

**Canadian Federation of University Women – Parksville / Qualicum**



**Our Theme this year:**

**Strong Women – Making a Difference**

**February 2023**

**Executive/Leadership Team Members:**

**President: Mary Ellen Campbell (250-752-0868)**

**Past President: Valerie Gunn (250-468-7536)**

**Vice-President: open position**

**Communications: Tammy Exner @ tamexner@gmail.com**

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

**Meeting: February 13, 2023 at 7 PM at the Macmillan Arts Centre, Parksville, via Zoom**

**Program: Raising awareness of Black pioneers on Vancouver Island**

**Speaker: Silvia Mangué Alene, President of the BC Black History Awareness Society**

**What To Look For:**

President's Report

Speaker Information and Poster

UNCSW67 Update

Opportunity to Give Your Opinion

Talking Circle on Indigenous Issues

Picture of Cowichan Gathering

Book Sale Poster

Book Clubs, Book Review

2023 Book Sale Preparation, Book Box Pick-up Schedule

## Leadership Team Report – November 2021 President's Report



Thinking ahead –

Our Finance Committee will be meeting to create the 2023 -24 budget.

The Bylaws Committee will be meeting to review and possibly create amendments to our bylaws for acceptance at the June AGM.

The International Day for Women Committee will be finalizing the details for our most interesting speaker, Dr. Brenda Trenholme, 'The Silk Road', 7pm, March 8<sup>th</sup> at Knox United Church, Corner of Pym and Humphrey in Parksville. A self-described "endurance fanatic," Brenda has completed a number of cycle tours in Europe and a 12,000 km cycling trip from Cairo to Capetown in 2016. With her appetite whet for exploring exotic places by bike, in 2018 she joined a group of 15 others to cycle 13,000 km along the Silk Road from Beijing to Istanbul. Brenda, a retired family physician, will provide a slide show of her cycling adventure, highlighting the salient cultural, geographical, historical and political features of the ten Asian countries she traversed.

The Resolutions Committee will be meeting to discuss proposed resolutions.

The BC Council AGM will be held in Vancouver, May 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>.

Our AGM will be held on June 12<sup>th</sup>. At the AGM, we will approve a slate of nominations. Are you interested in a particular position within the club or one of its' committees?

Want to discuss any of the above? Let's meet for coffee.

Mary Ellen

## Program Information


### Raising awareness of Black pioneers on Vancouver Island

In honour of Black History Month, our speaker on February 13 is Silvia Mangué Alene, President of the BC Black History Awareness Society. Since Silvia lives in Victoria, her presentation will be via Zoom during our meeting at the MacMillan Arts Centre in Parksville.

In 1858, nearly 800 Blacks left San Francisco to seek a chance of equality and a new life in Victoria. Although the new immigrants still faced racism and discrimination in their new home, they played an important role in the development of the colony. As Silvia told the *Times Colonist* last year, “Black history runs narrow but deep in this province and it is a legacy that we are very proud of. Education is important to keep the history alive.”

Silvia’s presentation will focus on the Black women pioneers and their contributions to Vancouver Island.


(Contributed by Sonya Felix.)


**THE POWER OF WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER**  
*Advocacy • Learning • Friendship*

**CFUW Parksville-Qualicum**  
**Strong Women—Making a Difference**  
**Black History Month**

**Speaker:**  
 Silvia Mangué Alene,  
 President of BC Black History  
 Awareness Society, will present  
 the history of Black women  
 pioneers who settled on  
 Vancouver Island during the  
 19th Century

**Monday, February, 2023**  
**7:00 pm**  
 Join CFUW PQ in person for a Zoom  
 presentation  
 at the McMillan Arts Centre,  
 Parksville  
**All welcome!**

  
[www.cfuwpq.ca](http://www.cfuwpq.ca)

## UNCSW67 CFUW Delegation Update



The NGO CSW (Commission on the Status of Women) Forum is the civil society side of the UN CSW. NGO CSW/NY was established in 1972 as one of the NGO Committees of the Conference of NGOs (CoNGO) in preparation for International Women's Year (1975), the UN Decade of Women (1975-1985) and the First World Conference on Women held in Mexico City in 1975. The Forum runs parallel to the official CSW session taking place at the UN Headquarters. This provides civil society the opportunity to engage in the processes and CSW sessions without ECOSOC-accreditation or a UN grounds pass (both of which are needed to attend the CSW).

