



cfuw OSHAWA
AND DISTRICT

Realizing potential. For all women.

November 2025 Newsletter



cfuw fcfdu

Realizing potential. For all women.
Le pouvoir par le savoir.

November General Meeting

The POWER of the LIBRARY

with Rhonda Jessup, CEO, Whitby Public Library



Not just a place to borrow books, CDs and DVDs, the library offers programs for all age groups including music, chess, job search skills, staying active and more. There is access to computers, scanners, wifi, technical help and historical archives. There are discovery zones and newcomer services.

Rhonda will present the library as an essential municipal service for intellectual freedom, and social and civic engagement.



Wednesday, November 12, 2025 - 7:00 PM

All Guests Welcome - Free Admission

St Mark's United Church 201 Centre St S, Whitby



cfuw.oshawa@gmail.com
<http://cfuw-oshawa-and-district.weebly.com>



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AND DISTRICT

The Oshawa and District 80th Anniversary video is available through this link. Copy and paste into your browser.

<https://youtu.be/SdyAc0vUbhA>

Interest Groups

Janet N

Reading One

Barbara L

Tuesday, November 18th at 1:30 pm

Host: JoAnne P

Discussion leader: Barbara L

Book selection: *James* by Percival Everett

Book Chat

Jane R

Wednesday, November 5th at 10 am

Discussion leader: Marilyn F

Host: Janyce C

Book selection: *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby van Pelt

It's a Mystery

Mary K

Monday, November 24th

Book selection: *A Talent for Murder* by Peter Swanson

Discussion leader: Pat D

Host: Lindy K

Bridge Buddies

Karen D

November 10th and November 24th, starting at 1pm (not 1:15pm)

Let's Do Lunch

Pat D

Friday, November 28th: an Italian restaurant TBD. Watch for a group email from Pat.

Our Holiday Lunch will be held on Wednesday, December 10th at KB Restaurant, Brock Street North in Whitby. (12:30 for 1pm)

Convenors are Lynn P and Joyce F, who will soon

be discussing menus with the restaurant owner. There will be a sign up sheet at the November 12th general meeting. If you wish, you may bring unwrapped gifts for the YWCA shelter to the lunch.



Personal contact information of CFUW Oshawa and District members is considered confidential and not to be used for personal or business solicitation purposes.



AI event

Our October speaker, Nathalie Arthurs, from Durham College, readily answered our many questions and made herself available during the break for further discussion.

Here she is with returning member Margo M.

Remembering Linda Poulin

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of a longtime member of CFUW Oshawa and District, Linda Poulin. Linda passed away peacefully on Friday, October 24 at Oak Ridges Hospice with her family by her side. The family has decided not to hold a funeral, but friends will be invited to a celebration of life in the near future. In lieu of flowers, the family would suggest donations to Oak Ridges Hospice in Port Perry. You may read her obituary on the Thornton Funeral Centre website.

Linda joined our club October 7, 1969. She served as president in 1991-92 and then as co-president in 2003-2004. She was involved in interest groups as well, such as reading and of course she was an excellent bridge player. She even taught a few of us to play. Linda touched many of us with her kindness and we will cherish her memory. May you rest in peace dear friend. *Submitted by Hedy G*



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80th Anniversary Memories

In 1969, my neighbour, Shirley Harris, invited me to come to a meeting of CFUW Oshawa & District. She was president that year and realized I was new to the neighbourhood. She offered to take me to a meeting to see what CFUW was about. The meeting was held at the YWCA in beautiful surroundings where I was welcomed as a guest. Many of the women there had been part of various other organizations where they'd held positions of influence. Their goal was to change society, so more women were included in decision making, to improve opportunities for better jobs or political roles. I was very interested in effecting change for women too, so I joined CFUW that night.



I've enjoyed so many interest groups through the years. Of course, I loved being in a reading group from the start because I missed the mental stimulation of ideas that I'd had with my students as an English teacher at MCVI & Anderson CVI. I started an interest group called Vitality, where trained practitioners of health care in different modalities shared information focused to help heal illness and/or pain. I enjoyed being part of various food groups and many other interests.

