



Saturday, April 22, 2023



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The March General Meeting was well attended, and we were all so pleased to have five guests present too. After having been restricted to virtual meetings in both January and February, due to inclement weather, everyone was delighted to socialize together in person. Our speaker, Dana Church, reminded us of the vital role that bumblebees – and bees in general – play in our world. For being such relatively small insects, they help keep nature in balance. We have been hearing this message from experts for a number of years. Dana just reaffirmed that in her most interesting slide presentation. Those of us in particular who have grandchildren must fear for their future as we are “on the brink” with regard to saving the environment, with some scientists giving us even more dire predictions. As concerned citizens, we must continue to do our own small part in the fight to reverse climate change; even embracing a concept as simple as NO MOW MAY is a start. It is time to adjust our mindsets about “perfect lawns” and desist from polluting the earth with yet more chemicals.

This week the federal budget was tabled and the government has decided to allocate considerable funds for green subsidies. This step is commendable but, as *The Globe and Mail* editorial of March 30th pointed out, less money will then be available for other pressing needs. To quote the writer, “The 11.1 billion that will flow to manufacturing companies will be diverted from elsewhere in the economy.” Historically, there has always been criticism levelled at the federal budget, no matter which party presents it. It must be a very challenging and unenviable task for any finance minister but particularly in these times of severe economic stress for so many Canadians. As we are the privileged in this society, it is a stark reminder of how fortunate we are as well as reminding us of the ongoing need for donations to our local Food Bank, school breakfast programs and other community social safety nets.

To end on a more light-hearted and positive note, I am sure that all of us will be happy to say farewell to winter and delight in seeing the first flowers of the season, some of which have already peeked through the soil in our gardens. Happy Spring to all!

Catherine Sawyer,
President for March



Our General Meeting in March coincided with Joan H’s 90th birthday. The Social Committee provided cupcakes, with a candle on Joan’s, as we sang. “Happy Birthday” and celebrated this very special member and friend.
Lin F.

AGM /Banquet

Ladies, here is your invitation to attend our May Banquet. It will be held at the Brantford Golf and Country Club on Wednesday, May 24th. This year, the price has been set at \$65.00. You can e-transfer anytime to our treasurer, Maria, or bring a cheque or cash (correct amount) to the General meeting. As it is the early days of planning, further information will follow.
Thank you, Bev G.



Scholarship

The Scholarship Committee will be receiving applications for the A Scholarship from the local high schools with deadline being April 30. If there are any member who would be interested in evaluating the applications would they please contact Lynda S. As the applications arrive they will be emailed to the club members for their perusal and evaluation. We will meet again in May to make our final decisions as to the winner(s).
Lynda S.

Resolutions

There will be a Zoom meeting on April 20th to discuss proposed amendments to the CFUW National's proposed resolutions for their AGM. The committee is chaired by Betsy C. and includes Bev G. , Anne M. , Naomi K., Norah O., and Nancy P. Contact Betsy C. to learn about their recommendations and have a say in our response to National.

Tax Receipts

You should all now have your tax receipts for 2022 donations. Tax receipts were emailed on March 26th by Maria Timmons for all those that did not receive paper copies at the March general meeting or an interest group gathering. If you are missing your 2022 tax receipt please email Maria Timmons at mtimmons4653@gmail.com.



Many thanks to the Interest Group contacts and other club members who provide news and pictures for the newsletter. If you have updates about members concerning important family or personal events such as births, deaths, marriages, special celebrations to share with the members, send them to Sandra H. If you have Interest Group updates and photos please send them to Sandra for the newsletter, Marsha S. for the webpage and Mary P. for the Facebook page. The due date for articles and photos for the May Newsletter is Friday May 5th.

Membership Renewal 2023 -2024

Spring greetings to our membership,

It's that time of the year to renew your membership for 2023-2024 in our Brantford CFUW Club. Our fees are remaining the same amount, just \$121.00, which includes our \$15.00 scholarship donation.

To make the renewal process a little easier for you, I am asking you to put your information by computer onto the Membership and Interest Group Forms that you received by email. Download and enable editing, save the documents with your name in whatever format you wish, and then email them back to me, Dian K., at: dkuzyk@gmail.com . (The copies of the documents in this newsletter cannot be filled digitally.)

We are hoping to go paperless eventually.

Regarding the statement for photograph use, if you do NOT give permission, you will have to sign the form manually.

If possible, forward the completed Interest Group Form straight to: Roma M., romamakreel@hotmail.com.

Of course, you may bring the two forms to our April General Meeting on April 26th at 7:00 pm or the AGM at Brantford Golf and Country Club on May 24th.

