



## YOUR CLUB EXECUTIVE AND ADVOCACY

As President and members of your club's executive, you will find yourself involved in advocacy done by your club. Ideally you will have an Issues group who are prepared to do the actual work, but you need to know about and be able to authorize what's happening.

### Concerning advocacy you receive from Ontario Council:

- ◆ Information about the three Standing Committees meetings – notices and registration in *Dates & Data*, reports in *NEWS FROM OC*; also available on the web at [www.cfuwontcouncil.ca](http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca)

- ◆ Templates and suggestions for letters that you can send to your MPPs

Please, if you feel comfortable with the letters, send them.

- ◆ Our newsletters, *Dates & Data* and *NEWS FROM OC*.

Please use the articles and Standing Committees reports for your own newsletters, simply copy and paste from the electronic version.

*NEWS FROM OC* also includes links to advocacy work, letters and briefs done by Ontario Council found on our website at [www.cfuwontcouncil.ca](http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca). Please pass this emailed newsletter along to members, especially to the Issues group, who could use it.

- ◆ How-to manuals concerning advocacy, such as *Act On It - Locally*, etc.

Please pass these on to others that you think might find them useful. They are available online at [www.cfuwontcouncil.ca](http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca).

- ◆ Emails asking for your help concerning some advocacy activity – perhaps a letter writing campaign, notice about government consultations, a petition campaign that a club has initiated...

Please respond if you can, or delegate it to your Issues Committee to work on the project.

- ◆ Ontario Council Resolutions for club discussion

Please study these, prepare amendments to return to Ontario Council and be prepared to discuss the resolution(s) at the next AGM.

### To help you with advocacy, there are

- ◆ Standing Committees meetings, and the Standing Committee chairs who are always available to help;
- ◆ Regional Directors who can direct you to others who could assist you;
- ◆ The reports of the Standing Committees meetings which can be found in *NEWS FROM OC* and on the website;
- ◆ The website [www.cfuwontcouncil.ca](http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca) , in particular the Issues page which has links to letters and briefs prepared by Ontario Council;
- ◆ The two policy books – Ontario and National – links can be found at [www.cfuwontcouncil.ca/policy.html](http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca/policy.html) , and
- ◆ The previously mentioned how-to manual, *Act on It – Locally*, and *Advocacy Primer* found on our website.

## **CFUW GUIDELINES for ADVOCACY**

- ◆ When writing, or speaking, “on behalf of CFUW” and asking for some action, this **must be based on CFUW policy** as found in the *CFUW Policy Book* or *Ontario Council Resolutions*.

When there is no policy, letters may be written asking for information only – “Our club is studying ...”

If a Club needs to react to a local situation when there is no policy, a vote shall be taken of its membership before committing the Club to any course of action. Any action must be consistent with CFUW purposes.

- ◆ **Local clubs write to their local MPs, MPPs**, and other local elected officials, but not to the Premier, the Prime Minister or Cabinet Minister (unless he/she is the local MPP or MP).

When a number of Clubs write on one issue, this can create a critical mass on issues.

- ◆ **Letters must be sent out under the signature of the Club President, or designated member of the Executive, on Club letterhead.** The Club President or designated member of the executive committee should have the support and authorization of her executive.