



# cfuw fcfd

## BRANTFORD

for all women

April, 2025



Tuesday, April 22, 2025



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### Executive Team: President's Letter

It is the best of times. It is the worst of times.

As I considered what to share about our wonderful Club for March it seemed like avoidance not to acknowledge the increasing attacks against our country this past month and the dark implications they have for our economy and the effects on all of us, our families, and our community.

There is fear and anxiety at all levels of society as we speculate and wonder what these changes mean for our immediate and long-term future. It is no wonder that the experts are telling us that fear has become a daily reality for so many people. So arguably one can say, "It is the worst of times...". It is a time of constant uncertainty which can foster fear and fear can foster depression and depression can foster inaction and stagnancy – Don't look, don't move, and maybe it will go away...

But I am writing to a group of informed, engaged, and savvy women. And so I can with confidence say, "It is also the best of times...".

While we watch unprecedented geo-political and global economic changes taking place we could feel helpless – but we do not. Each day is a gift – a gift of life. And each day I know that small groups of you gather to walk or bike the trails and catch up on life. You support each other through life's challenges, and marvel at the signs of new life along the trail as spring reminds us of new birth. New birth always brings hope.

You gather together in kitchens, around dining room tables, and in restaurants. These occasions for sharing recipes, and food, and drink provide places where friendships are formed and relationships deepen. Relationships that will withstand the challenges of life as we care for and support each other.

You commit to reading and researching global and local issues of importance through thoughtful dialogue and discussion. You seek knowledge and truth, you challenge assumptions and seek viable solutions through deeper understanding. In a time when truth is a casualty, your sharp and discerning minds bring clarity and understanding to social and global issues.

You gather in homes to review and dig deeper into the books you have read over the month. You delve into the mind of the

author and have lively discussions about plots, subplots, themes, quality of writing, and character development. A few 'heavy' topics have caused us to think more deeply about global politics, systemic social issues, and endemic injustice. In some instances we even had to explore our own prejudices and biases.

On other occasions you gather for games or outings that bring you together to relax, have fun, and simply enjoy each other. More recently we have had a renewed energy to commit to Advocacy, one of our original *raison d'être*s. It will be exciting to see what issues and ideas will emerge.

So yes - It is the best of times.

We love our Club and we love our country. So I encourage all of us to carry hope and kindness into "tomorrow", with a strong sense of who we are as Canadians and as CFUW members. We are not helpless. We have power. We can act. We can keep buying Canadian – and we can VOTE!

Thank you for the privilege of serving as President of the Month.

Linda Tripp



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Below you will find attached your 2025-2026 membership renewal form, and the Interest group form. You will need to print off these forms and return them following the instructions. Check your membership list for addresses or your email from CFUW Brantford for full contact details.

### **MEMBERSHIP FORM**

#### **OPTIONS TO RETURN:**

- 1) In person at a General Meeting. **Note the change in venue** to McCleister's Funeral Home at 495 Park Rd N.
- 2) Drop off in mailbox at Barb S's place.
- 3) Mail to Barb S.
- 4) I will happily pick up if necessary.

### **INTEREST GROUP FORM**

#### **OPTIONS TO RETURN:**

- 1) Return at General Meeting
- 2) Mail to Roma M.

### **PAYMENTS**

#### **OPTIONS TO RETURN:**

- 1) e-transfer to [cfuwbrantfordfin@gmail.com](mailto:cfuwbrantfordfin@gmail.com)
- 2) by Cheque payable to CFUW Brantford and return to:

Maria Timmons

\*\*\* If you pay your fees + banquet ticket (70.00) in one transaction, the club will save on bank charges, so please consider this option if you are able. If you do, simply add a note either on the cheque or e-transfer so Maria knows it is for both items..

Thanks, Barb Scott, Membership Chair.

## **CFUW INTEREST GROUPS 2025-26**

Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

.....  
Please put an [X] beside your choice, even if you are a long-standing member of the group.

BIKING – Seasonal days and times TBD by group

BOOK CLUB/LUNCH – 2<sup>ND</sup> Monday – 1:00 at Symposium

BOOK CLUB - 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday - 7:00 pm

BOOK CLUB - 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday - 7:00 pm

BRIDGE 1<sup>st</sup> Monday 1:00 currently playing on Trickster

CREATIVE COOKERY -3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday – 6:00pm

DAY TRIPPERS – arranged as events available

DINING OUT – random lunch or dinner dates and times and locations

FOOD WITH THOUGHT – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – 6:00

GAMES – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday 1:30-3:30 @United Way offices

GOLF – 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday Time TBD, Needs organizer.

