



The Business and Professional
Women's Club of Brampton

Club Focus



SPRING 2020



Indira Persaud
President
BPW Brampton

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President's Message Indira Persaud

It has been a very busy year with BPW and we continue to challenge ourselves in delivering invigorating speakers and organizing three events every year. We are a Club of 44 ladies who share a common goal of building a strong community. For the past year, it has been a year of mixed emotions with small triumphs and some sadness along the way. The lesson learned is that no matter what life challenges are one must keep grounded to their true, honest and faithful purpose. This year we mourn the collective loss of Pamela Moore and the recent passing of our beloved Janet Brousseau, Immediate Past President.

As I am typing my last message as President, we are in a State of Emergency due to Coronavirus (COVID-19). Overnight this pandemic has dominated the news and each day our government is announcing new financial measures. The new terminology is "self-isolation" and "self distancing". My concern is this will be our new reality in the future where relationships will be weakened and we will lose our laughter! This morning I woke up to learn the Quarantine Act kicked in where travellers must quarantine themselves for 14 days. With this entire mayhem that is taking place, I will remain an optimist and I do believe goodness must prevail.

In January, it was Young Entrepreneurs Night and we were dazzled by Leah Denbok a young Sheridan Photography Student and author who portrays the human side of the homeless. We had a sell out crowd and MP Sonia Sidhu gave greetings of appreciation to our Club. Our Club received a Certificate of Achievement by MP Sonia Sidhu for our great work in the Brampton community.

As part of our February meeting, we celebrated with our traditional International Candle Lighting Ceremony where we honored our BPW Sisters around the world. I have always found this ceremony so uplifting and with a strong sense of belonging to a global village. In addition, we had Liz Watson joining us for Canadian Women for Women Afghanistan to receive our International donation in the amount of \$1,200. This donation is in support of the Lantern Fund which will pay for salaries of three teachers.

For March, it was our 26th Progressive Euchre Tournament at the Glasgow Rangers Club. Our BPW Sisters, once again, outperformed themselves by providing a wide variety of food and refreshments. All proceeds were in support of Hope 24/7 (formerly the Sexual Assault Rape Crisis Centre of Peel). We will be donating \$2,200. to Hope 24/7. I wish to thank Pat Dowling, Chair of Special Events and all the BPW Sisters who worked tirelessly at this event. The event was well organized and our loyal supporters once again had a great evening!

We have cancelled meetings for the remainder of year like all our Ontario Clubs. It is the time to refocus with our families, strengthen relationships or make strong bold decisions about a new path forward. This global pandemic will leave everyone with a scar but I am hopeful we can build a better society together.

I wish to thank the Executive and General Membership for making my Presidency a worthwhile experience. I have gained some wonderful friendships and throughout this journey being grounded with a common purpose is the best experience of a lifetime.

Special Events Pat Dowling



As you know, we just held our **26th Charity Progressive Euchre Event on Friday, March 6, 2020**. It was held at The Scottish Centre (aka Glasgow Rangers Supporters Club Bramalea) and it was a huge success. We had 84 players, Joker Poker, raffle prizes, good food, lots of fun and we are pleased to announce that we raised \$2,200.00. We want to thank all of our members that donated food, gifts and their time to help with this event. We also had our BPW Sisters from the Cambridge Club attend our event to see how to host a euchre night as they are doing one in October 2020. Please come out and support their event.

Many thanks to our members who continually step up to the challenge of supporting these community partner fundraising events. The recipient of this event was Hope 24/7 formerly the Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis Centre of Peel.

Our next Charity Progressive Euchre Event will be held on Friday, November 13, 2020 at The Scottish Centre (aka Glasgow Rangers Supporters Club Bramalea) and ticket sales will be on Wednesday, September 16, 2020. 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, etc. that you would like to re-gift, we are here with open arms! Let me know and we will arrange for pick up.



GOLF

Unfortunately due to the Covid-19 situation, we have had to postpone our 25th Annual Charity Golf Tournament for this year. We have, however, already booked next year's date for Wednesday, June 9, 2021. It will be held once again at the Caledon Golf Club and we will have registrations available in February 2021. 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 gather them in the meantime and we will make arrangements for pick-up.

Wishing you and yours all the very best during these unprecedented times!



