

2012-2013 Annual Report for the Provincial Council Montreal South Shore University Women's Club

1. Funds raised in 2012-2013

There were four fundraisers this year resulting in net receipts of \$7,483.

- The Garden Tour was held during the summer of 2012: net revenue of \$525.
- The major fundraiser to support our Education Awards is the used Book Sale held each summer. Net revenues were \$4,591. We are currently questioning the work/revenue ratio as receipts continue to decline with the increasing popularity of E-readers. No suitable replacement has yet been found.
- The family of former member Beryl Bird donated a collection of her paintings to the Club for the purpose of holding an auction to raise funds. This was a wonderful gesture on their part. Many of our ladies remember Beryl as an outstanding woman and were grateful to be able to own of her works. Total net revenue: \$2,225.
- The final fundraiser was an idea borrowed from UWC Montreal Inc. - a Penny Weigh-in held at our January dinner meeting which raised \$142.

2. Bursaries given out in 2012-2013

Bursaries and other education awards totalling \$6,900 were given out. This included three University and two CEGEP awards of \$1,000 each. Other awards included five to Secondary School graduates, a donation to the CFUW Charitable Trust Polytechnique Award, a directed donation to Women4Women Afghanistan and a special award in memory of one of our former Presidents.

3. Membership

The Club has 71 members this year - an increase over the 65 members last year.

Through prudent management of funds, fees remained at \$80 per member for this year. However, the \$10 increase due to the CFUW dues increase in effect for the upcoming fiscal year is of concern. Any negative effect on the membership totals will not be known until September.

4. Advocacy

Advocacy does not elicit strong participation within our membership. Worthy of note was the showing of the National Film Board film *Status Quo? The*

Unfinished Business of Feminism in Canada, and the ensuing informal discussion. For the presentation, the Club partnered with Champlain College.

5. Communications

« Two steps forward, one back » would sum up our efforts this year. A preliminary operating Web site, facebook page and blog were set up for the Club. As a result, a former award recipient used the site to contact us and provide an update of her recent accomplishments. However, the Club has been advised that the hosting site has been sold and there is a lack of volunteers to establish and maintain a new site. The saga will continue.

6. Meetings

The year was opened with a Wine and Cheese celebrating the Education Award recipients, Three of the recipients attended and spoke to our members. Topics at other meetings included How to safeguard against osteoporosis and arthritis, Meteorology, Organ transplants and What to consider before selling your home.

There were ten exceptionally interesting speakers at our January dinner - our own members participated in a "Show and Tell". Each volunteer - including our oldest member who is 96 - arrived with interesting objects, recounted the story behind the object and answered questions.

7. Governance and Leadership

Filling positions on the Executive Committee is always challenging and this year is no exception - to date, the position of secretary remains unfilled. A register of motions has been established and past motions are now being compiled.

The CFUW dues increase is still causing consternation despite information sessions and follow-up reports.

Finally, a Club logo will be presented to the membership at the April General Meeting.

April 17, 2013
Patricia Couture