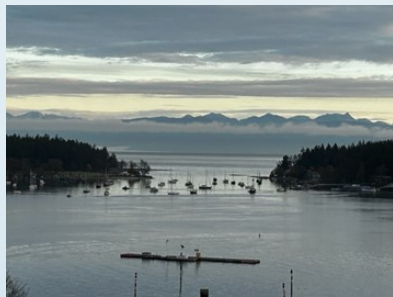


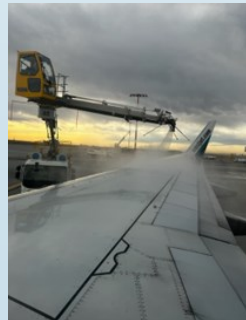


| Contents        | Pages |
|-----------------|-------|
| Club News       | 1 - 6 |
| Member Updates  | 6     |
| Interest Groups | 5     |
| Events          | 1 - 6 |

As I write this article, I am flying back from Nanaimo, via Calgary, to Hamilton on November 6. We were supposed to return home November 5 at 5:30 am (!) but, late the night before, we were notified by email that our flight was cancelled! We had to stay an extra night in Calgary and left 50 minutes late because the plane had to be anti-iced first. Suddenly, we were besieged by crane trucks that sprayed the entire airplane. A first for us, for sure. These delays and cancellations seem to be happening more frequently these days, for many reasons, so be prepared if you plan to travel.



our view in Nanaimo



I have read over my submission for November 2021 and some things are remarkably similar, some quite different. At that time, the weather was similar with alternating cold and warm periods. The flowers, lawns and trees in Ontario have been magnificent all summer and fall this year. No brown, crisp lawns at all in August. The temperature right now at 10:00 pm is 14 degrees. Remarkable! But we also had a big hailstorm today. Unbelievable!

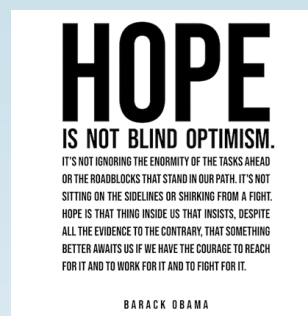


our burning bush and very green lawn on October 28.

Back then, we were coping with the early days of Covid with all its uncertainties. All CFUW meetings were online for many months. Now, we have all learned 'to live with Covid'. Meetings now are hybrid with a good turnout both in person and via Zoom (when it works properly!)

CFUW Brantford rolls along. The good news is there are 76 members, including several new ones over the past year. The Executive, 14 strong, including the various Presidents of the Month, the Officers and the Standing Committee Chairs are working hard together and giving it our best efforts. It is hoped that some newer members will be able to move into more responsible roles soon to relieve some of the 'aging workhorses'. Our club needs refreshing with new ideas and younger minds.

Moving forward is always positive. Soon, the club will have a system to manage e-transfers, thanks to 2 diligent members, Maria T. and Lin F. Another short-term project that needs to be addressed is the review and revision of our Articles and Bylaws that keep us on track and running smoothly. Watch for an email coming soon with more information. Please help if you are able. It won't happen again for another 10 years or so. The publications from CFUW Ontario Council and National often have some worthwhile articles. For example, I have not attended yet but am interested in the Ontario Council Speakers Series that are offered online. If you did not know, CFUW Ontario Council has rebranded itself with a new look, new tagline, same mission. See the new logo below.



With our world in turmoil on so many fronts, it is hard to think positively but, it is important not to ever lose hope.

Anne M., President of the Month for October



**ALLOCATION OF OUR 2023-24 DUES TARGETED FOR INTERNATIONAL ENDEAVORS**

At the October General Meeting, the motion was passed “that the not-for-profit international organizations nominated by the membership be approved to receive the portion of our 2023-24 membership dues allocated for international endeavors to be divided equally.”

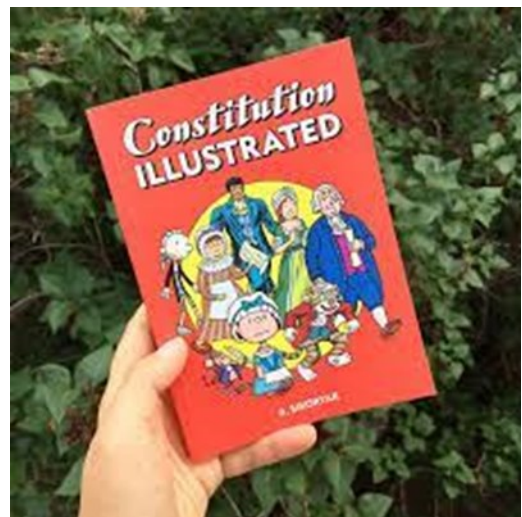
The following 4 organizations will receive \$435.50 each.

