



CFUW SOUTHPORT SEPTEMBER 1st, 2026, NEWSLETTER

CFUW Southport Website: cfuwsouthport.ca Email: cfuwsp@gmail.com

E-transfers go to: cfuw.southport.members@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61554990364520&mibextid=ZbWKwL>

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

September 2nd 2pm Advocacy planning (Suzanne Stead's)

September 7th 1:30pm SKOOB Book Club (Pat Sanagan, MaryJaneMoreau)

September 8th 1:30pm Vigil Meeting (Patty Kelly) Elk and Finch

September 8th 8:30am Hiking Group (Karen Sooley)

September 9th 10:00am Caring Committee Meeting

6:00pm **Welcome Back Meeting – Fashion Show (by Mensch)**

BRING A FRIEND

September 4th 1:30pm First Editions Book Club (Shelleen Nelson)

September 14th 10:30pm Ideas Coffee Club Dizzy Bird (see email) **NEW**

1:30pm Bookmarks Book Club (Catherine Taylor)

September 16th 7:00 pm Circle of Readers (Colleen Morgenroth)

September 17th 7:00 pm Executive Meeting (Kathleen's)

September 21st 7:00pm Evening Euchre (Brenda Greenwood Vernem)

September 28th 8:30 am Hiking Group (Karen Sooley)

September 29th 6:00 pm Culinary Chaos (Kathleen Wallace's)

September 30th 7:00 pm Playing with Pages (Brenda Greenwood Vernem)

CFUW Southport Caring Committee – Caring is what we do

Contact the Caring Committee at cfuwsouthport@gmail.com if you

- need a ride to CFUW activities.
- know of a CFUW member who is hospitalized, recovering, or dealing with prolonged illness.
- hear of the death of a member, or the death of immediate family of a member.
- are feeling lonely and would welcome a call or visit.
- are a new member looking to make connections with other members.

Welcome Back!

Dear CFUW friends,

As we begin another season together, we feel grateful for the friendship, curiosity, and shared purpose that make our CFUW community so special.

Thank you for the many ways you contribute- through advocacy, scholarships, interest groups, events and the encouragement you offer one another.

Supporting women in education is a pillar of CFUW. Your financial support helps advance education for women and strengthens the scholarship fund that helps open doors for women in our community. The scholarship fund is a registered charity; you will receive a tax receipt for donations made.

Did you know that your donation can be made at any time throughout the year AND can be added when you submit your membership fee.

Our membership fee for 2026/27 remains \$120.00 payable by e- transfer to cfuw.southport.members@gmail.com or cheque payable to **CFUW Southport** at the first meeting. Please submit fees by October 15th to help with budget planning.

As we look ahead to the fall, CFUW Southport is pleased to host an **All Candidates meeting on October 7th**, 7pm at the Plex. This is an important opportunity for members and the wider community to hear from candidates, ask thoughtful questions and learn more about the issues that matter locally. This event reflects CFUW's long standing commitment to informed citizenship, respectful dialogue, education for women, and active participation in community life. We hope you will mark your calendar and invite a friend or neighbour.

We are mindful that September 30th is the National day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour all **Indigenous** peoples, survivors, and their families to recognize the ongoing impact of Colonialism. September 30th is also **Orange Shirt Day** to raise awareness of the trauma caused by the Residential School System. We will continue to seek opportunities to demonstrate

reconciliation.

We look forward to welcoming you to our first meeting at the Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre. **Wednesday September 9th, 2026, 6pm.** Social time 6-7pm, Fashion show to start at 7pm. Please be sure to reply to the email invitation sent on August 25th 2026, or click here. <https://forms.gle/C4QufpmteURaCaDz9>

Kindest regards,

Judy Moir & Kathleen Wallace
Leadership team 2026/27
Email cfuwsp@gmail.com

Introducing the Leadership Team for 2026-2027:

Leadership Team: Judy Moir, Kathleen Wallace

Treasurer: Kim Hallman

Secretary: Leah Staff (**Thank you for stepping up!**)

Membership Chair: Joanne Kupiec

Ad Hoc: Catharine Crawford, Jane Pritchard-Bowers, Margot Gascon

Standing Committees:

Advocacy: Suzanne Steed, Samantha Trumbley

Archives: Marianne McKerlie

Caring: Heather Conlin

Minutes: Pat Sanagan, Marcia Hesse

Social Media: Kathleen Wallace

Newsletter/Media: Open *we need you!*

Website: Pat Sanagan, Samantha Trumbley

Program: Catherine Taylor, Debbie Doherty

Scholarship: Cheryl Grace

Vigil: Patty Kelly

PROGRAM

And the survey results say...

