

**CANADIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

**ST. JOHN'S**



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2025**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT	Page 3
REPORT OF THE TREASURER	Page 5
REPORT OF THE SECRETARIES	Page 6

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE	Page 7
OUTREACH COMMITTEE	Page 8
PROGRAM COMMITTEE	Page 11
PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE	Page 14
SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE	Page 15
ARCHIVES COMMITTEE	Page 18

### **PROJECT REPORTS**

BOOK SALE	Page 18
-----------	---------

### **STUDY GROUP REPORTS**

ISSUES AND RESOLUTIONS	Page 19
------------------------	---------

### **INTEREST GROUP REPORTS**

AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB	Page 20
COSIES AND CLASSICS BOOK CLUB	Page 21
MORNING BOOK CLUB #1	Page 22
MORNING BOOK CLUB #2	Page 22
MURDER 'n' MAYHEM BOOK CLUB #1	Page 23
MURDER 'n' MAYHEM BOOK CLUB #2	Page 24
THURSDAY EVENING BOOK CLUB	Page 24
TUESDAY AFTERNOON BRIDGE	Page 25
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BRIDGE	Page 25
CRAFTS CRAFT GROUP	Page 25
DINING OUT	Page 25
LADIES WHO LUNCH	Page 26
SUNSHINE COMMITTEE	Page 26
WALKING GROUP	Page 26
WOMEN ON TAP	Page 27

### **REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

	Page 27
--	---------

## EXECUTIVE REPORTS

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Janet O'Brien**

What a successful, active and sometimes hectic year 2024-25 has been! I became president of CFUW St. John's in August 2024, after having served as Vice-President (2023-24) and Chair of the Program Committee (2022-24). I still feel like a relative newbie to CFUW, having joined the club in 2019. I have to say a great big thank-you to all of the club members who have led and participated in club events during the year and have encouraged me as I found my feet in this new role. I would especially like to thank members of the Executive and Committees for all they do to make the club what it is today. In particular, I would like to single out Gillian Brown, Past President, for her guidance throughout this past year and for stepping in for me at a couple of executive meetings and for performing some duties when I had too much on my plate.

Other members of the CFUW St. John's Executive for 2024/25 are:

Joyce Noseworthy, Treasurer  
 Marion Tilley, Executive Secretary  
 Gerri Downey/Sharon Walsh, Co-General Secretaries  
 Susan McNicholas, Membership Chair  
 Libby Foran, Outreach Chair  
 Linda Coles, Scholarship Chair (Aug 2024 – Jan 2025)  
 Leslie MacLeod, Scholarship Chair (from March 2025)  
 Gladys Schofield/Jennifer Jeans, Program Co-Chairs  
 Grace Hollett, Public Relations Co-Chair/Chair  
 Emily Rowe, Public Relations Co-Chair (August 2024 - Jan 2025)  
 Gillian Brown, Past President

In addition, Daphne Lilly does an excellent job of looking after our club's archives. Gerri Downey has done dual duty, with her role as Regional Director and has kept the club up-to-date on regional and national issues. Grace Hollett, another dual duty (or more) member, has kept us abreast of international issues, in her role as VP International.

Our year started with our Open House in September, with 50 women in attendance. Ten new attendees signed up for membership during or soon after the meeting. Our guest speakers Simone Lilly of **End Homelessness, St. John's** and Gail Thornhill of **Stella's Circle** giving us a clear picture of the current housing crisis and its root causes as well as the coordinated system they are using to address the housing needs of those affected. The Program Co-Chairs, Jennifer Jeans and Gladys Schofield, as well as their Committee are to be commended for arranging this event, as well as for arranging the general meetings throughout the year, including the Christmas and AGM meals/socials. Thanks also to Grace Hollett and Emily Rowe for their efforts to publicize CFUW in general and in particular our program events. Publicity included radio interviews on both CBC and VPCM, in which Grace, Libby Foran, Margie Greene and I participated.

A particularly successful general meeting was held in January 2025 via zoom. Local author, Holly Hogan was interviewed by Angela Antle about her book, **Message in a Bottle – Ocean Dispatches from a Seabird Biologist**. We had 116 participants from around the globe attend this session. Thanks in particular to Grace Hollett for her promotion of this event that led to such a tremendous turnout. Please see the Program Report for further details on all of our program events.

As your club president, I participated, along with several of our club members in the Fall Virtual Gathering of the Atlantic Regional Council (ARC). I spoke about our **Blue Skies** Initiative, which was a planning exercise that our club had undertaken in the winter/spring 2024. I also attended the Annual General Meeting of ARC in May 2025. Last July, as vice-president, I had the opportunity of attending the National Conference in Edmonton. All of these experiences had helped me to get a better understanding of CFUW regionally and nationally.

The club held a lovely afternoon tea at Grace Hollett's home for new members this year, where new members mingled with members of the executive and got to know each other better. We learned about the new members interests and gave them additional information about the club's activities. This informal setting is a great opportunity for everyone to learn more about each other.

An afternoon tea for all members was held in February 2025 at the Retired Citizen's Club to celebrate Valentine's Day and Canadian Flag Day. Thanks to Gerri Downey and Sharon Walsh for the idea and the organizing and to members who assisted in setting up this event. A good time was had by all!

Our annual book sale, held April 3-5, was once again a great success. It really takes a village to put off this event each year. From book sorting, setting up and taking down tables, to publicity, working on the cash or making sure that volunteers have treats for their breaks, everyone has a role to play. Huge thanks to Joyce Noseworthy, the book sale committee, club members, friends and family, as well as members of the general public

As part of Memorial University's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, and to celebrate the same milestone of women's voting rights in Newfoundland, the Gender Studies Department re-launched the "Ladies Reading Room". The Room had been operation from 1909 – 1934 in St. John's and acted as a self-taught university for women, who had been banned from men's fraternal society clubs where they had previously attended lectures and debates. CFUW St. John's contributed \$1000 to this worthy cause and in addition, members Faith Balisch and Hilda Murray loaned the project an antique rocking chair and floor lamp. The Ladies Reading Room held its official re-launch/Open House on April 16, 2025 in the Sally Davis Seminar Room at MUN. Several CFUW members dropped by and were delighted with it.

Our club executive, committees and interest groups have been very active all year. I have tried to capture some highlights, but I invite you to read through this whole report to get the sense of everything that we have been doing. Thanks to all of you for your kind words and deeds that have supported me throughout this year. I look forward to one more year serving you as President.

