



**THE UWCM MEETING ROOM**  
 Atwater Library  
 Club Room #7  
 1200 Atwater Ave.,  
 Westmount,  
 Québec H3Z 1X4

**Message from Co-presidents,  
 Donna Jensen and Leah Trineer**

It's been almost two years since the world entered a new era.

While the future is uncertain,

it seems that we have moved into an "After COVID-19" world.

Sadly, our members have not been able to meet for dinner since December. It was then that Anita Novak talked to us about the art of empathy and what the pandemic has brought to light. Last month, government restrictions stifled plans for an in-person dinner-speaker event, but the Zoom *Scavenger Hunt* was a lot of fun! Thank you to Board members for devising and organizing it.



Although government restrictions continue to limit our in-person monthly dinners, we have booked space with Il Cortile once again for February 16. Plan to join us then and wear Valentine red to celebrate love while we await sunnier days ahead.



These days, we often shift between hope and despair, between how we help one another and asking for help ourselves. UWCM will evolve while it moves forward in this post-pandemic age. It will remain standing on a solid foundation of an almost century-old organization.

The Board looks forward to celebrating the UWCM Centenary a mere five years away. Your Centenary Committee (Elaine Bander, Susan Button, Andrea de Gosztonyi and Donna Jensen) welcome your ideas on ways we can celebrate.

*(Continued on the next page.)*

**Message from Co-presidents,  
continued...**

As we examine what UWCM means to us, we continue to offer opportunities for learning, advocacy and camaraderie. We aim to support women through education, by helping the disadvantaged and championing gender equity. In what ways do we want to change and grow, and what will be our legacy for future generations?

We are happy to report that the Club received an email from McGill Women’s Alumnae Association Capital Campaign organizer Anelia Wright in thanks for its donation.

The CFUW National Office has recently relocated (details on page 9). It will hold an online AGM in late August. GWI has also scheduled its triennial to be held online in mid-November. Both these events are open to all members of the UWCM, so we encourage you to register and participate.

The Board has invited past speaker Claire Webster to become a member. It also plans to extend an honorary membership to our newest Governor General, Mary Simon.

We encourage members to invite others to join the ranks of like-minded women intent on improving the lives of women and girls, a world where poverty is reduced, discrimination is eliminated, and equal opportunities abound.



We are attuned to the realities that the pandemic has imposed upon the most vulnerable in our city and throughout the world. Let’s stay optimistic and spread goodwill among fellow citizens and colleagues. We will work together, stand together and get through this together.

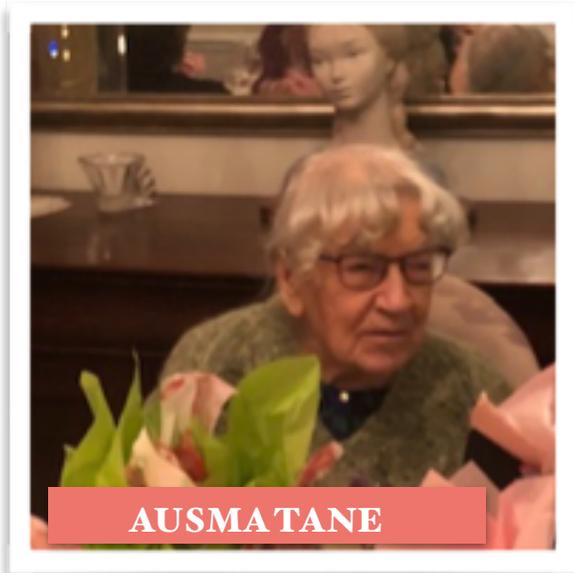
**QUEBEC PROVINCIAL COUNCIL - ADVOCACY COMMITTEE**

In next month’s newsletter, watch for the **Eco-Footprint Survey** that will ask you questions on water use, dwelling size, transportation usage, food and recycling habits. The club with the most participants will be recognized at the QC-CFUW annual meeting on April 23, 2022. *Stay tuned!*



**UWCM's Very Own Treasure, Ausma Tane!**

On December 15, Ausma Tane celebrated her 98th birthday with an intimate group. For those who know Ausma, her outlook and disposition is always a delight and being the guest of honour suited her perfectly.



