



## Dates & Data

### ONTARIO COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEES Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**Same as January !!! YORKMINSTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH Same as January !!!**  
**1585 Yonge Street, at Heath St.**

Some parking on North side of the church or Public Parking at Heath/Delisle lot  
or

Take St. Clair car to Yonge St. or the Yonge subway to St. Clair Stop  
and walk 2 blocks north on Yonge

Registration 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

**Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. SHARP!**

Registration Form Enclosed

### MORNING PROGRAMME

#### ***Still Ain't Satisfied: Equity and Female Athletes***

**Speaker: Laura Robinson, Journalist, Author, Athlete and Coach**

This will be an opportunity to hear from this amazing young woman on the subject of women's equality in sports. She has lectured and written extensively on the progress of women in sports, violence in sports as well as coverage of major athletic events including the Sydney Olympics and North American Indigenous Games. Come with your questions for talk and discussion.

Laura Robinson is a Social Science graduate of the University of Western Ontario. She has attended the Canadian Olympic Academy and International Olympic Academy as well as the Cultural Journalism Programme at the Banff Centre of the Arts. She has been journalist in Residence at Green College at UBC.

As a freelance journalist in electronic and print media, Laura has been a regular contributor to many publications including; *The Globe and Mail*, *NOW Magazine*, *Ms. Magazine*, *Explore Magazine*, *Canadian Living*, *Saturday Night*, *Calgary Herald*, *Toronto Life*, *Toronto Star*, *Chatelaine* and others.

She has written a number of books: *Great Girls: Profiles of Awesome Canadian Athletes*, *Black Tights: Women, Sports and Sexuality*, *Crossing the Line: Violence and Sexual Assault in Canada's National Sport*, *She Shoots, She Scores: Canadian Perspectives in Women in Sports* and *Front Runners; A Play in Two Acts* which also has a film version.

Laura has a basketful of awards, including the use of her essay by the Ontario Ministry of Education for province-wide testing for grade-nine students. The essay was originally published as *The Unsinkable Silken Laumann*. Her book *Crossing the Line*. . . won the Human-Kinetics Faculty Book Award at the University of Windsor and she held the Mark-Flanagan Writer's Residency at the University of Calgary as part of the Distinguished Writers Programme.

As a journalist Laura has covered eighteen major games and sporting events. She is sought after as guest lecturer by many universities and continues to compete in cycling, Nordic skiing rowing and running events.

Laura is married to John Cameron and lives in Port Elgin on Lake Huron. Because she volunteers at Cape Croker First Nation Elementary School in the mountain biking and XC ski program, she is an honorary auntie to approximately 100 children. Laura is a member of CFUW Southport.

### **EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE Afternoon Session**

Ontario's Safe Schools Act has been revised and the amendments to the Act come into effect February 1, 2008. The Ministry of Education believes the revisions will effectively combat behaviour issues plus continue to provide uninterrupted education opportunities while the student is being disciplined.

Please come prepared to the afternoon Education meeting to discuss the New Safe Schools Act, and how this new revised Act can effectively work towards making our Ontario schools safer. Discuss this Act with your own Club or Issues Group. Let's work together to advocate for the safety of our students.

Information on the Safe Schools Act can be found at [www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca) or [www.peopleforeducation.com](http://www.peopleforeducation.com)

Wendy Taylor, Committee Chair

### **LEGISLATION STANDING COMMITTEE Afternoon Session**

#### **What can we do about:**

#### **PESTICIDES, E-WASTE, SEWAGE, CFLs, LHINs, CCAC, ACCESSIBILITY, POVERTY?**

Share the success of our Hamilton members who helped to halt the unsatisfactory process of their local Community Care Access Centre for awarding home care contracts. How did they do it? What are the implications for other CCAC areas?

Take a page from Stratford's book in not only successfully promoting a CFUW Pesticide Resolution, but learn how they have followed it up and collaborated with Orillia. See how Ontario Council will help further this action.

What is happening in your community regarding toxic sewage? If you know or find out, bring along the information.

Will you be ready to convert completely to compact fluorescent light bulbs by 2012? Do you know the advantages and the hazards?

