Canadian Federation of University Women – Parksville / Qualicum

Our Theme this year:
Celebrate Challenges: Facing Forward, Looking Back
May 2021

President: Valerie Gunn (250-468-7536)
Leadership Circle: Sheila Reed (250-954-2226)
Communications: Victoria Morris @ technology@cfuwpq.ca.
Club Address: Box 113 Qualicum Beach, BC, V9K 1S7 See: https://cfuwpq.ca
Meeting: Monday May 10. 7-9 PM, by Zoom
Program: A Look at the Lost Women of British Columbia
Speaker: Dianne Gillespie

What To Look For:
President’s Message
Program Information
UN Status of Women conference
Long Term Care Working Group
BC Council AGM
Future Program
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Fundraiser
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Books of Interest, Quotes
Sad and Happy News
Invitation to a CFUW Vancouver Zoom meeting
President’s Message May 2021

The month of May already? I cannot believe how fast 2021 is progressing, especially when you are busy with CFUW despite lockdowns and travel bans.

The fun I have been engaging in lately are the many Zoom meetings both nationally and local meetings and committees. I was very interested to hear at our last general meeting, members were questioning various events happening nationally. Although I send all of the national action newsletters on to you all, I know it is hard to get a sense of what is really happening unless you are somewhat involved.

This is where Zoom is a marvelous addition to the range of communication we have and CFUW is well in the fray. I want to encourage you all to join a Zoom meeting to see and hear all the energetic and well-informed women across Canada.

The series of meetings I recently attended with the Long-Term Care working group demonstrated this as I was often put in break out rooms with the heavy hitters, the women who really know how to get things done. More on this later.

This is the season of AGMs. All will be virtual this year, although this week I loved the idea be in Kelowna in May, maybe next year. In all cases these meetings are no charge.
- May 14/15 Friday/ Saturday CFUW BC Council AGM. Virtual (Zoom)
- Further information to register see below.
- June 17 Monday 7pm CFUW PQ AGM (Zoom)
- June 25/26 National AGM Virtual (Zoom)

Our May program promises to be special, with our own Dianne Gillespie as presenter, explaining her experiences in the north, and writing mysteries. See below. Also take a look at the website http://www.thelostwomen.com

Looking forward to all new spring things.

Valerie Gunn

Calendar May 2021

April 29 Long Term Care in Canada, Panel Discussion 4-6pm Zoom
May 4   Elders Day, Day of Action Town Hall 10-12pm Zoom
(see below for information on registration for both)
May 10 CFUW PQ General Meeting 7 pm - Speaker Dianne Gillespie
May 14/15 CFUW BC Council AGM
   Friday speakers 10am & 1.00pm. Saturday business 9.30am
May 17 CFUW Edmonton, Caring for and About Older People in Canada, What Matters
   Dr Donna Wilson U of A Professor of Nursing 6pm
(See April 23rd Club Action Newsletter for registration link)
Program
A Look at the Lost Women of British Columbia

Dianne Gillespie lived and worked along Highway 16, the “Highway of Tears” early in her teaching career during the 1970s when people first started noticing the women and girls going missing in the area. She taught in schools where some of the indigenous students came from a local residential school which was closing down. She has been concerned about the tragic extent of the problem of these missing and murdered people for many years. Her first novel in the Lost Women Series was begun twenty years ago and finished only when she found time to write upon retirement. Now, there are two finished books in the series, *Wildwoods Child* and *Road to Ruin*, and a third, *Deadly Dance*, is in progress. A fourth story is planned.

Dianne will talk about her years in the north and how those experiences led to her interest in mystery writing. She will share memories of her dealings with First Nations communities in this beautiful part of British Columbia and will try to provide some updates about their current concerns.

Dianne says:
My new novel *Road to Ruin* is available:

Print edition:

https://www.amazon.com/Road-Ruin-Book-Lost-Women/dp/1706496192/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=1576350603&sr=8-1

Kindle edition:

https://www.amazon.com/Road-Ruin-Book-Lost-Women-ebook/dp/B082CBQQZY/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=1576350603&sr=8-1

  •  ISBN-10: 1706496192

Also, the first novel in the series, *Wildwoods Child*, is still available:

Print edition:
http://www.amazon.com/dp/1522957456

Kindle edition:
http://www.amazon.ca/dp/1522957456

E-Pub ISBN 9781311088864
Visit my Website http://www.thelostwomen.com

(Contributed by Dianne Gillespie.)
United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW65)

UNCSW65 Theme and Focus: Women’s full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

This year the 2-week intensive UNCSW65 was held virtually March 15 - March 26 2021. Typically, it is held in New York, which entails flights, hotels, meals, walking to events etc, and although perhaps not as meaningful as the spontaneity of face-to-face experiences this was perhaps better in some ways, as many, many more events could be attended from our own home.

