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## **SPRING 2021 Program**

Via ZOOM

Business Meeting	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Speaker/Discussion	8:00 - 9:00 p.m.

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



Happy Spring CFUW Guelph:

What a year! I have been rereading my letter of last April and it seems a lifetime ago that we were starting into the first lockdown of Covid -19. So many things have changed and many of the changes remain today and feel almost normal – wearing a mask, keeping our distance, standing in line in all weather. Last year we did not hold the March and April general meetings and our first Zoom meeting took place in May for our AGM. After the angst about

developing some technological expertise about this virtual meeting place, I am now astounded at how easy it is to conduct our business on this platform.

Our club presented the “Guelph motion” at the National AGM in June and it narrowly missed passing by a slim margin. The support that our motion received and the recommendations of the Mediation Working Group have galvanized the national executive to respond to this crisis. They have recommended an opt in/opt out solution to CFUW clubs whereby clubs that do not wish to financially support GWI can opt out of remitting the GWI portion of our dues. Other opportunities to support international advocacy for women and girls will be explored as a group or by individual clubs. We hope that this action will allow National to respond to the financial instability this crisis has precipitated. By voting to opt out, CFUW Guelph can now look to the future with new ideas and renewed vigor.

The committees of CFUW Guelph have been very busy this year.. Scholarship has made strides in new ventures with Conestoga College to support the education of women and girls in STEM and trades related programs. Advocacy has been active with the Basic Income Webinar and Call to Action, International Women’s Day and looking at Long Term Care and other issues. Hospitality has been

diligent in maintaining a relationship with the church on Water Street and Cutten Fields to ensure we can return to each location after the pandemic. The Program committee has brought us a varied and stellar roster of speakers culminating with Dr. Anne-Marie Zajdlik as the guest speaker at the AGM. Communications has kept us all informed and well connected. Membership continues to welcome new and returning members.

There will soon come a time when we can gather again safely – won't that be wonderful!  
I look forward to seeing you at the April meeting and the AGM coming to you on our new best pal ZOOM!

Stay safe, get vaccinated

Susan

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## **SPRING SPEAKERS PROGRAM**

### April 27, 2021 **Peter Sweeney, The Y and Wellness in Guelph**



Peter Sweeney is currently the CEO of the YMCA of Three Rivers, Canada's newest Y, following the October '20 amalgamation of the YMCA/YWCA of Guelph, the YMCA of Stratford-Perth, and the YMCAs of Cambridge & Kitchener-Waterloo, where he had been CEO since September 2016. Previously, Peter served as the President of the St. Mary's General Hospital Foundation from 2004-2016. In 2010, he was also named President of the St. Joseph's Health System International Outreach Program where he managed global health projects in Uganda, Haiti, and Guyana. Peter was named as one of the Waterloo Record's inaugural 40-under-40 and was recently awarded a Paul Harris Fellow by his local Rotary Club. He and his wife Krista have three children and lives in downtown Kitchener.

### Annual General Meeting - May 25, 2021 **Anne-Marie Zajdlik**



Dr. Anne-Marie Zajdlik is a family physician and regional HIV specialist. She is the founder and Medical Director of the Masai Centre for Local, Regional and Global Health, a provincially funded HIV/AIDS clinic in Guelph, Ontario. In 2010, Dr. Zajdlik, opened Masai's satellite clinic in Waterloo. The clinics now provide care to 700 HIV positive patients in Guelph-Wellington, Grey Bruce, and Waterloo Region. In March of 2019,

Dr. Zajdlik founded Hope Clinic, the new Center for Excellence in HIV Treatment in the region.

Dr. Zajdlik is the founder of Bracelet of Hope, a charitable community-based organization that raises awareness of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in sub-Saharan Africa and funds for HIV/AIDS relief in Lesotho, Africa. She is a previous board member of the Ontario Hospital Association's OHAfrica project and member of the OHAfrica Canadian Medical Team that helped open the first HIV/AIDS clinic in Lesotho in 2004.

## REPORTS

### Treasurer's Report to March 31, 2021,

Submitted by Esther Semple, Treasurer

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
Membership Revenue:		
128 members	<b>4,138.00</b>	3,994.50
<b>Expenditures:</b>		
Nat'l Prov'l meetings	<b>550.00</b>	
Hall Rental/ (Zoom)	<b>1,265.00</b>	621.00
Hospitality	<b>150.00</b>	
Member Services	<b>550.00</b>	203.56
Program	<b>850.00</b>	400.00
Communications/Website	<b>450.00</b>	346.16
Advocacy	<b>300.00</b>	250.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,115.00</b>	1,820.72
<b>Surplus or Deficit</b>	<b>23.00</b>	<b>2,173.78</b>

