



Our Theme this year:

Shine a Light on Our Community

October 2024

Leadership Circle Members:

President: Christine Pagan president@cfuwpq.ca

Vice President: Position Available vp@cfuwpq.ca

Treasurer: Christine Pagan treasurer@cfuwpq.ca

Website: Val Gunn website@cfuwpq.ca

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

Meeting: Monday, October 7, 6:30 mingle and chat, 7P meeting QB Civic Centre

Program: Understanding the Needs for Energy Transition

Speaker: Markham Hislop

What To Look For:

President's Message

Program Information

Advocacy

Red Dress Display

IWD appeal

Fun Walk Group

Women's History Month

Talking Circle on Indigenous Affairs, Community

Book Box Pickup Schedule, Book Storage Unit Views

Thoughts and Smiles,

Book Club News, Book Review

President's Message



Wow - what a wonderful thing it is to be part of this club!

At our first club meeting of the year, on September 9th it was great to have such a good turnout - sweet treats will do that - and to see everyone chatting and laughing, visiting after the summer break, and signing up for interest groups and working groups. Many thanks to our SBT trustees who brought information brochures and posters detailing our wonderful 2024 scholarship and bursary award winners; to the Global Outreach folks for sharing information about the boys and girls we support in Guatemala, Pakistan, and Tanzania; to the Talking Circle on Indigenous Matters for getting us organized for the Red Dress Memorial events; and last but not least to the book sale team for ensuring that as many of us as possible get involved in helping with setting up and running during the sale. Looking forward to a busy but fun time up at the Arrowsmith Agricultural Hall.

Our first club combined General & Business Meeting of the year, on October 07, the day after book sale closes. It will be an exciting evening, so even if you are still recovering from book sale, please come to the QBCC for 'meet and greet' at 6:30pm (remember to lug-a-mug), with the formal programme starting at 7:00pm. Our speaker that evening will be the renowned Canadian journalist Markham Hislop, who lives right here in Oceanside. He will be discussing the energy transition, and the implications for Canadians. This promises to be a very informative and interactive presentation, and I

am sure there will be lots of questions. The business portion of the evening is where we will provide an update on the club finances, advocacy, membership team initiatives, and various planned social activities.

There are lots of interesting activities ahead: CFUW Nanaimo have invited us to join them for lunch on October 19 to honour Women's' History Month (see the poster below for details); our annual Red Dress Memorial planning is underway for hanging dresses to commemorate the UN 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence; and I will be canvassing you all for your preferences for our Christmas Social in early December. Busy times!

...and talking of busy lives, in an effort to reduce 'clutter' I will try to minimize the number of emails coming to you from me. I'm hoping we can make more use of the website and the newsletter to alert you to upcoming activities.

Here is how I will try to reduce the number of emails:

- **Newsletter:** once a month (the Sunday after the Leadership Circle Meeting), and also uploaded to the website
- **Business Meeting:**
 - call for reports - one week prior to the meeting
 - Agenda distributed 2 days prior to the meeting
 - Minutes uploaded to the website (no email)
- **General Meeting:** details sent out one week prior (but also check the website)
- **Announcements:** once a week at most (Wednesday), ***unless time-sensitive.*** Topics include *ad hoc* club events, community events (e.g. Member Inspired Advocacy), or anything that may be of interest.


Please visit our website (www.cfuwpq.ca) for more details on activities

... and don't hesitate to contact me if you have something to share, good or bad (president@cfuwpq.ca)

(Contributed by Christine Pagan.)

Program for the October Meeting

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cfuw PARKSVILLE
QUALICUM

SPEAKER SERIES 2024/25

Shine A Light on our Community

Understanding the Need for Energy Transition

SPEAKER:
Markham Hislop, Canadian is an energy and climate journalist who specializes in interviewing global energy experts. He is founder of Energi Media, one of Canada's longest running independent news organizations with a focus on energy transition issues.