## REPORT OF THE TREASURER – Joyce Noseworthy

### FINANCIAL REPORT

August 1, 2024 - May 20, 2025

**OPENING BALANCE AS OF AUGUST 1, 2024: \$41,389.52**

#### **INCOME**

Bank Credit – Interest of GIC	\$259.70
Bank Credit – Interest on Chequing/Savings Account	\$16.36
Book Sale	\$77,935.85
Dinner – AGM	\$1680.00
Dinner - Christmas	\$2,520.00
Collection for CFUW Charitable Trust	\$545.00
Membership Dues	\$7347.50
Donations - Baskets	\$538.00
Donation – Membership fees for New Members	\$750.00
Donation - General	\$50.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$91,642.41</b>

#### **EXPENSES**

Administration	\$1255.45
Archives	\$500
Baskets	\$407.72
Book Sale	\$10,008.29
Dinner - Christmas	\$2,678.00
Dinner AGM - deposit	\$172.50
Donation to CFUW Charitable Trust	\$545.00
Membership Dues - ARC	\$194.00
Membership Dues - National	\$5,335.00
Donations	\$1850.00
Meetings	\$781.53
Outreach	\$18,750.00
<b>Total Expenses.</b>	<b>\$42,477.49</b>

**Current Account Balance as of May 20, 2025 \$90,554.44**

**Total Commitments Remaining for 2024/25 3,043.88**

**Balance Available as of May 20, 2025 87,510.56**

**Investments \$15,532.34**

**Total Available \$103,042.90**

### **Proposed Budget 2025-2026**

Administration	\$1500
Web Site Update	\$3000
Archives	\$500
Conferences	\$3000
Donations	\$1000
Meetings	\$2000
Pre Book Sale	\$8000
RNC Lock Exchange Program	\$500
Scholarships	\$45,000
Sunshine Committee	\$100
Outreach/Baskets	\$20,000
<b>Total Proposed Budget</b>	<b>\$84,600</b>

### **REPORT OF THE SECRETARIES** **Gerri Downey & Marion Tilley**

There were seven general/business meetings during this time period for which minutes were taken. The September meeting was an Open House held at The Lantern, Barnes Road. October and November 2024 meetings, and March and May 2025 meetings were in-person at Room 4065 Earth Science Bldg., MUN. The January and February 2025 meetings were held via Zoom. The June meeting is the AGM Dinner at the Legion, Blackmarsh Road for which minutes are not yet available.

Speaker Presentations were organized by the Program Committee.

Reports at general meetings were presented by the President; Treasurer; Membership, Scholarship and Public Relations chairs: Iris Kirby, Outreach and Program committees. Other reports presented were from the Issues and Resolutions study group, The Long Term Care and Older Person's Study Group and the Book Sale project.

There were no policy changes or new policy enactments during the period September to May 2024-2025

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT – Susan McNicholas, Chair**

This past year CFUW St. John's has experienced an increase in membership. Our total membership now stands at 106; this number includes two student members.

#### **September Membership Open House and Social:**

Membership recruitment began with the annual membership open house and social held on Saturday, September 21, 2024, at the Lantern, 35 Barnes Road, St John's. The meeting marked the beginning of the 2024 – 25 CFUW year. The event was widely advertised through public service announcements, extending an invitation to all interested women. At this time, members were given the opportunity to renew membership and new members were registered.

Membership kits were given to the new members who joined at that time, and all members were given a program for 2024 - 2025. Program information was given to guests who expressed an interest in finding out more about the CFUW St. John's club. To encourage new members, a generous donation from an anonymous club member allowed new members to register for the reduced membership fee of \$40.00

#### **Membership Monthly Meetings:**

Throughout the year members were encouraged to bring a friend to the meetings. This resulted in an increase in attendance at the monthly meetings. Thank you to everyone who participated in the membership recruitment throughout the year.

#### **Book Sale:**

Our annual Great Big Book Sale provided an opportunity to promote membership in the club. The book sale committee, through their many interviews with the media in promoting the book collection and the book sale, provided a venue to highlight the history and mission of CFUW St. John's Club. Membership invitations were also available for distribution at this event.

#### **New Members:**

We offer a warm welcome to our new members Suzanne Brake, Geri Cashin, Beverley Clarke, Leslie Grattan, Monica Griffin, Kelly Mansell, Leslie McLeod, Lou-Anne Moakler, Karene Tweedie, June Walker-Wilson, Effie White and Nancy Winsor, and to our members who have joined us in the last three months: Karen McGrath, Mollie Butler, Madeline Whelan, Kathleen Shallow (student), Amelia Shallow (student), Rachael Harding, Marget Davis, Evelyn Reid and Gillian Butler. We also welcome back Brenda Hollohan and Christine Koch. These ladies have diverse backgrounds, many in business and in the public sector. They represent a powerhouse of talent. We are so pleased to welcome them to our club.

**Departing Members:**

We are sad to have lost two of our long time members, who passed away during this year. They are Shirley Cooper and Jill Whittaker. They will be dearly missed.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT – Libby Foran, Chair**

This year we welcomed some new members to our team, which was a wonderful way to have more minds engaged to reach a broad range of community groups in need. Our Outreach Committee now includes Margie Greene, Bertha Schofield, Sheila Genge, Joan McCue, Michelle Sullivan, Bev Clarke, Effie White and myself. Michelle, Effie and Bev were new and valued members. We met four times during the year and also worked with each other through email communication. It was a highly rewarding year!!

The Club gave us a budget of \$20,000 to use in support of the Iris Kirby Basket Project and other community agencies.

**1. Iris Kirby Basket Program – Margie Greene**

The Basket Committee members are Ann Hinton, Bertha Schofield, Pat Grattan, Joan McCue, Sheila Genge, Nadine Flannigan-Wheeler and Margie Greene.

Each month we supply two laundry baskets filled with household items for women leaving the Iris Kirby House shelter, the only shelter serving woman and their children in the community. The baskets contain items the women will need during the first few days of their settling into new accommodations. The basic supplies include kitchen and bathroom necessities, along with tea bags, coffee, sugar and milk – all things that will help them feel at home. This year we had requests for an extra five so, since August we have delivered 25 baskets and have two more ready for June. A total of 386 baskets have been delivered since the program began.

Members bring items to meetings or special interest groups and we buy others from cash donated or from money raised at the Great Big Book Sale. At the Christmas and Valentine socials, many members brought great supplies and we ended up with many “extras,” such as sample sizes of cosmetics, a teapot, a cheese grater and even a hair dryer! This year, two of our shoppers fell into conversation with a woman shopping at Dollarama and, when she learned what we were doing, she insisted on getting involved, took half our shopping list and donated the items, worth \$90.

The women who work at the shelter and take delivery of the baskets continue to tell us how much they enjoy giving them to the women who leave and how the baskets bring smiles to the faces of the recipients, many of whom have had very little to smile about. They enthusiastically thank us and ask that we report back to you on the importance of the work we do here.

