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Happy 2023. As we say good bye to 2022 and hello to 2023 it is a good time to remember this past year. This past year was one where flexibility was required. We began the year with COVID and COVID protocols in place, but we have gradually moved towards a normalization (of sorts). We were finally able to enjoy an in-person banquet with amazing entertainment. The Blue Lake picnic and the Holiday Celebration returned, where we were able to enjoy amazing food and even better conversations with fellow members. A big thank you to Pat C. and Anne M. for hosting these wonderful events.

We were also able to move to hybrid meetings (many thanks Anne M.) which allowed for those who felt comfortable attending in person to do so, but allowed those who were not able to attend in person to enjoy the wonderful speakers but, unfortunately, not the treats.

Moving forward, our beloved Trivia Night is back, which is the club's big fundraiser for the scholarship fund, so please get your team together and come join the fun. I have my team ready and we are going to try and beat our third place showing.

2023 may provide us with some challenges, but as a club I am confident in our ability to meet, and defeat, any challenges that come our way. So Happy New Year CFUW Brantford.

*Respectfully submitted,
Betsy C.*

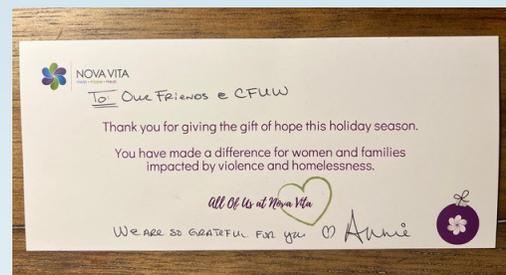


Janet K., Anne Ruddell, Nova Vita Community Development Manager, Maria T. and Bev G.

CFUW Brantford members donated \$1,850 to Nova Vita on December 7th, 2022. The funds were allocated to the Hope for the Holidays initiative that supports women and children in the shelter at Nova Vita as they navigated their way through the holiday season.

Anne Ruddell, Community Development Manager, advised us that tax receipts for 2022 donations will be sent out in the first eight weeks of 2023.

The Hope for the Holidays Committee, Bev G., Janet K., Lin F. and Maria T. would like to thank our members for their generosity.





We were a lively group of **34** enjoying delectable finger foods on Tuesday, December 6, 2022. It is SO wonderful after a hiatus of 2 years. We had more than 15 appetizers and 13 desserts. Some people identified what kind of appetizer or dessert they were bringing but most were a mystery and who doesn't love a mystery at a potluck?

A big thank you to Anne M. for hosting the party in her home! It was a pleasure to chat with members and enjoy their tasty creations!!



A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
and Happy New Year!

Keeping CFUW Brantford Viable and Vital

We hope you have created opportunities to forward the membership invitation to people and organizations that you think may benefit from membership in our Club.

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 share our newsletter with family and friends over the holidays and extend invitations to come to a General Meeting as your guest.



cfuw THE POWER OF WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER

**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, Caregiver support, and Walking.

For more information, please visit our website:
cfuwbrantford.org or e-mail cfuwbrantford45@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

Announcements at General Meetings

Beginning in January, we will be re-introducing the announcement board at meetings.

You are welcome to bring flyers or information sheets about any events that you think would interest our members. As was our practice, we will highlight announcements at the end of the business portion of the meeting before we break for refreshments.



Reminder to send news for our Website and Facebook page.

We have an active and vital club with lots going on every month. Please send photos from your Interest Group activities along with a brief description to Sandra H, Mary P, and Marsha S so that we can keep our website, newsletter and Facebook page up to date. 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, mskrypuch@gmail.com, marypitchford@gmail.com and cfuw-brantford45@gmail.com

We're Back!!

Our last Trivia Night was in 2020 and we are really excited to be holding another one! This is our major fundraiser for the Scholarship Fund, so we invite ALL members to get involved by forming teams of four and by inviting friends and relatives to get involved! WHEN? Wednesday, February 8th at The Dunsdon Legion 7:30p.m. HOW CAN MEMBERS HELP?