Will your Club be part of Ontario Council's LHINs network? If so, be prepared to share their successes and your concerns. (LHINs = Local Health Integration Networks)

Is yours an Inclusive or Exclusive Club? Try the questionnaire on accessibility! Check your Club out!

We'll hear more about poverty and then talk about steps in advocacy: successful letters, meetings with MPPs, proposing resolutions.

*When we take action  
WE become the yeast that gives life to the environment --  
(not the hot air that comes with climate change).*

M. Elaine Harvey, Committee Chair

## STATUS OF WOMEN STANDING COMMITTEE Afternoon Session

The new sub-committee on Violence against Women will give a preliminary report and we hope to have someone from the Provincial Ministry responsible for Women's Issues. This is a dynamic committee which discusses in depth the concerns of its members and their Clubs.

Judie Arrowood, Committee Chair



### YOUR ONTARIO COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Welcome back and my wishes to all of you for an enjoyable and productive 2008 in all that you do for CFUW!!

Since our September Standing Committee Meeting, the OC Executive has had an exceptionally busy four months. Our agenda since then has included "Constitution & By-Laws Review", "Proposed Budget for 2008-2009", "a second Standing Committee Meeting on Aboriginal Education", "five Fall Gatherings", and at the top of this agenda, "Investigating and Securing Alcohol Liability and Directors and Officers Insurance", the latter continuing to be our most pressing issue.

In January, a survey was e-mailed to all Ontario Clubs. It is intended to determine the extent to which exposure to alcohol is a factor in the activities and special functions of each Club. All of this information will be used to obtain accurate quotes from a select few insurance companies that handle liability coverage for non-profit organizations. We ask each Club President to take the time and care to accurately complete their survey and meet the deadline for returning it. All of this, and more, must be dealt with and in place by the end of this Ontario Council term, May 10<sup>th</sup>. We are also learning how all of us in Ontario Council should exercise due diligence, as well as how to develop and implement a risk management programme for both the OC Executive and all Club members, all of which are intended to lessen our liability exposure. This work adds up to one basic and important objective - to ensure that any prospective candidate taking on a position of responsibility is able to feel that there are sufficient protections in place to make her feel comfortable with serving on her Club or Council's executive.

At our September 2007 Status of Women Standing Committee meeting, a suggestion was made by Margaret McGovern that Ontario Council approach the Chair of the recently created women's health agency, ECHO, and offer to become involved on issues of gender inequity in health

research and health resources. One of the priorities of this new board is to work within communities and with groups such as CFUW OC on women's health issues. Caroline Andrews, Director for the Centre of Governance at the University of Ottawa, was appointed by Premier McGuinty as Chair of this agency and her response to our offer was met with enthusiasm and appreciation. She accepted our offer and will be in touch to discuss the role that CFUW OC can play. Grace Rylett from CFUW Georgetown has accepted Ontario Council's request to be our special appointee on provincial health issues and will set up a committee to assist her.

The Local Arrangements Committee of CFUW North Bay has been working for more than a year now organizing our next Ontario Council Annual General Meeting (OC AGM) which will take place on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. The programme is *jam packed*; from a Friday evening reception with our advocacy award presentations, opportunities to network & renew friendships and towards mid-evening, some first class entertainment ..... to an engaging and productive Saturday beginning with a Presidents' workshop, a discussion of the 2008-2009 Ontario Council proposed budget and voting on amendments to our constitution ..... then participating in determining the issues which members would like given top priority in the next year, followed by a session on risk management for our Clubs and a one hour presentation from Lisa Cirillo, Legal and Project Coordinator for the *Family Law Education for Women* project and the role that CFUW OC Clubs can play in educating Ontario women about their legal rights in family law. **And all of that before noon!!** Come on into the dining room and enjoy a mouth watering lunch and then engage yourself with what a panel of three well known and committed women has to tell us about dealing with the issue of HIV/AIDS and how we can all become involved in defeating it. Your day will *come down from a high* with the



closing of this biennium, saying *farewell* to the outgoing Executive and a *welcoming hello* to your incoming leaders.

What more could you ask for!! Club President's, look for the Registration forms in the mail shortly (they may already be on your doorstep!). See you in North Bay!!

