



President's Letter

Meeting leaders from other clubs, exchanging ideas and having an exquisite lunch at Hycroft Manor makes for a great day as Mary Beth Knechtel and I found out in

September when we attended the BC western regional meeting. We discovered that our club is one of the largest in the region. New Westminster, for instance, has only 12 members.

The meeting focused on strategic planning around the theme "What will we look like in five years?" It was not surprising that the two main themes that emerged were the need to grow both membership and bursary funds. Fund raising was stressed by every club. One group receives \$20,000 a year from BC Lottery funds, just for writing an on-line application!!! Fund-raising will be on the agenda at our October meeting and I look forward to everyone having lots of input.

Susan Murphy from Nanaimo has been acclaimed CFUW national president for a two-year term. Mary Beth and I had the opportunity to meet her at the regional meeting and you will have a chance to meet her when she attends our November meeting. Patti Gunning takes over from Connie Barber as chair of the Bursary Society at the October AGM. Connie has done a wonderful job, as will Patti. Thank you to all the bursary society members for their hard work. We don't always acknowledge all the effort you put into the society.

A few reminders as the Season of Giving appears to be upon us: Don't forget to get out your good stuff for the Silent Auction at the December luncheon; Jillian Wight is collecting "start-up supplies" for women leaving Thyme House and Samaritan Purse boxes for children in Central America are still available. Deadline for those is November 2.

See you all on Monday.
Sue Carson

Reminder

Membership Dues of \$90 are being received now by Peggy Malcolm, Membership Chair. Please bring to the November meeting or mail to her at 5375 Seacrest Rd., Halfmoon Bay, V0N 1Y1

Interview: Connie Barber, Bursary Chair, upon leaving office

Connie, you are leaving after being on the bursary board for three years. How do you feel about the experience, what have you learned, what was your learning curve?

Being Chair of the Bursary Society was an honour – I mean that sincerely. Pat Elliot met me for coffee soon after I joined the CFUW and asked if I would come on the Bursary Board as Vice-Chair. The following year I was the Chair. The learning curve was not so much steep as wobbly. I was lucky there were others on the Board willing to guide me on a straight path and the records kept by former chairwomen were very helpful.

Studying the applications for bursaries that first time and assessing who was deserving of receiving a bursary was rather intimidating. The outcome was a pleasure. My first selection session was amazing as the committee reached a consensus very easily. It is always a thrill to be among like minds.

It seems as if you have enjoyed the bursary program.

The main reason I joined the CFUW was my interest in bursaries. Before retiring to the Sunshine Coast, I had worked at Capilano College in their Foundation Office and liaised with the CFUW West Vancouver club amongst others. I respected those charitable organizations that supported worthy students with their education costs and assumed the Sunshine Coast Club would be similar.

Once you learned the ropes, what have been your biggest challenges?

Probably "herding the cats". Not to be disrespectful, but I soon discovered our members have very busy lives and setting meeting times convenient to





all the Board Officers was sometime problematic. But because most of us enjoyed the selection process which was so satisfying in fulfilling our purpose, the Spring meetings were always well attended.

How has the selection of candidates changed over time?

My second year we had an increased number of applications. The press predicted hard times coming and I think many women decided to return to get more education to enable them to earn a better living for themselves and their families. But once the committee agreed to give priority to undergrads and those who had been previously supported, the consensus was quick. Fortunately the Club had a very successful fundraiser to support this increase. The following year, even though the economy was worse, the number of applications dropped perhaps out of despair. In these last two years we have awarded 19 bursaries while leaving our investment funds untouched.

Any parting words?

Just to say I recommend to all our members that they consider taking part on the Bursary Board. Not only is it highly satisfying to hear from the grateful women we have assisted, but also fun and rewarding to collaborate with bright and friendly members.

Notice

Bursary Fundraiser: Quilt Raffle at October and November meetings



2011 – 2012 25th Anniversary Line Up

Each month there will be a different focus about our history and activities over the past 25 years. Here is the plan subject to the travels and whims of the tentative presenters.

September 19 Membership Tea - Origins of CFUW-SC with a display of CFUW-SC archives, photographs

October 24 – Bursary Society with AGM, history of and stories from the Bursary Society



November 26 - Contributions to the Community: School Citizenship Program

January 23- Community Advocacy: Housing Forum, Water Forum, Attracting Medical Doctors to Sunshine Coast, Empowering Local Women You've Come A Long Way Baby Forum

February 27 – Resolutions we have submitted and debated: e.g. Bountiful

March 26 – Update on CFUW National Resolutions

April 23 – Links to CFUW National, Provincial and IFUW: Hosting BC AGM, Sunshine Coast tours for CFUW members attending Vancouver AGM

May 28 – CFUW-SC AGM – History of Interest Groups and Where to Next?