MAHJONGG - 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays, 1-3pm - Instruction available

MEMOIR WRITING – New group – times TBD

WALKING GROUP -each Tuesday – 9:30 start

WORLD AWARENESS – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday – 9:30am

Please complete The Interest Group form for 2025-26 even if you are a long-time member and give it to Roma Makkreel



# CFUW BRANTFORD MEMBERSHIP FORM MAY 1, 2025 - APRIL 30, 2026

## Member Information

Name			Emergency Contact Name/Tel #	
Mailing Address				
with Postal Code				
Home Phone #		Cell #		
email				
Personal Interests				

## Membership Fees 2025- 2026

General Membership Fee	\$106.00
Scholarship Portion	\$15.00
Dues Payable	\$ 121.00
Optional Donation to Scholarship	

**Total Remitted:**

Please return completed form to:  
**Barbara Scott**

Please send payment to:  
**Maria Timmons**

e-transfer (preferred) to:  
[cfuwbrantfordfin@gmail.com](mailto:cfuwbrantfordfin@gmail.com)

or  
Make Cheques Payable to:  
CFUW Brantford

## 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:	
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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 GENERAL MEETING.



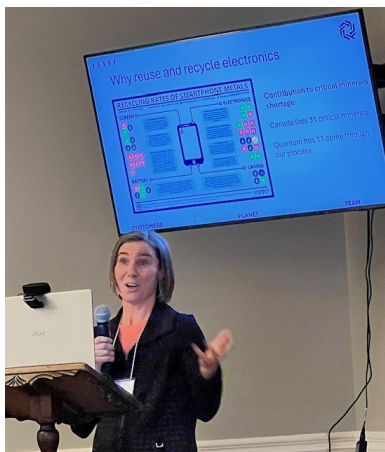


## Scholarship

I hope you have promoted our Scholarship Award A with your friends, neighbours and family. The application deadline is May 9<sup>th</sup> and application forms are available on the CFUW website. High schools have been reminded about the deadline and they will get a second notice later this month. If you have not submitted your CFUW membership form, remember that tax receipts are now issued for \$20.00. Your membership requires only \$15.00, so you may want to donate a little extra. The scholarship committee only sees totals but we love to hear that the club continues to have generous donors. Karen I.

## March General Meeting

Our first general meeting at McCleister's Funeral Home was a new beginning as we adjusted to the new surroundings and our technology team began to work out the requirements for in-person and Zoom meetings in the new setting.



Our speaker, Stephanie McLarty, opened our eyes to the options for recycling our outdated electronics. Thank you to our program committee for inviting a speaker to help us think about our power to help the planet by recycling.

Sandra H.

## 2025 Resolutions - National and Ontario Council Report

On Tuesday March 25, 2025 a group comprising of Teddy B., Carol K., Barbara M., Norah O., Dian K. and Betsy C. met to discuss the Ontario Council and National resolutions.

Recommendations made by the group were shared and voted on at the March general meeting.

**CFUW Brantford will support the following resolutions:**

### National:

1. Addressing Period Poverty and Menstrual Inequity in Canada
2. Expanding Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services
3. Archiving Select CFUW Adopted Resolutions
4. Housing as a Human Right and Social Good

### Ontario:

1. Funding for Post-Secondary Education in Ontario
2. The Establishment of a Seniors' Advocate

Betsy C.

For Earth Day 2025, the theme is "Our Power, Our Planet™". This powerful campaign emphasizes our collective responsibility in transitioning to renewable energy sources and creating a sustainable future. The goal is ambitious yet crucial: to triple renewable energy generation globally by 2030.



CFUW Brantford (Like Us!)

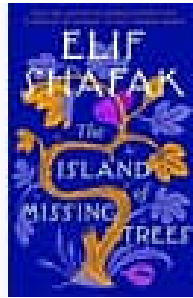


@CFUWBrantford



# Interest Groups

**Thursday Book Club:** On April 3 the Thursday Book Club discussed the book called *The Island of Missing Trees* by Elif Shafak. The book takes place mostly in Cyprus, a country divided by a line drawn across the middle separating the Greeks and the Turks. This is a love story of two teenagers, one Greek and one Turkish.



The author brilliantly weaves this love story through the turbulent history of Cyprus. A story of love, division, history, and eco-consciousness. Brilliantly written. Hazel R.

## Monday Book Group:



*Lady Tan's Circle of Women* by Lisa See was the book discussed. The group agreed that the novel was captivating in telling the story of a woman Doctor in 15th Century China. Painstakingly researched it tells the story of the real Dr. Tan Yunxian who was born into the privileged and secluded life of a woman of her time. The author was able to build the story after researching "Miscellaneous Records of a Female Doctor" written by Dr.

Tan. Although bound by the traditions and restrictions of her class Dr. Tan was able to learn to diagnose and treat patients from her grandparents, also doctors, and a midwife who was her childhood friend who saw and shared the outside world with her. She was able through patience, intrigue and some deception to diagnose and treat the women of her own household and eventually other women while dealing with her own personal familial trials. This historical novel celebrates women's struggles, strengths and cherished friendships. Linda S.

**Dining Out Group:** The March dining experience took the group to West Plains Bistro in Burlington, a restaurant that never fails to delight the Dining out Group thanks to their great food, service and ambiance. In April, our group will dine at Quatrefoil in Dundas — and enjoy the outstanding menu that earned them a 'nod' from Michelin. Lin F.



## Biking

The weather is cool, but it is time to dust off the bike, oil down the chain, and check the brakes. Biking will start in May with the warmer weather. We usually bike the Brantford loop, and various trails on alternate weeks. This will be before the new interest lists are published. Therefore, if you are new to the biking group, contact Karen to get on the e-mail list. Karen I.

