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In this issue of *The Communicator*, you will read about the wide variety of projects that Clubs have undertaken and I congratulate all of you for taking up the challenge.

Susan Murphy
CFUW National President

Message de la présidente

Au début de l'exercice 2012-2014, plusieurs clubs ont demandé au conseil d'administration d'annoncer un projet national, un projet qui donnerait l'occasion aux clubs et aux membres d'apporter une contribution estimable à une seule initiative qui en vaut la peine, ce qui permettrait de donner un meilleur profil aux clubs dans la communauté et d'attirer de nouveaux membres.

Comme vous le savez, nous avons choisi « de prévenir et de lutter contre la violence faite aux femmes ». Ban Ki-Moon, le secrétaire général des Nations Unies, a déclaré que la violence faite aux femmes et aux filles est l'une des formes de violation des droits de la personne parmi les plus répandues de nos jours. Celle-ci touche une femme ou fille sur trois durant leurs vies. Cela doit cesser!

Dans le présent numéro de *La Communicatrice*, vous en apprendrez davantage sur la grande diversité de projets que les clubs ont lancés et je tiens à toutes vous féliciter d'avoir relevé le défi.

Susan Murphy
Présidente de la FCFDU

CFUW President's Message



In the early days of the 2012-14 term, the Board of Directors was asked by several clubs to announce a national project, one that would create a good opportunity for Clubs and members to make a meaningful contribution

to a single worthwhile initiative, to raise the Club's profile in the community and to attract new members.

As you know, we chose "To Prevent and Respond to Violence against Women." Ban Ki-Moon, the Secretary General of the UN has said that violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread abuses of human rights in our time. It affects one in three women and girls in their lifetimes and it must stop!

The CFUW National Initiative

PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Abbotsford

- Continued their ongoing support of Warm Zone, a local drop-in facility for street engaged women, including providing soup once a week and funds for art therapy.
- Supported the women and children of Transition Houses by making Comfort Bags.
- Participated in dialogue and awareness building regarding Truth in Language (i.e. replacing use of 'child pornography' with 'images of child sexual abuse')

Coquitlam

As part of an initiative spearheaded by Club member Diane Mausser, CFUW Coquitlam circulated a petition on human trafficking, gathering 18 signatures. The petition was then sent to MP Joy Smith. Ms. Smith replied to the Club and informed them that their petition would be presented in the House of Commons in March.

North Delta

CFUW North Delta/Surrey has been reaching out in their community through partnerships, letters to local government and actions aimed at combating child poverty. Continuing their Club project, which began two years ago, their members donate monthly diapers, formula, and other baby needs for single mothers and fathers. Ensuring support for at-risk families can be a great factor in reducing child poverty and mitigating difficult situations.

North Vancouver

This year, CFUW North Vancouver participated in the CFUW National's Initiative on Violence Against Women through publishing articles in their Club newsletter. Next year, they anticipate having speakers and including newsletter articles that focus on resources available in their community.

Sunshine Coast

- Hosted a presentation from a representative of the Progress Plan, which is working to assess needs and make recommendations specific to the economic welfare of the women in their community.
- Currently pursuing follow-up work relating to their past resolution concerning the polygamous community in Bountiful, BC.
- Donated four toolboxes to their local transition house on IWD.
- Exploring future opportunities with Justice for Girls.

White Rock/Surrey

CFUW White Rock/Surrey has continued its support for the Ama Transition House, which is the first specialized transition house for women 55+. Ama House serves the White Rock/Surrey community where the number of seniors per capita is twice the national average. The Club has profiled Ama House at their Christmas Pot Luck meetings; collected clothing, toiletries and money for them; and hosted speakers from the organization.



Over a one-year period between April 1, 2009 and March 31, 2010, 64,500 women and 39,200 children were admitted to shelters in Canada.

-Source: CRIAW Fact Sheet:
Burczycka, M. & Cotter, A. (2011).
Shelters for Abused women
in Canada, 2010.

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UWC Vancouver

- Continued to advocate for changes to prostitution laws by following court cases, writing letters to and meeting their MPs to urge them to adopt the Nordic Model, assisted in updating CFUW fact sheets and template letters, and joined the Women's Coalition to End Prostitution. They also held screenings and discussions of "Status Quo" and "Buying Sex" and responded to the government initiative regarding prostitution laws.
- Held a Dec. 6th event with a speaker from the Metro Vancouver YWCA.

