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President's Message**Brenda Wallace**

Brenda Wallace's closing speech, delivered at CFUW's AGM in Ottawa, July 18th, 2010.

Welcome to another exciting year of CFUW. Those of you fortunate enough to attend the Annual General Meeting in Ottawa had an extraordinary experience and saw how far reaching our influence is. Congratulations and thank you to the LAC and all the teams that helped plan, organize and lead events. Hosting an AGM is a wonderful opportunity for members to share their talents and work as a team.

Since not everyone could hear my closing speech, an excerpt is being included here as a message for all our members.

“How do I see the future of CFUW? I see a new beginning with the new structure. I see an increased responsibility as we strive to continue to be a visible voice.

Do I see challenges for CFUW? Absolutely.
Will we rise to meet these challenges? Absolutely.

We have the talent and have placed ourselves well to move forward with actions based on strong policies developed by the work of women in our grassroots, Board members and others while holding CFUW true to its mission and goals.

CFUW/FCFDU believes educated women have a responsibility to advocate social justice for women of all cultures. We seek to improve society as a whole in a spirit of cooperation.

We will continue to encourage communication through technology.
We will continue our advocacy and networking with other NGO's.
We will develop, review and expand our policies.
We will work to protect the status of women and girls.
We will continue to support education through our fellowship and scholarship programs.
We will campaign to increase membership by targeting newly/nearly-retired women looking for a new purpose/passion.
We will adjust to the new governance model with the flexibility to adapt.
We will develop a sense of TRUST between the new Board and National Office Staff.
You have elected me to lead CFUW and I will honor your trust.

As other women's groups have been defunded, disenfranchised and ceased to exist, CFUW's **Voice** became much more **Visible**. CFUW has become a respected voice and has been called to speak. Now is the time for the next step with a new theme

The Right to Speak – The Responsibility to Act (Thank you Montreal LAC)

CFUW is a vast and varied resource. Across the country, within our grassroots members, we have experts in every field. It is time for us to break from our modesty and step forward to lead.

I call upon our experts to share their knowledge and talents in the coming year to speak up and take action to improve the Status of Women locally, provincially, nationally and internationally.

I am proud to lead CFUW and I believe we will make a significant difference by using our **Right to Speak** and our **Responsibility to Act**.

Let's keep our voices loud and visible as we exercise our right to speak and our responsibility to act. I wish all of you a great year of fellowship as you enjoy your time with like-minded women locally, provincially and nationally and hope to meet many of you as I begin my visits.

Message de la présidente Brenda Wallace



Bienvenue à une nouvelle année excitante de la FCFDU. Celles d'entre vous qui ont eu la chance de participer à notre Assemblée annuelle à Ottawa ont pu constater la portée de l'influence de notre organisation. Félicitations et merci au LAC et à toutes les équipes qui ont aidé à planifier, organiser et diriger les différents événements. Accueillir une AGA est une merveilleuse occasion pour les membres de partager leurs talents et de travailler en équipe.

Comme tout le monde n'a pas eu l'occasion d'entendre mon allocution de clôture, vous en trouverez plus bas un extrait puisque ce message s'adresse à toutes nos membres.

Comment est-ce que j'envisage l'avenir de la FCFDU? Je vois un nouveau départ, grâce à notre nouvelle structure. Je vois des responsabilités accrues, alors que nous nous efforcerons de continuer d'être une voix visible.

Est-ce que j'entrevois des défis pour la FCFDU? Absolument.

Serons-nous à la hauteur de ces défis? Absolument.

Nous possédons le talent nécessaire, et nous sommes bien placées pour aller de l'avant grâce à des mesures basées sur des politiques robustes, conçues par le travail de nos membres de la base, du comité directeur et des autres, tout en respectant la mission et les objectifs de la FCFDU.

La CFUW/FCFDU est convaincue que les femmes ont la responsabilité de promouvoir la justice sociale pour les femmes de toutes les cultures. Nous cherchons à améliorer la société dans son ensemble, dans un esprit de coopération.

Nous allons continuer d'encourager la communication grâce à la technologie.
Nous allons continuer notre défense de causes et la formation de réseaux avec d'autres ONG.

Nous allons élaborer, passer en revue et étendre nos politiques.

Nous allons travailler à la protection du statut des femmes et des jeunes filles.

Nous allons continuer d'appuyer l'éducation à l'aide de nos programmes de bourses.

