



## Women's Canadian Club London - March 2024 Newsletter (1910 - 2024)



The Women's Canadian Club London Board wishes you a lucky St. Patrick's Day on March 17th and a wonderful spring season, beginning on March 19th. Happy Easter Sunday with your family and friends on March 31st.

### Upcoming:

#### **March 14, Keynote Speaker: Graham Saul**

Beyond the Twin Crises of Climate Change and Species Collapse

#### **March 14, Youth Presenter: Mimi Zhang**

Kiwanis Festival Top Pianist

#### **April 18, Spring Luncheon and Silent Auction**

The annual Spring Luncheon event will be held on Thursday, April 18 at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, 300 King Street, London.

#### **Keynote Speaker: Jennifer Botterill**

Empowering Others to Pursue Excellence

#### **Youth Focus Speaker: Paige Peetsma**

Captain of an all boys' North York Triple A hockey team

## Sponsor Appreciation:

Women's Canadian Club London launched a brand new initiative, our sponsorship program, in September 2023. **Western** as a Gold Sponsor came on board in September in our new program. **TD Bank Group** as a Platinum Sponsor came on Board in December. We are thrilled to have both Western and TD Bank Group as sponsors of WCC London.



It was our pleasure to welcome three TD representatives at our February speaker event. Their feedback was extremely positive and they told us how much they enjoyed both our youth speaker/singer and our main guest speakers.

We look forward to welcoming more TD representatives and Western representatives to our events in March and April.

In 2024 we will renew our efforts to partner with more corporations and welcome more sponsors. We need to partner with more corporate and business leaders if we are to continue to deliver on our primary mandates. We have already reached out to one additional corporation to introduce ourselves to them, and invite them to become our newest sponsor.

We are also reconnecting with some businesses who were unable to sponsor us last year due to it being the end of their annual sponsorship year.

We are always looking for new potential sponsors. We have learned that our strongest opportunities exist where someone familiar with WCC London is able to introduce us to key leaders at businesses or corporations who share common goals and values.

**Do you know someone who is a key leader in a local or area business or corporation?** Does WCC London share some common goals and priorities with them? Would you be willing or able to introduce us to your friend, work associate.. so that we might begin a conversation with them that could result in a partnership and possibly a sponsorship? If so, please speak with me at the March 14 speaker event or email me at [wcclondonpresident@gmail.com](mailto:wcclondonpresident@gmail.com) .

Thank you.

Judy Farrell



## **Memberships and Single Tickets:**

Memberships for \$65 and single tickets for \$25 will be available at the membership tables on the second floor lobby from 1:00 until 1:50 p.m.

You may pay by cash, e-transfer, credit or debit card (cheques will be accepted for full memberships only)

## **March 14, Keynote Speaker: Graham Saul**

" Beyond the Twin Crises of Climate Change and Species Collapse: Restoring Nature in the 21st Century "

Nature Canada is the country's oldest national nature conservation charity. Graham Saul has more than 25 years of experience working on social and environmental justice issues. His background includes five years with Oxfam International in Maputo, Mozambique, and five years in Washington D.C., with the Bank Information Centre - an environmental watchdog and information clearinghouse that monitors the World Bank and other multilateral development banks.

Since returning to Canada in 2004, he has worked as the International Programme Director for Friends of the Earth Canada and Oil Change International, and was the Executive Director of Climate Action Network Canada- a coalition of more than 100 Canadian organizations working together to push for action on climate change.



Graham was a founding member and Executive Director of Ecology Ottawa, a grassroots environmental organization focused on the City of Ottawa. He believes that in order to build a better world, we need to learn how to build a better city.

Graham received an honours degree in Political Science from McGill University, was a visiting practitioner at Cornell University, and produced the paper "Environmentalists, What are we Fighting for?" as a Metcalf Innovation Fellow.

## **Kiwanis Festival Top Pianist: Mimi Zhang**

Mimi Zhang is a first-year undergraduate student in the Medical Sciences program at Western University. She began piano at the age of four and recently completed her practical exam for her ACCT diploma in piano performance.

Mimi has participated in the Kiwanis Music Festival of London since she was six, and has enjoyed being an active member of the music community in London. Additionally, she has been awarded the David Greenslade Memorial Scholarship from Conservatory Canada for the highest practical exam mark in the academic year for Grade 10 Classical Piano.

In her spare time, Mimi enjoys spending time with her friends and family, travelling, and attending music concerts.



## **Livestreaming Link:**

The livestreaming link for this month's presentations will be emailed to members on March 13th.

## **April 18 2024: Spring Luncheon:**

### **Luncheon Registrations:**

You will be able to register for the Spring Luncheon on the second floor lobby at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel on March 14th from 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Please bring your completed luncheon registration form and one of the following payment options- cheque, cash, e-transfer, credit, debit card, together with a stamped self-addressed envelope.

If you wish to sit with others, please have all names and cheques together in one envelope. Luncheon cost: for Members \$40.00 - for Guests \$55.00

### **Members may bring more than 1 guest each.**

The Spring Luncheon will take place on Thursday, April 18th at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, 300 King Street, London.

