Canadian Federation of University Women – Parksville / Qualicum

Our Theme this year:
Strong Women – Difference Makers
May 2020

President: Valerie Gunn (250-468-7536)
Vice President: TBA (vacant position)
Club Address: Box 113 Qualicum Beach, BC, V9K 1S7 See: Club Address: Box 113 Qualicum Beach, BC, V9K 1S7 See: http://www.cfuwpg.ca
Meeting: Cancelled
Program: Cancelled
Speaker(s): Cancelled
Greeters:

What To Look For:
President’s Message, Annual President’s Report and Annual Programming Report
Past-President’s Annual Reports: Nominations, IWD, Website, Policies and Procedures
Annual Membership Report
Annual Advocacy Report
Annual Global Outreach Report
Global Outreach Message
Interim Report from Scholarship & Bursary Trust
Talking Circle Message
Annual Baskets Report (Community Outreach)
Zoomish meeting picture
Book Box pickup schedule
Book Club News
Quotes
President’s Message – April 2020

Welcome to the New Normal.

I am amazed how life can change so fast, which makes the adage “Never assume tomorrow will be just like today” so true. When I met with the executive March 16th, we discussed the changes necessary and within 48 hours they all came to be needed. While no one is predicting how long social distancing will continue, your P/Q club is planning to back as usual in September.

To make this happen, however, there are procedures to be followed for the good of the club. You have already been sent the proposed budget and can contact Lynn Brown, the treasurer, who will collect comments and report later. The nomination process is still on-going.

The executive recommended that the club start a pilot project following and adapting the Orillia Model for January 2021 as suggested by the nomination committee. Information on this model is in the minutes of March 9th general meeting.

One of the projects needed was the year-end reports from committee chairs and executive, which are included in this newsletter.

The Program committee is working on the fall-spring schedule for 2020-2021. Ideas are still being accepted. Please email me with your suggestions.

In the meantime, I am managing with this isolation lifestyle somewhat and thinking of you all and how you are all coping. Please reach out if help is needed.

Stay well and be safe

Valerie

CFUW - PQ President’s Report 2019 - 2020

The second year of my presidential term started with an important event - the CFUW AGM and Centennial celebration in August at the Fort Garry Hotel in Winnipeg, attended by Past President Jacqueline Russell, Eva Hilborn (our club’s notable woman), Mary Ellen Campbell (a past president) and me. A grand time was had by all: the gala dinner where all 100 notable women were acknowledged and those attending were presented, the dedication of a Centennial Plaque by Parks Canada to be displayed in Ottawa, visiting the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, tea at the Ralph Connor house (home to the Winnipeg Club) and touring the historical sites of Winnipeg.

Some of the highlights of the year were overseeing (but by no means responsible for), the two very successful fund-raising events, the October book sale, net $7,800, despite increased
expenses and over $2,000 (a record amount), raised at the December dinner auction for the Parksville Haven Home safe house. Thank you and congratulations to all involved.

In November, Advocacy Committee presented the Red Dress memorial in city halls in Qualicum Beach and Parksville, both well attended and publicized.

From January to March it was club business as usual, reports following. The Executive Committee worked on Policy and Procedure, the 2020-2021 budget, planning a new member gathering, nominations and discussions on leadership models for the future.

However, by March 16th world events had overshadowed our Parksville Qualicum club and the executive decided to cancel all face to face club events from March 23rd. In reality my busy calendar became blank, as all club meetings seized from then.

In the mode of self-isolation, the club has not turned off the lights, nor has the president’s role evaporated. Our membership chair has created a weekly Quarantidings Communicator email with uplifting, funny, and useful pieces to lighten our time alone.

We now communicate with members by email, telephone conference with the executive, and Zoom conference for Vancouver Island Presidents and National CFUW. The two AGMs scheduled for the summer will now be virtual by Zoom and therefore accessible to all CFUW members online.

As I write, government along with Dr Bonnie Henry and colleagues are making plans to lift the quarantine. Trusting this will go as planned and that we will be able to meet again as a club in September, under new normal rules whatever they may be, the club is planning new models and an exciting programme for next year.

Valerie Gunn

**Programme Report 2019 – 2020**

Theme: Strong Women – Difference Makers

Committee: Cathy Stewart, Valerie Gunn

September opened our club programme year with a gathering over appetizers supplied by the executive committee. Many guests were welcomed, friends connected, memberships renewed and donations to S&BT made. The mood was convivial and very upbeat.