Nous allons faire campagne pour augmenter le nombre de nos membres, en ciblant les femmes nouvellement retraitées ou près de la retraite qui recherchent une nouvelle cause ou une nouvelle passion.

Nous nous ajusterons au nouveau modèle de gouvernance avec la flexibilité nécessaire pour nous adapter.

Nous allons créer un climat de CONFIANCE entre le nouveau Conseil et le personnel du Bureau national.

Vous m'avez élue pour diriger la FCFDU et je vais faire honneur à votre confiance.

Alors que d'autres groupes de femmes ont perdu leurs sources de financement et cessé d'exister, la **voix** de la FCFDU est devenue beaucoup plus **visible**. La FCFDU est devenue une voix respectée, et a été appelée à s'exprimer. Il est maintenant temps d'aborder la prochaine étape avec un nouveau thème:

Le droit de s'exprimer – La responsabilité d'agir
(Merci au LAC de Montréal)

La FCFDU est une ressource vaste et variée. Partout au pays, au sein de nos membres de la base, nous avons des expertes dans tous les domaines. Il est temps pour nous d'abandonner notre modestie et d'agir pour diriger.

Je demande à nos expertes de partager leurs connaissances et leurs talents, au cours de la nouvelle année, en s'exprimant et en agissant pour améliorer le statut de la femme aux niveaux local, provincial, national et international.

Je suis fière de diriger la FCFDU, et je suis convaincue que nous ferons une différence importante en nous servant de notre **Droit de nous exprimer** et de notre **Responsabilité d'agir**.

Merci.

Je vous souhaite un bon retour et une année FCFDU formidable!

Conservons une voix forte et visible en exerçant notre droit de nous exprimer et notre responsabilité d'agir. Je vous souhaite à toutes une année formidable, alors que vous profiterez de la compagnie de femmes animées des mêmes idées que vous aux niveaux local, provincial et national, et j'espère rencontrer un grand nombre d'entre vous lorsque je débiterai mes visites.

Advocacy – CFUW Style

Teri Shaw, Director of Advocacy



Our summer AGM saw the passage of four resolutions – to ban the mining, use, and trade of all forms of asbestos, to fully fund aboriginal education, to support the report *The Will to Intervene*, and to prohibit the purchasing of sexual services, and to provide support services to enable prostituted persons to seek alternate lifestyles .

As well this fall will bring three important issues to Parliament. Bill C-391 concerning the repeal of the Gun Registry will come for a vote in the House of Commons on September 22; Bill C-304 on affordable housing will be voted on October 20 and Bill C-545, An Act to Eliminate Poverty in Canada was introduced on June 16.

There are also Clubs and Councils who are involved in advocacy activities, for example, Atlantic Council and pay equity, CFUW Aurora/Newmarket and fetal alcohol syndrome, BC West Child Care Committee, CFUW Education Committee and aboriginal education, UWC Montreal Inc. and financial literacy.

Within the next few weeks and throughout the year, the National Office will send out packages concerning advocacy concerns, including post-resolution advocacy, the important Parliamentary votes, as well as support on issues where it is needed/requested. You will also be able to find these packages, especially the time sensitive ones, on the CFUW website in the Updates on Action section found within About CFUW Advocacy in the ADVOCACY/POLICY drop-down (<http://www.cfuw.org/about-cfuw-advocacy/updates-on-action.aspx>).

Another place to check out interesting activities is the CFUW Advocacy Blog (<http://cfuwadvocacy.wordpress.com/>) and in the *CFUW Week in Review*, the latter which includes both our actions and links to various articles. You will all note that we have added a CFUW section to this widely distributed CFUW communication tool.

If your club is interested in pursuing an advocacy project this year, check with your Regional Director, Vice-President or the National Office. They will be able to help you, either to redirect you or to connect you with others or the information that might be useful.

On behalf of all of us involved, thank you for any support that you give.

Regional Overviews

British Columbia

Susan Murphy, VP British Columbia



It is a great job to be the Vice President for British Columbia in CFUW. BC has 23 clubs and about 2000 members across the province. RD **Paddy McGowan** works with the 7 clubs on Vancouver Island, **Linda Russell** has 11 clubs in BC West which is really the lower Mainland, **Jeannette Mergens** is our first RD in the newly formed Central/East which has 4 clubs, and **Donna Brundige**, our returning RD, is responsible for Prince George in the new North area and will also be assessing the potential for new clubs in northern BC. Where travel permits, regional gatherings are held to help clubs share their activities, ideas and become more closely connected to their sister clubs.

