

March 2022



Message from the President. . .

Welcome to March, the fickle month. Officially it will be spring in March, and every year I believe the “end of winter” hype, only to be surprised by freezing rain, blowing snow and icy winds. I think we all carry that hope for balmy sunny days no matter what our previous experience should tell us!

March is also the month that we always discuss and vote as a club on CFUW National Resolutions. These Resolutions are then presented for approval at the National Annual General Meeting and Policy sessions. If they are approved by the membership, they become part of CFUW Policy.

Given the tumultuous times around us it's more important than ever as an organization that we have a clear direction to take action to change and support the world we live in. This year the CFUW Advocacy Committee has undertaken an important review of the policy book to make it more relevant. The result of this review is two resolutions that propose removing outdated policies.

I hope that many of you will join our club's discussion. Personally, I find this meeting very interesting, and I always learn something new.

See you all virtually on March 10.

Jane



"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."

Mother Teresa

Next General Meeting

Thursday,
March 10th, 2022

“Resolutions”



Speaker:

**No speaker for this month.
We will be discussing and
voting on CFUW
resolutions.**

Meeting Location:

**This meeting will be a
virtual meeting via Zoom.
Connection details will be
sent out via email closer
to the meeting date.**

Meeting Time: 7:00 p.m.

*Business meeting begins at 7 pm., followed by member social time (time permitting).
Speaker begins at 7:50*

**Connect from the comfort
of your home!**

**Invite a friend & introduce
them to the fun and
friendship of CFUW!**

Dates and Data

CFUW Websites:

Main website: <http://www.cfuw.org>

Ontario Council Website: www.cfuwontcouncil.org

CFUW on Facebook

CFUW has a Facebook group! If you are a Facebook user you can join the group by searching for Canadian Federation of University Women, or visit <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2232370205>

Ajax-Pickering on Facebook:

Our club now has its own Facebook page. You do not have to have a Facebook account to view this page. Simply Google Ajax-Pickering CFUW Facebook page or click on the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/CFUWAjaxPickering?ref=stream>

Ajax-Pickering on Twitter: Use @CFUWajax

The Ontario Council newsletter, *Dates and Data*, is available on-line on the Ontario Council website. *The Communicator* newsletter is available on-line on the main website.

Ontario Council Standing Committee Meetings

Ontario Council Standing Committees in Legislation, Education, and Status of Women and Human Rights were developed to keep members aware of current issues in Ontario. The Committees meet three times a year - in October, November, and February - for a day with speakers, workshops and discussion. All Club members are invited to attend these meetings.

Next Meeting: Standing committee meetings have finished for this club year. They will resume in the fall.



Family welcomed to Pickering!

CFUW Ajax-Pickering has welcomed and helped to settle a family of Afghan refugees in our community. Members of CFUW Southport and CFUW North Toronto let us know that a family of nationally sponsored refugees was arriving and our club members jumped into action.

The family arrived after harrowing experiences fleeing Afghanistan, and then sheltering temporarily in Qatar, Albania and Manitoba. Because of her work empowering women, the mother of the family was especially in danger and the family had to leave Afghanistan very quickly.

Club members rallied together with their friends and families to quickly furnish their home, provide them with food, settlement case workers, school information and shopping trips in their first week. They are being shown around the community including how to get to the mosque, employment centre and the immigrant welcome centre. Trips to the park and the beach have been enjoyed as well. Most importantly, friendships are being developed as we get to know each other.

If you would like more information or would like to be part of the committee to support this family, message Caroline.

Minutes of General Meeting, via Zoom, Thursday, February 10th, 2022

Jane - Welcome everyone and Land Acknowledgement. Minutes from November meeting were approved. Ontario Council and National newsletters have been sent to all with various interesting issues and discussion groups.

Report of Officers

Program - Dale - next month there will be no speaker as March is the annual resolutions session. April's speaker will be Dale's friend from the Zoo, on the nutrition for the animals. May's speaker will be a woman working on a project for the homeless in Toronto. Dale is looking for any ideas for future meetings next year.