**Monday
October 07
2024**

Qualicum Beach Civic Centre
6:30 pm meet and mingle
Meeting starts at 7:00 pm
All welcome

Realizing potential. For all women.

www.cfuwpq.ca

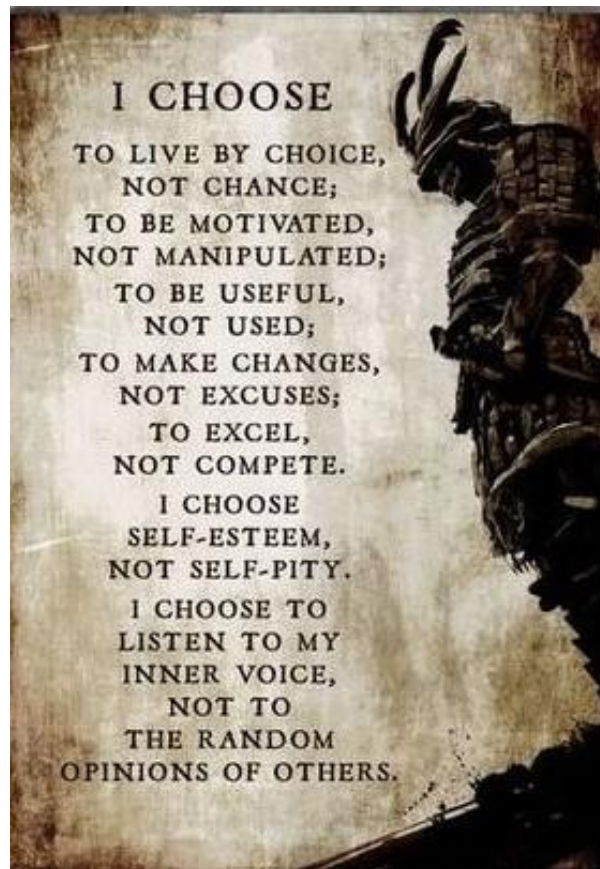
Local Journalist to Speak on Energy Transition

Markham Hislop, a Canadian energy and climate journalist based in Parksville, will speak to us on October 7, 2024 about energy transition in Canada.

The depth and breadth of his knowledge of energy issues comes from thousands of interviews of global energy experts and a deep analysis of related data. He established Energi Media 16 years ago with a target audience of influencers, including policymakers, executives, academics, and scientists.

As well as conducting video interviews, Markham hosts the Energi Talks podcast, writes columns about energy politics, and is frequently interviewed on Canadian radio about energy transition issues. He is also CBC Radio Canada's "Green Switch" columnist and has recently begun reaching out locally to encourage dialogue and education about the rapidly progressing energy transition happening here and around the world.

(Contributed by Sonya Felix.)



Advocacy Report

By the time you read this, our sister clubs in Ontario will have participated in the silent 'Stand Up For Peace' activity on Parliament Hill on Saturday September 21, the UN International Day Of Peace. They will participating in this event by carrying hand-made 'Pieces For Peace'. These are the visual emblems to show CFUW's national solidarity in a plea from all Canadian clubs for global peace.



Our club made nine pieces over the summer, which are shown here.

I hope to have more photos of the silent protest to share at the club meeting, but in the meantime, please take a moment to applaud the work of the women of CFUW PQ who made these lovely items.

(Contributed by Christine Pagan.)



Talking Circle - Red Dress Displays at Qualicum Beach Town Hall and Parksville City Hall

CFUWPQ will again this year be providing the red dresses to be displayed at the Qualicum Beach Town Hall and Parksville City Hall, to mark the U.N. 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (starts November 25).

The Club has a collection of red dresses for these displays, and currently they are stored at a member's home. These dresses will need some TLC before they are ready for display. At the end of the 16 Days period, these dresses are collected by CFUWPQ and put back into storage for the following year's display. All this work needs a team of CFUWPQ volunteers. Please note the actual hanging or displaying is not done by CFUWPQ. The dresses are delivered to the staff of the Town Hall and City Hall, who do the hanging (and the taking down of the displays).

How can you get involved?

*Learn about the U.N. 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

*Donate a red dress for the displays (dresses donated cannot be returned to donor).

*Help CFUWPQ with the displays e.g. mending and cleaning dresses; delivering the dresses to Town Hall and City Hall staff for them to hang; collecting the dresses after the end of the 16 days period.

