

CFUW 2019 Fall Gathering Table Talk Discussion Questions

A Summary of Notes Taken

Discussion Questions:

1. How can CFUW help expose our young people to new ways of working in the future?

- How to keep the club current so it can talk with young people
- Barrier – lack of human interaction
- If we engage young people to teach us, we engage them, help them communicate directly (conversation); build relationships, facility, then offer what we have: contacts, experiences, “good advice”, - forge a partnership
- “old adages stay true”; technology will not replace interpersonal; job loyalty -AI
- New ways – our role in providing scholarship funding to a disadvantaged student so she can choose a new way for herself.

2. What technological resources does your community need to thrive in the future? Can CFUW help in obtaining these resources?

- Resources to help people use their smart phones and iPads better. Could the library do this for us older users? Library underfunded
- Public education to educate re technology
- Form a committee with our library to discuss the educational component re technology
- Renfrew club held a tea to raise money for new software and eBooks for their library

3. Do our CFUW scholarship programs place too much emphasis on formal education? How can our CFUW scholarships support other means of education?

- Ottawa club offered educational support to Cornerstone (housing)
- Belleville – Empowering Women Interest Group volunteers at Abigail’s Centre (supports young Moms) and Quantum. This year a scholarship was awarded to a Mom in the program.
- Belleville has a scholarship for a mature student at Loyalist College
- Refugees, those needing help English as a second language – help the individuals with mentoring and with the process

4. How can CFUW clubs use technology to connect with members?

- Website, Facebook page, Facebook sharing page, twitter to members, conference call
- Zoom/virtual meeting, What's App?
- Texting, webinar
- Podcast group with special interest topics for members
- Video picture gallery of members

5. How can CFUW help its members use new technological tools?

- Electoral reform – other systems
- Educate through meetings and guest speakers
- Electronic newsletters
- Fund scrip
- By using technology to stay in touch with other members, it encourages us to use the computer for other things
- Good organization
- Teleconference to plan events
- Using technology makes us more comfortable with technologies

6. What technology do you feel every Canadian needs access to? How can CFUW be involved in making this happen?

- Smart phone
- Computer with internet access
- Reliable form of communication
- Someone to show you how to use technology
- 911, school contact, scheduling
- Age dependent
- Poverty is an issue as technology is expensive (cost of phone, internet)
- Collect and refurbish cell phones and distribute to those who need them
- Scholarship money could be used to buy a computer
- National advocacy – reduce cost of internet usage, cell phones

- One thing we need to remember about technology is that it is a tool and not a threat; clubs should not be afraid to set aside money for help when using

7. Is it important for CFUW to promote types of learning other than technology? If so, what? How?

- Auditory (hear) – hearing and seeing body language , cognitive stimulation
- Visual (see) – art gallery, cinema, see and be involved
- Kinesetic (experience) – tactile, active, hands on, physical fitness
- Take all learning styles into consideration when planning events and programs in our clubs
- L (look) I (idle your motor) S (stop) T (turn to the speaker) E (engage your brain) N (now)
- People sitting together with opposing views, as they share their viewpoint we're exposed to a diversity of views and develop an appreciation of others' points of view
- "The Debaters"
- Feedback mechanism – vital to communicating
- Constructive criticism
- Maintaining our skills – our "our old-fashioned ways and methods"

8. What do you see as the greatest obstacle to young people fulfilling their potential? Are there concrete actions CFUW groups could take to help overcome this obstacle?

- Hunger, homelessness, trafficking, teen pregnancy, access to post-secondary education,
- Inadequate speaking, writing skills
- Lack of social interaction, social contact
- Inadequate financial training
- Lack of opportunities for failure

Concrete actions:

- Hands on mentoring e.g. Abigail's, empowering young women
- Read in schools

9. How can CFUW clubs increase their influence on matters of concern using the new digital economy?

- Economy

- Fundscript
- FAANGS
- CFUW can provide:

Advocacy re safeguards on privacy

Ensure technological companies are held accountable to country governments for their taxes regardless of country of source

Issues re loss of revenue to more local businesses

Local media

Local restaurants

Local retailers

Groups should support local businesses

- CFUW could educate local communities re the issues/dangers of technology in order to raise awareness (clone Nora Young)
- This could be bumped up the chain (provincial/national) to provide education and advocacy

10. How can CFUW support displaced workers find new opportunities for employment in an exponentially changing environment?

- Run workshops
- Review resources available in the community
- Education/re-education
- Networking
- Inventory of opportunities, skill sets