You will likely remember the all-Ontario Council advocacy alert asking you to send an e-mail on January 22<sup>nd</sup> to our Premier and the Minister of Health and Long Term Care, to help the Hamilton Coalition for Quality Home Care in their attempts to put a halt to the Request For Proposal (RFP) process for visiting nursing services. Well, almost immediately after OC got up and running, Minister Smitherman "killed the nursing care bid process"!!

I cannot begin to describe the work that the Coalition, which includes CFUW Hamilton members, Myrtle Greve and Linda Hall, have dedicated to speaking out against a flawed bidding process which would have shut out the Victoria Order of Nurses and St. Joseph's Home Care in Hamilton by declaring them ineligible to present a bid for visiting nursing services to their local CCAC. I know that you will join me in expressing our appreciation to Myrtle and Linda and the Coalition to which they belong, for the hours, days and weeks that ended in success on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The following are a few words that the President and CEO of the Victoria Order of Nurses wrote to this Coalition: "Words cannot describe how grateful we are for what you have all done over the past few weeks. Your commitment and efforts, your tenacity and relentless focus are the reason

behind the results announced this morning by Minister Smitherman .... While this is an amazing day for Hamilton and for the VON in your community, your actions will have an impact across Ontario. Dr. Judith Shamian, President and CEO, VON Canada.

The following message was sent to me by Linda Hall: "The Hamilton Coalition for Quality Home Care wants to sincerely thank each of you who, as individuals and organizations, took such an interest in this very important issue. We also thank you for your support and action in helping to achieve this outcome. Well done!" The Executive for Ontario Council appreciates the speed with which many Clubs were able to respond to an issue which could have had implications for your community. Stay tuned for future updates on how our provincial government will address the problems associated with the RFP process.

And finally, some important information for you to know. **Legislation Update:** The NDP's landmark Early Learning and Child Care Act is one final vote away from passing. This will lay a permanent foundation for a national program delivering high-quality child care that today's families can afford. With the successful vote on Canada's Early Learning and Child Care Act, C-303) on November 20, progress towards national child care took a major step forward.

Until the April issue, take care.  
Linda MacGregor

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### CFUW Orillia Book Club Advocacy:



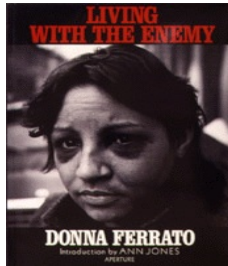
#### Here's another way to promote advocacy within CFUW !!

Last January, some of our CFUW Orillia members met with our MP Bruce Stanton and his colleague, MP Joy Smith who is the co-Chair of the Government of Canada's Standing Committee on the Status of Women to ask questions about the changes to the Status of Women Canada (particularly the cuts). We invited other local organizations to attend - the Quota Club, Business and Professional Women as well as women from our local shelters. During the meeting, reference was made to actions that this Standing Committee was taking on human trafficking. Following the meeting, Joy Smith mentioned the book *Natashas, The New Global Sex Trade* by Victor Malarek to many Club members in attendance. Joy offered us copies for our Book Club to read.

We were so moved by it that we took some copies to our general meeting in October and brought the issue of human trafficking to the attention of our members and asked that they take the time to read this book and consider how our Club might help in preventing the sexual exploitation and trafficking of children.

It is possible to use your Book Club as a forum for advocacy. Ours usually has at least one non-fiction book on our reading list. If the book chosen is about an issue on which CFUW has policy, the discussion that follows may develop into advocacy action within your Club.

Jeanne Page, Past President  
& Book Club Convenor CFUW Orillia



### An Issue of Concern to Our Members

**A PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE**  
**February 25 - 27, 2008**  
**Bingeman's Conference Centre,**  
**Kitchener, Ontario**

Join leaders and professionals from community services,  
health, justice and education sectors for

***A Provincial Conference:  
Communities Working Together to  
End Violence Against Women.***

For complete information visit  
[www.communitiesworkingtogether.ca](http://www.communitiesworkingtogether.ca)

## A RECIPE FOR A GREAT CLUB !



Julian Buski, Governor 1999-2000, Rotary International District spoke at our 2006 CFUW AGM in Edmonton. Mr. Buski used this opportunity to speak about a questionnaire he had developed for the Rotary Clubs to help them answer "What makes an excellent Club?" Participants circled a number on a scale of 1 to 5, where five was the highest rating, on each question. You may wish to complete the questions associated with each characteristic and use what you find out to determine the plans your Club might focus on in making it a "Great Club".

