

This Issue

April's Speakers: **Colleen Pickett & Tom Lesnick**
Taking the Mystery Out of Selling and Moving

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Colleen and Tom will share their years of experience in the Real Estate Industry.

Moving is one of the top most stressful things we can experience in life. With a visual presentation Colleen and Tom will focus on the process of getting your house ready to sell, the resources they have that can help (such as downsizers, repair help, movers etc.). They will explain what goes into pricing a home, how they can help maximize their selling price and more importantly how they support sellers throughout the process.

We are looking forward to meeting with you on
Monday April 14, 2025
at Trafalgar Park Community Centre
and via Zoom.

NOTE: second Monday, not third.

Please remember cash for the
Bring and Buy Book Sale.

From our Leadership Team

Happy Spring!

After enduring a cold, snowy winter, and with our local groundhog predicting six more weeks of winter back in February, spring has finally arrived! While some hiking groups are still encountering snow and ice on the trails, we've been lucky enough to enjoy a few glorious, sunny days already. With spring comes our annual May Dinner on May 5. Be sure to mark it on your calendar. It's always a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the season and reconnect with our many friends in the club.

While spring inspires us to look ahead, it's also a time for reflection. This March marked the 5th anniversary of the COVID-19 lockdown. That time changed our lives in profound ways, as we adapted to an entirely new way of living and socializing. Not only was this life-changing during the pandemic, there were changes we made that changed our behaviours in a positive way as well. Many of us reached out virtually to friends and family more often, cherishing the bonds that carried us through isolation. We all became experts at "Zooming" out of necessity for General Meetings and Interest Group gatherings. Though none of us would wish for another pandemic, let's hold onto the silver linings from that experience and continue reaching out to friends, whether in person (now that we can) or virtually (now that we know how).

After our May Dinner, we'll take a break for the summer and reconvene in September to kick off another exciting program year for our club. The Leadership Team would like to extend heartfelt thanks to all our members for your continued participation in club activities, with special appreciation for those who have taken on leadership roles.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the May Dinner and wish everyone a wonderful summer. Let's stay connected however we can!

Leadership Team

Deborah May, Kyoko Kobayashi, Katherine Beaudry



Ticket sales are open for the May 5 Dinner and Annual General Meeting. See the following page. The May Dinner is a wonderful time to start the spring season together with our CFUW Oakville friends!

Please RSVP to Katherine Beaudry and indicate your choice of dinner entrée between Grilled Salmon with maple beurre blanc or Sesame Crusted Chicken, as well as any food allergies or sensitivities. A vegetarian meal option is available upon request.

Hope to see you there!



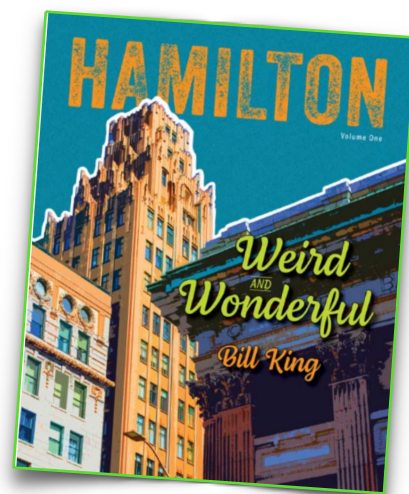
CFUW Annual Meeting & Dinner Monday May 5, 2025



It's time to celebrate Spring with CFUW friends!

Join the fun on May 5 with guest speaker Bill King, one of Hamilton's best known heritage advocates. Mr. King was raised in Hamilton, where he graduated from McMaster University. For several years he has conducted downtown Hamilton Walking Tours on summer Sundays.

Hamilton: Weird and Wonderful is Bill King's third book. It tells stories of characters from the lighter side of local history and features a rich variety of photos from archives and local photographer Mike Heinhold.



**Oakville Conference
& Banquet Centre
2515 Wyecroft Road**

Cash bar: From 6 pm on
Dinner: 7 pm
Tickets: \$70

You can organize your own tables – **8 members per table.**

We are asking members to pay for tickets via e-transfer to
fees@cfuwoakville.ca OR by cheque.