* Visit (with family and friends!) one or both displays during the 16 Days period.

Please contact Lisa Marshall if you want to be part of the Red Dress Displays Team.

[Submitted by Lisa Marshall]

Planning for Future Events



Members, we need your help! Our International Women's Day celebration will be held at 2pm, March 8, 2025 at Knox United Church in Parksville. Everyone is invited to attend. Our seating capacity is 350. Now all we need is an idea for a speaker (s). Please send me any suggestions for our guest speaker (s) prior to October 4th.

Every idea is a good idea!

Thank you, Mary Ellen

The Fun Walk Group

Amazing weather! Beautiful scenery! Terrific companions! September 15 was a lovely Fun Walk at Rath Trevor Provincial Park. We strolled along the beach, we wandered through some of the trails, and, for most of us, we walked through a section of the park for our first time.

The next Fun Walk will be in late October/early November along the trails of Parksville's wetlands park (located at the civic address of 790 Hirst Avenue West). According to the City of Parksville website, a series of trails connect the wetlands with loops for walking on the south-west side of the park adjacent to Coldwater Road. Accessed can be from the foot of Despard Avenue, and from the Maple Glen linear walkway at the southern intersection of Magnolia Drive and Chestnut Street and from the Hirst/Renz corner of the property to the end of Despard Avenue. The parcel on the south side of the railway is accessed from Coldwater Road or an informal crossing of the railway within the park.

Please contact Lisa Marshall if you want to participate in the next Fun Walk or join the Fun Walk Group email list. Please note participation is at own risk and expense.

Photograph taken at Rath Trevor Provincial Park Fun Walk, September 15, 2024



(Submitted by Lisa Marshall)



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Le pouvoir par le savoir.

Save the Date!!

Women's History Month

Celebration Luncheon

Saturday, October 19, 2024

"Rowing Across an Ocean for the Oceans"

Guest Speaker:

**Dr Isabelle Côté, Distinguished Professor of Marine Ecology, Dept. of Biological Sciences,
Simon Fraser University, member of the women's winning team of
*The Toughest Row - Atlantic 2023***



Luncheon hosted by CFUW Nanaimo

Doors open at 11:30 am

Nanaimo Golf Club

Scent-free event

Tickets \$40

Contact cfuwnanaimo@gmail.com

Talking Circle Group

“By understanding and respecting our cultural differences, we can move toward full reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.” [quotation from Bob Joseph and Cynthia F. Joseph in their book, *Indigenous Relations: Insights, Tips & Suggestions to make Reconciliation a Reality*” by Bob Joseph with Cynthia F. Joseph (2019) (paperback ISBN 978-1-989025-64-2)].

For this CFUWPQ year, Talking Circle participants will be exploring the importance of, and how to work towards, Reconciliation at different levels: personal, family, community, municipal, provincial and federal.

The Talking Circle Group’s regular meetings are on 4th Monday of the month, starting at 1:30pm, for about two hours.

The October 28 meeting will be at Lisa Marshall’s home (starting at 1:30pm). Please contact Lisa if you wish to attend.

Comox/Courtenay Trip: In early September some members of the group visited the I-Hos Gallery (3310 Comox Road, Courtenay, V9N 3P8; ihosgallery.com) and the Courtenay Museum (207 Fourth Street, Courtenay V9N 1G7; courtenaymuseum.ca). ‘Worth a visit’ was the overall report.

In last month’s CFUWPQ Newsletter, there was a list of books recommended by various members of the Talking Circle. Another book has been added to that list: “North of Nowhere” by Dr. Marie Wilson (2024) hardback ISBN 9781487011482). Dr. Wilson was a Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

[Submitted by Lisa Marshall]

Community



Here is Pat Famuluk, of Parksville Community Wagon (formerly Welcome Wagon) receiving a beautiful basket (thanks to Lorna) delivered by a club member on behalf of CFUW PQ.

We appreciate Pat’s assistance in handing out our club information sheet as part of community resource materials and gifts at home visits or at the Parksville Community Centre on Wednesday mornings.

(Contributed by Brenda Pengelly.)

