

cfuw THE POWER OF WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER



CFUW OAKVILLE CLUB

YEAR IN REVIEW 2017 - 2018

NEVERTHELESS, SHE PERSISTS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: *Nevertheless, she persists...*

As our organization approaches its 70th year it is appropriate that we ask the question “What holds us together and motivates us?” What is our culture, values, mindset and behaviours that have facilitated this long Club history?

At the beginning and throughout our history the following principles have been at our core:

- To promote the pursuit of knowledge and education;
- To participate actively in public affairs;
- To provide an opportunity for fellowship, support and networking;
- To provide scholarships to women in the community.

Our Mission:

To advocate on issues that affect women, children and the environment.

CFUW:

A National Woman's organization of 8,000 members and 112 Clubs across Canada.

In particular, our focus is on human, economic, legal and professional rights of women and children. We do not do this in a vacuum. Concerns of our first decade, polio outbreaks, cold war and nuclear war threats are not those of this decade, terrorism, the plight of refugees and assaults on democratic institutions.

This year's Club theme was inspired by a political act. Early in 2017, US Senate Leader, Mitch McConnell, justified shutting down Senator

Elizabeth Warren's reading of Coretta Scott King's letter upholding the 'right to vote' with the words, "She was warned. She was given an explanation. Nevertheless, she persisted." As this year's events have unfolded, the #MeToo Movement, Women's Marches, Pay Equity movements, 2017 – 2018 have signaled that it has not been a good year for keeping women silent and in their place. In short, women have persisted.

Life Long Learning... A Core Value

Commitment to learning about, and identifying the factors that will influence our future.

Pursuing Knowledge

This year's Guest Speaker Series took us from construction sites to ammunition factory floors, from workings of the mind to the workings of a world class museum, from our Indigenous Peoples struggle for reconciliation and recognition to the continuing human rights struggles in Afghanistan and Africa, from Canadian women who achieve and deceive to why journalism matters in a world of fake news.

In addition to our speaker series, the Club's thirty-nine interest groups enrich our learning experience while bringing together members for good times and fellowship. When you peruse the range of Interest Groups and the topics pursued you begin to get a feel for the scope of our interests. Our ventures into the digital world and new learning technologies, literature, science and the arts, psychology and spirituality and, yes, into crime novels and forensic science bring us to a better understanding of the world.

Participating in Public Affairs

CFUW members rally around issues of national, provincial and local importance and demonstrate the potential impact for communities across the country. Our 'Issues to Advocacy' Group provides leadership to the Club by identifying issues, sharing knowledge with members and supporters and advocating on behalf of the CFUW's vision and mission.

This year John Oliver MP for Oakville invited a group of CFUW Oakville members to sit down with him and provide their thoughts on the Pharmacare initiative. We are sure that the conversation was lively and informative on both sides.

Provide Scholarships for Women in the Community/Supporting Local Charities

This was the first year that we adjourned our November 2017 general meeting early in order to hold the University Women of Oakville Scholarship Fund (UWOSF) Annual General Meeting. UWOSF continues to be the focus of our fund-raising initiatives. This year, UWOSF distributed \$16,500 to eleven recipients. We also raised monies for “Wellspring” at our Holiday Dinner and “Radius Child and Youth Services” at our Spring Dinner and AGM.

Preserving our History

Under the leadership of our Past President, Linda Love, we embarked on the Archive Project. It has been gratifying to see our Club records, documents and memorabilia come together in a manner that can better serve future generations of Club members. While there is much work yet to be done and many decisions to be made, there is a sense of accomplishment to know we have imposed order and are adhering to archival standards.

In conclusion, thanks to the over 90 women (leadership team, convenors, SWAT team) who make our Club work. Your efforts and dedication are an inspiration. Well done and thanks for your persistence!



Oakville Club Members Serving CFUW Provincially and Federally:

Marlene Bristol, Sandra Thomson, Helen Sami, Teri Shaw, Cheryl Hayles, Myra Willis



From Left to Right: Ginny Boelhower, President; Joan Owen, Dinners; Wanda Chrichton, Co-Chair Programmes, Leigh Meyers, Advertising and Distribution; Donna McCarthy, Co-Chair Dinners; Linda Love, Past President; Carolyn Collings Merk, Fund-raising; Pat Zelonka, Newsletter Editor; Marla Newton, Hospitality, Anne Douglas, Co-Chair Advocacy; Debbie Hoffman, Raine Greenwood, Social Media; Becky Pogany, Honourary President; Bonnie Jensen, Secretary; Joyce See, Membership; Brenda Walker, Co-Chair Interest Groups; Ann Rees, Treasurer; Susan Brant, Status of Women **Missing:** Louise Brownlee, Webmaster; Jane Underwood, Co-Chair Programmes; Gay Loveland, Education, Gloria Tomlinson, Co-Chair Interest Groups, Janis Fournier, Co-Chair Advocacy

