

HAZEL POMPEY – DEDICATED EDUCATOR AND ADVOCATE FOR DIVERSITY AND PEACE.

Hazel left us suddenly in November 2025, a mere five days before her 80th birthday. She had been a member of CFUW Kanata since 2014. While we were profoundly shocked and saddened by her passing, we cannot let her go without expressing how special she was to us, our club, and her extensive community at large.

Born in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Hazel grew up and lived there until she relocated to Montreal to earn a master's degree in education at McGill and Concordia universities.

Following university, she began her teaching career specializing in English and Special Education. Her high school in Ottawa had only two black students at the time, and Hazel was the only black teacher. Undaunted by this, she enriched her teaching by encouraging deeper knowledge of the wider community and appreciation of diversity.

Hazel was drawn to CFUW/Kanata by interests in global affairs, women's issues, and supporting scholarships for students. She served for two years as Co-President, and most recently as Chair of the Scholarship Awards Committee. She was committed to lifelong learning, especially in Canadian and Black History, and contributed educational content to club newsletters and social media.

She arranged Caribbean lunches and brought inspiring black presenters to our February general meetings.

In 2015, Hazel received the Ottawa Community Builder Award for her work with the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Ottawa (SVGAO).

Hazel is warmly remembered as a dedicated educator, a generous volunteer, and a steadfast, wise, principled friend who cared deeply for the well-being of others.

