



University Women's Club Toronto

envisioning, engaging, empowering

UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL MEMBER MEETING | OCTOBER 14TH AT 7:00 PM



We will be discussing issues connected to CFUW and GWI. In our previous meeting the Board outlined the situation speaking about the legal issues of withdrawing, the financial issues with GWI, a bit of history, fiscal responsibilities, etc. This meeting will be to give you a chance to speak and ask questions, to exchange ideas and to find more clarity on the issues. Everyone will be sent the Zoom link on Oct. 14.

Better Together

SPEAKER SERIES

VIA ZOOM

LUCAN WAY | OCTOBER 19TH AT 5:00 PM

Topic: Can Western Democracy Survive on the Loss of "White" Dominance?

Historically, the most stable and longest lasting democracies have been dominated by 'white' European citizenry, and a long tradition of scholarship, back to John Stuart Mill and earlier, has drawn a connection between homogeneous identity and stable, well-governed democracy. What then is the impact of increasing diversity in North America and Europe? Professor Way will argue that it does in fact threaten established Western democracy.

Email: Haley at info@uwctoronto.ca





It seems that we will be in this COVID situation for the foreseeable future. We are being warned not to count on celebrations for Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's. It may well be that U of T has no in-person classes until next fall. Most of our usual events: the TSO concerts, Tafelmusik, the Opera, the Ballet, Tarragon, Soulpepper, films, Hot Docs and festivals are cancelled, postponed or sent virtually to our computers. Alas!

We can, however, meet in small groups in large spaces. Why not meet some fellow UWC members to talk about current events, about music, about art or even just to get together to chat? We encouraged you to join the Heliconian Literary Series. Discuss the books with a couple of friends. The on-line lectures for Later Life Learning, Doc Soup, Curious Minds can be further discussed over coffee or a glass of wine with friends. Make a bubble of your fellow members, if you wish and if you think it would be the right thing for you. We are continuing with our French, the book clubs and our neighbourhood walks and patio evenings.. The dates and info are in the newsletter. The speakers on Zoom have been excellent and promise to be timely, interesting and thought provoking. Please join us.

As a club, we can be very proud of our work with scholarships and with outreach to Romero House. We had many plans in the works for fundraising via Innis Town Hall events, book sales in conjunction with the Heliconian, volunteering to help women on the margins. There isn't much that we can do now. We await a green light to begin again in person.

We are exploring ideas for fundraising in COVID and will let you know more at the All Members Zoom Meeting on Oct. 14. Do mark your calendars and join us that evening. Also be sure to mark Nov. 9 at 6:00 for our Finance Meeting and Annual General Meeting. Your participation is extremely important.

Please read the reports and information that will be sent separately later this month.

In this time so full of the unknown, let's enjoy the known: our families, our friends and each other.

All the best, Susan

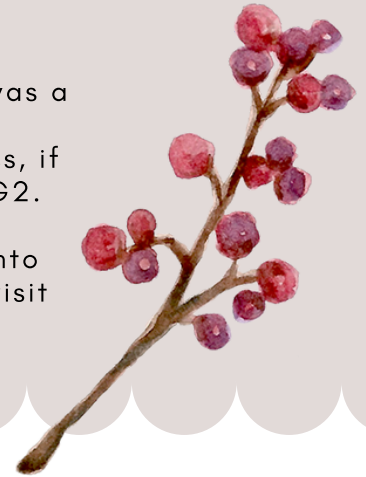


CLUB NEWS

LOVED ONES

Members will be saddened to learn of the death of Corinne Murray's husband Bruce, after a long and valiant battle with cancer. Bruce was a great vocal artist, historian and teacher and will be much missed. Corinne was a former Director of Program with the club. Her address, if you wish to send a card, is 2818-33 Harbour Square, Toronto, M5J 2G2.

Nancy Lunney is now at Providence Villa. 3276 St. Clair Ave. E, Toronto M1L 4T9. Richard says that she is settling in well. He is allowed to visit weekly after a negative Covid test.



NEW MEMBERS

We are delighted to welcome Moira Hudgin to our club. Moira is a joint member with CFUW North Toronto and the former Regional Director for Ontario Central.

We also welcome another set of sisters. Shajeetha and Kirushna have set a precedent. Our new sisters are Ruxandra and Felicia Pop, both U of T science graduates. Welcome!! We look forward to meeting you soon.

We also welcome Shelley Zucchi who is a joint member with CFUW Ottawa. Shelley will be spending more and more time in Toronto and we are so pleased that she has decided to join us.

WELCOME

ROMERO HOUSE

Romero House will be accepting seasonal clothing and footwear, basic household items and linens again in October. We will be unable to do the collecting on their behalf at the moment. Please call ahead to check to see that they are open and have room for your donations. As you can imagine their needs are great after a long period of being unable to receive donations during Covid.