### Balance Sheet

<b>Opening Balance April 30, 2020</b>		<b>Chequing Total</b>	<b>5,196.04</b>
Revenue	Membership	To date	20,340.00
Expenditures:	Banquet deposit (2021)	carried fwd	-200.00
	Committees	Expenses	-1,820.72
	National/Ont Council	Dues	-9,783.00
	Donations Scholarship	paid	-5,305.00
	Community Connections	HH- Bridges	-800.00
	CC (one-time fund)	SEED	-300.00
<b>Combined Balance</b>		To date	<b>7,327.32</b>
<b>Committed Funds:</b>			
Donations from members	Community Connections	CC for 2021-22	-1,330.00
Carry fwd from 2019-20	One time fund	Remaining funds	-465.27
Carry fwd from 2019-20	Community Connection	Remaining funds	-210.18
<b>Funds Available</b>			<b>5,321.87</b>
<b>GIC (maturing July 2021)</b>	Includes interest (\$318.77)		10,915.43
<b>Total Assets, Feb 15, 2021</b>			<b>16,237.30</b>

## Advocacy Committee

Submitted by Teresa McKeeman

### International Women's Day 2021

Along with our partners The Research Shop at U of G, Women in Crisis and Zonta we hosted a successful webinar based on the findings of our collaborative study into women and leadership, that was attended by more than 90 participants. Both the research and our panel of local community leaders highlighted the importance of mentoring and networking. The panelists all attributed their success in leadership roles to the help they received from other women. They are committed to reciprocating by helping the women in their circles to achieve their full potential.

### Come join us

Thanks to Mary McEwen for again arranging the display of our IWD posters (on the advancements on the rights of women) at the Guelph Public Library Main branch (see pictures). The posters will be on display on the second floor until April 30<sup>th</sup>. You can also view the posters on our website:

<http://cfuwguelph.org/international-womens-day-posters/>

Viewing these posters always reminds me to be grateful to all those advocates who worked hard to ensure the rights we enjoy today. As such I'd like to thank the dedicated members of our advocacy committee who work so hard to address current challenges. The work is hard, often emotional and sometimes discouraging. We have learned that we cannot do this work alone and so have developed networks with other likeminded organizations to amplify our work. We can all be encouraged by recognizing the words of Bob Rae, Canadian ambassador to the UN, who urged the UNCSW delegates to continue the fight with these words "defeat is part of the journey - but continue to embrace the journey". We do it for our children, our grandchildren, our friends and neighbours and the many generations to come.

We always welcome members to join our meetings whether on a one-time or a regular basis. Our meetings currently take place on the first Wednesday of the month from 1:30-3:30 PM. Next meeting is Wednesday April 7<sup>th</sup>. Contact **Deb Thompson**, Advocacy Chair, for more information.



Mary McEwen & Teresa McKeeman organizing the display of posters for International Woman's Day

### Meetings with elected officials

We continue to build a strong relationship with our elected officials. Our second quarterly meeting with MPP Mike Schreiner takes place on April 9<sup>th</sup> where we will focus our discussion on the Ontario budget particularly with respect to long term care & elder care, childcare, and income support through basic income.

In February we met with MP Lloyd Longfield to discuss issues related to long-term care/elder care as well as childcare. At this meeting Lloyd invited us to attend a meeting with Minister for Seniors Deb Schulte along with local Guelph organizations providing services to seniors. Susan Brown joined us for this meeting. Due to time constraints the meeting became a sort of “meet and greet” session. Isobel Boyle did a great job outlining CFUW policy in the limited time available. Lloyd has promised a follow up session with a chance to ask questions and get more information on the government’s direction for seniors.

May 4<sup>th</sup>, CFUW National is declaring a National Day of Action for Elders. In addition to lobbying our MP, National will be hosting webinars and discussion groups. Links will be forwarded as details become available. Ontario Council is currently running a campaign to lobby Premier Ford to recruit, train and properly pay full time Personal Support Workers in 2021 and to put people before profit in Long Term Care **To have your say, take the survey: <https://bit.ly/2O7iiTg>.**

At our March General Meeting Isobel requested volunteers for a task group to work locally on both National and OC initiatives. If you are interested, please contact Isobel.

### Nominations Committee

Slate of Nominees for 2021-22

Report by Sandra McCormick (chair) and members Mary McEwen and Deb Thompson

The committee members met several times via Zoom and FaceTime over the past months. We announced the nominees at the March General Meeting as outlined in our Policies and Procedures Document under Nomination Committee Policy (pp. 21-22).

Following the Steps under procedure we are now submitting the completed slate and will accept nominations from the floor until the April General Meeting. The slate will be put forward at the May AGM for approval by members.

### CFUW Guelph Nominations 2021-2022

#### Executive

Past President	Susan Brown
President	Heather Beecroft
Vice President	Sonia Spekkens
Secretary	Claudia Etches
Treasurer	Esther Semple
Member at Large	Isobelle Gray

#### Committee Chairs:

Advocacy	Deb Thompson
Communications	Heather Bailey & Clare Irwin
Hospitality	Barbara Kuczynski
Member Services	Janet Bruder & Kerry Detlor
Program	Virginia Gillham

**Scholarship & Awards Trust Fund**

Trustee – Chair	Cathy Farr	
Trustee – Secretary	Carol Herrmann	
Trustee – Treasurer	Jeanette O’Hara-Hines	
Trustee	Mary Woodside	
Trustee	Club Vice Pres.	Sonia Spekkens
Ex-Officio	Club President	Heather Beecroft
Ex-Officio	Club Treasurer	Esther Semple

**Nominations Committee**

Chair	Susan Brown
Member	Jo Ann Hayter
Member	Terri Belyea

**Membership Committee**

We would like to welcome back to the club: Diane Boyd and Gladys Stephenson.

