Canadian Federation of University Women – Parksville / Qualicum

Our Theme this year:

Celebrate Challenges: Facing Forward, Looking Back

September 2020

President: Valerie Gunn (250-468-7536)

Vice President: TBA (vacant position)

Club Address: Box 113 Qualicum Beach, BC, V9K 1S7 See: https://cfuwpq.ca

Meeting: Monday September 14, 6 PM (Note different time!)

Program: AGM, followed by social time

Speaker(s): None

Greeters: Executive

What To Look For:

President’s Message
Programme Outlook
Past-President’s AGM Report
Scholarship & Bursary Trust Annual Report
Scholarship & Bursary Trust Appeal
Membership Report
Book Box pickup schedule
Book Club News
Quotes
President’s Message September 2020

Welcome back to a new season of CFUW Parksville Qualicum.

I am looking forward to getting together and seeing all of you again after the long shut down and summer break and looking forward to continuing our joint projects and club activities.

Like much of our lives, the CFUW club year 2020 – 2021 will be different, as we outlined in the most recent Quarantidings sent on July 21st along with the executive meeting notes.

For those of you who have read “Our 100 years CFUW” history book published in June you will know clubs have been in uncharted times before and have survived, afterward going on to be stronger and that’s what we mean to do also.

We are planning in person meetings, for this season of programme, but we are also prepared to go to virtual meetings if the need arises.

For the in-person meetings, the Qualicum Civic Centre has allowed us to change the room venue to the main hall, at the same cost, so we can be sure of social distancing, and we encourage everyone to wear masks, during the meetings.

The first meeting is in person on Monday September 14th. It will start at 6pm with a short AGM and afterward a meet and greet, catch up and chat, with your CFUW friends. There will be an opportunity to pay membership fees and give Scholarship and Bursary Trust funds by placing your cheque in a box, so there is no lining up. (email to go out August 26th)

All the interest groups, committees will be attending along with the book club convenors. Some book clubs, I hear, are enthusiastic and starting already. Come and talk to them all, to find out what has been planned.

Although our programme is not as solidly grounded as it is usually by this time of year, we do have speakers booked for October and November, for in person presentations. (See below) Planning is continuing for January, and onwards for remainder of the 2021 year, bearing in mind all plans may have to be revised at any time.

In the meantime I am looking forward to a productive year for our CFUW PQ club entering its 40th year.

Valerie Gunn
Program October 5, November 9 2020

The theme for 2020-2021:

Celebrate Challenges: Facing Forward, Looking Back.

Celebrate Challenges: this whole aspect will give us all new skills because we need them to prosper. The challenge aspect is clear; may you live in interesting times. One person I was speaking to commented after the 1918-1919 pandemic there was the roaring twenties, so if history repeats, we could be in for a ride.

Facing forward, looking back: CFUW is moving on into the 21st century, while looking back knowing where Canadian women have been and where they need to be in the future.

October is woman’s history month and our program subject is a woman who embodies all aspects of the theme, a looking back topic.

Title of Talk

Against the Current: The Remarkable Life of Agnes Deans Cameron

Abstract

Illustrated talk on Agnes Deans Cameron from Cathy Converse’s most recent book, Against the Current: The Remarkable Life of Agnes Deans Cameron.

Agnes Deans Cameron (1863-1912) was an author, journalist, educator, school trustee, sportswoman, orator, adventurer, and international celebrity. She was British Columbia’s first female high school teacher and first school principal. She became one of Canada’s most well-known writers, publishing in renowned international magazines and newspapers. Cameron was also a trailblazer in sports, earning the distinction as the first "Lady Centurion" in western Canada. In 1908 Cameron travelled the length of the Mackenzie River to the Beaufort Sea and back, a 10,000 mile journey. Cameron claimed she and her niece were the first non-indigenous women to reach the Arctic overland. Her book about these experiences, The New North, catapulted her onto the oratorical stages of Canada, the United States and England. Cameron is considered one of the 150 most significant individuals in the history of British Columbia.

Speaker’s Biography

Cathy Converse is a number-one best-selling author with several books listed on the BC Bestseller List. She has been writing for over thirty years and has written and co-authored six books and numerous cover stories for magazines and academic journals. Her fourth book, Following the Curve of Time: The Untold Story of Capi Blanchet, was honored as one of the top five books chosen for the Bill Duthie Booksellers Choice Award in 2009. At Camosun College, Ms. Converse is the former chair of Social Sciences, was a faculty member in the Department of Sociology, and a founder of the women’s studies curriculum and ancillary programs at Camosun College. In recognition of her work in writing historical biography, Ms. Converse is listed in Canadian Who’s Who.
November is a facing forward topic: environment and preparedness.

