



UWCM

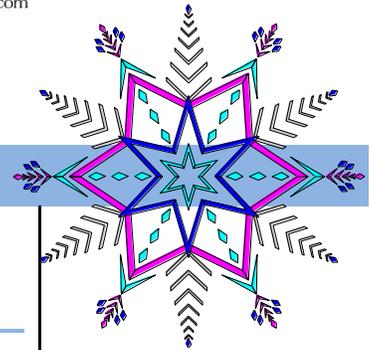
University Women's Club of Montreal Inc.

Club des Femmes Universitaires de Montréal Inc.

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FEBRUARY 2014 NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 12, 2014: WALKING THROUGH RETIREMENT SPEAKER: CATHERINE GILLBERT



Catherine came to Canada in her twenties, newly married and with a newly minted degree in Chemistry from Oxford University. Her first job was at Alcan in Arvida, now part of Chicoutimi

Several jobs, relocations and three children later, she earned a Masters in Urban Planning and a PhD in Education from McGill. That led to a teaching job at Champlain CEGEP and then to Director of Studies at John Abbott College in St. Anne de Bellevue.

Always fit & trim, following her retirement, she determined to tackle some of the longest and toughest treks the world has to offer, planning to do one major trip a year until her knees (or worse) give out. So far, those treks include The Chilkoot Trail in Alaska & B.C., the Tour de Mont Blanc, the Inca Trail in Peru, the W trail in Patagonia, the Milford Track in New Zealand, the Annapurna Circuit in Nepal, hiking along Hadrian's Wall in the U.K., climbing Kilimanjaro in Tanzania and, last year, she walked the Comino de Santiago trail at a rate of 26 km per day for 32 days, blogging all the way.

The last 2 trips she turned into fundraisers for Our Harbour, a residence she founded in Saint-Lambert for people who are happy to live in English and who are living with mental illness. It is a replication project of *L'Abri en ville*.

Catherine will talk to us about her travels, illustrated with some of the photos she has taken over the years.

MARCH 19, 2014: A COMMUNITY OF WRITERS AND READERS SPEAKER: LINDA LEITH

Linda Leith is the Montreal writer who created Blue Metropolis Foundation in 1997; the first Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festival took place in 1999, and soon put Montreal on the literary map of the world. Linda resigned as Founder and Artistic Director in 2010 and created Linda Leith Publishing soon afterwards. In her 2010 book *Writing in the Time of Nationalism: From Two Solitudes to Blue Metropolis* (the French translation of which has now been published by Leméac Éditeur) she tells the story of Montreal's English-language literary community.

Door prize: Book: Tickets \$5 each; 3 tickets for \$10.

Linda will be offering some of her books for sale at the end of the evening.

Dinner Menu

- Sweet Potato and Carrot Soup
- Linguine with Scallops and Shrimp
- Tiramisu
- Tea/coffee

Remember to mention any food allergies or dietary restrictions when you make your reservation.

Cocktails: 6:00 pm
Dinner: 7:00 pm

Member Cost: \$31.04 including tax; Non-members \$50.00, including wine (please pay by cheque to UWCM); Guest cover charge: \$5.00

Our dinner meetings are held at: Atwater Club
3505 Atwater Avenue

Please reserve with the Club by Friday, February 7 at 514-935-2431 or reception@clubatwater.ca

Notes:

- Cancellations made any later than 5:00 pm on the Monday before a meeting will result in a charge of 50% of the cost of a meal.
- **DON'T FORGET YOUR NAME TAGS!**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

2014! A New Year arrives with a glow of hope. It gives us new confidence and courage for a fresh start. By the time you read this message, the holiday rush will be over, and hopefully the early January deep freeze will be a faint memory. On behalf of the Board, I wish to extend a very joyful and healthy New Year to every UWCM member.

As we look forward to the second half of the UWCM program, it includes speakers who will engage us with talks on the theatre, the Camino trail, the publishing world, and the importance of combating poverty in our community. I invite you to participate in all our upcoming dinner meetings, as I am confident we will all gain new insights.

Board Meeting Highlights

The Nominating Chair, Liz Annesley, and her committee: Pam Georges, Johanne Desrochers and Margaret Jackson, are now at work on filling the proposed slate for the 2014-2015 UWCM Board. There are 5 positions to be filled: Vice President, Membership, Program, Newsletter Editor, and Member at Large. If you would like a meaningful challenge, I urge you to consider joining our Board. Should you have any enquiries regarding the positions or would like to serve on the Board, please contact Liz Annesley.

Our new website is scheduled for delivery in early March. The upgrades are expected to help attract new members while improving our communications and services to existing members.