Book Box Pickup Schedule and News Updates



The books, in boxes and bins, waiting for the book sale. (Contributed by Mary Ellen Campbell.)

(Are they like larvae, waiting to fly free?)

CFUW Parkville/Qualicum Book Drop Pick-Up Schedule October to December

2024		2024		2024	
OCTOBER		NOVEMBER		DECEMBER	
Storage Coordinator	Susan Brenda	Storage Coordinator	Erin Deb	Storage Coordinator	Susan Erin, Sheila
Oct. 7 - 13	Jennifer M	Nov. 4 - 10	Deirdre	Dec. 2 - 8	Maureen W
Oct. 14 - 20	June	Nov. 11 - 17	Jennifer	Dec. 9 - 15	Susan
Oct. 21 - 27	Susan/Brenda	Nov. 18 - 24	Susan/Brenda	Dec. 16 - 25	Erin
Oct. 28-Nov. 3	Bonnie	Nov.25 - Dec.1	Bonnie	Dec. 26- Jan. 5	Sheila

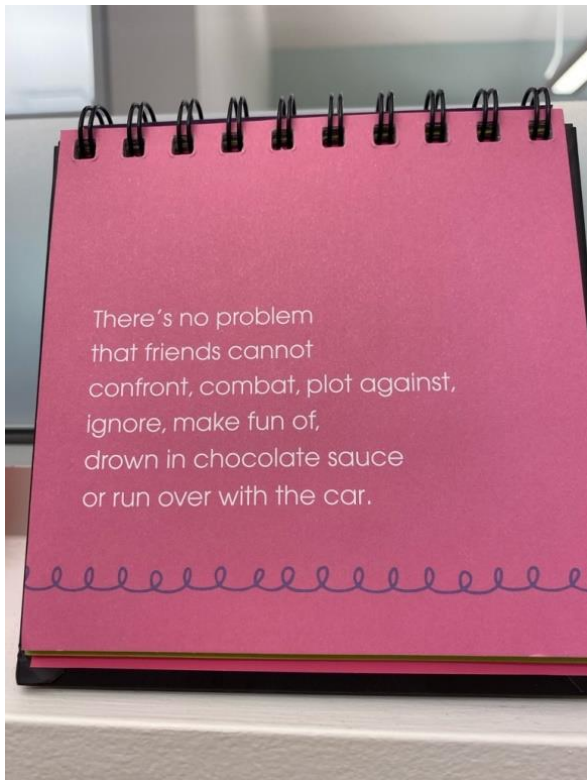
We would like all members, who are able to pick up books from the drop box, to send an email to Sheila, as to which months they would like to pick up and whether they want two weeks together or a few weeks in between. We will try to accommodate.

Thanks, Erin and Sheila
(Contributed by Sheila Reed.)

Thoughts and Smiles



A truck loaded with thousands of copies of Roget's Thesaurus crashed yesterday losing its entire load. Witnesses were stunned, startled, aghast, taken aback, stupefied, confused, shocked, rattled, paralyzed, dazed, bewildered, mixed up, surprised, awed, dumbfounded, nonplussed, flabbergasted, astounded, amazed, confounded, astonished, overwhelmed, horrified, numbed, speechless, and perplexed.



**So, are you up for it?
We'll do it together!**



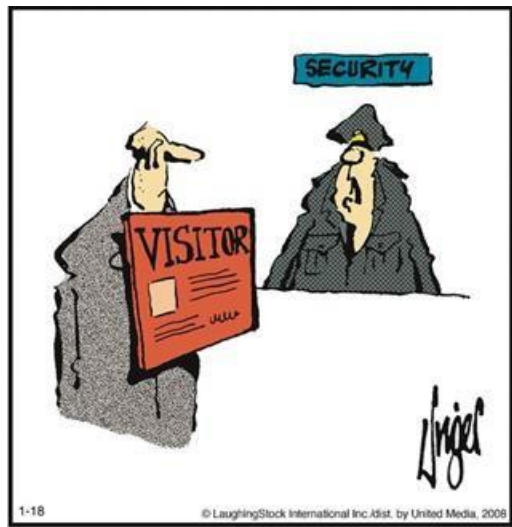


LAZY
 IS SUCH AN UGLY WORD

I PREFER THE TERM
SELECTIVE PARTICIPATION



"I said, 'Round up a POSSE!'"



