this wider media presence.

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:

[sandra.hughes@sympatico.ca](mailto:sandra.hughes@sympatico.ca), [mskrypuch@gmail.com](mailto:mskrypuch@gmail.com), [marypitchford@gmail.com](mailto:marypitchford@gmail.com) and [cfuwbrantford45@gmail.com](mailto:cfuwbrantford45@gmail.com)

### **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:** If you think your article would be of interest to people thinking of joining our club, or the general public, 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. Think about what might attract new members.

## 2022 –2023 EXECUTIVE

### PRESIDENT IN NAME:

- Elizabeth Capitano

### PAST PRESIDENT:

- Lin Fines

### ROTATING PRESIDENTIAL TEAM:

- Elizabeth Capitano—June, July, August, February, Second 1/2 May
- Lin Fines—September
- Anne Martin—October
- Janet Kempster—November
- Maria Timmons—December, January
- Bev Golden—March
- Catherine Sawyer-April, May first 1/2

### SECRETARY:

Lin Fines/Maria Timmons

**TREASURER:** Maria Timmons

### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

- Advocacy:** TBD
- Communications:** Sandra Hughes
- Interest Groups:** Roma Makkreel
- Membership:** Dian Kuzyk
- Program:** Jennifer DeAlwis/Linda Tripp
- Scholarship:** Janet Kempster/Lynda Stamer
- Social:** Bev Golden

## October General Meeting

October 26th, 2022

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



**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

### Program:

**Presentations by members re allocation of international dues from CFUW National Returned Funds for Opt-Out Clubs.**



Congratulations to our treasurer, Maria T. , who made a hole in one this September at Fescue's Edge Golf Course.  
Naomi K.

## 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 24th, 2023.

Fingers crossed!

Bev G.



## CFUW Brantford Meeting Dates for 2022 –2023

September 28, 2022

October 26, 2022

November 23, 2022

December Potluck: Date and Location TBD

January 25, 2023

February 22, 2023

March 22, 2023

April 26, 2023



## Should our Party be in person or by Zoom?

Traditionally, our Holiday Party is 5-8:30 pm on the second Wednesday of December, so December 14th this year. We will be voting at the October 26th General Meeting. If you want the party in person, can you host the party in your home or recommend a venue that could accommodate 50 people? Please contact Bev G. with any offers or suggestions.



*Dynamic Women Can Make a Difference*