

## The Business and Professional Women's Club of Brampton

# Club Focus

**FALL 2018** 



Indira Persaud
President
BPW Brampton

## **Newsletter Highlights**

President's Message Special Events: Golf & Euchre **Provincial Report Membership Corner BPW Programs** Focus on a Member **Member's Moments BPW Community Partner/Member BPW Resolutions Update Executive Meeting Guest Speaker Humane Society BPW International BPW Canada Annual General Meeting BPW New Member Orientation** 2018-2019 BPW Brampton Executive 2018-2019 Dates to Remember BPW Members Business Card Directory



## President's Message Indira Persaud

nother summer has passed and I sincerely hope all our members had a wonderful time enjoying the great outdoors with family and friends. Some of us travelled, enjoyed the cottage and some of us enjoyed our children enter post secondary or graduate from post secondary. Whatever we all did, I hope it was filled with good memories and relaxation. Life is amazing at most times and this summer, I have come closer to a deeper understanding of life, moments and lifetime treasures.

First, I wish to thank Janet Brousseau for serving us so well for the past three years as President and a fantastic Executive. I look forward to working side by side with Janet and our new BPW Brampton Executive.

The summer has been filled with intense political, social and environmental issues. The noise has gotten louder and I craved for peace, grace and less noise. On a daily basis, we are reminded of inequality and BPW gives us the opportunity to be grounded in a common purpose that is bigger than ourselves to make meaningful changes for all women. This purpose truly makes me happy and helps me drown out the noise.

Just a quick recap on June 1-3, 2018, we attended the BPW Annual Provincial Conference at Toronto Holiday Inn hosted by BPW Toronto GTA. There were three Resolutions, one Commendation and one By Law. These Resolutions will be submitted to BPW Canada where briefs will be prepared containing directives to urge specific Government Ministries to take action. Interesting presentation by Kelly Franklin of Farmtown Canada who will be our guest speaker in October on the Anti-Human Trafficking Program. Keys to Achievement Leadership Workshop was presented by Teresa Habs which is a simplified program suited for the busy BPW woman to develop new leadership skills. Our Club will be introducing this Program in the months to come!

On June 13th, we had our 23rd Annual Women's Charity Golf Tournament at Caledon Golf and Country Club. Another successful tournament organized by our dynamic Events Chair, Pat Dowling. We raised \$11,500.00.

On June 19th, we had a great social at Terra Cotta Inn with an attendance well over 45 women. We celebrated Pat Dowling's BPW Achievement Award for her dedication to BPW and Chair of Special Events which resulted in our Club raising \$150,000 for the past 10 years for our Community Partners. On July 10th, our Executive was hosted by our Angela McKinnon Programs Chair in her beautiful home in Caledon. We enjoyed the ambience of the beautiful gardens and later sat down to brainstorm the Speaker Series for 2018-2019. Our June Social will be re-branded to be an Awards Night for a deserving business woman in the Brampton Community. Our Programs Chair will have more information to follow on this exciting new initiative.

On September 4th, we had our first Executive Meeting where we were all in agreement in bringing back New Member Orientation and an exciting new AdvanceMe Leadership and Development Program which was introduced at Conference June 2018.

On September 5th, Pat Dowling and Khadija Mohammed from Scotiabank presented our donation of \$3,000 to Melody Watson of Honeychurch. We had the opportunity to tour the facility and see the direct impact of our donation. Our donation is giving women and children a second chance to transform their lives in a healthy and safe environment.

I am blessed to serve as your President and I am surrounded by a great Executive and most all our members who make everything possible.

#### **Special Events** Pat Dowling

**GOLF** 





n Wednesday June 13, 2018 we had our 23rd **Annual Charity Golf Event** 









ext up is our 23rd Charity Progressive Euchre Event on Friday, November 9, 2018 at the Glasgow Rangers

Supporters Club Bramalea (The Scottish Centre).

Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at Caledon Golf Club.

Registration forms will be available in early 2019.

Tickets are now available on sale. We do need your re-aifts and donations for our raffle prizes; we are here with open arms! Whatever you can give us, please bring to the October meeting or contact Barb Hore or Pat Dowling to arrange for pick up.