"Make sure you don't forget to return that pass before you leave the building."

Book Clubs, Book Review

QFP (Quality Foods Parksville) Booklovers

Date	Facilitator	Book
Sept. 12	Sheila	The Woefield Poultry Collective
Oct. 10	Linda	The Salt Path
Nov. 14	Val and Dianne	The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store
Dec. 12	Susan	Too Soon Old, Too Soon Smart
Jan. 9	Maureen and Tracy	The Island of Sea Women
Feb. 13	Liz	The Postcard by Ann Berest
Mar. 13	Brenda	The Nightingale
Apr. 10	Pat	Greenwood
May 8	Sam	The Phoenix Crown
June 12	Jane	Always Pack A Candle, Marion Cook

(Contributed by Dianne Anderson.)

Shrinking Violet Book Club

No report this month.

Book Review of the Month

I Cheerfully Refuse by Leif Enger (2024) as of August 27, 2024

I cherish Leif Enger's book *Peace Like a River*, so when I saw he had a new book out, I ordered it from the library, knowing nothing about it. My heart sank when I saw it was set "in a not-too-distant America" since I read *Station Eleven* (as you probably did) and such books can be very disturbing if you consider the likelihood of it featuring a pandemic or some dystopian circumstance, with cruelty, lawlessness, and a society in survival mode, with nothing 'civilized' that we have come to take for granted. But, trusting Leif Enger, I moved forward braced to imagine the worst humanity has to offer and yes, it is there. However, a few people cling to the old and nearly forgotten virtues of honesty, kindness, fairness, generosity, and decency. A few value the arts. And he is still a wonderful writer. For instance: "I liked (him), wanted him to be all right. But, I really wanted him to go home, and be all right at home."

Very briefly: in some possible future, Rainy and Lark live in a small, pleasant community on Lake Superior. She has a bookstore sharing space with a bakery and he plays bass guitar in a band. They allow a young traveler to stay in their upstairs room. But, he brings trouble with

him. The people pursuing him say that he escaped from a form of indentured servitude as a test subject for new drugs and took a quantity of their property with him. They want him and the substance back and will stop at nothing. Their house is ransacked to its skeleton and Lark is killed. Rainy steps into their small sailboat and leaves, but is pursued by them. The lake is treacherous with sudden violent storms and marine hazards. Rainy picks up a hitchhiker/stowaway/rescue child but they blunder into the headquarters of their enemies and things get very tense. After that encounter and its resolution, they (in effect), sail into a quiet harbour under the stars.

The book was an experience as much as a story. Yes, we are frightened by an earth we do not know: “so old and exhausted that many now saw it as a dying great-grand on a surgical table, body decaying from use and neglect, mind fading down to glow.” Yes, we retreat from seeing the darkest of human nature: “a monster or undead genius or a screaming black vortex under regular skin.” We also rejoice to see the best: “I never was anyone’s parent, so this rapid expansion of love and terror confounded me.” We see grace and beauty: “Where I might play two notes or four, [she] spins kaleidoscopes. How hands that young know that terrain eludes me, but her lines are plate tectonics and her riffs are thrown confetti drifting down across your shoulders.” We see even the darkest with compassion: “Maybe I still could [be him]. What scares me is the notion we are all one rotten moment, one crushed hope or hollow stomach from stuffing someone blameless in a cage.” Sprinkled in are moments of humour, even silliness. For instance, did you hear about “the pragmatist who died and went to hell – a bad surprise, but a couple of months in he started to like it”?

So, for some time in a world that we want to avoid, try the book. Brace yourself to really care about those people at that point. Hope that we can avoid that situation and if we enter it, resolve to use all our best impulses, our sense of humour, our compassion, our talents and skill and daring. Read, write and talk, since “words are one way we leave tracks in the world.” Let’s make our legacy a worthwhile path to follow.

(By the way, the title of this book is the title of a rare, unpublished book that is treasured by Lark.)