HELPING LOCAL WOMEN ACHIEVE THEIR EDUCATIONAL GOALS

Members of the Awards Committee of the University Women of Oakville Scholarship Fund reviewed numerous applications from publicly funded high schools in Oakville and selected 11 well qualified young women as winners. In addition, the Awards Committee has redesigned the application process for the spring of 2018. Each of our 9 high schools will now select a young woman from their school to receive a University/College Entrance Scholarship. The Awards Committee will continue to evaluate applications for all of our named awards.

Awards	#	Amount	Total
Mildred G. Allworth	1	\$2,000	\$2,000
University Entrance	4	\$1,500	\$6,000
Community Service			
Shirley Henderson	1	\$1,500	\$1,500
Jean Malcolm Smith	1	\$1,500	\$1,500
CFUW Oakville	1	\$1,500	\$1,500
Mature Student	1	\$1,500	\$1,500
Performing Arts Award	1	\$1,500	\$1,500
Access Award inspired by Melissa Vassallo	1	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total	11		\$16,500

2017 – 2018 Scholarship Recipients

Leanne Bishop
Nancy Chen
Emily Drummond
Laura Fallowfield
Maisie McLean
Taja McLean
Sabrina Raggiunti
Tiluxi Soosainathar
Natasha Stasiuk



University Women’s Club of Oakville Scholarship Fund Trustees and Awards Committee: Donna Kraayeveld, Chair; Darla Campbell, Vice Chair, Kim Watt, Secretary; Nancy Williams, Treasurer; Sue Stephens, Marla Newton, Beth Poad, Awards Committee (1 vote)

Awards Committee: Marla Newton, Co-Chair; Beth Poad, Co-Chair; Alison Gemmill, Carolyn Menka, Judy Piesticker, Sue Stephens, Margaret Thomas

Ex Officio: Ginny Boelhower, *President CFUW Oakville*; Ann Rees, *Treasurer, CFUW Oakville*

ADVOCATING FOR CHANGE.... IN SUPPORT OF WOMEN, CHILDREN AND THE ENVIRONMENT

WE DIALOGUE WITH POLITICAL LEADERS:

Our Club dialogues with local MPs and MPPs in support of social and environmental issues. Topics discussed:

- ◆ Mental health services
- ◆ National Pharmacare
- ◆ Salt and sugar reduction in processed foods
- ◆ Special education funding
- ◆ Childcare
- ◆ Clean water in Indigenous communities
- ◆ Review of provincial and federal budgets with a gender lens
- ◆ Affordable housing
- ◆ Gender wage gap and living wage

THIS YEAR'S PROPOSED CFUW NATIONAL RESOLUTIONS:

Resolutions are the foundation of our advocacy work. Individual clubs may propose a resolution on a public policy issue. Draft resolutions are then circulated to sister clubs across the country for feedback. Based on this feedback, the initiating club may then amend the resolution and then, forward it for endorsement at either the National or Ontario Council Annual General Meetings. Once ratified, the club can advocate with local politicians. This year's proposed resolutions are:

- **Fair and Non-Discriminatory Management of Refugees and Asylum Seekers**
- **Ending Youth Homelessness**
- **Education to Serve as a Vehicle for Social Justice for Vulnerable Children Living in Closed Religious Communities**
- **Housing for All Through Sustainable and Mixed Urban Development in Ontario**

Issues to Advocacy

The *Issues to Advocacy* Group studies issues of importance to women, children and the environment and leads the Club through the resolution's evaluation process.

This year, the group focused on: Reconciliation with the Indigenous Communities, Early Childhood Education and Daycare spaces, Women in Politics, Employment Equity and Ontario Labour Law.

This group keeps the Club apprised of our advocacy initiatives through articles in our newsletter and General Meeting updates.



Issues to Advocacy

Anne Douglas, Janis Fournier, Susan Brant, Gay Loveland

Advancement of Women Halton



**Advancement Women
Halton**

Janis Fournier

Gay Loveland

CFUW Oakville Club is a founding member of Advancement Women Halton (AWH). AWH is a coalition of over 20 women's groups in Halton and has a mandate to critically analyze issues related to women at the municipal, regional, provincial, national and international levels.

