



Canadian Federation of University Women

CFUW Nepean News Bytes

Vol 21, No. 1, September 2020

CFUW Nepean

The Power of
Women Working
Together

2020-2021 Fall Meetings will use ZOOM

Zoom meetings will be our 'new reality' 'thanks' to COVID19. And 'thank you' to **Susan Russell** and **Marcia Armstrong** for three practice sessions so we will be comfortable with virtual meetings.

September Kickoff Meeting Tuesday, September 8, 2020 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
The Murder of D'Arcy McGee A presentation by James Powell of the Historical Society of Ottawa. He will discuss the murder and the apparent assassin, Patrick Whelan. An invitation to register on zoom will be sent by the president before September 8th

October Meeting Tuesday, October 6, 2020 - 1 PM
Gun Control in Canada Dr. Wendy Cukier, co-founder of the Coalition for Gun Control, author of *The Global Gun Epidemic* and a Professor at Ryerson University in Toronto, will talk about gun control in Canada.
CFUW has advocated for gun control since 1990 and on May 7th 2020 our national president issued a press release supporting the Federal Assault Weapons Ban. It is included at the end of the newsletter for your information.
Register in advance for this meeting at this link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvdeupqj4iGdR_oJYSAQbNgoCnKaWE1Tsj
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. All CFUW_members across Canada are invited to join via zoom.

Days for Girls (D4G), a non-profit organization, provides reusable menstrual care D4G kits to women and girls, primarily in developing countries, to help them manage their menstrual hygiene and not miss a week of school or work each month. Some CFUW members are helping the local D4G group by donating panties (girls' size 10,12,14) and thin washcloths. Suggested underwear is *Haines* from Giant Tiger, or *Joe Fresh* from Loblaws. **Joan Conrod** and **Gail Mezger** are collecting donations. Please call to arrange for drop off or pick up. To read more about D4G go <https://www.daysforgirls.org>

Zooming through the Summer

Program: **Sue Carter** put together a very interesting roster of speakers for us to enjoy and learn from in the coming year. We'll appreciate these meetings as we live with COVID restrictions.

Advocacy: Chair **Joan Conrod** brought together a group to review CFUW policy and write a letter to Provincial and Municipal officials advocating for improvement to Ontario Long Term Care facilities and services. The next issue they plan to review and take action on is Gun Control. CFUW has been an active advocate for restrictions and regulation. Interested in joining the discussions? Please contact **Joan Conrod**.

Resolutions:

Resolutions submitted by individual clubs and approved at the National AGM annually form the basis for CFUW's policy and advocacy work. The CFUW policy book contains some 400 policies approved from 1964 - 2018. It's on the national website: www.CFUW.org, members log-in. Some members are interested in developing a resolution on Guaranteed or Universal Basic Income. If this is something that interests you please contact **Joan Conrod**.

Interest Groups:

The **Book Club** and **Bridge Group** adapted to the COVID19 restrictions announced by Ottawa Public Health by using online platforms. Members of the Book Club are using Zoom. Bridge players enjoyed games all spring and summer using Bridge Base Online. The **Travel Group** is exploring the use of Zoom to share and discuss travel adventures.

Learning with Zoom - Can we embrace the challenge of finding alternate ways to take advantage of presentations, forums and lectures offered online?

CFUW organizations offer many opportunities to embrace life-long learning. You can join in any of these presentations by registering online.



CFUW Ontario Council's Speakers Series 20-21 begins on zoom. President Marcia will send out the registration information prior to the event.

October 3rd 10 am - 1 pm Panel Discussion: Long Term Care/Home Care



GWI Webinar Series: *Connecting across Borders for Growth of Knowledge and Friendship.* The fall series will soon be listed on <https://graduatewomen.org>. To receive an email invitation write to gwi@graduatewomen.org and ask to be added to their distribution list. As members of CFUW Nepean, we are all members of CFUW and GWI.

More online opportunities found by your editor:

Carleton University is offering online lectures and workshops in place of *their Learning in Retirement* program. <https://carleton.ca/linr/fall-2020-session/#learn>. Topics include art history, music, science, politics, history, religion, social studies, philosophy, memoir writing, and more. There is a fee to register for these courses. However, they are offering two free events and registration for them begins on September 1:

How to Learn, Practice, and Adapt as if Your Life Depends on it (Single Lecture Presentation)
Sept. 10

Age-Friendly? A Research Discussion on Getting Older in Ottawa (Single Lecture Presentation)
Oct .1

CFUW Nepean: www.cfuwnepean.ca

Email us: CFUWNepeanNews@gmail.com

CFUW National: www.cfuw.org

Ontario Council: www.cfuwontcouncil.org



Press Release May 7, 2020

**Canadian Federation of University Women on the Federal Assault Weapons Ban,
A Necessary Step to Address Gender-Based Violence**

The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) applauds the Government of Canada's decision to ban some 1,500 makes and models of military-grade "assault-style" firearms in Canada. This decision marks decisive action following the Nova Scotia massacre to ensure these weapons can no longer be legally used, bought or sold. CFUW supports stronger gun control policies as we know that gun ownership leads to increased rates of femicide. Prohibiting citizen ownership of military assault weapons will help decrease the risk of gun violence for all Canadians and in particular will increase the safety of women and girls.

CFUW works in partnership with [Doctors for the Protection from Guns](#) and the [Coalition for Gun Control](#) to end gun violence in Canada. Together we continue to monitor the Canadian Government's commitments to strengthen gun control. A permanent ban of assault style firearms will require comprehensive legislative reform in our Criminal Code. It is essential that there is a clear buyback program in place to ensure the guns are removed from Canadian communities.

CFUW supports a ban on handguns in order to prevent tragic deaths such as occurred during the Montreal Massacre in 1989 and last month's shootings in Nova Scotia. Canadian gun policies should include a "red flag law" for people who have mental health problems. In addition, there should be increased mental health support to help lower the risk of suicide and femicide. It is essential to create harm reductions strategies to inform Canadians of the high risk of femicide, suicide, and unintentional shootings of children when guns are stored in the home.

As we continue to advocate for gun control it is important to remember the survivors and victims of gun violence. CFUW established two École Polytechnique Commemorative Fellowship Awards to honour the fourteen women murdered during the École Polytechnique Massacre in Montreal. CFUW clubs have demonstrated leadership by organizing vigils to commemorate the victims of gun violence. CFUW stands against anti-feminism and gender-based violence by supporting survivors, challenging negative or inaccurate stereotypes and spreading awareness.

For more information please contact:

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