



25th Anniversary CFUW Sunshine Coast Newsletter



The Right to Speak

The Responsibility to Act

Presidents Message

It seems incredible that the year is almost over! I began in June last year having very little idea of what a challenging job being the president of

CFUW-Sunshine Coast might be (perhaps that was a good thing! Much like



having a baby!) During this year, I have made many new friends, discovered that everyone in our club has amazing talents, and have learned to make egg sandwiches in bulk because I tended to trade egg sandwiches for other favors.

I particularly want to thank Michele Stobie for her support, and the rest of the executive for their enthusiasm around the table. Another big thanks to Dorothy Morse for hosting the executive meetings and ALWAYS supplying such a great morning snack (or two). I know Mary Beth will do a super job as president next year.

I had the privilege of working with the Festival for the Performing Arts last week and there were Norma Mercer, Dorothy Fraser, Patti Gunning and Jan Adaskin (all members of the Bursary Committee) doing more than Yeoman duty. Thank you to all of you for providing such a wonderful showcase! Should any of you CFUW members feel the urge to volunteer for that board, you will be welcomed with open arms!

Girls' Night Out is coming up fast. Please help to make it a smashing success by donating to the silent auction, volunteering food, selling

tickets--only \$15 each-- (selling four tickets and buying one for yourself isn't too hard), and just coming and having fun! Peggy Malcolm has done an eye-popping job of organizing the event.

Rita Howie is looking for ideas for next year's programs. Ideas, suggestions, etc. are very welcome and you will be invited to write them on the sheets which will be on the tables at the April meeting.

Also, remember the June 11th Strawberry Tea at the Sunshine Coast Golf Course in Roberts Creek which will feature HATS again, cucumber sandwiches and strawberry shortcake. The tickets are only \$15.

March 8, 2012 International Women's Day Press Release:

On International Women's Day, the "Issues and Action" Committee of the Sunshine Coast University Women's Club (CFUW) presented a basket of moving essentials to Yew Transition House women's shelter. This is to help women leaving an abusive relationship to set up housing on their own.



Photo: Gillian Smith and Margaret Harrington of CFUW present the basket to Vicki Dobbyn of Sunshine Coast Community Services Society, which runs the Yew Transition House.



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Capilano University President Kris Bulcroft will be the speaker at the “Girls Night Out” event Friday May 4th. joined by internationally acclaimed

flautist Nina Haedrich accompanied by pianist and music coach Catherine Hume; our infamous Ken Dalgleish, and The Threshold Singers. The fun part includes a stand-up comedy competition (bring your very best joke), a pub quiz with team prizes, and competitive shopping (AKA a silent auction and raffle).

Puns for Educated Minds – chosen from a lengthy list for us food and fashion conscious women who are planning our hat style for the June Mad Hatter Tea

1. The fattest knight at King Arthur's Round Table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
2. Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: 'You stay here; I'll go on a head.'
3. A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab center said: 'Keep off the Grass.'
4. No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
5. A backward poet writes inverse.

Board (Bored?) Heroes

Absolutely nothing stops this executive from doing its job – both Dorothy Morse and Mary Beth Knechtel sport wrist casts at the March Board meeting.



A sampling of CFUW headquarters activities

On April 2nd, CFUW issued a joint press release with several other women's organizations regarding the exclusion of women's groups from the Senate Study of Bill C-19 Ending the Long Gun Registry Act. Just days later, the Senate voted to abolish the long gun registry without conducting any gender analysis. Brenda Wallace, CFUW National President is quoted in several different news sources including the *National Post* as she speaks out against the Senate's actions.

Brenda Wallace, CFUW National President wrote to Stephen Harper, Thomas Mulcair and Bob Rae to ask that their parties oppose MP Stephen Woodworth's motion M-312, which is scheduled for debate on April 26, 2012. The motion calls for a special parliamentary committee to examine whether the Criminal Code's definition of legal personhood should be extended to fetuses. If this were to happen, it would ironically remove women's rights as full human beings, and possibly even criminalize their decision-making during pregnancy.



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CFUW was invited by Oxfam Canada to participate in a deliberative dialogue on women's rights and food security on March 30th. Participants engaged in discussions about the role of women's rights in improving food production, ensuring access to food, and environmental sustainability. Feedback from the dialogue will help to inform Oxfam's programming in this area.

A delegation of CFUW members, headed by Susan Russell, Coordinator for International Relations, participated in the 56th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women over the week of March 5th.

2013 Herstory Calendar at the AGM

If you want a calendar or two or three, please order and prepay as outlined below. Let Sue, Michele or Mary Beth know and one of them will pick them up for you at the National AGM in Victoria in June.

The CFUW Charitable Trust will be selling **Herstory** calendars at the 2012 AGM in Victoria. The calendars, which are selling for \$17 each (or two for \$32), will be available in full colour for the first time.

Pre-orders can be emailed to Lynn Franklin, Charitable Trust Treasurer, at cuvwfin09@bell.net. Payment can be made by cheque at the AGM. Orders not picked up by noon on Saturday will be put on sale to the membership.

Any remaining Herstory Calendars will be available post-AGM through the Treasurer of the Charitable Trust at an increased cost as it will include postage and handling.

Hooray and thanks to all who have brought friends and invited previous members to return – we are up to 73 members for the year.



Photo from 2007 fashion show

Don't forget to fashion your bonnet for the **Spring Mad Hatter Tea** June 11 at the Golf Club.

Or create a Fascinator this year.



There is still time to register for



CFUW AGM and Conference
VICTORIA JUNE 21 -24, 2012

www.cfuw.org for registration and other national information