This year's AWH issues and actions were: Sexual Assault Advisory committee, Early Learning and Child Care, Employment Equity and Fair Work Places, Age Friendly Community, Community Safety, Universal Pharmacare, Encouraging Women in Politics, Control of Water, Immigrants in Detention, Indian Act and Human Trafficking.

- Janis Fournier, Gay Loveland

Pharmacare Discussion with John Oliver MP



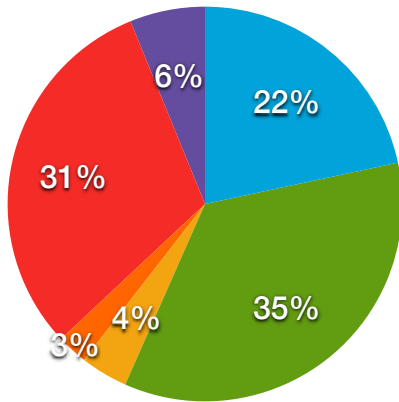
From Left to Right: Jocelyne Kirby; Leanne Siracussa, Ethel Duthie, Mary Saunders, Sue Monaghan, John Oliver MP Oakville, Gay Loveland, Joyce See

Fundraising is our way to support worthy causes in our community

Through fund-raising, the CFUW Oakville and the University Women's Scholarship Fund of Oakville (UWCOSF) contribute to Club scholarships and other worthy causes in the Oakville. This year we donated over \$17,500 to good causes in our community and beyond.

Monies Raised \$16,222*

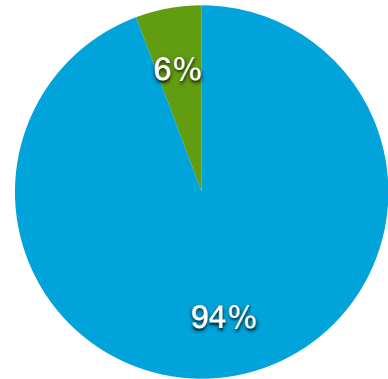
- Member Dues - Donations to UWOSF
- Individual UWOSF Contributions
- Holiday Dinner
- Book Sale
- Miriam White Legacy Donation
- Donation from Melissa Vassallo (Access Award)



*As of April 30, 2018

Donations - \$17,500*

- UWOSF Scholarships Oakville
- CFUW Charitable Trust



*Does not include Member donations at our Holiday and Spring Dinners to Wellspring and Radius Child and Youth Services



Fund-raising Committee:

Linda Williams, Carolyn Collings-Merk, Jean Wettlaufer, Mary Saunders, Donna Kraayeveld



Happy Hikers show their support for Pay Equity Day by wearing red, April 10, 2018

PROGRAMMING IDENTIFIES SPEAKERS AND TOPICS OF INTEREST

Our horizons are broadened and our knowledge deepened through our excellent speaker series. Each General Meeting and Club Dinner is enriched by the insights of our exceptional speakers.

SPEAKER	TOPIC
Jodie-Lynn Waddilove Legal Counsel, Ministry of the Attorney General Ontario	Indigenous Peoples - Discussing Historical and Contemporary Issues
Jovanna Scorsone Aga Khan Museum	Connecting Cultures Through Art at the Aga Khan Museum
Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Professor Emerita, Renison University College	Achievers and Deceivers: Some Notable and Fascinating Canadian Women From Our Past
Sally Armstrong Journalist, Documentary Filmmaker, Author, Human Rights Activist	Women in Afganistan: An Update
Mandy Rennehan Founder and CEO of retail construction firm, Freshco	Women in Trades: Changing the Bottom Line and Redefining the Industry
Jess Kiley, Program Coordinator, Positive Space Network	Positive Space Network/Gender Identity
Vera Nenadovic PhD, Professor, Ryerson University, Founder, BrainsView Inc.	Networks of Consciousness
Barbara Dickson Historian and Author	Bomb Girls: Trading Aprons for Ammo
Diana Swain Senior CBC Investigative Journalist	Why Journalism Matters Now, More than Ever, in a Post-truth Era

HOSPITALITY ENSURES THAT MEETINGS & CLUB EVENTS RUN SMOOTHLY

At every Club General Meeting and other key meetings such as: New Members' Night and the Board Transition meeting, the Hospitality Committee ensures that the meetings are inviting for members and that our speakers' needs are well met.



