



Canadian Federation of University Women – Ottawa

Capital Carillon

February General Meeting

DATE: Monday, February 3, 2020.
TIME: 1 p.m.

The meeting will start at 1:00 p.m. but you may come for a light lunch at noon. Register for this \$12 meal by sending an email to Joan Tyler, VP Operations, at jctyler@sympatico.ca. The deadline for registration is January 27th. You will then pay at the door on February 3rd. If you have registered, but cannot come on the day, you will be asked to send a \$12 cheque to our Treasurer, Chris Narraway, to cover the cost of the meal ordered.

The Used Book Sale Table

Books are for sale for \$2 at our meetings, with the proceeds divided equally between our Scholarship Trust Fund and scholarships for Afghan Women at Gawharshad University in Kabul.

Do not bring more used books as we have more than enough to sell. See you at the table!

PLACE: Riverside Churches,
3191 Riverside Drive, Ottawa,
K1V 8N8

SPEAKER: Peter MacDonald

TOPIC: *World Class Music in the Capital*

Peter MacDonald is the General Manager of Chamberfest, the Ottawa Chamber Music Festival. Its slogan is *Changing Lives Through Music*. In addition to the festival that has taken place every summer since 1994, Chamberfest offers a concert series throughout the year and, through its Community Engagement and Education Program, regularly



(see Meeting on next page)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HEATHER LEWIS

Since my skiing and skating days are in the past, I don't find that the month of February has much to recommend it. As this is a leap year, we also get another day of it. Valentine's Day may be a high point, although not for everyone. If you don't have a sweetie to give you sweets, I hope you will be able to spend that day with friends who cherish you.

However, there are a few good things to say about February. This is the *very* best month to join CFUW-Ottawa, because a membership bought in February is valid until the end of September 2021! If you have

friends who might be contemplating joining us, do them a favour and tip them off to this fact. Tell them about the membership benefits of socialization, learning, advocacy, the support of girls and women nationally and internationally, particularly in the area of education. We also have fun, and fun is important.

Our January speaker, Reverend Burnett-Cole, gave an excellent

(see President on next page)

INSIDE

Mark Your Calendars

The Holiday Party, December 2019
 Scholarship Awards Night
 Collection for Elizabeth Fry Society
 Looking for New Group Convenors
 Help Wanted for CFUW AGM June 2020
 Indigenous Women in Canadian Prisons
 True North Rising
 Music Appreciation, 2019
 CFUW's National Indigenous Persons Committee
 Convenors of the Month
 Saturday at the Movies
 In Memoriam: Barbara Coleman
 DHG Holiday Luncheon and at CBC Studios
 The KAIROS Blanket Exercise
 New Year's Resolutions?
 University Women Helping Afghan Women
 Do You Know Who We Are?
 Gatineau Trails
 2020 Musical Lunch and Silent Auction



On December 12, 2019, the MadriGals External Outreach group went to sing at the Duke of Devonshire retirement residence. One of the staff members took this photo of five CFUW-Ottawa Presidents, L-R: Marlene Hewitt, Marnie Emerson, Heather Lewis, Mary Partington and Leila Metcalf. Active in the Club for many years, Marnie is no longer a current member; she is 102 years old.

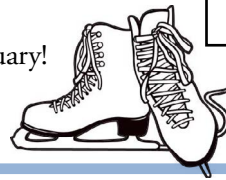
President – continued

presentation on *Indigenous Women in Canadian Prisons* (see page 5). That topic was a serious one and, inevitably, much of the content made us feel sad. By way of contrast, the February topic, *World Class Music in the Capital*, is guaranteed to chase winter blues away. The speaker will be Peter MacDonald, General Manager of Ottawa's Chamberfest. Remember that the meeting is at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, February 3rd with an optional lunch (registration required) at 12:30 p.m.

In January, the world experienced some bellicose actions which unnerved many Canadians, including me. We are happy that CFUW and GWI have a history of working to further peace and security in the world. In fact, promoting peace and international co-operation was a major motivation for the founding mothers of CFUW and IFUW (later GWI) in the wake of the conclusion of WWI. As the causes of WWII festered, growing concern over the international situation prompted a CFUW resolution in 1936, asking the Canadian Government to support a "collective system" of security to maintain peace; continued support for

the Permanent Court of International Justice; reduction and supervision of all armaments; an international police force; opposition to private manufacture of armaments. The education of women in and of itself furthers peace within nations and peace among nations. We women play such a major role in bearing and nurturing life that we truly value it. Is it any wonder that we want peace and try to do what we can to advance it?