**AUSMA TANE**

She was born in Cesis, Latvia, in 1923, during a time when the country was establishing its independence. By her late teens, life had changed drastically as the Soviet Red Army moved into Latvia in 1940. The Nazis followed in 1941, with full occupation in 1944.

Ausma was 22 at this point and her entire family was separated due to the conflict. Her father was sent to a Russian labour camp and her mother and grandmother tried to escape, without success. Ausma and her sister each fled Latvia separately. Her journey began via the Baltic Sea. Arriving in Gdańsk alone, she found friendship there with three other young ladies. From Poland, they travelled over 1200 km to Innsbruck.

The dangerous trip included freight trains, the back of pickup trucks, buses and long walks.

The allies finally arrived and she was eventually placed in a United Nations camp. Versed in five languages and having a readiness to roll up her sleeves, Ausma worked as a translator during the two years in the camp. It was also at this time that she located her sister, Daina Tane (see photo on the right).



**DAINA TANE**

By 1947, Canada allowed the entry of thousands of Displaced Persons (DPs) from Europe. In her first year in Canada, Ausma worked as a domestic in Montreal West. She soon found a position as a secretary for The Shawinigan Water and Power Company, now Hydro-Quebec.

*Continued on next page...*



Before long, she enrolled in evening classes at Sir George Williams University, where she earned a B.A. and B.Com.

Following her retirement in 1978, she joined the UWCM, became a board member and kept her commitment to lifelong learning. Today, she is advocating against senior discrimination within federal agencies.

Ausma is an extraordinary individual whose many qualities include honesty, determination, courage, imagination, cooperativeness, empathy and gratitude.

In the above photo, see Ausma and friends: Johanne Desrochers - UWCM past president, Zofia Laubitz, Carly Pepler, Jeanette Sharma, Mica Faciu, and Liz Annesley at Ausma's 98th birthday party given at the home of Dominique Racanelli.

*In a world in need of healing, be an Ausma!*  
Submitted by Dominique Racanelli



**AUSMA OPENS HER BIRTHDAY GIFTS**

### **ATWATER LIBRARY UPDATE**

#### **COVID Precautions: No In-Person Visits**

Because of the ongoing strain on Montreal hospitals from Omicron, we are reducing the risk of more infections by keeping our building closed for the rest of January. We will send a special issue of the Library newsletter when we set the date for reopening. Meantime, our staff are busy conducting activities online and providing takeout library service.

**LIBRARY SERVICE:** You can arrange loans of physical books and DVDs through the online catalogue, by phone or email, and make an appointment for pickup.

**WOMEN OF NOTE**

**Xiomara Castro**

Iris Xiomara Castro Sarmiento, born September 30, 1959, was elected president of Honduras in the 2021 Honduran general election.

Honduras’ ruling party conceded defeat in presidential elections, which gave victory to leftist opposition candidate Xiomara Castro and eased fears of another contested vote and violent protests.



Promoting “democratic socialism,” Ms. Castro wants to decriminalize abortion, reduce bank charges for remittances, create a UN-backed anti-corruption commission, and repeal new laws that she says feed corruption and drug trafficking.

Castro will face major challenges as the Central American country’s president. Unemployment is above 10%, northern Honduras was devastated by two major hurricanes and street gangs drag down the economy with their extortion rackets and violence, driving migration to the United States.



**The UWCM Public Foundation Board of Trustees** is pleased to announce that the Foundation Bylaws have been updated and amended so as to better reflect the purpose of the Foundation.

