



cfuw fcfdu
UWC MONTREAL INC

Club Room, Unit #7
Atwater Library
1200 ave. Atwater
Westmount, QC
H3Z 1X4

JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER

Published May 25, 2026

DINNER SPEAKER:
Chez Doris
Representative

Wednesday, June 17
6:00 p.m.
Ristorante Geso
1800 Sherbrooke St W, H3H 1E5

RSVP Mica Faciu
before June 15



PROVINCIAL COUNCIL AGM IN LENNOXVILLE - article on page 3





PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Dear Members,

As we move into June and the close of another dynamic year, I find myself reflecting with deep gratitude on the many people whose energy sustains our club.

Volunteers run UWCM. Everything we do, from programs and interest groups to community building, happens because members contribute.

This month, I would especially like to thank our outgoing Board members for their dedication: Adèle Hébert, Margarita Schultz, Barbara Lewis, and Pilar Shephard-Cumming. Cheers to our Board members who are staying on to provide continuity: Leah Trineer, Olga Shevchenko, Veronica Noble, Lauren Rudy, Donna Jensen, Mica Faciu, and Lynn Travers. I was happy to have welcomed Colleen Cattiny for stepping in mid-term. Thanks to members standing for nomination for the coming year, including Elizabeth McCallum, Sharon Brissette, Alaka McConnell and Natalie Rossikhata.

(Note: At time of writing, the Club's annual meeting has not yet taken place. These members have been nominated, but not yet elected to the Board.)

A special acknowledgment goes to our Interest Group conveners creating the circles where friendships grow, ranging from Book Club to Women's Issues and everything in between.

I would also like to recognize some exceptional contributions this year:

- Donna and service provider Norman Lachance for their outstanding work on our website;
- Veronica for reviewing the pre-2020 email backlog;

- Current members who recruited new members;
- Mica, Veronica, Olga, and Sheila Mohammed for organizing monthly dinner meetings;
- Members of the Centenary, Nominating, and ad-hoc Dinner Venue committees;
- Foundation Trustees: Leah, Maya Bergeron-Métivier, Zofia Laubitz, Andrea de Gosztonyi, Donna, Rahila Bootwala, and Susan Button;
- All members who participated, contributed time and ideas, and made this shared work so meaningful. Your support has meant a great deal to me as I stepped into the role of President.

None of this would have been possible without the leadership of Leah, Donna, and Emma Major, who guided UWCM through years of transition, the move to the Atwater Library, dinners at La Classe, and the shift to online engagement during COVID.

These contributions reflect our mission to support women's education, foster intellectual growth, and build a vibrant, engaged community. Volunteering strengthens both our club and our own sense of purpose, connection, and well-being.

As we look ahead, I encourage all members to consider how they might get involved. UWCM thrives because of you.



Lorraine O'Donnell

President

PHOTO CREDIT: © CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
BY LISA GRAVES



BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Organized details of annual general meeting.
- Accepted Nominating Committee slate.
- Laptop, software purchased for database.
- Discussed revitalizing social media presence.
- Reported Maya Bergeron-Métivier strategic-planning help to revitalize Club image.
- Resolutions Committee report submitted.
- Announced Barbara Lewis' election to English Regional Director at Provincial Council AGM.
- Agreed to send graphic-design student a \$100 honorarium.
- Planned to form Club Room sub-committee on redesigning furniture placement.

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL AGM IN LENNOXVILLE

By Donna Jensen

On Saturday, May 2, I attended the Quebec Provincial Council annual general meeting in Lennoxville. Three members — Lorraine O'Donnell, Marie-Chantal Hamel, and I — appreciated Leah Trineer's driving skills during the 90-minute drive each way, through light rain, sunshine and a short heavy rainfall.

Outgoing President Judy Hopps chaired the meeting where, among other items, plans

were discussed for hosting the CFUW AGM in July.

Debra Christensen-Stowe was elected Provincial Council President and our very own Barbara Lewis was elected English Regional Director. **Congrats, Barbara!**

After lunch, we heard from local dairy farmer Maria Enright detailing her life as a modern family farmer having to adapt to government regulations, technology, and climate change.

GWI NEWS

National Federation and Association (NFA) Regional Discussions

June 3, 2026 - 11:00 a.m. ET

The six regional groups gather to discuss priorities from global to national levels. A full summary of discussions and how they connect to GWI Strategic Plan 2025-2028.

- Learn how feedback informed the final GWI 2025-2028 Strategic Plan.

- Explore new directions in membership engagement and initiatives for collaboration and shared resources.
- Learn key priorities and concerns raised across all six regional discussions.
- Discover key takeaways for your NFA membership about growth and sustainability.

You must register [HERE](#) to attend.



CFUW NEWS

CARP UPDATE

The member portal for Canadian Association of Retired Persons is currently undergoing system upgrades, which may temporarily affect access and functionality.

During this period, users may experience issues such as redirect loops or limited access after logging in. Memberships remain active; however, certain features (including account navigation and digital membership card access) may not function as expected.

