

January General Meeting

| DATE: | Monday, Jan. 11, 2016 |
|----------|--|
| TIME: | 12 noon |
| PLACE: | Riverside United Church/ Anglican Church of the Resurrection, 3191 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, ON K1V 8N8 |
| SPEAKER: | Dr. Antoine Hakim, Senior Scientist Emeritus, Neurosciences Program, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute |
| TOPIC: | Women and Dementia: Incidence, Impact, and Potential for Prevention |

Please join us at 11:15 a.m. for a special pre-meeting light lunch. Price \$ 10.00.

Register for lunch by Jan. 5:

- online at our website at <u>www.cfuw-</u> ottawa.org/events;
- at the Holiday Party on Dec. 6; or
- by phoning Jean Chapman at (613) 729-7085 after Nov. 30.



Dr. Hakim was first an engineer. At age 29, he began his medical training. In 1979, upon completion of his residency in Neurology at the

Montreal Neurological Institute, his research career began. Dr. Hakim came to Ottawa in 1992 and has held many progressively responsible positions ever since, including: Senior Neurologist at The Ottawa Hospital from 2001 to the present; Professor of Neurology since 1992 at the University of Ottawa; Founding CEO and Scientific Director, Heart & Stroke Foundation, Centre for Stroke Recovery

(see Meeting on next page)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CHARLOTTE RIGBY

In Roman mythology, Janus, the god of gates, doors, doorways, passages, and endings, is depicted with two faces – one looking to the future, and the other to the past. We've been told that January is named for Janus. But I think that this year, December is the time for reflecting on the past year, the new year — and how much has happened to our organizations and to our country in the past five months! The old saw, "the only constant in life is change", has never been truer.

The prolonged national election campaign was a wonderful period of discussing, questioning, and developing our values and value judgments about the Canada we want to live in and hand on to our children and grandchildren. Our new government "looks like Canada", with gender parity in Cabinet and many new members representing different ethnic groups and religions. Importantly, the government has committed to restoring the mandatory national census for 2017 — a measure that CFUW strongly supports. And we are looking forward to action and progress on other CFUW priorities, including a national action plan on violence against women, an inquiry into our missing and murdered indigenous sisters, a national framework on child care, and new commitments to address climate change. CFUW has advocated strongly for action on these (and many other) issues important for women, girls, and their families, and many of us have worked on preparing and reviewing policy resolutions on them. Now may be the time to redouble our efforts and support these new initiatives!

As you know, 2019 is CFUW's centennial year, and CFUW clubs across the country are planning special events to celebrate. Clubs are asked to mark the occasion with new "centennial" scholarships. Together with CFUW-Nepean, CFUW/Kanata, and the Ottawa Council of Women, we are planning to expand our ever-popular

(see President's Message on next page)

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from 2001-08; and Director, Neuroscience Research Program, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute since 2001.

As Dr. Hakim's biography states, his "research interests have included the study of the biochemical, ionic, molecular, and receptor events that determine selective cerebral vulnerability in stroke and other conditions, the determination of conditions for neuroprotection against ischemic damage, and investigation of post-stroke plasticity and means of enhancing it." Dr. Hakim has published over 130 scientific papers and received more than \$65 million in research funding.

During his career, Dr. Hakim has received many honours, including: the Award of Excellence by the Canadian Stroke Consortium in 2000; the Ottawa Life Sciences Council Career Achievement Award in 2004; a lifetime Achievement Award from the American Stroke Association in 2007; and Officer of the Order of Canada in 2007. Dr. Hakim has also been the Chair of the European Stroke Network's External Scientific Review Committee and Chair of the Best Practice Guidelines Subcommittee of the World Stroke Organization. In 2009, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario announced an annual research grant of \$100,000 to be named the "Dr.

Capital Carillon is published monthly from October to May, except for January.

Please send all material for the next issue to the Editor: Mary Butterill at <u>marpathb@storm.ca</u>.

Next issue: February 2016 Deadline: Jan. 15, 2016

Links to electronic issues going back to February 2001 are found under Newsletter, Archives on the Club website at **www.cfuw-ottawa.org**. Tony Hakim Innovative Stroke Research Award". Dr. Hakim was inducted into the Medical Hall of Fame in 2013 and received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012. In 2014, the Antoine Hakim Lecture was announced. This Keynote Lecture will be given by an invited speaker at the annual Brain Health Research Day at the University of Ottawa.