These changes recognize the actual scope of our mission, specify procedures to be followed, and ensure flexibility and continuity. These amendments have now been approved by the Board and have been filed with the government. The Trustees owe a huge thank-you to Suzanne Crawford for steering us safely through the legal waters and for filing the approved changes. - Andrea de Gosztanyi

## Our first Zoom Scavenger Hunt!

Thank you to both Donna Jensen and Hannah Trineer for their efforts in bringing our first *Scavenger Hunt* to fun fruition on Wednesday, January 20.

A *Scavenger Hunt* may seem like simple business, but it takes creativity and imagination to choose items that are both common and select!



Hannah, as leader, released us from the Zoom screen to find the items we knew were at hand, which was a fun hunt in itself. But it was in the telling of the stories behind some of these precious items that we enjoyed the greatest discoveries. We learned more about each other and about the power of an item to bring back a flood of forgotten joys. I believe we were all surprised by the pleasure of such a simple game to bring us together and teach us more about each other. See the lists of items below!

*Perhaps you also have a number of these objects in your home?*

SPORTS & LEISURE	HAPPY HOBBIES	MOSTLY MONTREAL	GETTING PERSONAL
<u>Les Canadiens hockey team souvenir</u>	<u>Earbuds or headphones</u>	<u>Ticket stub from a Place des Arts concert</u>	<u>Winter scarf or toque</u>
<u>Expo baseball team souvenir</u>	<u>Ball of yarn</u>	<u>A book by a Montreal author</u>	<u>Your Vaccine QR code</u>
<u>Montreal Alouettes football team souvenir</u>	<u>Needle and spool of thread</u>	<u>An LP or CD by a Montreal musician or singer</u>	<u>A gift you received in the last two months</u>
<u>Club de Foot Montreal (Impact) soccer team souvenir</u>	<u>A Canadian newspaper or magazine</u>	<u>Menu from Schwartz, Snowden Deli, Lesters, Wilenskys, or Smoke Meal Pete's</u>	<u>Piece of your mother's aunt's jewellery</u>
<u>1976 Olympics souvenir</u>	<u>Non-phone camera</u>	<u>Souvenir from Expo '67</u>	<u>Hand sanitizer</u>
<u>Rogers Cup tennis tournament souvenir</u>	<u>China cup and saucer</u>	<u>A ticket stub from a Bowser &amp; Blue show</u>	<u>Your passport (extra points for multiple)</u>
<u>Swimming Equipment</u>	<u>Knitting needles</u>	<u>A Just for Laughs ticket stub</u>	<u>Something plaid</u>
<u>Yoga mat, running shoes, or hiking boots</u>	<u>Potato masher and veggie peeler</u>	<u>A Montreal Jazz Festival Souvenir</u>	<u>Favourite lipstick colour</u>
<u>A musical instrument (Bonus if you can play it)</u>	<u>Your favourite mug</u>	<u>An illustration or book by Terry Mosher</u>	<u>Your university diploma</u>

**UWCM Member Activities!**



Long-time UWCM member Laretta Alexander invited several members to her house for “tea and more” in December 2021. It was a rare treat, since we have been able to get together so infrequently over the past two years! Thank you, Laretta!

I attended but missed the selfie (from left: Zofia, Laretta, Donna, Leah) - Barbara Lewis

**Chez Doris reaches their goal of \$15 million!**

The Chez Doris capital campaign, which was led by UWCM Past President, Elizabeth Wirth, reached their goal of \$15 million! One of the results is three new overnight shelters since the campaign started Spring 2020. A possible fourth is coming!

Chez Doris is one of the women-oriented businesses to which UWCM also contributes funding.



Currently, our **Valentine’s Dinner** is planned for Wednesday, **February 16**, at 6:30 at the *Ile Cortile Restaurant*, 1442 Sherbrooke St W, Montreal, H3G 1K4. *(Note: Speaker news to come in a separate email closer to the date of the dinner.)* We will celebrate love in

all its forms and iterations. **Dress in red** to brighten each other’s spirits while we continue to hunker down to wait out the winter.

