



EXECUTIVE 2025-2026

Past President:	Lorraine Baxter
President:	Margaret Machum
Vice-President:	Vacant
Treasurer (General Account):	Ethelda Burnell
Treasurer (Scholarship Fund):	Pat Maccagno
Recording Secretary:	Gillian McNeill

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Scholarship Chair:	Pat Maccagno
Archives Chair:	Margaret Therrien
Membership Chair:	Susan MacInnis
Issues and Advocacy Chair:	Margaret Therrien Janet Wilwerth
Communications Chair:	Susan MacInnis

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are in another New Year. I wrote last year at this time that, “with so many troubling events and situations in the world, I am pleased to belong to CFUW. As an organization that works towards the betterment of others it is fulfilling to be working with you on improving our and other women’s lives, to alleviate and mitigate climate change, to promote better environmental practices and to support our local community.” And, this year, we are confronting a changing world order led by the US. We need each other as we help to work towards a new kind of unity in the world. I am very much looking forward to working with you over the next few months as we consider what we can do. At the Executive Meeting last week I announced that I would be stepping down as your President as of the AGM in May. I have had the privilege of leading you for the past four years, which I have really enjoyed. With our increased membership, I am sure that both the President and Vice-President positions can be filled. Please find below the details regarding our upcoming General Meetings.

Submitted by Margaret Machum, President

PROGRAMS 2025 - 2026

All the regular meetings will take place on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the Women's Local Council House at 989 Young Avenue. Zoom meetings will take place as needed.

January 28, 2026 at 1:00 by Zoom

Anita Nickerson - Fair Vote Canada

February 25, 2026 at 1:00 pm by Zoom

Douglas Mulhul - Co-Op Housing

March 25, 2026 at 1:00 pm at the Council House

Sarah Emsley - Speaking about her book "The Austens"

April 22, 2026 at 1:00 pm at the Council House

Resolutions and Auction

May 27, 2026 at 1:00 pm at the Council House

Lunch, AGM and General Meeting

INTEREST GROUPS

Nimrod Investment Club

We now have 13 members and we meet nine times a year. At present we meet mostly via Zoom. A steering committee meeting takes place a few days before our meetings. At the moment we own 10 stocks which have mostly been holding their own and in fact we are up overall. Contact Margie James for more details.

Submitted by Margie James, Nimrod Chair

Lunch Bunch 2025-26

The Lunch Bunch meets at noon on the third Wednesday of the month at various restaurants. Thus far we have enjoyed meals at Il Mercato and Drift. There were 20 members who attended our Christmas luncheon at Liz's Bistro.

Fall fare - Our 2026 selection is as follows:

- Wed. Jan.21st Efes - Spring Garden Rd
- Wed. Feb.18th Water Polo
- Wed. March 18th Creme
- Wed. April 15th Amano
- Wed. May 20 Pazzo (if opened for lunch)
- Wed. June 3rd Ashburn Golf Club for our 90th Birthday celebration

We are anticipating that the food in the Winter/Spring restaurants will be as tasty as the food last year. If you would like to join us and your name is not on my reminder notification list, send me an email.

Submitted by Elaine Gunn, Lunch Bunch Co-ordinator



Lunch at Efes - Spring Garden Road - January 21, 2026

Coffee & Conversation 2025-26

The Coffee & Conversation group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am. Not only is the conversation interesting but the 6-8 members who gather experience a different cafe each month and nosh on the many selections of treats. If you would like to join us and your name is not on my notification list, please send me an email. Elaine Gunn

Thus far we have met at the Portland St. Cafe, Cafe du Port, and Simply Put.

The cafes chosen for the Winter/Spring are as follows:

Tues. Jan 6th	Starbucks (the Jan. cafe chosen was not opened)
Tues. Feb. 3rd	North End Bakery (Clyde St.- new location)
Tues. Mar. 3rd	Library (if the new cafe is installed)
Tues. Apr.7th	Bread Lounge (Barrington St- new location)
Tues. May 5th	Java Blend (North St)
Tues. June 3rd	Public Gardens- weather dependent & we will create a list for the Fall.

Submitted by Elaine Gunn, Coffee/Conversation Co-ordinator

Coffee at First Sight Coffee Bar in Park Lane mall - February 4, 2025



Book Exchange South

We have 8 members this year and thus we pass around 8 books . We will be choosing a new list in April so please plan to join us. Contact Margie James.

Submitted by Margie James, Co-ordinator

Book Exchange 2

Book Exchange 2 has six members and this time we decided to exchange 2 books at a time every second month (September, November, January, March, May and July). The members are Carol Bryson, Margaret Machum, Maureen Reynolds, Ethelda Burnell, Pat Maccagno, and Lorraine Baxter.