Programming:
Wanda Crichton,
Jane Underwood

Hospitality:
Marla Newton

Dinners:
Joan Owen, Donna
McCarthy, Val
Irvine, Lyndsey
Thom, Gloria
Tomlinson

HOLIDAY & SPRING DINNERS BRING THE CLUB TOGETHER

In December and May, the Club enjoys a sit-down dinner. These events are celebratory and bring Club members together for an evening of conversation and entertainment.

COMMUNICATING TO MEMBERS, OUR STAKEHOLDERS AND THE OAKVILLE COMMUNITY

Communications binds our Club together and tells our story to the larger Oakville Community and beyond. We use both traditional media and social media. Our 'In Touch' Newsletter is published eight times a year and keeps our members informed on important issues and events. Our Club webpage and facebook page tell the ongoing story of significant events throughout the year.



Newsletter Editor:

Pat Zelonka

Newsletter Advertising / Distribution:

Leigh Mayers

Publicity/Social Media:

Raine Greenwood

Webmaster:

Louise Brownlee

Media	*
In Touch Newsletter - # of issues	8
Tweets	60
Facebook Posts	60

*June 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018



BUILDING A STRONG MEMBER COMMUNITY

Our members share a strong sense of community. To maintain the cohesion, both the Membership and Directory Chairs work together to ensure that our membership records are complete and accurate. Every fall, our membership rolls are built, verified and then published in our members-only Directory.

2017 - 2018 MEMBER STATISTICS
CFUW Oakville Club founded 1949 - 1950

Total Membership	243
Dual Members	3
Student	1
New Members	24
Honorary Members	3
Life Members	3

Membership:

Joyce See

Directory:

Debbie Hoffman



INTEREST GROUPS SUPPORT MEMBERS IN PURSUING THEIR PASSIONS

Our 39 Interest Groups provide a wide range of opportunities for members to both pursue interests in common and build bonds of friendship and support. Our interest groups meet frequently throughout the year and many have a long history. This year, we introduced three new interest groups.

BOOKBEAT, LITERARY LADIES, GREAT BOOKS, THE CRIME and CAFFEINE CLUB & BOOK EXCHANGES

Books we read this year:

Orphan Master's Son.... Dark Money... The Miniaturist... The Wonder... Conclave... The Unmade Bed... The Sympathizer... Exit West... The Break... The Japanese Lover Folly... The Chilbury Ladies Choir... Indian Horse... Olive Kitteridge... The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane.... Promises to Keep... Nightingale... Punishment.... A Gentleman in Moscow... The Improbability of Love... Hillbilly Elegy... The Various Haunts of Men... Black Widow... Crossing Places... The Beekeeper's Apprentice... Entry Island... Maisie Dobbs... The Fall Angel... Do Not Say We Have Nothing... Medicine Walker... Celia's Song.... An Inconvenient Indian... Georgia... Cat's Table... Empty Mansions... Dark Matter... The Elephant Whisperer... Tell... Circling the Sun... The Red Notice... Lab Girl...

Our four geographically organized book exchanges purchase and share books throughout the year.

The Alice Network... A Gentleman in Moscow... H is for Hawk... Everything I Never Told You... The Little Paris Bookshop... Stolen Beauty... My Brilliant Friend... Words Will Break Cement: The Passion of Pussy Riot... To Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch... The Promise of Canada... Georgia ... The Blue Covenant... The Chilean Earthquake... The Art Forger... The Improbability of Love ... Commonwealth... Culture & Anarchy... .Lila... The Churchill Factor....

Our nine Book Clubs enjoy sharing the love of books and reading. Each book provides an opportunity to explore new ideas and the human character.

Interpreter of Maladie... Stalin's Daughter... Man's Search for Meaning... The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper... The Boys in the Boat... The Last Neanderthal... Exit West.... My Brilliant Friend.... The Headmaster's Wager

COUPLES MOVIE NIGHT



We enjoy movies and social time with our spouses and partners.

Movies we viewed were:

Darkest Hour... Greatest Showman... The Post... Dunkirk and many more.

INTEREST GROUPS SUPPORT MEMBERS IN PURSUING THEIR INTERESTS AND PASSIONS

LEARNING THROUGH MOOCs

Our Curriculum:

Philosophy, Science and Religion: Science and Philosophy... Rome in 3 D... A History of Food and Feasting...Philosophy, Science and Religion: Religion and Philosophy... What is a Mind?... Berlioz Symphonie Fantastique... How to Change the World... The World History of Modern Wine...Introduction to Forensic Science

We learn and discuss new ideas and concepts based on Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) provided by universities and colleges around the globe.

