

BPW BOWMANVILLE

Empowered Women Leading Business & Positive Change

In Our Community & Around the World...



Business
&
Professional
Women

The Bulletin is a monthly publication of

BPW Bowmanville

Editor: Kris McDonald

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the Birch bistro & lounge
84 King St W.
Bowmanville ON L1C 1R4
(905) 419-0491
[BirchBistro@gmail.com...](mailto:BirchBistro@gmail.com)

November Menu

Hearty Lentil Soup

House-made cabbage rolls &
perogi

Fresh fruit salad & whipped
cream or

Cheesecake with lemon sauce &
fresh berries

November Meeting Tuesday, November 28, 2017

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 any dietary restrictions

to Kris McDonald at

905.419.1568 or

krismcdonald.bpw@gmail.com before

Friday, November 24, 2017

Guests Welcome

November Programme

**Our Health and the
Environment**

What Can We Do?



Ryan Sisson, M Sc.

Coordinator

Trent University Durham



December Menu

Cucumber salad with tomatoes,
olives, feta & herbed dressing

Turkey Black bean Enchiladas

Fresh fruit salad & whipped cream
or

Vanilla cranberry ice cream sundae
with spiced gingersnaps

Dates to Remember

December 6, 2017

National Day of Remembrance & Action
on Violence Against Women, Canada

December 10, 2017

UN International Human Rights Day

March 8, 2018

UN International Women's Day

March 10-12, 2018

BPW International Leaders' Summit
New York City

March 13-24, 2018

United Nations - CSW62

"Women's Economic Empowerment in the
Changing World of Work"

United Nations HQ, New York City

April, 2018

Equal Pay Day (Date TBA)

June 1-3, 2018

BPW Ontario Conference

"Empowered Women – Empower Women"

Holiday Inn East, Toronto Airport

Hosted by GTA Clubs

August 11-13, 2018

BPW Canada Convention

December Meeting

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

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
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Friday, December 8, 2017

Guests Welcome

December Programme

Bethesda House

Building Hope

Changing Lives



Jaki MacKinnon

Executive Director

Bethesda House



Programme 2018

January 23, 2018

Behind the Scenes

Women in Politics & More

**Marilyn Pearce, Retired Politician, Owner
Silver Creek Antiques & Rare Books**

February 27, 2018

BPW International

Candle-Lighting Celebration

BPW – New Directions – Club Discussion

March 27, 2018

Seniors Have the

Demographic Power

Eleanor Hastie, Retirement Counsellor

April 24, 2018

**Using our Power to Create
Equality in the Workplace**

**Tracy James-Hockin, Co-Op
Coordinator UOIT**

May 22, 2018

**Increasing our Power—
AGM, Elections, Reports
and More**

Judy Hagerman

June 26, 2018

Summer Social

Canadian women first got the vote during World War I. The women's suffrage movement was in full swing in Canada, Britain, and the U.S. during the war. In 1917, the Canadian government granted any woman aged 21 and over who was serving in the military (as a nurse) or directly related to someone in the military the right to vote. In 1919, the vote was extended to all Canadian women aged 21 and over—eight years before British women got the same privilege.

Source: <https://blogs.ancestry.ca/cm/6-facts-that-prove-canada-dominated-in-world-war-i/> & **Joanne Cox**

President's Message

This month we look forward to hearing from Ryan Sisson from Trent University about our health and the environment and what we can do about the situation. In December Our speaker last month, Judith Spring, the Retired Dean of Durham College, was inspirational with her message of Empowering Girls through Education. She stressed the importance of affordability for girls and women who want to continue Post Secondary education.

We will be hearing from Jaki MacKinnon with an update on Bethesda House the local shelter for abused women and children.

The BPW International Congress with the theme Making a Difference through Leadership and Action took place in October in Cairo. Linda Davis posted fabulous pictures of her time there on Facebook.

The news came this past week that Parliament has finally passed a bill which says that if an indigenous woman marries a non indigenous man, she does not lose her native status. This was an issue brought forward as a resolution at the BPW Canada Convention in 1999 in Lethbridge, Alberta. The resolution passed and BPW Canada included it in a brief to the Government. I remember that at that Convention a Caucasian woman gave an impassioned speech about how she received native status because she was married to a first nations man but her sister-in-law had lost her status as she had married a non indigenous man.

We wish the best for Corinna Traill as she marries Matt on December 9 in Vermont. We are also sending good thoughts to Terry, Mother of the Bride that everything goes smoothly.

I hope to see everyone at both our November and December meetings.

