

CFUW Wolfville January 2025

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067299424407>

Website:

<https://cfuwwolfville.com/>

Important Dates:

January 11 – Start collecting book donations again.

January 15 – Board Meeting at Booking Site at County Fair Mall

January 15 – Finance and Treasurer Workshop

January 21 – Regional Directors' Meeting

January 31 – Deadline to submit club numbers to National

February 18 - Regional Directors' Meeting

February 22 – Coldest Night of the Year Walk

Editor: Anne MacInnis



Valley Voices A Cappella Chorus Entertains!

On December 11, for the third year in a row, Valley Voices came and sang to us. They started with a Freddie Mercury tune “Don’t Stop Me Now” and sang their way through several lovely ballads including “A Thousand Years”, “Blue Skies”, “This is Me” and finishing up with five Christmas classics. Many thanks to Pat A for welcoming them and to Pat M for thanking them afterwards. Members were enthralled and there were many compliments flying around after their performance. Our Social Conveners, Helen and Noella, organized other members to bring treats for after the concert. We had a wonderful social and we all had a chance to talk to some new people. Pictured below is Adele Merritt, Director, and members of the Valley Voices A Cappella Chorus.



Fran, Cathy, Ann, Jean C and Jean S



Pam, Adele, Carrie, Anne, and Heather

Enviro Depot at McConnell's in Greenwich: We have an account there, if you drop off your recyclable bottles/cans – you can designate our club as the recipient of the money you would have received for your recyclables.



Christmas Food Bank Donations – Thank YOU!

A big thank you for your continued generosity. There was a call for Food Bank donations to be collected at our December 11 meeting and our members came through with kindness and generosity. I contacted Erica Easton through the **Wolfville Area Food Bank**, and we met on a Sunday afternoon so that she could take the donations. In addition to the non-perishable food items and paper towels and other paper products, our donations of gift cards, cash, and cheques added up to \$475.00.

She told me how the Food Bank works. Families and individuals can sign up to receive what they need according to the information they provide on intake. The Food Bank prepares and distributes these orders twice a month but recipients receive once a month so you can choose the week you would like to receive your order. There is so much work that goes on behind the scenes: checking orders, shopping, sorting, boxing, and delivering. During Covid, they had to resort to deliveries to keep it going. They would like to get more customers to come and pick up their orders because many of their volunteers are seniors so carrying heavy boxes can be difficult for some. Erica's job includes responding to people and groups who have a donation to give. She also liaises with people running Food Drives and other initiatives. We are fortunate to have such an organization in our midst during these times of food insecurity.

This was taken in the Food Storage Room at the Food Bank, the shelves are completely emptied for each day that they deliver/give out boxes of food.





1000 Shoeboxes Project



Altogether, we contributed 13 shoeboxes to this project. Thank you for the time and effort it took to put these Christmas care packages together. The Shoebox Project is a National Project, and I had the pleasure of meeting the coordinator of the Nova Scotia initiative on a delivery trip to Windsor. Catherine is a recent Law School graduate with a passion for social justice. She is preparing to write her bar exam in March.

I asked her how the project was going, and she said they were very close to delivering a total of 1000 shoeboxes throughout Nova Scotia. She and her team drove to three locations in Cape Breton as well as locations from Antigonish to Bridgewater and everywhere in between. She was most touched when she delivered shoeboxes to a shelter and witnessed a mother and son receiving a box – their reaction made her realize the impact of her work. Catherine has lots of ideas for the future as well. You can follow “The Halifax Shoebox Project” on Facebook.

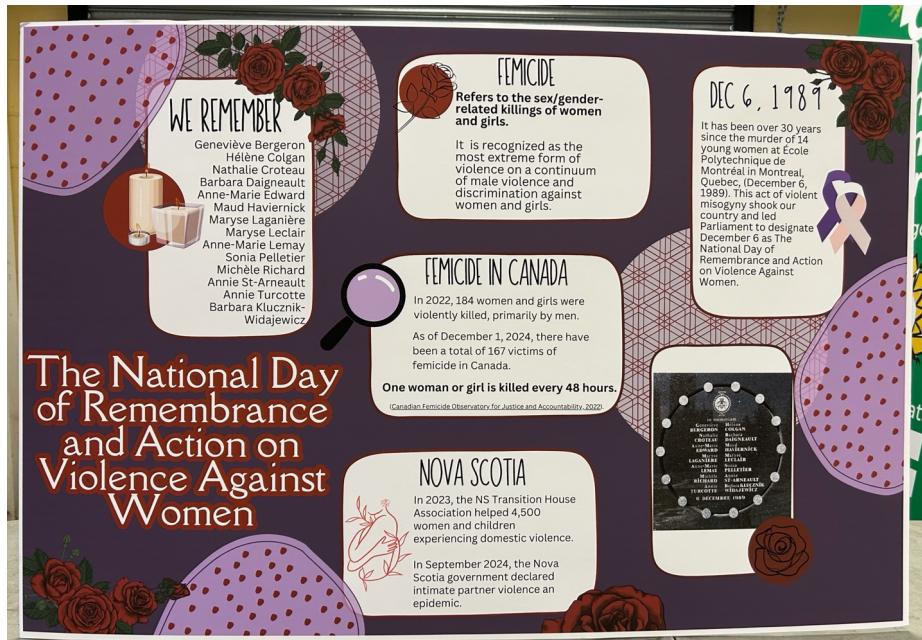
CTV News covered the story. Here is the link to the clip: <https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/video/c3040204-n-s--women-contribute-to-shoebox-project-for-women>