Have a good February!

**Meeting** – continued

organizes arts education activities in the city. Hear about *Bring The Kids* concerts, the *City Series* of free concerts in Ottawa and Gatineau featuring local artists, *Concerts In Care* for elders in long-term care facilities; and *Listen Up!* — a program whereby school students expand their creative lives by helping to create a new musical work.

LOOKING AHEAD TO CFUW EVENTS IN 2020

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

All General Meetings take place at the Riverside Churches, 3191 Riverside Drive.



2020

Monday, February 3, 1 p.m. (with an option of lunch at noon) – General Meeting with guest speaker. See [page 1](#).

Monday, March 2, 7:30 p.m. – General Meeting and **Scholarship Awards**. See [page 3](#)

Monday, April 6, 7:30 p.m. – General Meeting with guest speaker.

Thursday, April 23 – Musical Lunch in aid of scholarships for young women in Ottawa and Kabul. See [page 12](#).

Saturday, May 2 – CFUW-Ottawa AGM at the Rideau Canal Junior Ranks Mess, 4 Queen Elizabeth Drive.

Thursday, June 4 – Dinner for Hope in aid of scholarships for young women in Kabul.

Thursday, June 18 to Saturday, June 20 – CFUW-National AGM, Delta Hotel, Ottawa. See [page 4](#).

The **Capital Carillon** is published monthly from October to May, except for January. Suggestions and comments are always welcome. Please send all material for the next issue to Alison Hobbs, newsletter@cfuw-ottawa.org

Next issue: March 2020; deadline for submissions: February 15.

Previous issues are archived on the Club website, at www.cfuw-ottawa.org.

The Holiday Party, December 2019

By Norma Pike

Fun paired with fundraising for scholarships is a win-win situation. Many students benefit. Our delightful CFUW-Ottawa Annual Holiday Party raised more than five thousand dollars for the Scholarship Trust Fund. Such a success would be impossible without the generosity of our CFUW-Ottawa members, and generous they were!

The event was staffed by more than 25 volunteers, four of whom were new CFUW members. Members donated impressive works of art to the bake and Silent Auction tables and our talented MadriGals gave a beautiful performance. Attendees were equally generous in purchasing baked treats, jewelry, grab bags and silent auction items.



Joan, Muriel, Janet and Carol greeted party guests on their arrival at the RA Centre



This was truly a community event for CFUW-Ottawa. Around the Clarke Room at the RA Centre, you could see friends, family, and Study and Interest Groups (who'd reserved their seats) delighting in one another's company over a delicious lunch and a glass of wine, all

for a terrific cause. What a great way to jumpstart the holiday season!

If you missed this event, mark your calendar for our next Holiday Party on December 6, 2020. Please also save the date of March 2, 2020, for the awards ceremony for our scholarship students.

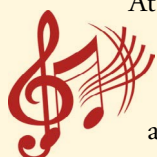


Norma, Heather and Alice on stage at the party



The MadriGals entertaining party guests

Advance Notice of Scholarship Awards Night



At 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 2, 2020, at the Riverside Churches, please join the trustees of CFUW-Ottawa's Scholarship Trust Fund at our annual awards ceremony. We look forward to welcoming you as well as your family and friends to this important meeting. Come to applaud the scholarship winners and listen to a recital by the musicians among them. After the ceremony there will be refreshments and a chance to meet and congratulate each of these young women personally.

Further details to appear on page 1 of the March issue of this newsletter.

Collection for the Elizabeth Fry Society



Donations from the CFUW-Ottawa, delivered to the E Fry Society by Alice Bolt and her husband Ian, were used for gifts at the Christmas Party for E Fry clients. This photo was taken by the Executive Director. Staff and volunteers spent 8+ hours putting the items together. The Manager of Community Engagement at E Fry, Shawna Holmes, wrote: "We are so grateful that your organization has continued to support us, especially this time of year which can be so difficult for the women we work with, who are often separated from their children, or estranged from family and friends. Thank you for helping us make their holidays brighter."