October: Love at Sunset, local authors, Janet Dunnett and Carolynne Haynes, spoke on their work.
November: Czorny Alzheimer’s Centre – A Model for Person Centered Environment and Care, Dorrie Ferster – a new way of looking at residential care.

December: Christmas Dinner and Auction at Eaglecrest Golf Course with Silent and Live auction with proceeds to Parksville Haven Homes safe house. We raised over $2000.


February: Lady Godiva, Forest Activism Update, Briony Penn. Ecology information on the fragile ecology of Vancouver Island, oceans and land.

March: CFUW Resolutions: Six resolutions were considered, five were accepted with minor changes, one was rejected, but suggested to be rewritten. Thanks to Sheila Reed for directing the discussion.

April and May meeting were cancelled due to COVID 19 pandemic. The speakers, Carol Lundine and Buffy Trupp, will be contacted to speak next year.

The theme for next year will be “Celebrate Challenges: Facing Forward While Looking Back.” Appropriate for these interesting times.

(Contributed by Valerie Gunn.)

Annual Report 2019-2020
Past President: Jacqueline Russell

Assist the President
According to the Constitution the Past President assists the President in her duties as required. This year, 2019-2020, the Vice President position was vacant again, putting a few more tasks onto the Past President role.

Nomination Committee
One role of the Past President is to Chair the Nomination committee. Wendy Reimer and I, once again over the beginning months of 2020, circulated numerous requests regarding upcoming vacancies on the executive and in the running of the club. Offering opportunities under our current traditional model has not garnered enough support but interestingly, a number of CFUW-PQ members have stepped forward to fill positions for 2020-2021 once learning about the possibility of the Orillia Model of leadership.

The Orillia model spreads out the work of the President and Executive and duties are shared monthly rather than the traditional model which tends to focus on a year at a time in each
position. This new model also allows women in the club to get to know each other better on a monthly basis.

The Nomination committee strongly recommends that this be implemented in the Fall 2020. We fully support that the club move to a different model of leadership for 2020-2021 even as a Pilot Project since for the last 4 years the Nomination committee has struggled to find a Vice President therefore resulting in a void in the Executive and the inability to provide training for an upcoming President leaving the situation we are currently in of having no President for 2020-2021. For 2 years the Vice President position has been vacant leaving the Executive short a vital member and with the need for Executive members to take on more than their assigned roles, leading to potential burnout.

It has been my pleasure in the role of Past President to have worked alongside a committed group of women who focus on the needs of our community, on the CFUW-PQ club and CFUW as a whole. Thank you everyone for all your support. It’s been a terrific 6 years (VP, President and Past President).

Submitted by
Jacqueline Russell, Past President

**International Women’s Day 2020**  
**IWD Coordinator 2020:** Jacqueline Russell

The annual International Women’s Day 2020 committee of Sonya Felix, Brenda Correy [newspaper publicity] and me, met over the 3 months prior to 2020 International Women’s Day. The event, held on Sunday afternoon March 8, 2020, was a community success with over 90 people attending. The committee was very appreciative of all the volunteers who helped make our IWD 2020 Celebration a joyful event. Informative display tables were set up by our individual club committees generating lots of interest from our guests. One new member joined our CFUW-PQ club.

Guests included CFUW members from Duncan, Nanaimo, Lake Cowichan, Salt Spring Island and other communities, and included Barbara DuMoulin - BC Council President - who gave an overview of the activities and scope of BC Council, CFUW and GWI. Courtenay-Alberni Federal MP Gord Johns sent a welcome address. Guest Speaker, Dr Louise Mandell, QC (honorary) focused her talk on ‘Helping one another come home’ and received a rousing standing ovation at the conclusion. Appreciation was expressed to the staff of the Parksville Community Centre for their professional assistance prior to the event and on the day of the event. A donation from CFUW-PQ was forwarded to the Hesham Refugee Sponsorship Group.

(Contributed by Jacqueline Russell.)

**Website/Facebook 2019-2020**  
Website & Facebook Coordinator: Jacqueline Russell  
Website: [www.cfuwpq.ca](http://www.cfuwpq.ca)
Our club’s website was developed in 2016 and like all websites it is a continual work in progress. My time has been limited to work on the website this year due to other CFUW-PQ commitments, but the plan is to focus more on this important area of club activity for 2020-2021. Changes to the information on the website are made via members’ comments or submissions, or by me seeing the need for changes and as Web Coordinator I look forward to your contributions and feedback.

