



# VOICES

## CFUW Victoria

*Promoting the Education and Advancement of Women*

2019 - 04

Open the [printable version](#) of this newsletter



## President's Message

March was a very busy month for our club! I am very appreciative of the Executive Committee, Advocacy Committee, and CFUW Victoria members who supported our involvement this past month at the Victoria Women's Expo, IWD events, a new member coffee party, and at our recent membership vision session.

The CFUW BC Council AGM & Conference is just over a month away and will be held at the Hotel Grand Pacific from May 3 - 5. Members are encouraged to register by April 3<sup>rd</sup> to receive the early bird rates for the conference. Our theme is *Celebrating the Influence of Women: Past, Present and Future*. This year's conference has an exciting line-up of speakers, a fashion show, receptions and exciting anniversary celebrations. The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, will be joining us for the Opening Reception!

We are also excited to announce that CFUW National President, Grace Hollett, will be attending the conference this year. A tea is being planned before the conference for the members of CFUW Victoria and CFUW Saanich Peninsula to have an opportunity to connect with our National President. Please let me know if you are interested in attending this event.

Membership renewal for the upcoming year is now underway. Please be sure to register at the next meeting or online for the coming year.

The CFUW Victoria AGM & Dinner will be on Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Victoria Golf Club. Information about the AGM & Dinner has been included in this issue of *Voices*.

I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event!

**Allison Nelson-Bruce**  
**President, CFUW Victoria**

---

## **Meetings and Events**

### **April General Meeting**

**Speaker: Deborah Curran, Executive Director and  
Associate Professor, Environmental Law Centre, Uvic**



Focusing on land use law, Deborah has extensive experience advocating for environmental protections and sustainability. While working with local governments and advocating for smart growth, ecosystem integrity is always ELC's primary goal. The ELC offers free legal research and representation to community organizations, conservation groups, and first nations. It also offers clinical training in public interest environmental law to students through the University of Victoria's Faculty of Law.

Deborah Curran will give us an overview of what types of projects they work on and has invited a student to accompany her. Should be an excellent opportunity to learn about the incredible award winning law research they do.



## April General Meeting Vote on BC Council Motions

At our CFUW Victoria meeting on March 20<sup>th</sup>, two motions were presented for the upcoming BC Council AGM in May. Below are the overviews of the two motions, along with the proposed BC Council budget for your review. Our club will be voting on these motions at our general meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup>. I hope you will be able to join us for the meeting.

[BC Council Motion re dues increase](#)

[Proposed amendments to CFUW BC Council By-laws 2019](#)

[BC Council Budget](#)

### Save the Date! AGM & Dinner

**The Victoria CFUW AGM will be held on May 14, 2019 at the Victoria Golf Club.** Reservations can be made with the forms below or at the April general meeting.

#### **Jane Vermeulen, Special Key Note speaker**

Recipient of the Women of Worth Award for her work creating Vets for Pets, a not for profit organization providing free veterinary care to more than 60 pets a month for homeless and low-income pet owners.

Women of Worth is the signature philanthropic program of L'oreal Paris. It elevates and celebrates inspirational Canadian women who have volunteered their time to improve the lives of people in their community, province or country. Jane Vermeulen received a \$10,000 charitable grant which was presented to her in Toronto by award winning actor and humanitarian Helen Mirren on International Women's Day.

There will be an opportunity to contribute to Jane's organization at the dinner

(make cheques out to Our Place, with 'Vets for Pets' on the memo line).

[Dinner Menu AGM](#)  
[Dinner Reservation Form](#)



Allison and Tracey at Victoria Women's Expo



## **Nominations for the CFUW Victoria 2019/2020 Executive & Opportunities on the Programs Committee**

I am very pleased to inform our membership that we have nominations for two positions on the 2019/2020 CFUW Victoria Executive:

**Neighbourhood Group Coordinator** – Melanie Wade

**Interest Group Coordinator** – Nicole Longpre

I am very excited to have members nominated for these positions.

There are three more opportunities to get more involved with the Club, and be part of a like-minded group of women, who enjoy working together and sharing responsibilities:

**Secretary** – this is a fabulous way to get involved with the Executive, and an even better way to meet members of our Club. Responsibilities include: taking minutes at our regular meetings, taking minutes at the Executive meetings., and taking minutes of the business portion at the CFUW Victoria AGM. This means a commitment of the second and third Wednesday evening of each month. The Executive meets 5:30-7:30pm on the second Wednesday each month. The third Wednesday is the Club General Meeting 7:00-9:00pm each month (except for months with special events and the AGM).

