



CFUW is pleased to announce the 2018 winners of its awards.

### **International Relations Committee Award**

#### **University Women's Club Montreal (Free the Girls)**

Free the girls is a financial empowerment initiative undertaken by UWCM in collaboration with Free the Girls.org, (<https://freethegirls.org/>) an organization located in Indiana USA, whose mission is to help women rescued from sex trafficking reintegrate into their communities in Uganda, El Salvador and Mozambique. The UWCM came in contact with this organization during the CSW61 meeting in NY.

The goal of our project was to support entrepreneurship activities that help transform the lives of survivors of human trafficking in any or all of these 3 countries.

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### **CFUW Perth and District (Solar Lamps fundraiser)**

The solar lamp event combined advocacy, fundraising and International Women's Day (IWD). In November 2017, the club launched this fundraiser to buy solar lamps for women and girls in Ethiopia, with the specific focus to raise funds with the culmination at IWD 2018.

The women and girls impacted by this fundraiser live in refugee camps throughout Ethiopia primarily at camps managed by UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and supported by the UN Agency IOM. The solar lamps provide light so the girls can study at night and provides safety and security via illumination in the evening when they do chores such as gathering wood, tending animals or fetching water.



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**International Women's Day Award**

## **CFUW Milton and District (50/50 Day film screening and panel discussion)**

CFUW Milton and District organized a free public evening event on March 7, 2018 in celebration of International Women's Day. The audience screened Director Tiffany Shlain's short film: 50/50 Rethinking the Past, Present and Future of Women + Power.

The film gives the 10,000 year history of gender and power – from uprisings to setbacks – to the bigger context of where we are today. The movie was followed by a Panel discussion with panelists:

- Cindy Lunau, Town of Milton Councillor, Ward 3
- Cheryl Hayles, VP International Relations, CFUW National Board
- Isobel Boyle, CFUW Guelph, Women in Politics Project

Members of the community were inspired about the advancement of women and girls reflected in the film.

The panel discussion was lively and informative, Questions from the audience were indicative that the film had raised awareness about the advancement of a gender equal world.

The poster features the CFUW logo at the top with the tagline 'THE POWER OF WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER'. Below this, it announces the event in celebration of International Women's Day 2018. The main title is '50/50 Rethinking the Past, Present & Future of Women + Power'. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, March 7th at 7:30 p.m. at the Milton Sports Centre, Banquet Room, 605 Santa Maria Boulevard. A panel discussion will follow with panelists Cindy Lunau, Cheryl Hayles, and Isobel Boyle. A second event is listed for Thursday, March 8th at 10:00 a.m., titled 'MARCH ON MAIN STREET', kicking off at the Milton Town Hall, 150 Mary Street, beginning with a proclamation by Mayor Gordon Krantz. The website cfuwilton.ca is provided at the bottom.

**CFUW Mentorship Award**



This year's recipient Dr. Shelley Ball, CFUW Perth and District, is a tireless supporter of CFUW and its mission, vision and values. Since 2015, she has been a CFUW mentor, working closely with young women in the area of STEM. As an accomplished Scientist in Biology (Evolutionary Ecology and Population Genetics), she is a role model for aspiring young women who are reaching for the top. Congratulations to Dr. Ball on her contributions to women's empowerment!

## CFUW Special Project Awards

### CFUW Nanaimo

#### **Title of Project: Holiday Support for Tuition Waiver Students at Vancouver Island University**

Vancouver Island University was the first post-secondary institution in British Columbia to launch a Youth in Care Tuition Waiver program which waives tuition for eligible students who have grown up in the care system. This program is the first step in overcoming financial barriers that make it difficult for these students to consider and achieve success in higher education. During 2017, CFUW Nanaimo reached out and developed a relationship with their Peer Support Navigator, Ruby Barclay, a young woman in third year studies. Ruby spoke to club members on IWD 2017 about her work with the students and Club members began to look for ways to help. She invited members to prepare a Thanksgiving dinner. The Club collected funds, cooked and supplied all the food and delivered it to the university for a group of over 20 students. Again, at Christmas, the Club supplied gifts for Holiday Care packages, with a variety of small gifts, toiletries, and gift cards for Holiday Care packages for over 40 students. Holidays are a very difficult time of year for these students; many had not celebrated Thanksgiving for many years and they were very appreciative of the Club's involvement.