**1. Electricity in the Air.** When you enter the meeting, there's a feeling of electricity in the air, a feeling of positive tension. You can sense the energy. They're excited about being there! Great things are happening. Does this describe your Club?  
RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**2. Cheerful Meeting Place.** Is your meeting place appropriate? Is it bright and pleasant? Do you enjoy spending time there? Is it somewhere you would want to take a friend or

acquaintance? Does it lend itself to the conduct of your business?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**3. Varied Programs.** Do your members look forward to the program part of the meeting? Are the programs varied, interesting, informative? Do you allot sufficient time to conduct the business of your Club and not feel apologetic about doing it?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**4. Fellowship.** Does your meeting reflect friendship? Is there a sense of community, of friendliness? Are Club meetings and functions fun?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**5. Respect.** Do members genuinely respect each other? Do they treasure the diversity in your Club?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**6. Attendance.** Does your Club maintain a high average attendance at meetings? Do members take pride in maintaining attendance?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**7. Visitors.** Do members from other Clubs enjoy visiting your Club? Are guests made to feel welcome? Is there someone at the door to greet them and introduce them to Club members?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**8. Involvement.** Are most Club members involved in some aspect of Club operation? e.g. 50%

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**9. Concern for Members.** Do you have a structure in place to look after members who require special attention at times? Does anyone follow up if a member is ill? In need of sympathy? Has missed several meetings?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**10. Ongoing Membership Recruitment and Education.** Is there a plan in place for ongoing membership recruitment? Or is it haphazard? Do you have CFUW and CFUW Ontario Council information at your meetings?

RATINGS 1 2 3 4 5

**11. Active Support.**

a. Do your members actively support your Club's advocacy actions?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

b. Do they actively support your fund-raisers, projects and other events?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**12. Hands-On Projects.** Does the Club plan for and hold hands-on projects so that members can enjoy fellowship while working together?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**13. Recognition.** Do you recognize accomplishments of your members whether as CFUW members or as members of their profession or community?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**14. National and International Support.** Do your members attend the National and/or the OC AGMs?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

**15. Community Presence.** Does your Club have a strong community presence? Are the accomplishments of your Club known to the community? Is CFUW & CFUW OC visible in your community?

RATING: 1 2 3 4 5

## **CFUW Ontario Council AGM VISION VOICE ACTION Human Rights and HIV/Aids**

**Friday, May 9, 2008 – Saturday, May 10, 2008**

Come to hear our speakers...

### **Louise D. Binder**

Louise Binder is a Canadian HIV+ woman lawyer who was diagnosed in 1993. Forced to retire, she did some limited volunteer work on the board of the Toronto People with AIDS Foundation as board member and then co-chair until 1998, and as Chair of the provincial women's AIDS organization, Voices of Positive Women, where she still serves as vice-chair. Fortunately, after the advent of highly active antiviral therapy in 1996, Louise's health improved. In 1997, she helped to found and, has since co-chaired and chaired the Canadian Treatment Action Council, which does

systemic advocacy for access to treatments. She is also a member of the Community Advisory Committee of the Canadian HIV Trials Network; one of the founding members of the Blueprint for Action on Women and Girls and HIV/AIDS; Chair of the Canadian Advisory Committee for the Ukrainian HIV+ Children's Hospital Project; and member of the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS Leadership Council. Louise has also been a strong voice for women's human rights issues and was one of the founders and members of the management team of the First National Women's Conference in Canada. As a result of her untiring

work she has received many awards and an honorary doctorate of Laws from Queens. At the AGM she will be addressing Human Rights Issues.