The website consists of public pages and ‘Membership only’ pages requiring a membership password to access. Work to make website changes is typically done in the summer months when meetings and club activity is at a minimum or none existent. This year the Membership only area was re-arranged, compacted and more pages added to allow for the capturing of the large amount of information coming to us from BC Council, CFUW and GWI.

This year we also initiated our own CFUW-PQ clubs Facebook page. Currently we have 40 Facebook ‘members’ who have joined our Facebook page. Our club’s Facebook page was a great addition for our club allowing us to immediately advertise upcoming events such as our annual Book Sale in October, our Red Dress project, our IWD event in March, and to show off and advertise the numerous Scholarship and Bursary Trust awards.

Many community members access Facebook. Our Facebook page will be another area of focused work in 2020-2021 and plans are for initiating both an Instagram account and Twitter account to assist with reaching and marketing to younger women in our community.

(Contributed by Jacqueline Russell.)

**Policy and Procedures Working Group 2019-2020**

Committee Members: Jacqueline Russell, Lorna Miller, Noreen Ballantyne, Wendy Reimer, (with President Val Gunn ex officio)

The Policy and Procedures Working group was established in June 2019 to address some of the issues arising from a lack of clarity about club processes. Members were feeling confusion around how things actually work in the club and a suggestion was made that some clear Policies be drawn up and be posted on our Website for all to refer to. Members decided that a Committee be formed to address this lack of clarity of club processes and ideas for the policies to be established were submitted to the Working Group.

The Policy and Procedures Working Group began their meetings in the summer of 2019. Overall, for 2019-2020, with input from members, 10 policies were hammered out and brought back to the membership for discussion and approval. Six policies have been passed by the membership with four others needing to be ratified in September. Below is the list of Policies and Procedures developed and passed and those needing to be ratified.

All are posted in the Members Only section of the website for easy reference.

**Policies Passed:**
- Project Proposal Approval Process
- Procedure for Budget Requests
GM Minutes, Executive Minutes and Agendas
Meeting Procedure regarding Motions
Privacy Guidelines
Quorum Clarity (Constitutional change adopted Nov 2019)

To be ratified September 2020:
- Revenue from Club Events
- Sponsorships, Partnerships and Participation in Community Groups
- Interest Group Membership
- Treasurer’s Reports

(Contributed by Jacqueline Russell.)

CFUW PQ Membership Report 2019-2020
April 28, 2020

As this is the end of my 4th and final year doing membership, I would like to present a summary of activities and new initiatives during that time.

Membership
A 4-year summary of club membership is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net Total Members</th>
<th>New Members</th>
<th>Did Not Renew</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>6**</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 1 member returned in 2018-19  ** 2 members returned in 2017-18

New initiatives
1) Surveying discontinued members
As a significant number of members do not renew each year, I contacted each person to see if they were willing to indicate a reason. There reasons for non-renewal have stayed relatively constant. Changes to the member’s own health or that of family were consistently the most common reason given. Four members moved away from Parksville-Qualicum. Each year several people said that indicated that they either no longer wished to attend evening meetings and/or did not drive at night. Each year several newly-joined members who did not return indicated that other activities that were a higher priority for them.

Even though membership has been relatively constant over the 4 years, there has been a demographic shift with a significant number of long-time members leaving the club.
1) A thank you letter for discontinuing members was developed for the President’s signature and was sent each year to all discontinuing members. It thanks them for their participation in the club and sends good wishes. This has been particularly well received, with a number of phone calls and emails received.

2) A new brochure was developed and printed starting in Fall 2017 for the 2017-18 year. It outlines the current year’s program and has been useful as a marketing tool. In consultation with several Executive members, I developed the content. The brochure was designed professionally by Kelly Picard of Divanti Design; Kelly has done this for free in each of the past 3 years. VistaPrint has been used each year and by watching for online sales, the cost of high-quality printing has been less than 40 cents per copy. A heartfelt thank you to Kelly for her excellent advice and patience as we worked through this process.

