



Fall 2020 Program

287 Water Street
Guelph, ON N1G 1B6

Business Meeting	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Social	8:00 - 8:25 p.m. (cancelled for Sept.)
Speaker/Discussion	8:30 - 9:00 p.m.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



September 2020

Hello Everyone:

I hope this update finds you well and ready to enjoy a beautiful fall – Covid-19 notwithstanding.

I want to take this chance to update you on recent developments regarding our club activities and Covid-19. Thank you to everyone who responded to my request for feedback on meeting options for the fall. It was a very good response with most respondents opting for the face to face with a Zoom component option.

I am delighted to tell you that we can meet at the Water Street Church for our September meeting. They are opening the church for other groups as of Sept. 21st, so we can hold the meeting there on Sept. 22nd from 7pm to 9pm. The specific details of the use of the room are being confirmed next week by the church. We do know that we need to be masked, physically distanced and not have a social time. The configuration of the room will be done by the church to meet their guidelines. The Zoom component of the meeting will require preregistration as we did for our AGM in May. The Zoom invitation will go out to members by the 18th of September.

Unfortunately, the speaker arranged by the Program Committee for the September meeting has cancelled. As Virginia was not able to find a replacement on such short notice, she asked the executive for direction. Executive felt that this was a good opportunity to have a full and frank discussion with members about our future.

As you know, the Guelph Amendment to remove Article 4 from the Articles of Continuance was defeated by a narrow margin at the CFUW (National) AGM on June 19th and 20th, 2020. At the executive meeting on June 23rd, the task force who prepared the motion were asked by executive to provide a presentation to members at our September meeting to articulate possible directions for our future. The Task Force, whose members are Sandra McCormick, Esther Semple, Sonia Spekkens and myself, will offer a panel presentation at our meeting.

The presentation will offer an in depth review of the events leading up to the tabling of the motion, a review of the animated discussion we had in January 2020 at our general meeting when the members asked for the creation of the motion, developments since the AGM at National and Ontario Council and clarity on the options before us. We hope to stimulate dialogue at this meeting and continue to plan over the next two months to create the most sustainable future for CFUW Guelph.

Please remember to renew your membership!

Looking forward to seeing everyone

Susan Brown, President

FALL SPEAKERS PROGRAM

September 22, 2020 - **Douglas Gibson** Cancelled

We regret that our scheduled speaker for September, Douglas Gibson, Past President of McLelland and Stewart, has been forced to cancel. We hope to be able to reschedule him for another meeting.

October 27, 2020 - **Ian Evans, Adventure Traveler**



“LUNATIC - Life begins at the end of your comfort zone”

Ian has embraced adventure all his life - from scaling the shed roof at aged 3 to skiing to the South Pole at aged 58. He has also climbed 5 of the "7 Summits", cycled 5,000 km solo and unsupported across Australia (twice) and around the coastline of Iceland and to the Arctic Ocean and run 10 marathons. Ian is a passionate speaker who shares the lessons learned from his adventures with his audiences.

November 24, 2020, Jasmin Habib, Dept. of Political Science, U. of Waterloo

Dupes and Deplorables. How anthropology might help us to better understand populism



It's been several years since our eyes first trained on the Trump campaign which seemingly came out of nowhere and first took on the Republican and later the Democratic Party to win the White House. Soon thereafter, news of Brexit hit and in early 2019, Israeli populism outflanked left, right and center parties to victory.

This presentation will share stories and experiences from the field -- both Israel and the United States - that can help us not only to understand some of "what's happened" but also allow us to consider how political strategies and mediated politics easily shift our attention away from the meaningful to the superficial.

REPORTS

Advocacy Committee

It is an interesting and challenging time we are living in. The Advocacy Committee has been busy throughout the summer watching and responding to developments on a number of issues.

Communications with Elected Representatives:

As COVID postponed our meetings with MP Lloyd Longfield and MPP Mike Schreiner our concerns were communicated by [letter](#). The letter addressed four main topics, Early Learning and Child Care, Long Term Care, Violence Against Women, and Income Insecurity & Basic Income. Our MP, Lloyd Longfield, sent a [response](#) by email. Mike Schreiner's office acknowledged receipt but has so far not addressed any of the issues. We plan to follow up with both parties in the near future (copies of the letter and response are attached as separate documents).

Council Composition Review

Thank you to everyone who participated in the consultation regarding the composition of city council. Civic engagement is becoming more challenging in these COVID times and it is so important for citizens to have a say in a health democracy.

Collaboration with the Community Engaged Scholarship Institute (CESI) & The Research Shop at U of Guelph

Over the years CFUW Guelph has established a beneficial working relationship with The Research Shop at the University of Guelph. The expertise provided by the staff and students has allowed us to complete many exciting projects benefiting women and girls.