We will also need help with food and we will circulate a food list as usual, so please let us know what you would like to donate. This is a wonderful event that helps our community and we ask that everyone contribute in some way to help us have another successful night.



The recipient of this event will be the Ste. Louise Outreach Centre of Peel Food Bank - especially right before Christmas.

Doors open at 6:30 pm; we start to play promptly at 7:30 pm.

## Provincial Report Barb Hore



ur Provincial Board will be losina a valuable member of our team within the next few months.

Sebanti Chadha, a member of the Mississauga Club and our current Provincial Treasurer will be relocating to the Boston area by the end of this



year due to a business transfer involving her husband. Sebanti has agreed to stay on until such times as we find a new Provincial Treasurer since she will be able to manage remotely for a while. If anyone is interested in this position, please contact Linda Rice our Provincial President or myself. Sebanti will of course work with this person in the transition period.

## Membership Corner Pat Dowling

ard to believe that Fall is already here. The leaves are falling and our membership count is growing.

We are so excited to announce that we have 40 members to date!

A big welcome to our 5 newest members - Kathleen Osmond, Lynne Taylor, Lina Ferguson and two more of our community partners – Victim

Services of Peel and The Salvation Army – Honeychurch Family Life Resource Centre.

Thank you ladies for helping to spread the word about BPW Brampton to your friends. Let's keep up the good work and grow those numbers!!



## BPW Programs Angela McKinnon

elcome back Ladies! I am excited to be your Programs Chair this year

and we have an excellent line-up of speakers for our members. Please review the Dates to Remember details on Page 6 of the Club Focus to mark your calendars for upcoming events and meetings.

We are always looking for interesting speakers and would be interested in your suggestions for future speakers.



## Focus on Member Susan Fennell Janet Brousseau

he longest serving Mayor and first woman Mayor of the City of Brampton was most known for her energy, smile, genuine affection and devotion for the citizens she served. Susan was often referred to as the People's Mayor, attending not only to her Council, administrative and economic development responsibilities, but also tirelessly supporting countless people, organizations, seniors, community groups, faith groups, sports and arts groups. Her positive energy was always put to work boosting Brampton. As Mayor,



Susan has many numerous accolades while in office.

- Susan delivered the first new recreation facilities in over a decade including The Brampton Soccer Centre, Cassie Campbell Community Centre, Gore Meadows Community Centre, Brampton Seniors Flowercity Centre, and insisted on the upgrade and renovation of many existing Recreation Centres.
- Susan's great respect for the Arts and Culture in Brampton resulted in her leading Council to approve and build a Performing Arts Centre known as the Rose Theatre regarded as one of the finest stages in the Province.
- Susan focussed on attracting jobs bringing major employers to Brampton Air Canada Global Operations Centre, Canon Canada and Medtronics. Brampton was recognized as an Employer of Choice.
- Through an expanded public garden program, Susan saw Brampton's Flower Town heritage restored making a significant commitment to its ongoing maintenance through participation in the international Communities in Bloom Program resulting in Brampton being recognized as an International Champion.
- Brampton was also recognized as an International Safe Community by the World Health Organization in 2007 and 2012. Only 10 cities in North America achieve this accreditation.
- Under Susan's leadership, Brampton saw an unprecedented 25+ properties designated under the Ontario Heritage Act, a 100% increase over the previous 20 years. Susan was instrumental in stopping the sale and demolition of the Chisholm Estate, Alderlea, Brampton's most significant historic residential building and purchase Alderlea and it was fully restored. The Estate is now a premier meeting and event facility in historic Downtown.
- Susan has been recognized for her dedication and involvement in Brampton with the Canada 125 Medal, and both the Queen Elizabeth II Gold and Diamond Jubilee Medals being honoured by Scouts Canada with the Lord Baden Powell Medal. The Rotary Club made Susan a Paul Harris Fellow; She was awarded the Zonta Club Woman of Achievement.
- Susan has been inducted into the Brampton Sports Hall of Fame for her dedication to Women's Hockey development at the Olympic Senior level.
- Recently Susan has become a member of Ladies Auxiliary of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 15 and is a recent new member to our Club, Brampton Business and Professional Women's Club.
- Susan continues to be a much sought after public speaker. Representing Canada at a special Government Communication study at Harvard University and at the Microsoft Annual Convention in Atlanta.
- Personally, Susan has been married to her husband John for 41 years. Susan was born in Montreal; she has two adult sons Michael and Joseph, and a brother Don Biefer. She enjoys spending her winters in Florida with her husband and their dog.