3) The Membership directory has been reformatted, thanks to Brenda Correy. The existing directory, produced on old software with embedded formatting, caused serious difficulties with each update, no matter how minor. Brenda Correy volunteered to take on this task. Before reformatting and re-entering all data from scratch, Brenda contacted all members to verify that all their information was correct. This was a huge task, but the membership directory is now in pristine, easy-to-update condition for use going forward. A heartfelt thank you to Brenda for all of her work on this!

4) The new members’ event was held outside a private home for the first time in Spring 2019. Usually done as a Tea, the large influx of new members in 2018-19 required an alternate location. The Parksville Museum allowed us to rent their large meeting room and kitchen at an exceptionally reasonable rate. The format was changed to Tapas and Sangria, with Spanish-themed décor. The venue and tapas, largely contributed by the Executive, were a hit. Due to COVID-19 restriction, the new members’ event was cancelled in Spring 2020.

5) A weekly “newsletter” was developed as one way to connect members during the COVID-19 pandemic once all further club, committee and interest group meetings were curtailed in mid-March 2020. When asked to submit humorous or uplifting items, members have done so with regularity. My hat is off to every contributor! Usually around 4 or 5 pages, the weekly has had 6 issues starting with March 23rd. June Arnett won the naming contest and the weekly is now called “Quarantidings”. Well done, June! The new, informal weekly has provided welcome connections between members.

One task remains to be completed – finishing the update to the Membership Manual.
Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Stableford - Membership Coordinator

Advocacy Committee Year-End Report
A. Committee Focus and Priority

Aligning with CFUW National and Provincial priorities in the areas of:
- Violence Against Women
- Indigenous Peoples
• Early Childhood Education and Childcare
• Environment/Climate Action
• Poverty in Oceanside especially during the pandemic

BY
Having a broad-based impact in the community where as many individuals as possible benefit and where we continue to expand awareness of CFUWPQ’s profile and image.

AND BY
Collaborating with other organizations for a synergistic outcome that provides leverage as we have limited human and financial resources.

B. Summary of activities in 2019/2020

• Collaborating with CPOC (Communities Protecting Our Coast) as one of the sponsors for the following film showings at Knox United Church including expert panel discussions Environment/Climate Action:

  * Beyond Climate - October 2019; Artifishial - February 2020

• Red Dress Project ceremonies and displays in both Parksville and Qualicum remembering the more than 1000 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Children in Canada and introducing some of the “Calls to Justice” in the National Enquiry Report “Reclaiming Power and Place” published June 2019 after a 3 year extensive enquiry Violence Against Women/Indigenous Peoples. Both Parksville and Qualicum mayors and council members participated as did Chief Michael Recalma, the Superintendent of Schools District 69, a representative from Gord Johns office and Reverends Andrew Twiddy and Christine Muise of St. Anne & St. Edmund (both of whom are very knowledgeable about and committed to Indigenous issues). Total expenditure was approximately $145 for publicity (The Beach Radio) and poster printing.

• Encounters Canada Program - paying the full cost ($800) of one student to participate in this federally sponsored program (coordinating with Lana Rohn the District Career Education Coordinator

• Participating in the “Stroller Brigade” in October 2019 in collaboration with the Early Learning Child Care Council of Oceanside and the province-wide $10/Day Child Care campaign. (No cost)

• Invited to be a member of the newly created School District 69 Climate Action Task Force which will culminate in a Climate Emergency Symposium planned for the fall of 2020.
C. Planned Activities for 2020/2021

Poverty in Oceanside - following the lead of BC Council and in view of the additional complexities brought on by the pandemic we are exploring ways CFUWPQ can have impact with the homeless and other at risk groups.

Climate Action/Climate Emergency - continued collaboration with CPOC on events and activities that are feasible within pandemic restrictions including providing expert educational resources to the School District 69 Climate Action Task Force.

Red Dress Project - plan to increase collaboration with others to bring more focus to Calls to Justice for all Canadians in the report Reclaiming Power and Place. Indigenous Issues/Violence Against Women.

Back Pack Program for District 69 - all 9 schools participate (Early learning/Poverty). On hold for the time being due to School disruption. We are monitoring the situation.

Early Learning - collaborating with schools with most underprivileged students to support Literacy Efforts that include parents.

(Contributed by Debby Wetmore, on behalf of the committee.)

Global Outreach Annual Report for 2019 / 2020


Participation: The committee was represented at all the club’s Executive and General meetings. Global Outreach held two meetings at Catherine Khan’s home: October 3, 2019 and February 6, 2020. Some decisions were made by a round of emails.

