



The Bulletin is a monthly publication of
BPW Bowmanville. Editor: Kris McDonald
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Birch Bistro & Lounge
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Dates To Remember

April 15, 2016 – Equal Pay Day

May 27 - 29, 2016 - BPW Ontario's 70th
Provincial Conference 2016 –
BPW Brampton Hosts

August 12-14, 2016 - BPW Canada National
Convention at Clarion Hotel and Conference
Centre, Calgary, Alberta

2017 – BPW International Congress -
Cairo, Egypt

BPW Bowmanville Programme 2016

Tues., May 24 **Canadian Business Women**
A Growing Economic Force
AGM / Reports / Election

Tues., June 28 **Year-end Summer Social**
Location to be determined

April Meeting

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

6:00 PM Social Networking

6:30 PM Dinner

Members: \$30.00

Non-Members: \$35.00

Location – Birch Bistro & Lounge
84 King St.W., Bowmanville

RSVP: Please confirm your reservation with
Kris McDonald at 905.419.1568 before
Friday, April 22, 2016

Guests Welcome

April Programme

Resolutions Workshop

Nancy Barnes

Change through the Resolutions Process

**A discussion of the Resolutions
proposed for the BPW Ontario
Provincial Conference**

❖ **Members are requested to bring
copies of the proposed Resolutions
sent to each member**



President's Message

It sounds like the March meeting went really well thanks to Nancy, Sheila and all.

Returning home from sunny Arizona Robt and I have been confronted with snow, rain, and cold. However, the tulips are pushing up as is the rhubarb, so spring is surely coming.

We will be discussing the Resolutions submitted to the Provincial Conference, including our own reworked resolutions at our April meeting. We will also need to select our delegates and alternates for Conference. Since our membership is over 15 members we will be choosing two delegates. How wonderful is this?? Barb, Carrie, Judy, Mavis, Nancy and Sheila are planning to attend.

We are also seeking new members for the Executive Committee for election at our May Annual General Meeting. We need to look at someone coming forward as First Vice President and Secretary. We also need someone to take over the Social Chair, coordinating the attendance at meetings and dinners. The Nominations package was sent out to you by Kris McDonald. Please send in your nominations and consider if you would be interested in being active in the other Standing Committees that service the club in various ways. Do think about where you would like to share your talents.

Last Sunday I was listening to Cross Country Check Up where people were invited to phone in with suggestions for a woman or women to be put on our currency. (Haven't we seen enough of scowling old Prime Ministers?) There is certainly no shortage of outstanding women, many who have been barely recognized and have been left out of history text books. Nellie McClung, Emily Murphy, and Pauline Johnson are obvious choices, but there are a great number of women who excelled in sports, in medicine, in opera, in dance, as well as in politics during times when it was very difficult to do so.

(Continued in next column)

One of the callers mentioned a woman who was an ambulance driver in the First World War who not only had to drive the vehicle but had to keep it in repair and all this at a time when it was very unusual to see a woman driving at all. Right here in the Durham Region, Nora Young was a trailblazer in the 1920s and 30s. She was a national champion in basketball, javelin and cycling and also excelled in hockey and softball. She began her athletic career at age 11 in 1928 and continued into her late 80s in the Senior's (Masters) Olympics.

On the BPW Canada Facebook page there are several very interesting items. Tuesday, April 19, 2016 is Equal Pay Day sponsored by the Equal Pay Coalition and several celebrations are planned. The aim is 0% gender pay gap by 2025, which seems like way too far in the future. We just heard 'because it is 2015'.

Also from Facebook, Canada has been elected to be part of the governing body that sets priorities for the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW). A seat on the Commission gives Canada a stronger voice in advancing the rights of women and girls. Well done Canada!

Judy Hagerman

Membership Dues

Treasurer Carrie Andrews has advised that BPW Bowmanville Annual Dues of \$150.00 are due on April 30. Members attending the April meeting can bring their cheques to the meeting. Those who are unable to attend the meeting can mail their cheques to Carrie Andrews at 16 Skye Valley Dr., Cobourg ON K9A 4JT by April 30.

Nominations Committee

Nominations Committee Chair Kris McDonald wishes to remind all members to submit their nominations for 1st VP and Secretary to her home telephone of 905.419.1568 on her e-mail address krismcdonald.bpw@gmail.com. The deadline for nominations is Sunday April 24.



100th Anniversary of Women's First Right to Vote in Canada

We are often unaware of how fortunate we are to live in a democratic country like Canada. Although the majority of Canadians now have the right to vote, this has not always been the case. For women, the right to vote came as the result of a tireless fight for an egalitarian, representative and fair democracy.



Western Provinces Paving the Way

Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta were the first Canadian provinces to grant women this fundamental right. This was the first step toward equality and rights for women. The year 2016 marks the 100th anniversary of women's first right to vote in Canada. [Discover the fascinating history of women's suffrage in Canada.](#)

The Constitutional Act— Rights given, then taken away

Contrary to what we might believe, some women had the right to vote well before 1916. The Constitutional Act of 1791 gave men and women who owned land the right to vote. Therefore, some women, because they were landowners, were allowed to vote for representatives in the House of Assembly. However, the Parliament of United Canada removed this right from them on May 30, 1849. Although women in a few Canadian provinces regained the right to vote in provincial elections in 1916, it was not until two years later that women aged 21 and above were authorized to vote in federal elections. [Learn more about the Constitutional Act of 1791 and its repercussions.](#)



First World War — Nurses exercise their right to vote

Photo credit: Library and Archives Canada

During the First World War, women's support was critical for the government, as the vast majority of men were serving in the Canadian Forces. Over 2,000 military nurses, better known as the "Bluebirds," had the right to vote, as did women with a close relative in the military. [Learn more about the women's suffrage movement in Canada.](#)



Suffragettes

In 1919, the suffrage movement was in full swing, and the suffragettes emerged triumphant from the fight for equality of the sexes in public institutions. Women became eligible to hold seats in the House of Commons and Agnes Macphail was the first woman elected in 1921. [Learn more about the evolution of federal voting rights in Canada.](#)

The Famous Five — Passionate petitioners

Five women, better known as the “Famous Five,” won the Persons Case. This 1929 judgment recognized women as persons under the British North America Act and made them eligible for appointment to the Senate of Canada. Led by Judge Emily Murphy, the group included Henrietta Muir Edwards, Nellie McClung, Louise Crummy McKinney and Irene Parlby. [Learn more about the remarkable work of these five women’s rights petitioners.](#)



Source: A model of the “Women are Persons!” statue, honouring the contributions of the Famous 5: Nellie McClung, Henrietta Muir Edwards, Irene Parlby, Louise McKinney and Emily Murphy. The final sculpture was unveiled on Parliament Hill in 2000 (sculpted by Barbara Paterson; photo by Marc Mennie; courtesy of the Famous 5 Foundation). [See more images of this sculpture.](#)

Provincial elections — Dates on which women were granted the right to vote

January 28, 1916: Manitoba

March 14, 1916: Saskatchewan

April 19, 1916: Alberta

April 5, 1917: British Columbia

April 12, 1917: Ontario

April 26, 1918: Nova Scotia

April 17, 1919: New Brunswick

May 13, 1922: Prince Edward Island

April 13, 1925: Newfoundland and Labrador

April 25, 1940: Quebec

Source: <http://canada.pch.gc.ca/eng/1450463353743>