Comox Valley

CFUW Comox Valley participated in One Billion Rising: Strike/Dance/Rise. The annual day of protest is part of a global campaign to end violence against women. The name refers to the statistic supplied by the United Nations that one in three women --or one billion women-- will be raped or beaten in their lifetime (UNRIC, 2013).

Nanaimo

- Attended the Sisters in Spirit Vigil at Vancouver Island University.
- Held a very successful drive to collect personal hygiene items and raise funds for the Nanaimo Women's Resource Centre.
- Co-sponsored a one-woman play in Nanaimo called "Dissolve", bringing attention to drug-facilitated sexual assault in the community.
- Co-sponsored a 3-hour community-based workshop entitled "Ending the Silence: Strategies for Preventing Abuse", which provided bystanders with information on what to do and how to intervene in abuse situations.
- Joined the local Nanaimo Women's Action Committee

Parksville/Qualicum

CFUW Parksville/Qualicum continued their initiatives on supporting Haven House financially, and with donations from their Christmas Silent Auction and their Knitting Group knitting washcloths, etc..

The Club's "Life and Times of Pauline Johnson", an International Women's Day Event, was directed towards raising awareness of violence against Aboriginal women.

Salt Sping Island

CFUW Salt Spring Island has made connections with two groups who are influential in combating violence against women in their community. Salt Spring Women Opposed to Violence and Abuse (SWOVA) focuses on prevention, research, and awareness in schools, while Island Women against Violence (IWAV) provides support services to those affected by violence and abuse. They hope to assist in future fundraising opportunities and are encouraging their members to get involved individually.



Workshop Organizers (L-R): Joan Blick, CFUW Nanaimo; Anne Skelding, Haven Society/Presenter; Jenny Webb, CFUW Nanaimo; Ann Taylor, Haven Society/Presenter



The greatest risk of homicide for women is in their own homes. Between 2000 and 2009, 714 women (49% of all femicides) were killed by intimate partners.

-Source: Statistics Canada (2011).
Family Violence in Canada
CRIAOW Fact Sheet

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Victoria

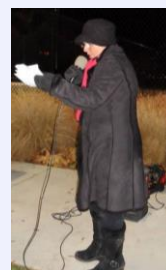
At their Christmas lunch, CFUW Victoria collected donations for Transition House, a shelter for abused women and their families. Transition House requested gifts and/or money for a single mom and her two sons. Members gave generously and, in total, they were able to raise \$700 in cash and \$300 in gift cards in addition to presents. They were able to provide several families with a very nice Christmas.

Cranbrook & District

CFUW Cranbrook has been reaching out locally as part of their contribution to the CFUW National Initiative. The Club has been actively supporting the efforts of a number of community projects aimed at assisting families, women and children in need.

Kelowna

On December 6th, the coldest night of the year in Kelowna, the Club helped to organize a community-based candlelight vigil to commemorate the Polytechnique murders. They also sold YWCA Rose Buttons. Their Christmas get-together featured Angie Lohr, President of H.O.P.E. Outreach and House of Hope. They raised \$450 for the organization.



Sharon Shepherd (member) at the candlelight vigil

Nelson & District

- Attended a Vigil for the Prevention of Violence against Women with MLA Michelle Mungall and the Director of Nelson Community Services.
- Hosted guest speakers Sarah Bolton, of Nelson & Area Specialized Victim Services/ Board Member of the Ending Violence Association of BC, and Ernie Wood, a Women's Outreach Worker with Nelson Community Service.
- Members were invited to preview "Buying Sex".
- Money raised during their meetings will be donated to Nelson's Transition House.

Vernon

- Held a public screening and discussion of "Buying Sex", attended by almost 100 people. A discussion was held by Melissa Munn of the Women Studies Department at Okanagan College.
- Held a Club panel presentation on the needs and concerns of sex workers and collected donations for Strong Women Are We, a new program assisting sex workers.
- They signed MP Joy Smith's petition, addressed a letter to their MP, and had their Letter to the Editor recommending the Nordic Model published in the Kelowna Daily Courier.

Calgary

- Co-sponsored a public screening and discussion of "Buying Sex", attracting over 100 participants. They also attended a screening of "Girl Rising".
- Circulated MP Joy Smith's petition and a petition for a national inquiry into the missing and murdered Aboriginal women.
- The President represented CFUW Calgary at the Take Back the Night March, a December 6th Memorial service, and at a presentation on the 160 Girls Project.