The last alternative is to mail or bring the completed forms to Roma and me.

Payment this year can be by E-transfer directly to Maria T.,

Her email is mtimmons4653@gmail.com.

Or, you may bring your cheque to Maria at the April meeting, AGM, or send or take it to her home at 40-11 Heath St., Brantford, N3T 0N7.

You certainly have lots of choices on renewal of your membership this year.

Learning this technology has been quite an experience for me, but I enjoy new challenges and I hope you do too. We are smart women and always open to new learning.

Cheers,

Dian K., Membership Chair



Membership Listing:

NAME:					I. C E. CON-TACT #		
ADDRESS:						PC	
PHONE #:				EMAIL:			
PERSONAL INTERESTS:							

Membership Fees 2023 - 2024

<i>General Membership Fee</i>		\$106.00	Please return this notice to CFUW BRANTFORD to: Dian Kuzyk 1 Oakley Rd Brantford ON N3T 5J9 dkuzyk@gmail.com
<i>Receipted Scholarship Portion</i>		\$15.00	
<i>Dues Payable</i>		\$ 121.00	
<i>Optional Donation to Scholarship</i>			
Total Remitted			

Statement Regarding Photograph Use

I give permission for CFUW Brantford to use my picture in their publicity, including but not limited to print media, webpage, and audiovisual presentations. I understand that there will be no payment for the use of this image. Yes No
 I give permission for my email address to be shared with CFUW National to facilitate direct communication with their members. Yes No

Signed:		Date:	

The INFORMATION on this form is for INTERNAL USE ONLY and is NOT to be shared outside the club. ** For inclusion on the Membership List and to take part in Interest Groups, please submit full payment of Annual Membership Fee by MAY 24, 2023 (MAY GENERAL MEETING).



Interest Group Information
Membership Year: May 2023 to April 2024

N u m b e r	Name of Interest Group	We Meet:		
		Day of Month	Week(s) of the Month	Time of Day
1	Biking	Seasonal	To be determined by the group	
2	Book & Lunch	Monday	2nd	1:00 p.m.
3	Book	Monday	3rd	7:00 p.m.
4	Book	Thursday	1st	7:00 p.m.
5	Bridge	Monday	1st	1:00/7:00 p.m.
6	Creative Cookery	Wednesday	3rd	6:00 p.m.
7	Day Trippers	Arranged when events are advertised		
8	Dining Out	Arranged T.B.A.		
9	Food with Thought	2 nd Monday		6:00 p.m.
10	Games	Thursday	2nd	1:30 pm
11	Golf	Monday	2nd	1:00 p.m.
12	Walking Group	Tuesday	Weekly	9:30 & 10:00 a.m.
13	World Awareness	Wednesday	3 rd	10:00 a.m.

Your Name:		Email:	
Your Address:		Phone #:	
Please remember to write the number and name of each group. Please complete even if you are a longstanding member of the group.			
#		#	
#		#	
#		#	
Suggestions for New Interest Groups:			

Events

The brutality of politics hits women hardest.

Learn more about this important issue on May 4, 2023 at 7pm.

At the 2022 Annual General Meeting of CFUW, our Oakville Club had a resolution unanimously approved. The resolution is titled *Violence Against Women in Politics*. See page 7 of this document: <https://cfuwadmin.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Fall-2022-Advocacy-Toolkit-full.pdf> for the approved resolution. The resolution allows the Club and **you** as individual members to advocate to address this escalating issue.

Since the passage of our resolution, a small working group has come together to address the issues identified in the resolution and the background research. While the information gathering process for the resolution ended in 2022, examples of the challenges women in politics continue to endure can be seen regularly in the media. Most recently, we have seen two progressive, strong women politicians - Nicola Sturgeon (First Minister of Scotland) and Jacinda Ardern (Prime Minister of New Zealand) resign their posts citing, in part, the constant harassment and hateful messaging they have had to endure. On March 8, 2023, International Women's day, Governor General Mary Simons announced she was closing the comment section on Rideau Hall's online platforms because of the "misogynistic and racist vitriol" directed at her as a woman, a woman of colour and an Indigenous woman. To help members of our Club understand the roots of the issues women are facing, CFUW is hosting a special Zoom event where we will hear from an expert on hate crimes, **Dr. Barbara Perry.**



Dr. Perry is a Professor in the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities at Ontario Tech University, the Director of the Centre on Hate, Bias and Extremism, and holds a UNESCO Chair in Hate Studies. She has written extensively on social justice generally, and hate crime and right-wing extremism specifically. She has published several books spanning each of these areas.

