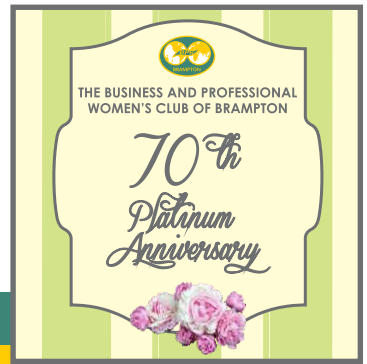




The Business and Professional
Women's Club of Brampton

Club Focus

SPRING 2017



President's Message Janet Brousseau

It is hard to believe that my second year as your BPW President has almost come to an end. I am truly proud of our Club and the accomplishments that have once again been achieved. We have an astonishing 42 members and we are the largest Club in Ontario! Way to go ladies!

Our February meeting was the celebration of our **International Candle Lighting Ceremony** where we honoured all our BPW sisters around the world. I would like to thank Snigdha Malik for organizing our ceremony. Unfortunately we were unable to have **Canadian Women for Women Afghanistan** at our meeting to receive our International donation in the amount of \$1,200.00. This in support of 'The Lantern Fund' which will pay for the salaries of three teachers. The donation was mailed to them and we hope to have them join us in the upcoming year.

We had our **20th Progressive Charity Euchre Event** on March 3, 2017. BPW Brampton along with Scotiabank were able to present \$5,000.00 from the proceeds of that evening to Hope 24/7 (formerly the Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis Centre of Peel). At our March meeting, we presented our Club's portion of \$2,000.00 and the Scotiabank's portion of \$3,000.00 was presented by Branch Manager Khadija Mohammed along with Sunita Mohammed from The Southgate Scotiabank Branch. Thank you Pat Dowling and your Committee for another excellent night - I wish I could have been there.

In March we celebrated **BPW Brampton's 70th Anniversary**. We will be having a **70th Platinum Anniversary Luncheon on May 7, 2017** at La Scala Ristorante in Mississauga. You will find more information on this event in this Club Focus edition, as well as, the emails that have been sent by Sheila Walker. Pat Dowling went digging for me in the archives to find a suitable reading from the 'Club Chatter' from 1949. I read a cute poem by Florence Sturgeon. I also read three other excerpts. One excerpt that was most fitting for our evening's topic was about a donation made back in 1949 to Peel Memorial Hospital from BPW Brampton. It just so happened that we had Joanne Flewwelling from the New Peel Memorial Hospital as our guest speaker. We were also honoured to meet the recipient of **The Paddy Silverthorne Business & Professional Women's Bursary Award** – Baljit Bhamber from Sheridan College. Baljit showed quite an interest in our organization and I am hoping that Baljit will be interested in joining us as a Young BPW member.

In April Camilla Bignell will be presenting all upcoming **Resolutions** to be debated and voted on by our membership. I am very excited that Brampton will be presenting a Resolution this year. I want to thank Camilla and her Committee for a job well done. This will allow our delegates to vote on them at the upcoming Provincial Conference in order to help us make changes for women on all levels of Government – Municipal, Provincial, National and Internationally. As most of you know, Camilla will be moving to London, Ontario in May and we are really going to miss her smiling face. On a brighter note, Camilla has agreed to come back and take care of the food for our Euchre Events. Since Camilla will no longer be able to be our Resolutions



Janet Brousseau

President
BPW Brampton

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Chair, we are looking for her replacement, and I do hope that one of you lovely ladies would be interested in heading up the Committee. Just a reminder, the **BPW Provincial Conference will be September 29th to October 1st, 2017** and is being hosted by the Niagara Club. It would be nice to see as many of our members old and new come out and participate. The 3 delegates for Brampton this year are Indira Persaud, Linda Barker and Janet Brousseau.

In May we have our **Annual General Meeting** and your new Executive will be voted in. Please consider letting your name stand for a position on the Executive. It is a great way to have input and to take a more active role in the activities in your Club.

Our **June Social will be held this year again at the Terra Cotta Inn on June 20, 2017**. It will be a fun-filled evening enjoying a lovely venue and hopefully outdoors for part of the night weather permitting. Another date to keep in mind for June is our **Annual Golf Tournament which will be held June 14, 2017**.