Might You be Interested in Convening a New Group?

We would like to add some new groups to next season's offerings. Here are some ideas:

- ❖ **Women with Hammers** – organized programs involving home, car and other repairs, how to use power tools, etc.
- ❖ **Golf** – weekly, during golf season.
- ❖ **Tennis** – weekly or bi-weekly games.
- ❖ **Bowling** – weekly or bi-weekly games.
- ❖ **The Curious Day Trip Group** – explore places of interest on a day trip once a month.
- ❖ **Newcomers' Group** – special activities for people who joined CFUW during the last four years.



We need Convenors and Co-Convenors to get these groups off the ground! Got other ideas? We'd love to hear them! If you could help in any way, please contact Karen Shigeishi-Waite at cfuw.studiesandinterest@gmail.com.

CFUW Annual General Meeting June 2020

As you know, CFUW-Ottawa is hosting CFUW's national Annual General Meeting, June 18-20, 2020. The theme is *New Century – New Challenges*. Patricia Duffey and Christine Rollo co-chair the Local Arrangements Committee that is made up of nine sub-committees. Our committee volunteers have already been working hard to nail down all the details that will make this event a success, but are looking for extra help.

The **Program** sub-committee needs a few more dedicated ladies to work on developing the program and workshops; the **Sponsorship** and **Venues** teams need more people, too. The **Volunteers** sub-committee is seeking help with jobs immediately before and during the AGM. If you'd like to volunteer as an ambassador, greeter, "go-for", tour- or dinner-driver, let us know.

Please contact agmottawa2020@gmail.com.



Indigenous Women in Canadian Prisons

By Martha Musgrove

Indigenous women make up 3% of the Canadian population, but 38% of those women are incarcerated in our federal prison system. Between 2001 and 2012 their numbers increased 109%. The reasons underlying these deeply disturbing statistics were the focus of a talk by The Reverend Teresa Burnett-Cole at our well-attended General Meeting on January 6.

For the past seven years, Teresa has served as coordinating minister at Glebe St. James United church. Before moving to Ottawa, she was pastor in communities from the east coast to Saskatchewan. Often she noticed the devastating circumstances of her Indigenous parishioners, especially of women who had come in conflict with the law, and the toll this exacted on them and their families. Teresa made it a personal mission to find out more.

She soon discovered that Indigenous women who enter the federal justice system are victims of circumstance: a sad litany of sexual and physical abuse, the after effects of the residential school system, psychiatric disorders and substance abuse by the women or their family members. Canada's colonial system created these vulnerabilities. Our Indigenous population has experienced a long history of identity loss; dispossession of their land, culture, language and self-governance; social and economic disadvantage; and – perhaps most concerning – the perception that Indigenous women have little worth and are, in effect, dispensable.

The current justice system, including police, courts and Correctional Services Canada, bears significant responsibility for the high incarceration rates for Indigenous women. Indigenous communities tend to be over-policed, Teresa giving the example of the Christian Island reservation in Ontario where two RCMP officers serve a community of 600. (In Ottawa the average is one officer for 7000 residents). Excessive policing leads to a stereotypical loop: Indigenous people are assumed to commit crime, therefore police look for and find offenses, however minor.

Few judges have training in Indigenous culture so tend to misinterpret Indigenous customs and demeanour. Indigenous prisoners, including women, are more likely to be held in custody without representation and denied bail. Judges incorrectly assume that Indigenous prisoners will have access to rehabilitation programs within the federal correction system, so routinely issue longer sentences. Entering a federal correctional facility, an Indigenous woman loses ties with her family and community. Measures to correct systemic racism are not applied consistently, and so far little progress has been made on Truth and Reconciliation Commission calls for reforms to the federal justice system.

Once an Indigenous woman enters a Correctional Systems Canada facility, she probably will not have access to services such as healing lodges, that have proven effective. The



President Heather Lewis, left, with Rev. Teresa Burnett-Cole, photo by A. Hobbs

programs that do exist have often been designed for men or do not recognize diversity among Indigenous communities. Yet participation in such programs is mandatory to gain early release. Failure to participate is considered a lack of cooperation. Indigenous women are more likely to be placed in administration segregation and kept there longer than other prisoners. Solitary confinement causes great harm, exacerbating original trauma and emotional wounds.