Please join us on May 4, 2023 at 7:00. Save the date. A Zoom link will be sent to members closer to the date.

For more information, contact Joyce See, joyceasee@gmail.com.

CFUW Burlington Author's Event Wednesday, May 3, 2023 Open to the Public

Doors open at 6:30 P.M. Event at 7:00

Masks optional

Guest Author: **Elizabeth Hay**

award winning author

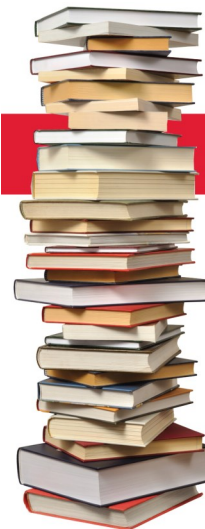
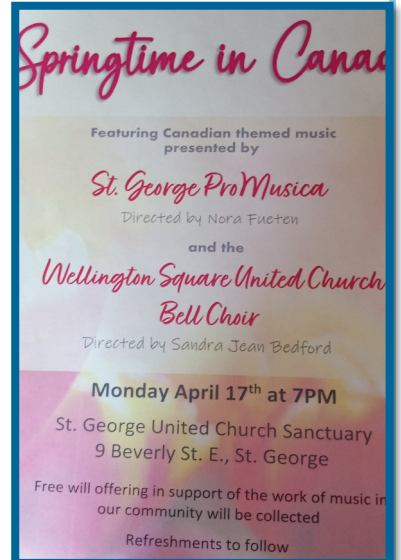


Tickets \$ 25

All proceeds go to the CFUW
Scholarship Foundation of
Burlington

To reserve
contact **A Different Drummer**
905-639-0925
or diffdrum@mac.com

To purchase live streaming
tickets \$12
visit:
<https://HayCFUW.eventbrite.ca>



BRANTFORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA BOOK FAIR COMMITTEE

BOOK FAIR

APRIL 26, 27, 28 & 29
9:30 AM to 8:00 PM • SATURDAY til 3:00 PM

18 SPALDING DRIVE
(OFF COLBORNE ST. WEST)

Gently used

BOOKS • MUSIC • PUZZLES • VINYL • CDs & DVDs • CRAFTS
COOKERY • GARDENING • CHILDREN • TRAVEL • HISTORY
Accepting cash and cheques only.

BOOK DROP OFF STARTING MONDAY, MARCH 13
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday to Saturday (closed Easter Weekend)

NOT ACCEPTING: National Geographics • Encyclopedias • Reader's Digest
Library Discards • Old Text Books • VHS Tapes • Cassettes • Magazines

BRANTFORD
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 519-759-8781
OR EMAIL administrator@brantfordsymphony.ca

For updates visit us online at: brantfordsymphony.ca

Interest Groups

Monday Afternoon Book Group: Our group has been meeting in person at a restaurant over a long lunch for the past two meetings.

Currently, we have just five in our monthly book discussion group, but we talk about a LOT of books. This past meeting, Marion reported on two: *Prisoners of the Castle* by Ben MacIntyre about Colditz, famous Nazi POW prison in former castle, several escape attempts and successes, and about *A Guest of the Reich* by Peter Finn, concerning British spy and socialite Gertrude Legendre, dramatic account of captivity and escape from Nazi Germany.

Norah brought an old volume of *Rob Roy* by Walter Scott, part of a gift on matriculation from secondary school in 1923 (age 17) won by Norah's father. She also told us about *The Book of Awesome* by Neil Pasricha, which she noted was very easy to read in short bites in between other books.

Leslie told us about *The Wonder* by Emma Donahue, a wonderful gradual revelation of pieces of the story by protagonist, an English nurse, trained by Florence Nightingale, on a 2 week assignment to observe an 11 year old Irish girl who apparently had no solid food for several months. She also reported on *Butter Honey Pig Bread* by Francesca Ekwuyasi This book was a very sensuous portrayal of family history and relationships between a mother and her adult twin daughters, originally from Lagos, Nigeria but following them to London, England, Montreal, Halifax and finally back to Lagos, and *Let Your Mind Run* by Deena Kastor and Michelle Hamilton. A memoir of Deena's life and career as an American Olympic marathoner. *The Light We Carry* by Michelle Obama was another book Leslie read. A great account of her approach to life. She lets us into her family circle and gives us glimpses of the sources of her strength. Leslie was particularly impressed with her descriptions of her mother. Marsha spoke about a soon-to be published thriller, *Everyone Here is Lying* by Shari Lapena and highly recommends any book by this Canadian author who writes tightly crafted non-tropey thrillers, including *The Couple next Door*. Another author she's enjoying is C.J. Tudor. She is currently almost finished *The Drift* which was just published. It is set in the future, but it resembles the current state of the world. Marsha also recommends *The Chalkman* by the same author. She also recently read *Eight Days* by Teresa Toten. This Canadian middle grade novel by a GG winning author is set in a low income, multicultural neighbourhood in Scarborough. There is a child working through a family tragedy involving her mother, drugs, alcohol and a journey to NYC. Marsha found this very well-written. Leslie L.