CFUW–Ottawa General Meetings are open to the public. Feel free to invite your family, friends, and neighbours.

Welcoming Our New Members

Our November General Meeting was a fine opportunity to welcome members who joined CFUW-Ottawa this year. Before the meeting itself, new members who were able to attend the evening had the opportunity to meet with the Board and to chat over tea and coffee. After the meeting, each attendee was introduced and everyone had time to welcome our new members at a reception held in their honour. Warm cider and a table full of delicious treats provided by the Board made the occasion memorable. Special thanks to Mary Broderick for organizing the goodies that were enjoyed by all. It was a pleasure to welcome a good number of our new members but whether you were able to attend or not, please know that all of our new and returning members are especially valued. We hope the year will be rewarding in many ways and that you will be able to participate in some of the many activities that CFUW provides.

> Judith Neale Holtzhauer VP Membership

President's Message - continued

International Women's Day event as a kickoff fundraiser for new CFUW-Ottawa Centennial scholarships for indigenous women studying in the Ottawa area. We've booked Ben Franklin Place at Centrepointe on March 8, 2016. We're planning a super program, and of course would warmly welcome volunteers to join us in making it an event to remember. Save the date!

Our own CFUW-Ottawa Nominations Committee is inviting nominations for our club's Board and committee positions, and I urge you to consider joining us. Please contact Committee Chair Nancy DeVillers, or any member of our Board, to find out about the duties and pleasures of joining us.

This issue is full of news about many events – starting with our Holiday Party on Sunday, Dec. 6, and beginning the new year with our January lunchtime General Meeting on Monday, Jan. 11, 2016. Information about them is posted on our website and Facebook, and will be included in forthcoming issues of the *Carillon* and in our email blasts. I urge you to enjoy the fun and friendship that participation in CFUW offers, and offer my best wishes for a happy Holiday Season.



Canadian Prisons: The New Residential School System

On Monday, Nov. 2, Bryonie Baxter, Executive Director of the Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa, was the guest speaker at our November General Meeting. Bryonie's presentation, titled *Canadian Prisons: The New Residential School System*, focused on the incarceration of indigenous women.

Bryonie began her talk by reminding her audience that the Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa was founded 64 years ago by five members of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW)-Ottawa. We are still working together!

Bryonie shared many alarming statistics indicating that young Aboriginal women are the fastest growing criminalized population in the country. Today, one in three women in prison is indigenous; 71 percent come from foster homes; and 73 percent have family involvement with the residential school system.

Why are more Aboriginal women incarcerated? Contributing factors include: being young, living in a lone parent family situation, high levels of unemployment, and alcohol or drug use. Aboriginals are economically and socially disadvantaged with such disturbing statistics as: an unemployment rate of 15 percent versus six percent of non-Aboriginals; one in four children live in poverty; and food security is an issue for almost 50 percent of reserve residents. Alcohol or drug use was a factor in six out of 10 criminal incidents.

Bryonie shared the story of Taryn, an incarcerated young woman who, through the support of her community elders and the Elizabeth Fry Society, used her twoyear prison term to turn her life around. Taryn still has a long way to go but she spent her time completing her high school education and, with the support, was able to set up a modest home for herself, once released.

The continued monitoring by and presence of the Elizabeth Fry Society in our prisons, as well as the cooperative work with community elders, holds the greatest hope that changes will occur and conditions and outcomes will improve for indigenous women.

> **Lorna Bickerton** Program Convenor

URGENT REQUEST TO:

Members of the

ECONOMIC REALITIES FOR WOMEN

and

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES GROUPS

who signed up at the CFUW-Ottawa Season Opener in September 2015

Please contact Convenor Janet Parry

as soon as possible at:

(613) 820-0701

The signup lists have been misplaced and need to be re-compiled.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

CFUW Board of Directors and Regional Director positions: Nominations are open!

Have you ever considered getting involved in national or regional CFUW governance and policy work? Do you know someone who would be perfect for the job?

Nominations are now open for CFUW National Board and Regional Director positions. Find nomination forms and information at <u>www.cfuwadmin.org/governance/</u><u>Nominations.aspx.</u> Nominations must be received by the Chair of the Nominations Committee by Feb. 15, 2016.