## 2. Community Outreach Projects – Libby Foran

We began in August, contributing \$1000 to **Bridges to Hope – Back to School Program**. Joan and Libby delivered the cheque and had a tour of their facility. A photo was posted on our Facebook page with the director Leslie Burgess. This program enables school age students with financial need to avail of quality school supplies and backpacks, helping them start their school year on a more equal footing with their peers. The needs continue to grow in this inner-city operation. This year, over 700 students availed of the backpack service. Bridges to Hope operates a Food Bank, but they reach far beyond that with other initiatives, such as the Backpack Program. They have a strong volunteer program, with various businesses helping intermittently and regular weekly people too.

This was our second year funding **Scientists in Schools**, an all-Canadian organization that offers STEM education through ZOOM to classrooms and community centers, especially in outlying areas and underfunded areas. We received a thank you video from Scientists in Schools, for last years' donation and used this at our first monthly meeting to share with members. We contributed \$2500 this year, an increase from the previous year of \$1750. This funding supports their work in Newfoundland and Labrador communities.

We donated \$1000 each to **THRIVE Adult Education Program** and **Rabbittown Adult Education Program**. These programs meet our goals of helping young adults complete some basic education so that they may move forward in life. Thrive has operated its Education Program for over 15 years, resulting in over 1,000 young people improving their educational outcomes, pursuing post-secondary education and securing employment. The program provides educational support from foundational literacy and numeracy through to the Canadian Adult Education Credential for clients of Thrive, The Murphy Centre students, and the general public. The Canadian Adult Education Credential test replaces the former General Educational Development (GED) test, which ended in May 2024.

The Rabbittown Learners Program is a Basic Literacy / ABE Level 1 Program which offers upgrading for persons wishing to advance to the Grade Six level of education, in order to continue on to higher education, increasing chances for employment. While there is no minimum level of education required to enter the program, New Canadian students are required to pass the Level 5 Canadian Language Benchmark. The curriculum includes: Communications, Math, Science, Social Studies, Government and Law, The Workplace, and Introduction to Computers and Consumer Education.

We donated \$1200 to the **CNIB PREP Series** (Practical Readiness for Employment and Post-Secondary Series). Youth with sight loss are more likely to struggle with a successful transition into young adulthood. This is a program offered annually to 10 – 12 youth from across the province. They gather at the CNIB on the Boulevard and for a week to connect with each other and learn to adapt to the next stage of independent living. Activities include cooking skills, budgeting, planning healthy eating, how to find an apartment, maintaining a living space, touring local campuses, speaking to loan officers, building resumes, practise interviews and exploring the latest technologies. Often former graduates from the program return

to tutor and support these young adults. The program has had about 15 years of success.

We donated \$500 to the **Women's Centre Boutique Program**, operated by the St. John's Status of Women, and housed on Cashin Avenue. This fund provides new personal care and hygiene products for the clients at their onsite boutique.

CFUW has partnered with **60 Million Girls** as our International Service Project (ISP) for 2024-2025. Through mobile learning devices (MLLs), this project will help keep girls in school and educate students about their sexual and reproductive health. We contributed \$500 towards the National goal of raising \$15,000 from Clubs and individuals by April 30th for two MLLs for use in schools in remote areas of Nepal. Our donation was matched by a supporter who had committed to doing so by donations received by November 30, 2024.

We donated \$1300 to the **McSheffrey Resource Center** in support of their After School Homework Program. They have set up an education classroom in their downstairs and equipped it with three Chromebooks and other school supplies, due to our continued generous support. They work in conjunction with MacDonald Drive Junior High to help students from that school achieve success in their studies. Joan reported that the centre recently received funding which will enable them to hire a teacher.

We donated \$3000 to the **Alzheimer's Society of Newfoundland and Labrador** to support the Family Support Group and Dementia Passport Training. Although most of these services are provided online, some are offered in person. The online programming is especially helpful to communities outside the city and those who cannot attend in person due to their circumstances.

We donated \$1500 to **Stella's Circle's Women's Education and Employment Fund**. This fund is assessable to women participating in Stella's Circle programs, including: Naomi Centre, Employment Services and Just Us Women Centre. Women will be able to apply for financial assistance to cover costs that directly support their education or employment pursuits. Examples include:

- Purchasing steel-toe boots or uniforms for a first job.
- Covering the cost of a required certification, such as First Aid or WHMIS.
- Funding tuition for a short course or workshop.
- Providing transportation to attend a job interview or training session.

We donated \$1000 to **MUN Campus Foodbank** where the needs are always high.

We supported the **Special Olympics Newfoundland and Labrador**, "Draft an Athlete program" with a donation of \$1000. We had supported them in the past and had fond memories of attending the Team Send-Off and being given updates of the athletes' progress.

**Home Again Furniture Bank** received a \$2000 donation towards their amazing program. They provide used furniture and new mattresses to individuals and families in need. This includes people who have experienced loss, seniors, new Canadians, those coming out of the foster or shelter system, previously incarcerated individuals, and even families with young children. It is another example of an organization meeting the needs of many in our community, with the work of a few

hard-working paid personnel and many hard-working volunteers to improve people's lives. Recently, our donation to this group enabled them to purchase new mattresses for their clients.

Team CFUW St John's were delighted to join the Coldest Night of the Year 2025, in support of **Choices For Youth**. It was a great fundraising activity, building community and awareness for a wonderful organization. Choices supports youth age 16 to 29 in helping them move forward with education, empowerment, homelessness, mental health, and more. We donated \$575 to this cause - \$250 came from our budget from the club and the remainder came as individual donations.

We were excited to learn about and donate \$1000 to the **Phoenix Garden Project**, a therapeutic gardening project at His Majesty's Penitentiary, begun in 2020. This program was inspired by and modelled on the Insight Program at San Quentin Prison in California. The group has had amazing success in weekly ZOOM meetings and/or in-person meetings with inmates, whom they call "Inside Gardeners". They learn about nature, soil, gardening, food production, growing from seeds, caring for the garden and even making connections to mindfulness by working in nature. This mindfulness can include drawing, painting, poetry writing, and music. It is believed that through the creation of garden spaces, inmates might begin to heal from the fractured circumstances that brought them into the corrections system. This year they will be building birdhouses, to hopefully be sold at Rise and Shine Nursery. In the period of time this project has been building and growing, 220 inmates have had an opportunity to participate, with eight participating in each weekly ZOOM or in-person meeting. They have built a greenhouse on site, as well as raised beds and an outside mediation space, including a labyrinth and bee hives. It's extremely impressive!