Clubs in BC display their commitment to improving the lives of women and girls, enthusiasm for club projects, wide variety of interest groups, and support for education through scholarships. In 2009/10, every club in BC contributed to education and together they funded over \$223,000 in scholarships and awards in their home communities and internationally.

Three of our clubs have been in existence for over 90 years and many have long histories of achievement and contributions to their communities. Those that have been created more recently have quickly become established and well regarded groups in their communities.

Many clubs have issues and/or other committees that focus on local and provincial concerns. This year our Advocacy Chair **Marg Picard** will be working to identify all of these committees and establishing ties among them to strengthen our advocacy efforts. BC Council has submitted annual briefs to the budget process for the past three years, one this year to the provincial consultation on pension reform, and annually represent the provincial clubs in advocacy with the provincial government on IFUW, CFUW, and BC Council policies. All clubs are encouraged to write to their MPs, MLAs, and to visit them where possible. It is an area that some clubs are more comfortable than others; however, there are many kinds of advocacy, and some clubs hold public forums and panel discussions on current issues as a public service.

BC clubs formed a council in 1989, and since that time, have held an annual general meeting hosted by a different club each year. At our 2010 AGM in Parksville/Qualicum, twenty-two clubs were represented and we are striving for all 23 at the 2011 AGM in North Vancouver.

We face the same issues as other parts of the country with aging membership, difficulty in attracting younger women, and filling executive positions. However, BC's climate attracts a lot of nearly and newly retired people, women with lots of energy and time to get involved. Some clubs are focusing their recruitment activities on this emerging

group and others are setting specific goals of increasing their membership overall. We also face long distance between some clubs, particularly in the Central/East and North areas where hundreds of kilometres may separate a club from any others. These days, technology has really helped to lessen those distances, but person to person contact cannot be replaced.

Teamwork, flexibility and creativity will be the keys to our successful future and BC clubs exemplify those traits.

Prairies

Janet E. Goldack, VP Prairies



The Prairie Region is a large area comprising Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The 15 Clubs, 3 in Manitoba and 6 each in Saskatchewan and Alberta, have memberships ranging from 6 to 182 women for a regional total of 759.

Clubs participate in a variety of outreach activities such as supporting the arts, participating in literacy/learning centers and assisting women's shelters. All clubs are noted for their scholarships funded through book, garage and craft sales, author banquets, fashion shows, and bequests. Some scholarships are given to needy graduating high school students, but the vast majority are presented to University/College students.

Fellowship and socialization are important elements of every club. All clubs have at least one monthly meeting, usually with speakers, and many interest groups such as book clubs, bridge lessons, topical seminars, travel programs and intellectually stimulating courses. Although these activities are designed for club members, guests are always welcome.

Advocacy, an important part of CFUW, is not fully embraced by all clubs. Most, however, support local issues such as poverty, education, environmental problems, and are active during political campaigns.

Each province has a council, which meets once or twice a year under the direction of the Regional Director. The role of each council is to bring the clubs together so that members can meet other club members, share and discuss successes and challenges and enjoy a stimulating program, as well as feel connected to CFUW on a regional basis.

The Prairie Gathering brings the whole region together every two years to discuss club/region concerns and CFUW activities and needs. The President is invited to this Gathering. At the last Gathering (2009) a discussion was held re whether or not it should become a regional council. Those present voted against this, preferring the informal structure of the Gathering.

Three major problems plague all clubs. Membership is at the forefront. Retention of members is a main concern although an aging population and the lack of young people interested in joining are problems as well. Strategies are being developed by some clubs to address these issues. Asking general membership to step into leadership roles is a perennial problem. It has been suggested that perhaps we, as a group, should prep our people more to take on these roles. Distances between clubs and harsh Prairie winters are also problems for all clubs, the Regional Directors and VP Prairies. Creativity, but most often emails and phone calls, are the main methods of communication between November and March.

Ontario

Myra Willis, VP Ontario



Ontario with its approximately 5400 members, has 56 diverse and active clubs divided into 6 regions – North, South, West, East, Central and our newest region Huron.

Through book sales, fashion shows, published books, card nights and other events, clubs make education dreams come true with scholarships. A few clubs have transferred the administration of their scholarships to other agencies. This has ensured the continuation of the fund while relieving the club of the responsibility of administration. Members reach out to their communities in many ways such as helping out in schools as reading buddies, supporting shelters, group homes and soup kitchens.

