



# CFUW SUNSHINE COAST



VISIBLE VOICE – VOIX VISIBLE

Volume 5, Issue 1

[www.cfuwsc.org](http://www.cfuwsc.org)

SEPTEMBER 2010

Due to major federal funding cuts to women's groups across Canada in the past year –

CFUW has become the principle advocacy group for women in Canada today.

Your voice – and your membership, are important.

These cuts follow on the heels of international reports that show the gender gap in Canada has widened greatly in the last five years.

In 2004, the World Economic Forum gender gap index ranked Canada seventh.

By 2009, Canada fell to 25<sup>th</sup>.

See page 4 for more.

## Coming Events

# Membership Tea

Monday Sept. 13

1:00 pm sharp

St. John's United Church, Davis Bay

Gather at 12.30pm

A short program starts at 1pm

Afternoon tea included.

Renew your membership

Bring a guest/new member

Sign up for interest groups!

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## September meeting

Monday, Sept. 27

11:00 am

Doors open at 10:30 am

Lunch at 12:15 pm, program begins 1 pm

Speakers:

Mary Degan: The Fruit Tree Project

Gerald Shaffer: Sunshine Coast Bear Education & Resource Network



Our Board met at Jolyne Ball's lovely home Aug. 14. From left, front: Jolyne Ball, President Rosemarie Blenkinsop. Back, left, Anne MacLachlan, Mary Beth Knechtal, Michele Stobie, Bursary President Connie Barber, Rita Howie and Matilda Naidoo.

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## President's Report

By Rosemarie Blenkinsop

Summer is nearly over and it's time to turn our attention to another year of CFUW activities. What a summer it has been! I found it especially fine because it was the first summer since we moved here that we haven't had to spend hurtling across the country to our cottage in Ontario.

The Membership Tea to start off the year will be held on Monday, September 13 at 1:00 P.M. at St. John's United Church in Davis Bay. We shall start at 1:00 P.M. on the dot with a short program to introduce members to what's in store for 2010-2011 and what the Interest Groups are all about.

As usual, the Membership coordinator will be set up so that we can renew our memberships. The lists will be available to signup for Interest Groups and the Bursary Committee will be ready to take our very necessary donations. And, of course, the Board will provide goodies and there will be tea and coffee to enjoy while we catch up on each other's news and meet the new members that we are all going to bring along.

In July, I attended the CFUW National AGM in hot and sticky Ottawa. It was particularly interesting to see how much time and attention was taken up in the meetings for discussion about and fine tuning of resolutions. At our local Resolutions meeting, it was clear that it is important to our members to ensure that any resolution that is adopted be relevant, valid and coherent. The same concern was reiterated at the National AGM by members from Clubs across the country.

CFUW has become the principle advocacy group for women in Canada to-day. This is certainly partially due to the fact that CFUW does not rely on government funding in order to exist. For this reason, we cannot be intimidated into keeping quiet by any level of government. The effectiveness of our advocacy is supported by the time, effort and thought that our members put into formulating resolutions.

The importance of CFUW National as an advocacy group was frequently mentioned during the AGM and it made me keen to get working on issues within our own Club. I would really like to see our Issues and Actions Committee get reactivated this year with a view to writing a resolution for CFUW National.

But Issues and Actions is only one of many Interest Groups available and anyone who isn't into that kind of thing will find plenty of great groups to choose from at the Membership Tea.

See you on September 13 at 1:00 P.M.

### 2010 – 2011 Program

Our regular monthly meetings are held on the fourth Monday. This year's program focuses on issues around food security.

Each meeting includes a business meeting, buffet lunch and a program.

**Sept. 27: Mary Degan: The Fruit Tree project, and Gerald Shaffer: Sunshine Coast Bear Education & Resource Network**

**Oct. 25: The Great Big Book Club discussion of Brian Brett's "Trauma Farm – A Rebel History of Rural Life."** Read the book beforehand if you can!