We will be having our yearly **Programs Meeting on Tuesday July 11th, 2017**. Pat Dowling has been kind enough to host this meeting at her home again. It is a potluck dinner at 6:00 pm with our meeting at 7:00 pm. Chicken and Wine will be supplied and I have asked Pat if she would ask her husband Barry if he would be so kind to barbeque the chicken for us; he grills chicken to perfection. Please bring your ideas and contacts to this meeting so that we can have another year of exciting and informative speakers. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please send me your ideas by email and they will be presented at the meeting.

I have already mentioned our **BPW Provincial Conference September 29th to October 1st, 2017**. What I didn't mention is the **Niagara Club will be celebrating their 100th Birthday** and we thought we were a Club that has been around for quite some time! I do hope Brampton can show our support at Conference.

It has been an interesting and amazing journey for me this year and I look forward to see what my next term has in store. I would like to thank each and every member, and especially my Executive for making my role as President so enjoyable. Thank you to all of our members for making our Brampton Club such a vibrant organization. Thank you for spreading the word of BPW Brampton – for bringing your friends to meetings and for increasing our presence in the community. To an outstanding group of ladies – you truly are the best!

Special Events Pat Dowling

GOLF



We have booked our **22nd Annual Charity Golf Event for Wednesday, June 14, 2017**. It will be held once again at the Caledon Golf Club and we will have registrations now available. We would love to see 144 lady golfers and 36 hole sponsors so please help us to reach these numbers! We do need prizes and live auction items so please bring to our April and May meetings or call me to arrange pick-up of items.

Our next **Charity Progressive Euchre Event will be held on Friday, November 10, 2017** at The Glasgow Rangers Club - The Scottish Club and **ticket sales will begin in September 2017**.



We are needing raffle prizes once again so we are looking for any re-gifts or bargain shopping deals that you can donate to us. So if you get any birthday, Mother's Day items that you would like to re-gift, we are here with open arms! Let me know and we will arrange for pick up.

As you know, we just held our 20th charity progressive euchre event on Friday March 3, 2017. It was held at the Scottish Centre and it was a huge success. We had 80 players, Joker Poker, raffle prizes, good food and lots of fun. We want to thank all of our members that donated food, gifts and their time to help with this event. We cannot be successful at these fundraisers without our members continually stepping up to the challenge of participating – either in person or by their contributions. Way to go ladies!

The recipient of this event was Hope 24/7 formerly the Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis Centre of Peel.

We are very pleased to announce that our club raised \$2,000.00 that evening. As you know we have been very fortunate in having Scotiabank contributing to our fund raising with their Bright Futures Program which has now been rebranded as the 'Scotiabank Team Community Program'. We are so happy to announce that Scotiabank is donating an additional \$3,000.00 for Hope 24/7 for a total donation of \$5,000.00 from this event. Julia Catalano – a Prevention & Outreach Worker from Hope 24/7 received this donation at our March General Meeting.



Provincial Report Barb Hore

BPW Canada's 2017 Annual General Meeting is being held in Moncton this year on August 11th and 12th at the Crowne Plaza Moncton, New Brunswick. It will be a celebration of Canada's 150th Anniversary of Confederation. Besides the usual business sessions, there will be some high profile speakers to mark the Sesquicentennial, a Friday evening banquet and entertainment.

Registration cost is \$250.00 for early bird and hotel cost per night is \$129.00 - \$139.00. In addition to this, BPW Canada is offering a Sunday Day Tour of Charlottetown which is the birthplace of Confederation. Cost for this is extra but as yet not determined.

I have been busy visiting some of our more local BPW Clubs and promoting our up-and-coming 70th Platinum Anniversary Celebration. We should have a very good turn-out as the interest level is very high.