Be sure to include your name with the e-transfer.

Deadline for ticket purchase is **Friday, April 25.**

Bring cash for our traditional
50-50 Draw Scholarship Fundraiser!

For more information Contact **Katherine Beaudry** or
use the [Contact Us link.](#)



69th UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69)

CSW69 Report to CFUW Ontario Council – Sandra Thomson, CFUW Kincardine/CFUW Oakville



From Left to Right:

S. Thomson, UN Agency Observer

OC President S. Shaw

Barb Dumoulin, CAMEUS, International Relations (IR) Committee

L. Coles, Chair Parallel Session, IR Committee

CSW69 comprised good news and bad news. The good news is that there are so many non-governmental organizations (NGOs) like ourselves who continually work for the education and equality of all women. On the negative side, the rights of women globally have fallen behind and the operative words for the week were "Backlash" and "Push for Progress."

But we should not let any backlash deter us. The key messaging I took away from the multiple presentations were: "Thank a Politician," "Talk Hopefully," "Duty to Hope," "Positive Narratives," "Everything is about the Law" and "Relation Leadership vs Transactional Leadership".

Can we see ourselves in those messages? I immediately thanked my local councilwoman for all she has accomplished on behalf of the people in our ward...and she is running as a MP! So many women are either afraid to enter politics or have dropped out due to safety and online bullying and harassment. This has to change.

We need to support these courageous women as we need more women in leadership and decision-making positions to change the laws and make the laws as "all systems need to be reviewed," and there is a need to "dismantle system barriers."

Dr. S. Bahous, UN Under Secretary General and Executive Director of UN Women stated, "No more complacency."

So, I leave the clubs to the challenge of making changes and to start in your communities.

Sandy Thomson

Advocacy

We appreciate the membership support of our recommendations for the two Ontario Council resolutions. Thanks to Deborah May, who volunteered to speak on my behalf, we were able to meet the April 1 deadline for amendments.

We are presently reviewing the seven National resolutions and our recommendations will be presented at the General Membership Meeting on April 14.

Diane McCullough

Bring and Buy

The University Women's Club of Oakville Scholarship Fund will be holding the last "Bring and Buy" book sale of the year. It will be on Monday, April 14 at the General Meeting, starting at 6:30. This is a great chance to stock up on great books for the summer.

The cost is \$5 a book or 5 books for \$20. Please bring along books from your book club or ones that you have enjoyed over the past year to donate. **Recently published books** only please, mystery or fiction is preferred.

Your support for this fundraiser is very much appreciated.

Remember to bring your cash.

Carolyn Collings Merk and Alison Gemmell



The most recent 2024 issue of the CFUW Ontario Council Newsletter can be accessed [here](#). Ontario Council organizes many events throughout the year. See a list [here](#).

In particular, all members are welcome to attend the Speakers Series.



Click on the date to read a recent newsletter from **CFUW National**.

[March 14](#), [March 21](#), [March 25](#), [March 28](#)

The March 25 issue contains [CFUW's Election Toolkit](#) and a link to [CFUW's Election 2025 Webpage](#). (Or you can just click on the links provided here.)

CFUW Oakville is fortunate to have the support of several local businesses who pay for advertising in each newsletter and our Directory.

Please consider using their services and telling others about them.

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Ruth Schatz Memorial Scholarship: Hannah ffrench

The Ruth Schatz Memorial Scholarship honors Ruth Gray Schatz, a past President of CFUW Oakville, who was well known for her interest in the Arts. The ideal candidate will have significant school and/or community service beyond 40 hours and will have demonstrated leadership. Applicants must have acceptance for a Bachelor of Education degree or a Bachelor of Arts degree focusing on Literature, Art History or History.



Hannah ffrench

Hannah Elizabeth ffrench is a driven and compassionate young woman, dedicated to creating positive change in her community. With a strong passion for social justice and equity, Hannah aspires to become a lawyer, advocating for those in need. Throughout her high school years, she has been actively involved in various initiatives, demonstrating her commitment to making a difference.