**GRADUATE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL**

Last February, UWCM continued its support of its international affiliate **Graduate Women International**. CFUW clubs and individuals that support GWI have created an informal group that meets regularly to share information about GWI and support one another. The group has an organizational team of two or three representatives from GWI supporting clubs and some individuals who also support GWI. A coordinating group plans regular organizational meetings and there are others that plan conversations and education sessions for all GWI supporters. This main group was informally referred to as "Opt-Ins" and, in the last few months, representatives met on Zoom to decide to re-name the group **"GWI Supporters Network."** The outreach/conversations and education groups let us know about upcoming sessions. Donna Jensen is the UWCM representative for this group.

**INTEREST GROUPS**

**Financial Literacy**



*Andrea Bobkowitz* is organizing this group, which meets at 7:00 PM on the second Thursday of the month. Andrea will focus on a specific document that is available on the UWCM website under *Financial Literacy*. Developed by women for women, a facilitator manual and 15 case studies are available in a print-ready PDF for use by community groups, professional educators and others.

**Note from Andrea:** The Financial Literacy Interest Group will return in February *on Zoom*, since the Atwater Library is currently closed.

**Travel Club**



The next Travel Club meeting will be held *on Zoom*. On February 8, 3:30 - 5:30 the theme will be: **A good book, an interesting trip!**

Following in the footsteps of your favourite novel, historical novel, or biography... this should be very interesting! And we will certainly be able to prepare a wonderful reading list from all your suggestions. - Andrea de Gosztonyi. RSVP appreciated: [uwcm1@gmail.com](mailto:uwcm1@gmail.com)

**CFUW National Office has moved!**

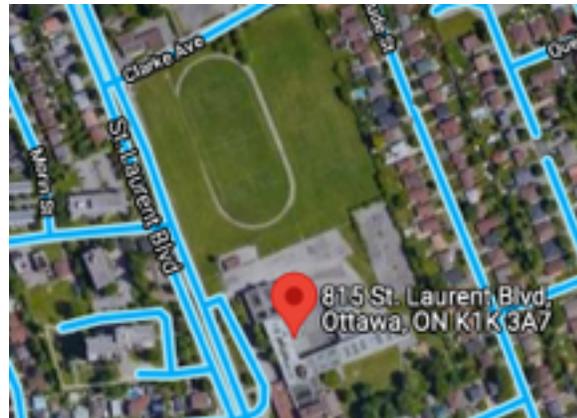
On January 12, the CFUW National Office relocated to the Ottawa Rideau Community Hub. The former high school is now a centre for many non-profit organizations such as Volunteer Ottawa, the Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre, and the Odawa Native Friendship Centre.

The new mailing address is:  
Room #230, 815 St. Laurent Blvd.  
Ottawa, Ontario K1K 3A7

Emails and phone numbers remain unchanged.

Executive Director Robin Jackson - [execdir@cfuw-fcfd.ca](mailto:execdir@cfuw-fcfd.ca)

Brittany Sagriff - [memberservices@cfuw-fcfd.ca](mailto:memberservices@cfuw-fcfd.ca)



**“Social interaction, social responsibility and growth of women in all areas of life.”**

Founded in 1927 by women graduates, the University Women’s Club of Montreal...

- promotes self-learning through monthly dinner speakers,
- fosters friendship and camaraderie among like-minded women,
- encourages social interaction and leadership, and
- advocates to improve the status of women near and far.

UWCM is affiliated with Canadian Federation of University Women that holds special consultative status with the United Nations Social and Economic Council (ECOSOC). In turn, CFUW is a member of Graduate Women International that works to promote human rights, education, and social justice.



## The Enviro-Corner

### LOCAL RECYCLING RULES

If you find yourself standing in front the garbage can wondering if this “thing” should go into the garbage or into recycling, read on! To find out when you should put out recyclables for pickup, visit [Info-Collectes](#).

