



September 2019 Program

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
161 Norfolk St. Guelph ON

Business Meeting	7:00 – 7:30/40 p.m.
Social	7:30/40 - 8:00 p.m.
Speaker	8:00 - 9:00/15 p.m.
Wrap up	9:15 – 9:30 p.m.

The September meeting will be a great opportunity to meet new and returning members and sign up for Interest Groups, plus a chance to hear our guest speaker Leanne Son Hing, who will speak about the 'Experience of Inequality in the Workplace' (details on p. 4).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Fellow CFUW Members

This year promises to be an exciting and perhaps a watershed year for our club. Some things will change but others will remain the same.

Our focus this year is multifaceted.

- Increase our local membership.
- Change in the General Meeting format.
- Visioning Exercise in November to chart our course for the next 3 years
- Celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Guelph club.
- A fundraising line added to the membership form.

Membership: Our club functions best at the 200-member level and last year we were just over 160. National has produced a membership tool kit which the Membership Committee is using to recruit new members. You can help! Bring a friend to each meeting to enjoy the social and the speaker. Look for other suggestions over the year.

General Meeting Format: We are no longer offering pre-meeting dinners due to a reduced interest in providing them and increased costs at our venue. That being said we hope to offer two pre-meeting dinners – one in October and one in April. If you are interested in coordinating a dinner – please speak to Melodie Wynne – Hospitality Chair.

Many members expressed concern that the speakers' time was being eroded. Selecting the new format shown above, we hope to mitigate this issue. Your feedback is important – please let me know if this is an improvement for you.

Visioning – We will have an opportunity to plan the next few years and also take this time to examine the challenges facing National, and consequently all of the clubs, as per the Newsletter of July and our delegate's report from the National AGM.

75th Anniversary of CFUW Guelph – We will form a committee to plan our celebration for the AGM in May 2020. If you have photos, stories and/or artifacts please share them. The committee will be struck during the fall session.

Fundraising Line – We have added this line to the membership form as we are in need of donations to fund our Community Connections and other opportunities that may present themselves over the year. This is necessary to offset the loss of revenue from the cancellation of the pre meeting dinners. If you have any revenue generating ideas, please share them with Sandra McCormick, chair of the fundraising committee.

I am looking forward to getting to know more of my fellow club members during this year.

Susan Brown
President, CFUW Guelph

2019 CFUW NATIONAL AGM REPORT

Isobel Boyle, Cheryl Ambrose and I attended the August 15-17 event in Winnipeg where CFUW first started in 1919. My comments are divided into three parts: Highs, Lows, and Dilemma for CFUW Guelph.

HIGHS

The Winnipeg University Women's Club members were incredible hosts! They have their own clubhouse - a heritage mansion called the Ralph Connor House, which I was able to tour.

The Notable Women awards were inspiring, and Cheryl Ambrose was one of the recipients. She was nominated by the CFUW Board.

There was much celebrating of the 100th Anniversary, and Parks Canada presented the club with an historical plaque to commemorate the occasion.

Isobel Boyle did a great job promoting the Better Ballot campaign; she stood by her display at all breaks and signed up clubs who were interested in running their own Better Ballot campaign.

At the AGM, the increase in dues for National CFUW passed without difficulty.

LOWS

Prior to the conference, the National CFUW Board negotiated and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with GWI (Graduate Women International). They reduced the debt to GWI by gaining financial compensation for work done "in kind" by CFUW members.

In accordance with the MOU, \$49,000 was paid to GWI from CFUW's unrestricted reserve fund to eliminate our debt for dues in 2017 & 2018. We now have an invoice indicating a zero balance due for those years.

Following the signing of the MOU and the payment of dues, the Board found out that GWI had written off close to a million dollars because they didn't know where the money went. 40% of that GWI "missing money" was paid by Canadians.

The Board did not tell the membership about the "missing money", but it also did not deny it once Winnipeg shared that information at the AGM. When pushed, CFUW's Finance officer admitted that the MOU and the payment may not have been signed/paid if they had known about the "missing money" at the time.

Winnipeg insisted that the MOU be ratified, which it was, despite a large number of challenges from clubs. In my opinion, the MOU was ratified due to pressure from the CFUW President to support the Board.