Teresa set out several measures that the Government of Canada must take to rectify these injustices: abolishing the use of segregation for Indigenous women prisoners, educating judges and federal police agencies on systemic racism in Canada, and developing community-based, culturally appropriate alternatives to incarceration.

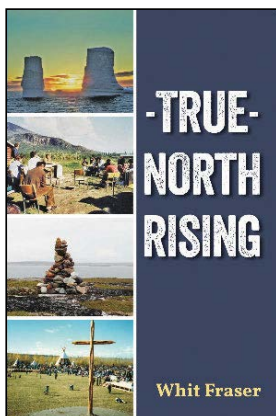
When asked what CFUW-Ottawa can do, Teresa had a one word response: "Advocate!" The slides for Teresa's presentation are accessible from our website: [click here](#).

True North Rising

By Alison Hobbs

On the afternoon of November 19, 2019, Sheila Perry, CFUW-Ottawa member, introduced veteran CBC TV reporter Whit Fraser to the Tuesday afternoon book club (Group III, convened by Janet Rhiem). Mr. Fraser had come to St. Bartholemew's Church hall on MacKay Street to speak about his book, *True North Rising*, several guests augmenting the audience.

Mr. Fraser claimed it had taken him more than 50 years to write this story of how the people of Canada's northern territories had "found their voice". His narrative is divided into three parts: the *Years of Discovery* in the 1960s and 70s, the *Turbulent Years* of the 80s, and the *Builders' Era* of the 1990s onwards. He was a first-hand witness of the events he describes, the most significant being the Mackenzie Valley pipeline enquiry and the establishment of Nunavut.



He tells the story of John Amagoalik from Resolute Bay, who,



Sheila Perry introducing Whit Fraser to the book club, photo by A. Hobbs

forced as a boy to move 1000 miles north at the start of winter, learned to read English from the newspapers used as draft excluders in the walls of his shack. Eventually he became known as the Father of Nunavut and is presently the Executive Director of the Inuit Claims Commission. Another Indigenous friend, born in a traditional bush camp, had been locked in a closet and sexually abused during his schooldays, but a priest befriended him and encouraged him to claim his rights. This child, Stephen Kakfwi, became the President of the Dene nation who in 1987 brought the Pope to the NWT.

Mr. Fraser spent 40 years traveling through northern communities including those in Alaska, observing and reporting on the marginalisation of indigenous people within the territorial court system. His first job as an inexperienced reporter was in Frobisher Bay. A fellow journalist

advised him to find contacts, keep it simple, tell it straight, don't make it up. One incident that particularly impressed Mr. Fraser at this stage of his career was when the news of the death of Martin Luther King Jr. was announced in 1968. An Inuk man, Jonah Kelly, improvised an hour-long commentary on this news, drawing parallels between the black communities in the USA and the Inuit in

Canada, matching MLK's speeches with quotations in Inuktitut.

Mr. Fraser also described the lengthy drama of Justice Berger's Mackenzie Valley Pipeline enquiry in the 1970s, that led to an eventual abandonment of the project. At one point, young Chief Frank T'Seleie confronted Calgary industrialist, Bob Blair, saying, "You are the 20th-century General Custer coming to slaughter us and steal land that is rightfully ours, to destroy a people that have a history of 30,000 years. Why? For 20 years of gas?" The chief added that he was willing to lay down his life in the defence of his people. Mr Blair responded with understanding, telling the native representatives that he regarded their concerns and serious and important, and from then on dealt differently with them.

The audience at Mr. Fraser's talk responded to his narrative with sympathy and a thoughtful question and answer session ensued.

Music Appreciation, 2019

By Joanne James

In 2019, CFUW-Ottawa's Study and Interest Group, **Music Appreciation**, organised two special events. On May 7, we enjoyed a private presentation of the new Canadian opera *Maison neuve & Mance*, commemorating the dramatic founding of Montreal. The composer of the music, Aleksey Shegolev, a Russian-Canadian, was present, as was Louise Gareau des Bois, who wrote the libretto. Kati Lyon-Villiger hosted the event.

On December 3, Victor Avila, a Masters pianist student at Ottawa University illustrated the structure

and composition of Bach's *Goldberg Variations* for our group. This also

took place at Kati Lyon-Villiger's home.