All members are strongly encouraged to consider CFUW governance and nominate members who are qualified for a position. Nominations for Regional Vice President or Regional Director positions must come from clubs in the region. Nominations for President, VP Finance, VP Advocacy, VP Membership, VP International Relations, and VP Education may come from any club.

For more information and details, contact Wilma Clapham, CFUW-Ottawa member of CFUW's National Nominations Committee, at (613) 745-3890 or <u>claphamwilma@</u> <u>bell.net</u>.



Happening at Local CFUW Sister Clubs

The 2015-16 programs of our local sister clubs may interest you. To see the schedules of events and meetings that are open to the public and the names of guest speakers, go to their websites:

CFUW/Kanata: <u>www.cfuwkanata.</u>

<u>ca</u> General Meetings: Usually, the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., at Stonehaven Apts., 70A Stonehaven Dr., Kanata (October meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 14; January and February lunchtime meetings)

CFUW Nepean: <u>www.cfuwnepean.</u>

<u>**ca</u>** General Meetings: 1st Tuesday of the month, 1 p.m., except September and April, at Bells Corners United Church, 3955 Old Richmond Rd., Nepean</u>

CFUW Perth: <u>cfuw-perth-district.</u> <u>com</u> General Meetings: 3rd Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m. at Royal Canadian Legion Hall, 26 Beckwith St. E., Perth

SPECIAL EVENT: 10th Annual CFUW Heritage Perth Christmas House Tour. Saturday, Dec. 5 and Sunday, Dec. 6, 2015 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tickets are available at Ottawa Tivoli Florist, 282 Richmond Rd., Ottawa, (613) 729-6911.

Seniors' Dance Class — Second Term Begins Soon

Dear Ladies,

This is an update on CFUW-Ottawa's new Seniors' Dance Class for women over 60. As you can see from the photos, we are thoroughly enjoying ourselves and have decided to run a second term from Jan. 6, 2016 to March 9, 2016, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (Wednesdays).

Let me tell you a bit about the class. First of all, we have learned, in this fall session, that even without previous dance lessons, we can dance! We have an excellent teacher, Cathy Kyle, who really seems to understand the older body and takes a personal interest in each student. There's a lengthy warm up, from your head to your toes, during which we try to work those aches and pains out of our bodies. Then we start to "move across the floor"

— walking, running (slowly), leaping (lowly), and then putting together short and simple combinations. Before you know it, we are "dancing" and feeling good about ourselves.

Why don't you try it for a term and judge for yourselves? You just might be pleasantly surprised.





Photo 1, from left to right: Carol Gusen, Patricia Rogers, Arlene Harrison, Dianne Kharouba, Vivien Clark, and Cathy Kyle (teacher); **Photo 2, from left to right:** Dianne Kharouba and Patricia Rogers **Photos by:** Fern Villeneuve

If you are interested, please call Fern Villeneuve at The School of Dance **by Dec. 9, 2015** to register. The phone no. is (613) 238-7838. The cost is **\$169.50** (including HST).

Arlene Harrison

Convenor, Dance Study and Interest Group



We extend sincere condolences to longtime active CFUW-Ottawa member Dianne Rummery on the death of her mother Eileen M. Walker (née Freeland) in Ottawa on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015, after 102 years of life. Dianne is a member of International Cuisine II and University Women Helping Afghan Women (UWHAW). She has held various positions in the Club, including VP Liaison, VP Communications, *Carillon* Editor, and Annual Report/Program brochure Editor.

We invite all CFUW-Ottawa members to let us know about deaths in their immediate families or of other significant persons in their lives if they wish to have notices published in the *Carillon*.

Nov-08

463

40

5

508

Again this year, our numbers are down compared to the past years and we are below our goal of 500 active members. New member recruitment is an ongoing priority for

Membership Report – Fall 2015

Nov-13

433

47

9

489

CFUW-Ottawa - Membership by Status at Nov. 14, 2015

Nov-12

439

56

14

509

CFUW-Ottawa. We accept new members throughout the year and a university degree is not required. Invite your female friends and neighbours to join us.