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## **CFUW Edmonton**

### **Title of Project: Surprise Movie Nights: CFUW Edmonton in Partnership with Edmonton Public Library**

This year CFUW Edmonton contacted Edmonton Public Libraries (EPL) and developed a project we called “Surprise Movie Nights”. The purpose of these movie nights was to 1) Provide a free showing of movies that were life-enriching and featured strong women who overcame life challenges to make a difference in the community; 2) offer opportunities for personal growth, conversation in an informal setting, and learn from and about other people; and 3) raise the profile of EPL and CFUW Edmonton.

Three movie nights were hosted featuring the movies “Maudie”, “Their Finest”, “Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai”. The movie was prefaced by a short introduction to CFUW Edmonton by the president (or other executive member) and another member giving an overview of the significance of the movie in the context of the status of women in the region and/or period of time the movie was set. The movies were shown at the Edmonton Public Library Whitemud Crossing location.

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## **CFUW Aurora/Newmarket**

### **Title of Project: Stay in School Program**

Our STAY IN SCHOOL PROGRAM, in conjunction with the York Region Children’s Aid Society, has expanded this year. For the past 5+ years, the club has given incentive awards to female wards of the CAS who while in grades 9-11 have shown responsibility in attending school and trying hard. This program follows our club’s mission and vision. BUT, we knew we were leaving out the young males who if anything, frequently become disillusioned with school more readily than the girls. The CAS workers on our team didn’t know where to turn. WE successfully turned to other local service clubs. With assistance from two local Optimist clubs, one local Lions club, one local BMO Nesbitt Burns office... we have organized a parallel program for boys, administered by the YR Children’s Aid Society, in conjunction with OUR program for girls! Now there will be 3 X\$1000 awards plus \$2000+ in incentives!

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**CFUW Ottawa, CFUW Nepean and CFUW Kanata**

**Title of Project: International Women's Day 2018 Dessert and Drama**

The CFUW Clubs of Ottawa, Nepean and Kanata presented a highly successful afternoon of drama and Victorian tea on March 10. Enthusiastic actors gave us a fresh look at how Canada was formed from the point of view of the women in the lives of the Fathers of Confederation in Joan Conrod's play *Women Vote Indirect*. The actors were either members of the clubs or their relatives. The tea was delicious and the drama great fun.

The profits from the event have been divided equally among the three clubs which in turn are giving them to women's charities of their choice.

The event was a networking opportunity, but it also involved lifelong learning, the advancement of women and fundraising. We were also able to highlight some women in Canadian history.

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**Club Name: University Women's Club of Montreal**

**Title of Project: First North American School Competition Les Olympes de la Parole: Empowering Girls' Voices**

The *Olympes de la Parole* is an academic competition open to high schools' girls with the objective of encouraging them to join the global conversation on gender equality and education.

We have adapted the UNCSW 62 themes in a Canadian context and have asked participants to reflect on *how access to new technologies could contribute to the empowerment of indigenous girls and women in a particular region of Canada*.

A cohort of 19 Secondary V girls from three schools accepted to participate. Each school was assigned a UWCM mentor to help coordinate the process. Competition rules included: submitting a written essay, an oral presentation to the public and 3 minutes video illustrating research key findings. Data collection was done through literature search and direct interviews with girls and women from Kahnawake and Nunavut.

Each participant invested 20 to 90 hours on this project. Primary and final evaluations were assured by a 7-member panel. Winners were announced through a press release on International Women's Day; they were honoured during an Awards ceremony where they shared \$6000 in scholarships. Each winner was awarded a participation certificate for dedicated volunteer hours.