The first photo shows (left to right) Kati, Aleksey, and Louise Gareau des Bois having tea before the meeting. The second shows Victor sitting at Kati's piano.

CFUW's National Indigenous Persons Committee

By Charlotte Rigby

Did you know that CFUW has a **National Initiative on Indigenous Peoples**? This Initiative was adopted in 2017 to intensify our efforts as we learn more about the issues facing Canada's First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples, and how we can support reconciliation. Last August, CFUW established a special Subcommittee of the National Education Committee to do just that! The new *National Indigenous Persons Subcommittee* is chaired by the VP of Education, Kathryn Wilkinson.

We are 14 volunteers from across Canada who meet by teleconference. We agreed to start by educating ourselves about the historical discrimination and social struggles faced by Indigenous persons, and learning what CFUW clubs are already doing

and/or planning with Indigenous communities in their areas. A short survey sent to all 97 CFUW clubs asked them to list: a) their current activities; b) their special opportunities and challenges; and c) what CFUW's national office can do to support them. This information will serve as a basis for developing our action plans.

As a well-regarded, independent, national women's organization, CFUW has a long history of advocacy and support for Indigenous women and their communities, but there is much more to be done. We hope to make a difference.

We know that many clubs have ongoing relationships with Indigenous organizations. For example, CFUW-Ottawa has a longstanding partnership with the Elizabeth Fry Society,

which supports women and girls, the majority of whom are Indigenous, who are incarcerated or at risk of conflict with the legal system. We have prepared and supported policy resolutions and advocated in support of Indigenous gendered violence, educational, health, and social justice issues. Our own interest group, *Explorations in Indigenous Education*, welcomes speakers to its meetings, visits local service providers such as Vanier's Wabano Health Centre and researches Indigenous educational services in the public school system.

We invite you to join us on March 20 at the Riverside Churches for the Kairos Blanket Exercise, see [page 9](#). Contact Judith Neale Holtzhauer to register, and find more information at <https://www.kairosblanketexercise.org>

Convenors of the Month: Karen Shigeishi-Waite and Alison Hobbs

Apart from co-convening “Saturday at the Movies”, both Karen and Alison are CFUW-Ottawa Board Members. They also work together within the Local Arrangements Committee that is preparing for the National AGM in Ottawa this summer.



Karen Shigeishi-Waite

Karen oversees the Convenors and Co-Convenors of CFUW-Ottawa’s Study and Interest Groups and belongs to several of these herself: Digital Photography, Gatineau Trails, Snowshoeing in the Wild, and

World Religions, as well as participating in the External Outreach group, University Women Helping Afghan Women.



Alison Hobbs

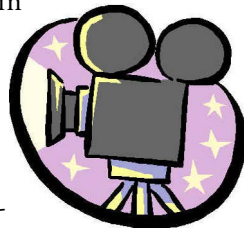
Alison is the editor of this newsletter, the *Capital Carillon*. She also coordinates the Diplomatic Hospitality subgroup known as the *Deutschsprachige Konversationsgruppe* (German conversation group) that has been in existence for 24 years, meeting every Thursday morning. She has been an active member of the Diplomatic Hospitality since first joining the CFUW in 1996, shortly after moving from the UK to Canada.

Saturday at the Movies

In the Fall of 2019 CFUW-Ottawa established some new interest groups, one of which is “Saturday at the Movies”. You may join at any time by contacting movies.cfuw@gmail.com.

Once a month, a movie that’s showing at the Bytowne cinema on a Saturday afternoon is chosen by one of the convenors and recommended to the group. Those who wish to combine this outing with a visit to a nearby restaurant can enjoy one another’s company over supper too.

We have so far seen the memorably thought-provoking feature films *Red Joan*, *Judy*, *Waves*, and *The Song of Names*, plus one unusual documentary, *Honeyland*, and, in the spirit of living adventurously, we have been sharing Indian, Afghan, Korean and Canadian meals at an interesting variety of restaurants. The best aspect of this pastime is that, while chatting about the films and other parts of our lives, we broaden our horizons, get to know one another and have fun.



In Memoriam: Barbara Coleman

Barbara moved away from Ottawa last November to be closer to her children and grandchildren. Just before Christmas she suffered a stroke and died on the morning of Christmas Day at the age of 80.