#### **Member's Moments**

#### Louise Sclisizzi:

Because of my ill health, the need of both knee replacement and not being able to walk or drive, I will not be able to attend any future meetings. Sadly, I think it only fair to the Club that I give up my membership. I will miss the many friendships that I made over the last thirty-five plus years. I wish the Club every success.

My regards to all the members.

#### Pat Dowling:

At this past BPW Provincial Conference, I was awarded the 'Business and Professional Women of Ontario Leadership Award'. I am so honoured to have received this award and want to thank the Brampton Club for nominating me – especially Indira Persaud. It is most humbling to have received such an award and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.





## **BPW Community Partner**& New Club Member Pat Dowling

## Honeychurch Family Life Resource Centre

(Left to Right): Melody Watson, Director of Honeychurch Family Life Resource Centre; Pat Dowling, BPW Special Events Chair; Indira Persaud, President BPW Brampton; Khadija Mohammed, Branch Manager Scotiabank; and Fran Kane, Executive Director of the Peel Housing and Shelter Services.





## BPW Resolutions Update Nelia Skilich

une 1-3rd, 2018 at the BPW Annual Conference 3 resolutions and 1 Commendation and 1 By Law was

passed. These resolutions will be submitted to BPW Canada where briefs will be prepared containing directives to urge specific Government Ministries to take action. Resolution 2018-01 Human Trafficking Prevention Education



Strategy - Presented by Barrie. Resolution 2018-02 Increased Funding to Ensure Decrease in Violence by Dementia Patients in Ontario LTC by Creating Designated Areas with Increased Numbers of Personal Support Workers and Behavioral Management Ontario Programs – Presented by Cambridge. Resolution 2018-03 Resident to Resident Abuse and Its Impact on Women in Long Term Care – Presented London.

At this time the committee is looking for volunteers with the intention on presenting a resolution in 2020.

## BPW Executive Meeting Indira Persaud

e had our business meeting and completed in just less than one hour so that we may enjoy our

Special Guest Teresa Habs' presentation on the AdvanceMe Leadership Workshop.



## **Humane Society**



he Human 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 International**

Sniadha Malik

ith so many new members being a part of BPW Brampton, I would like to share the following excerpt from BPW International on the Benefits of Membership.

Our Founder saw the benefit of networking more than 80 years ago and

what it could mean to our International organization and its members. Today, BPW International represents women in the economy and women, at all levels of decision making in, over one hundred countries and across five regions.

The results of a recent US survey asking members their reasons for joining BPW showed that 88 percent joined because BPW was an International organization. We know that members believe that the world will be a better place when women are equally represented in the decision making process. This established, it is so important that we let members know that upon joining their local club they do become part of our global network of women.

What does this mean for members? We are more powerful working as a team than alone; We have permanent UN representation around the world that allows us to speak with one voice when big decisions are being made; Consultative status at the United Nations, which BPW International has held since 1947, carries the responsibility of reporting on the activities of our Affiliates worldwide; All members have the choice to participate at this level.

BPW members enjoy the following benefits: Full access to Commision on the Status of Women (CSW) information; Accreditation to attend UN meetings at the Headquarters in New York, other offices including Vienna, Geneva and at Regional Commissions. The opportunity to work with other Non-Governemnt Organizations (NGOs) from around the world; to participate in the decision making process and promotions of, statements and recommendations on important worldwide themes that support the empowerment of women.