I did the publicity for our club for several years and wrote the monthly newsletter too. I was active on various fund-raising projects and convenor of the social committee several times. I really enjoyed being the program convenor. In 1997, our club had no incoming president, so I offered to share the role with Ann Smith, who had been president years before.

My memories of our club included so many wonderful opportunities to effect change in society and within our club. CFUW has always been my family, even when I'm too ill to attend meetings. I'm proud of the work we've done to promote education for women within our community at the college and university level.

I like teamwork and that's how our club operates. Thank you to all the members who have been active in effecting change not only within CFUW, but in society and in politics. We've used our degrees to help other women succeed in every level of the local community and in our country. I'm a proud member of CFUW Oshawa & District! *Lindy K*

Ontario Council Speakers Series: Saturday, November 29th at 10 am - noon on Zoom

Topic: **The Role of Patriarchy: Historical Perspectives and Current Issues**

with Kim Verwaayen, Associate Professor at the University of Western Ontario

Register at: Speakers Series Events for 2025-2026 | CFUW Ontario Council

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Scholarship news:

Donations to the endowment funds for Durham College and Ontario Tech University can be made at the October and November General Meetings. Addressed, postage paid envelopes and forms for Durham College and Ontario Tech will also be available. **Donations of \$20 or more will receive a tax receipt.**



How to Donate to the CFUW Endowment Funds

To Durham College:

- Make a cheque or money order payable to “Durham College Foundation” but on the memo line, write “CFUW Oshawa and District Endowment Fund”.
- Ensure that your cheque has your name and address on it.
- Mail the cheque to: Durham College Foundation, 2000 Simcoe St. N, Oshawa, ON L1G 0C5
- Durham College Link: Durham College Online Giving (mycampus.ca)

To Ontario Tech University:

- Make the cheque or money order payable to “Ontario Tech University” but on the memo line write “CFUW Oshawa and District Endowment Fund”.
- Ensure that your cheque has your name and address on it.
- Mail the cheque to: Ontario Tech University c/o Advancement Office; 2000 Simcoe St. North, Oshawa, ON L1G 0C5
- Ontario Tech University Link: <https://giving.ontariotechu.ca/donate/index.php>

Donating Online



- Visit each school’s website. Click on “Donate” or “Giving”. Complete the form provided.
- If it says, “please use my gift for” or “other”, type in CFUW Oshawa and District

Scholarship chair, *Lynn P*

Please let Pamela G (Social) know a week in advance of a general meeting if you plan to bring cookies, loaves, etc. That will give Pamela time to buy “store cookies” if necessary.

Please bring your own mug to the meetings for punch or water.

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National website: www.cfuw.org

Ontario Council Website: www.cfuwontcouncil.org

CFUW Oshawa & District <http://cfuw-oshawa-and-district.weebly.com>

The Ontario Council newsletter is available on-line on their website

The CFUW Club Action newsletter is available via the sign-up link on their main website.

CFUW National Event Calendar

Newsletter

Barbara L

Please submit all newsletter items to barblewis@rogers.com

Items for the December newsletter should be received by Friday, November 28th

Friendship

Maureen A

Significant news about a member (serious illness or injury or death of member, or death of her spouse or child) should be reported to Maureen A who will advise all members through an email from Barb L and send an appropriate card on our behalf.

Sincere condolences to Judy H on the death of her son.



CFUW Oshawa and District General Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2025 7:00pm St. Mark's United Church Hall

Attending: 22 members and 17 guests

Lead for the meeting, Hedy G welcomed everyone. She noted that October 11 will be the 80th anniversary of the founding of our club. Hedy introduced the speaker, Nathalie Arthurs, who made a well received interactive presentation on AI. Nathalie was thanked by Donna H.

Break for refreshments

Business meeting: call to order at 8:30 pm

Motion: Sirpa H, seconded by Dianne H, to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2025 general meeting as circulated in the October newsletter. Carried.

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Business arising from the minutes: Hedy encouraged everyone to use the link posted in the October newsletter to access the video of our history as a club.

Treasurer's report: Joyce F went over the budget for those who missed the September meeting.

Motion: Joyce F, seconded by Jane R to approve the treasurer's report. Carried.