Notably, Hannah spearheaded a project that raised thousands of dollars to support orphaned girls in Kenya, providing them with access to education and essential resources. This experience profoundly impacted her life, instilling a sense of responsibility, compassion, and a drive to create meaningful change through advocacy and law.

In her local community, Hannah led an initiative to provide essential menstrual products to women in need, showcasing her exceptional leadership skills and ability to organize events that drive positive impact.

Her outstanding contributions to community service, academic excellence, and commitment to creating a more just and equitable society make her an exceptional candidate for this scholarship.

High School:

Saint Thomas Aquinas CSS Oakville

Extra Curricular Activities:

Founder and leader of Young Women for Change Club; Leader of Global Aid Club; Leader of Book Club; DECA regional business competition; HOSA competition world health; School mentor.

Volunteering:

Kerr Street Mission; Fan Expo Volunteer; Innovative Arts Assistant Film Director Volunteer; Model UN representing Australia in Weekly problem solving exercises

Post Secondary:

University of Toronto, Arts & Sciences

**The CFUW is pleased to present Hannah Elizabeth ffrench
with the Ruth Schatz Memorial Scholarship.**

Access Scholarship: Naomi Bathuu

The Access Scholarship was developed to make post-secondary learning opportunities more accessible to a student with a disability or with a strong interest in this area of study.



Naomi Bathuu

Naomi Bathuu is an outstanding individual with a strong academic record and a deep understanding of life's challenges. Her personal experiences, including undergoing life-saving surgery at a young age, have motivated her to pursue a career in nursing and driven her passion for helping others.

Inspired by compassionate role models, Naomi has developed a strong sense of empathy and a desire to support those in need. She has actively sought out opportunities to grow and help others, including tutoring math to ESL students, gardening crops for food banks, and assisting in an after-school daycare program.

Naomi has showcased her leadership skills and initiative by guiding new students and supply teachers through class routines. Her supervisor at the Montessori Centre has commended her for her adaptability, strong work ethic, and ability to learn and apply new skills.

Naomi has consistently demonstrated compassion, empathy, and kindness. Her remarkable resilience and ability to recognize and assist those in need will undoubtedly serve her well as she prepares to pursue her nursing studies.

High School:

White Oaks Secondary School

Extra Curricular Activities:

Math tutor to ESL students

Volunteering:

Orange Seeds Montessori Centre - School Program Support; Oakville Rib Fest - traffic control; Blueberry Fields Community Garden - gardening crops for foodbanks

Work Experience:

Real Canadian Superstore

Post Secondary:

McMaster University; Specialization: Nursing

**CFUW of Oakville is pleased to present Naomi Bathuu
with the Access Scholarship.**

Interest Group Activities

Walking With Friends enjoying the beautiful weather near Burloak in March.



The Social Eves Group was most fortunate to have noted author and CFUW member Joyce Wayne speak to our group on February 26, 2025. Her talk entitled *The Perils of Publishing in Canada* was most informative. Joyce explained how the publishing industry works and why 86% of what we read is controlled by five large U.S. publishing companies. Joyce underscored the importance of having a national Canadian culture and the role of government grants in supporting our culture. **Marla Newton**



Interest Group Activities for April 2025

New and returning members who would like to join one of these groups are encouraged to let the Interest Group Co-chairs know at info@cfuwoakville.ca. They will try to accommodate your wishes.

Book Discussion and Exchange Clubs, morning or evening. Members of these book clubs choose books to read and discuss each month. 'Playing With Ideas' members read one short selection each month from an anthology.