Over the two weeks of the UN CSW, NGO CSW/NY organizes hundreds of events that inform, engage and inspire grassroots efforts and advocacy needed to empower women and girls. Some of the events hosted are: Consultation Day, Orientation & Advocacy Training, Regional Caucuses and Conversation Circles. They attend, as well, the "Parallel Sessions" organized by Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) around the globe and "Side" Sessions offered by Permanent Missions and United Nations entities. Side sessions are offered at the UN Building in New York City while the parallel sessions are in nearby locations.

Each year, the Commission focuses on specific themes related to gender equality, known as the 'priority' and 'review' themes. NGO-CSW/NY has an Advocacy Training Research Group (ARG) and offers advocacy training to civil society groups. ARG researches issues raised in the CSW priority theme with input from NGO CSWs in the Regions and civil society. In advance of negotiations, recommended language is provided to receptive government representatives for consideration and inclusion in their discussions, and to UN Women, the CSW Bureau and during

opportunities for civil society input.

## **The Influencing Opportunities for CFUW**

### **So how does CFUW fit in?**

CFUW has been accredited through the ECOSOC since 1998. What does this mean to have special *consultative status*? The formal mechanisms granted to an NGO with consultative status are as follows: 1. We have access to the UN; 2. We contribute to the processes and discussions (written statements/oral statements); 3. We are allowed to attend meetings, commissions, and the High-Level Platform (HLP) Forum on Sustainable Development.

Informally, we are able to organize events to showcase our work; network with other NGOs, with UN officials and other member state representatives. We work in and with the international community and interact with other actors and processes.

As such, CFUW contributes written and ‘oral statements’ every year which are circulated. The oral statement reflects the themes of the CSW session. We suggest language into the draft document to prepare for the Agreed Conclusions – the outcome document of the discussions and policies set for the member states to implement

While in New York, CFUW delegates engage also with our government representatives to negotiate for gender equality language in the final Agreed Conclusions document.

We have engaged with other global NGOs who actively work on behalf of women’s rights and seek support for our issue positions. The ability to influence is evident by the support we get from other NGOs. We learn what is happening globally and where the gaps on “women’s rights” are – including within Canada. (Note the other NGOs who have cosigned our written statement.)

To further pursue the educational aspect to our global family, CFUW offers at CSW a “parallel event” to highlight the work advocated in Canada and with our partners, with respect to the priority and review themes. CFUW also presents a parallel session through the regional organization CAMEUS made up of Canada, (CFUW) Mexico (FEMU) and the USA (WG-USA).

Attending the Commission of the Status of Women is a major venue to connect, learn and share. It is about the work we do for the rights of women and girls. Each year CFUW members apply to our national office for the privilege of being one of CFUW’s 20 delegates. These delegates will self-fund a week at the United Nations attending CSW sessions with thousands of

other women around the world who have come to New York City for this reason. Other CFUW members are invited to attend virtually and have access to a multitude of parallel events put on by other global NGOs (more information to come.)

**We have a full complement of delegates!**

We are delighted to announce that we had 22 members apply to be part of the CFUW delegation to this year's United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), CSW67. Two of our delegates will register with GWI, as NGOs are only allowed to have 20. This intense interest reflects the commitment of our CFUW members to the well-being and rights of women and children.

**Of particular interest, three of the 22 members who applied are from CFUW Parksville Qualicum.**

(Contributed by Barbara DuMoulin, Chair of CFUW International Relations, via Mary Ellen Campbell.)

### **What do you think?**



Each month, newsletter editor Barbara B. and I have a pattern of email exchanges. We both agree the focus of the newsletter has changed quite dramatically. Barbara wonders about the relevancy of the newsletter: is it worth continuing? It seems to be mostly social now. Social is also good and part of what we do, but certainly the centrality of the newsletter is much reduced. Does the membership even bother to read it? I always reply that the newsletter is a much needed tool of communication within the club and that it is read. Of course, I cannot substantiate that premise. Am I the only one reading it?