The Winnipeg motion- which would have allowed members to opt in or out of GWI - did not pass. It needed 66% to pass and only received 60% of the votes. The increase in dues to GWI was the reason some small clubs wanted to be able to opt out of GWI. However, most clubs just wanted to opt out of GWI because they no longer saw it as a viable organization. I read a statement to that effect on behalf of CFUW Guelph. The larger clubs (Vancouver and Ottawa in particular) were the primary opposition to the Winnipeg motion.

The increase in dues for GWI was also defeated, putting CFUW in an untenable position. CFUW has used up its unrestricted reserve funds and the approved operational budget has a shortfall of over \$62,000. As members of GWI, CFUW is on the hook for the increased dues. Yet it cannot collect the increase from member clubs as that motion was defeated.

To further compound the situation, National will owe full dues to GWI in 2019 for approximately 7600 members, even if clubs drop out of CFUW this fall. Over the past few years, CFUW membership has dwindled from nearly 10,000 to 7,600 and dissatisfaction with GWI is a major factor in that decline.

After the AGM, many club representatives went out for drinks. The room was divided into pro-GWI and anti-GWI camps. Clubs like Barrie and Etobicoke, who had unanimous support for the Winnipeg motion, believe they will be leaving CFUW. The women from the Thunder Bay and South Shore Montreal clubs I sat with during the business meetings were evenly divided; they voted 51% in favour of the Winnipeg motion. It saddens me to think that this issue has caused such a divide amongst friends.

DILEMMA FOR CFUW GUELPH

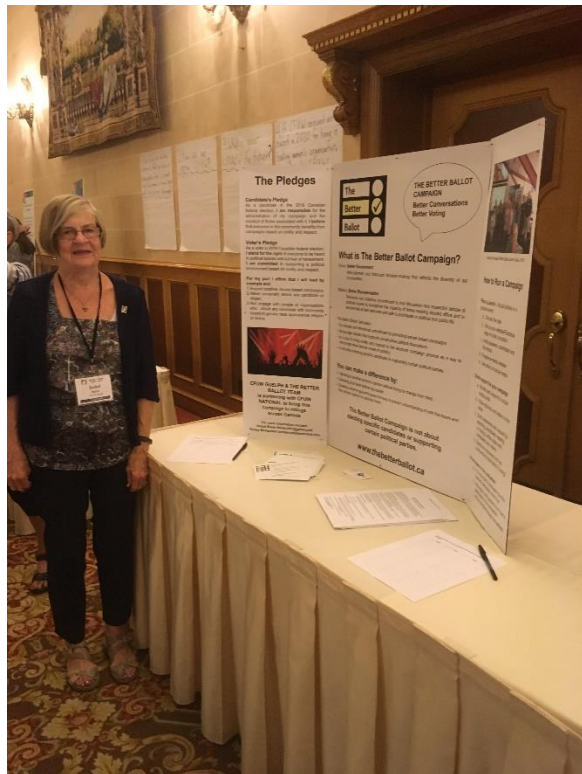
To remain a member of CFUW National, our club will have to pay GWI fees again this year.

As Ontario Council is incorporated, there will probably be an option for current clubs to join Ontario Council - whether they are members of CFUW or not.

CFUW Guelph Executive will be meeting shortly to identify further implications and options.

These issues loom large, and our club will have to deal with them this fall. *Never has renewing your membership been more crucial.* It is important that the women who made our club what it is today - and who paid the fees to create our Scholarship Fund and reserves - have a say in how CFUW Guelph moves forward.

Barb Hale, Past President, CFUW Guelph voting delegate at the CFUW 2019 AGM



Isobel Boyle at the National AGM soliciting clubs to join the Better Ballot Campaign



Cheryl Ambrose receiving a Notable Woman Award

SPEAKERS

Speaker at September 24 General Meeting

Leanne Son Hing “Experience of Inequality in the Workplace”



Dr. Leanne Son Hing is a Senior Fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research. She is in the Department of Psychology at the University of Guelph. Dr. Son Hing specializes in the study of social justice issues at organizational and societal levels. She studies inequalities of various forms (e.g., of income, power, status), as well as inequalities between groups (e.g., based on gender, ethnicity, etc.). Her work explores how concerns with justice, especially meritocracy, intersect with personal and institutional forms of discrimination to produce inequalities. She also investigates how people’s experiences of inequality affect well-being and social policy attitudes. Her research has been published in the premier journals of her field, such as the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology. Dr. Son Hing has received funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and the Canadian Foundation for Innovation. She was educated at Queen’s University (BAH, 1994) and the University of Waterloo (MA, 1997; PhD, 2000).