Thank you to the 50 members who completed the survey at our June luncheon. The program committee values your feedback and will use it to direct future programming. There are **3 general takeaways** from the survey: 1) members prefer a mix of speaker topics, 2) members want to engage in small group discussions/workshop style events and have more interaction around topics, 3) members are very grateful for the opportunities this group provides to connect with others/community and expressed their gratitude for the various levels of leadership! Not surprisingly, attending clubs/interest groups were the most frequent activities for members. A close second was attendance at advocacy related events followed by luncheons. Many members said they would attend a chapter fundraiser and appreciate an event where they can bring a friend and promote CFUW. Surprisingly, a relatively low number of members expressed an interest in being part of "a monthly meeting a year for breakout groups where

we can focus on advocacy action items...and create plans to act”.

Your program committee is working to integrate the above into future planning and, as always, welcomes your constructive suggestions and feedback.

This year was our first as your program committee and we received relatively few concrete speaker suggestions to follow up on. We hope to hear more from you as the year progresses and we set our sights on the fall of 2027. For this fall of 2026, we hope to see you at the following meetings:

Program Schedule 2026-27

September 9th 6:00 pm Museum **Welcome Meeting** – Fashion Show hosted by Mensch

October 7th 7:00 pm The PLEX **All Candidates Meeting**

October 14th 7:00 pm Museum Membership Meeting – Anne Gordon, CFUW National Scholarship Recipients

November 11th 7:00 pm **ZOOM** Dr Elizabeth Forget, Basic Income for All

December 9th 7:00 pm Museum Holiday Social

January 13th Noon Walker House Lunch ‘N Learn, Julie Campbell, M.A.I.D

February 10th 7:00 pm Museum Bill Streeter, Local Historian, Women in WWI and WWII

March 10th 12:00pm Tolmie Church Kristine Hammel from Persephone market (Via Zoom), Healthy Eating, Farming, Food Chain

April 21st 7:00 pm Museum Advocacy Month - Resolutions, round table discussion format

May 12th 7:00 pm Museum Human Rights Celebration

June 9th 5:30 pm Walker House AGM and Year-end Celebration

COMING SOON: Three New Book Clubs in CFUW Southport

We are launching 2 new book clubs and 1 book exchange. We will reprise them at our kick-off meeting for the fall at the Museum on **September 9th** when you will be able to sign up. Alternatively, you can email the group leaders below in advance.

1. THE PRO CHOICE BOOK CLUB (Afternoons)

Love to read but want to choose your own books (podcasts, films)? Members are invited to read a book, listen to a podcast or view a film of their choice. We don't all engage with the same material but, somehow, the conversations that evolve are very engaging and common themes naturally emerge. You may not be interested in a certain theme or genre, but you get a chance to learn from others, and your knowledge and experience grows. Read what interests you at your own pace and inspire others along the way! If you would like to join this daytime book club in the fall, please let **Michele Cadotte** know or email cfuwsp@gmail.com

2. ON MY SHELF BOOK CLUB (Evenings - Fall 2026 start)

Did you recently start a book series or try a new author? Are you loving it (or not...) and want to share your review? Have you come across an article, book, poem, or film that inspired you recently and would enjoy an opportunity to discuss it? This group is for those who love to reflect on reading, literature, authors and ideas, but don't necessarily want an assigned book - an easy way to expand your reading adventures. Come as you are with your quotes, opinions, and curiosity about what's on other readers' bookshelves! Contact **Catharine Crawford** if you'd like to participate in this fall evening group or email cfuwsp@gmail.com.

