Congratulations to CFUW-Ottawa’s Notable Women

We pay tribute to our nine nominees for the CFUW Centennial Notable Woman Award. These nine women illustrate the diverse talents of our membership. Their stories show us how Ottawa-CFUW members contribute to our organization and to the wider world in so many different ways. Working together, all of us make a difference. We thank our nominees for their tireless efforts. Let us be inspired by them! Let us celebrate them!

Fran Manning: Fran brings a wealth of experience to CFUW after a distinguished career, most recently helping First Nations communities to develop local industries and sustainable development. As VP Liaison, she organized our International Women’s Day events. She created our Issues and Advocacy groups, convened policy reviews, co-authored our 2016 *Age Discrimination in Ontario Employee Benefit Plans*, and served on the National Resolutions Committee 2015-2017. She’s an active member of our University Women Helping Afghan Women group and promotes contacts with other women’s groups such as the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women. Fran’s passion and eloquence has enriched our club’s interest in policy and social justice.

Alice Bolt: Alice embodies the best qualities of CFUW. She’s worked tirelessly as Funds Raised Chair, organizing more than 20 events for the Scholarship Trust Fund and for our UWHAW group. She represented CFUW at Ottawa’s Elizabeth Fry Society and organized annual donations supporting their Norwood House Residence. She’s constructed more than a hundred prize gift baskets, and scheduled many bridge and golf tournament with ease. Her community service includes volunteering as an official of the Canadian Speed Skating Association. Alice represents the best of CFUW to all those she’s worked with in the club and in the community.

Margaret Haines: Margaret retired as Carleton University Librarian in April 2016 but still leads Carleton’s 75th Anniversary celebrations and maintains her professional profile as editor and contributor to journals and books. Margaret has been a Trustee of our CFUW-Ottawa Scholarship Trust Fund (STF) for 10 years, most recently as Chair. Under her leadership, STF has re-invigorated our members’ connection with our scholarship winners by establishing an annual “Scholarship Evening” and increasing the number of scholarship fund-raising events. In 2016-17, STF granted a total of 23 awards valued at $31,000. Recently, Margaret negotiated with Carleton University to provide $100,000 matched funds by 2018 for three endowed scholarships.

Janet Riehm: Janet represents the many aspects of women whose contributions, not always widely recognized, basically keep our organization functioning. As a third generation CFUW member, Janet portrays the loyalty that is the glue of our sisterhood. Her
grandmother was actually a member in 1918 in Halifax and her mother founded the Parry Sound club and today is a member in Victoria. The attribute that makes Janet shine is her willingness to step up to the plate whenever assistance is needed, be it a budget that needs preparing, a deserted convenorship that needs rescuing or simply volunteering her home for events. It is this type of individual who through her commitment keeps our goals a reality.

**Hally Siddons:** Hally served a two-year term as President of CFUW-Ottawa and chaired the CFUW/AGM in 2010. On meeting the speaker for that conference, she became enthused about supporting a girl’s school in Afghanistan. She formed University Women Helping Afghan Women (UWHAW) and led it to spectacular success over the last seven years. UNHAW has supported a cohort of girls who have already graduated from the Gawharshad Institute of Higher Education and continues support for girls to completing university degrees. Her work and enthusiasm has gained international recognition and has helped many club members become knowledgeable, empathetic citizens.

**Dorothy Phillips:** Dorothy has been a leading member and has supported CFUW-Canada for over 40 years. She’s demonstrated vision and leadership both at the local and international level. She was the Chair of the Ottawa local arrangements committee for the 2001 Tri-Annual International IFUW (the name at that time) conference held in Ottawa. She was also Club President for one term, co-convenor of the writers’ workshop, authored the policy resolution *Reduction of Dietary Sodium* in 2013 and is convenor of a new group called *Focus on GWI*, in which members study the programs and advocacy of GWI.

**Kati Lyon-Villiger:** Kati has been a CFUW-Ottawa member for over 40 years. She was Club President in 1993-94 and remains an active member of interest groups, including Literature and Music Appreciation and is a co-convenor or our Writers’ Workshop and Couples’ Gourmet groups. She is an economist with a PhD in international finance and we appreciate her extensive experience with commercial and international government programs. She is also an accomplished linguist. She is a published author of novels and stories; her *Letters to Kathy* was shortlisted for the 2016 Canadian Authors’ Association Fred Kerner Award and her *Sentinel of the Damned* was a finalist for the 2016 International Book Excellence Award. We value her advice and leadership.

**Ann Denis:** Ann has introduced CFUW to a strong network of young women in the Ottawa area, particularly women at the University of Ottawa. She has built links between the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIAW) and CFUW, including initiating a co-sponsored session with presentations by both organizations on Feminist Research and the Sustainable Development Goals at the United Nations NGO-CSW60. Ann was awarded a Femmy Award by the Ottawa Area International Women’s Day group in recognition of her contributions to women’s advancement through CRIAW, her research, teaching and work with national and international professional associations, especially in sociology and
women’s studies.

**Lizz Wilfert:** Lizz brings a wealth of experience from public service at municipal, provincial and federal levels. As VP Communications, she’s re-invented and energized our communications and public relations and created a lively presence on Social Media. She even makes it seem a simple chore to send out an e-blast on short notice to 500 members and friends! She’s met with Canadian diplomats and organized silent auctions that have raised over $8000 to support Afghan women and Kabul’s Gawharshad College. We count on her photography skills to record fundraising and award events and we carried the banner she designed at the recent CARE Canada Parliament Hill event, *Walk in her Shoes*. Her positive outlook, collaborative spirit and creative ideas enrich our Club.

We also congratulate **Susan Russell**, who is a dual member of CFUW-Nepean and CFUW-Ottawa and was nominated as a Notable Woman by CFUW-Nepean.