Status

New

Renewing

Returning

TOTAL

Nov-15

400

40

10

450

Nov-14

410

51

8

469

This is the fifth year for the online registration and membership renewal. The online system works well and allows our members to access and update their own profiles at any time. Thank you to the membership team of Aleyamma Samuel and Christine Rollo for their excellent help in processing the mailed-in registrations and cheques.

Nov-11

448

45

12

505

A limited printing of the Membership Directory is under way. In early December, the directories will be mailed to the 115 members who have already purchased it for \$6. If you paid for a Directory and have not received it by Dec. 15, please contact Carol Hinde at <u>membership@cfuw-ottawa.org</u>.

Nov-10

427

60

17

504

Nov-09

454

40

7

501

Judith Neale Holtzhauer, VP Membership and Carol Hinde, Membership Administration Convenor

2016 CFUW Proposed Resolutions

Of six draft resolutions received at the CFUW National Office by Sept. 30, 2015, the following five were accepted by the National Resolutions Committee. After review by all CFUW clubs, the final versions of these five resolutions will be proposed for adoption at the 2016 CFUW AGM:

- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls — Ending the Marginalization of Indigenous Women in Canadian Society, proposed by CFUW Barrie and District;
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) — Diagnosis, Intervention, and Support Plan for Children, Adults, and Families Affected by FASD, proposed by CFUW Guelph and CFUW Kitchener-Waterloo;
- 3. Strengthen the Pest Management Regulatory Agency in Order to Protect the Environment, proposed by CFUW Owen Sound and Area;
- 4. Electoral Reform: Adding Proportionality to the Electoral

System in Canada, proposed by CFUW Leaside-East York and CFUW Etobicoke; and

5. Sustainable Development Goals, proposed by the CFUW Advocacy Committee.

The National Resolutions Committee reviewed these resolutions, forwarded suggestions for edits and clarification to the sponsoring Clubs, and, on Nov. 13, 2015, distributed them to over 100 CFUW clubs for discussion, consideration, and proposed amendment. Clubs must submit their comments and suggested changes to the proposers by March 31, 2016.

Each year, our CFUW-Ottawa Standing Issues Committees (Education, Legislation/Other, and Status of Women and Human Rights) review the draft resolutions to determine their usefulness for future advocacy actions, to determine how well they were researched and written, and to suggest improvements. This year, our three Committees are working jointly as the "Issues and Advocacy Group". This informal Group and the recently reinstated Environmental Toxins and Health Study and Interest Group will meet early in the New Year to review and discuss the 2016 resolutions. All Club members are encouraged to participate in the review. At CFUW-Ottawa's Resolutions Meeting to be held on Feb. 1, 2016 this year, the Issues Committees will present their recommendations on the proposed resolutions to Club members, who may vote to accept, amend, or reject them.

For further information, please contact Frances Manning at <u>fe.manning@</u> <u>rogers.com</u> / (613) 830-3086 (Issues and Advocacy) or Olga Lee at <u>olgalee21@msn.</u> <u>com</u> / (613) 235-7819 (Environmental Toxins and Health).

Click <u>here</u> to view the Amendment Toolkit and the complete proposed resolutions (Titles, RESOLVED clauses, Related Policies, Background, and References).

> Frances Manning VP Liaison

CFUW-Ottawa Strategic Plan 2015-19 Progress Report

At our AGM in May 2015, members approved the Strategic Plan for 2015-19. It contains four strategic domains. Here's a brief progress report on **Strategic Domains #1. Socialization and Community Service** and **#2. Education and Learning.** The February 2016 issue of the *Carillon* will report on **Strategic Domains #3. Advocacy and Action** and **#4. Membership and Communications.**

Though it is rather early to be evaluating progress, we wanted to demonstrate how the special events, new Study and Interest Groups, and partnerships with other women's groups initiated or continued this fall, fit into the Strategic Plan.

Strategic Domain #1. Socialization and Community Service. Our very successful, sold-out fundraiser event on Nov. 25 is a prime example of the CFUW slogan "The Power of Women Working Together." Together with the Kick in for Kids group from the Rideau Lakes area, we raised money to support less-advantaged kids in the Rideau Lakes community. Another example is our annual gift to support Norwood House run by the Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa for women who have lost everything. The Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) program in Vanier and Ottawa South also appreciates the work of CFUW-Ottawa volunteers. Our participation in these and other community initiatives enables us to reach out to assist those less fortunate and to establish a presence in our city.