Here is a list of the chosen titles:

1. The Island of Missing Trees by Elif Shafak
2. The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman
3. Values by Mark Carney
- 4 Serviceberry by Robin Kimmerer
5. The Last Secret Agent by Pippa Latour
6. Jennie's Boy by Wayne Johnston
7. Three Wild Dogs by Markus Zhsak
8. At a Loss for Words by Carol Off
9. When the World Fell Silent by Donna Jones Alward
10. The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy
11. Lost and Found in Lunenburg by Jane Doucet
12. The Maid's Secret by Nita Prose

Submitted by Lorraine Baxter, Co-ordinator

Walking Group

If anyone is interested in starting up the walking group again please contact Helen MacDonald.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We currently have 26 members. This Fall we welcomed 2 new members - Cath Fitzgerald and Donna Mastin. We have 2 prospective members as well. We are always looking to welcome new members, so if you know of anyone who might be interested in our club bring them along to a meeting or have them contact me.

Submitted by Susan MacInnis, Membership Chair

SCHOLARSHIP FUND CHAIR /TREASURER'S REPORT

Nothing new to report.

Submitted by Pat Maccagno, Scholarship Fund Chair/Treasurer



This year's scholarship recipient Angela O'Blenis, Pat Maccagno, CFUW, and Anne Thibodeau from the Mount St. Vincent Office of Advancement

CFUW ISSUES/ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The next Issues and Advocacy meeting is on Wednesday, February 4th at Elaine Gunn's. We will discuss a screening of the NFB's The Nest for International Women's Day.

Resolutions: April will be our annual Resolutions Review meeting along with our always fun auction. The resolution this year (there are only 3) are:

1. Canadian Response to the Education Crisis in Afghanistan – CFUW Ottawa
2. A Strong, Equitable Canadian Economy – CFUW Northumberland
3. The Destructive Impact of Disinformation – CFUW Guelph

Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY): The Coldest Night of the Year is a winterrific family-friendly fundraising walk in support of local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness. Janet W. has registered our team and set a fundraising goal of \$500.00. CNOY is on February 28th this year. Please consider joining the CFUW Halifax Team on the walk this year or sponsor one of the Club members who are walking and wearing a lovely CFUW scarf.

Spring Collection for Alice House: Following our successful Fall collection of personal needs items for Alice House (thank you to all who donated products), we are looking to repeat the collection in April. Janet W. will let us know what Alice House suggests is needed.

Submitted by Margaret Therrien, Issues Committee Co-Chair



Janet Wilwerth surrounded by the personal needs items collected for Alice House

CFUW HALIFAX TURNS 90

Ninety years ago, in 1936, CFUW Halifax or the Women's University Club of Halifax as it was known then, was born. The first meeting was October 23, 1936, presided over by the Club's first President, Mrs. K. L. Dawson. And what a history we have had since then.

To celebrate this milestone, a luncheon is planned for June 3, 2026, at the Ashburn Golf Club. Add the date for this once in a lifetime celebration to your calendars. Special guests include CFUW National President, Linda Sestock, VP Atlantic, Karen Dunnett and Nova Scotia Regional Director, Anne McInnis. Several long time CFUW Halifax members will be honoured at this event. Posterboards will be displayed with photos to evoke memories of events from the past. A three course plated meal is planned and tickets for this event will be available at our April meeting.

Covid deterred our 85th celebration so the celebration for the 90th anniversary of our Club is extra special. Looking forward to seeing all the Club members at this very special event.

Submitted by Margaret Therrien, Event Chair



CFUW INTERNATIONAL SERVICE PROJECT

Young Happy Healthy and Safe

CFUW has partnered with the Stephen Lewis Foundation to raise funds in support of the Young Happy Healthy and Safe (YHHS) project in Chibata, Zambia which will reach 5,000 children and youth with critical information on sexual and reproductive health and rights, including HIV prevention and testing. It will provide school supplies to 120 students annually, distribute reusable sanitary pads to 500 girls, and train peer educators to ensure girls stay in school and thrive.

By addressing root causes like poverty, gender inequality, and stigma, and by building capacity at the community level, YHHS is making a profound impact. When girls complete secondary school they are significantly less likely to contract HIV, and more likely to lead healthier, empowered lives.

CFUW National has taken on this project with the aim of raising \$15,000. CFUW Halifax historically has donated the funds raised at their annual auction to the International project up until recently when these funds were designated for our scholarship fund. Now that our scholarship fund is doing well it would be a nice idea to contribute to this worthwhile international project.

Submitted by Margaret Therrien, CFUW National Liaison