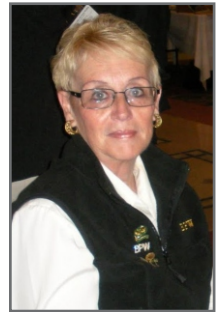
BPW Provincial Report Barb Hore

Clearly the next few months are going to be a challenge for us all. With the COVID-19 Virus, most of our clubs have opted to either cancel meetings or meet virtually in an effort to act responsibly for the duration of this emergency.

In the meantime, work still goes on at the Board level. We are currently looking for a registered insurance broker to chair the BPWO insurance position. If anyone is interested, please contact Heather Ellis, our First Vice President for Ontario.

All clubs are moving forward with Resolutions for this coming BPWO Provincial Conference. At last count, there were 10 Resolutions and one By-Law change. This is one of the largest number of submissions that we have received in several years. Proudly, Lynne Taylor and her Team are putting the finishing touches on our Resolution.

The Provincial Conference for May 29th, 30th and 31st has been cancelled. The rescheduled date is now September 18-20, 2020. The Committee will be considering a contingency plan and if there are any changes, we will be notified in plenty of time. For information on the Conference, please go to the BPW Ontario website.



BPW Programs Diane Cuthbert

We are planning our 2019-2020 Programs Meeting for July 14, 2020 which is subject to cancellation and we will keep members up to date as information is available.



Humane Society

The 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
(905) 458-5800



BPW Membership Corner Barb Hore

*W*e currently have 44 members in our Club. We will be inducting Cindy Coon in September 2020 that will bring our count to 45. Provincially, we have 221 members. A special thank you to our members who bring out guests to our meetings. We have enjoyed a large attendance at our recent meetings, with one of them being over 50 people.

I would encourage our members to continue inviting friends, family and business associates. We take great pride and are well respected within our Ontario sisterhood for the quality, organization and professionalism of our meetings.



BPW Brampton Resolutions Lynne Taylor

*T*his is a difficult report to write with such drastic changes in the world since our last report, which was only a few short months ago. On behalf of the Committee, I want to extend our hope that everyone and their families are all maintaining safety, health and sanity during this very difficult time.

On a positive note, I'm happy to report that on March 22, 2020, the Committee submitted our Club's Resolution to BPW Ontario, entitled Expansion of funding directed to increase options for women who are victims of violence to live safely in their community. There were 11 Resolutions submitted to BPW Ontario this year, which I understand has been the most received in several years. I'd like to think that the engagement and enthusiasm shown by our own Club Members about our own Resolution, may have had some influence on this increase.

The Committee has made great progress with opening doors to build new relationships at both the provincial and city level. Some of our Committee Members have now met with Sonia Sidhu our local MP, been invited to represent BPW Brampton as a member of the Peel Police – Human Trafficking Service Providers Committee and asked to attend as observers with the new Brampton Safety Advisory Committee, which has several sub committees, one of which is Intimate Partner Violence.

We've all taken a bit of a step back in recent weeks to come to grips with our new world, however, as we look towards the light at the end of this long tunnel, and there is definitely a light, we are all ready to hit the ground running to continue our advocacy work for women in our community, province, country and worldwide.

Stay safe and healthy and we'll see you soon.



BPW Member Feature Marilena Crupi Indira Persaud

*M*arilena Crupi is a Financial Analyst at Ford Motor Company of Canada. Within the organization, she has worked in Internal Control, Pricing and Revenue Forecasting, and is currently the Finance Lead for Ford Fleet. She supports the Fleet Marketing & Sales Team as they negotiate deals with Commercial businesses and Government bodies providing vehicle profitability analysis and incentive cost forecasts.

Marilena was born and raised in Brampton. At 18, she moved to Hamilton and completed her Bachelor of Commerce Degree at McMaster University in 2015. This year she will be applying for her Masters in Business Administration. She now lives in Toronto, and enjoys running by the lake, reading and spending time with family and friends.

Marilena is new to BPW Brampton and recently joined the Resolutions Committee as they finalized and submitted their 2020 Resolution seeking greater funding for women who are victims of violence. She believes that accessibility to education is the first step in addressing any problem and is looking forward to spreading that message within the BPW and the community.



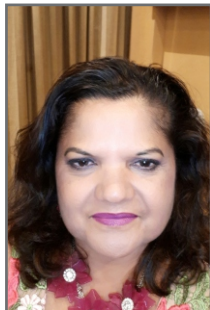
BPW Community Member Feature Wellspring Chinguacousy Indira Persaud

*W*ellspring Chinguacousy is a community based centre that helps individuals living with cancer, and their caregivers, overcome the many practical, emotional, informational and physical challenges that come with a cancer diagnosis. Wellspring Chinguacousy offers over 40 programs, at no cost, to support members of our community to best cope with a cancer crisis.