They are located at 1558 Bloor St. W. It is just around the corner from the Dundas West subway. Phone is 416-763-1303.



CLUB NEWS

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM UWC TO A PAN-TORONTO COMMITTEE

Shajeetha Chandomahara has kindly agreed to be our representative on the city-wide Early Childhood Education group, chaired by Margaret McGovern.

We are so pleased that Shajeetha is taking this role and it is a perfect fit with her degrees from both U of T and George Brown in Early Childhood Education.



AGM MEETING | NOVEMBER 9TH AT 6:00PM

Save the date for our Finance Meeting and Annual General Meeting on Monday, Nov. 9 at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be conducted on Zoom.



A LETTER FROM THE FACULTY CLUB PRESIDENT

Sept. 4th, 2020

Since the closure of the Faculty Club in mid-March as a result of the current pandemic, the Board of Directors has been keeping you informed about the prospects of reopening the Club, which we had initially assumed would be in September 2020. However, it has become apparent that opening the Club at this time with the necessary health and safety measures would not be financially feasible, especially given the extremely limited presence of our members on campus for the foreseeable future.

The Board is actively engaged in discussions with the University of Toronto in planning the future of the Club. We will keep you fully informed with further updates.

Sincerely, Leslie Shade
President, UTFC



SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

Our 2020-2021 scholarship recipients have begun their academic year and it will be exciting to follow their progress and get their insights, especially during these unusual times.

Our first Children's Aid Foundation award winner is Kelly Thompson who is beginning her fourth year at U of T Scarborough Campus in Mental Health Studies. Susan, Jane and I were invited to the virtual Stand Up for Kids evening that honours the wonderful work done to support young people aging out of care by highlighting programs and hearing from students recounting their own stories of challenges and successes. We are committed for three more years to this worthy cause.

We have just received information that our Innis College Residence Scholarship has been awarded to first year student Kelly Lui. Kelly has chosen to defer this award for the first term but hopes to take up her place in residence in January.

Two of our young women from Iqaluit have returned to school. Anna Lambe (of the movie *The Grizzlies* and the new CBC series *Trickster*) has returned to Ottawa for the first term but will probably take second term off, as she did last year, to film a second season of that series. Cassidy-Ann Netser has returned to Halifax for her second year. Our latest recipient, Lerena Ashevak has decided to defer her university entrance for a year with hopes to begin next fall.

Our first Mary Macdonald Scholarship recipient Alyssa Clark has returned to Trent for her second year and our second scholarship has gone to Sameen Ali who has begun classes at York University.

Originally the Mary Macdonald Scholarship was comprised of two \$25,000 awards, but her family has generously been adding to that fund over the past few years and we are hoping to be able to add a third scholarship to the former City of York high schools.

Our committee will meet early in 2021 to review our process and set out our course of action for the next round of scholarships. These women do all the heavy lifting that has made our scholarship program so successful. Thank you to Sharon Abel, Marianne Anderson, Lily Contento, Susan Freeman, Doris Geddes, Jane Hamer, Liz Mowat, Talisha Ramsaroor and Penny Vincent.

I would like to thank our membership once again for the continued support of our scholarship program. Know that we are making a difference in the lives of young women through our educational awards.

Please have a read of some of the correspondence we have received from our students.

Respectfully submitted,

- *Chris Ward*



SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

CORRESPONDENTS FROM OUR RECIPIENTS



Good Morning Christine!



I have really been enjoying McGill and getting settled in even though I am still in Toronto. I am finding the course content very interesting and engaging even through the screen, so far my favourite course is calculus.

Take care,
Stephanie

Christine,

Thank you, I will do that. My university is going well. I am taking one step at a time and adjusting to the new study life but with time everything will be great. Thanks for checking in.

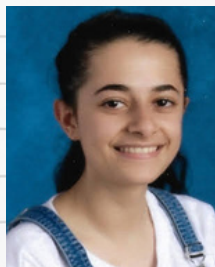
Claire



Hello Christine,

I am sorry I didn't get the chance to reply until now, but the past few weeks have been extremely busy for me. University has started three weeks ago, and there has never been a busier and a more challenging time for me. The workload is incredibly big compared to the high school load, but I learned so much during these three weeks! I am enjoying every course I am taking despite all the challenges.

Sham



Hello,

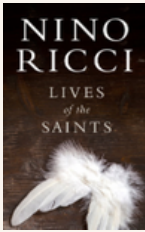
Indeed, university is not what I thought it would be. Although I was given many heads up to prepare myself it still feels different in the moment. However, my first week went well and I am glad to say that I am on track with all my work! Thank you for checking in and wishing me luck. I really do appreciate it. I would love to share my journey!