Treasurer - Erica advises - Refund cheque from CFUW National was received, \$564.00 for GWI fees, that results in current balance of \$8,989.78. She will be sending in approximately \$1,600 for dues in the end of March bringing the total down to about \$7,400. In addition, there will be three cheques to write for speakers until the end of the year. As such, there will be funding to send delegates to future events if required.

Membership - Donna - 26 paid members. Donna will connect her to an additional interested party, who is not on the call this evening.

Scholarships - Dorothy - Ajax High School contacted Dorothy asking if we would be participating in scholarships this year. No contacts from other schools

Fundraising - Louise not on call - Jane advises that there is likely no future news on that front.

Newsletter & Website - Sandy thanks to the many recent contributors. No further news or changes on the website and newsletter deadline is the end of February

Advocacy - Marcy - no members meeting last month but they saw an amazing presentation by North Toronto club. Caroline Taylor spoke on Why Your Grandchildren Are Worried About Climate Change. Also she was aware of a recent recommendation that has been presented to legislation regarding accepting less public input/interference, which they will be following. (A professor from York, Environment & Urban studies was appalled by this recommendation.)

Interest Groups

Book club - on the 4th Thursday of each month - current book - The Shadows of the Work House hosted by Erica

Walk and Talk - continues weekly. Please note that all abilities are welcome.

Card group - there have been 6 members meeting on Mondays at 7pm. All welcome to join.

Lunch group - Sandy advises that we will meet at Portly Piper on the Thursday, 17th. Email will follow to confirm who will attend. Future schedule will be determined at the inaugural meeting.

Sandy introduced our speaker Rochelle Byrne, who is the daughter-in-law of Sandy's co-worker. Graduated with Ecosystem Management degree from Sir Sanford Fleming College, and an Environmental Studies degree from Athabaska University. After some work experience at the Peterborough Zoo, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, teaching at Fleming College, she started her Not-for-profit group in 2014, A Greener Future, to bring attention to environmental issues around the lake. To specifically bring attention to plastic pollution in Lake Ontario, she did a Stand Up Paddleboard trip of 430 km along the shoreline, over 18 days in 2020.

Greener Future is an environmental organization with regards to impact pollution by taking action and education. She had a goal of picking up 1 million pieces of litter that took 4 years. The organization has 2 main programs, Love Your Lakes, originally for Lake Ontario but has recently expanded to Lakes Huron and Erie. The Butt Blitz is for picking up the toxic butts that are dropped all over and can cause harm to all through our drinking water. The program has been recognized as the best program in the world and often cited by Unsmoked Canada Cleanup (a Rothmans Benson & Hedges program). Currently there have been 3.2 million pieces of litter picked up to date with 1.5 million pieces last year alone.

(minutes, cont'd on page 4)

(minutes, cont'd from page 3)

They've adapted their programs to work with pandemic guidelines. There are about 500 volunteers, with increasing numbers. Two full time staff and expecting to add a couple of additional people to be hired for the busy season of Spring & Summer. There are 25 core volunteers.

Lake Ontario is the most polluted lake because of the highest population along its shoreline as well as the fact that the other great lakes flow into Lake Ontario. A Greener Future has made connections with businesses, big and small, in the groups' participation of litter pickup in their local areas. Schools have also participated in these cleanups.

During her paddle boarding she picked up litter and was able to see other pollution well away from shore that wouldn't have been seen from the shore. The duration of actual paddling per day, depending on the weather, was 3 to 11 hours, for a total of 92 hours. There were A Greener Future team members travelling along the shore with her, who were also picking up litter. She had some nature encounters, for instance, a loon swimming under her board and a colony of 50,000 cormorants in Tommy Thompson Park that flew around her on their way for a morning's feed.

A recap of her journey, which was supposed to be 10 minutes, became a documentary of 45 minutes: Shoreline, and is available for free viewing, on A Greener Future's website.