3. INTRODUCING BOOK EXCHANGE GROUPS!

CFUW Southport is excited to launch a new **Book Exchange** program in partnership with **Larkspur Books** — bringing together readers, great literature, and support for local independent bookselling. Designed for members who love discovering new titles and sharing lively discussion, each Book Exchange Group will include:

- 8 members
- 8 carefully selected new-release hardcover books
- One book exchanged each month during meetings

Starting on September 9th at the Welcome meeting, members will read one book per month and then pass it along at the next gathering. By the end of the CFUW year (June), every participant will have read all 8 books in the exchange — and each member keeps the final book they receive. The annual participation fee of **\$40** helps fund the purchase of the books for the group.

Working together with Larkspur Books, we hope to create a fun and sustainable annual reading experience while building a long-term partnership that supports local business and celebrates a shared love of books. We plan to begin with two literary exchange groups, representing an initial purchase of 16 new-release hardcover books, with hopes of expanding into additional literary circles, and eventually a Mystery/Thriller exchange group. This new initiative is all about community, conversation, and the joy of passing along a great book to the next reader.

To join, send your intention to participate to **Brenda Greenwood-Vernem** and e-transfer your \$40 payment to cfuw.southport.members@gmail.com with the subject line: "Book Exchange". We can't wait to start reading together!

IDEAS - NEW Group

Do you ever get up in the morning and something in the news sticks with you for the rest of the day, the week or forever? Sometimes the issue may be very small or as large as the Universe, but still worth discussing.

No planning, no agendas, just ideas lingering in your mind. If you are interested in discussing ideas, we could meet **Monday, September 14th at 10:30am** for coffee at the **Dizzy Bird** and see how we go from there. See you then. Luz Maria

CFUW Southport Scholarships

Thanks to the generosity of our members (and two local contractor donations for the Women in Trades Scholarships) CFUW Southport provided twelve scholarships in 2026. Please consider a donation to this important cause this year. **Tax receipts will be provided.** You can e-transfer a donation to cfuw.southport.members@gmail.com at any time during the 2026-2027 year. Alternatively, you can add a donation to your dues and pay by e-transfer or cheque. Any amount over \$120.00 (dues) will be deemed to be for the scholarship fund, and you will receive a tax receipt from the Scholarship Committee. Every donation is appreciated and goes to support women who are seeking post-secondary education.

Did you know...

- You can subscribe to receive the CFUW National newsletter by email by clicking here: <https://members.cfuw.org/club-action-newsletter> **Give it a try!**
- Owners of local female-owned/managed businesses can advertise with CFUW Southport for the entire year for \$200.00. Please share with local businesswomen you know.

CFUW SOUTHPORT ALL CANDIDATES MEETING

Mark your calendars and spread the word: CFUW Southport will host an **All Candidates Meeting on Wednesday, October 7th at The PLEX at 7:00 pm.** **Election Day is October 26th.**

We still need a few CFUW Southport members to volunteer to

- act as greeters/welcomers/ushers at the doors of The PLEX/Rotary Hall on the evening of the event
- form a small committee to develop questions for candidates based on local issues and CFUW values
- write thank you notes to participants, ensure they have water, etc. at the event
- a few other small tasks – [please let Judy More or Kathleen Wallace know if](#)

[you can help asap.](#) **Need to know more about elections in Saugeen Shores? Click**

[here.](#) Make sure you are registered to vote. **Feel Free to print and share this poster:**

Saugeen Shores Municipal Election

Election Day: October 26, 2026

For candidate and voter information, visit:

<https://www.saugeenshores.ca/town-hall/elections/>

All-Candidates Meeting

Sponsored by CFUW Southport



Date: October 7, 2026

Location: The PLEX – Rotary Hall **Time:** 7:00 p.m.

Public Welcome

Donations to the local food banks will be gladly received.

For information contact: cfuwsp@gmail.com

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Why Vote in Municipal Elections

Women in Ontario first won the right to vote in 1917, thanks to the determination and hard work of early suffragettes. (Read more about the courageous women [here](#).) The right to vote is still denied to many women globally, and in recent years, we've come to recognize the fragility of democracy.

Did you know...

- Ontario's first two women MPPs were Agnes MacPhail and Margaret Rae Luckock, both elected in 1943.
- As of June 2026, women make up 41% of the House of Commons (the highest percentage in Canadian history), 37% of the Ontario legislature, and only 33% of Saugeen Shores Council.