Only 8% of sexual assaults and only 30% of women affected by marital violence report to the police.

-Source: CRIAW Fact Sheet:
Johnson, H. (2006). Measuring
Violence Against Women:
Statistical Trends 2006.

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Lethbridge

The Club embarked on a project with the local women's shelter, Harbour House. At each of their meetings, members brought laundry and hygiene supplies. All items collected were donated to the Women's Shelter where they are offered as part of Restarter Kits for women leaving the shelter. Items were chosen based on what was needed most and what was most expensive. CFUW is the only organization in Lethbridge to provide for these kits.

Strathcona County

CFUW Strathcona County has been working closely with their local women's shelter, A Safer Place. One project is the construction of a library for the occupants using the shelter. Club members donate new or gently used books to the house and have even built shelves to create more room. The women and children are invited to take the books with them when they leave, as the donations are ongoing. Strathcona County also supported the shelter with gift bags for the women who stayed there through Christmas.

Estevan

On this year's International Women's Day, CFUW Estevan held a panel discussion open to the public dedicated to recognizing violence against women and men. The event was entitled "Step up - Creating Healthy Relationships" and was in part supported by the Saskatchewan Government - Office of the Status of Women. The Coordinator of the Provincial Association of Transition Houses and Services was a guest speaker. A panel discussion was also held which focused on problems that cause violence, challenges facing the community, what is being done, and what needs to be done. The event raised awareness of the rising population in southeastern Saskatchewan due to oil and construction and the resulting impacts in the forms of violence and unhealthy relationships.

Regina

- CFUW Regina sponsored a special event on IWD with speakers from the YWCA women's shelter. They also collected children's clothes and toiletries at their Christmas holiday event for the shelter.
- The Club has been publicizing the "Bring Back our Girls" notices in their newsletter and attended a rally on May 15th sponsored by the Nigerian Community in Regina.

Saskatoon Inc.

- Participated in the "Take Back the Night March" (for those killed at École Polytechnique) and the Rose Campaign.
- Helped to organize an event at the University and hosted an awareness session on Girls' Empowerment Clubs in Swaziland. These Clubs are proven to reduce teen pregnancy, HIV infection, and have an impact on violence against women. Saskatoon Inc. raised over \$8,000 for them.
- Worked with Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan on their fundraisers.
- Participated in Move for Hope.



Panelists (L-R): Rod Watson, Lorelei Lachambre, DeeDee Chomyk, Sgt. Kevin Reed, Jody Tweed, and Gary Tedford.



Violence against women also affects future generations: 59% of women with children who experienced marital abuse reported that their children witnessed the violence; in half of these cases, children witnessed violence severe enough to result in injury and in half the mother feared for her life.

-Source: CRIAW Fact Sheet: Sinha, M. (2013). Measuring Violence Against Women, 28; Johnson, H. (2006). Measuring Violence Against Women, 34.

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Yorkton

- Co-hosted a film screening and panel discussion of "Cyberbullying", which explores changes in technology and the dangers of instant communication in public forums. It gave focus to the successes and challenges faced by children, parents and teachers.



Cyberbullying panel discussion
(photo courtesy of *Yorkton this Week*)

- As part of the Sisters in Spirit Vigil, the Club participated in a Violence Against Indigenous Women meeting.
- Co-sponsored an International Women's Day event called "Communities in Action: Ending Violence against Women and Girls" at a local shelter.
- Held a day of commemoration on December 6th, which included a letter to the Editor of the *Yorkton Enterprise*, another to their MP, and a candle lit observation.

North Bay

- Attended a meeting and a conference on violence against women, organized by the Domestic Violence Community Coordinating Committee.
- Attended the CFUW North Bay Charitable Trust Dinner which featured guest speaker Wendy Abdallah of Victim Services.
- Participated in the Sisters In Spirit Vigil and established connections with various other organizations.
- Supported the One Pledge Campaign, a local initiative by Mayor Al McDonald, Police Chief Paul Cook and Janine Lafreniere,

Executive Director of Transition House, to raise awareness within the community about violence against women.