BPW International triennium theme 2017-2010 is "Empowering Women torealize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Our main pillars of advocacy for this triennium include: Women on Boards; Equal Pay; Women Entrepreneurs Trade; Women's Empowerment Principles (WEBs and initiative of UN Women and UN Global Compact); Women in STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

To further underpin these initiatives, BPW International provides the framework that creates enabling environments for Affiliates through partnerships and collaborations. By thinking globally, we create opportunities for our Affiliates to think locally. This allows Affiliates worldwide to be unified in common purpose and vision.

Members can: Participate in forums; Communicate with other members on our face to face pages; Stay connected and informed on what is happening in other parts of the world through our webside and social media.

Every member is encouraged to sign up to receive the monthly International e-news, which is full of the experiences, incpiration and best practices of Affiliates worldwide BPW Members are a part of a well-respected worldwide organization that has empowered women for over 80 years.

BPW Canada Annual General Meeting, Report on Convention 2018, Ottawa Held August 10-12, 2018 Barb Hore



ou missed all the excitement! We were honoured with the presence of four international guests:

1. BPW International President, Amany Asfour (Cairo Egypt); 2. BPW International Young BPW VP, Neelima Basnet (Nepal); 3. BPW International Regional Coordinator for North America, Dawn Williams (Saint Kitts); 4. BPW International Regional Advisor for North America and Past President, Canada; Jill Worobec (BPW Langley BC).

The opening ceremonies took place at the Global Centre for Pluralism where many dignitaries attended. There were 38 votes (including 7 proxies) and 6 board votes. Approximately 65 people attended the gala.

The most important item on the agenda was the election of the new executive committee:
The new executive members are as follows:
President, Linda Davis, London ON
1st Vice President, Caval Olsen Lepage, Saskatoon. SK Vice President Karin Gorgerat, Trenton & District, ON Vice President Maide Yazar, North Toronto, ON Young BPW VPPrima Mabonza, Montreal, QC Treasurer, Janet Reihm, Ottawa, ON
Secretary, Josee Dufour, Montreal, QC

Resolutions: The results of the Resolutions may be accessed on the website at <a href="https://www.bpwcanada.com">www.bpwcanada.com</a>.

Overall, it was a successful convention. Thank you for the opportunity to represent your Club. You will see a lovely photo of the new executive on the website.

This article was written by Doris E. Hall, Past President, BPW Canada, Chair WEPs/Canadian Coalition to Empower Women

## BPW New Member Orientation Program Reinstated Indira Persaud

H

s of our September 18, 2018 General Meeting, we are

reinstating this program for the benefit and information for new members to our Club. Our



Facilitator is Snigdha Malik, a 15 year member who has held a number of key roles in our Club. She brings a tremendous value and wealth to our Club. I would encourage all of those who wish to know more about BPW and our global vision to attend the next scheduled meeting.

#### **BPW Brampton**

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Pat Dowling (905) 789-8198 ext 203

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Women Working for Women

#### **Dinner Location:**

Vesuvio's Ristorante 91 George Street South Brampton, ON L6T 1P4 905-459-0511

## **BPW Brampton** THANKS

**BRAMPTON BUSINESS EXECUTIVE SUITES** for their ongoing support of accepting our Club's mail. For more information on what services they provide, please contact them at:

> (905) 454-7902 info@bbes.ca www.bbes.ca





## BPW BRAMPTON EXECUTIVE 2018-2019

President Indira Persaud Immediate Past President Janet Brousseau First Vice President Angela McKinnon Second Vice President Grettel Comas Treasurer Wendy Humphreys Recording Secretary Elena Crupi Corresponding Secretary Lucy Oliveira Membership Pat Dowling Programs Angela McKinnon

Publicity & Public Relations Sheila Walker

Young BPW Zainab Williams Social Media Linda Ford Special Events Pat Dowlina Resolutions Nelia Skilich Fellowship & Historian Paddy Silverthorne Dinner Convenor Janet Brousseau Club Focus Designer/Publisher Sheila Walker Website Donna Sauve Ontario Vice President of Membership Barb Hore

#### 2018-2019 Dates to Remember

SEPTEMBER 18, 2018
Speaker-Topic: Stop Buying Clothes You Don't
Need! We welcome Speaker Charmaine Bryan,
a Certified Image and Corporate Consultant.
Find out how she can help us elevate our personal and professional image.