CFUW-PQ is committed to girls’ education, worldwide. We sponsor girls through 4 projects. Currently we sponsor a Tanzanian girl from beginning to end of high school This year Mariamu Omary is doing her “O” levels at Endasak Secondary, near Katesh, CHES headquarters in that country. We have been associated before in Kenya with CHES (Canadian Harambee Educational Society. We help support a Guatemalan girl going to university on Saturdays to
obtain a teaching diploma in Special Needs Children. We also support a school in Pakistan and teacher training for a group of Ugandan women.

Members who are interested can find out more about these agencies at the following links:
GWI:  www.graduatewomen.org/what-we-do/projects/secondary-school-teachers-for-rural-futures/
CHES: www.canadianharambee.ca
DIL Ghazi School: www.dil.org or www.dil.canada.ca/
Aldea Maya: www.aldeamaya.ca

**Communication with Club Members:** A total of $1,500 in sponsorships came from our club budget, thereby giving us all a share in supporting the education of girls. This year all our sponsorships were personally monitored by the Club. We know how our donations are being used and what benefit they are in promoting the education of women and girls. In one of the cases we have not felt as confident and because we do not see enough change occurring in the GWI project in Uganda, we voted to discontinue that one in the 2020/2021 year.

Because of Covid-19 our budget for the upcoming year, 2020 – 2021, will be $1,100, allowing $600 for our CHES student, and $250 each for DIL and Aldea Maya. Our hope to sponsor an inspirational speaker, Dr. Brenda Trenholme, will have to be postponed to another year. Our committee agreed to these two changes via email at the beginning of April.

If any member wishes to correspond with the CHES or Aldea Maya students’ names and addresses are available. We updated our webpage in September and continue to submit articles about world development in the monthly club newsletter. We have a second large poster board of photos now, thanks to Janet Farooq. These were on display 3 or 4 times at meetings or events during the year, along with newsletters from CHES and personal letters from the girls being sponsored. Global Outreach wishes to thank the members of the Club for their ongoing support of, and interest in, our sponsorships.

Respectfully submitted: Wendy Reimer, Co-chair with Catherine Khan, Global Outreach

**Update from Canadian Harambee Education Society**

This is a letter of thanks from our graduating student, Mariamu Omary. The senior students wrote their final exams last Fall and they have probably been anxiously awaiting the results. If it is similar to the CHES students on the Kenyan side of the border, the girls have to pay to get their results. Then there is another delay (as late as August) while the girls wait to see which university, if any, they are ‘called’ to. It is chosen for them. In other words, the dust doesn’t settle for about a year.

Since Mariamu was hoping to go on to 2 years of advanced secondary school, I suspect her marks weren’t high enough either for the universities or CHES. They have sent us information about a new Form 1 student which we will share in the first Fall newsletter.

Submitted by Wendy Reimer
For Global Outreach
Endasak Secondary School,
PO Box 145, Katesh – Manyara

28 November, 2019

Dear CFUW Parksville Qualicum Club,

It’s my hope you are going on well with your daily timetable. I am very happy to greet you by this last letter I write to you. I am fine and I am going well.

I like to give you more thanks because you make me live happy from when I was in form one up to now. You make me feel the same as anyone else who studies in my school. When I explained to you my problems you started to support my education life by paying my school fees and other contributions. You are my parent because most that I needed I got from you. I learn one thing from you which is helping other people who suffer from different problems, especially in educational progress like me. It is my hope that I can pass well in my fourth form national examination which was already done on November 2019.

But there are something which make me sad because I have to leave alone now my young sister and brother who are very close to me in different things such as debate, morning and evening speech, subject clubs, sport and game. I was happy when I was together with them in these programs. No way out I can escape it, because is government plans. Also I can’t participate in CHES tutorials. This causes me much pain.

Moreover, nothing more to tell you, except much thanks to you because you make me resemble other students. Have long lives and may God bless you forever. Pass my greetings to all your friends and family. Have a nice life.

I wish you all the best,

Your loving,
Mariamu Omary

“I was happy” [here at school]

“This causes me much pain.” [Perhaps referring to government mandated cut-offs for low marks?]