1. Home of Hope, Mjinji, Malawi is an orphanage housing, feeding and educating 750 children in Malawi. Malawi continues to be one of the poorest countries in the world. The funds will help women and girls to pursue post secondary education. Evelyn Picketts nominated this charity and has been going to Home of Hope for 17 years, raising over \$70,000.
2. Amarak Society, a Canadian charity operates schools in Bangladesh, providing illiterate women, living in the Slums, with education such that they can teach their own and neighbour children. The child graduate often also teaches younger children and older neighbours or family members who are also illiterate. Barbara Mayo Melara nominated this charity, sponsors a school, and has gone to Bangladesh to learn about the programs and the successes.
3. The Stephen Lewis Foundation and the Grandmother to Grandmother Campaign is “a hands-on approach to helping many women”, mostly grandmothers, who were left raising their grandchildren, orphaned by the AIDS pandemic. Wendy Bethune nominated this charity and has been very active in the local chapter, Grand River Grannies.

4. CUSO, with its 222 Cuso volunteers in 16 countries, have helped close to 1,000,000 women and girls through its Cuso International programs, most particularly in Peru, Honduras, and Tanzania. Bev Golden has supported CUSO for decades, and she has worked for them early in her career in India .

We are most fortunate to have members who are involved at the grassroots with organizations that support the rights, freedom and education of women and girls internationally. Evelyn, Barbara, Wendy, and Bev thank you for your support, and hope you continue to ask questions and stay engaged with the workings of their organizations.

Patti K.  
Advocacy Chair



**Can you help? Many hands make light work.**

Our Articles and Bylaws need to be updated. It is probably a 10 hour job if a couple of members could work together to create a document that reflects who we are today and how we would like to be governed in the future. CFUW National advises that some clubs have a one pager while others use CFUW National’s comprehensive constitution as a guideline. Some clubs use Roberts Rules while other clubs just keep track of decisions made at meetings. How folksy or how formal do you want us to be going forward? Now is your opportunity to influence how we are governed. A member of the Executive will work as advisor to ensure that you have the information you need. You don’t need any experience - in fact, fresh eyes are welcome!

Please send an email to [cfuwbrantford45@gmail.com](mailto:cfuwbrantford45@gmail.com) with the subject “Updating our A&B” to advise the Executive if you would like to participate.



## October General Meeting: Interesting and Fun



On Wednesday, October 25, we were pleased to have Anca Gaston as our guest presenter. As she herself has said: "One of the goals of my photography is to increase appreciation for wildlife... A lot of people live urban lives and lose touch with nature, and I hope that my photography can inspire people to protect these natural spaces and gain a better appreciation of what's out there in our natural environment".

Not only were we treated to Anca's interesting talk and slide show, we enjoyed the camaraderie and fun.



# Hope for the Holidays

At our September General Meeting, our club approved the Motion to support Nova Vita's 'Hope for the Holidays' fund-raiser. We will collect \$ donations at the October and November General Meetings.

Please bring your cheque made out to Nova Vita. You will receive a tax receipt from Nova Vita if your name and address are on your cheque. You can give your cheque to Lin F., Bev G., Janet K. or Maria T..

CFUW Brantford has supported Nova Vita, Brantford's women's shelter for decades. For the past four years we have collected money for the women and children in the shelter during the Holiday season. Two years ago, our money was used to buy bedding and essential supplies to cope with the terrific increase of women and children using the shelter during the pandemic. Last year, our money was used to provide a holiday party for our residents....décor, food, presents, and even a visit from "Santa". Thanks to your generosity, there was enough money collected for Nova Vita to provide presents for the women as well as the children.... and the staff did this by buying gifts that the children were able to wrap and give to their moms.

Thank you for your generosity.

Kindest regards,

Your CFUW Brantford Hope for the Holidays Committee



NOVA VITA  
Help • Hope • Heal

24 Hour Crisis & Support Line  
**519-752-HELP**



## Scholarship

Our 2023 Award B successful candidate is Susan Zuidema. Susan has worked in the Brantford - Brant area for the past number of years with people who are struggling with homelessness, addictions, and mental health. Presently enrolled in the M. Div. Clinical Counseling through Tyndale Seminary, Susan hopes to use her training as a clinical psychotherapist to empower the disenfranchised toward healing and a future. Many know Susan through her work as executive director of Why Not City Missions. Come and meet Susan at our general meeting on Nov. 25th. Karen I.



## Interest Groups



**Creative Cookery:** The group has been divided into two so that we will fit easily into people's homes. One group met in October at Nora L.'s house for an adventure in Moroccan food. It proved a delightful introduction to tasty and healthy food (low on salt).