**Treasurer** - the responsibilities of this position were lessened this year with the hiring of a bookkeeper last fall. This was done to ease the burden of the position so that members would feel more comfortable in the role. Having a financial background is always an asset when taking a financial position, however, it is not necessary.

#### **Program Committee Members Needed**

The Programs Committee is responsible for the speaker series, the planning of the Christmas Luncheon, and our Club AGM. They do the arranging for meetings at the Citadel and take care of the hospitality at the General Meetings. Now, I am not sharing this to scare you away, I am telling you this because currently there are only **TWO** committed members on this committee and they have been doing **EVERYTHING** on their own. This committee needs at least four (4) more people to share the workload. Everyone has enjoyed the luncheons, the meetings, the speakers, and the snacks and beverages provided at the meetings. Rachel and Sue have accomplished incredible things as a two – person committee, and now it's time for more members to lend a hand.

**Tracey Otto**  
**Past President**

---

### **It's That Time: Membership Renewal Importance of our Waiver**

Over the past few years our Club has been asking members to sign a waiver when renewing their membership. The Waiver, coupled with our Director and Officers' Liability Insurance, are very important aspects to the Club's risk management approach. The use of a Liability Waiver is considered a standard part of membership and best practice in established organizations such as ours.

As members of CFUW Victoria we all have a responsibility to ensure the security of the

---

Club's assets. As part of our governance due diligence as a non-profit service organization, the executive has fiduciary responsibilities to ensure volunteers who serve on the Executive or lead activities are not at personal financial risk. We also have a responsibility to protect the money we have invested for scholarships.

Members having further questions or concerns about the waiver may contact Shirley Lucyk or Allison Nelson-Bruce.

### [Registration Form & Waiver](#)

---

## Advocacy

### Update of Advocacy Activities

#### 1. Letters to MLAs and MPs on Ending Homeless Youth:

In January, letters were sent to the Premier and 8 MLAs about the National Housing and Poverty Reduction Strategies, calling on them to ensure the adoption of a targeted strategy to end youth homelessness. On Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, we received a [response from the Premier](#) stating the government is working with local governments and community partners on the development of a Homelessness Action Plan

#### 2. Upcoming Federal Election – Monday, Oct 21, 2019

##### Recommendations for Top 5 priorities for Federal election

The Advocacy Committee reviewed the list of topics presented by National and have chosen the following Top 5 issues to be of main concern in the upcoming election. Detailed background information will be prepared and provided to members so they are able to ask candidates their positions on these issues.

##### I. Women in Non-Traditional Occupations & Skilled Trades

- Work with business, labour, and industry associations to address and remedy the under-representation and lack of retention of women in skilled trades and non-traditional occupations by adopting strategies to create and promote a workplace culture that is inclusive of women and prevents stereotypical barriers to women's successful entry and advancement.
  - Enact and enforce legislation that ensures employees the right to work in an environment free of psychological harassment; and requires employers to ensure that procedures are in place to prohibit and address all forms of workplace-related bullying or psychological harassment.
-

## II. Universal Childcare

- Create a quality, universally accessible and comprehensive early learning and child care program which emphasizes the development of the whole child. Funding for this initiative should involve all levels of government through cost-sharing mechanisms, as in other human services such as health, education and social programs.
- Commit, through social and economic policies, to facilitating the provision of an adequate supply of affordable, accessible child care facilities
- Provide daycare workers with a living wage (currently, the minimum wage in BC is \$12.65/hour, but the living wage in metro Vancouver is \$20.91/hour)
- include and extend all the childcare supports needs to grandparents and great grandparents raising children

## III. Poverty

- Implement a basic income program and to ensure that all adult residents of Canada receive an income adequate for the necessities of life as a means of moving people out of poverty.
- Implement measures intended to reduce and prevent poverty, especially child poverty.
- Re-evaluate the economic, healthcare and educational needs of Canadian children, as well as the actual public resources available to fight poverty.