The CFUW International Relations (IR) committee led ably by CFUW VP Joy Hurst, Edmonton club, organized the CFUW delegation. Joy has the experience of attending UNCSW in past years on behalf of CFUW and her experience showed during this year’s CSW. The CFUW delegation (27 members from across Canada) was also competently assisted by Charlotte Akin, CFUW Advocacy Coordinator.

I attended over 40 zoom ‘side’ and ‘parallel’ events (typically 1.5 -3hrs in duration) from around the world including the well-presented and impressive Canadian events. The following events stood out for me:

- Side Event: Social Economic situation of Palestinian women under Israeli Occupation.
- Side Event: High Level Side Event of the Group of Friends for the elimination of violence against women and girls-the Shadow Pandemic
- The Nasrin Film (highly recommend viewing this online) & viewing the ‘Socially Relevant’ films
- Digital Gender Gaps and Opportunities: Fostering equal participation and ending violence against women in the connected age.
- High Level Side Event: An Intergenerational Dialogue on Child, Early and Forced Marriage
- Parallel event: Reclaiming our Humanity: The urgent need for Women’s Leadership in Addressing Migration Issues.

By the beginning of the 2nd week I clearly understood what ‘Zoom fatigue’ was about.

Here are some brief thoughts from attending this 2-week incredible experience offered by being a CFUW member, and I highly recommend adding it to your bucket list:
When I first attended the sessions on the Monday, I was stuck by how similar the issues were to the 70’s, and 80’s. I was feeling rather concerned that not much had changed for gender equity, parity and for human rights. In fact, it is perhaps true we have slid backward in many countries. But as I attended more sessions both side and parallel, my spirits picked up as I listened to the incredible young women attending and presenting around the world. I could see that we are in good hands and that even though many of the issues remain the same, the number of women and human rights defenders, presenting analysis and problem solving had expanded and deepened since the 70s and 80’s. These women I heard were very bravely and capably leading the way. I became hopeful as the days passed and even more so hearing that Generation Equality would be held in Mexico at end of March and then more sessions in Paris a few months later.

We need to break this cycle. Legacies of patriarchy, a male dominated world of over 2500 years will take a concerted effort. And Colonialism around the world has left a brutal legacy that needs to be addressed and changed. Women need to be supported, encouraged and be front and centre in all areas: community, education, social, political, justice & laws, and economic. We need many women in power who will change women’s situation. We need equal and more representation on Economic Boards, in Politics, in Governance, in Justice and in Cultural areas. Levels of violence are increasing against women around the world and COVID-19 has shown clearly and globally, what women have been trying to say for years and decades.

My action plan: continue to do what I can to support, collaborate and inspire women to achieve a world where women’s involvement, rights, equality and parity is a normal part of life on this planet.

In conclusion, the UN member states attempt to come up with an ‘Agreed Conclusions’ statement at the end of the 2 week session. This process begins well before the UNCSW starts and CFUW has an opportunity to add a written statement sometime in October/November regarding what we would like to see in the Agreed Conclusions.

Here are the links for the statement from CFUW and the final Agreed Conclusions.
Link to final agreed conclusions: https://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/65/csw65_agreed_conclusions_advance_unedited_version_29_march_2021.pdf?la=en&vs=5504

Thank you everyone for this incredible opportunity on behalf of CFUW. J

(Contributed by Jacqueline Russell.)

**Long Term Care Working Group**

As you may have gathered from looking at the calendar May is the Long Term Care Action month. The group has been aiming toward May 4th as the CFUW mandated Elder Day since the fall of 2020, as a response to the emergency resolution adopted at the 2020 National AGM. There are two Town Hall meetings April 29 4-6pm PDT and May 4th 10-12pm (NB the Zoom links give times as ET)

**April 29, 4-6 pm PT. LTC in Canada: What Now? What Next?**
May 4, 10-12 pm PT. *National Town Hall / Day of Action*

- Registration link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwoduugrz0iGNEgbdxlEtaZ_Hkw0eHlumwh](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwoduugrz0iGNEgbdxlEtaZ_Hkw0eHlumwh)
- OR: [https://cutt.ly/LTC-action](https://cutt.ly/LTC-action)