HAPPY HIKERS, GOLF, DRAGON BOATING

We take advantage of the recreational options in our region. Our Dragon Boat Team after six weeks of training, joins with other teams in a regatta. Happy Hikers hike the Bruce Trail close to Oakville as well as special outings to new areas. Golf season is always a hit!



WIRED WOMEN

This Year's Topics:

The Glass Fort & Women in Tech...Holding the High Ground (on the Internet)... Favourite App's & Bytes: December Social...Bitcoins Don't Jingle: But Blockchain Forges Ahead... Hobbies + Interests - Boosted by Tech... Blockchain: Beyond BitCoin...Tales Told - Stories Seen: Weblogs

We explore the latest digital technologies and how they will affect the way we live.

MEET THE PRESS

We share and discuss topics of interest in the traditional press. By sharing articles, we widen our access to papers and magazines that we might not normally read.

MEDITATION/MINDFULNESS & PSYCHOLOGY/SPIRITUALITY

We explore the human soul in a friendly atmosphere. Research is shared and discussed.

Themes explored:

The Mindful Path to Self-Compassion... 21 Days to Resilience... Labrynth/Meditation... Power of Intention Reike, A Healing Art... What is Spirituality... Gratitude... Autism Through Art... Assisted Dying/Advance Planning,,, Boundaries... Walking on Eggshells...

Positive Psychology... Values to Guide Our Lives... The Arts and Spirituality... Preservation of Joshua Creek Heritage...

INTEREST GROUPS SUPPORT MEMBERS IN PURSUING THEIR INTERESTS AND PASSIONS

**GOURMET, SOCIAL EVES and
LADIES @ LUNCH:**

**Some of the themes
and cuisines tasted
and enjoyed this
year:**

Red and White 150th
Anniversary BBQ... Olde
Fashioned Thanksgiving....
Potluck and Pumpkins....
Tapas Night... Christmas hors
d'oeuvres... Latin America....
Pot Luck and Speaker - Jane
Edmondson, Costume
Designer... Upcoming Spring Fashions/Accessories -
Karen's Closet

Local Restaurant's Visited:

The Noble Bistro.... Royal Windsor Pub &
Eatery... Jonathan's of Oakville....Colossus....
Jac's Bistro...The Boot... Il Fornello's

*We enjoy
exploring the
exciting
world of food
with good
table
conversation
in members'
homes and at
local eateries.*

BEYOND BLOOMSBURY/SOCIAL EVES:

This year's topics:

**Three Bloomsbury
Groups & Social Eves
discuss topics of
interest such as:
health, politics,
education, art and
literature.**

What's New at the
Library Location:
Central Library...
Oakville
Neighbours Helping
Refugees...Kairos
Blanket
Ceremony...
Leather....

Artifacts... Judy Finch - Art Studio...Influential
Canadian Women...Cheese and Fruit Trays
created by Steve Rego... Donald Smith -
Speaker... Book Discussion: The Promise of
Canada... Useful Health Websites....Beads In
Africa...Cheryl's Journey in Art

BRIDGE AND GAMES:

**Four bridge groups
play social,
duplicate and
marathon bridge.
This year we added a
Scrabble Group and
Other Board Games**



**Thanks to Gloria Tomlinson and Brenda Walker, our
Interest Group Co-Chairs, and to all our Interest Group
Convenors**

Gloria Tomlinson; Carolyn Collings-Merk; Pat Zelonka; Sue
Monaghan; Marilyn Hutchinson; Kimberly Schols; Leanne
Syracusa; Linda Pinkney; Chris Connell; Joanna Blair; Donna
Milligan; Bev Peat; Joanne Diamond; Helen Riediger; Shirley
Andrews; Angela Lukowski; Margaret Pospisil; Pat Hillmer; Diana
Wilson; Julie Eldridge; Joan Owen; Gloria Tomlinson; Anne
Douglas; Janis Fournier; Barb Bridgeman; Ann Ferguson; Jane
Heakes; Susan Walkinshaw; Val Irvine; Ginny Boelhower; Raine
Greenwood; Darla Campbell; Louise Brownlee; Anne Fuller; Sue
McArthur; Ielca Torok; Sonia Ellis; Karen Smith; Jocelyne Kerby;
Gail Volterra