Currently we have 118 Continuing, 5 Dual and 7 New members as well as 1 Lifetime member for a total of 131 members.

**Report from The United Nations Commission on the Status of Women**

**Isobel Boyle was among 26 representatives of CFUW invited to attend a recent meeting of The United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. Here is her report of the meeting.**

I was privileged to be one of CFUW’s delegates at the UN Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW). I attend two weeks of virtual meetings from March 14<sup>th</sup> to March 26<sup>th</sup>.

CFUW has a long tradition of advocating for the education, equality, and health of women worldwide. The UNCSW is the principal global policy-making body dedicated exclusively to gender equality and the advancement of women. Every year, representatives of Member States and Civil Society groups gather in New York to evaluate progress on gender equality, identify challenges, set global standards, and formulate concrete policies to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment worldwide.

Each year CFUW sends a delegation of 20 members to attend these meetings in New York, an opportunity open to all members. This year I sent in my application and given the meetings were virtual, 26 members were selected.

This year’s theme was “Women’s full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls”. I was in the homes of incredible women and men, from around the world – India, Japan, Chile, South Africa, Zambia, Germany, Norway etc.! There were 25,000 individuals, mostly women, at the opening of this Commission. I attended more than 25 sessions involving: policy to advance women; violence against women; telling the data story; economic empowerment of women; allyship in action:

engaging men as advocates; women's leadership for climate neutral and circular industries; and most importantly many sessions on Women's participation in post Covid decisions. Seventy percent of Health Workers are women but only 25% sit at the decision-making tables! There was such a lot to learn from different initiatives and projects happening around the world. CFUW sponsored a session entitled *Mobilizing for Impact: Strategies to Mobilize Towards Positive Change*. It was a panel presentation with strategies from a researcher, policy maker, youth mobilizer, and an activist on how we can move forward to meaningfully address women's involvement in decision making.

Several Federal Ministers were involved in various sessions and we had opportunities to meet with them and Bob Rae, the Canadian UN Ambassador, and discuss the issues for the agreed conclusion to this year's Commission on the Status of Women. The agreed conclusions will be published, and it is through these conclusions we can lobby our elected officials for positive change for women and girls.

**Isobel Boyle**

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## **CLUBS AND INTEREST GROUP NEWS**

### **Our Community Connection: Bridges Out of Poverty**

In 2013 our club submitted a Resolution to our National AGM endorsing Basic Income as a means of combatting poverty. The resolution was adopted and in becoming policy was something that we could act upon locally. In 2014 our club held a Strategic Planning Session where we heard from members that they we wanted to do work locally to support women and girls. As a result, we decided to partner with the Guelph/Wellington Bridges Out of Poverty Initiative. We are now in our 7<sup>th</sup> year of this collaboration. Funds to support this program have been raised through our pre-meeting dinners and donations by members with membership renewals.

In 2019 we reported on the evaluation of this program that had been carried out by an independent research firm. There are three components to the program which together aim to empower and move individuals out of poverty. One component is Circles and this is the focus of our club's support for the program. Individuals in poverty are given the opportunity to meet their goals for lifting themselves out of poverty through weekly meetings called Circles. Circles involves Leaders (those in poverty) partnered with 1 or 2 (ideally) Allies (mentors) who meet weekly over a meal at Hope House, in Guelph, and a church in County Wellington, with Coaches to facilitate. We mainly supported these gatherings through providing 2 to 3 meals per year and helping with payments for Child Care workers. We have also provided monies from our scholarship fund to assist individuals in the program further their education.

Of course, 2020 provided many additional challenges. The Circles groups were unable to meet in person and many of the individuals involved did not have access to the technology for ZOOM and other virtual meetings. I am happy to say through our donation of \$800.00 this year we were able to assist some Leaders to upgrade and reconnect with the program. The Guiding Coalition (Board), with a CFUW representative, has been working hard to facilitate a new model to keep this valuable program alive. It

is not just about giving to those in poverty but empowering those in poverty to lift themselves out of what is often referred to as “the circle of poverty”.

CFUW has not been able to raise funds through our community dinners this year and we hope that you will consider a donation when you complete your 2021-22 membership form.

**Isobel Boyle**

### **Nordic Ski Group**



Barb Hale, Nordic Ski interest group leader, skijoring with her dog Guinness



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](mailto:communicationscfuwguelph@gmail.com)

Club activities and membership details are available online at [www.cfuwguelph.org](http://www.cfuwguelph.org)