### **Mary Anna Beer**

Mary Anna Beer is a retired special education teacher from the GTA Area who has travelled to 46 countries including many in Africa. She was part of the fact finding mission on the impact of HIV/AIDS on the education system of Tanzania, spent 7 weeks in South Africa and Kenya working with vulnerable children affected by HIV/AIDS, Co Chairs the York Region Committee in support of the Stephen Louis Foundation. In this capacity she has helped raise 1 million dollars to help support the Easing the Pain of HIV/Aids in Africa campaign. Currently she is an advisor to the Stephen Louis Foundation on the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign and will speak to us about this initiative at the AGM.

### **Christine Fortin**

Christine Fortin is the mother of Patrick, a severe hemophiliac who contracted AIDS from a transfusion in 1986 and subsequently died in 2002 age 23. Since that time Christine has been the founding member of the “Patrick for Life Awareness and Education” organization dedicated to educating youth about how to prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS. Christine also sits on the AIDS Bureau, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Women and HIV/AIDS

Working Group, and the Ontario Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS, HIV Prevention Working Group. As a result of her Foundation’s work excellent HIV/AIDS programs are available. She will address us about this educational initiative at the AGM

### **Family Law Education for Women with Lisa Cirillo,** Legal and Project Coordinator for the provincial Family Law Education for Women Project (FLEW).

This government funded project was asked for and created by a consortium of women’s groups in the wake of the successful fight against religious arbitration by Ontario women including CFUW members. CFUW Ontario Council is a member of this consortium. The project is a direct answer to our intense CFUW advocacy to have women made cognizant of their legal rights in family law. Lisa Cirillo will give a lively presentation on the scope of the project and the education and information materials that have been developed by FLEW. She will have suggestions and answer questions on how CFUW Clubs in Ontario can be tremendously helpful in facilitating this important effort in their own communities.

Visit [www.ClarionResortPinewoodPark.com](http://www.ClarionResortPinewoodPark.com) to see the services available, and [www.visitnorthbay.ca](http://www.visitnorthbay.ca) for North Bay highlights.



Dear Ask an RN,

I live in a rural area, and I have just heard that a nurse practitioner will be coming here. What exactly can this person do for me?

Ask an RN responds:

Nurse practitioners are RNs (Extended Class) with advanced knowledge and decision-making skills in assessment, diagnosis and health-care management. They provide services to individuals of all ages. Under additional legislative authority, nurse practitioners diagnose and treat common illnesses and injuries and write prescriptions. They can also order lab tests, X-rays and other diagnostic tests. Nurse practitioners work in collaboration with physicians and are often part of a multi-disciplinary team of nurses, doctors, dieticians and other health-care professionals.

**By simply turning out the lights for one hour on the same day  
at the same time, citizens and companies around the world  
are uniting to send a powerful message  
to sluggish governments**



**Earth Hour 2007 was a Sydney event.  
Earth Hour 2008 is a global movement.**

Created to take a stand against the greatest threat our planet has ever faced, Earth Hour uses the simple action of turning off the lights for one hour to deliver a powerful message about the need for action on global warming.

**On March 29, 2008, the City of Toronto** will join cities around the world in literally "turning out the lights" for Earth Hour, a World Wildlife Fund (WWF) event to raise awareness about climate change and symbolize that, working together the people of the world can make a difference in the fight against global warming.



## HIT THE LIGHT SWITCH AND MAKE A STATEMENT

To reach **Toronto's Earth Hour Goal**, we need to flick off enough switches to cut consumption by nearly 170 megawatts. **How many Megawatts does your city or town have to cut to reach its Earth Hour Goal??** Visit your city/town website to see if it has signed on to switch off on March 29th.

1 Megawatt is equivalent to 10,000 100-watt lightbulbs

To cut consumption by 170 Megawatts, we need to turn off 1,700,000 100-watt lightbulbs  
That is less than one bulb turned off per person in Toronto with a population of 2.48 million.

**ON MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2008 AT 8:00 p.m.**

**TURN LIGHTS OFF AND SEE THE WORLD IN A WHOLE NEW LIGHT**

Go to <http://wwf.ca/earthhour> for more information.

### Dates & Data

Also available on [www.cfuwontcouncil.ca](http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca)

Editor - Ann McElhinney - [cfuwontario@yahoo.com](mailto:cfuwontario@yahoo.com)

Submissions welcome - Please advise of any changes, additions or deletions to our mailing list

