



Canadian Federation of University Women – Ottawa

Capital Carillon

<http://cfuw-ottawa.org>

April General Meeting

DATE: Monday, April 12, 2010
TIME: 7:30 pm
PLACE: St. Timothy's Presbyterian Church
 2400 Alta Vista Drive
TOPIC: Resolutions

At our General Meeting on April 12, we will discuss and vote on the 2010 CFUW Draft Resolutions (full text of the resolutions was in the March issue). We invite you to attend, as we value your opinions, ideas and feedback.

Our Issues Committees are currently studying the resolutions and will present their recommendations at the April 12 meeting. This year's resolutions include two from the International Relations Committee: one urging Canada to make mobilizing the will to intervene to prevent mass atrocities in the world a national priority, and the second supporting UN Security Council resolutions to prevent use of sexual violence against women and children as a weapon of war, to involve women in the peace process and to protect children affected by armed conflict. The proposal for additional resources for Aboriginal Education comes from the National Education Committee. The University Women's Club of Vancouver proposes that prostitution be considered a form of violence against women, calling in their reso-

(see **General Meeting** on next page)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

LEILA METCALF

CFUW-Ottawa is a hub of activity in this unique spring of our Centennial year, especially with end-of-year events and the CFUW National AGM on the horizon. Congratulations are in order to Margaret Haines and her Scholarship Trust team of Marion Cameron, Alice Bolt, Janet Riehm and Dawn Smith for their Scholarship Presentation at the March General Meeting. The presentation enabled us to show respect for the scholarship winners and our interest in them. Club members were also able to see the impressive outcome of their donations and fund-raising efforts, and to appreciate the work of our Scholarship Trust Board. Bravo also to Sheila Pepper and her committee for the CFUW-Ottawa/Ottawa Council of Women's jointly organized and highly successful celebration of International Women's Day (see Article on page 5).

I attended the CFUW Ontario Council Standing Committees Meeting in Toronto on March 13, along with Mary Butterill and Wilma Clapham. The plenary session Guest Speaker Pamela Cross, a prominent women's equality lawyer, addressed a difficult subject that has been important to CFUW for a number of years, the problem of abused women in family court. Ms. Cross is a member of

the Domestic Violence Advisory Council, created in 2002 by the provincial government. The Council's purpose is to make recommendations (at no cost to the government) to improve services to abused women and children. Ms. Cross agrees with the steps the government is taking to improve the response system, but said there also needs to be a focus on recommendations that would stop the violence. The Legislation Committee considered an issue raised by CFUW-Oakville, specifically that the Government of Ontario has approved construction of a gas-fired power plant close to Oakville homes and schools. There is vigorous opposition to this project from Oakville residents, MPPs, and environmental health groups. In view of the controversy surrounding the approval of this particular plant, and recognizing that there may be future implications of its approval across the province, I sent a letter on behalf of CFUW-Ottawa to our 8 local MPPs. The letter questions the Oakville project and urges a Government commitment to reducing toxic emissions, to providing environmental and risk assessments before approving power plant construction, as well as setback provisions that ensure safety of populated areas. Credit for draft-

(see **President's Message** on next page)

General Meeting (continued)

lution for removal of sanctions currently in the Criminal Code against the sellers of sexual services and for addition, instead, of criminal sanctions against the purchasers of these services. CFUW Oakville proposes a ban on the mining, use and trade of all forms of asbestos, including chrysotile asbestos, and CFUW South Delta wants to protect Canadians from health hazards associated with exposure to electro-magnetic fields from high voltage overhead power lines.

The issues are wide ranging. We invite you to come join the discussion. Your attendance and participation will help us make good decisions. We hope to see you there.

**Hear Ye! Alert!
Listen Up Please!**

For the final 2010 edition, please send copy to both myself and Wilma Clapham who has kindly agreed to complete the May Carillon as I will be out of the country.

This is the last issue under my pen. Editing the Carillon is fun. Mostly it is having a bit of a nose for news, collecting material others write, doing a little editing for space and clarity and sending everything off to Robert Friedman who puts together the package you all receive.