## **PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **Jennifer Jeans and Gladys Schofield, Co-Chairs**

The Program Committee consists of Monica Griffin, Zainab Jerrett, Janet O'Brien and co-chairs Jennifer Jeans and Gladys Schofield

Guest Speakers for the General meetings were based on recommendations from the club committees, executive and general membership. Our January and February meetings were both held via Zoom; this enabled members to participate from their own homes, without having to worry about winter driving. An added bonus was sharing our program nationally with other CFUW members. Based on members' feedback, the Executive agreed that holding Zoom meetings in January and February was a good idea and should be considered for next year. A General meeting was not scheduled for April due to the large number of our members who participated in the work required for the Great Big Book Sale. Thanks so much to all of you!

**September 21, 2024:**

The Open House was held at the Lantern, with guest speakers Simone Lilly and Gail Thornhill. Simone represented End Homelessness St John's and Gail represented Stella's Circle. They spoke about Bridging the Gap and Building Homes. These guest speakers were chosen because of the Atlantic Region Council conference guest speakers and the work of the outreach committee. Fifty guests and members attended the Open house. Gail thanked the CFUW for their financial contribution to their programming. Both presentations were of great interest to the current and prospective members in attendance.

**October 8, 2024:**

Our guest Speaker was Louise Hustins, yoga instructor, who led a participatory session of Chair Yoga. We wish to thank Eva de Mariaffi, Michelle Sullivan and Lois Jeffery for providing items for the social snack.

**November 12, 2024:**

Our Guest speaker was Shazia Shaheed, Policy Analyst for the Office of Vice-Provost, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Anti -Racism (EDIAR) at Memorial University. She spoke of her dedication to advocacy for gender equity and inclusion, providing examples from experiences in Canada and Pakistan. We wish to thank Gillian Brown, Maxine Genge and Sheila Genge for providing items for the social snack.

**December 14, 2024:**

Our festive season dinner meeting was held at the 150 Wing RCAF Building in Pleasantville, with 60 members in attendance. After dinner, singers Amelia and Cecilia Hollett, both MUN students and grandchildren of Grace Hollett, entertained us by playing guitar and leading a sing song of Christmas carols. Joyce Noseworthy also added to the entertainment by leading the group in a fun Christmas Bingo. Thank you to Grace and Joyce for adding to the enjoyment. Donations were collected for the Ecole Polytechnique Fund as well as The Fresh Start Baskets for Irish Kirby House. Thank you to the members for their generous donations.

**January 14, 2025:**

We had 116 participants attend this meeting which was conducted by Zoom using the CFUW National Account with the assistance of Grace Hollett (VP International Relations, with CFUW National) and Elizabeth Malcolm (CFUW National). This session was shared internationally to members of CFUW, GWI, and environmental groups. Our guest Holly Hogan was interviewed by Angela Antle. Holly is the author of *Message in a Bottle: Ocean Dispatches from a Seabird Biologist*, in which she detailed research findings from 1000 days at sea from the Arctic to the Antarctic. Holly was interviewed about marine plastics and her other environmental research. Angela Antle conducted the interview, drawing on her background as a St. John's-based writer, artist, and producer. Angela's work has been recognized by the Canadian Association of Journalists along with a number of international awards. She has just completed her debut novel as part of her PhD thesis, entitled *The Saltbox Olive*, published by Breakwater.

**February 15, 2025:**

We had 45 members of CFUW registered for the meeting which was conducted by Zoom. Our guest speaker was Ms. Johanna Brown, Founder & Principal

Sales Strategist with Rivet and niece of Gillian Brown (past president). She is also a managing partner in Women's Equity Lab's Atlantic Fund and a mentor at The Canadian Women's Network. Ms. Brown's presentation focused on the changes in technology, the importance of a 'build locally, think globally' mindset and the impact of marketing and sales technology as key components of success. Ms. Brown also emphasized that the location of a tech company is not as important as the product produced. In NL local tech companies such as CoLab, Spellbook and Verafin are making waves globally. NL technology resources include TechNL, COIC Innovation Centre, Genesis at MUN and MCE (MUN) Centre for Entrepreneurship

**March 11, 2024:**

Our guest speakers were Lesley Burgess, Executive Director of Bridges to Hope and Maureen Lymburner: Director of Development, Home Again Furniture Bank. Lesley Burgess gave an overview of the history, mission & vision, outreach program and services offered by Bridges to Hope. The core program is food assistance and advocacy re: policies around food insecurity with no proof of income required, only proof of identity. The foodbank served approximately 17 000 people in 2024, up 31% from the previous year. The program is establishing delivery services, tax clinics, and mobile food services. Maureen Lymburner shared the furniture bank's history, focus on furniture poverty, partnerships with other agencies and quality standards for beds, being the top requested item. The public can be involved by monthly donations, supporting campaigns and shopping at the bank's thrift store on Hebron Way. Ms Lymburner described how the furniture bank has an environmental impact with its partnership with St. John's City Hall, by helping to divert items from the city's landfill. We wish to thank Grace Stapleton and program committee members Zainab Jerrett and Monica Griffin for providing items for the social snack.

**May 13, 2025:**

Our guest was Heidi O'Brien who has worked in community support services for the past two decades with a concentration in recreation therapy and volunteer management. Heidi is passionate about community-based programming and supporting independence in older adults so they can live their best lives. NL Health Services has a new 3- year pilot project introducing social prescribing. Heidi elaborated on this health care approach in which healthcare professionals refer individuals to nonclinical community services and activities to improve their overall health and well being. Suzanne Brake (Co-chair CFUW National Study Group Regarding Long-Term Care and Aging in Place) had contacted this guest speaker and provided an introduction. We wish to thank Dianne Murray and Geri Downey along with program committee member Zainab Jerrett again for providing items for the social snack.

**June 3, 2025:**

Our AGM dinner meeting is scheduled to be held at Royal Canadian Legion #1 Building on Blackmarsh Road, St. John's. Tickets for this event cost \$35. The Program Committee will evaluate this location for future events. Your feedback is welcomed.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT - Grace Hollett, Chair**

Public Relations in CFUW involves all Club members who “spread the word” about the organization, its purpose, its program, its opportunities for socialization and life-long learning, and its value to the community and to those who join. Susan McNicholas manages the notices on FaceBook , Joyce Noseworthy the website and Emily Rowe the creative posters to promote program and other events.

Information is forwarded to Club members via a distribution list that happily keeps having to be updated due to new members joining. As appropriate, members are asked to forward it further through their own networks. This can be information about the local Club, or any information that comes weekly in Club Action News and in special editions such as the AGM and Resolutions editions. Our Club members are alerted to virtual national and international events available through zoom.

Our Club President’s News and Notices is forwarded to CFUW to be published along with other Club Newsletters.

We inform the media about our September Open House and other meetings with speakers to increase our community visibility, and to let the community know our meetings are open to the public. Of course, we hope to receive community support for CFUW, our Club, and the Book Sale!