**Title of Talk**
Spill Response on Canada’s West Coast

**Abstract**

As the key component of Canada’s maritime environment protection, the WCMRC’s mandate is to prepare for any marine spills that may occur and to mitigate their impact should they happen. This includes protection of wildlife, economic and environmental sensitivities, and the safety of both responders and the public.

WCMRC’s on-water operations form the core of its organization. The Operations team conducts continuous training and equipment maintenance to ensure ready-state response capability. In the event of a marine spill, WCMRC vessels and personnel are on-scene managing the recovery.

**Speaker’s Biography**
Michael Lowry is the Communications Manager for Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC).

At the time of going to press I could not confirm with Mr. Lowry his expanded biography, as he is on vacation until the end of August.

As explained previously, we hope that these presentations will be in person, but in the event that cannot happen we will broadcast the speech by Zoom. However, date and time may have to rescheduled.

For those who have not done zoom meetings there will be information and videos sent out. For a zoom attendee the process is straight forward provided your internet connection is stable and has the supporting bandwidth.

**CFUW Annual General Meeting (AGM) June 19 and 20 and Special General Meeting (SGM) Aug 8, 2020 (all AGM meetings were held virtually due to COVID-19)**

Report by Jacqueline Russell, CFUWPQ Voting Delegate.

Prior to the AGM and the SGM a number of Advisories were sent out from CFUW by email. These Advisories included links to the Business Booklet (which included Agenda, Motions and Resolutions), the Mediation Report, Action Plan Updates, Finance booklet (with Proposed Operating Budget 2020-2021), Charitable Trust Annual Report, and Annual Reports for 2019-2020. These advisories with links to the above noted documents are posted on the CFUWPQ website in the Members only section for members reference. CFUWPQ members were alerted via email regarding these advisories and encouraged to view them and send any comments or questions.
Here is the link to our webpage. Log in via our Members only page to access the AGM and SGM Advisories and Reports and to access my report given to the CFUW PQ Executive at the Aug 17, 2020 meeting:  https://cfuwpq.ca

Special Note: Prior to the CFUW AGM June 19/20 the Awards ceremony was held Thursday June 18, 2020 virtually. Typically, in a face to face AGM the Awards ceremony is part of the overall AGM events. CFUWPQ was awarded the National Initiatives Award for the Advocacy committees Red Dress Project Violence Against Women and a Certificate of Merit Award for International Women’s Day event Mar 8th 2020. Debbie Wetmore and Eva Hilborn attended the virtual award ceremony via Zoom to accept the Awards on behalf of the CFUWPQ club.

Congratulations everyone!

I look forward to a full AGM report from CFUW coming out soon. I know the new CFUW Board is meeting and working on the new information that was decided at the AGM and SGM. Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to be the club’s voting delegate for the AGM and SGM 2020. As usual it was a great learning experience. If you have any questions please connect with me.

Cheers, Jacqueline Russell, Past President.

2019-2020 Annual Report of the CFUW/PQ Scholarship & Bursary Trust

While this has been a very busy and successful year for the Trust, the COVID-19 pandemic did require many adaptations and revisions to normal working procedures. Unable to meet face to face, Trustees conducted business through email and phone calls. High Schools were asked to make the selection from applications they received and advise us of the results. All applications for Memorial, post-secondary, Early Childhood Education and Red Seal Trades awards had to be submitted by email in PDF format to a new email account established for that purpose. Each Trustee received copies of all applications on a thumb drive to review and evaluate. Many of these new working procedures that were adopted out of necessity, worked so well that they will become regular procedures going forward. I want to thank all the hardworking, dedicated and particularly adaptable Trustees for their contributions this year: June Arnett (Treasurer), Janet Farooq (Corresponding Secretary), Val Gunn (Publicity), Catherine Khan (Secondary School Liaison), Shirley Ledrew (Assistant Treasurer), Sharon Sawkins (Recording Secretary), and Maureen Wood (Member at Large).

We were very happy to recognize the achievements of 15 young women from our community. The details about each of the winners will be published in a separate report. Thanks to the generosity of our individual donors, the CFUW/PQ Club grant, the Thrifty’s Smile Card programme, the special grant from 100+Women Who Care Oceanside and a private donation to support an award for women in the Trades, we awarded $35,000 this year. The awards were: 3 Secondary School scholarships of $1,000 each; 4 Memorial undergraduate scholarships of $4,000 each; 2 Post Graduate scholarships of $2,000 each; 2 Return to School bursaries of $2,500 each; 2 Early Childhood Education awards of $1,000 each; the JC Reid Memorial Scholarship of $3,000 and the new Red Seal Apprenticeship award of $2,000. The new Red Seal
Apprenticeship award did present some challenges regarding our ability to reach possible candidates and this will require more work in the coming year.