Sameen



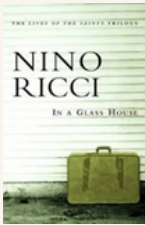
CLUB NEWS

MORNING BOOK CLUB



Thursday, October 1st at 10:30 a.m.

Lives of the Saints is a novel by Nino Ricci. The author's first book, it forms the first part of a trilogy. The other two novels are *In a Glass House* and *Where She Has Gone*. *Lives of the Saints* was first published in 1990 and was the winner of the 1990 Governor General's Awards for fiction.



Thursday, November 5th at 10:30 a.m.

Book: *In a Glass House* by Nino Ricci.
The sequel to award-winning novel, *Lives of the Saints*. This is a story about perseverance and longed-for redemption; the need to both escape the past as well as reclaim it.



Thursday, December 3rd at 10:30 a.m.

This powerful sequel to *In a Glass House* explores forbidden desire and the longing for what is unrecoverable. Victor Innocente's intense relationship with his half-sister sets in motion events that will take him back to the place of his birth in Italy, where he confronts his past. Shortlisted for the Giller Prize.



Thursday, January 7th at 10:30 a.m.

Red Notice: A True Story of High Finance, Murder, and One Man's Fight for Justice by Bill Browder.

Browder's business saga meshes well with the story of corruption and murder in Vladimir Putin's Russia, making *Red Notice* an early candidate for any list of the year's best books" (*Fortune*).

EVENING BOOK GROUP

The evening book group will continue to get together monthly on a **Wednesday evening** via Zoom. Here are the dates and topics to be discussed. All members are welcome! The Zoom link will be sent out a few days prior to each discussion.

Oct 28 - Mystery

Nov 18 - Non-Fiction

Jan 27 - *The Nightingale*

Feb 24 - *Lives of Women in Developing Countries*

Mar 24 - *The Tattoo Artist of Auschwitz*

Apr 28 - Biography

May 26 - Favourite Author

June 23 - *The Huntress*





AN APPEAL FROM CFUW NATIONAL PRESIDENT AND BOARD MEMBERS TO CLUBS

The following letter was sent on Sept. 18 in response to many clubs' reaction to the defeat of the Guelph motion to eliminate Article 4 which states that CFUW will be a member of GWI:

It has come to our attention that there is a suggestion circulating among Clubs to withhold dues to national office in protest of the failure of the motion to strike Article 4 from the Articles and Bylaws that CFUW shall be a member of GWI. This suggestion is rooted in the perception that CFUW National seems determined to ignore the concerns of 64% of the membership as well as the recent report of the Mediation Working Group.

The members of the Mediation Working Group unanimously agreed that:

1. The CFUW is in need of better, more healing, constructive communication;
2. There has been a problem with past confusion about information regarding GWI; and
3. There is a great deal of value in the CFUW continuing as a unified, strong, cohesive organization, into the future. Everyone involved wants the CFUW to continue as a single organization.
4. Collaborative, facilitated conversations, like the one undertaken by this Committee, are useful and should form part of the practice of CFUW going forward. The Board is most definitely not ignoring the Mediation Report nor the concerns of our membership. To that end, I will highlight what actions the Board has taken to date:

- The Board has unanimously accepted a plan for implementation of the Mediation Report
- A Mediation Implementation Oversight Committee has been established under co-chairs Barb DuMoulin, VP British Columbia and Joy Hurst, VP International Relations
- A Communications Committee chaired by Judy Hopps, VP Quebec has begun work to develop a communication strategy as per recommendation 2 of the Mediation Report.
- The Articles and By-laws committee has been charged with reporting on Article 4 - background, legal advice, etc. and their report will be shared with all the membership.
- In consultation with a governance specialist, the Board is developing a Strategic Plan and all Clubs will be consulted and offered the opportunity to attend discussion groups

The Board was elected at the end of June and I hope the initiatives that we have taken in the past two months will allow us to move forward as a strong, united voice for women and girls.

It should be remembered that Clubs who do not pay their dues are giving up their voice and are unable to:

- Participate in the resolution process
- Vote at an annual or special general meeting
- Nominate a candidate
- Make or second a motion

I urge Clubs not to withhold their dues, because now, more than ever, strong women's organizations are needed as the pandemic is disproportionately affecting women and girls.