A big thank you to Carol Tiessen and a group of past presidents for generating such a great line up to speak about our past 25 years.



CFUW President Elect 2012-2014 Susan Murphy

"I am very honoured to have been elected to the presidency of CFUW for the 2012- 2014 term. CFUW has been a significant part of my life for over sixteen years and I think it is a wonderful organization. Our focus on the three pillars of education, advocacy and action, provides great service to our communities and great opportunities for our members." Originally a prairie girl, Susan is a member of CFUW Nanaimo and is currently completing her fourth year as the Vice President for British Columbia on the CFUW Board of Directors and as President of BC Council. During that time, she has chaired task groups on communications and revenue generation, been a member of the task group on governance, AGM guidelines, and committee on risk management, and been a presenter at AGMs. Connecting internationally, Susan has attended two IFUW Triennials, as an alternate delegate in Manchester 2007 and a delegate in Mexico City 2010.

Susan holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from



Brandon University, a CMA from the Society of Management Accountants of Manitoba and a certificate in education from the University of Manitoba. She worked for many years in Manitoba for the federal government, and moved to the Province of Manitoba into the positions of Senior Treasury Board analyst with the Ministry of Finance, Director of Finance and Administration, and Assistant Deputy Minister of Corporate Services, Ministry of Health just prior to moving to Nanaimo. In BC, she worked for two health authorities in the field of corporate services, contract management, and physician compensation.

See more about Susan in Fall 2011 *For the Record* <https://sites.google.com/site/cfuwbccouncil/home/for-the-record-issues>



**Monday Dec. 5
Christmas
Luncheon &
Silent Auction**
Mark this date on
your Calendar.

Collect your quality new and gently used items for this club fundraising event.

Fundraiser Ideas from other clubs

Following up on the president's message to us, these fundraising ideas came forward on the National Website this past week. Fodder for the newly developing Fund Raising Committee, in some cases great minds think alike!

CFUW-Sudbury currently generates funds as follows:

Silent Auction held in conjunction with our Christmas dinner, Book Sale held in conjunction with our June dinner, Magazine Subscriptions, 50/50 draws, Recycling program, In Memoriams and general donations, sale of tickets for Sudbury Theater Center plays, ads in our newsletter, Adopt-a-Family in support of needy families at Christmas, and Celebrate Women.

Our signature Celebrate Women event is held once annually at Laurentian University, in partnership with the YWCA and the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund. We invite a Canadian woman author to talk

about her latest published book. Her book is sold and autographed by the author at the event. Club members sell tickets and organize the venue and refreshments. Our share of proceeds after expenses is approximately \$3500."

National Issues

This month's update from National CFUW are from just one "Week in Review" Oct. 7th. Underlined items can be opened by hyperlink (control and click)

CFUW staff attended the Sisters in Spirit Vigil held a Parliament Hill this past Tuesday, October 4th to honour the nearly 600 missing and murdered Aboriginal Women in Canada.

Brenda Wallace, CFUW National President and Liette Michaud, VP Quebec wrote to Minister Diane Finley regarding cuts to Wapikoni Mobile's funding. Wapikoni Mobile has offered practical skills development workshops in new media technologies to more than 2000 First Nations youth in isolated Quebec communities over the last seven years.

CFUW National President, Brenda Wallace wrote a letter to Prime Minister Steven Harper encouraging the Government of Canada to ensure that Afghan women have a strong voice at the upcoming Bonn II conference. CFUW believes that the rights of Afghan women to education and an equal voice at the bargaining table are essential to a durable peace in Afghanistan.

CFUW advocacy Blog site

<http://cfuwadvocacy.wordpress.com>

2011 – 2012 Executive

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| President | Sue Carson |
| Past-President | Rosemarie Blenkinsop |
| Vice-President | Mary Beth Knechtel |
| Treasurer | Adrienne Relkie |
| Secretary | rotating roster |
| Social | Dorothy Morse |
| Membership | Peggy Malcolm |
| Communications | Michele Stobie |
| Program | Rita Howie |
| Bursary | Patti Gunning |

Submissions to the next Newsletter will be accepted by Michele Stobie any time.