While it is important for eligible and informed voters to cast their votes in Federal and Provincial elections, most of the services that impact us directly (property taxes, growth and development, waste management, water and sewage systems, local road construction and maintenance, police and fire, and others) are governed by nine locally-elected officials in municipal government in the Town of Saugeen Shores.

Trustees for the four school boards (English Public, French Public, Catholic Public and French Catholic) are also elected during municipal elections.

Despite longer voting periods and more flexible voting methods at all three levels of government, voter turnout has been decreasing. Only 43.5% of eligible voters voted in the June 2022 Provincial Election. **At no other time in Ontario's history has voter turnout been so low!** At the municipal level, in Saugeen Shores, voter turnout in 2018 was only 49.23% and that was a decrease of 7.5% from 2014. **Only 38.8% of eligible voters voted in 2022**, a further decrease of 10.43%! **61.2% of all eligible voters in Saugeen Shores did not exercise their right** (and duty) to vote. We can all help to reverse this trend.

How do CFUW Southport Members help to reverse this trend?

1. Go to <https://www.saugeenshores.ca/town-hall/elections/> for information about candidates, and to ensure that you are on the voters' list.

2. Attend the **All Candidates Meeting at The PLEX on October 7th at 7:00 pm** (Come early to get a seat!)

3. Mark your calendar: Vote by phone or internet between **Monday, October 19th** and **Monday, October 26th**. You will receive a card in the mail before the voting period. Keep it safe. You will need the information to access the voting system. A voter introduction to the internet and telephone voting system is available in this [YouTube video](#). Help/support will also be provided by the Town at The PLEX if needed, so there is no excuse for any of us not to vote, even if we are away during the voting period.

4. Remind friends and neighbours, including those who are part-timers or cottage owners, to vote.

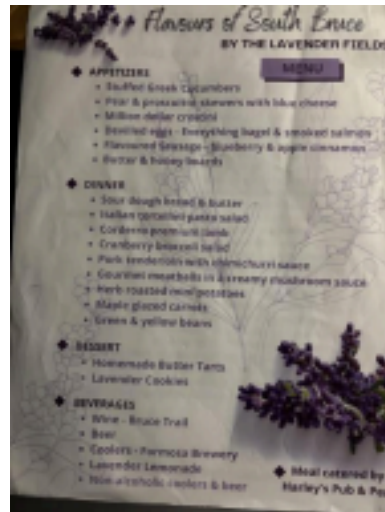
ROVERS ON THE MOVE

On August 9th, Rovers attended the Blyth Festival Theatre to see Sisters of '78 with lunch at Cowbell Brewery. This play sends a powerful message about the power of women who unite against sexism in the work force to gain ground towards equal pay and equal rights.

L-R: Ken Mercer, Sandra Mercer, Pat Dobec, Lin Johnson, Lorraine Boucher, Mary Sye and Gerry Boucher enjoying lunch at Cowbell.



On Sunday, July 12, eight Rovers and friends enjoyed the **Flavours of South Bruce by the Lavender Fields** at Essentially Lavender, near Teeswater. After savouring multiple appetizers and sipping lavender lemonade or coolers for two hours under the shade of majestic trees, some members roamed the spectacular lavender fields, while others shopped at the lavender boutique. Two amazing opera singers entertained the crowd with a wonderful repertoire of classical, pop, jazz and country music. Afterwards, the 100+ attendees sat down for a formal dinner in the blazing sunset. Everyone enjoyed the delicious meal catered by Harley's Pub & Perk. It was a memorable day for two reasons: a "degustation" of a splendid meal and the hottest day of the summer!



L-R: Mary Sye, Marnie Dickout, Catherine Tolton, Joan Godden, Sandie Primeau, Brenda Flaherty

Our Talented Member

Dian Wise will have an exhibit, **A Traveler's Journey** of her black and white photography at the Museum beginning Saturday, September 19.



About the Artist

Dian has extensive photographic darkroom experience working with black and white film and prints. Her background is in the visual arts as a visual arts educator with The Toronto District School Board, specializing in photography. Over the years, she has taken several sabbatical leaves to travel and satisfy her curiosity about different world cultures. Dian and her husband and fellow traveller, Doug, have permanently relocated here from Toronto.

To learn more about the opening and Dian's talk (free to attend) see the Museum website.