Kathryn,

National CFUW President

ADVOCACY

THE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE IS MOVING FORWARD IN A BIG WAY

We have organized ourselves into a coherent group with a vision of assisting women in the margins. We are focusing on housing and plan to work on three levels:

- 1) Immediate assistance to people in need. We are contemplating the purchase of beds for the homeless and the creation of a fund that will provide first and last month's rent to qualifying candidates. We will be working in cooperation with community agencies to successfully implement our plans.
- 2) We will be lobbying the three levels of government with target issues related to housing. (We will let you know what these are in the very near future and will turn to you for support in reaching our governments).
- 3) We will develop an education component as it relates to housing and financial literacy.

We are very proud of our committee (the women in our group are awesome !!!) and what it is growing into. If you have any questions on how we are moving forward or if you are curious about who we are, please don't hesitate to reach out: lilycontento@royalpage.ca or Lily 647-261-9482. The Committee welcomes new members.

- Lily

MEMBERS CORNER

MY STAYCATION

We had many plans to travel this year including France, Italy, Ireland and Newfoundland as my husband, Peter, retired earlier this year. In February we visited my in-laws and my daughter Jane in England and also skied in Westendorf, Austria, a small village near Kitzbuhel in the Tyrol district. We were there during Mardi Gras and the bars were hopping in the evening with much merriment and umpah! When we returned home, a friend forwarded an article from the Star which said that there was a huge outbreak of COVID at one of the resorts just a few kilometers from where we were staying. We were very fortunate. Since then we have stayed close to home.

Our only vacation has been to Prince Edward County for a week. We rented a cottage in Cherry Valley close to Picton. We cycled, walked along the beach at Sandbanks, visited art galleries and wineries. It was very relaxing. I don't miss travelling overseas and am taking advantage doing more gardening, reading and getting together with friends over coffee.

The pandemic will eventually pass but as the saying goes, "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain"

- Carmie Drumm



PAST EVENTS

OUTDOOR OUTINGS

On September 22, our second UWC Outdoor Outing explored the seven undergraduate colleges of the University of Toronto downtown campus. In case you are wondering, they are Victoria, Trinity, St. Michael's, University, New, Innis and Woodsworth. We were blessed with lovely weather and wandered through the beautiful architecture of new and old buildings.

- Marianne

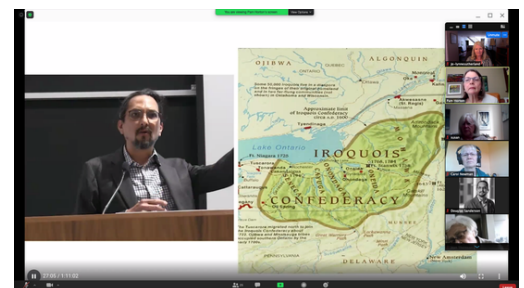
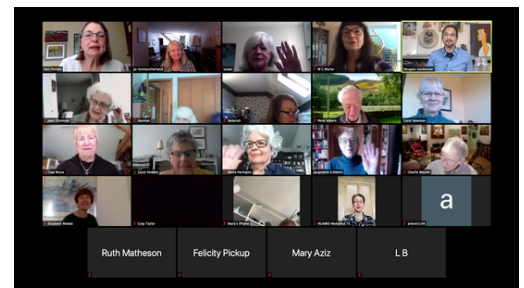
We hope to continue these outings through the fall. Should anyone have an idea of a part of Toronto we could explore outside, please let Marianne Anderson know.



ZOOM SPEAKER

On September 14, we were pleased to host another successful Zoom speaker, Professor Douglas Sanderson of the University of Toronto Law School. Professor Sanderson, who teaches and advises on Indigenous issues, spoke on "Wampum Diplomacy" in the days before Canadian Confederation. His talk was a fascinating review of the diplomatic relationship between Indigenous peoples and the settlers of that time, and it was illustrated with several fine examples of beautiful wampum belts.

Our Zoom speakers' series has enabled us to stay in touch during the pandemic and has introduced us to many speakers who are able to engage with us online from afar, often in new and interesting ways. For Professor Sanderson's talk, we were privileged to go, via video, inside one of the Law School's lecture rooms. More Zoom speakers are lined up to speak to us this fall.



what's on

UWC EVENTS

Send an email to Haley at info@uwctoronto.ca to register

OCT
01

Morning Book Club at
10:30 am
Book: Lives of the Saints by
Nino Ricci

NOV
05

Morning Book Club at
10:30 am
Book: In a Glass House by
Nino Ricci

OCT
14

All Members Zoom at
7:00 pm
Better Together

NOV
09

AGM and Finance Meeting
at **6:00 pm**



OCT
19

Zoom Speaker | Lucan Way
at **5:00 pm**

NOV
16

Zoom Speaker | Ivan Evans
at **4:00 pm**

OCT
28

Evening Book Club at
5:00 pm
Topic: Mystery

NOV
18

Evening Book Club at
5:00 pm
Topic: Non-Fiction