Registration link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tceGppj8pG9WjXEEwAXGDbgMW3dA36k6V](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tceGppj8pG9WjXEEwAXGDbgMW3dA36k6V) OR: [https://cutt.ly/LTC-panel](https://cutt.ly/LTC-panel)
The group under the leadership of Heather Oxman and Charlotte Akin, Advocacy Coordinator have created a wealth of media materials and as well as those advocacy instruments we are so good at, letter writing. There are the usual letter templates as well as one to electronically sign, which will go to the Federal Minister of Seniors and Health. I have already signed this letter on behalf of the club, but if you could sign it as an individual that would have similar weight as “a million women marching to Parliament” in the words of Laura Sabia.

Sign-On Open Letter. To: Minister of Seniors/Minister of Health

- Sign as individual, group, club, or organization
- To sign, complete this form here: https://forms.gle/sVfjduhnqFaYAg3Y7
- LTC/Elder Rights toolkit
- https://cutt.ly/LTC-toolkit
- Browse the toolkit for statistics, template letters, printable posters, social media graphics, etc.

To create a social media collage with impact suggested you take a photo of yourself with a poster, slogans below and send to Charlotte

Make a sign in support of elder/LTC rights

- Take a picture & send an email to cfuwadvocacy@rogers.com
- include a line (or a few!) about why you support LTC justice
- Sign ideas: "LTC under Canada Health Act NOW!" / "Beds without staff is NEGLECT" / "Profit OUT of LTC!" / "LTC Justice!"

As you can tell these committed women have created tools which are easy to use and the group is hoping we can create a noise before and on May 4th.
The tool kit has information and is beautifully presented, a work of art in itself. The group would like the letters to MPs and MLAs to go out the week of April 26 to 30th so they all get many on their desk so they get the message voters want action on this.

Valerie Gunn, on behalf of the Long-Term Care Working Group

BC Council AGM

Theme: Perseverance

Included below is the link to the Friday May 14th Webinar event which includes 2 Guest Speakers and a Social Event after the Webinar—all being held virtually of course. You need to register separately for each day that you wish to attend.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR Friday, May 14th 2021
1) BC Council AGM Friday May 14th, 2021: Speakers & Meet & Greet Social (one registration only for May 14th for 'Speakers & Meet 'n' Greet')

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When:  **Friday May 14th 2021  10:00 am PST**

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtdOGopzgqEtIC-6XqZ1u5cnTjdQ2wa9iS

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR** Saturday May 15th , 2021

2 ) BC AGM SATURDAY May 15th, 2021:  BUSINESS MEETING (one registration)

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When:  **Saturday May 15th 2021  9:30 am PST**

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0sdOCuqzosE9d_l8NvNagns5sPxWEsAEsB

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

**Friday Program and Speakers at BC Council AGM May 14**

10.00 am Michelle Novakowski
Michelle has worked with survivors of sexual and domestic violence for over twenty-five years including front-line work, program management, coordination and training. Michelle is currently a consultant for the Ending Violence Association of BC.

1.00pm Charla Huber
Charla is the Director of Communications and Indigenous Relations for M’akola Housing Society. Her presentation will provide the background on current issues and talk about engagement with Indigenous communities all across BC. She will provide insight into respectful approaches to Indigenous relations, commenting on how we can work together to improve economic and educational outcomes for Indigenous youth, bringing real life examples as part of her presentation.

6.30-7.30pm Social Meet and Greet.

(Contributed by Valerie Gunn.)
Proposed Bylaw Changes

These are the bylaw changes requested by BC Council Governance Committee, to be voted on at the AGM May 14/15.

The PQ Executive has looked these over and approves them. If any member has a comment, please contact the voting delegate Valerie Gunn.

BY-LAW I – MEMBERSHIP
1. CFUW BC Council shall consist of all CFUW clubs located within the Province of British Columbia. 2. a) Loss of Membership shall occur upon failure of a Club to pay dues or upon Dissolution of a club. b) A Club that has failed to pay its dues, and any outstanding amounts, in full by April 1st of the following year will lose its membership in CFUW BC Council.
Rationale: Aligning with National.

BY-LAW V – THE BOARD
The Governance Committee proposes that the word “Provincial” be removed from before the Archivist. Rationale: None of the other titles specify that they are provincial. It is considered a housekeeping change.