#### Acceptable materials (as of January 22, 2022)

Clean paper and cardboard

Cardboard packages (for eggs, cereals, facial tissues), cardboard tubes and rolls (toilet paper and paper towels), brown paper bags

Flattened cardboard boxes attached in bundles, maximum weight 25 kg

Paper: newsprint, circulars, magazines, catalogues, telephone directories

Paper: sheets of paper (with or without staples), envelopes (with or without a window), file folders



#### Containers

Glass: bottles, flasks and jars of all shapes and colours (with or without labels)

Cartons: milk cartons, juice boxes and other containers for liquids

Metal: cans, covers and caps, clothes hangers, aluminium cans, clean aluminium foil and plates

Rigid plastic: bottles (shampoo, laundry detergent, water, soft drinks, etc.), containers (yogurt, margarine, grease, etc.), covers and caps

Flexible plastic: grocery and shopping bags, dry cleaning bags, bread and pastry bags (not greasy), bags from food products (not soiled), overwrap packaging for bags of milk, paper towels, etc.

Flexible plastic: Any plastic packaging identified with the No 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 7

**Single-Use Plastics:** [Sign the petition](#) urging Environment Minister Guilbeault to expedite the ban on single-use plastics! [Click here to sign.](#)



**Member Birthdays!**

*If you know about a member who will soon have a birthday, please let us know. We would like to pay tribute to those “Birthday Girls” right here, month to month!*



**OCTOBER**

**Gertrud Antoine Barwick** celebrated her 90th Birthday in October. In 2005, Gertrud received the Governor General’s *Caring Canadian Award* as presented by Governor General Adrienne Clarkson.

**DECEMBER**

**Ausma Tane** celebrated her 98th birthday! See her biography and birthday party photos in this newsletter.

**FEBRUARY**

Our co-president, **Donna Jensen** will celebrate her birthday on February 15.

FEBRUARY 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Travel Club Zoom	9	10 Financial Literacy Zoom	11	12
13	14	15 Deadline for Ads	16 VALENTINE DINNER	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

## How About Advertising in Our Newsletter?



- Trying to declutter your home by selling/giving away some furniture, household items, books, or electronics?
- Searching for some rare book you read years ago but can no longer find anywhere?
- A friend is looking for someone trustworthy to host their pet while she is out of town?
- A family member is moving out and needs someone to take over their lease? Or perhaps is looking for a tenant with good references for their property?
- **You'd like to advertise about your business or other work with a business card? (\*see detail below)**



**Our very own UWCM monthly newsletter can certainly help!**

If you would like to advertise anything along the above lines, please feel free to send a brief ad in PDF format to [uwcmtl@gmail.com](mailto:uwcmtl@gmail.com) **in addition to** a \$15 fee (either by cheque payable to the University Women's Club of Montreal Inc. or via bank transfer) **not later than** the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. \* **Businesses/self-employed people are eligible for one-year ads in every newsletter for a one-time payment of \$100.**

Members are most welcome to advertise for themselves or on behalf of family and friends.

Kindly note that **only** advertisements received with their payments within the deadline will appear in the immediately upcoming newsletter. Any ads/payments received after the 15<sup>th</sup> will be postponed to the following month.

**All funds received for advertising will be dedicated to the UWCM Centennial Celebration in 2027**



## FACEBOOK



University Women's Club  
of Montreal Inc.-UWCM  
@uwcmntl

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Promote
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View As

5 5 out of 5 • Nonprofit Organization • Montreal,...

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Create a post

-  Photo
-  Create Story
- 
- 

## THE UWCM IN SOCIAL MEDIA

Click on each name  
to visit our pages!

[UWCM Website](http://uwcm.com) - uwcm.com

- [Facebook](#) - a social networking site where we connect and share with family and friends
- [Instagram](#) - a social media platform for sharing photos and videos
- [LinkedIn](#) - the world's largest professional network on the internet
- [Twitter](#) - a "microblogging" system that allows you to send and receive short posts called "tweets"
- [Youtube](#) - an online video platform



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