Dianne Rummery

Capital Carillon is published monthly from September to May

Next issue: **May 2010**

Deadline: **April 15, 2010**

<http://cfuw-ottawa.org/>

President's Message (continued)

ing the letter goes to Charlotte Rigby, Mary Butterill and interested members of the Issues Committees. If you would like a copy of the letter, please contact Mary Butterill.

There are many social issues that need our input, and I hope you will

come to Resolutions Night on April 12 to consider this year's draft resolutions. Our AGM/Dinner Meeting is scheduled for May 10 at Algonquin College, and the CFUW National AGM July 15-18 at the Marriott Hotel. See you there!

JESSICA BELL, WINNER OF THE FIRST RUTH BELL CENTENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Jessica, no relation to Ruth, is in her fourth and final year at University of Ottawa in a joint Honours Bachelor in Women's Studies and Political Science. She spent last summer in South Africa doing field research through Ottawa U about the severe levels of discrimination against the gay and lesbian communities. A transformative

experience, she came to realize the value of social and feminist activism to effect positive change. She has since become Court Support Worker for Ottawa Victim Services where she provides support for women on their court dates. Some future career plans include law school and becoming a Family Law lawyer.



Gathered here are the winners of CFUW-Ottawa awards for this academic year. Officers of the Trust include Dawn Smith and Janet Riehm, far left, Margaret Haines, who chaired the presentations, far right. Alice Bolt and Marion Cameron are front left and the winner of the Ruth Bell Centennial Scholarship is Jessica Bell, front and centre.

Valuing Our Past

Valuing our Past has become a mission for members who are doing just that for the AGM/Conference. Led by Marilyn Letts, the group is working on an interesting schematic to show graphically the kinds of strides women have made in a broad range of endeavours. This work has turned up some surprising accomplishments and also indicated how little we know of the women who have blazed the trail for the equality we enjoy today.

Marilyn, Mary Partington, Marjorie Melick, Gloria Salvati and Dianne Rummery are also working on a side issue of Valuing the Past—developing a quiz that celebrates the accomplishments of Canadian women. Five questions were sent out to Clubs across Canada in February to give them an opportunity to test-drive the quiz and also remind them of the upcoming AGM/Conference.

DON'T MISS THIS WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO HOST WOMEN FROM ACROSS CANADA

We do urge you to join CFUW members from across Canada in July. Celebrate the achievements of the trailblazers before us. Learn how to be the next generation of trailblazers and **Shape the Future** of women in Canada and around the world.

To register for **all** or **part** of this event, go to www.cfuw.org.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our members to sample the excitement of an AGM. The Opening Reception on Thursday, July 15 will be buzzing as all the members arrive (\$25). The program on Friday, July 16 entails a three-person dialogue, lunch in Le Merlot followed by a four person panel and workshops (\$175). The Saturday Gala Dinner (\$85) featuring Dr. Sima Samar and Alaina Podmorow will summarize what we have learned on Friday and celebrate the finale of the event.

Non-members are welcome to attend and participate, so bring a friend or your spouse. Early Bird registration closes **May 12, 2010**, so don't delay!

All this is happening July 15-18 2010 at the Ottawa Marriott Hotel. Do come to help welcome members from across Canada.

CFUW-OTTAWA AGM/DINNER MEETING

May 10, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

AGM meeting begins at 8:00 p.m.

Restaurant International, Algonquin College
1385 Woodroffe Avenue

\$30.00 per person including taxes and gratuities

Cash bar: Wine \$6.50 per glass

Tickets will be available at the April General Meeting or you can send a cheque for \$30.00 made out to CFUW-Ottawa with a stamped self-addressed envelope to Aleyamma Samuel (address in membership directory).

Cut off day to purchase tickets is April 27, 2010

Directions to the restaurant: Turn left at the first set of traffic lights on Woodroffe Avenue, south of Baseline Road (between College Square Shopping Centre and Algonquin College). Turn right at the next set of traffic lights. The parking lot and the hospitality centre will be in front of you. Restaurant International is in that building.

In Memoriam

Charline Alward



French Conversation groups one and two were saddened by the unexpected death on March 18 of their long-time mentor and friend, Charline Alward. Charline was the inspiration and guide for the Club's French conversation groups for more than 40 years. She was a superb teacher, bringing insight and humour to our language studies. She will be greatly missed. Our deep sympathy goes to her family and friends.