**Zoom Host:**

As Zoom host, I have a paid Club Zoom account which is more efficient than the maximum 30- minute free accounts. The monthly Executive meeting is more conveniently attended virtually than in person, and although the preferred arrangement for general meetings is in-person, this past year the Club Executive decided it prudent to schedule the January and February 2025 meetings as virtual events.

This has re-opened the possibilities to engage speakers who are not physically in the St. John’s area for the event, (including international speakers), as in the Covid period. The January environmentally themed meeting featured Angela Antle interviewing Holly Hogan as noted in the Program Report (as they had done at the Aug. 2024 Winterset literary festival in Eastport). I was able to use my network to promote this event nationally and internationally and the audience was truly global. Zoom meeting have developed into a “contingency” for other general meetings or for Book Clubs when the variable local weather does not co-operate. Using Breakout Rooms, more than one event can run simultaneously as needed.

Notifications, reminders, links and resource materials are all forwarded by the host.

**PR Relating to the Great Big Book Sale:**

CFUW St. John’s had a very successful Book Sale again this year. Electronic flyers were redesigned and distributed to members and by them to others via their networks. All materials linked the sale to scholarships and community outreach. The media were contacted, as were schools via the School Board, churches via their central NL offices, Libraries and other organizations. Media representatives were contacted in-person and interviews and coverage arranged. We were pleased with the coverage by TV, radio, print and various websites and with the opening day line-up that stretched to the Dollar Store. Posters showing how the funds are spent, and a flyer about CFUW St. John’s was prepared by Susan McNicholas, Membership Chair, for customers to see at the sale. New members joining during the Book Sale

was encouraging! I arranged for Media representatives to come just prior to opening to interview Joyce Noseworthy and other members of her Book Sale committee as well as volunteer members of the community.

The press release issued by National Office about local members Linda Coles and myself attending the UN Commission on the Status of Women in NYC was picked up by the Government House website, local radio, Social Media, and by MUN Gazette who connected with us for additional information. The final article in the Gazette included promotion of CFUW, St. John's, its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and the 2025 Book Sale.

On April 23, in acceptance of an award for promoting education, I had the pleasure of speaking at the NLTA President's Banquet where I paid tribute to both NLTA and CFUW, and afterwards interacted with young women interested in learning more about CFUW. Speaking engagements, formal or informal, can be promoted to increase visibility of CFUW. The outreach and scholarship programs of the St. John's club were featured in radio interviews on CBC and VOCM that included Janet O'Brien, Libby Foran and myself.

#### **Regional, National and International Promotion of CFUW and CFUW St. John's;**

CFUW St. John's is well known for its involvement at all three levels. Prior to and during two weeks in March 2025, members were given information on how to join the parallel sessions of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). Recordings of many of those may be found on the UN website or the CFUW You Tube channel. Recordings of two that included NL speakers will be in the CSW69 report being issued this week.

### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT - Leslie MacLeod, Chair**

I am pleased to submit this report on behalf of the Scholarship Committee: Linda Coles (August 2024-January 2025), and Karen McGrath & myself (March 2025-present). Thanks also to Janet O'Brien and Grace Stapleton who assisted in my transition to Chair of this committee.

When I took on the role of Chair in March, I quickly began gathering information about this year's winners, building working relationships with the institutions, and meeting with representatives at the College of the North Atlantic and Thrive. CFUW representatives have attended as many award ceremonies as possible, including the Marine Institute, CNA Clarendville, Centre for Nursing Studies, and MUN department of Social Work. Some of the award winners have sent lovely thank you notes to our Chair, expressing what our financial support has meant to them. The committee will work to increase the amount of information provided by all academic institutions to include the names, home communities, and program of study for each winner; as well as ensuring we are notified in a timely manner.

Thanks to the success of our 2025 Great Big Book Sale, we are looking forward to awarding a full suite of scholarships and bursaries during 2025-26 academic year.

This year, we awarded \$46,000 in scholarships and bursaries, allocated as follows:

**A. MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY - \$25,000 + \$3,980 Endowment Funds = \$28,980**

Two Entrance Scholarships @ \$1,990 each (\$3,980 endowment interest)

Dr. Edith Manuel Award and Ms Doris Anderson Award

Klaire Hayward

Lillian Muller

Four Graduate Scholarships @ \$2,000 each (\$8,000)

Dr. Edith Creighton Graduate Scholarship in Education

Tina Pomroy

Graduate Scholarship in Gender Studies

Patrick Squires

Master's Degree in Social Work

Bailey Reid

Master's Degree in Environmental Studies

Alexis Johnson

Eight Undergraduate Scholarships @ \$1,000 each (\$8,000)

Two undergraduate scholarships in Social Work

Danielle O'Neill

Catherine Walsh

Two undergraduate scholarships in Humanities and Social Science

Amy Baldwin                      Sociology

Sophie Crummy                  French

Three undergraduate scholarships in Nursing

Erica Shiner

Isabella Slaney

Amber Mead

One undergraduate scholarship in Environmental Science

Katelyn Howell – Mathematics, Grenville School of Science and the Environment

Nine Undergraduate Bursaries in underfunded areas @ \$1,000 each (\$9,000)

Four undergraduate bursaries in Science

Lauren Murphy                  Behavioural Neuroscience

Nicole Hodder                      Psychology

Sarah Hawkins                      Biology

Jessica Oldford                      Biology

Five undergraduate bursaries in Humanities and Social Science

Carol Clifford                      French

Sarah Rotchford                      Criminology

Sydney Durdle                      French

Taylor Janes                          Archeology

Victoria Simms                      French

**B. MARINE INSTITUTE – \$5,000**Five Scholarships @ \$1,000 each

Abigail Chafe	Harbour Grace	Advanced Diploma in Food Safety
Emily Follett	Red Cove	Bridge Watch
Emily Trites	Dartmouth, NS	Marine Environmental Technology
Haley Nichol	Fogo Island	Bridge Watch
Kaitlyn Power	Ship Harbour	Bachelor of Technology, Engineering Technology & Applied Science

**C. COLLEGE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC - \$7,000**Seven Scholarships @ \$1,000 each

Three scholarships in Early Childhood Education

Angela Hilliard	Port aux Basques
Jennifer Pearce	Port aux Basques
Teresa Chadderton	Corner Brook

Three scholarships in Training for Non-Traditional Occupations

Caitlyn Edwards	Clarenville	Renovation Technician
Sara Thorne	Ridge Road	Mechanical Engineering Technology
Kimberly Puddester	Clarenville	Enterprise Web Development

One scholarship in Environmental Studies Program

Julia Vokey	Corner Brook	Environmental Engineering Technology (Co-op)
-------------	--------------	---