Speaker at October 22 General Meeting

Sara Sayyed

“The Muslim Community in Guelph”



Sara Sayyed is an active member of, and frequent spokesperson for, the Muslim Community of Guelph.

She is the Principal of Guelph's Meezan School and an engaged community volunteer.

Sara is a board member of both the Guelph General Hospital and the Meezan School, and in the recent past has been heavily involved with helping Syrian refugee families settle in Guelph.

CLUB NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

ADVOCACY

Fall tends to be a busy season for advocacy and especially this year with the upcoming federal election.

Here are some of the things we are involved with - check out our Facebook page for updates

<https://www.facebook.com/CFUWGuelphON/>

The **Better Ballot Campaign (BBC)** is growing from our local roots to a National Campaign. We are partnering with other CFUW clubs across Canada. The Better Ballot Campaign is a simple and intentional commitment to promoting a political environment where healthy debate is encouraged and everyone can be heard without fear. Check us out at <https://thebetterballot.ca/> to take the pledge, find out why it matters and what else you can do to change how political debate happens.



In conjunction with the BBC we are holding a number of **Vote Popups** to ignite interest in elections and demystify the voting process for new and infrequent voters.

Popups will be held at various locations throughout the city including the libraries and the University of Guelph.

Vote Popup is a program of the Democratic Engagement Exchange at Ryerson University. It is endorsed by Elections Canada. For more information

<https://www.ryerson.ca/arts/research-and-innovation/democratic-engagement-exchange/>

Photo: Teresa McKeeman with Vivian Webb, a member of the Better Ballot Campaign, during a federal candidates breakfast at Hope House

We will have a table at the **Guelph Green New Deal debate** to be held at Peter Clark Hall, U. of G. on **Thursday Sept. 19th from 6-9 PM**. The aim of the Green New Deal is to acknowledge that we face challenges

and that Canada as a country is not providing the kind of climate leadership that we could be. Find out more at <https://canadians.org/greennewdeal>

CFUW Guelph will co-sponsor a local version of the **100 Debates on the Environment**. In total more than 100 communities across Canada will hold debates on **Thursday October 3rd** to bring awareness and urgency to the issue of climate change. The Guelph event will take place at Centennial CVI, 289 College St. from 7-9 PM.

<https://www.100debates.ca/>.

Advocacy members know how to have fun while making a difference. By the time you read this newsletter we will have participated in a **Soup Sisters** event, chopping, sautéing, and stirring, followed by a communal meal (with wine). Excess soup will be donated to Women in Crisis.

We continue to support our sister organization Women in Crisis by attending:

- Take Back the Night March & Rally to raise awareness of violence against women - Thursday Sept. 26th
- Sisters in Spirit Vigil to honour the lives of missing and murdered indigenous woman - Friday Oct 4th

We encourage all our members to support and attend these events. If you are interested in becoming a **Friend of Advocacy**, we would love to have you join us.

What does this mean?

- You do not have to attend our monthly meetings (of course you are always welcome)
- We will send you information on upcoming events and advocacy projects
- We'll ask you to consider volunteering on a one-time basis to help us with events that may be of interest to you
- We may ask for your help and expertise in drafting responses to political policies or issues that we wish to present to political leaders

If this is of interest to you send us an email (advocacy.cfuwguelph@gmail.com) or talk to us at a general meeting. [c1]

Teresa McKeeman, Advocacy Chair

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

One of the Club's partners for the 100th Anniversary Awards is Indspire, an organization supporting education for indigenous students. Mary McEwen recently made us aware of an interview on TVO about Indspire. Here is the link:

https://www.tvo.org/video/aiding-indigenous-education?utm_source=TVO&utm_campaign=e1b2ede657-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_1_17_2019_10_56_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_eadf6a4c78-e1b2ede657-24198829

COMMUNICATIONS

We will be publishing three Guelph Line newsletters in 2019/20 with Jennifer Yeo's formatting and editing efforts – you are reading the first edition – and there will also be editions in January and April 2020.