Name		Convenor	Date and Time
BookBeat AM	I	Sheila Aldoroty	1st Wednesday @ 10:00 am <i>Everything There Is</i> , Vassanji OPEN
	II	Martina Eisleb Marla Newton	4th Wednesday @ 9:30 am OPEN
BookBeat PM	I	Charlotte Jeneway	Last Thursday @ 7:30 pm <i>Knife</i> , Rushdie OPEN
	II	Mary Wood	1st Wednesday @ 7:00 pm OPEN
	III	Helen Litton	First Tuesday @ 7:30 pm <i>Medicine Walk</i> , Wagamese
Crime & Caffeine	I	Leigh Mayers	Last Monday @ 1:30 pm <i>Postscript Murders</i> , Elly Griffiths
	II	Carolyn Collings Merk	4th Monday @ 1:30 pm
	III	Susan Walkinshaw	2nd Monday @ 1:30 pm <i>The Black Tower</i> , P.D. James
West End Book Exchange		Sue Stephens	Books are chosen in September for the year, for example: <i>We Solve Murders</i> , Osman; <i>Revenge of the Tipping Point</i> , Gladwell
We the North Book Exchange		Joan Dunn	Books are chosen in September for the year, for example: <i>Proof</i> , McLachlin; <i>The War We Won Apart</i> , Ayed
Literary Ladies		Pam Schwartz	1st Thursday @ 10:00 am <i>Health for All</i> , Philpot
Playing with Ideas		Dodie Layton	4th Thursday @ 9:30 am <i>Great Conversations — Vol 6</i> OPEN

Bridge, Scrabble and other Board games: Friendly social groups to test one's skill and enjoy different scenarios.

Name	Convenor	Date and Time
Marathon Bridge	Bonnie Jensen Laurie Nordin-MacLeod	Times vary through the month.
Word Power through Scrabble	Kathy Hall	2nd Tuesday @ 1:00 pm

Exploring Ideas Together: Issues to Advocacy presents an opportunity to educate ourselves on current issues and explore ideas together. Aging Collaboratively members want to discover the possibilities to create a better journey later in life; Beyond Bloomsbury members meet once a month to listen to speakers and discuss topics of interest such as health, politics, education, art and literature.

Name		Convenor	Date and Time
Advocacy Committee		Diane McCullough	2nd Wednesday @ 7:00 pm OPEN
Aging Collaboratively		Janice May	TBD OPEN
Beyond Bloomsbury	I	Mary Smith Sonia Ellis	4th Tuesday @ 7:00 pm
	II	Carolyn Collings Merk Becky Pogany	1st Thursday @ 7:30 pm

Meditation and Mindfulness Evening Meditation enjoys the relaxation of a guided meditation followed by a group discussion. Mindfulness and Meditation explores through readings, discussions and practice and Psychology / Spirituality explores the human soul in a cheerful and friendly atmosphere. Research is shared and discussed.

Name		Convenor	Date and Time
Evening Meditation		Leanne Siracusa	2nd Tuesday @ 8:00 pm OPEN
Mindfulness and Meditation	I	Jeanne Crockatt	3rd Tuesday @ 10:00 am <i>Beyond Distraction</i> , S. Catherine OPEN
	II	Chris Connell	1st Thursday @ 1:30 pm OPEN
Psychology and Spirituality	I	Sue McArthur	2nd Thursday @ 9:30 am

Celebrating Good Food and Conversation: Gourmet groups meet monthly to share fine food, menus, recipes and good company; Ladies@Lunch is a fun group that meets monthly for lunch and socializing; Foodie World Adventures members enjoy cooking, baking and experimenting with unusual ingredients from around the world. Social Eves focuses on exploring a wide variety of interests and topics while providing an opportunity to socialize, network and have lots of fun. Couples' Chat and Chow: Couples dine out on a weekday evening

Name		Convenor	Date and Time
Gourmet	I	Alison Gemmell	2nd Thursday @ 6:30 pm
	II	Jan Dobson	2nd Thursday @ 6:45 pm
	III	Laurie Nordin-MacLeod	2nd Thursday @ 6:30 pm
	IV	TBD	Thursday evening OPEN
Ladies @ Lunch		Lise Moras	3rd Thursday @ 12:30 pm OPEN
Social Eves		Marla Newton	4th Wednesday @ 7:00 pm OPEN
Foodie World Adventures		Eva Baxter	3rd Wednesday, time TBD
Bakers Club		Hilary Vavasour	3rd Tuesday @ 2:00 pm
Bronte Neighbourhood Group		Sheila Aldoroty	TBD OPEN
The Singles Network		Dianne Murphy	Dates and times of events are determined by participants OPEN
Couples' Chat and Chow		Leanne Siracusa	Weeknight, during the last week of the month OPEN

Exploring the Arts Together: Creativity through Painting and Drawing conducts online painting classes with guidance from an artist using acrylics on canvas to create personal masterpieces for pleasure, skill building and camaraderie.