Club members are active in issues that concern them locally, provincially, nationally and internationally. Many clubs have an Issues Group. From building a toilet in Ethiopia to gun control to water to power plants in local towns, our members are working to make the world a better place. They are also forming alliances with like minded organizations.

Whether it is working on an advocacy issue or a club project or joining one of the many interest groups, fellowship keeps our clubs moving forward. Blocks to growing and developing is the lack of people coming forward for leadership positions and the difficulty in attracting new members. As one member told me, “You have to know about CFUW to know about CFUW.”

Everyone always wants to know about money. Ontario clubs pay \$5.50 per member and an additional .50 per member for General Liability Insurance to Ontario Council (OC).

What does OC do? We do provincial advocacy. It's a bit murky these days with shared responsibilities but we only deal with Queen's Park, the seat of the Ontario Provincial Government. The Advocacy Committee is comprised of the 3 Standing Committee Chairs, the Advocacy Coordinator (who does not sit on the board), Communications Chair and me. We have formed alliances with like minded organizations and work closely with OC board approved member policy advisors. A firm rule is that we do not advocate on anything we know nothing about. I know that sounds obvious but it takes so little to ruin a hard won reputation. OC is fortunate to have a provincial government at this time that is interested in hearing from us. We are also available to help clubs with local issues.

OC offers its members opportunities for learning and fellowship at 3 Standing Committee Meetings, held this year in October, January and March. At each, a guest speaker or panel presents on an advocacy topic in the morning. The afternoon is broken into three groups, Education, Status of Women and Human Rights and Legislation where discussions and updates take place. OC offers travel subsidies to member clubs 75km and over on a sliding scale to help defray the cost of attending. The cost is \$30 and if you happen to be in Toronto, please do join us. (We have a really good caterer!) Information and registration forms can be found on our website www.cfuwontcouncil.ca

OC also facilitates a one day Fall Gathering in each of the Regions. A Club hosts an event to provide members with information, executive training and the opportunity to learn and share with members of their own region.

OC has its AGM in May. Last year the theme was Disabilities - Creating Inclusive Communities. This year in Oakville the topic will be poverty. After the business meeting, workshops, speakers and panels are offered along with a leadership workshop presented by the Regional Directors. Member Clubs with fewer than 50 members are eligible for a subsidy to attend equal to the dues they pay to OC. We also have a travel subsidy for our furthest member club. Everyone is welcome so please visit www.cfuwontcouncil.ca for more information. It's also an easy way to get in touch with OC board members... just click to email directly to us.

With thanks to Joanne Jamieson, Past RD ON Central.

Québec

Liette Michaud, VP Québec



À part la présence électrisante des Canadiens de Montréal (connus également sous le nom de « la Sainte-Flanelle »), du siège social d'Hydro-Québec et du baiser sur les deux joues, il n'y a rien qui distingue les clubs au Québec. Chère lectrice, vous vous dites sûrement que je vous raconte des blagues! Une autre génération dirait plutôt : « Full hot, genre... ». Je ne lâche pas la patate (surtout celle utilisée dans les poutines!); j'auditionne pour le festival « Juste pour rire »...

Bien sûr que les clubs au Québec clubs sont spéciaux! Le club Montreal Lakeshore, le Club des femmes universitaires de Montréal Inc., l'Association des femmes diplômées des universités de la Rive sud de Montréal et l'Association des femmes diplômées des universités - Québec sont liés par le puissant fleuve Saint-Laurent. Le club de la région de Sherbrooke est situé au sein de la beauté pittoresque et des vallons verdoyants des Cantons de l'est.

Avec le langage du cœur, les clubs au Québec tiennent compte de la dualité linguistique de leur province : la directrice régionale responsable des clubs anglophones, Edna Ouellette, veillent sur les clubs des régions de Montréal et de Sherbrooke et la directrice régionale responsable des clubs francophones, Judith Sanschagrín, est responsable de la région de Québec, la région de l'autre « Capitale nationale ».

L'ensemble des membres, évalué à environ 540 personnes, aura l'occasion de se rencontrer le samedi 23 octobre 2010 à North Hatley pour le Conseil provincial de l'automne et le samedi 30 avril 2011 à Montréal pour le Conseil provincial du printemps.