- Participated in IWD events such as "Join Me on the Bridge" and a presentation on Human Trafficking at Nipissing University "Trafficking In Victims: Sex, work and the politics of gendered mobility."
- Publicized and attended a screening (coordinated by a new member) of the film, "It's A Girl".
- Attended a presentation on "Rethinking Gender and Poverty at Home and Abroad"

Orillia

- Sold Rose Campaign buttons and bookmarks. The proceeds went to a local women's shelter.
- Hosted a panel on homelessness which illustrated how vulnerable people, especially women and youth, can be when they are on the verge of losing the roof over their head or living on the streets. A letter concerning this issue was sent to their MPP, with copies to the Mayor and MP.
- On the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, a letter was written to the editor of their local paper.

Sudbury

Every year, CFUW Sudbury and Sudbury YWCA invite a Canadian female author to present her latest book. The annual event has raised over \$50,000 over the past 19 years and proceeds support Sudbury YWCA and its programs, which combat violence against women and children. This includes an emergency shelter, services for women and children who are victims of domestic abuse, family court support resources, and aid for women who are victims of elder abuse.



The RCMP estimates that approximately 600 women and children are trafficked into Canada each year for sexual exploitation, a figure that fails to account for the number of women and children trafficked within Canada, a majority of whom are Aboriginal women.

-Source: CRIAW Fact Sheet: Oxman-Martinez, J., Lacroix, M., & Hanley, J. (2005). Victims of Trafficking in Persons: Perspectives from the Canadian Community Sector. Ottawa: Department of Justice, 8.

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Guelph

In support of the CFUW National Violence Against Women Initiative CFUW Guelph circulated the Native Women's Association of Canada's petition calling for a National Inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls in Canada.

Kitchener/Waterloo

The Advocacy Committee of CFUW Kitchener/Waterloo has decided to work on developing partnerships with other groups in advocating for the establishment of an inquiry on the issue of missing Aboriginal women in Canada. They are currently developing a strategy as well as a bank of information on this issue.

St. Thomas

This year, CFUW St. Thomas kicked off their Breaking Bread Initiative, aimed at raising money for a New St. Thomas Women's Shelter. Three CFUW members hosted fundraising luncheons for other CFUW members and members of a local women's curling club, which was covered in the local paper and led to further donations. This initiative alone has already successfully raised \$1,450. They plan to continue raising money through the summer.

Kincardine

In May, the Club hosted a meeting featuring guest speaker, Marilyn Luinstra of AIM (Anti-Slavery in Modern Times). Members of CFUW Kincardine also attended an event hosted by AIM, featuring Victor Malarek, who spoke about his two years travelling and interviewing traffickers and their victims as told in his book, *The Natashas*. CFUW Kincardine also makes donations to the local women's shelter each year and has sent a letter to their local MP in support of the CFUW Initiative.

Saugeen

CFUW Saugeen will be making a donation of \$215 to their local women's shelter, the Women's House of Bruce County. Donations were collected at their public screening of "Status Quo? the Unfinished Business of Feminism in Canada", with donations above the cost of the event going toward the women's shelter. Thirty-four people attended and a thoughtful and engaging discussion was held following the film.

Southport

CFUW Southport held a candlelight service in honour of the women killed at École Polytechnique (Dec. 6) which was attended by the mayor, Council members and members of the public. The presentation garnered newspaper and radio coverage of the event, helping to bring attention to the issue of violence against women.



CFUW Southport candlelight vigil



Over 100 million women are missing worldwide as a result of son preference and practices like female infanticide, sex-selective abortions, and systematic neglect of girls.

-Source: CRIAW Fact Sheet: Sen, A. (2003).
Missing women—revisited: reduction in female mortality has been counterbalanced by sex selective abortions. British Medical Journal, 327(7427), 1297-1298

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Aurora/Newmarket

CFUW Aurora/Newmarket has links to local women's shelters and the national statistics concerning violence against women on their website. They have written articles to appear in their newsletter and have addressed letters to their MP. The Club also participated in the local October Sisters in Spirit Vigil. For International Women's Day, the Club featured an Aboriginal woman speaking to their group and they met to sing on a local bridge.

Etobicoke

CFUW Etobicoke hosted a breakfast meeting in support of the CFUW National Initiative. Fifty women attended a presentation given by the Executive Director of Women's Habitat, one of the local women's shelters, who spoke about running a shelter and the current needs in the community. The funds raised at the breakfast and the proceeds from a raffle held earlier were donated. The event was covered in the local newspapers helping to raise awareness.