*Form 4 marks were included with the letter:
Civics, History, Geography, and English, all D (30 – 40%)  
Chem, Biology and Math, all F (0 – 29%)  
Kiswahili (spoken and written Swahili, the common language) C (41 – 60%)
There is never enough information on report cards to tell the whole story to ‘parents’. The girls work very hard – CHES makes very sure of that – and are certainly self-motivated to do well. The system is brutal about unavoidable things such as illness and disaster in the family. No excuses. No re-writes. Some students have a bit more English than others and progress faster as a result. CHES girls are chosen because they were at the head of their primary schools and did well on their final primary exams, but it can depend on the quality of the school in the first place. We think Mariamu is in a far superior place with her 4 years in a good Secondary school, using English every day, than she would have been with just Primary school. She was in a safe environment and learned what is available in the world. Otherwise she would probably be hoeing maize with two babies in tow.

(Contributed by Wendy Reimer, on behalf of the committee.)

Interim Annual Report CFUW/PQ Scholarship and Bursary Trust
April 2020

This year the Trust has offered $27,500 in awards, thanks to the Club grant, individual donations and the Thrifty’s Smile Card program. These normal sources of funds are once again supplemented with the special grant from the 100+ Women Who Care Oceanside enabling us to once more double the value of the Memorial Awards from $2,000 to $4,000 each. A $10,000 donation from a private donor wishing to support women in the Trades made possible a new award, the Red Seal Apprenticeship Award, which will be funded at $2,000 each year for 5 years. A Working Group of Trustees developed the criteria and procedures for this new award and made contact with the Industry Training Authority of B.C. to facilitate this venture into a new area of education. The Trust was also pleased to add another new award of $1,000 for a woman entering second year of a two-year Early Childhood Education program.

For the first time, the Corresponding Secretary contacted all applicants for the high school and postsecondary awards in 2019 to remind them of their eligibility to apply for other relevant awards in 2020. This reminder has elicited positive feedback from many applicants.

This time of year, when applications are received, reviewed and evaluated will be very different in 2020 as a result of the protocols imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Trust has asked each high school to make the selection from the applications they receive and advise us of the results. All applications for the postsecondary, Early Childhood Education and Red Seal Apprenticeship Awards for 2020 must be submitted by email in PDF format to a new email account which has been established for this purpose. Trustees will do their usual reviewing and evaluating electronically for the first time. We look forward to carrying out the important work of the Trust in this new environment and plan to share the names and details of winners in the usual Our Report at the first meeting of the 2020-21 season of the Club.

Noreen A. Ballantyne, Chair, CFUW/PQ Scholarship & Bursary Trust
Talking Circle Message

Dear CFUW Members,

I recently attended an evening with Senator Murray Sinclair as the speaker. It was held at the Sid Williams Theatre in Courtenay. Because he had flu the evening was done remotely - Senator Sinclair was bigger than life on a screen - it was a great way to see him and hear his stories, including how he became a Canadian Senator. A major point to be taken from his talk was the importance of having a plan, particularly the Federal Government with built in accountability at all levels including the public service. MPs to their constituents, the Cabinet to the MPs, the public service to the Minister they work under. Only with accountability will Canada go forward with the 97 calls for action.

Murray Sinclair has led a varied and interesting life. Just google Murray Sinclair.

The small booklet as seen below has been produced containing the 97 calls for action along with a copy of the UN UNDRIP. It was produced with the cooperation of 8 of Canada’s mainstream churches.

We can obtain copies of this booklet SO - I suggest any interested club member contact me to obtain a copy. THEN we can decide which of the actions we want to discuss and have a ZOOM meeting on a prearranged date. ZOOM is an internet tool that allows many people to participate in a virtual meeting.

Let me know if this interests you. Another suggestion is: google Rosanna Deerchild. She is the host for the CBC Radio program Unreserved. The programs are on podcast and you can select one on a topic that interests you.

(Contributed March 28 [just too late for the previous newsletter], by Robin Robinson.)
CFUW PQ provided 10 gift baskets as part of our Community out-reach and Club promotion. The recipients this year were as follows: Hospice (2), Child Haven, First Nations (2), Dragon Boat, Forward House, IWD (2) and a thank you basket for the Storage Unit we have for books. This number is fewer than last year in part due to the cancellation of events as a result of COVID-19. There are items ready to be assembled into baskets once this health crisis is resolved and events resume. Special thanks to members who have donated baskets and offered wonderful items for them.