(<https://www.agreenerfuture.ca/shoreline>)

Some of the debris that was picked up along the way include: tennis balls, shingles, shot gun shell casings, plastics of all description (bottle caps, straws, personal hygiene items, cigar tips, Lego and other plastic toys), and plastic shipping tags from the 1980's. Sewage bypasses and overflows dump toilet waste into the lake unfiltered. More found pollution was lots of foam, broken off from old dock floats, coolers, takeout food containers, styrofoam cups and construction materials.

Nurdles, which are small plastics pellets used by manufacturers that recycle plastics into new products, are easily spilled and pollute the shores. These have to be sifted out of beach sand and coastal dirt to be collected. The birds and fish eat these bits to fill their stomachs but are not getting any nutrition and can't be passed through their digestive systems, so the creatures end up dying. The longer the nurdles are in the water, the more toxic they become due to the fact that they are made of oil which attract toxins. There will be nurdles polluting the lakes for years to come because of train carloads of them being dumped into Lake Superior during a train derailment in 2008.

Simple Actions to take for protecting the environment:

- Keep learning by watching documentaries, doing internet research and meeting new people to discuss the issues.
- Take part by signing up for a cleanup, go on a nature walk and pick up litter when you see it, bring your own bag to the grocery store.
- Support an environmental cause by making a donation or providing skills at their events.

<https://www.agreenerfuture.ca/volunteer>



"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it."

Robert Swan

News from the Oshawa Club

Oshawa CFUW invites us to their March virtual general meeting on Wednesday, March 9th at 7 PM. The topic is "Happily Ever Older".

Guests are welcome to request the Zoom link by emailing cfuw.oshawa@gmail.com. The link will be issued a day or two before the meeting.

Jone Webster, Oshawa Club

March Virtual General Meeting

"Happily Ever Older"

Revolutionary Approaches to Long-Term Care with Moira Welsh, *Toronto Star* Reporter & Author



Moira will be discussing the work of the homes in Europe and North America that she visited: their philosophies, the people leading change, and the desire for new ideas in community living.

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 - 7:00 P.M.

Zoom Link will be emailed to club members.

Guests welcome. Email your request for a Zoom Link to cfuw.oshawa@gmail.com

CFUW Oshawa and District
cfuw.oshawa@gmail.com
www.cfuwoshawaanddistrict.com



Did you know. . . ?

The Oshawa Club puts out an interesting and informative newsletter every month. To access their newsletters, click here: <http://www.cfuwoshawaanddistrict.com/newsletters.html>

Interest Groups

Get involved—get connected!! Join an interest group!

Book Club

Book Club is open to all, and all are welcome!

The March Book Club meeting will be held via Zoom on **Thursday, March 24th**, hosted by Louise Z. The book is ***This is How it Always Is***, by Laurie Frankel. Please contact Louise to confirm attendance. Zoom details will be provided closer to the meeting date.

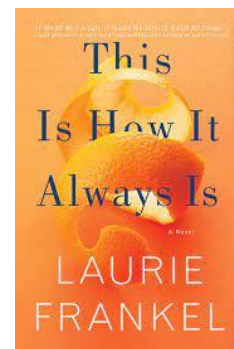
“This is Claude. He’s five years old, the youngest of five brothers, and loves peanut butter sandwiches. He also loves wearing a dress, and dreams of being a princess.

When he grows up, Claude says, he wants to be a girl.

Rosie and Penn want Claude to be whoever Claude wants to be. They’re just not sure they’re ready to share that with the world. Soon the entire family is keeping Claude’s secret. Until one day it explodes.

This Is How It Always Is is a novel about revelations, transformations, fairy tales, and family. And it’s about the ways this is how it always is: Change is always hard and miraculous and hard again, parenting is always a leap into the unknown with crossed fingers and full hearts, children grow but not always according to plan. And families with secrets don’t get to keep them forever.”

(Source: Goodreads synopsis)



CFUW Ajax-Pickering Walk and Talk

Our goal is to enjoy some fitness at local walking trails while connecting with other club members. Walk and Talk will continue throughout the year. If anyone has a time preference or suggestions for walking locations, please let Jane C. know. We meet **every Wednesday**. The time may be adjusted depending on weather. Details will be confirmed via email the week of the walk. Contact Jane if you wish to be added to the email contact list for this group and receive regular updates on activities.