- Get together with others to form a team
- If you can't form a team, let us know and we will do our best to find one for you!
- If you really can't form a team, volunteer to help out that night – collecting answer sheets, marking, serving pizza...Contact Brenda Malvern.
- Look for new items that you no longer want which you think would make good prizes and bring them to the January General Meeting.
- Round up books which you are willing to donate (must be in excellent shape – not musty, torn, outdated, etc) and bring them in smallish containers to the January General Meeting. No textbooks!!! We also accept CDs and DVDs in good condition.
- Register early so that we don't go crazy wondering if the event has to be cancelled!!
- SEE YOU THERE!!!!

Please respond to Lynn H. or Brenda M.



Interest Groups 2022

(submitted by Roma M.)

Belonging to an Interest Group is a wonderful way to get to know other members of the club and I would encourage everyone to consider joining at least one group. Should you wish more information about a particular group, please contact me or the group's contact person. Each of the interest groups provided a short outline about their activities during this past summer and fall. During the summer, the Biking, Games, Golf and Walking groups continued to meet on a regular basis.

2nd Monday Afternoon Book Group:

A small but mighty group that met on Zoom several times throughout the year, including the summer months. The group is a relaxed one and, instead of being pressured to read the same book, each person reports on whatever book she is reading in any genre. Very interesting conversations usually follow! It has worked for over fifty years!

3rd Monday Evening Book Group:

The Monday evening Book Group has been meeting in person since September. The December meeting was a week early, to enjoy the Christmastime hospitality of Lynne M. at her gorgeously decorated home, a treat was missed the past two Decembers when not meeting in person. This group will "pivot" to Zoom meetings for Jan, Feb and March 2023 to avoid inclement weather. The group has used some online ways and suggestions to arrive at a reading list and some good questions for discussion to help the hostess or discussion leader.

1st Thursday Evening Book Group:

The group met on Zoom for September, then in person for the balance of the year. Members very much enjoyed seeing one another for the book discussions as well as the treats after the meeting. As with the Monday evening group, they also have decided to meet via Zoom for January and February with March undecided at this point.

1st Monday Bridge:

The CFUW Bridge group plays bridge from 1:00 until 3:30 p.m. online with Trickster which allows members to talk to each other and discuss the various plays at the end of each hand. There are sometimes groans or laughter when they see the hand that has been dealt to them. It is always a very enjoyable afternoon with two or sometimes three tables of women.

Creative Cookery:

The Creative cookery conducted Zoom as well as in-person meetings this fall. In-person meetings included meeting at Glenhyrst in August, a finger food potluck and a dinner in member homes as well as a Christmas lunch at the Brantford Golf & Country club.

Interest Groups

Day Trippers:

No trips were planned this fall but inquiries have been made. If members of the group have suggestions I am sure Lynn H. would love to hear from you. Hopefully, there will be some trips in the new year.

Dining Out:

As this group did not meet during the Covid Pandemic, there was much enthusiasm when restrictions were lifted in order to venture out to restaurants again. Since August the group has dined at Twisted Lemon in Cayuga, Good Earth Food and Winery in Beamsville, Langdon Hall in Cambridge, and Gran Sasso in Brantford. Members savour both the food and the conversation. Plans for 2023 include The Olde School in Brantford, La Cantinella in St George, Devlin's in Mount Pleasant, and The Cambridge Mill in Cambridge. The monthly dining days and times are varied to suit as many members as possible. Members like to car pool as sharing a ride is part of the enjoyment.

Food With Thought:

For the first time since Covid began, members met in November for their first in-person dinner at the home of Linda T. This group would love to welcome anyone who enjoys an evening out for a pot luck dinner along with "thoughtful conversations." The meeting date has been changed from the second Monday to the second Thursday of the month.

Games:

This 13-member group gets together twice a month.... second Thursday and fourth Monday for the sole purpose of having fun and perhaps learning a new game or mastering a familiar one. Covid awareness has cut down the numbers attending since the cold weather has chased them indoors in October.

Walking:

The walking group met in person once weekly on Tuesday mornings all summer and fall and will continue to enjoy the trails throughout the winter. In the warmer weather, they would bring chairs and a beverage to enjoy a chat after the walk.