Reports of three of our recently completed projects can be found here:

Visioning an Inclusive Library: Engaging Diverse Voices in Guelph

<https://www.cesinstitute.ca/visioning-inclusive-library-engaging-diverse-voices-guelph>

Better Ballot Program Evaluation

<https://www.cesinstitute.ca/better-ballot-campaign-program-evaluation>

2020 International Women's Day Posters

<https://www.cesinstitute.ca/international-womens-day-2020-posters>

In case you missed them, the posters will be displayed at the Guelph Public Library in the month of October.

We are again working with The Research Shop on a project for International Women's Day 2021. Stay tuned for more details.

Women's History Month: Celebrating Women in Guelph & Wellington County

In celebration of CFUW Guelph's 75th anniversary the Advocacy Committee has initiated a project in to recognize women from our area who have made significant contributions and whose lives have compelling stories to tell. We are working with Catherine Carstairs and her students from the College of Arts U of G along with Dawn Owens from the Guelph Civic Museum to mount an exhibit called: **Her Story: Trailblazers of Guelph and Wellington County**. This exhibit celebrates women who have led the way towards a diverse and gender inclusive community. The *Her Story* trailblazers are activists, artists, caregivers, health care workers, mothers, politicians, scientists, and writers, as well as women-led organizations. We celebrate their accomplishments and they show us that change is possible. The exhibit is expected to run from mid-September to July 2021. Watch for details of the exhibit opening in a future communication.

A Basic Income Webinar

In 2013, our club submitted a resolution calling for "An Adequate Income for all Canadians" as a way of lifting people out of poverty. The COVID pandemic has resulted in the loss of many jobs and highlighted the gaps in our income security systems. Many groups are calling for the government to implement a form of guaranteed basic income as part of an economic recovery plan. CFUW Guelph has been invited to join with the Council of Canadians, the Coalition for Social Justice and Fair Vote Canada to host a webinar with representatives from various sectors outlining the case for a basic income. The webinar is expected to be held in early October. Details will be circulated when the speakers and the date is confirmed.

Want to get involved with advocacy?

With so many challenges to our club's goals (advancing the status of woman, human rights and working towards gender equality) there is always an opportunity for member involvement. Currently, the committee meets once a month to share information, receive updates on current projects and make future plans. Individual committee members work independently or in small groups to carry out the day to day work of our initiatives. If you have a desire to advocate for

change you can become involved on a short term basis to work on a specific initiative or become a member of the committee to support the ongoing work. Committee members have formed close friendships as we work together with each other and our community partners to make a difference in our community.

If you haven't the time to get involved in the day to day work, you can become a Friend of Advocacy to receive information about our upcoming events and projects. Just let us know at advocacy.cfuwguelph@gmail.com, or speak to any of the members at a meeting (when we can meet again in person).

Deb Thompson, Chair

Member Services

As of September 3, 2020, we have received membership renewals from 40 members and 2 Dual members for the coming year.

We would like to welcome the following new members:

- Mary Mitchell
- Susan Narducci
- Lyanne Schlichter
- Kim Wakeford

These women have signed up for various Interest Groups, please welcome them. Convenors, please contact Janet Bruder if you find you have any openings in your group.

We are currently looking for a convenor for both the Bridge Clubs and the 1st Lunch and Chat Group. Again, contact Janet Bruder if interested.

Kerry Detlor and Janet Bruder, Co-chairs

Chalmers Community Services Centre continues its work during the pandemic.

By the end of the summer, almost 1000 people were picking up food, diapers, toilet paper and other essentials each month from Chalmers Community Services two Guelph locations. But these numbers are not the whole story, as the person who picks up the groceries often goes home to share them with families that can include several children.

Those affected by food insecurity can be new Canadians, people experiencing homelessness, students unable to find work or your neighbours affected by unemployment during the pandemic.

For many years CFUW Guelph has supported Chalmers Christmas gift bag program, which has provided bags with warm mittens and socks, coffee or tea, sweet treats and essentials like shampoo,

soap and toothbrushes to people who may receive no other Christmas gift. The program may have to be suspended this year but the need goes on as the demand for basic food items increases in our community.

You can help by sending a cheque to Chalmers Community Services, 41 Macdonell St., Guelph N1H 2Z4. You can also donate through Canadahelps.org. Please mention that you are a CFUW Guelph member on the tagline of your cheque or the note on the website so that we can keep track of the donations.

Our members have donated more the \$600 in each of the past two years in addition to gift bags made up by individuals and interest groups.

Ann Middleton

INTEREST GROUP NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cycling Group:

I have recently taken over as the Cycling Group Convenor from Ann Middleton. Our thanks to Ann for assuming the duties for the last while.

Given the present COVID circumstances under which we all find ourselves, I am asking those members interested in cycling this fall to let me know by email (stbelyea@rogers.com), rather than drawing upon previous mailing lists. I will be in touch with those members who contact me, and we can decide what options work best for the group.

Group rides occur on Tuesdays and Fridays with a general attempt made to allocate in-town rides to Tuesday mornings with longer out-of-town rides occurring on Fridays.

With thanks,
Terri Belyea



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

Submission deadline is the first Sunday of the publication month.

Please submit material to the **Newsletter Editor** email: communicationscfuwguelph@gmail.com

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