Maureen Wood and Janet Farooq joined the Trust during the year when Vicky Burton and Nanci Langford stepped down. Shirley Ledrew will be retiring from the Trust after her latest 4-year term as Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and general Technology Advisor. She will be greatly missed. A replacement Trustee will be confirmed at the Club’s AGM.

Respectfully submitted
Noreen Ballantyne, Chair
August 2020

PLEASE DONATE TO THE SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY TRUST

The Trust, which is registered as a Charitable Trust with Revenue Canada, offers scholarships and bursaries to girls and women from School District 69. There is one scholarship for a graduating girl from each secondary school going on to a university program, as well as scholarships for undergraduate and postgraduate university students. The Trust also offers bursaries to local women who want to return to their education at an accredited Canadian institution. In 2020 the Trust provided two new awards: bursaries for students in Early Childhood Education programs and an award for a woman apprentice in a Red Seal trade.

These awards would be impossible without your support.

The coming year will be a financial challenge for the work of the Trust. Since the grant normally received from the Club will be unavailable, we will be heavily dependent on the generosity of individual donors. Last year, donations from our Club members provided 50% of the funds we received.

We are hoping that your generosity will once again be extended to assist the young women of our community reach their educational goals.

While we will be unable to formally receive donations at the upcoming September meeting, the Trust will have a box available for you to drop off your cheques. The Trust’s Treasurer will mail out your tax receipts. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please consider mailing your donations directly to:

Treasurer, Scholarship & Bursary Trust,
P.O. Box 113, Qualicum Beach, B.C. V9K 1N7

Make Cheques payable to: Scholarship Trust, CFUW Parksville-Qualicum

The Trust is also able to receive donations by Interac transfer. Please contact Treasurer, June Arnett (arnett.jl@telus.net) for transfer information.

If you would like to submit postdated cheques, we would be happy to receive them. We depend on your generosity to support the Trust and thank you for your continuing support of education.
CFUW PQ Membership Report

Membership Update
As of August 17\textsuperscript{th}, 16 members have renewed their memberships for 2020/21. Two more members have indicated that they intend to renew and a further 2 have indicated that they will not renew for the current year.

**Your membership** is important! Please renew at your earliest convenience. Although COVID-19 and the resulting restrictions must change how our local club operates this year, your club is alive and well and carrying on to the best of our ability. Two speakers are planned for this Fall. We hope that these can be face-to-face presentations but the Programme committee will ask our presenters if they are willing to do these by Zoom, should that be necessary. Book clubs are continuing, some in person or with the possibility of using Zoom. Our Advocacy, Global Outreach and Scholarship & Bursary Trust committees continue their valuable work, albeit working differently this year.

And, as always, **your membership in the local CFUW club** supports the essential work of CFUW across Canada and of GWI’s around the world. Covid-19 has disproportionately impacted racialized communities, health care workers who are predominantly women and many essential workers – often women. The pandemic has unleashed a significant increase in women experiencing domestic violence. CFUW’s input into these issues and into post-Covid recovery policies at home and around the globe are more pertinent than ever!

Membership fees remain unchanged at $120 for the fourth consecutive year.

Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Stableford

**Book Pickup from Donation Box at Save-on Foods**
Book Box Pickup Coordinators are: Sharon Sawkins and Sheila Reed. CFUW will continue collecting books and hopes to hold a book sale when it is safe to do so. Storage is secure, thanks to Lynn Brown.
Aug 24 – Aug 30 Barbara Bond
Aug 31 – Sep 06 Sheila Reed / Sharon Sawkins
Sep 07 – Sep 13 Pat Wheeler
Sep 14 – Sep 20 Sheila Reed / Sharon Sawkins
Sep 21 – Sep 27 Katharina Rout
Sep 28 – Oct 04 Sheila Reed
Oct 05 – Oct 11 Noreen Ballantyne

*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.

Book Club News

For September, the Tuesday afternoon book club plans to read The Island of Sea Women, by Lisa
See. The Wednesday night book club is now reading Unsheltered by Barbara Kingsolver and,
for September, will be reading Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens. The Thursday
morning book club is now reading Once Upon a River by Diane Setterfield and, for September,
will be reading Mozart’s Starling by Lyanda Lynn Haupt.

(The information was contributed by Wendy Heuberger, Edie Ross and Vicky Burton. The
image is courtesy of Mulberry Bush Bookstores.)
Quotes

Air. The air still felt the same here, fresher somehow, cooler by a degree or two, and laden with the promise of the coastal rain to come. Who remembers air? Who, after all the time away, recalls how the air felt in the lungs and against the skin of the face, on the hands?

