

The Charitable Trust- What it is and What it Does

There is sometimes confusion about what the CFUW Charitable Trust is and what it does. This short article may answer some questions and more information is always available on the Charitable Trust website: www.cfuwcharitabletrust.ca.

CFUW has supported graduate study, literacy and creative arts through awards and fellowships since its founding in 1919 and the first CFUW Travelling Fellowship of \$1000 was awarded in 1921 by the 12 clubs that then formed the federation.

The term CFUW Charitable Trust is deceiving because the Charitable Trust (CT) is a separate entity from CFUW and has been since 1967 when it received a registered Ontario charity number. The charitable number allows the CT to receive donations, manage the resulting funds, and issue charitable receipts for tax purposes. In 1976, a further change in the rules governing charities allowed the CT to build a reserve fund for future awards and award increases. The CT now administers an investment portfolio of over one million dollars and annually awards over ninety thousand dollars to women pursuing post-graduate studies.

Funds for the CT are raised in a number of ways. CFUW clubs, individual club members and non-members support the Trust with their donations and memorial gifts; the CT sells cards, holds an annual theatre trip and is supported by the CT Boutique at the CFUW AGM and the CT breakfast or lunch, also at the AGM. The funds are used for annual Fellowships, Awards and Grants for Canadian women doing advanced study and research in science, math, engineering, home economics, education, visual arts, music, humanities, and social sciences. The CT also supports the Library and Creative Arts awards that are awarded in alternate years to projects nominated by a CFUW Club.

The administration of the Fellowships and Awards Program is managed by the Fellowships Program Manager of CFUW, Betty Dunlop, on behalf of the Charitable Trust.

The Trust continues the work and vision of the original twelve clubs believing that supporting women in higher education empowers women.

Prepared by Kathryn Wilkinson, Charitable Trust Trustee