You will be pleased to learn the UWCM financial portfolio showed solid gains at the end of December and, as a result, the Board recently voted unanimously to donate \$3,000 to the UWCM Foundation.

UWCM will be hosting the next Quebec CFUW Council meeting on April 26. This is an opportunity to meet our Quebec sister clubs.

On a last note, as members we are all part of the UWCM extended family, so if you haven't had a chance to renew your membership, please do so.

Warmest wishes,

Dominique Racanelli

President, UWCM Inc.

Membership News

Please welcome new members:

Earlyn Sharpe

Sharyn Andrews

Saode Savary

Note the follow e-address change:

Barbara Megan Labelle

HOME DINNERS 2014

Dear Members,

Last year's home dinners were a definite success thanks to the hosts who opened their homes for this culinary and entertaining experience as well as to all of you who participated with wonderful dishes to share and great company and conversations to enjoy.

At the Board, we are starting to organize this year's home dinners which will be held in April by requesting your participation as a host. As a reminder to all, and as information to our new UWCM members, here is a how home dinners work. Hosts open their homes for a dinner event. Each host plans a menu for the evening and asks each guest to bring a dish from that menu to the dinner. Some of our members are wonderful cooks, or like to experiment with new recipes; others with time constraints are encouraged to pick up an already prepared dish. We ask that you be considerate of your host's request and do your part to assist her with the menu she has planned for the evening. A suggestion to make the task of being a host easier is the option of co-hosting the event with another member of the Club. Last year we had a few co-hosted dinners that were enjoyed by all involved. The main objective of the home dinners is to get to know each other in a relaxed atmosphere while enjoying a meal together.

As Member-at-Large of the Board of Directors, one of the tasks of Teresa de Genover will be to coordinate this event. Please, feel free to approach her if you would like to host a home dinner.

ARTS & ETC SPRING SPECIAL EVENT

ATTENTION ALL ARTISTS (amateur/professional),

Did you know that we have at least six artists (that we know of) among our members?

Would you be interested in participating in an exhibit and possible sale of your art work?

Do you paint, make pottery, ceramics, sculptures, wood carvings, take photographs, or design jewellery, for example?

This would be a wonderful opportunity for you to exhibit your work in a spring *vernissage* of the work of UWCM members only.

So, would you be interested in joining a collective *vernissage* organized especially for our members? Don't be shy, show off your artistic talents to your fellow members. The event will also be an occasion to invite your family and friends.

Call or email us to sign-up for this unique event at:
Anna

Jeanette



RESOLUTIONS FOR 2014 CFUW AGM

RESOLUTION 1

An Enhanced Canada Pension Plan

Proposed by CFUW Burlington

RESOLVED, That CFUW urge the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to work together to enhance the CPP/QPP by gradually doubling the maximum insurable earnings;

RESOLVED, That CFUW urge federal, provincial and territorial governments to create policies compensating women for reduced pension contributions incurred because of withdrawal from the workforce for childbearing, child rearing and care-giving of the elderly, beginning by extending the drop-out provision for a minimum of fourteen years in total.

RESOLUTION 2

Culture of Peace

Proposed by: CFUW Standing Committee on International Relations

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge the Government of Canada to fund, support and develop policies and programs that:

1. Include non-violent conflict resolution processes in peace negotiations, nationally and internationally;
2. Respect Canada's international commitments to human rights instruments, gender equality and social justice; and
3. Support a culture of peace.

RESOLUTION 3

Preservation of Democracy: Increasing Voter Participation in Canada

Proposed by CFUW Southport

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women and its member Clubs initiate, engage in and promote activities and programs to educate Canadians about the importance of participating in a democracy and to urge them to exercise their hard-won right to vote in all elections – federal, provincial and municipal – in order to preserve democracy in Canada.

RESOLUTION 4

Promoting Plain Language

Proposed by CFUW Saugeen

RESOLVED, That the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge the Government of Canada to adopt and implement a policy, that Plain Language be used in all documents released by government departments and agencies.

RESOLVED, That CFUW urges all levels of government in Canada to support existing programs that raise Canadians' awareness of the importance of using Plain Language.

RESOLVED, That CFUW urges all levels of government in Canada to support the mandatory use of Plain Language in

- legal documents, business and consumer contracts for the general public
- medical reports intended for patients and staff
- education-related communication intended for parents and guardians

RESOLVED, That CFUW supports the rights of all to have written material in Canada available in language appropriate to their reading skills.

PREVIOUS DINNER MEETINGS



January

Gabrielle Soskin wowed the audience and won rave reviews from our members.



December

Tina Kerr, winner of the Door Prize, was thrilled with the bottle of champagne.