This cost effective and high impact project integrates simultaneously several structural and functional needs of our club in terms of: sustainability, education,

club promotion, community outreach and advocacy. It complies with Sustainable Development goals 4 and 5.

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**Montreal Lakeshore University Women's Club**

**Title of Project: The Aging Out Project**

*C.A.R.E. Jeunesse* is a non-profit organization that supports youth who must age out of care at eighteen, especially girls. One of their immediate needs was proper suitcases to put their belongings in upon leaving foster-home or residential care. This fall MLUWC launched a drive and collected over 100 suitcases. The Club also donated \$900 in gift cards for distribution to the youth and raised \$1720 at the Club's Christmas gift basket raffle. We also prepared a letter addressed to the Quebec government proposing that the age for leaving care be raised to 21 and other supports which all the clubs in Quebec have agreed to sign.

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**Club Name: CFUW Sherbrooke & District**

**Title of Project: 50 Years and Growing – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

2018 is our club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. In celebration of this milestone, our Committee decided that in addition to having a celebratory event we would focus on raising our profile and awareness in the community and establish an Indigenous Scholarship at Bishop's University. To raise awareness and profile, we negotiated with our local English newspaper to publish articles about the club that would appear once a month under the banner of "50 Years of Community Involvement". By May 4 articles will have been written and published. 4 more are planned for August, September, October and November and all articles highlight various aspects of the Club. In addition, we have created display boards that summarize key milestones in pictures and these are being displayed in local libraries and museums. Finally, we have raised \$13,500 towards our scholarship that will be awarded in 2019 to coincide with the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## Membership Awards

The following Clubs have increased their total membership by at least 10% therefore they qualify for the Membership Increase Award.

- CFUW Ajax/Pickering
- CFUW Cape Breton
- CFUW New Westminster
- CFUW Orillia
- CFUW Perth and District
- CFUW Southport
- CFUW St. Thomas
- CFUW Strathcona County
- CFUW Sudbury
- CFUW Yorkton
- UWC Toronto

## New Members Awards

The following clubs have had at least 10% new members and therefore they qualify for the New Members Award. (Some clubs have qualified for both the membership award and the new members award).



- AFDU Québec
- CFUW Ajax/Pickering
- CFUW Burlington
- CFUW Cape Breton
- CFUW Corner Brook
- CFUW Cowichan Valley
- CFUW Edmonton
- CFUW Fredericton
- CFUW Kelowna
- CFUW Markham/Unionville
- CFUW Milton and District
- CFUW Nelson and District
- CFUW Nepean
- CFUW New Westminster
- CFUW North Bay
- CFUW North Vancouver
- CFUW Orangeville and District
- CFUW Orillia
- CFUW Ottawa
- CFUW Perth and District
- CFUW South Delta
- CFUW Southport
- CFUW St. Catharines
- CFUW St. Thomas
- CFUW Strathcona County
- CFUW Sudbury
- CFUW Sunshine Coast
- CFUW Welland and District
- CFUW White Rock/Surrey
- CFUW Yorkton
- UWC of North York
- UWC Toronto

### **Grand total for the 2018 IWD Fundraising Project**

CFUW is excited to announce that \$10,431 has been raised through the IWD Fundraising Project 2018.

This was done thanks to the amazing work of our clubs across Canada, and the generous support of an anonymous donor who matched all donations from CFUW clubs. In total, clubs raised \$5,215.50, which was then doubled by one of MATCH International's donor!

CFUW is proud to be making a contribution to the work of women activists and grassroots organizations around the world via one of their strongest allies in Canada, the MATCH International Women's Fund.

For more information about the MATCH Fund please go to:

<http://matchinternational.org/>

CFUW IWD Fundraising Project 2018

The MATCH International Women's Fund

Total raised  
(\$5215.50 X 2)  
**\$10,431 !!!**

### **A Challenge for 2019!**

In light of the fact that CFUW will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2019, the Membership and International Relations Committees are challenging all clubs to apply for awards next year and make it the best year ever!!

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