We have accomplished a lot in three months and are well on our way to meeting or exceeding our goals in this area. If every member joins and stays involved in at least one Study and Interest or Issues Group, we will strengthen our Community Service initiative as well as our voice in the community.

Strategic Domain #2. Education and Learning. We've expanded our opportunities for learning with the introduction of four new Study and Interest Groups and return of four that had briefly ceased. The new ones are: Dance; Exploring Retirement Communities; Snowshoeing (weekends); and Supper Club. Those returning are: Bridging the Rivers of Faith; Economic Realities for Women; Environmental Toxins and Health; and International Studies. If you haven't yet found a group that excited your interest, think of starting one yourself! Float the idea to others and find kindred souls! We also enrich our own lives by interacting with others as we pursue our interests. Could we expand again next year? Quite probably. Think of a group that you would like to start and round up others who are interested.

Our Convenors are the backbone of our club, the leaders on whom the Club relies for the sharing of information. Our Convenors Meeting this past September provided information, guidance, and support for convenors, both new and experienced.

This domain also includes the goal of liaising with other women's groups. As in the past, we are working with CFUW-Nepean, CFUW/Kanata, and the Ottawa Council of Women to organize our annual International Women's Day event to be held on March 8, 2016. For the first time, it will be a Scholarship Trust Fund fundraiser. As we expand our links with other groups, our collective voice will be strong. And as we continue to plan and attend events which benefit the Scholarship Trust Fund (The annual Holiday Party, for example), the Fund will grow and be able to provide more women with scholarships.

With your help, we will continue along the path set out by the Strategic Plan. You will find the entire Plan (all four domains) on our website (Click <u>here</u> to view it now). We have four years to complete it, and we are off to a good start!

Nancy DeVillers and Charlotte Rigby CFUW-Ottawa Strategic Plan Review Committee

UPDATING OUR VISION, MISSION, AND VALUES

CFUW-Ottawa's Strategic Plan is a working document that describes our club's vision, mission, and values, and sets out our objectives, goals, strategies, and actions to achieve them. The preamble to the Strategic Plan contains this updated statement:

VISION: CFUW-Ottawa will be a dynamic, diverse women's organization that is dedicated to supporting the education and rights of women and girls, that is recognized in and valued by our community, and that provides opportunities to members to socialize, educate, and advocate.

MISSION: CFUW-Ottawa is part of a national and international women's organization dedicated to women's and girls' education and rights. CFUW-Ottawa provides its members with opportunities to socialize, educate, and advocate in ways that are tailored to their interests and expertise.

VALUES: CFUW-Ottawa promotes and embodies: respect, fairness, transparency, integrity, teamwork, adaptability, compassion, and lifelong learning.

A Positive Perspective on Afghanistan

On Nov. 5, our guest speaker at University Women Helping Afghan Women (UWHAW) was Dr. Fawad Akbari, Senior Program Manager at the Aga Khan Foundation (AK). Dr. Akbari was born and raised in Afghanistan, studied at Kabul Medical University with a specialization in Paediatrics Internal Medicine, and completed his masters in International Public Health from the University of Liverpool. He moved to Canada in 2013.



Dr. Fawad Akbari Photo by: Alison Hobbs

In his presentation titled Perspectives From the Field, Dr. Akbari explained that Afghanistan is the largest of the AK Foundation's programs. The agencies in the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) are private, international, and non-denominational development organizations. Their approach is multi-sectorial, integrated, systemic, and long term; they foster indigenous institutions and use human resources that are community led and aligned with national priorities. They work to improve living conditions for people without regard to faith or gender. The Network is involved in 53 districts/ seven provinces/ 1,600 communities in Afghanistan. It serves over three million people and employs 1,800 staff, of whom 30 percent are female and 97 percent Afghan. The Network partners with 15 donors and the program funding was \$93 million.

Dr. Akbari wanted to replace some of our images of Afghanistan – war, fighting, deprivation of women, poppies, and drugs – with achievements attained in the country. He underscored what the Aga Khan Foundation is doing to improve health, infrastructure, and educational outcomes in Afghanistan.