Barbara belonged to three book clubs in Ottawa, and one of them was the CFUW-Ottawa’s Literature Group VI that meets on Tuesday evenings. Barbara was a pillar of this group for many years and will be fondly remembered by its members; she joined in 1986. The group’s current convenor, Charlotte McWilliam, says that when Barbara moved from her Richmond Road apartment to a Seniors’ home in Toronto last November, she took 17 boxes of her beloved books with her. Always up-to-date on the latest publications and current events, she was an insightful leader, a stimulating conversationalist, and a willing hostess for this book club. Julia Demerse, Charlotte’s co-convenor, says that she appreciated Barbara’s suggestions of books for study because “they were often something we would not encounter among the current popular choices.”

Our sincere condolences to Barbara’s family and friends.

Diplomatic Hospitality Holiday Luncheon and at the CBC Studios



On December 6, 2019, Diplomatic Hospitality hosted a Holiday Luncheon for diplomats, CFUW members and friends at the Ottawa Golf and Hunt Club. Photo © Sam Garcia.



Diplomatic Hospitality's Executive Committee 2019-2020 at the Holiday Lunch: Left to right, Patty Preiss (Canadian membership), Saba Fatemizadeh (Embassies and Communications), Lisa Haley (DHG President), Judy Pillai (DHG Secretary), Sheila Gervais (DHG Treasurer), Karen Martin (DHG Vice-President). Photo © Sam Garcia.



Last November, the Diplomatic Hospitality Group visited the CBC / Radio Canada Studios for a tour of the set of Power & Politics, meeting its host, Vassy Kapelos. They also met Laurence Wall, News Producer and host of CBC's weekday news on Radio One. This photo by Karen Martin shows Mr. Wall speaking to the group.

The KAIROS Blanket Exercise

AN OPPORTUNITY NOT TO BE MISSED

In conjunction with KAIROS, the CFUW-Ottawa Exploring Indigenous Education study and interest group is hosting a Blanket Exercise with the support of CFUW-Ottawa.

Friday, March 20, 12 noon to 3 p.m.

at the Riverside Churches, 3191 Riverside Drive

The KAIROS Blanket Exercise is a unique, participatory history lesson—developed in collaboration with Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers and educators—that fosters truth, understanding, respect and reconciliation among Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

A limited number of spaces are available to CFUW members.

Cost of the exercise is \$20. To register, email Judith Neale Holtzhauer, judithneale@rogers.com.



"The KAIROS #BlanketExercise has been one of my most consistent teachers and paths to helping others learn."

@TreatyWalks

New Year's Resolutions?

By Beth Doubt

Convenor of CFUW-Ottawa's Climate Change and Biodiversity Interest Group

Personally I never make explicit resolutions, but I do think about what I could do towards mitigating climate change. My husband and I have been discussing whether or not to buy an electric car, the cost of which would be partially off-set through lower fuel costs, lower maintenance costs and a federal subsidy; whether we should have put in a heat pump when replacing the air conditioner; whether we can install solar panels on our roof—it is apparently getting cheaper to do so. Wind energy is purported by some to be the cheapest form of energy in Canada now; it'll be interesting to



see how this plays out, but not on my roof.

Something everyone can all do is decrease what goes into landfill and ensure that blue and black bin loads are not being contaminated; see <https://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/packaging-recycling-problems-1.4658988>.

We have been checking items against the lists provided on the city's website. Click on Recycling for blue bin and black bin lists and for information on green bins or hazardous waste and other special items. By following this guide, I find myself putting less into "garbage" and more into the other bins:

Kleenex now goes into the green bin, and aluminum foil into the blue bin. For anyone who lives in an apartment or other multi-unit dwelling, there's a downloadable brochure on recyclables.

These sometimes seem like very small steps to take, but small changes in our behaviour lead to greater consideration of the issue, to discussing it with our neighbours, who may also become more interested, to asking questions of our city councillors and other politicians. We start to live in a more sustainable way.

Don't worry about big resolutions; just set out along the path in the direction you want to go.

University Women Helping Afghan Women (UWHAW)



On Thursday December 5, the External Outreach group, University Women Helping Afghan Women (UWHAW) enjoyed a delicious, catered Afghan lunch, graciously organized by Fran and Sophia, after a brainstorming session at the home of Hally Siddons. Photo by E. Wilfert.

