

## **CFUW Sherbrooke and District Annual Report for the Fiscal Year April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.**

*Although the Provincial Council AGM and Public Speaking Contest are fresh in our minds at present, we shall rightfully report on them in the Annual Report of 2014-15.*

### Membership (2013-14) 104

#### April 2013:

- Resolutions Potluck Dinner: The Resolutions General Meeting is the major method used by CFUW Sherbrooke and District to adhere to our commitment to advocacy. For the fifth year, this meeting was held at the Lennoxville Curling Club and provided stimulating discussion on three CFUW resolutions, namely: Cyberbullying and Bullying; Toward a Mental Health Strategy for Canada; and Ensuring Food Security. Our Club representative, Mary Jane Amey, voted on these Resolutions on our behalf at the National AGM in Saskatoon SK in July 2013.
- Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec Silver Medal: Two long-serving members of our Club, Ouida Moliner and Mary Rhodes received the Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec Silver Medal for outstanding volunteer work beyond the age of 65.
- Provincial Council AGM: CFUW Sherbrooke and District hosted the Provincial Council AGM at the Dufferin Golf Course in Stanstead. Dr. Jean Manore, Associate Professor at Bishop's University was the keynote speaker and presented a factual history on issues leading up to the Idle No More movement. At lunch, CFUW S&D and guests celebrated the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Club with an anniversary cake.

#### May 2013:

- Public Speaking: The 21st Annual Public Speaking Contest was held at Amédée Beaudoin Community Centre on Wednesday, May 1st. Five high schools participated, sending 20 speakers in all. The Junior Division winner was Owen Teolis from Massey Vanier High School, speaking on "Canada: My Home and Native Land." The Senior Division winner was Andrew Donaldson from Stanstead College speaking on "Cancer: Get Involved." CFUW S&D began a new initiative by donating \$100 to the school library of each Division winner.
- Mothers' Day Baskets: Janet Angrave and her daughter delivered Mothers' Day Baskets to seniors' homes in the region.
- Status of Women: Dorothy Duncan sent a letter to Karine Vallieres, MNA for Richmond commending her on her anti-poverty work.
- Club AGM: At the May AGM, CFUW Sherbrooke and District voted to present our affiliate the Fondation Lampe Foundation with \$5,000 for awards and scholarships at the local level.

July 2013:

- Lampe Foundation Fundraiser: The Piggery fundraiser for the CFUW S & D Lampe Foundation realized approximately \$1,600.
- National AGM: Mary Jane Amey, President represented the Executive and Club Membership at the National AGM in Saskatoon, Sask. She attended workshops on: Communications and Social Media; Advocacy; and Club Governance and voted on the 3 Resolutions that our Club reviewed.

August 2013:

- Summer Market: Book Sale and Silent Auction: The major CFUW S & D annual fundraiser was held at Lennoxville United Church on the same weekend as the Lennoxville Street Festival. Lucie Roy oversaw the Book Sale and Heather Bowman was Silent Auction leader. The funds were later distributed to the Fondation Lampe Foundation, the International Red Cross for disaster relief in the Philippines, and the National Charitable Trust for the CFUW 1989 École Polytechnique Commemorative Awards.

September 2013:

- Program: The Program season opened with the September General Meeting. Claire Holt, program Coordinator, and her assistant Sandi Kouri, presented the General Meeting program schedule to the membership. All General Meetings are open to the public and this one provided an opportunity for members to re-connect, bring along friends, and sign up for Interest Groups. Matthew Nutbrown spoke to us about his founding work at the Lennoxville Youth Centre.

October 2013:

- Club Goals: The Executive selected goals for the upcoming 2013-2014 season. They are:
  - Begin an advocacy committee;
  - Rewrite the Bylaws; and
  - Develop a Communication Plan including updating the website.
- Advocacy: A new Advocacy Committee was set up in October and initial issues were: The Charter of Quebec Values and the Community Resource Pamphlet prepared by the Sherbrooke MP for his constituents.
- Provincial Council Meetings: The President attended the Fall Provincial Council Meeting hosted by the Quebec City Club.CFUW Lakeshore. The PC theme of Aboriginal Education and Human Rights continued.
- October General Meeting: In place of the usual General Meeting, our Club partnered with the Women's Centre and Bishops University to screen the NFB film: *The Status Quo: The Unfinished Business of Feminism in*

*Canada*. It produced items for our advocacy list, such as Universal Affordable Childcare and Reproductive Rights.

November 2013:

- November General Meeting: After a brief business meeting, Dr Rona Graham, University of Sherbrooke professor and researcher spoke to us about her work as a researcher in the area of degenerative neurological diseases such as Parkinsons and Alzheimers. She also spoke of her experience as a woman in science. This meeting was well attended by the public, especially university students.

December 2013:

- December General Meeting and Christmas Party: The Club's annual Christmas party was held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Lennoxville. Lampe Foundation Awards were distributed by Heather Bowman. Yvette Voisard and Dian Cohen dazzled us from the kitchen.

January 2014:

- January General Meeting: On a cold January evening, a small group of hardy souls braved the elements to attend our General Meeting. The keynote speaker was Robert Nutbrown, of the Dixville Home Foundation, who presented material on the various services for people with intellectual disabilities and autism spectrum disorders.
- Lennoxville Library: Every 2 years, CFUW National gives a prize to a local Library of \$4,000.00 to be spent over a few years. The Lennoxville Library applied for the grant this year and CFUW, S & D was asked to send a letter of support, which was done. A reminder that the Lennoxville Library is a non-profit Library and receives no governmental funds.

March 2014:

- March General Meeting: At this General Meeting, the speaker Dave Warnholtz from Hope Church presented a video-journal of his recent trip to Nepal where the group provided community service (building latrines) at high altitude. CFUW S&D presented the Fondation Lampe Foundation with \$4,000, realized from the 2013 Summer Market: Silent Auction.
- Resolutions 2014: After one cancellation due to bad weather, the second Resolutions meeting in this fiscal year took place in March, in order to accommodate National's new due date of March 31 for recommended amendments. We reviewed all four proposed Resolutions, made minor amendments on three, and rejected one. The 2014 Resolution titles were:
  - An Enhanced Canada Pension Plan
  - Culture of Peace

- Preservation of Democracy: Increasing Voter Participation in Canada
- Promoting Plain Language

Interest Groups: Ten interest groups met throughout the year. Many groups collect loonies and toonies at their monthly meetings and send them to community organizations.

Fondation Lampe Foundation, CFUW Sherbrooke & District: The Club's affiliate, the Fondation Lampe Foundation continues to give out awards (scholarships and bursaries) bi-annually and now gives renewable awards. In Fiscal year 2013-14, approximately \$28,000 was distributed to local young people.

Status of Women: Dorothy Duncan continued our letter-writing project that reaches out and recognizes notable women in our provincial and federal community.

Bulletin: The CFUW Bulletin, with Lee Sullivan-Lapp as editor and Carol Mooney as assistant, continue to provide information to members re: upcoming events, club activities and CFUW information. Louise Chartier and Lucie Roy provide translation services throughout the year.