**D. THRIVE - \$2,000**

Two bursaries @\$1,000 each: awarded to women pursuing academic up-grading programs or post-secondary education (Names Confidential)

1 <sup>st</sup> year BSc	MUN
Early Childhood Education	CAN

**E. WE CARE NL FOUNDATION - \$3,000**18 Scholarships were awarded to women in Northern Nigeria

Ai'shatsu Samaila	College of Education Waka-Biu	Education
Bara'tu Ibrahim	Ramat Polytechnic Maiduguri	Mechanical Engineering
Esther Bitrus	University of Kashere Gombe	Microbiology
Hauwa Stephen	Ramat Polytechnic Maiduguri	Education
Jummai Livinus	College of Education Waka-Biu	Education
Tabitha Musa	University of Maiduguri	General Agriculture
Rashida Ibrahim	University of Maiduguri	General Agriculture
Salamatu Ibrahim	University of Maiduguri	Art
Mary Anjili	University of Maiduguri	Environmental Biology
Charity Ali	University of Maiduguri	Education
Asma'u Mohammad	College of Health Maiduguri	Environmental Health

Favour Mohammed	Ramat Polytechnic Maiduguri	Business Administration
Fati Abubakar	Ramat Polytechnic Maiduguri	Science Laboratory Technology
Esther Stephen	College of Education Waka-Biu	Education
Rahila Palga	College of Education Waka-Biu	Economics
Zakiya Haruna	College of Education Waka-Biu	Agriculture
Amira Ibrahim	College of Education Waka-Biu	Education
Ramatu Usman	Ramat Polytechnic Maiduguri	Biology/Chemistry
		Statistics

### **ARCHIVES COMMITTEE REPORT – Daphne Lilly, Archivist**

The Club records are held at the Archives and Special Collections section of the QEII Library at Memorial University. The purpose of these archives is to preserve the non-current, unpublished records that have accumulated during past years. This section of the Library is the official repository for all our materials, and they have created and will maintain a complete record of the Archives.

The material is accessible for research upon request.

Each year the Archivist deposits documents received from Executive members as well as from committees and groups regarding their year's activities. At the end of each club year, an Annual Report is prepared and a copy is included in the Archives collection at MUN.

The collection is developed under the guidance of the club's Archive Policy.

## **PROJECT REPORTS**

### **BOOK SALE REPORT – Joyce Noseworthy, Chair**

I am pleased to report that, once again, our book sale was a great success. We sold over \$77,000 worth of books and have realized a profit of nearly \$68,000.

Our book sale was held April 3-5 in the former Globo Shoes facility at the Avalon Mall. We rented the facility from CrombieReit for 30 days; we collected books from the public from March 8 to March 23 and used the extra 10 days before the sale began to finish our sorting, pricing and set-up. We allowed students and former students to claim unsold books at the end of the sale, which left us with very few books to dispose of.

As always, there were groups and individuals outside our Club who were indispensable in making the sale a success. We thank Hiscock's Rentals for providing the tables at a reduced rate; David Walsh, John Walsh, Don Clarke and Garland Jennings who took responsibility for disposing of our recycling and helped

keep things moving throughout the entire sorting, pricing and boxing process; and, of course, CrombieReit for renting the facility to us at a reduced rate. We are grateful to the many relatives and friends of members who helped at all phases of the operation – from bringing our gear to the sale site on March 7 to returning it to our storage locker at the end of the sale and at every phase in between. And, of course, the sale would have been impossible without the hard work of all the Club members who volunteered their time and efforts.

Thank you, everyone!

## **STUDY GROUPS**

### **ISSUES AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE – Sharon Walsh**

The Issues and Resolutions Committee met monthly this year with the exception of September and February. Sharon Walsh agreed to co-ordinate the collection of material for the Archives for this year and to write this Annual Report.

Actions undertaken by the Issues and Resolutions Committee this year include the following:

**1. Meeting with MP Joanne Thompson:** Members of the Committee met with Ms. Thompson on July 2, 2024 following an advocacy letter sent to her by Gillian Brown, then president of CFUW St John's. The topics brought forward were two of the resolutions passed this year: **Gender Equality in International Trade** and **Maternal Death Prevention Death Strategy**. Ms. Thompson expressed interest in Gender Equality and International Trade and indicated that she would consider making a motion to present a private members bill in this area. A bill regarding Maternal Death Prevention Strategy was already in committee.

**2. Fall Advocacy:** The Committee spent considerable time reading information and reporting on the three topics included in the Fall Advocacy Package. They are:

Conservation of Peatlands

Preservation of Deep-Sea Ecosystems

Long Term Care and Older Persons' Rights.

It was decided to write to write local MPs regarding the preservation of peatlands/wetlands.

**3. 16 Days of Activism:** At the suggestion of Sharon Walsh members of the Crafteas Interest group made purple ribbons that were distributed at the November meeting. CFUW members showed their support for victims of violence against women by wearing purple ribbons on December 6, the anniversary of the Ecole Polytechnique massacre. Members also attended a moving ceremony held at Confederation Building to remember women of Newfoundland and Labrador who lost their lives through intimate partner violence.

A letter of congratulations was sent to Senator Fabian Manning and Georgina McGrath Power on the passing in the Senate of Bill-249, known as Georgina's Law,

**4. Proposed Resolutions for AGM 2025:** The committee studied seven proposed Resolutions with a view to suggesting amendments and making recommendations either for their amendment, adoption or rejection by the club.

**5. Congratulations to MP's:** Letters of congratulations were sent on behalf of the membership to our local MPs following the recent federal election. Members of our committee, using the template released by National, sent personal letters of congratulations.

**6. Long term Care and Ageing at Home:** The Committee spent considerable time familiarizing themselves on government updates in conjunction with recommendations put forth in the Health Accord. This topic was addressed by guest speakers at our general monthly meetings.

Thank-you to committee members: Gerri Downey, Maxine Genge, Grace Hollett, Linda Patzold Jean Marks, Gillian Brown, Hazel Pritchett Harris, Sharon Walsh and newest member, Janet O'Brien.

## **REPORTS OF INTEREST GROUPS**

### **BOOK CLUBS**

#### **AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB – Gladys Schofield, Convenor**

Tuesday Afternoon Book Club meets at 1:30 pm the fourth Tuesday of each month; there is no meeting in December or during the book sale. This year the Club had 11 members and each recommended a book for discussion. Normally the member who chose a particular book hosted the club at her home and, whenever possible, ensured that a book kit or multiple copies of the book were distributed to the club members prior to the meeting. The host also introduced the book and author. These introductions often provided much background information on the author or websites. References to look up further information regarding the book or movies which were based on the book were often provided. Information has been provided at times regarding meeting authors presenting or discussing their work at other venues such as literary festivals in Woody Point or Winterset or SPARKS.