One in 2.3 Canadians will be diagnosed with cancer. Since opening our doors in 2008, Wellspring Chinguacousy Cancer Support Centre has welcomed over 8,000 community members in need of support.

An example of the support we provide is the Cancer Exercise program which is health restorative in nature and greatly assists our members to recover from the negative impacts of a cancer diagnosis.

One individual writes, *"The program is staffed by amazing professionals and volunteers. It was very hard for me to do any of the exercises in the beginning. The staff helped me to modify exercises when necessary due to chemo and other*



limitations. I appreciated how the staff encouraged me to always give it my best and to correct things I was doing if they were wrong. I was taught to hold equipment differently to avoid pain and to modify exercises if necessary. I cannot begin to tell you how this program has helped me physically and emotionally. On days when I dreaded going due to temperature, the long drive or the tiredness I was feeling I knew I did not want to be disappointed with myself by missing one of the forty sessions. So I would push myself and I was always happy that I did. The staff always greet you with a smile and make you feel good. They also asked me to keep them posted about any concerns I was having with ongoing tests."

Wellspring Chinguacousy is a model of community collaboration. Volunteerism is an essential part of the services we provide. Our dedicated volunteer team provides the equivalent of over 3 full time positions annually, in providing comfort and care to a community in need. Wellspring Chinguacousy receives no annual or government funding. We rely solely on the generosity of community partners; community groups, such as BPW Brampton, corporate sponsorship, and individual donors. This commitment to community care ensures our sustainability in providing excellence in programs, supports and service delivery.



Peel Human Trafficking Service Providers Committee Indira Persaud

BPW Brampton was invited as a guest at the PHTSPC as an observer on January 30th.

*E*stablished in 2015 and Chaired by Constable Joy Brown of Peel Regional Police, Chair of the Peel Human Trafficking Service Providers Committee (PHTSPC).

Human Trafficking is a complex issue which involves diverse victims/survivors facing unique and different circumstances. In Peel, human trafficking has been a growing concern for law enforcement, service providers and government agencies.

The Peel Human Trafficking Service Providers Committee includes the meaningful involvement of victim/survivors and is a representation of organizations from Peel and the Greater Toronto Area, within the legal, health and social services sector.



The goal of the Committee is to reduce to victimization, enforce human trafficking laws and offer trauma-informed, survivor-centered services and supports to victims/survivors, to empower them to start to put their lives back together.

The Committee aims to:

- Take a coordinated approach to address issues relating to human trafficking;
- Streamline supports for victims/survivors;
- Increase knowledge and awareness about human trafficking; and,
- Reduce the negative impact on victims/survivors and the larger community within the Region of Peel.

This is achieved through community education, capacity building and leading and fostering collaboration for joint action against human trafficking in Peel Region.

This committee has a 3-5 year plan with strong deliverables. Three pillars Prevention, Intervention and Housing.

Brampton's first safe house will open in March 2020 and Transitional House in Summer of 2020.

I was very pleased with the strong leadership of Constable Brown and results driven Committee.

BPW Brampton will be pursuing to sit on this Committee as it aligns with our Resolution base work Violence Against Women.

BPW Brampton



Happy Anniversary Indira Persaud

A report from business meeting on Thursday, February 17, 1949. Ladies of BPW, we have come a long way and yes more women should be part of our Judiciary system. Enjoy the reading!

Speaker, Miss Margaret Perney, a solicitor from Toronto. Topic: Jury Service for Women, Challenge Accepted.

Comments after the presentation from BPW Brampton members:

Ruth Abbott: "Here's to jury service for women, more and more of it. The west is away ahead of us there. I think women would be pretty level-headed jurors; I'm going away out on a limb in saying this, but I don't think they would be as quickly taken in by shall we say "a good show" (and that's not a pun) as some of their brother jurors might. They (I hope) might have more patience to stick with it and make sure as just a verdict as possible could be reached. That sounds like everything would be perfect once women serve on Juries. I don't mean that, but I do think they could

contribute a lot of practical help to a Jury. So here's to twelve good men and women and true."