Les présidentes sont les suivantes : Chitra Chopra (Montreal Lakeshore), Elizabeth Annesley (CFU Montréal Inc.), Jennifer Fallon (AFDU - Rive sud de Montréal), Judith Sanschagrín (AFDU-Québec) et Carol Mooney (Région de Sherbrooke).

En 2009, ces clubs ont attribué des bourses totalisant environ \$75,000 à des filles et des femmes qui voulaient entreprendre ou continuer des études postsecondaires.

Tous les clubs font la promotion d'activités qui stimulent et engagent leurs membres. Il peut s'agir de petits groupes tels que des clubs de lecture, de sorties gastronomiques, de planification successorale, de cuisine, d'investissements, de bridge, de randonnée pédestre, de théâtre et de cinéma ou de dégustation de vin.

Parfois, il s'agit d'activités spéciales telles qu'un débat oratoire, un brunch ou un souper thématique, un pique-nique annuel, et l'organisation de conférences mensuelles auxquelles on invite une conférencière.

Les activités de levée des fonds sont également variées : ventes de livres usagés, voyages culturels, soirées au théâtre, parties de bridge ou de jeux de société, tirages au sort et ventes aux enchères. Plusieurs clubs gèrent des Fondations privées ou des portefeuilles de placements pour soutenir leur capacité à attribuer des bourses d'études.

Plusieurs projets spéciaux sont dignes de mention : l'envoi du salaire annuel d'une enseignante à une école pour filles en Afghanistan; jumelage avec le club AFFDU-Montpellier en France; l'appui de l'éducation de jeunes femmes provenant de communautés des Premières Nations; une présentation au Groupe de travail en littératie financière; dons à des refuges pour femmes et à des bibliothèques; participation au projet « Grandmothers to Grandmothers » de la Fondation Stephen Lewis pour contrer l'épidémie VIH/SIDA en Afrique.

Tous les clubs oeuvrent en faveur de l'éducation et de la promotion de la Femme. Une résolution provenant de CFU Montréal Inc. relative à la littératie financière des femmes fait dorénavant partie des politiques de la FCFDU depuis l'Assemblée générale annuelle de 2010 et aussi des politiques de la Fédération internationale qui se réunissait dans la capitale du Mexique au mois d'août. En 2007, le club de la Rive sud de Montréal proposait une approche face aux pratiques des industries extractives canadiennes à l'étranger qui fait maintenant partie des politiques de la FCFDU. Deux autres résolutions soutenues par le club de la Rive sud en 2000 et en 2001 relativement à l'exportation de l'eau et à la qualité de l'eau en terre canadienne furent acceptées. En 2000, CFU Montréal Inc. proposait une résolution relative à la pauvreté au Canada et celle-ci fait partie des politiques de la FCFDU.

Le plus gros défi des clubs québécois est partagé par tous les clubs de la FCFDU : comment attirer l'adhésion de nouveaux membres? L'autre défi se situe au niveau de la langue. Quatre-vingt-un pourcent de la population québécoise déclarent le français à titre de langue maternelle. Le club AFDU-Montréal a disparu en 2003. Comment recruter d'autres membres tout en conservant les membres unilingues anglophones qui constituent la majorité de l'ensemble des membres? Comment est-ce que AFDU-Québec peut recruter d'autres membres francophones quand le site WEB de la FCFDU est seulement disponible en anglais? Peut-on trouver des femmes qui voudraient servir à titre de présidentes de clubs bilingues? Devrons-nous plutôt encourager la création de clubs unilingues?

Quarante et un ans après l'adoption de la Loi sur les langues officielles, syntonisez CBC/Radio-Canada afin d'apprendre les réponses fracassantes à ces questions!

Québec
Liette Michaud, VP Québec



Besides the electrifying presence of the Habs (religiously called « la Sainte-Flannelle », Hydro-Québec and the two-cheek kiss, there's really nothing special about Québec clubs. Dear reader, you are thinking : « Surely you jest! » Or, as another generation is wont to say : « Not! ». Well yes, I admit it. I'm auditioning for the « Just for Laughs » Festival.

Québec clubs are special! The Lakeshore Club, University Women of Montreal Inc., the South Shore Club and Association des femmes diplômées des universités de Québec are connected by the mighty Saint-Lawrence River. The Sherbrooke and District Club is nestled in the pristine beauty of the Eastern Townships with its rolling hills and picturesque towns and villages.