Clare Irwin assists with the Guelph Line production, maintains our email list and sends out information from National and Ontario Council as well as newsletters and monthly email reminders to our members.

Cathy Farr continues to promote CFUW Guelph meetings and other events in the local media – in most cases through on-line forms that are submitted for each event. I have taken over website updates from Cheryl Ambrose.

We are a small group and would be happy to have any member interested in any aspect of our work join us. In order to keep our website up to date, it would be great to have someone assist me. The more content we can add to our website, the more interesting and attractive it will be – and photos are always welcome. Interest Group convenors or members - please take photos at your interest group gatherings and send them in.

Under the guidance of Jennifer Gibson, there are several CFUW Guelph members who are trying to give us more of a presence on social media – if you are interested in joining us, please let me know!

All information/photos for inclusion in newsletters or on our social media sites should be sent to communicationscfuwguelph@gmail.com.

Heather Bailey, Communications Chair

MEMBER SERVICES

The Member Services Committee has been looking at a variety of ways of recruiting new members. As one approach, we will have invitation letters available at our first General Meeting for you to give to those friends, neighbours and acquaintances that you think would enjoy being part of CFUW Guelph. Please consider inviting even one person to join us. Also, in the spirit of increasing our electronic reach, I'll have a sign-up list at the meeting for you to receive the letter by email if you would prefer that means of distribution.

We have been working with the Communications and Advocacy Committees to begin to 'up our game' in the social media realm. If you are a Facebook user, please search and 'Like' the CFUW Guelph page to receive more up-to-date information about membership-oriented issues, as well as other more regular posts from CFUW Guelph.

Finally, we will have a bulletin board display at the main branch of the Library the last two weeks of September. This display will promote CFUW Guelph – come and check it out!

Beth Taylor, Members Services Chair

ONTARIO COUNCIL

Ontario Council holds three Speaker Series each year plus the Annual General Meeting. The Speaker series offer a good opportunity to network with other Ontario Clubs as well as hear speakers on topics of interest. In the afternoon, sessions as held on topics relevant to the 3 Standing Committees: Education, Status of Women and Legislation.

Dates for 2019-2020 are: October 4; November 30; March 28, 2020; and AGM May 23-24, 2020.

More information will be forthcoming but the October 4th Speaker, Elizabeth Moore will be speaking on a Personal Journey through Racist Extremism. In the afternoon we hope to have an open session of sharing and learning on topics of importance to all clubs.

Isobel Boyle, Vice President

TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurer's report to Sept 9, 2019

	CFUW Guelph Budget	
	Budget 2019-2020	Actual September 9, 2019
Revenue		
Membership (net of dues)	\$5500.00	\$3612.25
Extra revenue (banquet profit)		<u>\$85.76</u>
Total	<u>\$ 5500.00</u>	<u>\$ 3698.01</u>
Expenses		
Nat'l and Prov'l meetings	\$2,000.00	\$ 874.08
Hall Rental \$600.00	\$1,435.00	\$ 615.00
Hospitality \$200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 19.04
Member Services	\$1,100.00	\$ 887.42
Program	\$ 800.00	\$ 100.00
Communication & PR	\$ 300.00	\$ 53.31
Advocacy	<u>\$ 400.00</u>	<u>\$ 75.00</u>
Total	<u>\$6,235.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,623.85</u>
Surplus/Deficit	<u>(\$735.00)</u>	<u>\$ 1074.16</u>

Community Outreach Fund Balance at April 30, 2019

Community Connections	\$1,207.31
One Time Fund	\$ 508.10
Women In Politics	<u>\$ 154.33</u>
Balance	<u>\$1,869.74</u>

Banquet 2019	Revenue	\$4,255.00
	Expenses	<u>\$4,169.24</u>
	Surplus	\$ 85.76

There is a total of \$508.10 available in 2019-20 for projects eligible under our "One-Time Project" funding. If you would like to make a proposal, please contact Susan Brown for the appropriate form.

Esther Semple, Treasurer



The **Guelph Line** is published three times a year (September, January and April).

Submission deadline is the end of the month preceding publication.

Please submit material to the **Newsletter Editor** email:

communicationscfuwguelph@gmail.com

Club activities and membership details are available online at www.cfuwguelph.org