Ukrainian Family Donations: This whole process has been so gratifying and I thank you all very much. As a group we have accomplished something pretty darn wonderful. Somewhere, still unidentified, there is a group of Ukrainian refugees, who will be able feel safe and resume a life more closely resembling normalcy. Dannie A.



Monday Evening Book Group: The Monday Evening book group had a lively discussion on *Lessons from the Edge* by Marie Yovanovitch.

We felt that Marie shared her life and work as a U.S. diplomat in a fascinating, in depth, personal account. Many of us were shocked at the corruption and intrigue she found in her postings, particularly in Ukraine. The attempt to discredit Biden was an eye-opener, especially when Marie was removed from her ambassador position in Ukraine to facilitate this effort. Our takeaway was one of respect for a strong, hardworking woman of integrity who helped expose the corruption of the former U.S. President and his followers.

Creative Cookery: Our March Zoom meeting celebrated Spring, green and St. Patrick's Day. We shared tasty recipes and lots of interesting conversation.



Dining Out Group: The Dining Out group enjoyed a perfect Spring afternoon at the Cambridge Mill, complete with blue sky, gardens of daffodils, and a stunning

view. Lunch was excellent. We highly recommend, but at \$70-\$100 per person, you may want to save this restaurant for special occasions.

Games Group: We're back having fun and games.

Thursday Book Group: We read and discussed Matt Haig's book *The Midnight Library*. This book spent weeks on the bestseller list and has been made into a BBC 10 episode podcast. Nora Seed suffers from depression and a sense of failure throughout her life. Finally in despair she commits suicide. Much to her surprise she ends up in a library where she has the opportunity to try out the regrets of her life in alternate realities. She has until midnight to decide if she would like to change her mind and opt for a better life or if she will in fact die. Ultimately she describes her life as a beautiful messy struggle. The book presents many ideas for discussion on alternate realities, the choices we make, the regrets we have and the meaning and nature of life. We enjoyed an interesting discussion and would recommend the book to others. Diane M.



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



Mieke S. would like to thank those who have visited or sent cards in the past weeks. It was kind of you to let Marg S. know that she is in your thoughts.

Mieke S.

April 26th General Meeting

Location: Thorpe's Carriage House and Zoom

Time: April 26th, 7:00 p.m.

Program: Did You Just Call Me Old Lady? Ageism and the Rights of Older People

What is ageism? How does it affect the well-being of people as they grow older? How has it affected you? Peggy will discuss these questions as well as how lifelong learning and intergenerational solidarity can help deal with and combat ageism. Be prepared to share your own views and to have a few laughs as well as we look at the intersection of ageism, sexism and humour.

Peggy Edwards is a (retired) consultant and writer on aging, and an activist for the rights of older people. In 2017, she received the Sovereign Medal for Volunteers for her work with the Grandmothers Campaign, the Grandmothers Advocacy Network, and the Council on Aging of Ottawa. She is a former policy analyst with Health Canada, the Canadian Public Health Association, and the World Health Organization. Peggy has published several books on healthy aging.

All the best to Janet R. as she recovers from hip surgery.



Diane M would like to thank everyone for their support and thoughtfulness over the last few months. I'm pain-free, getting stronger every day and hope to see everyone at the May banquet.

Special thanks to Anne Martin for going above and beyond to keep those of us who are housebound in touch with the rest of you. It is a treat to belong to such a group of caring women.



Brantford Annual General Meeting and Banquet 2023

Location: Brantford Golf and Country Club

Date: May 24, 2023, from 4:15-9 p.m.

Ticket cost: \$65

Cash bar

Musical Entertainment : Dave Jensen

Buffet meal: The chef will address food allergies such as gluten and offer a vegetarian plate. Let the social committee know so we can alert the BGCC kitchen. (Some allergies may be beyond their scope)

Parking: We hope to have the golf cart available again this year to circulate through the parking lots for easier transport to the clubhouse. Ticket sales started at the March General meeting and will end on May 10. Payment can be via e-transfer to Maria T. or cheque (payable to CFUW Brantford) or cash given to Bev G.



Dynamic Women Can Make a Difference