Lorna Miller

Book Pickup from Donation Box at Save-on Foods
Book Box Pickup Coordinators are: Sharon Sawkins, Eileen Edwards, and Sheila Reed.

Apr 27 – May 03 Sheri Plummer
May 04 – May 10 Linda Fullalove
May 11 – May 17 Mary Ellen Campbell
May 18 – May 24 Nanci Langford
May 25 – May 31 Janet Farooq
Jun 01 – Jun 07 Geraldine Mason
Jun 08 – Jun 14 Carolyn Collier
Jun 15 – Jun 21 Nita Jack
Jun 22 – Jun 28 Claire Lightfoot
Jun 29 – Jul 05 Carol Gemgembre
Jul 06 – Jul 12 Val Gunn
Jul 13 – Jul 19 Barbara Bond
Jul 20 – Jul 26 Sharon Sawkins
Jul 27 – Aug 02 Katharina Rout
Aug 03 – Aug 09 Vivien Sears
Aug 10 – Aug 16 Delores Sauter
Aug 17 – Aug 23 Robin Robinson
Aug 24 – Aug 30 Debby Wetmore
Aug 31 – Sep 06 Elaine Watson
Sep 07 – Sep 13 Pat Wheeler

*Please note that this list is not necessarily up to date

Remember! Please use empty boxes that once held wine or liquor and pack books tightly within them, ensuring that the top flaps will fold shut. Please call or email the next person on the list once your week is complete. The coordinators suggest you check the box daily, as increased advertising through social media has resulted in increased donations. Dispose of any culled
books in your own garbage or take them to the transfer station. Make sure you keep the receipt if you must use the transfer station’s facilities. Call for help if you need it. The storage crew on duty for that month will help if necessary with culling, packing, carrying, and storing.

**BOOK CULLING SUGGESTIONS:**
- Discard books that have torn pages, missing covers, loose pages, smelly, stained or many pencil notes.
- Discard all finance, medical, diet, travel, computers, law that are more than **five** years old.
- All National Geographic magazines as well as other magazines. Please keep knitting, decorating (quite current) and current cookery.
- All brochures and/or free material.
- All school and/or university textbooks.
- All Encyclopedias and yearbooks.
- Do It Yourself building books older than 2008 as tools have changed greatly.
- Self help - discard anything older than 2010 unless you know it is still a credible author.
- Reference - discard all dictionaries, thesauruses, atlases, if older than 2015.
- Cookbooks - older than 2000 and all the books that came with appliances.

The reason we are asking all members to cull aggressively and use their own garbage for disposal (if possible) as we now pay for the disposal of the leftover books. This also reduces the number of times the books are handled which saves a lot of work.

**Zoomish meeting**

Not everyone could ‘attend’ the photo montage mock-up of a ‘zoomish’ meeting depicted above, but are nevertheless with us in spirit and support as we move toward normality, even if it is a ‘new normal’. We are together, even if separated!
Book Club News

For April, the Wednesday night book club had planned to read *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver. The Tuesday afternoon book club had planned to read *The Hotel on Place Vendome: Life, Death and Betrayal at the Hotel Ritz in Paris* by Tilar J Mazzeo. The Thursday morning book club had planned to read *Educated* by Tara Westover.

For May, the Wednesday night book club had planned to read ‘your own choice of biography or autobiography’. The Tuesday afternoon book club had planned to read *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See. The Thursday morning book club had planned to read *China Dream* by Ma Jian.

(The information was contributed by Edie Ross, Wendy Heuberger, and Bev Walls. The images are courtesy of Mulberry Bush Bookstores.)
**Quotes**

Even minor infractions cannot be allowed to go without punishment, or where would we be? Besides, you’re a young girl, and unprotected (ed. *She is about 28 years old*). You need to be guarded against your weaknesses. Ambition is a dangerous thing in a girl like yourself. And it has a dreadful tendency to lead to rule-breaking. I should be very sorry to see that.

From *Radio Girls* by Sarah-Jane Stratford

“Broadcast speech can be overheard by everybody; the printed word is often overlooked. This universality has its most obvious use in relation to what we call news – the announcement of events. But when we have said ‘news,’ we have at once roused the fundamental controversy. What news is broadcast?”