CFUW news:

National: Donna H

In 1992, the Government of Canada designated October as Women's History Month, marking the beginning of an annual celebration of the outstanding achievements of women and girls throughout Canada's history. Persons Day, October 15, commemorates the day in 1929 when women were included in the definition of persons. It was only 96 years ago.

Ontario Council: Melanie K

CFUW newsletters offer a wealth of opportunities to explore topics of interest and even to learn new skills that might be of use to you in other aspects of your life. The Calendar especially will give you a sense of what CFUW across the country is talking about.

- October 25th 10am is the date for the first Speakers' Series Event for 2025-2026. This is a virtual session, exploring the legislative process involved in declaring Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) an epidemic and why that is so important to women in Ontario. The October speakers' session will examine the newly introduced legislation, its possible practical impact on women's shelters and how families are affected by IPV.
- Saturday morning zoom presentations will be October 25th, November 29th, and February 21st. Further details to come along with registration information for these Zoom meetings.
- Two Resolutions which were passed at the May 24th AGM: 1. Funding Crisis in Post-secondary Education in Ontario, and 2. Establish a Senior's Advocate in Ontario. The resolutions in full are available on the Ontario Council website.
- CFUW Orillia invites ALL CFUW members to their Fall Gathering on October 18th.
- On November 10th, at 6:00 pm, Ontario Council will be holding the first in a series of seminars designed to help solve issues facing Clubs in Ontario. The first seminar will be a discussion of various Leadership Models that are being used by Ontario Clubs to undertake the business of managing their Clubs. Barb is representing us.
- Ontario Council's 2026 AGM and Conference is going to be an in-person event! We look forward to welcoming everyone to Peterborough, beginning at 4 PM on Friday, May 22nd through to Saturday, May 23rd.

Committee Reports

Membership: Hedy G

Before our meeting started, we had 17 paid members. Ten former members who attended our anniversary tea in April were contacted by email in September and October inviting them to our general meetings. A

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prospective member who checked our website was also contacted with information about CFUW Oshawa and District and invited to attend our meetings.

I contacted five good acquaintances inviting them to come to hear our October speaker. I challenge all our members to invite a friend to our November general meeting.

Publicity: Jone W

Flyers for the November meeting were distributed for posting. The November 12 program topic will be *The Power of the Library*. Hedy G will introduce the speaker, and Janet N will thank her.

Newsletter: deadline for the November newsletter is Wednesday, October 29.

Scholarship: Barbara L (for Lynn P) invited members to contribute to our endowment funds at Durham College and OTU. Postage paid envelopes were available. Given the current mail strike, Donna H offered to hand deliver any donations. Donations may also be made online. A reminder: write CFUW Oshawa & District on the cheque memo line or on the virtual form.

Advocacy

Seniors for Social Action Ontario is having a Zoom session on how preventative approaches using technology can help older adults to continue to age in their own homes and communities.

Next Thursday, October 16, 2-3:30pm. Given the difficulty of obtaining community supports for seniors it is important we be proactive and learn what is possible using technology.

Social: Pamela G thanked Joyce F for bringing cookies to the meeting.

Interest Groups: Janet N - Pat D has accepted the role of *Let's Do Lunch* organizer. Thanks, Pat. The Friday, October 31st lunch will be at the Oshawa Red Lobster at 12:30 pm. The *It's a Mystery* group held an organizational meeting on September 29th

New Business:

Holiday Lunch: Joyce F and Lynn P - KB restaurant, Brock Street North in Whitby has been booked for 12:30 pm on Wednesday, December 10 for a three-course lunch. (individual bills). There will be a sign up sheet at the November general meeting. A local charity will be chosen to receive our donations.

Announcements:

YWCA 80th birthday: Tuesday, October 21, 11 am – 2 pm at Adelaide House. Donations welcome.

Next general meeting: November 12 at 7 pm. Lead, Donna H, recorder, Janet N

Board meeting: Wednesday, October 29th at 2 pm on Zoom

Motion to adjourn: Melanie K

Happy bucks

Recorder for the meeting, Barbara L

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Halloween Lunch at Red Lobster

Top: Pat D, Nonie H, Nancy P, Karen N

Middle: Melanie K, Judy B & Sirpa H

Bottom: Donna H & Sue S.



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