BY-LAW V – THE BOARD
4. The positions of Secretary, Treasurer, the Chairs of Standing Committees, Media Manager, and the Archivist shall be appointed. Members of BC Clubs in good standing shall be invited at least 60 days before the CFUW BC Council AGM to submit expressions of interest in the positions. The positions shall be appointed after the CFUW AGM from among the members expressing interest. The positions shall be appointed by the incoming president of CFUW BC Council in consultation with the incoming RDs and with the advice of the retiring committee chairs and the Past President.
The Governance Committee proposes that the Media Manager and Archivist be removed from this section and that it be reworded as follows:
“The positions of Secretary, Treasurer and the Standing Committee Chairs shall be appointed. Members of BC Clubs in good standing shall be invited at least 60 days before the CFUW BC Council AGM to submit expressions of interest in the positions. The positions shall be appointed after the CFUW AGM from among the members expressing interest. The positions shall be appointed by a sub-committee of the Board which included the Past President, the President of CFUW BC Council and the RDs. If more than one letter of interest is received, then an election will be held at the AGM.
5. With the exception of the Media Manager and the Archivist who will be appointed annually at the first Board meeting following the AGM, no person shall serve in the same position on the Board for more than two consecutive terms and each term is two years in length.

(Contributed by Valerie Gunn.)

Looking Ahead to 2021 -2022

Our plans are tentative due to Covid. If group sessions are allowed in September, we will have the Zoom presentation in QB Community Centre followed by a lunch. If we are still relegated to our homes, you will be able to learn about CFUW ’s amazing history in the comfort of your home.

Hope to see everybody in September. The Leadership Circle

(Contributed by Sheila Reed, on behalf of the Leadership Circle.)
Scholarship and Bursary Trust

This is the time of year that the Trust is preparing to receive applications for the scholarships, bursaries and awards which are available in 2021. At their April meeting Trustees also discussed some of the current and future sources of funding.

Thrifty’s Smile Cards: This is a reminder to Club members who have Smile cards to please load your card before June 15th, 2021 which is the end of the fiscal year for Thrifty’s. The amount loaded on cards by our members will enable the Trust to receive the maximum payout for the year -- $1875. In addition, the Trust has been notified that Thrifty’s is making a change to how they operate their Smile Card Fundraising Program. To help us decide how to move forward with this operational change the Trust needs to find out how many members holding Thrifty Smile Cards are actively using the cards. Please email mail me (ballantynedn@shaw.ca) by May 15th to confirm your use of your card. Thank you for your help on this.

100+ Women Who Care Oceanside: You will remember that the Trust was fortunate to receive a grant from this organization in 2018 which was used to increase the value of the Memorial Scholarships. The Memorial Scholarships in 2021 will be the last year of these funds and the Trust is eligible to apply again this summer. The eligibility has recently been confirmed. Lorna Miller has agreed once again to speak on behalf of the Scholarship Trust for funds to be applied to the Memorial Scholarships with one Memorial for Indigenous women. I encourage any Club member, who is a member of the 100+ Women, to nominate the Scholarship & Bursary Trust for consideration. It is my understanding that the more nominations for the same charity gives that charity a greater chance of being selected for presentation.

For more information please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Noreen Ballantyne, Chair, Scholarship & Bursary Trust

Book Bin Pickup Schedule

Please send a reminder to the next person on the list when your week is finished. If you wish to put the books into our storage, please contact Sharon Sawkins or Sheila Reed to make arrangements. If you cannot pick-up as scheduled, please make other arrangements or let Sheila Reed or Sharon Sawkins know.

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<tr>
<th>May 10 - June Arnett</th>
<th>May 17 – Barbara Bond</th>
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<td>May 24- Barbara Thompson</td>
<td>May 31- Brenda Correy</td>
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<td>June 7- Valerie Tutti</td>
<td>June 14- Maureen Wood</td>
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<td>June 21- Jacqueline Russell</td>
<td>June 28- Dolores Saurter</td>
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<td>July 5- Vivian Sears</td>
<td>July 12- Dianne Gillespie</td>
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<td>July 19- Noreen Ballantyne</td>
<td>July 26- Jacqueline Worboys</td>
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<td>August 2- Mary Ellen Campbell</td>
<td>August 9- Deirdre Laforest</td>
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<td>August 16- Sheri Plummer</td>
<td>August 23- Bonnie Stableford</td>
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<td>August 30- Claire Tallman</td>
<td>September 6- Janet Farooq</td>
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<td>September 13- Sherrol Tait</td>
<td>September 20- Wendy Reimer</td>
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<td>September 27- Carol Gemgembre</td>
<td>October 4 – Betty Price</td>
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<td>October 11- Robin Robinson</td>
<td>October 18- Lorna Miller</td>
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Books of Interest

Books being read by some of our members are: by Becoming Mrs Lewis: The Improbable Love Story of Joy Davidman and C.S. Lewis by Patti Callahan, The Innocents by Michael Crummey, and Elizabeth is Missing by Emma Healey. Almost all readers appreciate knowing what someone else is reading, so we welcome other suggestions from members. Remain anonymous if you wish! Please email the editor, Barbara Bond. Thank you!