Dear members, please think about where this trend ought to go. Think about how the newsletter functions and whether or not it is still important. Please send your comments to me at [president@cfuwpg.ca](mailto:president@cfuwpg.ca) or of course, let's meet for coffee and discuss.

(Contributed by Mary Ellen Campbell.)

## Talking Circle Indigenous Interest Group

Our next Talking Circle will be held at Val Gunn's home at 1:30pm Friday Jan 27<sup>th</sup>.  
Email her at [valgunn1@gmail.com](mailto:valgunn1@gmail.com) for the address.

We will be discussing the **Land Back podcasts** which are on CBC.

There are 6 podcasts to listen to prior to our meeting on Friday...majority of the podcasts are about 40 minutes in length. If you have not had the time to listen, please join us anyway for an interesting discussion.

[Land Back](#) | [CBC Podcasts](#) | [CBC Listen](#)

We look forward to our first meeting of the New Year 2023 and welcome new members!

(Contributed by Jacqueline Russell.)

## Warm Occasion

The gathering pictured below was in Cowichan. It shows a group of CFUW women enjoying their time together.



(Contributed by Val Gunn.)

## New Poster!

The book sale group have set some priorities and made some decisions about the sale for 2023. Please see the next page of this newsletter for information. Information you have seen before (but possibly forgotten) follows the rest of the newsletter, to remind you of the book box pickup schedule and guidelines for handling donations.



# **CFUW PQ BOOK SALE**

## **and PERFECT JIGSAWS**

### **COOMBS FAIRGROUND**

*new hours for 2023!*

**Wed. – Sat., Sept. 27 – 30, 9 am to 7 pm**

**Sun. Oct. 1 ~ *HALF PRICE* ~ 9 am to noon**

**Books \$3.00 each – Cash Only**

**Bargain Books \$1.00 each**

*Please bring your own bag.*

*Proceeds support educational scholarships for women & girls – locally and internationally.*

**Book Donation Drop Box is located at Save-On-Foods.**



## Book Club Updates

Shrinking Violet's Zoom Book Group Reads for November 2022

Theme: Young Adult (YA)

Interestingly our violets shopped their shelves for these suggestions, so these are books they and their family loved.

Catherin Kuntsson – Shadows Cast by Stars

Local Nanaimo author, first nations theme, 200yrs in future

Kate DiCamillo – Because of Winn Dixie

Classic dog story

Sharon Draper – Out of My Mind

Disabled girl experiences in school

Scott Westerfeld – Uglies series

Apocalyptic future: surgery to beautify people, who then get special treatment

Sue Townsend – Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13 ¾

Misery of being 13 & world view misinterpretations, very humorous

Catherine Patterson – Liddy

Children working as servants to pay off family debts 1843 gold rush setting

Wab Kinew - Walking in Two Worlds

Picture novel, post pandemic, futuristic world with strong virtual world functions.

Philp Pullman – La Belle Sauvage, The Book of Dust Trilogy, 1<sup>st</sup> volume

Fantasy equal of Dark Materials trilogy following Lyra& Will battling against Magisterium

(Contributed by Val Gunn.)

### CFUW-PQ QFP Book Lovers'

We meet in the small room in the upstairs of Quality Foods Parksville.

Date	Facilitator	Book
OCTOBER 13	Val	The Book Women of Toublesome Creek by Kim Michelle Richardson If interested - sequel – The book Women's Daughter
NOVEMBER 10	Linda	Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doerr
JANUARY 12	Sam	Looking For Jane by Heather Marshall

FEBRUARY 9	Susan	White Fragility: Why It's so Hard for White People to Talk About Racism by Dr. Robin DiAngelo
MARCH 9	Brenda	The Beekeeper of Aleppo by Christy Lefteri
APRIL 13		
MAY 11		

(Contributed by Sheila Reed.)

### Book Review of the Month

I hope that others of you who are reading interesting things will also be inspired to tell us about it! In the meantime, I hope this one interests you. Please mail the editor, Barbara Bond at [babond@telus.net](mailto:babond@telus.net) with contributions or comments.

*Grey Bees* (2018) by Andrey Kurkov, Trans. Boris Dralyuk as of Nov 13, 2022.