Online Cards

We have a small, active group of avid card players and we’re always looking for more! A variety of card games such as Euchre, Oh Hell, Hearts, Spades and 500 are played online every Monday night at 6:30. Contact Cathy M. for more information if you’re interested in joining this group.



Ladies Lunch Outing Group

We have decided to meet for a social lunch **every third Thursday of the month** (unless there needs to be a change). Next month we will be celebrating St. Patrick’s Day at **Finn McCool’s** on **March 17th at 12:00**. I have made a tentative reservation and will be sending out a reminder closer to the date.

Erica



This Month's Meeting - Resolutions

Please join us at this important meeting to be part of the discussions and make a difference.

Proposed Resolutions for August 2022 Policy Session

1. Archiving Selected Policies I – CFUW Advocacy Committee

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Clubs support the removal of the following policies from the current online CFUW Policy Book:

1. Education - Literacy – 1991
2. Education - Nutrition – 1980
3. Education - Learning Disabilities – 1978
4. Education - Volunteer Help – 1972
5. Education - Commonwealth Scholarships – 1968
6. Education - Educational Television - 1967
7. Education - Continuing Education and Women - 1965
8. Employment Equity - Armed Forces and Women - 1987
9. Employment Equity – Affirmative Action and Human Rights Legislation - 1975
10. Employment Equity – Women Working at Universities and Other Educational Institutions - 1973
11. Environment - Canada's Ratification of the Kyoto Protocol – 2002
12. Environment - Global Warming – 1990
13. Environment - Combatting Transboundary Pollution – 1988
14. Environment - Ecological and Environmental Problems – Education – 1972
15. Environment - Pollution – 1970
16. Government - National Unity – 1991
17. Government - Constitution Amendment (Meech Lake Accord) – 1987
18. Government - Canada Elections Act – 1980
19. Government - Location of Indochinese Refugees in Canadian Communities – 1979
20. Government - Pension for MPs – 1973
21. Government - Human Rights Commission – 1973
22. Government - Status of Women Council: Federal – Timetable – 1972

2. Archiving Selected Policies II – CFUW Advocacy Committee

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Clubs support the removal of the following policies from the current online CFUW Policy Book:

1. Child Care and Early Learning – Child Care – National Legislation -1972
2. Children – Rights of the Child - 1991
3. Culture, Heritage and Information – Translations of Modern Canadian Writings – 1964
4. Finance and Pensions – A Motion to Rescind the 1985 Coquitlam B.C. Pension Resolution - 2014
5. Finance and Pensions – Survivor Benefits - 1978
6. Health – Birth Planning – Implementation of UN Resolution 16 1974 -1976
7. Health – Birth Planning - 1976
8. Health – Drug Abuse - 1976
9. Health – Abortion – 1975
10. Health Care System – Health Care Practitioners and Nursing Services as an Insured Service – 1990
11. Health Care System – Health Insurance Coverage - 1978
12. Indigenous Issues – Revision Committee of the Indian Act – 1978
13. Indigenous Issues – Statement of the Government of Canada on Indian Policy 1969 - 1970

(resolutions, cont'd on page 8)

(resolutions, cont'd from page 7)

14. Justice and Legal System – Marriage Laws - 1964
15. Peace, Security and Trade – Defence White Paper – 1988
16. United Nations - A High-Level Women's Agency for the UN – 2007
17. United Nations - Millennium Development Goals – 2005
18. United Nations – UN Decade for Women – 1985
19. United Nations – Domicile of Married Women – 1967
20. Violence and Exploitation - Wife Assault Victims – 1992
21. Violence and Exploitation - Censorship – 1985
22. Violence and Exploitation - Regulation of Pornography – 1982

3. Strengthening Employment Equity - CFUW Nelson & District

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge the Government of Canada to:

1. Update and expand the designated equity-seeking groups in the *Employment Equity Act* to reflect current Canadian demographics and experiences of discrimination;
2. Provide designated equity-deserving groups with meaningful representation and participation in all governing and decision-making bodies related to the *Employment Equity Act* and *Pay Equity Act*;
3. Update and apply Designated Group policy and implementation guidelines for the *Employment Equity Act*. (Riddle & Service Growth Consultants, 1994)

RESOLVED, That CFUW urge the federal, provincial and territorial governments of Canada to ensure that all *Labour Market Transfer Agreements* on training and work require adherence to the *Pay Equity Act* and *Employment Equity Act* implementation for designated equity-deserving groups, regardless of an individual's Employment Insurance status.

RESOLVED, That CFUW urge the federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments of Canada to strengthen the implementation of the Pay Equity Act and the Employment Equity Act by:

1. Eliminating exemptions for major employers;
2. Ensuring employment eligibility includes "qualifiable with training";
3. Working with all labour market partners to decrease discrimination and increase training and workforce participation of designated equity-deserving groups.

4. Tightening Bail Laws to Protect Victims of Intimate Partner Violence – UWC North York

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge the federal government of Canada to strengthen the Criminal Code to protect victims of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) by:

- a) Limiting bail to first time IPV offenders who have not violated any previous bail conditions and who have not committed a weapons-related offence.
- b) Making it a legal duty to inform victims automatically in a timely manner when an offender is released on bail, and about the conditions of release.

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women urge the federal, provincial and municipal governments and territories of Canada to work collaboratively to provide adequate funding for the mandatory attendance of IPV offenders at violence prevention programs in order to reduce repeat offences.

5. Violence against Women in Politics – CFUW Oakville

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge all levels of government to develop and implement action plans to end Violence Against Women in Politics (VAW-P) including but not limited to:

1. A national inquiry into the root causes of violence against women in politics with the goal of developing actions and implementing plans to address the issues identified;
2. A broad regulatory framework for Social Media companies to ensure they address the online increase of violence against women in politics;

Mandated public stands by political parties across Canada against violence and harassment of women in politics.

(resolutions, cont'd on page 9)

(resolutions, cont'd from page 8)

6. A Clean, Healthy & Sustainable Environment is a Human Right – CFUW Headwaters

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments to commit to the tenets of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) Resolution 48/13 that “**A Clean, Healthy, and Sustainable Environment is a Human Right**” in legislation, regulatory frameworks, and programs including, but not limited to:

- Pollution Prevention;
- Climate Change Mitigation; and
- Nature Conservation.

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urges federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments, and school boards, to develop programming to inform all Canadians of the new human right to “**A Clean, Healthy, and Sustainable Environment** as described in UN Resolution 48/13.

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urges the Government of Canada to advocate and vote for a similar resolution at the United Nations General Assembly.

Upcoming CFUW Events of Interest

International Women’s Day Event with the Afghan Women’s Centre of Montreal & CFUW

Mon. March 7, 11am-1pm EST



To celebrate International Women's Day, CFUW is co-sponsoring the Afghan Women's Centre of Montreal virtual conference on **Monday, March 7th from 11am to 1pm EST**. Collectively, we will learn about the current crisis in Afghanistan as well as identify and implement actions that will alleviate the increasingly precarious plight of Afghan women. Not only will we be joined by influential guest-speakers from across the world, we will also be honoured by the testimonies of witnesses currently living in Afghanistan. This event is FREE to all with translation available in English, French, and Dari. Share widely!