(The suggestions above were contributed by Edie Ross, Vicky Burton, and Barbara Bond. The images are courtesy of Mulberry Bush Bookstores.)

Quotes

It was not easy to meet men without familial attachments in those years, because adult males, in total, were two million fewer than females. "Women in surplus", as those left unmarried because of the war were called and who would hardly have married, a threat, indeed a real tragedy for a society based on marriage. The reporters had coined that label, which almost amounted to a stigma for the wearer.

* A Single Thread by Tracy Chevalier

It is perhaps difficult to understand if you have not raised children. Both the biological and social imperative is to protect the child, and when impossible, the parent feels like a failure, whatever the circumstances. It is a complicated feeling to live with for the rest of your life.

* A Single Thread by Tracy Chevalier

It wasn’t that happiness could lead to humor, but more that humor could lead, perhaps, to happiness – that an eye for the absurd could keep one active in one’s despair, the opposite of depressed: static and passive.

* Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk, Kathleen Rooney
I have enjoyed watching Sam for the same reason I think people enjoy watching sports: seeing someone in full command of what he is expected to do, doing it better than most would, and doing so with joy.

_Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk_, Kathleen Rooney

At the time I hadn’t paused to consider the extent of [“ A Visit from St Nicholas’ ”] success, so complete as to be all but invisible in its vastness: Not only did it universalize its image of Saint Nick as a rosy and rotund whitebeard borne from chimney to chimney by flying reindeer, it also erased itself as the source of these notions, allowing them to seem ancient and true, like something everyone has always known.

_Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk_, Kathleen Rooney

Contributed by Janet Farooq.

**A Sad News Story**

I am sad to report that Daphne Kellett, a long-time member, died recently aged 100.

Daphne lived in Eaglecrest and when she downsized 3 years ago, she donated a lot of her crystal glassware to our garage sales. She had been a teacher, had a degree in journalism and ran a printing business with her husband. She has a son in Saskatchewan.

To the members of her former book club, she was a gracious hostess, a penetrating observer, an acute critic, a woman of her time who used her rich life experiences to inform her opinions, fun to be with, and willing to express contrary opinions. She was particularly interested in the history of western Canada, amongst her many other interests.

She was an example of how to make transitions with grace and determination. When she was no longer able to attend meetings, she was much missed.

(Contributed by Valerie Gunn and various members.)
A Happy News Story

Remember, Hamidi? A guest speaker at one of our meetings … years ago. She was born and educated in Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya – the second largest refugee camp in the world. Hamidi applied for one of the 150 World University of Canada scholarships offered annually. She was successful and has graduated from Vancouver Island University, married and is a new mom to beautiful Aisha.

Along comes Nadifo Abdi, another young woman from Dadaab who is successful in obtaining a WUSC scholarship to VIU. Now she has just completed her Bachelor of Science and is graduating as a Registered Nurse AND has been offered a position as a nurse in the operating rooms at Nanaimo District Hospital. She is also now a Canadian!

Of course, when these intelligent, young women leave their families and friends to come to Canada to study they need a Canadian ‘mom’ to help and advise them along the way. Who would be compatible with Nadifo? She loves fashion, texting and hates cooking – it was a natural match for Mary Ellen!

So, we don’t want you to meet Nadifo in the operating room but if you are visiting the hospital and see a statuesque, beautiful woman who looks like she should be on the cover of Vogue – that’s Nadifo. Do say hello.

(Contributed by Janet Farooq and Mary Ellen Campbell.)
THE UNIVERSITY WOMEN’S CLUB OF VANCOUVER IS PROUD TO INVITE YOU TO OUR 2021 HYCROFT LECTURE...

AN EVENING WITH SHACHI KURL

Sought after commentator on Canadian and world affairs
President of Angus Reid Institute
Award winning political reporter and public policy expert

WED MAY 26 | 5:30PM - 6:30PM PST | ZOOM

UWCV Members: $25 | Non-Members: $30
Register and find out more at www.uwcvancouver.ca