Quiz Game for *Value Our Past*

Part of the theme for the upcoming CFUW AGM/Conference is Value Our Past. As noted, members are developing a quiz game, designed to test our knowledge of and celebrate Canadian women trailblazers, many of whom were members of CFUW. This quiz has gone out to Clubs across the country to test drive. We would appreciate your comments as well.

<p>1. What Canadian Author and Activist was both a member of the Winnipeg Press Club and the University Women's Club of Winnipeg?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ One of her best known books is "Clearing in the West". ■ A gifted mimic, she turned the tables on the Manitoba Premier and held a mock Women's Parliament which was petitioned to give men the vote. ■ She was a member of the Famous Five. <p>2. What Canadian Mayor advised, "Speak Up Gentlemen. I am not opposed to male participation in politics"?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A feisty lady, she was the first woman mayor of a major Canadian city 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ She was President of the University Women's Club of Ottawa 1929-31. ■ She once said whatever women do, they must do it twice as well as men to be half as good. Luckily this isn't difficult. <p>3. Who got women's groups to speak with one voice to convince Prime Minister Lester Pearson to appoint a Royal Commission on the Status of Women?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ She was President of CFUW 1964-1967 ■ She was President of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women ■ She was the first Canadian observer for IFUW at the UN Commission on the Status of Women 	<p>4. Who was the first Canadian Women Senator?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ She was not one of the Famous Five ■ She was a member of the University Women's Club of Ottawa ■ She was the first Canadian woman to be appointed a delegate to the UN <p>5. Who said in Kabul in 2007 "empower women and you will see a decrease in poverty, illiteracy, disease and violence"?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ She is a former Quebec journalist and broadcaster. ■ She is fluent in five languages, French, English, Italian, Spanish and Haitian Creole ■ She has played a very prominent role in Canada in the last five years
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Please send comments and suggestions to Dianne Rummery at mdrummery@rogers.com.

And do please plan to attend the CFUW AGM/Conference scheduled for July 15-18 at the Ottawa Marriott Hotel.

CASH for GOLD and the Final Fundraiser for the AGM/Conference to put us comfortably over the top.

Bring your broken chains, single earrings or other unwanted gold jewellery to our April meeting and May AGM. Items will be sold for their gold value, which is high at present. Every little earring helps!

Canadian Women Making a Difference

International Women’s Day sponsored by CFUW and the Ottawa Council of Women was sold out and once again a successful celebration of women’s accomplishments everywhere.

Guest speakers this year were Olivia Chow, MP since 1985 for Trinity-Spadina in Toronto, who emphasized the NDP platform on women’s rights to daycare and health care.

Mary Simon, President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami was unable to attend however Rosemary Cooper who is a communications officer in the same organization filled in beautifully. She tore up her scripted presentation and talked from the heart, first of all explaining how to say “yes” and “no” in Inuit—quite different from southern body language.

Her concern is for her people’s poor living conditions and the complex difficulties international treaties create when they ban or limit polar bear, seal, and caribou hunts and fishing for char. Groceries are incredibly expensive in the north; limiting Inuit access to their traditional diet is a

calamity not well understood in the south and in European countries.

Entertainment included several sessions of throat singing from two groups from the Ottawa Inuit Children’s Centre. Throat singing entertains but it also is a contest of sorts between singers and we were entertained in both

ways. Also included as backdrop were the large and magnificent northern photographs of Michelle Valberg.

Kudos to a fine MC, our own Sheila Perry and to the organizing committee Lynne Bond, Mary Butterill, Tanya MacLeod, Sheila Pepper and Sheila Perry.



ITK speaker Rosemary Cooper and Sheila Perry, Master of Ceremonies admiring Michelle Valberg’s magnificent images of the north.

Your Chance to Invest in the Future of CFUW-Ottawa

The Nominating Committee is looking for interested people to fill the following positions on the Board for next year.

- **Publications – *Carillon*** – responsible for producing 7 issues of the newsletter.
- **Membership Administration** – 2 positions — maintaining membership lists and files, and co-ordinating distribution of the Membership Directory.