Besides the language of the heart, Québec clubs acknowledge the major linguistic duality of their province : the English regional director, Edna Ouellette, is assigned to the Montreal and Sherbrooke areas and the French regional director, Judith Sanschagrín, is assigned to the Québec City area. (Notice my use of the « accent aigu »...)

The 540 or so members will have an opportunity to meet on Saturday, October 23 2010 in North Hatley for the Fall Provincial Council meeting and again on Saturday, April 30 2011 in Montreal for the Spring Provincial Council meeting.

Club presidents are Chitra Chopra (Lakeshore), Elizabeth Annesley (UWC Montreal Inc.), Jennifer Fallon (South Shore), Judith Sanschagrín (AFDU-Québec) and Carol Mooney (Sherbrooke and District).

Approximately \$75,000 was donated by these clubs in 2009 to provide bursaries for girls and women who either wish to undertake or are pursuing post-secondary education.

All clubs have activities that stimulate and engage their members. There are interest groups, such as Book Groups, Dining Out, Estate Planning, Fun with Cooking, Investment Clubs, Bridge Groups, Walking Groups, Stage and Screen and Wine Tasting.

Special activities are organized, such as debating contests, brunches or dinners for members, annual picnics, and guest speakers at monthly meetings.

Fund-raising activities include : used book sales, cultural trips, theatre nights, bridge/game luncheons, private raffles and auctions. Several clubs manage

Foundations and/or investment portfolios to be able to sustain their capacity to award bursaries.

Special projects include or have included: sending a teacher's yearly salary to a girls' school in Afghanistan; a twinning agreement with AFFDU-Montpellier, France; supporting the education of young women in First Nations communities; donating funds to UNICEF in Rwanda; a presentation to the Task Force on Financial Literacy; donations to women's shelters and libraries, participation in the Stephen Lewis's Foundation Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign to counter HIV/AIDS in Africa.

All clubs are involved in advocacy. UWC Montreal Inc.'s resolution on Financial Literacy was passed at the CFUW AGM in July and at the IFUW Triennial in Mexico City in August. In 2007, the South Shore club sponsored the CFUW AGM resolution on Practices of Canadian Extractive Industries Abroad. The South Shore club also proposed two resolutions on Large-Scale Water Exports and Canadian Water in 2000 and 2001 which garnered the CFUW AGM's approval. In 2000, UWC Montreal Inc. sponsored a resolution with respect to Poverty in Canada (CFUW AGM).

Our biggest challenge is shared by all CFUW clubs : membership. The additional challenge in Québec is language. Eighty-one percent of the population is French-speaking. The AFDU-Montreal club disbanded in 2003. How do we attract more members while still retaining unilingual English-speaking members who appreciate the ongoing support provided by their CFUW club? How can AFDU-Québec attract more members when the CFUW Website is available only in English? Are there women who would be willing and able to serve as presidents of bilingual clubs? Or, do we encourage the creation of more unilingual clubs?

Forty-one years after the adoption of the Official Languages Act, stay tuned to CBC/Radio-Canada for the earth-shattering answer to this dilemma!

Atlantic

Karen Dunnett, VP Atlantic



The Atlantic Regional Council of the Canadian Federation of University Women was formed in 1988 to help improve communication, cooperation, and friendship among CFUW clubs in the four Atlantic Provinces, and to promote the policies and programs of CFUW.

The Atlantic Regional Council Executive consists of the President (who also serves as Vice President Atlantic on the CFUW Board of Directors), four Regional Directors (one for each province), and a Secretary-Treasurer.

The Annual General Meeting held in the autumn each year, in conjunction with a Regional Conference, is hosted by one of the clubs. Along with the AGM, the conference hosts a Presidents Roundtable, an ARC Executive Meeting, entertainment (Friday night), frequently a presentation by National Staff, a luncheon with a speaker, and themed workshops.

We do not have provincial councils, although the New Brunswick clubs have had annual provincial meetings to discuss/work on issues, and share knowledge. Other clubs who are close to each other do have joint meetings on occasion.

We have clubs in Newfoundland and Labrador (Corner Brook and St. John's), in Nova Scotia (Cape Breton -Sydney area, Dartmouth, Halifax, Pictou County - New Glasgow-Pictou area, Truro, and Wolfville), in Prince Edward Island (Charlottetown), and in New Brunswick (Fredericton, Kent - area north of Moncton, Moncton, and Saint John).

The 13 Clubs, range in member size from 10 to 101 women for a regional total of approximately 500 members. We have had clubs in the Atlantic since the early 1920s, and one that started 4 years ago.

