

NEWS FROM OC

September 2008

Hello everyone,

Last year Ontario Council started a monthly email of website updates. This has proved popular, so we have decided to expand this format a bit. Do tell us what you think - and please pass this on to members that you think might be interested.

Myra Willis
President, Ontario Council
cfuwontario@yahoo.com
www.cfuwontcouncil.ca

What we have been doing this summer

There have been five major projects:

- the **Club Resources page** on the Ontario Council website, found at <http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca/Club%20Resources.html> . This includes many topics from Club Development to Advocacy Tools to information about Ontario Council. We hope you find it useful.
- A letter, with critical analysis of the Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES) final report, (March 31, 2008) concerning waste removal of electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) was sent to the Minister of the Environment in May.
 - <http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca/issues.html> - On the **Issues** page, click on **Electronic Waste** under **Environment**
- Letters were sent and received concerning an **HIV/AIDS education curriculum**
 - <http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca/HIV-AIDS.html>
- In May and June the preoccupation was with **Bill 64 Cosmetic Pesticides Ban Act**. CFUW Ontario Council joined with a number of other organizations to fight aspects of this Bill. Our work culminated with Sheila Clarke, CFUW Stratford and Elaine Harvey, past Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation presenting our concerns to the Ontario Legislature Standing Committee on Social Policy
 - For everything, including the transcripts, <http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca/Cosmetic%20Pesticides.html>
- The **Poverty Reduction Strategy**. Some of our groups, such as CFUW Hamilton and CFUW Southport, have been invited to the consultations. Other groups such as the Toronto Caucus have created sub-committees to study this very important issue. Ontario Council, with the help of Linda Hall, Ontario Council's resource person on poverty, presented our thoughts on the questions prepared by the Cabinet Committee. This fall should see some initial plans from the government.
 - For both briefs answering the Government's questions called *Growing Stronger*, as well as a record of our many briefs on this topic, see <http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca/issues%20family%20poverty.html>

What we are currently working on

- **Toxics Reduction Strategy** – upcoming consultation by the Ministry of the Environment
- **Workplace Violence Prevention** – upcoming consultation by the Ministry of Labour
- **Monitoring the LHINs** – legislation is up for renewal in 2009
- **Poverty Reduction Strategy** – the Ontario Government's strategy should be announced this fall
- **Family Law Education for Women (FLEW)** project – this group, of which Ontario Council (represented by Edeltraud Neal) is a member of Reference Group, have been busy this summer preparing materials on family law in many languages. These will be available this fall for distribution to community groups, religious organizations, parenting and child care centres

Upcoming events

<http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca/club%20events.html>

- October 15th 2008 Intents for 2009 Ontario Council Resolutions are due
- October 18th 2008 CFUW Welland And District BOOK SALE
Hosted by CFUW Welland and District at the Niagara Regional Exhibition Grounds
<http://home.cogeco.ca/~dmcpherson1/booksale.htm>

Upcoming meetings

Regional Gatherings

<http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca/gatherings.html>

Ontario West	Oct. 4 th
Ontario Central	Oct 18 th
Ontario South	Oct.25 th
Ontario East	Oct. 25 th

Of Interest ...

Members of Ontario Clubs that are running in the federal election:

Karen Redman, CFUW Kitchener-Waterloo for the Liberals (Ms. Redman is the current MP for Kitchener Centre and Liberal party whip).

Paddy Torsney, CFUW Burlington for the Liberals in Burlington

Prepared by:

CFUW Ontario Council

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info@cfuwontcouncil.ca

www.cfuwontcouncil.ca

Teri Shaw, Advocacy Coordinator

Ann McElhinney, Communications Coordinator