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2010-2012

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A Grassroots Organization
CFUW member Clubs are administered in five regional groupings: Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, the Prairies and British Columbia.

Each Club welcomes members, offers innovative and stimulating programs that encourage and promote CFUW’s objectives, as well as providing opportunities for life-long learning, fellowship, study and interest groups, service groups and much more.

CFUW policies are developed at the grassroots and debated at its Annual General Meeting.

Action, Advocacy, Education
The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) is a national non-governmental, non-partisan, self-funded organization committed to promoting equality for women and girls through action, advocacy and education.

CFUW has a membership of close to 9,000 graduate women and students in 110 Clubs across Canada. CFUW is one of 62 National Affiliate members of the International Federation of University Women (IFUW).

Highlights of CFUW meetings and events this year:
♦ Attended the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York (UN CSW) and hosted parallel event on non-state actor torture;
♦ Meetings with Members of Parliament including Elizabeth May, Leader of the Green Party, Status of Women Critics Françoise Boivin of the NDP, and Judy Sgro of the Liberal Party of Canada;
♦ Participated in the Food Dialogue Project on Women’s Rights and Food Security hosted by Oxfam Canada;
♦ Attended the Human Rights Consultations with Department of Foreign Affairs;
♦ Co-sponsored Conference on the Responsibility to Protect and the Will to Intervene;
♦ Round Table hosted by the Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons; and
♦ On-going meetings with new Women Peace and Security Network and Coalition to Reform Canada’s Access to

The CFUW Mission
♦ Improve the status of women and girls; work for human rights and peace;
♦ Support education, life-long learning and research;
♦ Encourage graduate women, associate members and students to place their education and professional training at the service of the local, national and international community;
♦ Work in concert with the International Federation of University Women, a global network of women graduates working for social change.
CFUW Fellowships and Awards

Since CFUW’s founding in 1919, we have helped Canadian women pursue graduate studies through our National Fellowships and Awards Program, which we administer annually.

In addition, CFUW Clubs across the country collectively award more than $1,000,000 annually in scholarships and bursaries to help women in their local communities pursue post-secondary studies.

With the cost of post-secondary education rising across Canada, so has student debt. Women graduates are disproportionately affected by this debt, as women on average continue to earn a mere 71% of what men earn. This not only impacts their capacity to save, but also means that they may take longer to pay off their student loans after graduation and consequently pay more in compound interest (meaning the cost of post secondary education is higher on average for women).

It is imperative that CFUW continue to help women pursue post-secondary education as a way to promote women’s equality and improve their economic wellbeing.

Profiles of our winners of the 2012-2013 CFUW Fellowships and Awards can be found online at: http://www.cfuw.org/en-ca/fellowships/winners.aspx.

For more information contact Betty Dunlop, CFUW Fellowships Program Manager; fellowships@cfuw.org or 613-234-8252 ext. 104
**Highlights of National Advocacy**

RESOLUTIONS adopted on the Criminalization of Non-State Actor Torture and Anti-idling.

ACTIONS: Brief to the Standing Committee on Finance for 2012 Budget; Press releases, letters, and briefs to oppose Bill C-19 Ending the Long Gun Registry; Various letters and press releases on issues including national housing day, the 30th anniversary of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, International Women’s Day, the National Day of Action and Remembrance on Violence Against Women.

CAMPAIGNS: Opposing Bill C-19 Ending the Long Gun Registry; Promoting reform of Canada’s Access to Medicine’s Regime (CAMR); and Banning the Mining, Use and Export of Asbestos.

MEETINGS & EVENTS: Met with Parliamentary Critics for Status of Women and Justice; Met with Leader of the Green Party; Attended Canadian Commission for UNESCO; Organized International Women’s Day Event at the National Archives with partner organizations; Participated in Oxfam’s Food Dialogue Project; and the Round Table for the Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons.

RESOURCES: New and improved advocacy section of our website; Weekly Advocacy Newsletter “Week in Review”; and Campaign Materials.

**Some of the organizations CFUW worked with this year:**
- Amnesty International
- Abortion Rights Coalition of Canada
- Coalition for Gun Control
- Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
- Canadian Labour Congress
- Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons
- CARE Canada
- Equal Voice
- Families of Sisters in Spirit
- Grandmothers Advocacy Network
- Inter Pares
- Nobel Women’s Initiative (NWI)
- Oxfam Canada
- UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)
- United Nations Commission on the Status of Women
- United Nations Economic and Social Council
- Women Peace and Security Network
- World University Service Canada (WUSC)
- YWCA

**Highlights of International Advocacy**

ACTIONS: Advocated for the Inclusion of Afghan Women in the Bonn II Conference (UN Resolution 1325); signed onto a joint statement following the United Nations Commission of the Status of Women 56 (UN CSW), Saying NO to safeguarding “traditional values” at the expense of women’s human rights; Submitted Shadow Report to the Convention Against Torture - dealing with the issue of Non-State Torture.

CAMPAIGNS: Joined Campaign to Stop Rape and Gender Violence in Conflict in collaboration with Nobel Women’s Initiative (NWI).

MEETINGS & EVENTS: Attended UN CSW 56 in New York and hosted a parallel session on Non-State Torture; Attended consultation held by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) in preparation for the annual meeting of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva; Attended and Co-sponsored Conference on the Responsibility to Protect and the Will to Intervene.

FUNDRAISING: Proud supporter of CARE Canada’s Maternal Health Initiative through CFUW’s national International Women’s Day Fundraiser – in support of Millennium Development Goal 5.

**For more information about CFUW’s Advocacy:**

**Contact Us:** At CFUW National Office: 331 Cooper Street Suite 502, Ottawa, 613-234-8252. Or [www.cfuw.org](http://www.cfuw.org).