- **Fundraising Co-ordinator** – co-ordinating fundraising events and keeping accurate records of monies raised.
- We are also looking for someone to assist the Web Wizard, and members to serve as part of the Hospitality Committee.

If you are interested or have names to suggest, please contact a member of the committee: Anne Madden, Patricia Bays, Mary Partington, and Alice Bolt.



From the CFUW-Ottawa Environmental Toxins and Health Issues Group

Toxic Chemicals – They’re All Around Us...

Q. WHAT DO THESE THINGS HAVE IN COMMON?

- **Bisphenol A (BPA)** in baby bottles and food containers;
 - **Phthalates and PVC** in toys, shower curtains and countless other products;
 - **Flame retardants** in fabrics, furniture and children’s products
- A.** Every day we are all exposed — in air, drinking water and in the products we use in our homes — to these and over 80,000 other chemicals
- A.** Studies have linked exposure to these chemicals to health effects: from breast and prostate cancer (BPA) to effects on male genital development in male fetuses (Phthalates) to nervous system damage (flame retardants). Relatively few studies have looked at health effects that result when they interact with each other in our bodies.
- A.** They are subject to little or no government action to limit our exposure.

Q. WHAT IS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DOING?

- A.** Under Canada's Chemical management Plan, Health Canada and Environment Canada are re-assessing and considering action on some of the more hazardous

chemicals already on the market. If you would like to see Health Canada take precautionary action to limit the use of these chemicals, and force the use of fewer and safer chemicals, they need to hear your voice now.

Q. WHAT CAN I DO?

- A.** Become informed. Visit the National Network for Environments and Women’s Health at www.nnewh.org; the Canadian Environmental Network at www.cen-rce.org/CMP/indexcmp.html; and the Government of Canada’s Chemicals Management Plan at www.chemicalsubstances.chimiques.gc.ca/index-eng.php
- A.** Get involved. Tell the Government of Canada and your MP that you want regulations made under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act to limit the import, manufacture and use of substances that are persistent, accumulate in the food chain, and/or present a high hazard to humans, as soon as possible.

Produced by the National Network on Environment and Women's Health, February 2010, with funding from the Bureau of Women's Health and Gender Analysis, Health Canada. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of Health Canada.

With thanks to the National Network on Environment and Women's Health.

Film Showing and Discussion

Toxic Trespass: A film about children’s health and the environment

Intrepid filmmaker Barri Cohen launches an investigation into the effects of the chemical soup around us in *Toxic Trespass*.

Winner of 2008 Writers Guild of Canada Canadian Screenwriting Award, and Honourable Mention from the Columbus Film and Video Festival for Best Science and Technology Film



A reception and informal discussion will follow the screening at Glebe St. James United Church, 650 Lyon St. Wednesday April 21, 7:30–9:30 p.m.

Presented by CFUW-Ottawa and Glebe St. James United Church.

Entry: pay-what-you-can

For more information call (613) 235-7819 or visit www.toxictrespass.com

Ottawa Riverkeeper March 8, 2010

Meredith Brown, executive director of the Ottawa Riverkeeper gave a passionate and informative talk on the role of the Riverkeeper in relation to the health of the Ottawa River and its tributaries.

Most qualified for her position, she has degrees in biology and environmental engineering and a masters degree in Resource and Environmental Management. Her graduate study included work with world renowned river engineer, Robert Newbury.

Ottawa Riverkeeper formed in 2001. Its mission is to provide leadership and inspiration to community groups and decision makers to protect, promote and improve ecological health of the Ottawa river and its tributaries.

Meredith noted that Ottawa is a unique city in that it has a river to provide drinking water as well as a place of recreation where people can swim, boat and fish. The problem is that there is no government agency and no shared management with a vision for river.

The Ottawa Riverkeeper's strategic plan is to:

- Offer science based information to community groups and decision makers. In 2002 she published a report on the health of the river.
- Encourage municipalities to attend to the health of the river. Reports on the health of the Ottawa River are published on their web site. The river keeper wants Ottawa to be a leader of healthy rivers. She has planned a high level Watershed Summit to be held in Ottawa
- Promote compliance with the existing protective the river regulations. They established a Pollution Hotline.
- Encourage responsible use of the river for the enjoyment and benefit of all. The Riverkeeper's vision is that more people will take advantage of the recreational potential in and along the river.