Wow. Just . . . wow. This book was a surprise. I thought it might be a challenge – rewarding, but challenging. I was mistaken. It was an easy-going delight, so much so that it is a surprise to have learned so much (on reflection) about the Ukraine and its neighbours. It also allows you to see what it is like to live in the middle of a conflict – a shooting war – and keep your humanity.

To bring you into the situation politically, it is of its time. Russia annexed Crimea in 2013. Russia had been encouraging closer ties with the previous pro-Russian government in Kyiv. A popular revolution had ousted that government and the new government was encouraging closer European ties. Russia fomented revolt in some of the eastern-most provinces of the Ukraine: Donbas, Luhansk, and the regions of Odessa and Kharkiv, which also happen to be strategically located, mineral rich, and industrially powerful. Russia supported separatist militias there and the Ukraine responded with its armed forces. A civil war is ongoing at the time of the novel.

Between the breakaway provinces of Donbas and Luhansk, the grey zone (neither one nor the other), stretches for 450 kilometres, but varies in width. The people who once lived there mostly fled, deserting their villages and abandoning their homes and farms. But a few stayed. Our hero, Sergey Sergeych, still lives in the village of Starhorodivka, on the eastern edge of Donbas. He has one remaining neighbour, a man of his age that he has never liked. There is no electricity, no stores, no mail, no services. But Sergey has his bees and it is the bees who receive his devoted care.

Sergey is not a man to court trouble. He takes no part in the war. He is a Ukrainian who speaks Russian, but neither fact is an indication of his loyalties. His bees need help. The prolonged winter weather and the unsettling artillery is not the best environment for them to thrive. Sergey packs his camping gear in his old Lada, attaches the flatbed trailer and put his six beehives onto it. His plan it to take them to Crimea and he hopes to search out the home of a friendly fellow he met at a beekeepers' conference. He goes through numerous checkpoints, inspections, and the border (and a map would have been a big help). Most people (but not all) he meets are as honest, generous, and fair as he is. Sergey does reach the village of his acquaintance. The family are welcoming and share space and equipment. They are Tatars, a Muslim minority that have their

own language and culture and are regarded with deep suspicion and not a little oppression by the authorities. When the Russians notice Sergey's association with the Tatars, that attention may harm the bees. The ninety days he is allowed there are ending and he needs to leave, for his freedom, the bees, and the family's wellbeing. The story ends as he nears his village on the return journey.

I liked the book. I liked Sergey. The author has been compared to Becket, Pinter, Kafka, Vonnegut, Murakami, and Bulgakov but my focus was on the character, the story, and the refreshing simplicity and endurance of the bees and the man. One review said the ending was "ambiguously hopeful." I would say unresolved completely but satisfying, nonetheless.

## **2023 BOOK SALE Information and Schedule for Pick-Up of Donations**

CFUW PQ book sale team - Sharon Sawkins, Claire Tallman, Joan Michel

Where: Arrowsmith Agricultural Association/Coombs Fairgrounds - Arrowsmith Hall

When: Sunday, September 24 to Sunday, October 1, 2023

### **Book Storage**

Storage locker – Island Self Storage - 1304 Alberni Hwy, Unit # 6105

Storage contact – Erin Holmes - phone 250-752-1467 or Sheila Reed - phone 250-954-2226

Volunteer organizer – Lorne Reed - phone 250-954-2226

After completing your week, call Lorne or Erin: to arrange to meet at the storage locker or to arrange for book pick-up at your house

**Please cull the books** as directed below and put the rejected books in your own garbage. **PLEASE LEAVE THE CULLED BOOKS IN BAGS.** Lorne will pack and stack.

### **Book Culling**

When collecting books from the drop-box at Save-on-Foods, or receiving books from neighbours or friends or an estate, **PLEASE** follow these **NEW\*** guidelines:

#### **1. DO NOT ACCEPT**

- any book with a MILDEW or other smell, or physical damage
- any atlas, community-group cookbook, dictionary, encyclopedia, magazine, medical book, reference book, textbook, or yearbook (Not enough of these books sell to justify the expense of moving and disposing of them; discard them in your garbage.)