Most clubs conduct regular (usually monthly) programme meetings with a speaker, from September to May. Many clubs have interest groups with regular meetings and/ or activities. Several clubs are involved in advocacy (often in conjunction with other like-minded groups) locally and provincially (occasionally at the national level), including holding events for International Women's Day. A variety of events (often book fairs) are held to raise money for local scholarships/awards, libraries, music festivals and the arts. I think that all clubs would agree that friendship and education are a major component of their clubs.

Despite our strong belief in what CFUW stands for, our aging population and decreasing membership causes concern, as it does in other parts of Canada.

Postcards from Mexico

CFUW President Brenda Wallace asked our delegates to the 2010 Triennial in Mexico City to send 'postcards home' so that members of CFUW could get a flavour of IFUW and the work (and fun) that is entailed at these international conference. Postcards from the conference will appear in all the upcoming Communicator's. Don't forget to read the blog from Ardith Toogood, CFUW's Coordinator for International Relations, at <http://cfuwadvocacy.wordpress.com/>

Hola from Mexico, the land of bright colours (in architecture and costumes), lively music and dances, and a fascinating history. The few minor frustrations (room keys that did not work, inconsistencies in start times and room rates) were minor compared to the highlights: the pyramids of the sun and the moon, the towns of Guanajuato and Morelia with their narrow cobbled streets and squares, the Ballet Folklorico, and the wonderful closing gala provided by the Mexican Federation.

Adios
Grace (Stapleton)



Above: Roberta Brooks, Carol Hare, Muriel Smith, Brenda Wallace; Ardith Toogood and Brenda Wallace

Below: International delegates before the group photo; 30th Triennial logo





Recently elected CFUW President Brenda Wallace and new Executive Director, Robin Jackson, join Victoria Local Arrangements Committee Chairs, Paddy McGowan and Dawn Jones in determining the site for the 2012 AGM.

The new executive director for CFUW is **ROBIN JACKSON** who brings more than 20 years of experience working in the not-for-profit sector with extensive experience and knowledge in advocacy, governance and board practices, administration and new public initiatives. She was Executive Director of the Canadian Independent Film and Video Fund from 1991 to 2009, managing their contract process for more than 1,000 projects and increasing the initial \$1 million funding to a budget of \$20.4 million annually, before their funding was cut this year. She is currently at the Development Office of the University of Ottawa. She has worked within government at the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission and with Department of Canadian Heritage,

She has extensive volunteer passions, including the Humane Societies, Big Sisters and Big Brothers Association, and the Canadian Women in Communications, amongst many more.

She is computer literate and bilingual with an Honours B.A. French Literature from Carleton University, and a B.L.S. (Library/Information Science) from University of Ottawa as well graduating from the Not-for-Profit Governance Essentials Program (2008) from the Institute of Corporate Directors, Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto & the Telfer School of Management, University of Ottawa. Robin brings knowledge from the non-profit sector and has experience in advocacy approaches for influencing policy.

Club Highlights

At the Atlantic AGM this May, CFUW Moncton had a double celebration in honour of Dr. Elizabeth “Corrie” Eaton, who has been a CFUW member for 64 years. Corrie started on the Executive in 1953 and served as Club president 1956-57, and worked on many committees through the years. We helped Corrie celebrate her 100th birthday, and bestowed upon her the honour of becoming CFUW Moncton’s Honorary President.



Photo: Dr. Elizabeth Corrie Eaton (centre) with CFUW Moncton President Linda Newman (left) and Past-President Bernadette Berube.

CFUW London – “Write On”



“Write On” is a children’s short story contest co-sponsored by CFUW London and The London Free Press. They invite children 15 years and under to submit their creative stories and the winners receive a cash prize. This is the 4th year CFUW London has organized the event.

Six children received certificates to honour their achievement. The certificates, familiar to all members of the Canadian Federation of University

Women but modified to a specific purpose were presented to six children at a banquet held in their honour at the Delta Armouries, London. Prizes of \$100 and \$75 in three categories were presented also. The Publisher, Harper Collins also provided books for the enjoyment of the children.

Each certificate registered the success of the child authors. Their short stories competed with over 240 entries, survived the scrutiny of CFUW-London club members and of the professional authors in the community.