Click here to register:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0h9rvSSETIiulc3qMpof8g?_x_zm_rtaid=zTv4xn9jQkyrlx4Amm29Pw.1646364235038.72b984d9c9fd81d07d7f589d04943d00&_x_zm_rhtaid=751

March 8 @ 10 a.m. CFUW Aurora/Newmarket 11th Annual IWD Event

Canadian women helping women from Afghanistan speak on International Women's Day

This year's 11th annual event will include a panel presentation about the plight and courage of Afghan women and how Canadian women can help. The panel includes Fran Harding, CFUW Ottawa and member of University Women Helping Afghan Women, Roya Gharji, who immigrated to Canada to study at the University of Ottawa, and her sister Najiba Sanjar, who left Afghanistan in September and now lives in Sweden. All three speakers will share their insights so our members and the community may learn more about how we can be advocates for change. All are welcome to attend this virtual presentation. To register, contact CFUW Aurora/Newmarket at cfuw.info@gmail.com

March 8 CFUW Cambridge 10th Annual IWD Breakfast

Guest Speaker: Dr. Winnie Lee

Dr. Lee is currently the Interim Chief of Staff at Cambridge Memorial Hospital and a practicing Radiologist. She is a Clinical Professor, a wife, mother, daughter and proud resident of Cambridge. Dr. Lee is a physician and community leader. She holds undergraduate and master's degrees as well as an M.D. with a specialization in Radiology. She has shared her expertise throughout the pandemic in her role at CMH and in the community. Dr. Lee's journey as a young woman entering university, medicine, clinical practice and now hospital administration will inspire us all.

The link to view the IWD Breakfast will be posted on the [CFUW Cambridge website](#) on March 8th. The event will be available to view for a number of days.

March 8 @ 1 p.m. UWC Toronto - IWD ZOOM Event

UWC Toronto is delighted that Katherine Govier will be speaking at their IWD ZOOM event on March 8th at 1 p.m. Katherine is a novelist and an activist. She has published 10 novels, three collections of short stories, and two collections of travel writing. She has served on the boards of the Toronto Arts Council and the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, and was made a member of the Order of Canada in 2019.

Katherine is also the founder of The Shoe Project. The project mission is to provide programs, courses, workshops and seminars to immigrant women and refugees to develop their English writing and speaking skills.

You may register for this event by contacting info@uwctoronto.ca.

March 11 to 13 CFUW Aurora/Newmarket – LUNAFEST

JOIN US AT THE MOVIES – March 11 to 13! CFUW Aurora/Newmarket and the Soroptimists of York Region present LUNAFEST, films by and about women. The 2022 Season features eight short films with a total running time of 80 minutes. The stories reflect the diverse perspectives of the filmmakers and their subjects. NOTE: Some may contain content that is not suitable for children.

Click here for a list of films and a short synopsis of each: <https://www.lunafest.org/filmmakers>

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students, plus a service charge of \$2.05 per ticket. You may also purchase a ticket as a gift for a friend.

Click here to purchase a ticket for your front row seat:
<https://www.lunafest.org/screenings/virtual-york-region-on-031122>

Proceeds will support CFUW outreach projects.

Newsletter Deadline

Information for the April newsletter should be submitted by **Friday, April 1, 2022**. Submissions can be mailed, dropped off, or sent via e-mail (sbriell@bell.net). Contact Sandy at 905 428-0003 for further information.

Note from the Editor

The Grapevine is available in both electronic (Adobe PDF) and hardcopy formats, with electronic being the preferred, more cost-efficient format. **If you have recently changed your e-mail address or other contact information**, please let me know so I can update the club membership list and get the newsletter to the right place!

CLUB WEBSITE

<http://www.ajaxcfuw.ca/>

Suggestions for new content or design ideas for our website are always welcome! Please contact Sandy for more information.

Newsletters will be posted on the website so you will be able to access them online if needed.

Facebook/Twitter

We now send out meeting information via these social media platforms to encourage new members. Visit our new **Facebook page** (see page 2 for more info) or connect with us on **Twitter** (@CFUWajax).

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Walk & Talk	3	4	5
6	7 Cards	8 International Women's Day	9 Walk & Talk	10 Club Meeting	11	12
13	14 Cards	15	16 Walk & Talk	17 Ladies Lunch	18	19
20	21 Cards	22	23 Walk & Talk	24 Book Club	25	26
27	28 Cards	29	30 Walk & Talk	31	Apr 1 Newsletter Deadline	