**Monday Evening Book Group:** We met to discuss *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the*

*Birth of the FBI* by David Grann. This investigative crime thriller reveals the Reign of Terror in the Osage Territory in the 1920's. It focuses on how the crimes against one family were discovered and the perpetrators brought to justice by the newly forming FBI. The story is so powerful that a movie of the same name was made, is now showing in theatres and looks like it is headed for the Oscars. Sandra H.

**Thursday Evening Book Group:** *Valley of the Birdtail* written by Andrew Stobo Sniderman & Douglas Sanderson. Andrew is a lawyer, writer and once a student of Douglas. Douglas is a law professor at U of T and a Swampy Cree.

This book follows multiple generations of two families, one indigenous and one white. *Valley of the Birdtail* is a true story of racial injustice, residential schools and a path forward. It reflects what went wrong between indigenous and non-indigenous and the role of the Indian Act (still in effect up to 2022).

The authors give an amazing historical look at indigenous people in Canada and government failures, perceptions and racism. But they also outline a way forward to fix, heal and learn how to reconcile with a new perception.

One comment - every high school student should be required to read this book.

Very well received by the book club members.

Hazel R.

**Dining Out Group:** Our Dining out group went to Pincroft yesterday.... A quintessential autumn delight. The drive on the backroads included fields of pumpkins and forests in dazzling reds, oranges and golds. Pincroft is a cluster of log cabins nestled in the woods, complete with pottery studio, gift shop and restaurant. The food was sourced locally and beautifully prepared. Homemade soups, grilled cheese and BLTs, top notch Caesar salad (possibly my new gold standard!), and so much more. I think we were high on autumn because the laughter and joy at the table was ....delicious!  
Lin F.



**Monday Book Group:** Four of us were able to attend the book discussion group over lunch yesterday, but we were able to talk about a dozen or so books. Marian brought her copy of *Significant Lives*, which was self-published by our club a number of years ago. She was on the committee to produce it and told us many interesting anecdotes.

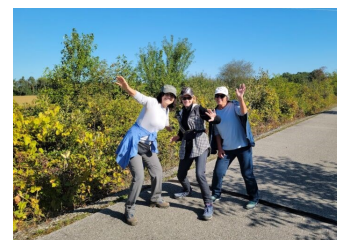


**Games Group:**



Our two sessions this month highlighted *Five Crowns*, and *Hit Me*. Both are card games, lots of fun and no gambling involved. November 9th and 27 are our upcoming dates.

**Walking Group:** It was the perfect day for a walk and all the cyclists stayed over to the side, dutifully ringing bells as they approached, fearful, I'm guessing, of our formidable attitude! HA!



## 2023 –2024 EXECUTIVE

### PRESIDENT IN NAME:

- Elizabeth Capitano

### PAST PRESIDENT:

- Lin Fines and Janet Kempster

### ROTATING PRESIDENTIAL TEAM:

- Elizabeth Capitano—June, July, August, May
- Lin Fines— March and April
- Anne Martin—October
- Janet Kempster—November
- Maria Timmons—December, January
- Catherine Sawyer— September, February

### SECRETARY:

Lin Fines/Penelope Jeffery

**TREASURER:** Maria Timmons

### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

- Advocacy:** Patty Kunashko
- Communications:** Sandra Hughes
- Interest Groups:** Roma Makkreel
- Membership:** Barb Scott
- Program:** Collette Wilson
- Scholarship:** Karen Innes
- Social:** Bev Golden

## November General Meeting

**Location:** Thorpe Carriage House

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

### Program:

The Honourable Justice Gethin Edward was born and raised in Brantford, and is a member of the Six Nations of the Grand

River. He attended Pauline Johnson Collegiate in Brantford, the University of Waterloo, and received his law degree through the University of Western Ontario. Justice Edward began his law career with the highly respected firm of Howard Staats, where he practiced law for 14 years, after which he was appointed to the Ontario Court of Justice. Justice Edward has taken on complex projects such as the founding of the Indigenous Persons Court of Brantford, sometimes called the Gladue Court. He changed how medicine was practiced in Ontario in his 2014 ruling that Aboriginal people have the right to use traditional medicines and health practices for themselves and their families, a controversial decision at that time. In his personal life, Justice Edward has been married to Vicki for 34 “wonderful years” and has two children. Justice Edward is generous with his time, often speaking to local community groups, and we look forward to his talk to CFUW. Collette W.



All the best in your health  
journey:

Barb M., Nora F., Kathy B., Lee Ann C., Jean L.  
and Gloria S.



Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2024, 7:30 pm

Maximum of 30 teams!!

**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 our Scholarship Fund**

**It's not too early to form a team!!!**



**Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 13th**

**From 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM**

A very special thanks to Leslie L. who has graciously agreed to host the party in her home.

Please RSVP to her by December 6th.

Participants are to bring finger foods - appetizers and desserts. BYOB

Please car pool to save congestion on the street. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Bev G or Leslie L.



*Dynamic Women Can Make a Difference*