



UWCM

University Women's Club of Montreal Inc.

Club des Femmes Universitaires de Montréal Inc.

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JUNE 2015 NEWSLETTER



Wednesday, June 1, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Coach House

SUMMER SEND-OFF

Wine - Finger food - Sweets

Your board of directors, including our newly elected members, invite you to the last evening of the year. A great time to say *à bientôt* to fellow members!

Don't forget your name tags!

UWCM FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

Friday, June 3, 7:00 pm

A NIGHT AT THE CIRCUS

This year's fundraiser promises to be a resounding success with international talent in a spectacular performance.

Raising funds for scholarships for women and supporting community groups for women in need.

All tickets sold!!
Donations still welcome :)





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Our year has come to an end and we will soon be saying goodbye for the summer. I hope that many of you will join us for our Summer Send-Off, held in our Coach House. Over the summer months, some of you may leave town, but for those of you staying behind, please do not hesitate to reach out to other members for some activities. It is always pleasant to get better acquainted!

I also wish to thank you for your presence and support at our AGM on May 18 (see below). You have

given me a clear mandate regarding the proposed amendment. I will stand strong behind our club's convictions and will represent your voice, if needed. I am proud to have witnessed a healthy debate over the points and our positioning that night. I think that we can feel proud of the outcome; it says a lot for the solidarity that we have toward women globally. The board and I will, of course, keep you posted on the outcome of this vote and the GWI triennial meeting.

Maya Bergeron-Métivier, President

AGM assembly gives president mandate on CFUW vote

Over the past year, the National CFUW Board has had extensive discussions on GWI/IFUW (Graduate Women International, formerly International Federation of University Women) regarding their long-standing collaboration. Recently, the St. Thomas CFUW club proposed a motion to amend the CFUW articles and bylaws by striking out Article 4, which refers to membership in the IFUW (now called the GWI). The result would be that CFUW could

withdraw from its membership in GWI. This motion will be voted on at the CFUW National AGM in St. Catharines this June (see "CFUW AGM" below).

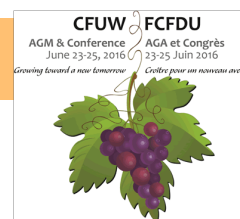
At our recent AGM, the president asked the assembly to give her a mandate regarding this bylaw amendment in order to properly represent the UWCM's membership at the National AGM next month. The assembly voted against striking out Article 4 of the CFUW articles and bylaws. Further details, including financials, can be found on the CFUW and GWI websites.

Board meeting highlights

- Approved final draft of publicity poster and its use
- Discussed CFUW proposed resolution to withdraw from GWI membership
- Finalized plans for new members' reception and Annual General Meeting
- Discussed plans for Summer Send-Off
- Considered next year's program, possible dinner speakers and dates, and seating arrangements
- Agreed to highlight long-time members in upcoming newsletters

CFUW AGM

Register and/or volunteer for the Annual General Meeting and Conference of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW-FCFUDU) at Brock University in St. Catharines, **June 23-25, 2016**. To register or volunteer, go to <https://www.proreg.ca/events/cfuw/2016/delegate-e.php> or call ProReg Registration Solutions toll-free at 1-866-760-2005. Final deadline to register is June 10, 2016.





Members Corner

The Provincial Council AGM

I attended my first-ever Quebec Council of CFUW clubs, held here on home turf. The UWCM was hosting, and I met members from the Sherbrooke, West Island, South Shore and Quebec City clubs. I was very interested to hear our sister clubs' accounts of their programs, their philanthropic and advocacy activities, and their organizational challenges. Of course, rural and suburban clubs have different ways of organizing their activities and engaging their members than does our urban, downtown club. Still, I feel we can learn from one another.

Every Quebec club is challenged to find and retain members. Every club strives to create activities

that their members will want to attend. And every club has a different approach to advocacy and philanthropy. The exchange of ideas was useful. So too was hearing from representatives of the CFUW about national campaigns – and especially cheering to be told that after many years of being ignored, the CFUW was again being consulted by government.

