



2013/2014 Annual Report for the Quebec Provincial Council Montreal South Shore University Women's Club

1. Funds raised in 2013-2014

There were two fundraisers this year resulting in net receipts of \$5,425.

- Used Book Sale held in the summer of 2013 to support the Education Awards
- A Card and Games Day held on April 9, 2014.

Both of these activities are enjoyed by our members and double as social, community events.

2. Education Awards presented in 2013-2014

Education Awards totaling \$ 5,500 were awarded this fiscal year, as follows:

Concordia University- Mature female student	1,000
Concordia University - female student with learning challenges	1,000
McGill University - Mature female student	1,000
Champlain College - Female student going on to higher education	1,000
CEGEP Edouard Montpetit - Female student going on to higher education	1,000
Donation to Polytechnique Scholarship (CFUW Charitable Trust)	400
Heather Mizener Memorial Award (to a High School Student)	100

3. Membership:

Our Club membership was absolutely decimated this year. Of 73 members last fiscal year, 23 did not return.

Of those not returning, 10 (43%) had strongly opposed the CFUW fee increase and did not rejoin when the increase went into effect. Another 5 (22%) were inactive, but had supported the Club for many years. It is possible that the increased dues may have been a deciding factor for these ladies. The remaining 8 members did not rejoin due to illness, death, lifestyle changes or for reasons unknown.

SSUWC annual dues are \$91 (increased from \$81 last year).

Fortunately, 11 new members joined the Club. Efforts were spent throughout the year trying to engage these new members in Club activities and keep them informed. Special invitations to Interest Groups were sent out. Some were telephoned to make sure that they knew of events. Car pooling was arranged. A New Members' Social was held in December to wine and dine them. Introductions to other members were made at two of the general meetings.

4. Advocacy:

Members have been kept aware of various advocacy efforts through the Newsletter. Following the lead of the Provincial Council, SSUWC sent a letter to various MLAs in our area concerning the proposed Charter of Ethical Values. Community contacts related to the program, scholarships and fundraising were maintained.

5. Communications

The SSUWC has a Web Site – finally. It is simple, but the design is very sharp. Please check it out at: <http://ssuwc.ca> Further development is planned.

6. Meetings

Our traditional Wine and Cheese opening meeting celebrated the Education Award recipients. Other meetings featured Pharmacist Kinda Karra (over-the-counter medication), Ruth Thomas (programs for adult literacy), Susan Woodruff (Jane Austen Society), Notary Barbara Noetzel (mandates), and Marie-Eve Désaultels, curator of the Musée de la femme de Longueuil, (role of women in early Montreal).

This year we also tried two special events instead of speakers: Jewelry Making and Line Dancing with dance school director Lorraine Walker. Both of these activities were well-received and well-attended.

7. Governance and Leadership

Filling positions on the Executive Committee continues to be a challenge. Volunteers to help at activities are plentiful; those to occupy executive spots are scarce. Several minor updates to the Constitution are proposed for the May AGM.