The books we discussed between September 2024 and June 2025 were / will be the following:

*Horse* by Geraldine Brooks  
*Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese  
*The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessey* by Rachel Joyce  
*Rage the Night* by Donna Morrissey  
*Migrations* by Charlotte McConaghy  
*The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah  
*Year of Wonders: A novel of the Plague* by Geraldine Brooks and  
*Mr. Churchill's Secretary* by Susan Elia MacNeal.

We plan to discuss *The Last Train to London* by Meg Waite Clayton in October 2025.

Our discussions were lively with thought-provoking comments, socialization and humour. Books were rated and given a score from 1 to 5; the average for the total books read was 4.43/5. Our highest rated book was *The Love song of Mrs. Queenie Hennessey*, but all of the books chosen books received an average of 4 or 4.5.

We are looking forward to another year of great book discussion and socializing.

### **COSIES AND CLASSICS BOOK CLUB – Joyce Noseworthy, Convenor**

The Cosies and Classics Book Club meets on the first Friday morning of each month, from September until June.

As in other years, we had agreed upon the books we would read at the final meeting of the previous year. In keeping with the name of our group, we read five Classics and five Cosies over the course of the year. We read the following:

*The Leavenworth Case* by Anna Katherine Green  
*Where Are the Children?* By Mary Higgins Clark  
*The Roman Hat Mystery* by Ellery Queen  
*Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers* by Jessie Sutano  
*The Benson Murder Case* by S.S. Van Dine  
*The Game* by Laurie King  
*The Case of the Perjured Parrot* by Erle Stanley Gardner  
*Findlay Donovan is Killing It* by Elle Cosimano  
*The Crooked Hinge* by John Dickson Carr  
*Wicked Autumn* by G. M. Maillet

We have lively, and sometimes heated, discussions about the merits of each book. At the end of each meeting, the individual members each give the book a rating out of 10. This year, our overall top average rating of 8/10 was given to the cosy mystery *Findlay Donovan is Killing It*; the lowest rating, 5.3/10, was assigned to the classic *The Benson Murder Case*. The book that garnered the greatest range of ratings was *The Leavenworth Case* – ratings ranged from 4 /10 to 8/10.

## MORNING BOOK CLUB #1 - Jean Marks, Convenor

Book Club #1 met at members' homes on the third Thursday of every month between September and June, with the exception of March, when we all helped prepare for the Great Big Book Sale. We now have a membership of 14, including new member Effie White.

We started the year with a special meeting in September when the members of Morning Book Club #2 joined us for a visit and presentation by William Ping, the author of *Hollow Bamboo*. This was followed by a sandwich lunch and a chance to visit informally with Mr. Ping. It was a most interesting view into the life of the early Chinese residents of our province. We were also lucky in January to have a visit from Kerri Cull, author of *Rock, Paper, Sex The Oldest Profession in Canada's Oldest City* and *Rock, Paper, Sex, Vol.2: Trigger Warning*. She spoke to us about her research into this area in our home city and provided a glimpse into a world with which we are not familiar.

Our book list for 2024/25 was:

Ping, William: *Hollow Bamboo*

Fallis, Terry: *A New Season*

Gray, Charlotte: *Passionate Mothers and Powerful Sons*

See, Lisa: *Lady Tan's Circle of Women*

Cull, Kerri: *Rock Paper Sex: The Oldest Profession in Canada's Oldest City\_and Rock, Paper Sex, Vol 2: Trigger Warning*

MacFarlane, David: *Danger Tree*

Neopolitano: *Hello Beautiful*

Vergheze, Abraham: *Cutting for Stone*

Morgan Cole, Trudy: *A Company of Rogues*

Atkinson, Kate: *Shrines of Gaity*

Our meetings are always interesting and lively as we discuss the book itself, our take on issues raised in the book and related events in our own lives.

## MORNING BOOK CLUB #2 – Joyce Noseworthy, Convenor

The Club meets at 10:00 am on the third Tuesday of each month, from September to June. We have 10 members, so each one is able to choose a book, either fiction or non-fiction, to be discussed by the group. This year we chose only nine books. In September, we joined with Morning Book Club #1, and met with William Ping for a discussion of his book, *Hollow Bamboo*. Our group had read and enjoyed this book last year

The books we chose and discussed this year were:

*Still Life* by Sarah Winman

*Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus

*Carrie* by Alice Munro

*The Ministry of Time* by Kaliane Bradley

*Her Hidden Genius* by Marie Benedict  
*Message in a Bottle* by Holly Hogan  
*The Little Liar* by Mitch Albom  
*Dead Mountain* by Preston and Child  
*The Women* by Kristin Hannah (to be read in June)

Opinion was often sharply divided about the merits of books we read; this made for spirited and quite lively discussions at our meetings. At the end, each member said what she liked best and least about the books and gave most of the books we read an overall rating out of 10. *Message in a Bottle* received the highest average rating, 8.9/10; *The Ministry of Time* received the lowest, 6.9/10.

## **MURDER AND MAYHEM BOOK CLUB #1**

### **Joyce Noseworthy, Convenor**

The Club usually meets at 2:00 pm on the second Wednesday of each month from September to June. This year, we had no meeting in March because of our members' involvement in the Great Big Book Sale.

We try for a mix of male and female authors; Canadian, American and European writers; contemporary and historical novels; and police and non-police heroes. We are always looking to discover new writers of mysteries and thrillers. We devote one meeting to watching a movie based on a book we have read – we have a great time comparing the book to the movie adaptation! This year's pick was *A Simple Favor* by Darcy Bell; most of us preferred the book to the movie.

The other books we discussed this year were:

*Everyone in My Family has Killed Someone* by Benjamin Stevenson  
*The Long Call* by Ann Cleeves  
*The Shadow of the Wind* by Carlos Ruiz Zafron  
*The Christmas Train* by David Baldacci  
*The Lost Apothecary* by Sarah Penner  
*Winer Counts* by David Heska Wanbli Weiden  
*The Maid* by Nina Prose, and  
*Busman's Honeymoon* by Dorothy L. Sayers.

We rated all the books we read, each member providing a rating out of 10. The ratings of most of the books were relatively consistent, although our member's opinions of *A Simple Favor* showed the most variation, ranging from 3/10 to 6/10. Our highest average rating, 8.0/10, was achieved by *The Long Call*; our lowest average rating, 5.3/10 was assigned to *A Simple Favor*.

## **MURDER 'N' MAYHEM BOOK CLUB #2**

### **Jennifer Jeans - Convenor**

The Club meets at 2:30 on the second Wednesday of each month from September to June. This year we had 9 members. The books chosen this year were mostly recommended by group members.