World Awareness:

The world awareness group met monthly on the third Monday morning. Discussions are lively and the topic recently has been hate speech, how to identify it and how to respond to it. In October Marg E. was invited to inform members about the situation in long-term care. Meetings have been on Zoom and will continue that way for January, at least. Usually there are about eight present, all with definite opinions!

Suggested New Groups:

Caregivers – a group for sharing support and information regarding assistance, resources, etc. Should this interest you, please let me know or speak to Colette W. who has indicated she will act as the contact person.

Mahjong is a tile-based game developed in the 19th century in China which has spread throughout the world since the early 20th century. It is commonly played by four players. Should this interest you, please let me know or speak to Arlene C. who has indicated she will act as the contact person as well as instructing as to how the game is played.

Monday Evening Book Club:

An interesting discussion was held about *The Henna Artist*, by Alka Joshi, which touched upon cultural values in 1950s India.

Barbara Mayo led the discussion in a concise, capable fashion. It was a good meeting and good discussion against the beautiful backdrop of Lynne M's house decorated for Christmas and topped off with Lynne's warm hospitality.



Creative Cookery: The Creative Cooking Group enjoyed their Holiday Lunch at the Brantford Golf Club. While we missed a few members due to seasonal flu, we were happy to not be cooking, to enjoy the beautiful scenery over the Grand River, and to have a Cookie Exchange. It was a lovely afternoon.



Thursday Book Club:

The Thursday night book club met this evening via Zoom. The book we chose was *Five Little Indians* by Michelle Good. The author is a poet, a lawyer and now, an author. She obtained her law degree from UBC and primarily advocates for Residential School Survivors. She is a member of the Red Pheasant Cree Nation. Her grandmother and mother are survivors of Residential Schools, but she was spared that horror. Michelle's book follows five main characters, whose lives are "braided" throughout the book and their experiences at the school profoundly affect their abilities to maintain a stable adult life. We see how their lives evolve after being dumped in the nastiest part of Vancouver when they leave the school at 16. Our discussion, as usual, ranged far afield from the book, but always influenced by what we had read. We feel that indicates a good book, because of the number of issues raised. We applaud her first book effort, and hope her second novel is as successful. Our group recommends this thought-provoking novel. Submitted by Bev G.



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:** Linda Tripp
- Scholarship:** Janet Kempster/Lynda Stamer
- Social:** Bev Golden

Jane B. fractured her hip on Christmas Eve and had surgery to stabilize the hip. She is focused on doing her exercises and maximizing her recovery.

She is getting her mail picked up from Brierwood if you want to send a card, or you can text or email her.



It is with very deep and heartfelt condolences that we share this sad news with our membership.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Norah O. on the passing of her brother, Brian O'Leary, on December 6th.

January 25th General Meeting

7:00 p.m., Thorpe's Carriage House or Zoom

We are delighted to have Professor Karen Burke as our speaker at the January General Meeting. Karen is a home-grown success having grown up and been educated in Brantford. No doubt Karen inherited at least some of her musical genius from her parents, Doreen and Winston Johnson, who were both very involved in the Brantford music community.



In 1988, Karen, and her husband, Oswald, founded the Toronto Mass Choir which was an immediate hit, winning a Juno award, recording ten albums and touring in many countries around the world. Since then, Karen has trained many musicians at Canadian universities and organizations, as well as in the U.S. and Europe, in the art of gospel music.

Since 2005, Karen has been a professor at York University, where she developed the first post-secondary gospel music courses, and established the York University Gospel Choir. Karen has provided leadership in music and the arts throughout her tenure at York University and has been recognized with many awards, including the Harry Jerome Award in the Arts, Media, and Entertainment in 2019.

Please join us to hear Karen Burke's story of her musical journey and her engagement with gospel music.



Wednesday, February 8, 2023

7:30 pm

DUNSDON LEGION

9 Toll Gate Road, Brantford

\$100/team of four - \$15 charitable receipt per person

Invite friends, relatives, co-workers!!

FOOD!! PRIZES!! FUN!!

Proceeds to CFUW Brantford Scholarship Fund

A registration form can be found at cfuwbrantford.org

cfuw  fcfdu



Dynamic Women Can Make a Difference