Universal Rights New Direction

Indira Persaud

As many of us who have been with BPW for years, we sometimes echo the same sentiment which is we are still fighting for equality, fairness and justice. Our friends to the South have elected their new leader. The message of equality could not be more loud and clear on many fronts. It still amazes me, the fight remains the same depending on your experience and viewpoint. As of late, I have become somewhat of an activist participating in marches and protests. This is something I never have before and I always use to think it was a waste of time. I have made a decision to become a student in "universal rights". The idea of universal rights – rights shared by all citizens, regardless of nationality, creed, wealth or geography – has a powerful grip on the way people feel about justice and the political climate. We can all agree that no one should be subjected to any form of violence or economic exploitation. But when it comes to implementing and enforcing universal rights to the masses, it reaches a road block with institutions and governments. In order to achieve humanitarian goals it lies in the political institutions, cultural norms, civil society and policy considerations. I am hoping to become more engaged in civil society in understanding the core fundamental issues of inequality and whether it is through protest, marches or research, it will be my way of gaining a greater clarity of what it means to be a humanitarian.



Membership Corner Linda Barker

A special welcome to our newest member **Diane Cuthbert** who will be inducted at our April meeting. Diane brings our membership up to 42 members.

Membership renewal forms have been sent out so please if possible take time to fill out and bring to the April meeting as they are **due for May 1st** and we want to ensure that everyone has a **vote at the Annual General Meeting in May**.



Programs Angela McKinnon

Dates to Remember

Please review the list of details on Page 6 of the Club Focus to mark your calendars for upcoming events and meetings.

You will note, we have added BPW Brampton's much favoured June Social Event for Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at the Terra Cotta Inn in Caledon.



Focus on a Member:

Diane Cuthbert Sheila Walker



I am pleased to be joining a fabulous group of caring woman.

Recently, I retired from nursing after over twenty years in Longterm Care when I got the glorious news that I would become a first time Grandma. Not to deminish the important work and need for dedicated nurses, I was being called again for duty by a

little one and his Mom, my daughter Jennifer. I was blessed to be able to spend time with my grandson Spencer in these very early years ... I did not want to miss a thing!

I became aware of BPW through Sheila Walker. The shared goals of the members to support girls and woman in the community and around the world made me want to become involved.

I look forward to working with all of you.

BPW Ontario Barb Wetmore

Janet Brousseau



It is with heartfelt sadness to inform the passing of Barb Wetmore. Barb was the Ontario President between 2014 and 2016, and a beloved, long term member of the Barrie Club. A professional business woman who owned and operated AK Mortgage Mill, Barb was active in community causes wherever she lived. At the time of her death, she was serving as the Immediate Past President and as a member of the Ontario Board. Barb had been ill for several years and had always managed to win bravely the health battles she faced. Her high energy and devotion to BPW inspired all of us. It was an honour to serve alongside her.

Barb will be dearly remembered and we will celebrate her life at our upcoming Provincial Conference. Our condolences and sympathies are extended to her family and the leadership and members of the BPW Barrie.

BPW International Snigdha Malik



February is a month of celebrating Women across the Globe.

BPW Brampton celebrated the life of **Maggie Thompson Hayes**, a woman who started an initiative to provide the basic necessity of Underwear to women in Haiti. She made many trips to Haiti to deliver the underwear she collected, and realised that along with underwear there was a need of Sanitary napkins. Maggie learned to sew, took old sewing machines to Haiti and started teaching the women how to sew underwear and sanitary napkins.

A resident of Toronto, she was then challenged by her daughters to do something in our community for homeless women, and her work continues in many different cities.

Sadly, Maggie passed away last year, and those touched by Maggie's spirit want to continue with her legacy.

With the support of BPW Brampton sisters, friends and family, we were able to collect and donate over 500 underwear which we donated to a partner in our own community, namely the Family Life Resource Center in Brampton. An organization that supports women and provides them with a safe place to stay and learn the skills to move on to be successful in their lives.

I thank you for your generosity and look forward to your contributions in years to come, to continue with a legacy started by one women, who changed and benefited many lives.

Thank you for inspiring us, Maggie!



We Care with Underwear



Maggie Hayes, Founder of We Care with Underwear

BPW Canada

Resolutions & Briefs Camilla Bignell



Members can access the official call for resolutions and list of resolutions from the BPW Canada website.