Marjorie Shaw: "For various reasons I do not deem it advisable for women to enter this field, although it is to be noted that a number would compare favourably with men. The majority of women have not the time to devote here since they are homemakers, and if they excel at this important task, the need for juries will be lessened."

Vivian Howard: "Definitely yes! Men haven't a monopoly on Canada's intelligence, understanding and good judgement. Everyone should be forced to take an I.Q. test to prove themselves mentally capable to pass judgement on their fellow men before they are called to a Jury panel. Women are drawn into social work through their Clubs, Institutes, Lodges, etc. and if their work is any criterion of their intelligence, then even the least capable of these women could be no worse than their male counterpart. Gentlemen of the Jury, beware. The ladies will someday take over."



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Women Working for Women

Dinner Location:

Vesuvio's Ristorante
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Resolutions Chair Lynne Taylor
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Dinner Convenor Lynn Rudolph
Club Focus Creative Director Sheila Walker
Website Donna Sauve
Ontario Vice President of Membership Barb Hore

2019-2020 Dates to Remember

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

Speaker: Julie Rorison, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor, Young Dynamic Feminist
Topic: Politics and the Young Feminist and Creating a Generation of New Leaders.

OCTOBER 15, 2019

Speakers: Sheila Crook and Doris Hall, BPW Ontario, Women's Empowerment Chair and BPW Canada Women's Empowerment Implementation Coaches.
Topic: Women Empowerment Principles to Accomplish the Impossible.

NOVEMBER 15, 2019

25th 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 19, 2019

Speakers-Topics: Community Partners including:

Hope 24/7 – Lisa McDonald
Honeychurch – Wendy Butler
Victim Services of Peel – Dragana Sabani & Danielle Pacos
Wellspring Chinguacousy – Jenna Courage
Ste. Louise Food Bank – Catherine Rivera
Farmtown Canada – Heather Ellis

DECEMBER 10, 2019

(2nd Tuesday of December)
Topic: Christmas Social with Secret Santa Gift Exchange; Food Donations; Personal Care Items Donations, Blankets.

JANUARY 21, 2020

Speakers: Entrepreneurs Night!
Topics: Honouring Women who are Young Entrepreneurs namely Katie Lee, Day & Ross and Leah de Bok, Photographer and Author.

FEBRUARY 18, 2020

Speaker: Dianna Knight, Educator, Businesswoman and Volunteer, Melody School, Guatemala.
Topic: Educating the Forgotten Children.
* International Theme Honouring all the BPW Clubs Throughout the World!
* Celebrating BPW International Night with our Traditional Candle Lighting Ceremony
* Canadian Women for Women Afghanistan, Liz Watson for BPW Donation Presentation

MARCH 6, 2020

26th Progressive Charity Euchre Event, The Scottish Centre (AKA Glasgow Rangers Supporters Club Bramalea), 185 Advance Blvd., Unit 2, Brampton L6T 4H9 905.458.7718

MARCH 17, 2020

Speaker: Mollie Cavan (BPW Member), Branch Manager Scotiabank
Topic: To Take Their Business to the Next Level through the Assistance of Scotiabank Women Initiative – The Time is Now.
* Celebrating BPW Brampton Anniversary with Presentation and Cake
* Celebrating Sheridan College Student with Presentation of BPW Brampton Paddy Silverthorne Bursary Award

APRIL 21, 2020

Topic: Resolutions Meeting with Presentation by Lynne Taylor. Make an impact for the Issues Facing Today's Women ... All Members Welcome to Join Us!

MAY 19, 2020

Topic: Annual General Meeting & Elections. Come Out and Support Your Club and Be a Part in Its Direction, Consider Being on the Executive!

JUNE 10, 2020

BPW Brampton's 25th Anniversary Annual Charity Golf Tournament Caledon Golf Club, More-Details to Follow!

JUNE 16, 2020

Our Famous June Social at The Terra Cotta Inn, Caledon! Invite a Guest or Two!

JULY 14, 2020

Programs Meeting for 2020-2021
Your suggestions for Speakers for Next Season are Welcome. Please contact Programs Chair to add your voice.

BPW Canada Convention, Saskatoon
Details to Follow.

MAY 2020: BPW 75th Provincial Conference
Details to follow.

OCTOBER: Women's History Month

MARCH 8: International Women's Day

BPW Brampton Club Focus



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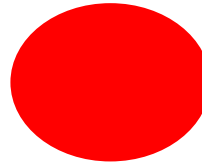
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