You may find detailed information about the Ottawa Riverkeeper at www.ottawariverkeeper.ca

And the answers are:

1. **Nellie McClung** journalist and social activist for temperance and the vote for women. Many consider her imaginative efforts contributed largely to Manitoba being the first province in Canada to give women the vote.
2. **Charlotte Whitton**, social worker, politician, one of the country's most colourful and controversial women. Her more significant accomplishments occurred during her earlier career as a director and driving force behind the Canadian Council on Child Welfare. She crusaded relentlessly for professional standards in the care of juvenile immigrants and neglected and dependent children
3. **Cairine Wilson** became the first woman appointed to the Canadian Senate, just months after the Persons Case gave women the right to sit in the Red Chamber. Throughout her Senate career, she supported issues involving the rights of women and children, more progressive divorce legislation, and was a proponent of Medicare.
4. **Laura Sabia** was a Canadian social activist, feminist, politician, and author. In 1967 she played an important part as National Chair of the Committee for the Equality of Women, in the creation of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women.
5. **Governor General Michaele Jean** immigrated from Haiti with her family at an early age. Through her media work, she has furthered the cause of immigrant women and children particularly and has been a very popular Governor General for the last five years.



Now that your calendars are out—the Holiday Party is booked for December 5, 2010 at the RA Centre.

A PERSONAL OLYMPIC STORY

By Jackie MacDonald

The 1956 Olympic Games: I always loved sports and from a young age I wanted to go to the Olympic Games. When I was twenty, I tried the shot put and discus and quickly did well at these events, winning a silver medal in shot the following year at the 1954 British Empire and Commonwealth Games. Although I participated in several international competitions, being named to the 1956 Olympic team was the biggest thrill of my athletic career. I did not win a medal, but I qualified for the final round and threw my best distance ever.

In retrospect, I think the most wonderful part of being a competitor at the Olympics and other international competitions was the opportunity to meet people from all over the world. Although they represented a tremendous variety of races, cultures

and languages, our common passion for sport brought us together. It was a truly mind expanding experience.

The 2010 Olympic Torch Relay: In the 2010 relay, 12,000 people carried the flame 45,000km through 1000 Canadian communities using a great variety of methods; running, walking, wheelchair, canoe, kayak, dog sled, horse drawn wagon, bicycle, skates, skis, motorcycle and more.

When two of my fellow members of the 1956 track team learned that the torch could be carried by a team, they decided to form team "Melbourne 1956", composed of as many of their fellow athletes as they could find. They located all but one of the 16 living members and persuaded eleven of us from Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Kingston, Saskatoon, Calgary, and Vancouver to gather in

Trail BC to carry the torch on January 24. Just as exciting as the relay was the wonderful reunion we had. One person set up a web site to which we all contributed photos and bios telling what we had done since the Games. The accomplishments of the members of this group over the years are very impressive. Among the eleven from 1956 were an MD, three PhDs, three MAs, holders of other degrees and certificates plus a celebrity chef. Several had continued their connection to the sport by coaching, organizing and officiating. Most had continued keeping fit and active.

On February 12, the flame arrived at BC Place in Vancouver where the cauldron, which would burn throughout the Games, was lit.

Excerpted from the Manor Park Chronicle



Gatineau Trails Cross-country Ski Group

Members of the Gatineau Trails Cross-country Ski Group enjoyed a winter break at Gracefield Camp and Conference Centre in Gracefield Quebec, February 22-24. Good skiing, snowshoeing, and fun was had by all.

Back row: Ann Hannan, Carolyn Sommerville, Barbara Riley, Marie-Blanche Hebert, Mary Wilkinson, Mary Partington, Inge Kubanek, Kathy Greiner, Muriel Scott-Smith, Kathleen Chance; Middle row: Peggy White, Glenys Pike, Peggy McGillivray, Libby Leslie, Mary Patton; Front row: Marie Andrews, Joy Johnstone, Kringen Henein, Marlene Hewitt