**Mahjong:** On April 4, our Mah Jongg group presented Arlene Cass with a thank you bouquet of tulips. She has been generous and patient with our group. Enjoyable, fun and a good learning experience. Norah O.



## Cambridge CFUW Breakfast:

A group of our members attended the CFUW Cambridge breakfast fundraiser in March. Members are from left, Bev G., Dian K., front row, Lynne D., Teddy B., and Anne M. Dian K.



BRANTFORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA BOOK FAIR COMMITTEE

**2025 BOOK FAIR**

SINCE 1964

LARGEST SECOND HAND BOOK SALE IN ONTARIO

**APRIL 23, 24, 25 & 26**

9:30 AM to 8:00 PM • SATURDAY til 3:00 PM

**ONE MARKET, BRANTFORD**

(BETWEEN DALHOUSIE AND COLBORNE)



Gently used  
BOOKS • MUSIC • PUZZLES  
VINYL • CDS & DVDS • COOKERY  
CRAFTS • CHILDREN  
TRAVEL • HISTORY

Accepting cash, cheques, debit, and credit.

**BOOK DROP OFF: SAT., MARCH 15  
to THUR., APRIL 17 inclusive:**

MONDAY to SATURDAY  
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Drop off at Dalhousie St.

NOT ACCEPTING

National Geographics, Encyclopedias, Readers Digest,  
Discards, Old Text Books, VHS Tapes, Cassettes, Magazines

**INFORMATION**  
226-552-6685

[brantfordsymphony.ca/event/2025-bso-book-fair](http://brantfordsymphony.ca/event/2025-bso-book-fair)

BRANTFORD  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA BSO



CFUW Brantford (Like Us!)

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@CFUWBrantford

## 2024–2025 EXECUTIVE

### PRESIDENT IN NAME:

- Barbara Melara

### PAST PRESIDENT:

- Janet Kempster

### ROTATING PRESIDENTIAL TEAM:

- Anne Martin & Teddy Buzek—June to August,
- Elizabeth Capitano— September
- Pat Clemons—October
- Cookie Hadley— November
- Maria Timmons—December, January
- Catherine Sawyer- February
- Linda Tripp—March
- Dian Kuzyk—April
- Barbara Melara—May

### SECRETARY:

Penelope Jeffery / Arlene Cass

**TREASURER:** Maria Timmons

### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

- Communications:** Sandra Hughes
- Interest Groups:** Roma Makkreel
- Membership:** Barb Scott
- Program:** Colette Wilson
- Scholarship:** Karen Innes
- Social:** Lynne Duncombe

## Member News

Wishes for a speedy recovery from their hip surgeries to Jane B. and Colleen P.



Due to her health, Christine Johnson has not been a member for some years. However, she was a member for many years. I was wondering if the club could

acknowledge her passing, as not everyone gets the Expositor. Christine passed on March 31st, 2025 at the age of 94. Bev G.

## AGM and Banquet

The Social Committee found the transition to McCleister Funeral Home a positive experience and enjoyed setting up the tea and treats in the spacious and comfortable meeting room.

**Our next major event is the banquet on May 28<sup>th</sup> at Walter Gretzky Golf Club.**

This will be a very special occasion celebrating the 80<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF CFUW BRANTFORD. This year's program will feature Elizabeth Renzetti a well-known journalist, author and feminist speaking on Current Women's Issues. Members and guests will be welcomed at the golf club at 5 pm. The AGM will begin at 5:30 followed by dinner at 6:30.

Please note that the April General meeting will be our last in person meeting before the AGM. Members who wish to pay the banquet fee using cash or cheque should do so at this meeting. All payments for the banquet **must** be made by **May 7<sup>th</sup>** as requested by the golf club's event coordinator.

Members will be able to pay the \$ 70.00 banquet fee using cash or a cheque at the April 23<sup>rd</sup> general meeting. E-transfers should be made out to cfuwbrantfordfin@gmail.com. Please consider using one transaction of \$191.00 to pay for membership and banquet fees in order to save on banking costs.

If you are using cheque or e-transfer remember to note what the money is allocated for and if there are any dietary requirements.

**TOGETHER LET'S MAKE THIS AN EVENT TO REMEMBER!**

Lynne D.



## April 23 General Meeting



**Location:** McCleister Funeral Home at 495 Park Road North and by Zoom

**Time:** Meetings will start at 7:00 pm sharp, and finish by 8:55. Doors will be open at 6:30 for socializing.

**Speaker:** Brian Wood knows telephones! After more than 36 years as curator of the Bell Homestead Historic Site, there is not much that he doesn't know about the Alexander Graham Bell invention and its importance to the world. He has shepherded restoration of the Bell Homestead to its original 1981 state, and has raised the profile of the site so that it is one of Canada's important museums, and a source of pride for residents of Brantford and Brant County. Brian will show and tell all about the development of telephones from the very early versions to today's advanced cell phones. Please join us for this fascinating presentation. Colette W.