The books we discussed were:

*My Sister the Serial Killer* by Oyinkan Braithwaite

*The Body on the Beach* (NL) by Patrick Collins

*Eight Perfect Murders* by Peter Swanson

*The Judges List* by John Grisham

*The Lady in the Lake* by Laura Lippman

*The Guest List* by Lucy Foley

*Greenwood* by Michael Christie

*She Said* (NL) by Mitchell King

*The Cutting Season* by Attica Locke

We rated all the books we read with each member providing a rating out of 5. The book that received the highest average rating (4.1) was *The Lady in the Lake* by Laura Lippman. The book with the lowest average rating (3.3) was *The Guest List* by Lucy Foley. The book with the largest difference in ratings was *The Judges List* by John Grisham (3-4.5).

## **Thursday Evening Book Club – Gillian Brown, Convenor**

The Wednesday Evening Book Club moved to Thursday this year and so changed its name! We are now in the process of deciding on a name that doesn't align with any day of the week. The Club was happy to welcome new members this year and in June we will number seven.

We enjoyed the books we chose to read and had some lively discussions on the books and the issues they raised. We rated the books out of 5, with 5 being Excellent; 4 - Very Good, 3 - Good; 2 - Fair and 1- Poor. Average rates are noted in brackets below, where they exist.

During the year we read the following books:

*Snow Road* by Elizabeth Hay

*Fresh Water for Flowers* by Valerie Perrin [4]

*Passionate Mothers: Powerful Sons* by Charlotte Gray [4]

*Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers* by Jesse Q Sutanto [3]

*The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles [4]

*The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese [3.5]

*The Precipice* by Robert Harris, and

*James* by Percival Everett.

## **BRIDGE GROUPS**

### **TUESDAY AFTERNOON BRIDGE – Joyce Noseworthy, Convenor**

A small group of five members meets every Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 to play bridge. We begin with a delicious snack (sometimes, a feast!) and then play 12 hands of bridge. After each hand, we discuss the bidding and the play, with the goal of improving the players' performance in both areas.

### **WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BRIDGE – Libby Foran, Convenor**

We play most Wednesday afternoons at each other's homes, starting with a snack and sociable, followed by two hours of play. We have a regular foursome, but also regularly call on three other CFJW members, mostly from the initial bridge lesson group.

It has been a delight to put our newfound knowledge to the test! We've found that patience with each other, asking questions when you don't know what to do has helped our learning. We're all quite pleased with our progress, though still feel like newbies in the game. We enjoy each other's company and the progress in our learning in this game.

### **CRAFTEAS – Barbara Parsons Clancy, Convenor**

The Crafteas group meets on the second Friday of the month, September to June. Our meetings are held at members' homes with everyone taking a turn hosting. We work on our own various craft projects, such as cross-stitch, embroidery, knitting, etc. as we enjoy the delicious treats and a cup of tea or coffee provided by the host. The chat is always interesting and lively with lots of laughter. We currently have a membership of 12, but new members are always welcome.

### **DINING OUT- Louise Dalton, Convenor**

This group is scheduled to meet the first Wednesday of the month for dinner at a local restaurant. We have met 6 times during the past year. Two dinners were canceled: the April dinner due to the Great Big Book Sale and the June dinner due to the AGM and dinner.

There are currently 30 members who participate. Sadly, we lost one of our long-time members, Jill Whitaker, this year. She will be missed.

Turnout has varied over the past year, ranging from 2-12 members attending dinner. The Vu Resto & Bar and Magic Wok Eatery continue to be the most popular restaurants.

We dined at the following restaurants:

October - Saltwater Restaurant

November - Vu Resto & Bar

December - North 48

February - Jack's Restaurant

March - Tiny 's Bar & Grill

May - Magic Wok Eatery

New members are welcome to join in the fall.

### **LADIES WHO LUNCH - Paula Redmond, Convenor**

The Ladies Who Lunch Group meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 12:30 pm.

### **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**

#### **Sharon Walsh and Gerri Downey, Convenors**

The sunshine committee endeavours to support members who are ill or grieving with cards, phone calls and visits, where applicable and welcomed. We can also help with transportation to monthly meetings. Contact information for the committee is published in the News and Notices bulletins. We are Gerri Downey (709 682 8336 and [djd@nl.rogers.com](mailto:djd@nl.rogers.com)) and Sharon Walsh (709 722 4727 and [smwalsh3@gmail.com](mailto:smwalsh3@gmail.com)).

### **WALKING GROUP – Margie Greene, Convenor**

Members of the group walk each day of the week (excluding Saturdays and Sundays) throughout the year. We meet at a designated spot at 9:30 a.m. (usually the parking lot at Bowering Park) and walk for approximately 60 minutes of exercise and conversation. We walk in mist, drizzle and moderate wind as well as sunshine.

All members are welcome to join with us any time; you can come once in a while, once a week or every day.

### **WOMEN ON TAP - Riva McKee, Convenor**

Flap! Shuffle! Paradiddle! These are some terms and movements familiar to members of Women on Tap. We experienced another very enjoyable (16th!) year of gentle tap dancing with professional instructor, Tanya Lasby. For one hour each week Tanya shares her enthusiasm and passion for dance while leading us through tap exercises and dance routines.

Meeting every Monday morning at the Dance Centre on Ropewalk Lane, from September to May, we gladly welcome new members, with or without dance experience, to join us in September.

### **REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**Gillian Brown, Chair**

The Proposed Executive for CFUW St. John's for the 2025/26year is as follows:

President	Janet O'Brien	2 <sup>nd</sup> term
Vice-President	Beverly Clarke	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Treasurer	Joyce Noseworthy	2 <sup>nd</sup> term
Executive Secretary	Marion Tilley	3 <sup>rd</sup> term
General Secretary	Sharon Walsh	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Membership Chair	Nadine Flannigan-Wheeler	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Program Co-Chairs	Gladys Schofield / Jennifer Jeans	2 <sup>nd</sup> term
Public Relations Co-Chairs	Grace Hollett / Emily Rowe	4 <sup>th</sup> term
Outreach Chair	Libby Foran	3 <sup>rd</sup> term
Scholarship Chair	Leslie MacLeod	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Past President	Gillian Brown	1 <sup>st</sup> term

The term of office for all members of the Executive is one (1) year with the option of extending the term twice, for a total of three (3) years. In unusual circumstances, members may hold the same executive positions for more than three years.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the AGM or by contacting the nomination chair at any time before the AGM. Nominations will cease at the call of the Chair at the AGM.

The positions of Webmaster and Archivist are appointed by the Executive and are currently occupied by Joyce Noseworthy and Daphne Lilly, respectively. There are no specified terms for these positions.