



*Conseil provincial du Québec des associations des femmes diplômées des universités/
Quebec Council of University Women's Clubs*

*President's Report, October 26, 2019
Ayer's Cliff, Québec*

As CFUW enters its second century, we are facing numerous challenges including declining membership and redefining our relationship with GWI, our international affiliate. The National Board has been forced to make decisions, some of which are controversial, to meet our international obligations, while guaranteeing the financial sustainability of CFUW nationally. At the recent AGM in Winnipeg, the membership voted to increase national dues. However, a motion to increase dues to meet our financial commitment to GWI failed. A committee has been struck to explore and identify strategies to meet the estimated \$32,000 shortfall that will be owed to GWI in 2020. I urge you to contact committee members, Alison Hutchison (CFUW Nelson), Sharon Crabb (CFUW Fredericton) and Roberta Balmer (SSUWC), if you have ideas that you would like to contribute.

A new national e-club, CFUW Canada-GWI, which obtained its charter earlier this year, "is a place for ardent supporters of GWI to come together to plan activities that promote the work of GWI; to raise GWI's visibility within CFUW; to support and/or collaborate with GWI; and perhaps to fundraise for GWI¹. Please contact me if you are interested in the club and I will provide you with the registration information.

Recently, a national sub-committee on Indigenous Peoples was formed. The focus of the group will be providing opportunities to educate ourselves and CFUW members about issues affecting Canada's Indigenous peoples.

Applications are open until November 8, 2019 for women wanting to be part of the CFUW delegation at UN CSW64, March 9-20, 2020 in New York. Former participants have said that the experience is both enriching and exhausting!

At the October 15 CFUW National Board meeting, president Grace Hollett reported that GWI was informed about the CFUW AGM finance motions, the Winnipeg motion, and the plan to set up a "Committee to Identify Funding for the GWI Shortfall". The GWI Board has been contacted about the work remaining from the MOU that needs to be completed by GWI and CFUW representatives. The GWI Assistant Treasurer, CFUW member Beverley Rhodes, has been in contact with the GWI Treasurer regarding quarterly reports. Kathryn Wilkinson awaits the call of the GWI Project committee of which she is a member. The GWI invoice will be received following the compilation of Club membership in mid-November, as requested, and will be paid in US dollars instead of Swiss Francs, to lower bank charges. CFUW has endorsed GWI's written statement to the UN Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW).

Membership in Québec clubs has remained more or less stable in recent years. All clubs are working hard to increase their public profile and AFDU Montérégie is anxious to recruit Francophiles from across the country to participate in their club electronically.

I appreciate the work that was done over the summer by Edna Ouellette and Chitra Chopra to revise the Québec Council Constitution and Bylaws, which have been submitted to members for discussion and approval at this meeting.

I would also like to remind you that Québec Council will need to elect a new Regional Director (English) and nominate a candidate for VP Québec to serve during the 2020-2022 biennial. Please consider putting your name forward.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Stowe

¹ email from Elizabeth Hayes to Debbie Stowe, April 26, 2019