Coldest Night of the Year Walk to Raise Money for Homeless People

We have four members registered for this worthy endeavor! You can look at the webpage at cnoy.org – we are in the Annapolis Valley Open Arms section. The walk will take place on February 22, 2025. Please consider joining our CFUW Wolfville team to help raise money for those experiencing food insecurity and homelessness. If I missed you and you wish to join, please contact me!

December 6th Memorial



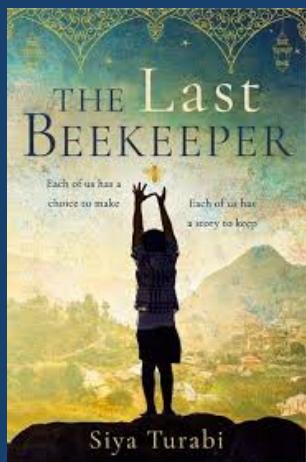
Three members, Marian Sampson, Linda Eyre, and I attended the **National Day of Remembrance & Action on Violence Against Women** event organized by the Women's and Gender Studies Program and the Human Rights and Equity Office, with the support of the President, Acadia University.

Ashlee Consolo, Acadia Provost and Vice-President Academic opened the event with a moving speech of how the massacre had affected her family and herself as a 10-year-old girl.

Amanda Peters read a poem by Wanda Campbell entitled "With Wings".

Poppy Conley, a support worker of the Mi'Kmaw Family Healing Centre described how they capture a photo and details of every woman who comes to the centre due to the higher incidence of Indigenous women who disappear due to gender-based violence. Xylia Fraser, Shelter Manager at Chrysalis House shared some sobering numbers with us – they had turned away 186 women in the past year because they did not have the space to accommodate them. She lamented that some universities had cancelled events like this one due to lack of interest and she was moved to see how many people had come to remember those women who had been killed in Montreal all those years ago.

Students from the School of Music sang beautifully and aptly chosen songs for this ceremony. There were 14 students seated at a long table behind the



speakers. The lights were dimmed. In front of each one was the name of one of the victims of the Massacre along with a rose in a vase. After the singing, they rose one-by-one and stated the name of the woman who had been murdered and placed a votive candle beside the rose. In closing, Reverend Dr. Marjorie Lewis led the assembly in thoughtful prayer. It was a well-organized event that touched all who were present.

Status of Women Feature by Linda Eyre Climate Change

**Feminist economists explain how climate change “exacerbates global inequalities” and disproportionately impacts women and children in economically impoverished countries. The authors also warn that even in a shift to low carbon emissions attention must continue to be given to gender inequalities in women’s health, livelihoods, and security.

<https://theconversation.com/climate-change-is-hitting-women-the-hardest-what-to-do-about-it-economists-242305>

Advocacy

Our Club Program Convenors have organized a panel on homelessness for our January meeting. Members of the public are welcome to attend. A poster will be available soon. The panel will be moderated by Town Councilor Wendy Elliott and panelists include former mayor Wendy Donovan, Debra Large, the manager of Little Meadows in Kentville, and Sean Gabon who advocated for the homeless in Toronto.

Interest Groups:

The **Lit Wits** will meet on January 14th at 2:00 PM at St John’s Anglican Church in Wolfville. They will discuss “The Last Bee Keeper” by Siya Turabi.

The **Bridge Group** will meet on January 4th at 1:30 pm at Wickwire House.

Creative Writing – Next meeting will take place at Jean Sutherland’s on January 10th (note that this will be the second Friday of the month). The proposed topic is “New Year’s Resolutions.”

The **Theatre Group** has the choice of two matinees of “**The Mousetrap**” at Centre Stage on January 18 and 19. In addition, there will be matinee performances of “**Wake in the West**” on March 2 and 9.

The **Art Group** will meet on the following Friday mornings in 2025 at Mary N’s Heart Space offices in the Harris Block in Wolfville: January 17, February 21, March 28, April 25, and May 16.

The Metropolitan Opera

Met Opera Simulcasts 2024-25 program:
https://mediafiles.cineplex.com/cineplex-v2/nexetgen-events/Met%20Opera%202024-25_ENG.pdf

This link will give you the Met release dates:
<https://www.cineplex.com/events/arts-culture#The-Met%3A-Live-in-HD-2024-2025>