He highlighted a number of projects as examples:

- A microfinance project for savings and lending that is 72 percent female based, giving village women access to financial resources to fund small business startups;
- An agricultural initiative to improve land and water for agriculture called "Bringing the Pasture to the Village";
- A Health Sciences Program in Kabul for rural midwives, nurses, and doctors. They receive training and return to their communities to provide care;

- Telemedicine that connects with specialists in Karachi, Pakistan who assist in managing complex medical cases in Afghanistan where no such resource is available;
- Educational projects teacher training programs in four colleges, mother literacy classes, and parenting education; and
- Cross-border cooperation four bridges have been built between Tajikistan and Afghanistan to facilitate networking and cross border markets. There is also a treaty signed with Tajik Physicians to provide care to people in Afghanistan.

Dr. Akbari left us with a glimmer of hope given the initiatives of the Aga Khan Development Network for the people of Afghanistan.

Norma Pike

University Women Helping Afghan Women Study and Interest Group

Take Action on Violence Against Women!

The <u>16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence</u> begin on Nov. 25, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, and end on Dec. 10, International Human Rights Day. They include the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women and Girls on Dec. 6.

Here are several useful resources on violence against women and girls in Canada from the CFUW National Office to help us participate in the 16 Days of Activism:

- <u>CFUW Fall 2015 Handout</u>
- <u>CFUW Fall 2015 Suggested Actions</u>
- <u>CFUW National Initiative</u>

Click **here** to access information on the Status of Women Canada website on how to take action on violence against women and girls, an educator's toolkit, fact sheets, and other resources.



Club Member Receives Order of Ottawa!

Congratulations to CFUW-Ottawa member, lawyer, activist, and philanthropist Alicia Natividad, who was inducted into the Order of Ottawa on Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2015! Alicia is a former CFUW-Ottawa Scholarship winner, a member of the Program Committee, and has given presentations at the CFUW Ontario East Fall Gathering in October 2013 (on estate planning/power of attorney) and at a special CFUW-Ottawa meeting in May 2015 (on legalized physician-assisted suicide/ *Carter v. Canada (AG)*).

The Order of Ottawa was established in 2012 by Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson and City Council. "It recognizes exceptional residents who have made a significant contribution in a professional capacity in many areas of city life, including arts and culture, business, community service, education, public service, labour, communications and media, science, medicine, sports and entertainment, or other fields

of endeavour that benefit the residents of Ottawa."

Alicia was recognized by the City of Ottawa for her support for women, her Philippine heritage, and her community. Click **here** for more details about her community work in a biographical sketch published on Nov. 3, 2015 with the City of Ottawa press release which announced the 14 inductees of the 2015 Order of Ottawa.

AFGHAN GRADUATE WOMEN DELIGHTED TO BE MEMBERS OF GWI

It's been a long and twisting road starting in 2010 for Afghan graduate women to become the Afghan Educated Women Service Organization (AEWSO), a National Affiliate member of Graduate Women's International (GWI). Now GWI can both mentor and advocate for these women, so anxious for a better life and to make a difference in their besieged country.

Getting this status for Afghan graduate women began when Dr. Sima Samar was invited to address our 2010 National AGM in Ottawa and continued at the 2011 CFUW AGM in St. John's, under IFUW President Marianne Haslegrave. At the 2012 CFUW AGM in Victoria, at a luncheon arranged by CFUW-Ottawa's University Women Helping Afghan Women (UWHAW), IFUW President Catherine Bell fully supported the idea and at the 2013 IFUW Triennial in Istanbul, CFUW-Ottawa put Afghan women on the agenda with both a seminar paper and workshop supported by five nations.

Obtaining approval from the Afghan government for these women to form a group was a convoluted process but finally all was in place and this October, the GWI General Assembly voted to approve the Afghan group as a National Affiliate member. Deborah Lyons, Canada's Ambassador to Afghanistan, has offered space at the Canadian Embassy for meetings. Nasima Rahmani, Director of the Women's Empowerment Centre at the Gawharshad Institute of Higher Education, is the leader of the new group.

UWHAW notes that these women are anxious to network with women in other countries, particularly those who share their issues. They know that other women in the world recognize and care about them and will provide support.

Dianne Rummery

University Women Helping Afghan Women Study and Interest Group

Update on Study and Interest Groups

The new CFUW-Ottawa year is now well underway for our Study and Interest Groups, with the exception of those needing snow! As usual, we have a wonderfully diverse number of groups including the following new additions: Dance; Exploring Retirement Communities; Snowshoeing (weekends); and the Supper Club.