## IV. Housing and Homelessness

- Develop, fund and implement long- and short-term strategies and support programs to address the *root causes* of homelessness - especially targeting youth aging out of government care, Indigenous peoples, individuals with mental health and addiction issues, physical health issues, and individuals from LGBTQ2S+ communities.
- Formulate and implement housing options that address the specific needs of homeless youth, to include crisis situations, supports for people with mental health needs, providing financial resources, transitional phases, long term-affordable housing, education and self-sufficiency
- Support community-based mental health outreach programs, including public education on the interpretation and application of the Mental Health Statutes and on support strategies for families
- Develop and implement a National Mental Health Strategy based on the work of the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC).
- Work with the provincial, territorial, local and aboriginal governments, and business and community organizations to provide support to existing effective community initiatives and to create other appropriate immediate and long-term programs such as low-cost innovative housing and the development of new employment opportunities to eliminate homelessness, alleviate poverty and foster independent living
- Fund and promote non-profit, co-operative and affordable housing programs

## V. Universal Pharmacare

---



· Deliver Universal Pharmacare, a publicly funded and financially sustainable drug plan that would cover medically necessary prescription drugs for all Canadians, regardless of their ability to pay.

3. The Advocacy Committee is researching venues and contacting other like-minded organizations around the possibility of hosting an All Candidates Forum for sometime between Sept 30 – Oct 4. A budget proposal has been prepared and will be discussed at the next Executive meeting. If approved we will move forward with planning an event.

4. The Advocacy Committee is in need of new committee members to help plan, organize and deliver events that are not only important to members, but that also raise the Club's profile in the community. The Committee meets the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00PM at the Vancity Community Room located beside the branch at 3075 Douglas Street (near Mayfair Mall).

**Susan Shepherd**  
**Advocacy Chair**

---

## **Scholarships & Bursary**



S&B Treasurer Margaret Morrison, Secretary Anny Schaefer, Recreation Health Education student Nicole Bracewell, and S&B Chair Susan Lane at a Faculty of Education celebration at UVic on March 28, 2019.

A fourth-year student, Nicole received one of our first two Doreen Sutherland Scholarships in the School of Exercise Science, Physical & Health Education. She was poised to show us slides at our unfortunately cancelled luncheon in February on her recent co-op experience teaching special education at a non-profit organization for people with disabilities in Tanzania. All three of our board members enjoy these opportunities to meet student award recipients and see how S&B donations affect their lives and the lives of those around them.

---



---

## Membership Spotlight

### CFUW Victoria member Ashli Akins wins Humanitas Award

Three Humanitas Awards were presented this year: Public Humanist of the Year, for a living individual from anywhere in the world who personifies and embodies the ethos and ideals of *humanitas*; Historic Humanist of the Year, for a historical figure from anywhere in the world whose work in one or more fields of Humanistic endeavour has been important or formative in the development of the ideals of *humanitas* today; and Emerging Humanist of the Year, for a graduating (or recently graduated) student from UVic whose accomplishments and promise contribute to the ideals and future of *humanitas*. Roméo Dallaire won Public Humanist, Ursula Le Guin won Historic Humanist, and Ashli won Emerging Humanist.

Ashli founded the non-profit initiative Mosqoy, which has collaborated with Indigenous Quechua communities of the Peruvian Andes since 2006 to support the post-secondary education of more than 70 students and promote the artisan work of 150 women through fair trade.

Ashli was the 2011 recipient of the CFUW 1989 École Polytechnique Commemorative Award, which supported her thesis research for a master's degree in international human rights law at the University of Oxford.



Ashli on right

**WINNERS OF THE 2019 HUMANITAS AWARDS**



**URSULA K. LE GUIN**

**Historic Humanist of the Year**  
Late American science fiction and fantasy writer Ursula K. Le Guin, who died in 2018 at age 88, will be honoured with the Historic Humanist Award for her visionary work as a novelist and thinker. Le Guin wrote more than 50 books, including poetry, criticism, novels, and short stories, which defied genre and inspired legions of artists. She was named winner of the World Fantasy Award for lifetime achievement, among myriad honours. In 2014, she accepted the National Book Foundation's Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters.



**ASHLI AKINS**

**Emerging Humanist of the Year**  
UVic alumna Ashli Akins, who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 2009 with a double major in Latin American Studies and Environmental Studies and a minor in Professional Writing, will receive the Emerging Humanist Award. Akins founded the non-profit initiative Mosqpy, which has collaborated with Indigenous Quechua communities of the Peruvian Andes since 2006 to support the post-secondary education of more than 70 students and promote the artisan work of 150 women through fair trade.