2. **ACCEPT** only if in Very Good Condition, regardless of date of publication
  - fiction
  - biography, memoir, autobiography
  - local/BC history especially on lumbering & fishing & First Nations (customers look for these)
3. **NEW\*** For all other books, **PLEASE** check the publication date on the copyright page and **ACCEPT only if the publication date is 2015 or later**, and only if in Very Good condition
4. **NEW\*** Do NOT accept DVD's, CD's, or VINYL. (Not enough of these books sell to justify the expense of moving and disposing of them.)
5. **ACCEPT only if in perfect condition**
  - nice jigsaw puzzles with all the pieces. The pieces must be in a sealed plastic bag, in the box.

### Book Donations Pick-Up

Book donations drop-box – outside the entrance to Save-On-Foods, on the right-hand side

Pick-up supervisor - Erin Holmes – 250-752-1467

Directions: If your week does not work for you, please try to trade with someone else. If you need to withdraw from picking up books, please call Erin. **Please call the next person on the list to remind them that it is now their turn** once your week is finished.

Please follow the guidelines to cull the books and use your own garbage (this will keep the trips to the transfer station to a minimum). Once culled, **please put the books in bags** and arrange for storing them (see [Book Storage](#) above).

### **October 2022 – October 2023 Schedule of Book Donation Drop-Box Pick-Ups**

Oct. 3 -9	Jacqueline Worboys	Oct. 10 - 16	Noreen Ballantyne
Oct. 17 - 23	Barbara Bond	Oct. 24 - 30	June Arnett
Oct. 31 – Nov.6	Mary Ellen Campbell	Nov.7 – Nov. 13	Liz Douglas

Nov. 14 – Nov. 20	Lisa Marshall	Nov. 21 – Nov. 27	Joan Michel
Nov. 28 – Dec. 4	Pat Morrison-Wheeler	Dec. 5 – Dec. 11	Valerie Gunn
Dec. 12 – Dec. 18	Lorna Miller	Dec. 19 – Dec. 25	Sheila Reed
Dec. 26 – Jan.1	Sheila Reed	Jan. 2 – Jan. 8	Erin Holmes
Jan. 9 – Jan. 15	Sherrol Tait	Jan. 16 – Jan. 22	Christine Pagan
Jan. 23 – Jan. 29	Brenda Pengelly	Jan. 30 – Feb. 5	Sheri Plummer
Feb. 6 – Feb. 12	Jacqueline Russell	Feb. 13 – Feb. 19	Sharon Sawkins
Feb. 20 – Feb. 26	Vivian Sears	Feb. 27 – March 5	Bonnie Stableford
March 6 – March 12	Claire Tallman	March 13 – March 19	Valerie Tutti
March 20 – March 26	Catherine Watson	March 27 – April 2	Maureen Woods
April 3 – April 9	Jacqueline Worboys	April 10 – April 16	Noreen Ballantyne
April 17 – April 23	Barbara Bond	April 24 -April 30	June Arnett

May 1 – May 7	Mary Ellen Campbell	May 8 – May-14	Liz Douglas
May 15 – May 21	Lisa Marshall	May 22 – May 28	Joan Michel
May 29 – June 4	Pat Morrison-Wheeler	June 5 – June 11	Valerie Gunn
June 12 – June 18	Lorna Miller	June 19 – June 25	Erin Holmes
June 26 – July 2	Sherrol Tait	July 3 – July 9	Christine Pagan
July 10 – July 16	Brenda Pengelly	July 17 – July 23	Sheri Plummer
July 24 – July 30	Jacqueline Russell	July 31 – Aug. 6	Sharon Sawkins
Aug. 7 – Aug. 13	Vivien Sears	Aug. 14 – Aug. 20	Bonnie Stableford
Aug. 21 - 27	Claire Tallman	Aug. 28 – Sept. 3	Valerie Tutti
Sept. 4 – Sept. 10	Catherine Watson	Sept. 11 – Sept. 17	Maureen Wood
Sept. 18 – Sept. 24	Jacqueline Worboys	Sept. 25 – Oct.1	Sheila Reed
Oct. 2 – Oct. 8	June Arnett	Oct. 9 – Oct. 15	Noreen Ballantyne