

Below is an important message from Grace Hollett, CFUW-National President.



September, 6 2017

Good Afternoon CFUW Members,

I wish to bring you greetings from the members of the CFUW Board as you start up your fall programs for the 2017-2018 CFUW year! We met and interacted with representatives from many Clubs at the June 2017 AGM hosted by CFUW Richmond and reports of that AGM have been posted on our website. Your VP Advocacy, the Advocacy Coordinator, and the Committee have been very busy over the summer preparing the Advocacy package for Clubs, while other committees have been meeting and are well into their work as well. Letters have been sent to Government ministers and have been posted on the website. The work of the study groups continues as well.

There is, however, an issue that is of concern to CFUW members and that is the proposed dues increase by GWI that was passed at the GWI 2016 Triennium by the General Assembly and deferred due to the adverse member reaction to it during the fall of 2016. Subsequently, this issue was passed to an AdHoc Committee of NFA members appointed by GWI from applications received. That committee's report has been completed and its recommendations accepted by the GWI Board.

I am asking all Club Presidents to please forward this message to their members today,

with the [attached letter from Geeta Desai](#), GWI President that informs us of the proposed dues increase. Due to its size CFUW gets a preferred rate of 15.5 rather than 18 Swiss Francs for the annual dues and a dues increase of 6 Swiss Francs rather than the 7 Swiss Francs referenced in the letter.

This proposed increase will, for CFUW members, translate into an extra \$8.40 (Canadian) per person per year, payable as separate amounts on June 2018, and 2019. The regular GWI dues of \$ 21.70 per member will be due January 2018 and January 2019. The total amount per member for each of those two years for CFUW is proposed as \$21.70+ \$8.40=\$30.10. Amounts are calculated at the 1.40 exchange rate, an amount that could change.

The GWI General Assembly in an electronic vote must first deal with the motion passed in August 2016. Note that the GWI letter states that GWI's plan is to utilize "*constitutionally advised motions for voting on to implement the new increase.*"

Then the GWI delegates must vote on the newly proposed dues increase and other motions listed in Appendix B in the attached letter. CFUW has 10 votes for this electronic General Assembly vote. Exactly how and when the voting will occur should be forwarded by GWI to NFAs on September 5th. We have asked GWI for an extension on the voting timeline (currently expected to start September 11 and end approximately a month later) to allow Clubs time to meet and discuss this among their members, and for online discussion, and possible amendments to motions.

Be assured that regardless of the timeline decided by GWI, CFUW members will be consulted and asked for direction as to how our 10 votes exercised by the Board should be cast. The membership will decide how CFUW will vote on the specific motions brought to us by GWI.

The attached letter from Geeta Desai, GWI President, has two appendices: Appendix A that lists the membership of the AdHoc Committee, and Appendix B that lists the motions brought by the committee to the GWI Board.

Please note that the two attachments mentioned above the heading in the GWI letter, the 2017-18 GWI Strategic Plan and the 2016-17 (GWI) Year at a Glance, will be posted on the website.

As soon as we have the exact timelines and procedures from GWI I will get back to you with the Board's plans for obtaining your decisions as to how you wish the Board to vote on the issue of dues increases.

Best wishes,
Grace.

Grace Hollett

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Committee to Review CFUW Board Structure and Governance
Terms of Reference

The **report** of the committee reviewing the comments received about CFUW's Way Forward Report noted the many suggestions relating to board structure and governance. In response to these suggestions from Clubs and individual members it was recommended that a special committee be formed to examine CFUW's current board structure and governance practices.

The mandate of the Committee is the following:

To review the current board, regional director and committee structures and make recommendations on suggested changes that will lead to better representation of the clubs at the national level, improved communication and transparency between the national executive and the clubs, proactive identification and recruitment of governance-oriented directors and added assurance that the committee structure is furthering the work of the board and the organization.

To review the current CFUW governance structure and make recommendations on suggested changes that will support improved strategic governance, enhance how the organization is managed, perfect the distribution and delegation of roles and responsibilities which will lead to improved governance and better organizational performance.

The Committee will begin its work in early October and should complete it by February 28, 2018. Communication among committee members will be by email and conference calls as it is expected that committee members will be from across Canada. The report of the Committee will be sent out to Clubs in advance of its consideration at the 2018 AGM.

Call for Committee Members

We are asking for six volunteers who would like to participate on this Committee and who have:

A knowledge of board governance and organizational stewardship

Experience in working with other governance models

An open mind to considering and evaluating different governance and management

structures for CFUW, including that currently in place

If you are interested in applying to serve on this Committee, please reply to Grace Hollett at graceh@nl.rogers.com by September 20, 2017 including your experience and background in the area of board governance, as well as a brief list of your CFUW involvement.



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