**GENERAL ROMÉO DALLAIRE**

**Public Humanist of the Year**  
A decorated lieutenant-general and former Canadian senator, the Honorable Roméo Dallaire served 35 years with the Canadian Armed Forces. In 1994, he was commander of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda during the genocide that claimed 800,000 lives. General Dallaire's integrity and courage in the face of unimaginable horror have made him one of Canada's most admired citizens. He has co-written three books, including the award-winning *Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda*. He now leads the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative and has worked tirelessly as an advocate for veterans.

---

## Membership News

### New Member's Tea was held on Saturday March 2 at the home of Shirley Lucyk

Thirteen new members attended as well as 2 Executive members: Shirley Lucyk and Mary Wilson-Smith. Nives Jadresko wore both hats. A member of the Executive (VP) and a new member.

This is a fascinating and talented group of women of all ages. Please welcome our new members - you'll know them by a red dot on their name tags.



Attending the tea were Nicole Longpre, Jennie Preuss, Pat Preston, Brenda Koch-Shulte, Nives Jadresko, Joan Feyrer, Jennie Preuss, Georgina Patko, Lynn Lunde, Frances Kelly, Janice Scharf, Melanie Wade, Allison Gonzalez Biagi and Ann McAdams

Next **New Member's Tea** will be on June 8th at 10:00 at 548 Heatherdale Lane. All new members are welcome to attend.

---

## CFUW - BC Council



[For the Record Spring 2019 Newsletter](#)

---

### BC Council Annual Conference and AGM

By the time you read this submission we will be one month from the 2019 BC Council Annual Conference and AGM. Here are a few highlights to remember:

- **April 3 is the deadline for Early Bird Registration - \$275.00**
- BC's Lieutenant Governor will open the conference at the Friday night Reception
- Aurea will host a fashion show of clothes – some which are made in a at home industry supporting women to work from home.
- The Saturday Night Gala will have the Charitable Trust Fundraiser and be entertained by REACH – an energizing and inspirational choir from Victoria
- BC Council AGM is on Saturday AM and member may attend the AGM without paying registration.
- The conference will be opened by Val Napoleon on the new indigenous law program at UVIC. The Conference will be closed by Alia Youssef with an critical exploration of how immigrant and refugee Islamic women are depicted in the media and how we can influence that story through photography.

If you would like to sponsor CFUW Scarves for the conference greeters (\$35.00) or a donation to flower decorations (\$25.00), please contact Allison Nelson-Bruce.

---

To keep up to date with CFUW National, make sure to visit their [site](#) and their [Facebook](#) page. It is a great way to keep in touch with what our sister CFUW groups are up to and what is coming up.

[CFUW Press Release 2019 Federal Budget Response](#)

[International Women's Day Press Release](#)

[Club Action Newsletter March 2019](#)

---

## **GWI (Graduate Women International)**

[GWI Update March 6, 2019](#)

[GWI Update March 20, 2019](#)

---

## **Interest Groups**

### **Cultural Affairs Group**





Gillian Redford organized an educational and creative workshop at UVic with Dr. Andrea Walsh, and Salish elders Susa'meethi and Tousilum taught us to make lovely cedar bracelets!

---

## Community Bulletin Board

### Sunny Salt Spring Island Cottage for Rent

One-bedroom cottage on peaceful treed acreage across from St. Mary's Lake.

Close to the beach and Fernwood Coffee Café on a dead-end road. Updated kitchen and bathroom with a claw foot tub, delightful enclosed outdoor shower and two large deck areas. All utilities included WIFI, phone, HW, heat and wood burning stove.

8-minute drive to downtown Ganges.

Available for the first two weeks in July. Rented as a two-week block with option to be shared between friends.

**Contact Carol McKee** [cimckee@shaw.ca](mailto:cimckee@shaw.ca)

---

#### Please note!

- For changes of your contact information, or if you wish to unsubscribe to the newsletter, please contact the Membership Coordinator at [membership@cfuwvictoria.ca](mailto:membership@cfuwvictoria.ca)
-



- This newsletter is published monthly. Direct your inquiries or correspondence for the newsletter to the editor **Communications Team** at [voices@cfuwvictoria.ca](mailto:voices@cfuwvictoria.ca)
- **Submissions for the April newsletter in by March 23, 2019.** Thank you!

**Go to the CFUW Victoria website, Now**

---

*Copyright © 2019 CFUW Victoria, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