The member portal is intended specifically for accessing membership benefits, the digital membership card, and member-only content. All general information and benefits details remain available on carp.ca.

Your understanding is appreciated while these improvements are completed.

HOSPITALITY SUITE

During the CFUW Annual General Meeting and Conference taking place in Montreal (click [HERE](#) to register) volunteers are needed to staff the Hospitality Suite on Wednesday, July 22. Contact Lorraine O'Donnell

CHARITABLE TRUST BOUTIQUE

Donations of new items to the Boutique are welcome. Also, volunteers are needed to help staff the Boutique on July 21, 22, and 23. You do not need to be registered to attend the AGM to volunteer. Contact Lorraine O'Donnell

This Trust manages a substantial reserve used for fellowships and awards to Canadian women pursuing graduate studies and research.

TO REGISTER FOR THE JULY AGM

To obtain a Local Pass (available for members of clubs within the Montreal region) to attend the Wednesday policy session, Charitable Trust Dinner and the Friday policy session, go to <https://forms.gle/sLringtqqzR7fbIT9>

If you **REGISTER** before May 31, you'll get a \$50 discount. On the form, enter Promo code **earlybird2026** prior to choosing your ticket type on the first page.

If you are interested in attending the Conference on Thursday, July 23, please purchase a Conference Day Pass (\$50) [HERE](#).

Companion Pass: Available for friends/family/partners of a CFUW member attending the AGM and Conference but only for Tuesday or Wednesday dinners. Click [HERE](#).

Payment can be made by:

1. **E-transfer** to: execdir@cfuw-fcfd.ca - If a password is required for the e-transfer, please make the password **CFUW2026**

2. **Cheque** made payable to Canadian Federation of University Women, 230-815 St. Laurent Blvd, Ottawa, Ontario. K1K 3A7



FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER



90-minute cruise and brunch

Sunday, June 14, 11:30 a.m.

Boarding starts at 10:30 a.m.

Arrive early! The ship leaves the dock at 11:30 a.m. SHARP!

Enjoy a delicious brunch (vegetarian/vegan dishes available) aboard the *AML Cavalier Maxim* while revelling in superb views of Montreal, seen from an unaccustomed perspective!

Note: Alcoholic beverages can be purchased on the ship.

Montréal Grand Quai, 200 rue de la Commune ouest
Montréal, QC H2Y 4B2

\$125 per person.

Upon payment, you'll receive a voucher to exchange for the Croisières AML ticket you'll need to board the ship. Tickets will be handed out on-site on the morning of the cruise, so don't forget your voucher!

To purchase your voucher, contact Co-Chair Leah Trineer.

by Zofia Laubitz

The **Annual Giving Campaign** runs until June 30.

Encourage everyone you know to donate.



Scan this QR code or click [HERE](#).



INTEREST GROUPS

BOOK CLUB BUDDIES

Monday, June 15, 4:00 to 5:30 pm

UWCM Club Room, 1200 Atwater Avenue

Each member of the group chooses a book to discuss. The book presenter acts as host and brings snacks and beverages for participants. She also leads the discussion on her book of choice. This month: *The Jaguar's Children* by John Valliant will be presented by Barbara Kerr. **Note: The group has room for one more member.**
Convenor: Tanya Fitzpatrick

CHITTER-CHATTER

Friday, June 5, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Mouton Noir, 4675 Ste Catherine St. West

We meet the first Friday afternoon of the month inside the Westmount Recreation Centre. All club members are welcome. Please show up with a smile and suggestions of any fun topics that you might like to discuss. Last month was on a cool day so we stayed inside the café. Gretchen Cheung, Rhonda Schanfield, Maurene White, Pilar Shepherd-Cummings and I enjoyed each other's company while we missed seeing Pam Georges.
Convenor: Valerie Aiken

FIRESIDE GARDENING

Saturday, May 30th, 10:45 a.m. outside entrance gates **Jardin Botanique de Montréal**

Easily accessed by metro to Pie IX, then a short uphill two-block walk to the entrance. Food and drinks available for sale or bring your own. We will walk slowly, to admire the flowers. Confirm your attendance with Elaine by 5 p.m. Friday, May 29. In case of heavy rain, we will reconfirm for next day. Adults and non-residents: \$25.50 (\$24 for seniors) Residents with Access Montreal card: \$18.50 (\$17 for seniors). Seasonal passes are also available.
Convenor: Elaine Bander

COFFEE KLATCH

Friday, June 12, 7:45 to 9:00 am

Avenue G, 1386 Greene Avenue

We meet on the second Friday of each month, starting around 7:45 am at this coffee shop.
Convenor: Leah Trineer

LIBRARY LECTURES & LUNCH

Thurs., June 4, 11* - 12:30 to 3 p.m.

Atwater Library Auditorium & our Club Room

* June 11 is the last lecture until the Fall.

After the 12:30 in-person lectures, Carly serves a light lunch for \$5 in our Club Room. Great chance to discuss the lecture and catch up with fellow members. Convenor: Carly Pepler

To be sure of having enough to serve, Carly MUST BE CONTACTED before the day of the lecture if you plan to attend her lunch.