Leaside/East York

- Held their annual fundraising Wassail party, which raised \$865 for the East York YWCA Women's Shelter.
- Held a pot luck dinner to collect donations to Women for Women in Afghanistan, raising \$3,700.
- Member Sheila Lacroix, won the Agnes Macphail award this year. She generously donated half of the prize money to the East York Women's Shelter.
- Several members of the Club participated in The Purple Scarf Campaign which was organized by the Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses.

Markham/Unionville

- Promoted facts about violence against women in their monthly newsletters.
- Contacted Yellow Brick House intending to form a partnership, and will host a speaker from the shelter at their October general meeting, to further detail their mandate, and discuss how they as a local club can assist. They will screen the video "Sexy Inc." the same evening.
- Considering partnerships with other organizations in the York Region whose mandate is to assist women and children, who have been exposed to violence.

North Toronto

- Formed a small ad hoc committee for the National Initiative.
- Ordered Dec. 6th Rose Campaign buttons from the YWCA and sold these at their general meeting with the proceeds going to the Red Door Shelter, a women's shelter in Toronto.
- Have started to do the research necessary for other actions, such as possibly advocating for an updated sex-ed curriculum in Ontario and/or another project for the Red Door Shelter.

Oshawa & District

- Included violence against women facts in their publications.
- Walked with the Rape Crisis Centre banner in Take Back the Night, which brings together all of the agencies who support women and children as well as other victims of abuse.
- Made contact with several shelters and continued to support the Refuge, a drop-in centre for young adults with gifts of transit tickets and gift cards
- CFUW Oshawa and District also partnered with UOIT for a film screening and panel discussion on Violence, Access to Abortion and Child Care.



Four times more girls than boys are sexually abused and 75% of the time it is by a family member or friend.

-Source: Maira Sinha, "Police-reported Family Violence against Children and Youth, 2009" in Family Violence: A Statistical Profile, 2010, (Ottawa: Statistics Canada, 2012), Tina H. Mahoney, Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report – Women and the Criminal Justice System (Ottawa: Statistics Canada, 2011).

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UWC North York

- Collected new clothing, job interview clothes and over 200 pairs of socks for Street Haven and the North York Women's Shelter.
- Sent a letter to the members' MPs (21 different ridings) about the lack of an inquiry into the missing/murdered aboriginal women.
- Planned and co-hosted a VAW information meeting between all Toronto Clubs, featuring Anuradha Dugal of the Canadian Women's Federation speak about Violence Against Women in Canada and Toronto and what can be done.

Cornwall & District

- CFUW Cornwall & District has engaged successfully in advocacy with their MP and MPP to move forward their resolution which was accepted at last summer's AGM (Hypersexualization: Countering Exploitative Child Images).
- They have also supported Baldwin House, a shelter for women and their children, by providing toiletries, toys, diapers and other child care items.

Kanata

CFUW Kanata has been a supporter of Chrysalis House, a local shelter for abused women. This year, they were asked to provide shoe boxes filled with supplies for the women who are leaving the shelter to go out into the community to make a new life for themselves. These items included dish washing detergent, cleaning supplies, laundry detergent etc. They plan to continue to provide these items to the shelter on an ongoing basis and ensure that they are well-stocked.

Peterborough

This year, CFUW Peterborough joined the YWCA Freeze Mob at Landsdowne Mall. Fifty women held up roses and signs highlighting women's issues. They stood for three minutes as the shoppers nearby watched. They have also sent letters to their MP and the PM under the Rose Campaign website.



Brantford

CFUW Brantford continued its active support of their local women's shelter (Nova Vita) by collecting new and gently-used items for donation and hosting an International Women's Day Dinner with the shelter.

They held a memorial on the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, handing out white ribbons and holding a minute of silence. The Club also participated in a candlelight vigil to honour the missing and murdered Aboriginal Women. They published VAW statistics in their Club publications.

Burlington

CFUW Burlington has hosted several speakers at their meetings, including Allison Thornton from the Canadian Civil Liberties Association. Several members also attended a presentation on Women in Afghanistan in Oakville which raised money for S.A.V.I.S. (Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Services).



A study by the Department of Justice estimates that the economic impact of marital violence against women in Canada in one year is \$4.8 billion.