After the reports, discussions and lunch, I was inspired by our guest speaker, Wanda Bedard (more on page 5). All in all, an interesting day.

— Elaine Bander



Getting involved



Six years ago, I was new to downtown Montreal. I was a fairly recent empty nester. I am a freelance copy editor working alone from home. A friend suggested I join the University Women's Club. Being shy, I hesitated to get *too*

involved. But after a year of attending only monthly dinners, someone at a fundraising brainstorm session made me realize I had something to contribute. I also

liked the idea that this “interest group” cost me only my time. It allowed me to feel valued and valuable, and it helped me become better acquainted with some interesting people I now call friends. When I was asked to join the board, it was an easy transition.

The club is always looking for ideas in the form of contributions to the newsletter, help with advocacy issues or fundraising, financial ideas and advice... Contact me or another board member to see if there is something for you!

— Donna Jensen

An Inspiration: Claire Kirkland-Casgrain

Claire Kirkland-Casgrain was a pioneer for women's equality, starting in 1961. She became the first woman to be elected to the Quebec legislature, the first named to cabinet, the first to sit as interim premier and the first appointed a provincial judge. As a married woman, she could not sign a lease to rent an apartment. Also at this time in Quebec, married women could not open a bank or store account, or sign for her children to receive medical treatment. As a result of Claire's efforts, Bill 16 expanded the rights of married women in Quebec so that they could sign contracts without their husbands' consent.

Kirkland-Casgrain passed away on March 24, 2016, at the age of 91. The first national funeral for a woman was held at Mary Queen of the World Cathedral on Saturday, April 2, and was attended by members of her family and several dignitaries who spoke highly of her accomplishments and her compassion. She will be remembered for the significant contributions she made by working for women's — and human — rights.

— Frances Gregory
(from a recent MCW newsletter)





New Members

**Please give a warm welcome
to our newest members.**

Linda Garand

(MSc McGill; MD Univ. de Montréal)

Juan Li (MBA Chonging University, China)

Updated Directory

The 2016-2017 Membership Directory has recently been emailed to you. If you have not noticed it, check your Junk or Spam folder.

Keep your directory handy all year for easy reference and personal use only. (Remember, the information it contains is confidential.) Be sure to **note any changes or corrections** posted in the newsletter throughout the year.

Summer Interest Groups

STAGE & SOIRÉE — OVERNIGHT!!

Saturday, June 18, 6:30 pm

Food, Wine and Gino Quilico

You're welcome to overnight at members' homes in the area (can put up about 12 people), so plan to attend this entertaining evening. Tickets are \$100 (with tax receipt). Details at theatrelacbrome.ca.
Convenor: Liz Wirth

JUNE GARDEN PARTY

June 25 or 26 (to be determined)

Come to a "home dinner" type of pot-luck luncheon with fellow members in town this summer! Enjoy the flowers in a lovely Rosemere backyard. Participants will help Gertrude decide the final date and which dish they'll bring.
Contact Gertrude Antoine Barwick

AUGUST GARDEN PARTY

Date to be determined

For a fine excuse to wear that summer frock and summer hat you put away in the closet! Tea and refreshments served from 3 pm to 5 pm in Westmount.
Hosted by Pam Georges, Bev Rowat and Linda Snell.

OUTDOOR LADIES

Sunday, June 19, 11:00 am

Botanical Gardens

We will try for better weather and long-term planning for June! There were many reasons why people couldn't come in May, but most said they would like to walk in the Botanical Gardens. So we will meet at 11:00 at the ticket booth area. Please let me know if you are coming. Convenor: Carly Pepler

OTTAWA OUTING

Date: To be determined

Elisabeth Louise Vigée Le Brun Exhibit,
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, ON

Naturally gifted and self-taught, by 1778 this most talented painter of her day had become the portraitist of Queen Marie Antoinette. After fleeing Revolutionary France, she appeared in European capitals where her reputation continued to grow. The exhibition explores the life and work of a woman who was not only extraordinarily talented, but also publicity-savvy, showing her extraordinary ability to carve out a significant career in a man's world. Contact the convenor to register and to help arrange carpooling.
Convenor: Marsha Sklar



Fort McMurray Wildfires: How You Can Help

The wildfire broke out on May 1, in and around Fort McMurray. It has forced more than 80,000 people to evacuate their homes and has destroyed thousands of structures. Many service men and women are bravely fighting the fire and helping in the evacuation and relocation of residents. Read [this Maclean's article](#) for details on how to help.