From *Radio Girls* by Sarah-Jane Stratford, likely quoting Hilda Matheson

[Broadcasting was] “a capturing of sounds and voices all over the world to which hitherto we have been deaf. It is a means of enlarging the frontiers of human interest and consciousness, of widening personal experience, of shrinking the earth’s surface.”

From *Radio Girls* by Sarah-Jane Stratford, likely quoting Hilda Matheson

The economist [John Maynard Keynes] was more popular than Charlie Chaplin. It was infuriating, both because she wanted to ask him about Germany and because she had to meet the man who had said, “Words ought to be a little wild, for they are the assault of thoughts on the unthinking.”

From *Radio Girls* by Sarah-Jane Stratford

Finally, there was the possibility that my brain had been turned to mush by listening to popular music for so long. They used to talk about rock-and-roll damaging the mind, and it turns out that there may have been some truth to it. If pornography can change the physical structure of the brain, why not music? I had spent months – years – in my room with my playlist going non-stop. Most of those songs were three-to-four-minute paeans to love: love experienced, love lost, and love remembered. Candles burning, candles in the wind and rain, candles sat before.

My brain had been well and truly washed when it came to love.

From *The Best of Adam Sharp* by Graeme Simsion

There’s something about first love, isn’t there? she said. It’s untouchable to those who played no part in it. But it’s the measure for all that follows, she said.

From *Tin Man* by Sarah Winman

At the wall, in deep water, I flip. Disorientation and bubbles, a brief moment of letting go, and my arms blade, and I breathe, and my anger propels me, back and forth until my lungs burn and my head feels tight and there are no thoughts just a body in motion. And every length I swim, I slough off a layer of hospital visits, of smells, of hopelessness, of medication, of young men who became old too fast, and I swim and I swim and I swim.

From *Tin Man* by Sarah Winman

In the reflection, I watch a group of young people sprawling across the seats. Their legs are stretched out and occasionally they brush. A nudge with a foot on the other’s thigh. They are
boys in the bodies of men, but still boys, still gauche, still unsure. I catch glimpses of my young self in the reflection, and the landscape changes from warmth to cool, from wild to manicured, with gray clouds gathering low around the high-most hills.

From *Tin Man* by Sarah Winman

She was the very incarnation of a high-society shrew who’d seen better men and better days. A far cry from the well-polished, slender woman in the *Her Life* article. A lot can change in nearly thirty years, that was for sure. She was wearing a kimono that hung so loosely that her satin underwear became an integral part of her overall presentation. Sweeping gestures with long fingernails gesticulated at him. She had immediately perceived that he was a real hunk of a man – something she had apparently not outgrown.

“Do come in,” she greeted. Her boozy breath was day-old, but of quality origin. Malt whisky, Carl guessed. The air was so thick with it, an expert would probably be able to determine the vintage.

From *The Absent One* by Jussi Adler-Olsen.

It’s such a shame, she thought in a sudden moment of honesty. It’s such a shame, it was a beautiful night … a night made for love … We shouldn’t have wasted it. The rest isn’t important. But she stayed where she was; she didn’t get out of her bed to go to the window. She felt bound and gagged – a prisoner – united with this captive land that dreamed and sighed with impatience; she let the empty night drift by.

From *Suite Française* by Irene Nemirovsky, with thanks to Bonnie Stableford

My mother always said that a lot of men think that having bosoms means you’re a nitwit. She said the cleverest thing is to let them assume you’re an idiot, so you can crack on and prove them all wrong.

From *Dear Mrs Bird* by AJ Pearce

This much is sure: One thing follows another. “I’ll do this,” we say, “Because I feel like it.” We think we live like kings, but we are puppets on the throne. We send out proclamations and fancy we are making History and forget that it has made us.

From *Alentejo Blue* by Monica Ali

The sun smacked down so hard on the water it made little silver scars along the surface. A row of geraniums in earthenware pots gazed thirstily on.

From *Alentejo Blue* by Monica Ali

Jonnie shrugged and looked down at the floor. “That’s how people are, miss. Dunno why.”

“I agree with you, Jonnie,” she said. “That’s what makes it a good book. I just wanted you to . . .” She stopped because all of a sudden she felt ridiculous. What was the point of it all? She thought of the lessons she would give that afternoon and the things she’d say and the hands that would be raised and the answers she would hear and the praises she’d give and the prompts and the chiding and the ring of the bell and none of it, none of it, held any meaning. That’s how people are.

From *Alentejo Blue* by Monica Ali