Also, the following groups have been reintroduced, after not having met for a year or so: Bridging the Rivers of Faith; Economic Realities for Women; Environmental Toxins and Health; and International Studies.

To join one of these or any of our groups, login to your CFUW-Ottawa account and choose Group Convenors Contact Info under the Member-only tab. Contact the group convenor for details.

A note to convenors – thank you to all who have sent me your membership list! If you haven't done so, please send it along at your earliest convenience.

Wishing everyone a wonderful year.

Patricia O'Flaherty

Study and Interest Group Convenor <u>cfuw-ottawa.org/page-809208</u>



CFUW-Ottawa's 2012 National Resolution on Accessibility Proposed for 2016 GWI Triennial

The CFUW VP International Relations, Cheryl Hayles, is finalizing CFUW's resolution submission for consideration at the upcoming Graduate Women International (GWI) Triennial Conference on Aug. 24-26, 2016 in Cape Town, South Africa. Cheryl will soon request an e-vote by Club Presidents to ratify submission of three resolutions.

We are very pleased to note that one of these proposed resolutions is CFUW-Ottawa's 2012 resolution, now CFUW policy, titled *Full Accessibility and Barrier-Free Environments for Persons with Disabilities*. This policy is also the basis for CFUW-Ottawa's Susan Scott-Parker Scholarship awarded in 2015 for the first time to a woman with a disability studying at Carleton University. Not only is it a great policy but it is an excellent application to

| CFUW 2012 Final Resolution 5 | Proposed Resolution for GWI 32 nd Triennial 20 |
|--|---|
| Full Accessibility and Barrier-Free Environ- | Full Accessibility and Barrier Free- Environ- |
| ments for Persons with Disabilities, proposed | ments for Persons with Disabilities, proposed |
| by CFUW Ottawa | by CFUW |
| RESOLVED, that the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge the federal, provincial, territorial, municipal, and aboriginal governments to meet Canada's commitments as a signatory of the <u>United Nations Conven-</u> tion on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) by: | The 32 nd GWI General Assembly resolves th the National Federations and Associations urg their respective governments to meet the cor mitments made by signatories to the UN <i>Co</i> <i>vention on the Rights of Persons with Disabiliti</i> (CRPD) by; |
| i) establishing and meeting national standards | monitoring national governments to see th |
| to promote, protect, and ensure the full enjoy- | they are meeting national standards to pr |
| ment of human rights by persons with disabili- | mote, protect, and ensure the full enjoyment |
| ties; and | human rights by persons with disabilities; and |
| ii) adopting and enforcing regulations to ensure | adopting and enforcing regulations to ensu |
| that all persons with disabilities can participate | that all persons with disabilities can participa |
| in society to the fullest possible extent and en- | in society to the fullest possible extent and e |
| joy full equality under the law. | joy full equality under the law. |

support a very important initiative. Our congratulations to all CFUW-Ottawa members who worked so hard on the

lution and creating the scholarship. Frances Manning

VP Liaison

Canadian Federation of University Women ONTARIO COUNCIL

NEXT ONTARIO COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEES MEETING

Saturday, January 23, 2016

Yorkminster Park Baptist Church 1585 Yonge Street, Toronto (Two blocks north of St. Clair Subway Station, East Side)

Morning Program: TBD

Speakers: TBD

Registration: \$35 prepaid includes **lunch**. Catering requires a **registration deadline** and **dietary requirements** by the Monday prior to the meeting. To make a brief announcement, please advise by the prior Thursday to be included on the agenda. The **<u>Registration Form</u>** is located at <u>www.cfuwontcouncil.ca/</u>.

Registration starts at 9:00 a.m. The meeting begins at 10:00 a.m., lunch is at 12 noon and the afternoon sessions end around 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

CFUW-Ottawa funds registration fees and partially funds accommodation and travel for attendance by the Club President, the VP Liaison and two Standing Committee Chairs **or their designates**.

All CFUW members are welcome to attend. If interested, contact: Fran Manning, CFUW-Ottawa VP Liaison, for further details.

Future Meeting: Saturday, March 12, 2016