-Source: CRIAW Fact Sheet: Zhang, T., Hoddenbagh, J., McDonald, S. & Scrim, K. (2013). An Estimation of the Economic Impact of Spousal Violence in Canada, 2009. Ottawa: Department of Justice Canada.

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Milton & District

- Hosted a presentation on "Marginalized and Vulnerable Women of Halton". S.A.V.I.S. and the regional women's shelter spoke about their work.
- Participated in Milton Transitional Housing's "Coldest Night of the Year" fundraising walk.
- Changed the requirements for their Mature Women Scholarship Award to focus more to marginalized and vulnerable women.
- Donated books from their Annual Used Booksale to Vanier Women's Institute and Maplehurst prison.



(L-R) Margaret Gray, Wendy Schau and Loretta Mulligan at "Coldest Night of the Year" fundraising walk.



Mississauga

- Screened "Transformation by Fire", a film about the effects of art therapy on abused women, with guest speakers.
- Club screening/ discussion of "Status Quo"
- Promoted *Little Women for Little Women in Afghanistan*.
- Held a Christmas fundraiser for several women's shelters and assembled 41 boxes for the Shoebox Project.

AFDU Québec

Le 6 décembre 2013 paraissait dans le quotidien Le Soleil section Carrefour des lecteurs, une lettre dénonçant la violence faite aux femmes à l'occasion de la commémoration du massacre de l'École Polytechnique. Cette lettre Inspirée du texte envoyé par la FCFDU et adaptée par Godelieve De Koninck, coprésidente de AFDU Québec souligne la nécessité d'établir un plan d'action nationale pour contrer la violence faite aux femmes. Ce texte sera aussi placé sur la page Facebook d'AFDU Québec.

Fredericton

- Participated in the Rose Campaign by sending letters to MPs.
- Took part in the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women at a candle lighting vigil commemorating the victims of École Polytechnique and the Stand Up and Speak Out March.
- Continued its support of Chrysalis House, a local home for teenage women who cannot stay with their families. Upon request, collected needed items for Grace House, a women's shelter.
- On IWD, members attended a partial screening and panel discussion of the documentary "Half the Sky", highlighting the oppression of women and girls worldwide. Members also attended a session entitled "Women's Health and Past Abuse: What Can be Done to Help?" which presented five years of research.
- The Club will hold a speakers' series on the topics of the elimination of violence against women and cyberbullying in conjunction with the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Research Centre and St. Thomas University.



Per capita rates of shelter use are much higher in the territories than in the provinces. For example, shelter use in 2010 was over 12 times higher than the national average in the Northwest Territories, almost 10 times higher in Nunavut, and almost nine times higher in the Yukon.

-Source: CRIAW Fact Sheet: Sinha, M. (2013). Measuring Violence Against Women, 116.

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Moncton

As hosts of the Atlantic Regional Conference (October 2013), CFUW Moncton arranged a panel discussion on Cyberbullying. For this year's International Women's Day, the Club hosted guest speaker Shawna McGee, PhD, who spoke about injustices in the household, specifically, why women tend to judge an unequal distribution of housework as fair.

Saint John

- Donated nightgowns, toiletries, and books to a local Transition House (done annually).
- Attended a special Memorial Service in Memory of Sarah Margaret "Maggie" Vail and her infant daughter who were killed by the child's father on Oct. 31, 1868. The event was held in recognition that family violence has been an issue for over a century. The event was organized by the Domestic Violence Community Action Group (DVCAG) of Saint John, whom CFUW Saint John hopes to work with in future.

Dartmouth

- Provided assistance/supplies to Alice Housing for women and children in second stage housing who are victims of violence.
- Participated in the YWCA's Rose Campaign.
- Funded The Breakfast Program which provides breakfast to school children in need.
- Wrote a letter to the President of St. Mary's University expressing concern about the pro rape chant and offering support for policy development for combating sexual violence on campus.
- Contacted the PM concerning Non State Actor Torture and requested action.