What is a Brief? Resolutions passed at a Provincial Conference or National Convention often contain directives to urge the provincial or federal governments and/or as appropriate specific ministries to

take some sort of action. These directives outlined in the approved resolution Therefore It Be Resolved statements are consolidated into a written brief for submission to the various government ministries, and leaders of the opposition parties. A copy of the brief is circulated to Club Presidents for use at the local and/or provincial levels, i.e. for issuing press releases, and/or arranging meetings with their community-based Member of Provincial Parliament representatives, (MPP), or Members of Federal Parliament (MP)

Opportunities to meet with the ministries affected by the resolutions enclosed in the brief are requested/granted. These meetings provide a further opportunity to strengthen our relationships with decision makers and to reinforce how and why we feel our resolutions should be implemented. A report of these meetings and correspondence is communicated to the membership through emails, routine mailings, annual reports and the website.

Humane Society



The Humane Society is always in need of old towels, bed sheets, blankets, etc. used for the comfort of cats and dogs in their care. Please drop off donations of these items to the following Brampton location:

**475 Chrysler Drive, Brampton, ON L6S 6G3
(Williams Pkwy East & Chrysler Drive)
(905) 458-5800**

BPW Community Partners Update

Sheila Walker

Wellspring Chinguacousy: Your fundraising efforts in support of Wellspring Chinguacousy go above and beyond to raise vital funds for Wellspring. Every initiative that is hosted by communities like BPW Brampton contributes greatly to our mission to support those who are facing a cancer diagnosis. By raising funds, you have embodied the care and support that is central to Wellspring's mission by showing those living with cancer that you care. You have truly made a difference for our members at Wellspring.

Wellspring relies on funds received to continue to create and deliver the best programs to meet the emotional, practical, and restorative needs of our members, and we can't thank you enough for your support.

(905) 792-6480 • wellspring.ca

Oneychurch, Salvation Army: Emergency shelter for abused women and children * accommodates 18 families on a temporary basis * provides crisis individual and group counselling * practical information and assistance with legal services * housing, food, clothing and personal care items * counselors assist residents in developing a plan of action * individual crisis counselling provided for women and their children * life skills and parenting groups * support groups for women living in the community * life skills groups and homework club for children.

(905) 451-4115 • salvationarmy.ca

Victim Services of Peel: Every day across Brampton and Mississauga, victims of crime and tragedy struggle to overcome the personal impact of robbery, assault, homicide, domestic and sexual assault, suicide, harassment, traffic and fire fatalities, and sudden death.

Since 1986, our not-for-profit charitable organization has been the only around-the-clock crisis intervention agency to support residents affected by these traumas in our region.

By giving hope through education and support, while promoting healing through counselling and advocacy, we can empower victims and prevent further trauma.

Our dedicated team of amazing, caring people are committed to responding to each and every call for help.

With ongoing support from local businesses, service organizations, and people like yourself, we can ensure we have the resources to provide the proper care and attention people need in times of crisis.

(905) 568-1068 • vspeel.org

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Website Manager **Donna Sauve**
Ontario Vice President of Membership **Barb Hore**



2017 Dates to Remember

APRIL 18
Speaker: **Camilla Bignell**
Topic: **Help Shape Issues Relevant to Women in Society. Resolutions with Camilla and her Team.**

MAY 7
BPW Brampton's 70th Platinum Anniversary Celebration Luncheon
 La Scala Ristorante, Mississauga

MAY 16
Topic: **Annual General Meeting & Elections. Help keep our organization strong.**

JUNE 14
22nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament
 Caledon Golf Club

JUNE 20
BPW Brampton's June Social
 Terra Coffa Inn

JULY 11
2016-2017 Programs Meeting

SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 1
BPW Provincial Conference
 Hosted by BPW Niagara Club

NOVEMBER 10
21st Charity Progressive Euchre Event
 Glasgow Rangers Club





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The Business and Professional Women's Club of Brampton is an equality-seeking group toward the improvement of economic, employment and social conditions affecting women.

Making a Difference - A Club for All Working Women.

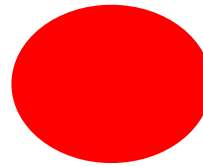


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