Or you can simply donate to:

Canadian Red Cross: [Alberta Fires Appeal](#)
(federal government will match Fort McMurray donations)

Salvation Army: [Alberta Fire Response](#)

Save the Children: [Fort McMurray Emergency Wildfire](#)

Provincial Council guest speaker



Wanda Bedard, founder and president of the 60 Million Girls Foundation, was the guest speaker at the recent Provincial Council of Quebec University Women's Clubs annual general meeting held on April 23 at Club Atwater. "Research convincingly shows that programs directed to educating girls are more effective than virtually any other community investment in the developing world.

"Basic quality education provides girls with access to health and nutrition information for themselves and their families... It provides a safe place to grow as they learn. It gives them the knowledge to provide economic support to their family. It delays marriage and pregnancy, thereby lowering infant and maternal mortality. And, an educated woman is more likely to send her children – both boys and girls – to school, thereby increasing the likelihood of future generations receiving an education. Healthy, safe, empowered girls transform families, communities and countries." (www.60millionsofgirls.org/en/)

Successful vernissage in Mansonville



From left to right: Pamela Georges, Beverley Bolsius and Valerie Aitken at their May 7 vernissage in Mansonville. The exhibition is on display until May 30.



2015-2016 UWCM Foundation Annual Report

The UWCM Public Foundation carried on its yearly challenge of raising funds for scholarships and women's shelters in Montreal. We are grateful to our members who donated \$2,945 to our 4th Annual Giving Campaign. We wish to thank the UWCM Board of Directors for their donation of \$3,000. The raffles held at our December meeting brought in net proceeds of \$790. Our fundraising activities will conclude with attendance at a performance by the National Circus School of Canada to be held at TOHU on June 3. The event is sold out, with net proceeds estimated at \$4,500. Therefore, the funds raised so far total \$11,235, which will be disbursed to women

students attending Concordia University and to various women's shelters in Montreal.

Along with the Foundation Trustees (Margaret Jackson, Secretary; Alice Holman, Member at Large, Maya Bergeron-Métivier, UWCM President; Wanda Leah Trineer, Treasurer), I wish to thank the Fundraising Committee members (Liz Annesley, Donna Jensen, Judi Ritchie, Anelia Wright), who worked tirelessly on all three fundraising activities.

Dominique Racanelli

Foundation Trustee

Fundraising Committee Chair



Visual Impairment Walk

Sunday, June 12, 8:30 am – 1 pm, Lasalle
Bishop-Power and Lasalle Boulevard

Join Défi DMLA to raise funds for research into visual degeneration. Each step in this walk means a step toward finding a solution to vision loss for children, adults and elders who suffer from retina and macular degeneration.

Pierre Brise-Bois Foundation, 438-502-3652

www.fondationpierrebrise-bois.com

Newsletter Editor: Donna Jensen

Copy-editing and
proofreading services:
Zofia Laubitz



IN MEMORIAM...

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of loyal member **Adeline Beaulac**, who died suddenly on May 16. For years, Adeline dedicated her time and skills as newsletter editor. She was a frequent participant in interest groups and was the official archivist for the club. She is survived by her daughter. She — and her dry sense of humour — will be sorely missed by her many UWCM friends.

We also wish to extend our sincere condolences to former board member and current newsletter proofreader, **Zofia Laubitz**, on the recent sudden death of her father. We send you comfort and friendship at this difficult time.