Halifax

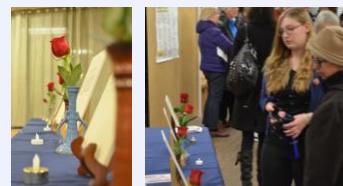
- In response to the frosh chant at Saint Mary's University that promoted rape culture, CFUW Halifax is supporting the campaign to repurpose the old Halifax Infants Home on campus as a student-run women's centre.
- Financially support the YWCA Raising a Roof Campaign.
- Distributed white ribbons to faculty and students to commemorate December 6.
- The Club is anticipating holding a public meeting(s) on the issue of rape culture on university campuses and/or sexploitation through cyber-bullying

Truro

- For the National Initiative CFUW Truro supported the YWCA Rose Campaign by sending letters to their MP.
- They posted the statistics sent from National about violence against women on the Club website.
- They will send a letter to their MP using the form letter made available by National, asking him to support the Criminalization of Non-State Actor Torture.

Wolfville

- Participated in a Dec. 6 candle ceremony.
- Supported Chrysalis House, a women and children's shelter.
- Wrote/ spoke to their MP and MLA on violence against women.
- Participated in the petition to the Minister of Justice asking that Non-State Actor Torture be included in the Criminal Code.



École Polytechnique candle ceremony (Dec. 6th, 2013)



The 2009 GSS [General Social Survey] found that 6% of Canadian women living in a marital or common-law relationship experienced physical or sexual assault by a partner during the previous five years, representing approximately 601,000 Canadian women. Over half of these women (57%) were assaulted on multiple occasions.

-Source: CRIAW Fact Sheet:
Statistics Canada. (2011). Family Violence in Canada, 16 & 9.

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Corner Brook

Last year, CFUW Corner Brook became a community partner in a project proposed by Corner Brook Status of Women Council and funded by Status of Women Canada. The CAMPUS project is intended to examine the issue of violence against young women on university campuses. Data on knowledge, experience, and understanding of gender-based violence on Grenfell Campus, MUN, was gathered through voluntary surveys and focus groups. The data will be compiled and the project steering committee, which

includes a representative of CFUW Corner Brook, will work with campus officials to develop a needs assessment and then a plan to address gender-based violence on campus. This work is ongoing.

Following a presentation on Non-State Actor Torture given by two members of CFUW Truro, the Club will be submitting a petition to their local MP, will speak with him to discuss the issue, and will request his support.

St. John's

- Sent a letter to the editor for the UNiTE to End Violence against Women Orange Days Campaign.

- Participated in three vigils to bring attention to the issue of violence against women; a Sisters in Spirit Vigil, a vigil to commemorate the École Polytechnique massacre, and a vigil to remember murdered or missing women and girls in Newfoundland and Labrador.

- Became an official member of the Coalition Against Violence, participated in their Purple Ribbon Campaign and attended the launch of the Healthy Relationships Booklet.

- Promoted the Rose Campaign within the Club.

- CFUW St. John's has now taken over the Fresh Start Basket project, which provides care packages to women hoping to make a fresh start -- now supported entirely by CFUW St. John's.



Sisters in Spirit Vigil

Our Clubs have done amazing work this year on the National Initiative and we are proud to share their accomplishments with all of CFUW.

This list is only a small sample of everything that has been done across CFUW. Much more could have been added, but to conserve space in this edition, some details have been omitted.

We do invite you to read a full account of all projects, available on the www.cfuw.org website.



In Canada, each year, 460,000 women are sexually assaulted by men other than their marital partners

-Source: CRIAW Fact Sheet:
Statistics Canada. (2011). Family Violence in
Canada: A Statistical Profile

Local university women's club gaining momentum

Tyler Clarke, *The Prince Albert Daily Herald*
May 4, 2014

Reinvigorated from their annual book sale fundraiser, the Prince Albert chapter of Canadian Federation of University Women continued its momentum on Saturday.

Hosting the provincial body's annual general meeting, the meeting's ranks included national president Susan Murphy.

The local club appears "pretty lively," she said, noting that she's been impressed to see the club both grow in size and create strong partnerships in the community.

Although there are only 15 members, local president Dalelene Yelland noted that it's a 50 per cent increase from last year.

"I like to think that what sparked (the increase) is that we opened up our meetings more to the public, this year," Yelland explained of the club's recent surge.

"I think that it is progressing, and all of our members are contributing to that, so we're delighted."

The national organization has been around since 1919 and has been charged with working to improve the status of women and to promote human rights, public education, social justice and peace.

Although they've been working at it for almost 100 years, there's still more to be done, Murphy said.