**Nov. 22: Kit Artus.** PowerPoint presentation on the "Politics of Food."

**Dec. 6: Christmas Luncheon and Silent Auction – SC Golf & Country Club.**

**Jan. 24: Chickens Running Everywhere!** Community planning issues around urban agriculture.

**Feb. 28: Open for issues discussion or another option.**

**March 28: Ways to share food, open discussion, plus "Stone Soup."** (It will be served).

**April 25: Farm gate sales:** licensing for slaughter, butchering, etc.  
**Trying the 100-mile diet:** Gillian Kydd

**May 30: Special lunch program** with items prepared from wild foodstuffs.

**June 13: Spring Luncheon – SC Golf & Country Club.**

### SILENT AUCTION

Our annual Silent Auction fundraiser for the Club will be held at our Christmas Luncheon.

Jolyne Ball has agreed to coordinate the event again this year. She will be accepting items at our regular meetings this fall, as well as at her home. Please phone 604-885-0351. Thanks!

2010- 2011 Board of Directors

President	Rosemarie Blenkinsop
Past-President	Michele Stobie
1st Vice-President	vacant
Treasurer	Mary Beth Knechtal
Secretary	Matilda Naidoo
Social	Dorothy Morse
Membership	Jolyne Ball
Communications	Anne MacLachlan
Program	Carol Tiessen
Bursary Chair/Liaison	Connie Barber
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Assistant membership	Sue Carson
Assistant program	Rita Howie
Assistant social	Pat Lilly

**VICE PRESIDENT NEEDED**

The position of Vice-President has still not been filled. If you would like to know more about the position, please contact Rosemarie Blenkinsop at 604-740-3781.

**Interest Groups**

We have a number of interest group: bridge, gourmet dining, book clubs and jazz singing.

Perhaps most important is our Foundation, which provides funds for scholarships and bursaries.

This year we provided over \$8,000 to help Coast women with higher education costs. This money comes from members' donations as well as special events such as our Spring Fashion Show (I Can't Believe She Wore That!)

Thank you, members and friends.

Thinking of new interest groups? You can start one! Just sign your name and see who joins you.

Come to the membership tea on Monday, Sept 13, or contact President Rosemarie Blenkinsop or a board member.

**Interest Groups**

Book Club 1: meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 7 pm. Contact Patti Gunning 740-9927 or Mary McKinnon 885-0589

Book Club 2: meets in members' homes at 7pm the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. Leslie Guignard 885-5385.

Book Club 3 : meets in members' homes at 10am the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month throughout the year. Phone Ann Fitzau 740-8158

Bridge (Social) meets in members' homes at 1:00 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month. New members welcome. Phone Mary Beth Knechtel 741-9846

Dinner group: meets as members decide to dine at private homes. Format decided by members. Contact Bev Nelson, 885-4038

Issues & Actions: Meet to discuss an issue of importance with a view to advocacy. Contact needed.

Jazz Singers: meet regularly to sing favourite tunes. No audition! Contact Margaret Solloway 885-7345

Mystery Book Club: meets on the third Tuesday afternoon of the month at member's homes. Contact Ellen Smith at 885 – 9340

Walkers/Epicures: meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month for a short walk at 10 am, followed by lunch at a local eatery. Contact person needed.

Wine Tasters: meet at 3 or 7 pm, the first Thursday of the month for wine tasting. Mary Mellis 885-2487

Several new groups have been suggested, including: Photography; Astronomy; Lunch club; Game club. Sign up sheets will be available for these or other groups at the Membership Tea.

**MEMBERS' SERVICES**

Sunshine and Showers

If you know of a member who has had happy or sad news, please contact Patty Greenfield at 604-886-7921 and she will send a suitable card.

Members' Support Group

If you need help or know of a member who needs help, please contact the Members's Support group by contacting Mary McKinnon at 604-885-0589.