MUSEUM JAUNTERS

Outing details TBD

Convenor: Adèle Hébert (adele.hebert@bell.net)

STAGE AND SOIRÉE

During the summer in parks around town

- Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* by [Persephone Productions](#).
- William Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* by [Repercussion Theatre](#).

Is there any type of music or play you particularly enjoy? Contact me with ideas or if you would like to connect before a show.
Convenor: Christine Gilsenan



INTEREST GROUPS (cont'd)

COMING THIS SEPTEMBER!

TRAVEL GROUP

This group will meet in the Club Room once a month to talk of all things travel: the places you've been or the places you

want to visit. For many years, Valerie had run this group and now she's back!

Convenor: Valerie Markham

LADIES WHO LUNCH

Outing details TBD

Convenor: Adèle Hébert

OUTDOOR LADIES

Saturday, June 27, 11:00 am - Île Sainte-Hélène

We will explore an area that has recently undergone a significant transformation. The meeting point will be outside the Jean-Drapeau metro station. All details will be confirmed the week prior to the event. Contact Karen to express interest in participating. New convenor: Karen Staudinger

GOURMET GROUP

This group will meet in someone's home to discuss and prepare a dish or meal together.

Convenor: Joan Shideler.

Starts in August

WOMEN'S ISSUES

Thursday, June 25, 6:00 pm

3450 rue McTavish

Over drinks and dinner at the McGill Faculty Club, the group meets first for a cocktail and then moves to the dining room 45 minutes later. Short walk from the Peel metro station. Parking (for \$15) is available at the back of the Faculty Club building. Convenor: Olga Shevchenko



Valerie Shannon - June 6
Judith Ritchie - June 16
Maryse Ingenito - June 24

This feature is being discontinued.



DIRECTORY UPDATES

New members

Lorraine Singer

Nathalie Cooke

Nataliia Rossokhata

Your new Membership Directory will be coming soon!

SUBSCRIBE TO:

- CFUW (Canadian Federation of University Women) *Club Action* newsletter [HERE](#).
- GWI (Graduate Women International) *The Update* newsletter [HERE](#).
- NCWC (National Council of Women of Canada) newsletter [HERE](#).





MAX CAPACITY AT MAY 13 WINE & CHEESE



MUSEUM JAUNTERS at MMFA

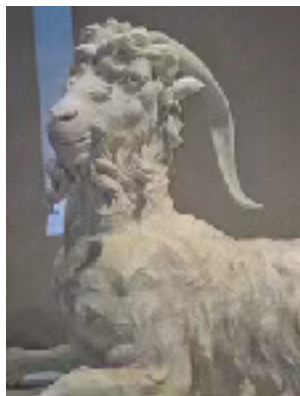
By Adèle Hébert

On April 30th, accompanied by guide Hassie Wittenberg, the group visited the Torlonia family exhibit of works assembled in the 19th century under the patronage of Prince Alessandro Torlonia, who had already acquired Vincenzo Giustiniani collections. Torlonia had successfully excavated many other family properties as well.

Today they are works of art, but in Ancient Rome, they were a pervasive means of communication.

Spanning almost 1,000 years (from the 5th century B.C. to 4th century A.D.), this private collection is on display for the very first time in Canada offering a unique perspective on antiquities and life in ancient Rome.

Statue of Resting Goat by Gian Lorenzo Bernini, son of Pietro Bernini.



Group photo far right; from left: Diane Dunn, Judith Ritchie, Alaka McConnell, Joan Hagerman, Karen Staudinger, Carmelita Rasquinha, Adèle Hébert, Barbara Kerr, Olga Shevchenko, Marina Crom (Olga's guest).





WOMEN'S ISSUES



Clockwise from left: Colleen Cattiny, Karen Staudinger, Maurene White, Sharon Brissette, Lynn Travers, Leah Trineer, Sheila Mohammed, Linda Edgar, Tanya Fitzpatrick, Marie-Chantal Hamel.
Photo courtesy of Olga Shevchenko.

COFFEE KLATCH - MAY 8



Clockwise from left:
Tanya Fitzpatrick, Zofia Laubitz, Maurene White, Valerie Markham, Linda Edgar, Joan Shideler.

Photo courtesy of Leah Trineer.

SAVE THE DATE! CENTENARY GALA DINNER

OCTOBER 20, 2027


Details coming soon.



CENTENARY TOTE BAGS



EVENTS CALENDAR - JUNE 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 BOARD MEETING	4 LECTURES & LUNCH	5 CHITTER-CHATTER	6 Francophone Quebec Learning Circle
7	8	9	10	11 LECTURES & LUNCH	12 COFFEE KLATCH	13
14	15 BOOK BUDDIES	16	17	18	19	20
21 SUMMER BEGINS 	22	23	24	25 WOMEN'S ISSUES	26	27 OUTDOOR LADIES
28	29	30				30