The two Senior entries were stories of suspense and horror compacted into 600 words. **'The Forest Dweller'**: Hiking in a remote area and the challenge of survival is told with a twist that gives you pause to follow suit. **'Freedom'** Dominance of frustrated power versus strong will and pride. A reflection of political tyranny we read and learn about every day along with frivolous news that ignores foul corruption.

The Intermediate entries were both reflections of family love. Earthquake disaster in Haiti inspired a story of courage and hope. **The Haitian Sky** a rather serious study for this young child records the innocence of our children in an uncertain environment. **Two Tails of a Sock Monkey** a lighter vein of a child daily life of play assisted by a mothers love and skill, brought back the smiles of families present.

The Junior winning entries presented by two handsome young boys, had the last say of the evening with humour seeking laughter from the audience. **'What if a Snake Came out of a Book?'** A tale of animals bursting out of books, whales, elephants, tigers, and particularly snakes that preferred to stay out of the pages, at home and school. Secondly **'Lima Bean Boy'** a definite distaste for Lima Beans and a useful Grandfathers hand watch that becomes a tool to stop time, allows the miscreant author to exchange lima beans for the candies, chocolate cakes, etc. being eaten by friends and family members. Imagine your dismay as you tuck into the box of chocolates only to find they are now lima beans.

The evening was a success for the newly minted authors. Their stories had already appeared in the London Free Press, thereby becoming 'published authors' a stepping stone to a Giller Prize, perhaps?

The audience were delighted with the event and we, CFUW-London thank Paul Berton, Editor in Chief of the London Free Press, Editors Greg Van Moorsel, Joe Ruscitti and Eileen Murchland for the support we have received over the last 5 years of operating 'Write On !'. We are also grateful for the assistance of Barbara Haworth-Attard, Maggie L. Smith and Judy Ann Slater, all authors of children's literature for their part in the final judging. Special thanks to Alan Lavoie for the photography we love to share with the families.

We also thank Alan Kemp, Wellington West, William Currie, Scotia Mcleod and Harper Collins for their support a most welcome contribution made to us each year of the Contest.

Thank you CFUW-London Club members for supporting, reading and assisting the success of 'Write On !' We also thank Gailene and the staff of the CFUW National office for their always willing assistance.

Margaret Lynch, Chair 'Write On !'
CFUW-London Club

Outline of CFUW's Communications Tools

Doris Mae Oulton, VP Communications and Corporate Secretary



CFUW has adopted the following Communications' plan for the upcoming year. We welcome members' input – which can come in various forms. Please consider making a contribution or in letting us know what either you or your Club needs from us so that we are serving your communication needs.

Communication Tool	Purpose	Frequency
The Communicator	The principal publication for CFUW – non-time- sensitive material designed to provide an ongoing record of CFUW	September 1 Who are we – a Backgrounder November 15 What are we? The View of the Past Presidents Why is CFUW Important? March 1 Articles by Susan Russell and Linda Souter Where do we Need to go? May 15 Point of view from the President, the VP finance, The VP Advocacy, the VP Membership and the business plan that will be presented at the St. John's AGM
Women in Action	A background document that outlines CFUW's positions on current issues that are in the forefront and associated policies. It may include current activities or requests for action from members (i.e. letters to government)	Produced as issues come to the forefront - on needed basis

The Website	CFUW's main communication tool – contains administrative tools, lists the policy book, is a place for resources. latest Clubs news , IFUW's activities	Updated frequently. We want your material and, as soon as it is submitted we will post it both on the website and on Facebook –with links http://www.cfuw.org/
The Blogs	CFUW's stories – gives a voice to advocacy, international relations and has lots of useful links.	Ongoing – updated at the blogger's discretion Ardith Toogood has posted a wonderful blog on the IFUW Triennial at http://cfuwadvocacy.wordpress.com/
Facebook	The short 'snappies' and events – limited to 1000 characters	'Rapid fire news as it is happening' and response tool – only available to those who access through Facebook membership http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2232370205&ref=ts#!

Note from the AGM: the following Regions increased their membership last year!!!!!!

Vancouver Island from 676 to 701
 Alberta from 356 to 359
 Manitoba from 202 to 219
 Ontario North from 339-340
 Ontario East from 981 to 1018
 Quebec from 519 to 529

CFUW RESOLUTIONS

New dates for 2010-2011
 INTENTS, with draft Resolved clauses, due October 1, 2010
 RESOLUTION, Background and Bibliography due November 1, 2010

resolutions@cfuw.org
cfuwadvocacy@rogers.com