From *Ragged Company* by Richard Wagamese

“I would appreciate a little common decency in the way you look at me and the way you speak to me, too.”

Silence.

“They understand?”

“Yes.” Spoken carefully – enough coolness to leave no mistake that she found her mother detestable, but not so cool as to allow her mother to continue her accusations of rudeness.”

From *Amy and Isabelle* by Elizabeth Strout

So there were a variety of joys, large and small, taking place throughout the town, including a hearty laugh between Dottie Brown and Fat Bev as they sat at their desks in the office room, the kind of laugh (in this case regarding Dottie Brown’s mother-in-law) that comes from two women who have known each other for many years, who take comfort and joy in the small, familiar expressions of one another, and who feel, once the laugh has run its course – with an occasional small giggle still left, and a tissued patting of the eyes – a lingering warmth of human connection, the belief that one is not, after all, so very much alone.

From *Amy and Isabelle* by Elizabeth Strout

Yes, it is like a fabric: sashimi is velvet dust, verging on silk, or a bit of both, and the extraordinary alchemy of its gossamer essence allows it to preserve a milky density unknown even by clouds.

From *Gourmet Rhapsody* by Muriel Barbery

And yet he has in his possession all the arms that make for the best duelist: a fine way with his pen, nerve, panache. His prose . . . his prose was nectar, ambrosia, a hymn to language: it was gut-wrenching, and it hardly mattered whether he was talking about food or something else, it would be a mistake to think that the topic mattered: it was the way he phrased it that was so brilliant.

From *Gourmet Rhapsody* by Muriel Barbery

Words: repositories for singular realities which they then transform into moments in an anthology, magicians that change the face of reality by adorning it with the right to become memorable, to be placed in a library of memories. Life exists only by virtue of the osmosis of words and facts, where the former enlace the latter in ceremonial dress.

From *Gourmet Rhapsody* by Muriel Barbery

He does not understand yet that adventure is the easiest of all challenges, when the monster has a face and a name and you can place a boot on its chest and pull out that long wet blade and know that it will not rise again. He does not understand yet that there are things that keep one awake at
night which are more terrifying than pirates or reefs, and cannot be avoided by the dousing of lights at dusk and the possession of a good map. He does not understand yet that sometimes the monster is other people, sometimes the monster squats unseen inside one’s own heart, and sometimes the monster is the brute fact of time itself.

From *The Porpoise* by Mark Haddon

[She’d] imagined writing poetry in the wilderness but somehow found herself sunk in the mundane difficulties of raising a child and running a household in the wilderness instead. There’s the idea of wilderness, and then there’s the unglamorous labour of it, the never-ending grind of securing firewood; bringing in groceries over absurd distances; tending the vegetable garden and maintaining the fences that keep the deer from eating all the vegetables; repairing the generator; remembering to get gas for the generator; composting; running out of water in the summertime; never having enough money because job opportunities in the wilderness are limited; managing the seething resentment of your only child, who doesn’t understand your love of the wilderness and asks every week why you can’t just live in a normal place that isn’t wilderness; etc.

From *The Glass Hotel* by Emily St. John Mandel

[. . . ] the city drew her in, the city was the antidote to the riotous green of her childhood memories. She wanted concrete and clean lines and sharp angle, sky visible only between towers, hard light.

From *The Glass Hotel* by Emily St. John Mandel

[He was] “trapped in a meeting that had outlived its natural lifespan but refused to die.”

From *The Glass Hotel* by Emily St. John Mandel

One of our signature flaws as a species: we will risk almost anything to avoid looking stupid.

From *The Glass Hotel* by Emily St. John Mandel

Solving math problems is the tiniest fraction of what human intelligence does. We learned from a new angle just how wondrous a thing the brain is. A one-litre, liquid-cooled, three-dimensional computer. Unbelievable processing power, unbelievably compressed, unbelievable energy efficiency, no overheating. The whole thing running on twenty-five watts – one dim light bulb.

From *Machines Like Me* by Ian McEwan

“The point is, chess is not a representation of life. It’s a closed system. Its rules are unchallenged and prevail consistently across the board. Each piece has well-defined limitations and accepts its role, the history of a game is clear and incontestable at every stage, and the end, when it comes, is never in doubt. It’s a perfect information game. But life, where we apply our intelligence, is an open system. Messy, full of tricks and feints and ambiguities and false friends. So is language – not a problem to be solved or a device for solving problems. Its more like a mirror, no, a billion mirrors in a cluster like a fly’s eye, reflecting, distorting and constructing our world at different focal lengths. Simple statements need external information to be understood because language is as open a system as life.

From *Machines Like Me* by Ian McEwan