Other News

In October, UWHAW members enjoyed listening to Conrad Koczorowski from the Aga Khan Foundation who described the AGF's program for Women's Empowerment in Afghanistan. At UWHAW's monthly meeting on November 7 the guest speaker was Roya Gharji, one of UWHAW's Afghan friends in Ottawa. Roya had visited Kabul for three weeks in September after an absence of five years and had met some of the students sponsored by UWHAW at Gawharshad University.





DO YOU KNOW WHO WE ARE?

As members of CFUW-Ottawa, we are automatically members of CFUW nationally and GWI internationally. GWI, formerly the International Federation of University Women (IFUW), has close historical ties to the United Nations, the most important forum for addressing international issues such as human rights, equality and peace.

In 1919 women from the US, the UK and Canada conceived the idea of a worldwide organisation uniting university women. They were convinced that, by fostering friendship and understanding, women graduates could help prevent another catastrophe like the World War that had just ended. They prepared the first draft of the IFUW Constitution, with Virginia Gildersleeve leading the US representatives.

In 1945, 3500 people, only 3% of whom were women, attended the San Francisco Conference that led to the creation of the UN. Virginia



Virginia Gildersleeve

By Barbara Newbegin

Gildersleeve was one of them. As the only woman nominated to write the UN Charter, she had a key role in drafting many aspects of the document that defines what the UN represents today, and did final edits of the Preamble.

In 2020, the UN celebrates its 75th anniversary and GWI continues to be highly involved. Both CFUW and GWI have special consultative status with the UN. The GWI's head office in Geneva and its affiliates in the other key UN sites of Paris, Vienna and New York, allows GWI volunteers to participate day to day in the various agencies and committees of the UN (see <https://graduatewomen.org/what-we-do/un-representatives>).

In short, GWI remains very relevant in the international community. Any CFUW member can receive monthly *Update* newsletters by registering in the Member's Corner of the GWI website. To read GWI's January 2020 newsletter, click [here](#).

This March, Hally Siddons of CFUW-Ottawa will represent GWI at the 64th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW64) at the UN headquarters in New York. Her report on this will appear in the May 2020 issue of the *Capital Carillon*.

Gatineau Trails

December 17, the Gatineau Trails group, including Laura, Pauline and Sue (pictured below), skied through a winter wonderland to Huron Cabin for a shared lunch. Then the carol singing began, led by Sue on her ukulele and accompanied on the spoons by Danielle.



2020 MUSICAL LUNCH and SILENT AUCTION

Thursday, April 23rd, 2020

At the Royal Ottawa Golf Club, 1405 Aylmer Rd., Gatineau, Quebec



Your ticket includes:

- An elegant, three-course lunch with a glass of wine
- The musical performance
- Free parking

Silent Auction from 11:30 a.m.

Please bring cash and cheque books!

Raffle – 10 tickets for \$5.00 (cash); 50/50 draw – 3 tickets for \$5.00 (cash).

Thanks to the members of “University Women Helping Afghan Women” for their kind donation of two raffle baskets. The proceeds from the Raffle help to pay for the entertainment.

This Fundraising event is sponsored by the CFUW-Ottawa Study and Interest Group, **University Women Helping Afghan Women.**

The proceeds from the meal will help to fund CFUW-Ottawa scholarships at **Carleton University**, the **University of Ottawa** and **Algonquin College**. The proceeds from the Silent Auction will help to fund scholarships for Afghan Women at the **Gawharshad University** in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Registration is open to all CFUW-Ottawa members and their guests (women and men): a great opportunity to enjoy lunch at the Royal Ottawa Golf Club with your partner or friend and at the same time to help students at home and in Afghanistan!

Tickets to the Lunch cost \$55 (including tax and service charge). Official tax receipts will be issued.

Registration begins at the March 2nd general meeting. After March 16th, contact Alice Bolt, ianbolt@sympatico.ca, or at 613-731-5221, for tickets. Please advise Alice if you have any dietary issues.

All cheques are to be made payable to “UWHAW” and sent to Alice Bolt at 1531 Caton Street, Ottawa, ON, K1H 6J3.

Online registrations and payments are not available for this event.

After April 1st, please advise Sophia Papahariss-Wright, wrigpap@outlook.com, or at 613-837-3082, if you would like special seating arrangements.