"We're trying to focus our priorities, now, on women and education, women and violence, women and leadership and women in the economy," she said. "We can participate in a variety of other things, but those are our main focuses."

Although improvements have been made over the last decade, women are still paid less than men, overall.

"There's an underrepresentation in variety of places," Murphy said of women's role on the Canadian economy. "Women are paid less for almost any job you can imagine."

"When women go out in the summer to earn money to go back to university, they're not making the kind of money that boys do."

This is why organizations such as the Canadian Federation of University Women are still important, she explained, noting that the women-directed scholarships the organization offers are important in bridging this gap.

However, in addition to this bandage approach, the organization advocates for changes within the system.

Yelland plans on attending the national organization's annual general meeting in Kitchener-Waterloo from June 19 to 22.

During the provincial entity's annual general meeting at the Prince Albert Historical Museum on Sunday, member Barb Gustafson took a moment to highlight the importance of furthering one's education.

As a current PhD candidate at the University of Saskatchewan in educational administration, she noted that the degree wouldn't be her first.

"I'm working on what I hope, and I'm even more sure my family hopes, will be a final degree," she explained.

"I think that in some ways a diploma isn't really the point. Although I certainly do want that diploma, and I'm not going to quit until I get that, to me the point is learning."

"To go back as a full-time student for a time was really quite a change for me -- really a re-awakening for me, to force your way to think about things in a different way, to put your mind to work. It was rather scary but it was also really exciting."

In Memoriam: Eleanor Shaw

Jean Armitage,
President, CFUW St. Catharines

It is with sadness that CFUW St. Catharines announces the death of long time member Eleanor Shaw on Friday, February 28th, 2014. Eleanor was a graduate of the University of Toronto and spent most of her professional career as a teacher at the St Catharines Collegiate Institute where she taught Home Economics. In her 71 years as a CFUW St. Catharines Club member, Eleanor was an active participant who embodied the mission of CFUW. As well as her involvement in CFUW at the local level, Eleanor participated in the National organization having been elected as National Treasurer in 1961 and chair of the National Finance Committee in 1967. She would share tales of her travels to National meetings with fellow club member, Laura Sabia, the renowned feminist activist, who was National president from 1964 -67. Eleanor's passion was supporting education for women so that they could pursue the goal of a university education. To that end, she had asked that memorial donations be made to the CFUW St. Catharines Scholarship Fund.

A Celebration of Eleanor's Life will be held on June 6th in St. Catharines. She will be greatly missed by those of us who knew and both loved and revered her.

CFUW celebrating 50 years by revisiting roots in Truro

Truro Daily News
April 21, 2014

TRURO - Their first book fair, which was held 50 years ago, was to raise funds for Truro's new library. Now, the Canadian Federation of University Women's Truro branch is revisiting its roots for its anniversary

The CFUW will raise money for Truro's new library, scheduled to open in the former Normal College in the fall of 2015, during its annual book fair as part of the group's 50th anniversary. The book fair will take place May 23 from 6 to 9 p.m. and May 24 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Truro Curling Club.

"We thought it would be a great way to celebrate our 50 years," said Edith Patterson, the group's longest standing member.

The fair is one of the largest book events in Nova Scotia, with about 3,000 people visiting during two days each year, said Patterson. People are lining up at the doors waiting to get in, and the line stretches around the corner.

Although a book fair is held every year, this is only the second time since their first year the group is raising funds for the library. The fair is usually held to raise money for local charities, with a portion going to other national and overseas charities through their national and international headquarters.

"Most of the money stays in the community," said Jody Sutherland, the group's treasurer.

Supporting a library is important for everyone because it provides the community with education and information at their fingertips, Patterson said.

Since the first book fair held in 1946, the venue has changed from year to year. Empty stores, empty schools and a church basement have been some of the venues used, although the fair has been held in the Truro Curling Club since 2002.

The first book fair, which was held in a tent in front of the library, raised \$800; quite a difference from 2013's \$11,000 and 2012's \$12,000, Sutherland said.

"The whole thing has changed so much."

Hundreds of boxes of books are donated each year, resulting in thousands of books being available at the book fair.

"Most of them go for 50 cents," Patterson said.

Not only books are sold; board games, puzzles, CDs and DVDs can also be donated.

The books that go the quickest are the classics and children's books. Patterson said it's nice to see people are still interested in reading, breaking away from their smartphones and computers.

"People still read."

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