OCTOBER 13
BPW District Annual General Meeting: Hosted by
BPW Niagara Club to be held in Niagara. For details, please refer to BPW Flyer sent to members September 7, 2018.

OCTOBER 16

Speaker-Topic: Human Trafficking, The Secret World. We welcome Kelly Franklin from Farmtown Canada who recently rescued a young woman from our very community!

**NOVEMBER 9** 

22nd Progressive Charity Euchre Event, The Scottish Centre (AKA Glasgow Rangers Supporters Club Bramalea), 185 Advance Blvd., Unit 2, Brampton L6T 4H9 905.458.7718

**NOVEMBER 20** 

NOVEMBER 20
Speaker-Topic: Love our Golf Events and Euchre
Events? Find out how the money we raise helps
our local Community Partners. We welcome our
Speakers Laura Zilney, Hope 24/7; Liz Watson,
Canadian Women for Women Afghanistan;
Jessica Mills, Victim Services of Peel; Melody
Watson, Honey Church; Jenna Courage,
Wellering Chiral Results Wellspring Chinquacousy.

Topic: Christmas Social with Secret Santa Gift Exchange; Food Donations; Personal Care Items Donations.

JANUARY 15, 2019 Speaker-Topic: Entrepreneurs Night! Know speaker-topic: Entrepreneurs Night: Know someone who fits this category? Extend an invitation to this not to be missed event. A return to one of our most popular events from last year and a jammed pack evening of amazing speakers! The following dynamic ladies and our Speakers for tonight are the Brampton Board of Trade 40 under 40 recipients:

 Shauna-Kay Jones, a past bursary recipient and we knew she was destined for great things! She is currently developing a tool to support

autism individuals.

2. Dr. Pearl Mehra-Shah, the creator of 2. Dr. Feari Menra-Snah, the creator of Brampton's first luxury wellness facility.
3. Dwania Peel, the driving force behind the Canadian Small Business Women's group that offers small business advice to women through

their website and blog.

4. Aly Tyghter, a tireless advocate for mental health and blogger who brought Mommy
Connections to Brampton and Caledon, a safe space for moms dealing with isolation to connect.

#### FEBRUARY 19

Speaker-Topic: Come Celebrate International Women's Night with Us! Our Speaker Chris Beth Cowie has travelled and worked extensively overseas. She will share her experiences with us. \* Celebrating BPW International Night with our Traditional Candle Lighting Ceremony \* Women for Women Afghanistan Handmade Items Available for Purchase

The Scottish Centre (AKA Glasgow Rangers Supporters Club Bramalea), 185 Advance Blvd., Unit 2, Brampton L6T 4H9 905.458.7718

Speaker-Topic: Financial Wellness for Women ... Need help making sure you can look at your credit card bill with both eyes at the same time? We welcome Lianne Kim from Think Big Sales Consulting. With over 15 years in sales, she will help us keep more of our hard earned cash!

APRIL 15 Speaker-Topic: Make an impact in the issues facing today's women ... join us at our Resolutions Meeting!

Speaker-Topic: Annual General Meeting & Elections. Come out and support your Club and be a part in its direction, be a part of the Free wine ... okay that's not true but still a great night!

MAY 31-JUNE 2, 2019
BPW Ontario's 73rd Provincial Conference: Hosted by BPW Kitchener-Waterloo Club to be held at the Holiday Inn, Kitchener-Waterloo Conference Centre on Fairway Road, Kitchener. Further details will follow when available.

24th Annual Charity Golf Tournament Caledon Golf Club

Speaker-Topic: Our famous June Social! Invite a guest or two! We are also going to honour women within our Club with our first ever Summer Sizzling Awards! Find out how to get on the list.

ACTIVELY AT OUR 2018-2019 BUSINESS MEETINGS 2019-2020 Programs: Your suggestions for Speakers for our next season are welcome. Please watch for our "SUGGESTION BOX" available at our monthly business meetings to add your voice.



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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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