Judy Hagerman

Editor's Note: Following Remembrance Day celebrations I felt it appropriate to focus on the contributions of Canadian women during the Second World War in this issue of the Bulletin

Source: <http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/history/historical-sheets/women>

Canadian Women at War



During the Second World War, the role of women in Canadian society changed dramatically. Canada needed women to pitch in and support the war effort from their homes, to work at jobs that were traditionally held by men, and to serve in the military. Canadian women enthusiastically embraced their new roles and responsibilities and helped contribute to the success of Canada's Victory Campaign.

Roll up Your Sleeves for Victory!

During the war, many women took a wide variety of civilian jobs that had once been filled by men. Canada had its own version of "Rosie the Riveter," the symbolic working woman who laboured in factories to help the war effort. Women worked shoulder-to-shoulder with men in factories, on airfields, and on farms. They built parts for ships and aircraft and manufactured ammunition. They drove buses, taxis, and streetcars. This level of female participation in the workplace was a first for Canada - thousands of Canadian women proving they had the skills, strength, and ability to do the work that men did.

Out of a total Canadian population of 11 million people, only about 600,000 Canadian women held permanent jobs when the war started. During the war, their numbers doubled to 1,200,000. At the peak of wartime employment in 1943-44, 439,000 women worked in the service sector, 373,000 in manufacturing and 4,000 in construction.

Women's smaller physical size and manual dexterity helped them develop a great reputation for fine precision work in electronics, optics, and instrument assembly.

With their sons overseas, many farm women had to take on extra work. One Alberta mother of nine sons - all of them either in the army or away working in factories - drove the tractor, plowed the fields, put up hay, and hauled grain to elevators, along with tending her garden, raising chickens, pigs and turkeys, and canning hundreds of jars of fruits and vegetables.

Women who worked with lumberjacks and loggers during the war were called "lumberjills." Canada's Elsie Gregory MacGill was the first woman in the world to graduate as an aeronautical engineer. She worked for Fairchild Aircraft Limited during the war. In 1940, her team's design and production methods were turning out more than 100 Hurricane combat aircraft per month.



Keeping the Home Fires Burning

During the war, women extended their charitable work to the war effort. They knit socks, scarves, and mitts and prepared parcels for Canadians overseas, gathered materials for scrap collection drives, and helped people displaced by the war by providing clothes and setting up refugee centres. To deal with wartime shortages, women became experts at doing more with less.

They made their own clothes (sometimes even using an old parachute to make a wedding dress) and planted Victory Gardens to supply much-needed fruits and vegetables to their families and communities. In short, women - acting in the traditional role of homemakers - gave, saved, and made do.

As part of the war effort, many commodities in Canada were rationed (a limit placed on the amount that could be used). Weekly rations of food included 1 1/3 ounces of tea, 5 1/3 ounces of coffee, 1/2 pound of sugar and 1/2 pound of butter. Some other rationed items included meat, whiskey, and gasoline.

Although household products of every kind were hard to come by, homemakers - conscious of the need for aluminum for the aircraft industry - often donated perfectly good aluminum cookware to scrap metal drives.

Many women joined war relief clubs which were formed to improve the morale of the troops overseas. These clubs packaged canvas "ditty bags" with items such as chocolate, sewing kits, and razor blades. To save fabric and buttons for uniforms, the government forbade many 'extras' on manufactured clothing, such as cuffs on pants, any hem in excess of two inches, double-breasted jackets, flap pockets, and more than nine buttons on a dress.

So much of Canada's silk and nylon was required for the war effort that women could not find the seamed stockings that were then in style. Some fashion-conscious women resorted to paint, drawing lines up the back of their legs, to simulate the look of stockings.

Comrades in Arms

Many Canadian women wanted to play an active role in the war and lobbied the government to form military organizations for women. In 1941-42, the military was forever changed as it created its own women's forces. Women were now able, for the first time in our history, to serve Canada in uniform. More than 50,000 women served in the armed forces during the Second World War.

- The Canadian Women's Army Corps (CWACS) had 21,600 members.
- The Women's Division, Royal Canadian Air Force (WDs) had 17,400 members.
- The Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (Wrens) had 7,100 members.
- Women in the services filled many positions, including mechanics, parachute riggers, wireless operators, clerks, and photographers.
- 4,480 Nursing Sisters (as Canadian military nurses were known) served in the war - 3,656 in the Canadian Women's Army Corps, 481 in the Women's Division of the Royal Canadian Air Force and 343 in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service. Many of these women found themselves within range of enemy guns and some lost their lives.

Nursing Sister Margaret Brooke was awarded the Order of the British Empire for her heroic efforts to save her fellow Nursing Sister Agnes Wilkie after the S.S. *Caribou*, the ferry they were taking to Newfoundland, was torpedoed in the Cabot Strait in 1942.