Name	Convenor	Date and Time
Creativity through Painting and Drawing	Leanne Siracusa	Monday, 10:00 am, Zoom 6 or 8 week courses, dates TBD OPEN

Physical Activity: Dragon Boating, Golf, and Happy Hikers are opportunities for members to participate in the activities they enjoy, in the company of friends and other members; Walking with Friends chooses flat paved routes.

Name		Convenor	Date and Time
Dragon Boating		Donna Kraaijeveld Susan Stavin	OPEN Any CFUW members who are interested in Dragon Boating are asked to contact Susan Stavin or Donna Kraayeveld
Golf		Katherine Beaudry Angie Vassallo	OPEN
Happy Hikers	I	Lynda Sturgeoff Marcia Hays	Tuesday am weather permitting Sept. to June
	II	Sue McArthur Heather McKinlay	Wednesday am bi-weekly weather permitting - Sept. to June OPEN
Pickleball		Katherine Beaudry	Wednesday @ 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Walking with Friends		Brenda Walker Jane Jewitt	Mondays @ 9:15 am OPEN



Happy Hikers I enjoyed a walk along the Port Credit Waterfront. The day was glorious for a walk and some duck watching.

CFUW Oakville Leadership Team Portfolio Contacts for 2024-2025

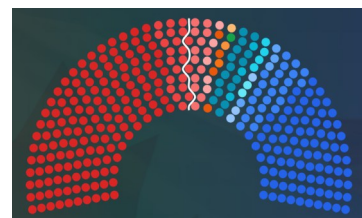
Deborah May	Kyoko Kobayashi	Katherine Beaudry
Scholarship Advocacy Programme Finance	Communications, Publicity Meeting Venues, Rentals Ontario Council Charitable Trust	Dinners Interest Groups Membership CFUW National Contact

CFUW Oakville Executive & Committees for 2024-2025

Executive Committee	
Leadership Team	Deborah May, Kyoko Kobayashi, Katherine Beaudry
Secretary	Linda Williams
Treasurer	Jillian Birnie
Standing Committee Chairs	
Advocacy	Diane McCullough
Finance	Jillian Birnie
Interest Groups	Gloria Tomlinson, Brenda Walker
Membership	Susan Walkinshaw
Newsletter Editor	Pat Zelonka
Programme	Susan Bowen
Hospitality	Marlene Bristol
Committees by Appointment	
Archivist	Hilary Vavasour
Directory	Carolyn Darimont
Nominations	Leadership Team
Web Manager	Pat Zelonka, Raine Greenwood
Communications/Publicity	Raine Greenwood, Pat Zelonka
Technology	Kyoko Kobayashi
Dinners	Katherine Beaudry

CFUW Oakville Event Calendar

Vote on April 28



Event	Location	Date	Time
CFUW Board meeting	Zoom	Apr 7, 2025	7:00 pm
CFUW Oakville general meeting Colleen Pickett and Tom Lesnick, Taking the Mystery Out of Selling and Moving	TPCC and Zoom	Apr 14, 2025	7:00 pm
Waterside Art Group Sale (in support of Halton Women's Place)	323 Church Street, Oakville	Apr 25— 27, 2025	
Canadian Election See ways to vote here . See CFUW's Election Toolkit on page 5.	Your polling station (Or advance voting on April 18—21, 2025)	Apr 28, 2025	
Dinner and AGM See page 3.	Oakville Conference and Banquet Centre, Wyecroft Rd.	May 5, 2025	6:00 pm

IN TOUCH is published for members and prospective members of CFUW Oakville, eight times a year. Deadline for submission is the Wednesday after the General Meeting (held on the third Monday of the month). All submissions should be directed to the Editor at editor@cfuwoakville.ca. Advertising and hard copy distribution of the newsletter are co-ordinated by editor@cfuwoakville.ca. Please contact us for rates or to purchase advertising space.

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