- 11:00 a.m. Membership Registration for the 2024/ 2025 Speaker Series and Social Hour
- \*Past President Reception in Blake's
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:30 p.m. Introduction of head table and Youth Speaker, Paige Peetsma
- 2:00 p.m. Jennifer Botterill- "Empowering Others to Pursue Excellence"

\*A copy of the Spring Luncheon registration form with menu options, payment and mailing options is attached to the newsletter email.

## **Spring Luncheon Speaker - April 18, 2024 - Jennifer Botterill**

### **"Empowering Others to Pursue Excellence"**

Jennifer Botterill is one of Canada's most successful athletes. A member of the Canadian Women's Hockey team for 14 years, she is a three-time Olympic champion, CEO of two companies and an in-demand NHL analyst in both Canada and the United States. She regularly appears on CBC's Hockey Night in Canada.

A graduate of Harvard University, she is the only two-time winner of the Patty Kazmaier award, which honors the top player in women's college hockey. Jennifer debuted for the national team in 1997 and was named for the first ever Canadian Olympic women's hockey roster in 1998. Throughout her collegiate career and beyond, Jennifer amassed 17 gold medals for Canada. She is a five-time World Champion, and was named MVP of the World Championships twice.

Jennifer Botterill is the only NHL analyst to appear on national networks in both Canada and the US. She kicked off her broadcast career in 2011, covering the Women's World Championships for TSN. Since then she has worked with MSG Network, CBC on Hockey Night in Canada and Sportsnet.

In addition, Jennifer is the CEO of Excel in Life Inc. and Journey to Excel Inc., where she continues her pursuit of excellence while inspiring and coaching others.





## Paige Peetsma - Youth Focus Speaker

Meet Paige Peetsma, the 10-year-old hockey sensation who embodies the spirit of dedication and passion on the ice. Paige's journey began at the tender age of 2 when she first laced up her skates, setting the foundation for a promising future in hockey.

At the age of 3, Paige fearlessly stepped onto the hockey rink with the boys, showcasing her skills and tenacity. By 4, she not only secured a spot on the boys' select hockey team but was thriving in a league of 6-year-olds, a testament to her exceptional talent and determination.

Recognition came early for Paige when, at 7, the Ontario Women's Hockey Association granted her exceptional player status, allowing her to compete at a level two years older. In the face of the challenges posed by the COVID -19 pandemic, Paige's commitment to her craft remained unwavering as she continued to hone her skills on the backyard rink lovingly crafted by her father.

Paige's journey took a significant leap at age 9 when she joined the GTHL's North York Ranger Boys AAA team, where her leadership qualities shone through. In the past season, she was honored with the captaincy, a testament to her influence both on and off the ice.

The summer of 2023 brought another feather to Paige's cap when Sports Illustrated recognized her talents, selecting her for the Boys AAA Prospects All Star Team.

Beyond the hockey rink, Paige is not just an athlete - she is an A student at a French immersion school, reflecting her dedication to her studies.

But that's not all - Paige is on a quest for excellence in martial arts, working towards her Black belt in Karate, showcasing a commitment to discipline and excellence beyond the ice.

With her determination, skill, and well-rounded pursuits, Paige Peetsma is poised to leave an indelible mark on the world of hockey and beyond, following in the footsteps of Canadian sports icons like Jennifer Botterill. Keep an eye on this rising star as she skates towards greatness, leaving an indelible mark on the world of hockey and fulfilling her Olympic dreams.



## Membership Fee and Single Ticket Cost for the 2024 / 2025 Speaker Program:

After careful review of our expenses for the upcoming year, the WCC London Board has set the membership fee for 2024 / 2025 at **\$100.00**. No increase from last year!

Single tickets will increase from \$25.00 to \$30.00. If you purchase a single ticket one month and then wish to take out a full membership, the single ticket purchase will be applied to the membership fee.

As a Member, you will enjoy many benefits including the following:

- The opportunity to attend all seven monthly speaker presentations plus the December musical program, or, at your discretion, to view each program via live online streaming or on YouTube.
- Speaker presentations include a wide variety of informative and entertaining topics. • Monthly youth speakers - who have an exciting or inspirational personal story to tell and are usually from the greater London area. They vary in age from 5th graders to university students.
- 3 receptions (September, December, February) following the speaker presentations
- You also have the choice of watching virtually, as we livestream 8 events, September to April and provide a YouTube recording for all members.
- Through the Club, you help provide community service to the Food Bank, My Sisters' Place, the Poppy Fund, and through the collection of aluminum tabs, assist in providing specialized wheelchairs to deserving young people.
- As a member, you will be a contributor toward the Kathryn Sells Music Award at the Kiwanis Festival, and toward 4 Emerging Leader Awards that recognize youths' outstanding contributions to the community.
- Each month you can participate in an afternoon of socializing with long-time friends and the making of new ones! The videos and live streaming will continue to offer members an opportunity to watch the speaker when they are unable to attend in person. This is a benefit for those not retired, members who do not live near the venue and for snowbirds! The videos are extremely popular, judging by the number of views.

\*\* Your Board is focusing on new strategies for generating revenue besides membership fees. For example, we obtained a Platinum Sponsorship with TD and a Gold Sponsorship with Western University, organized 4 Silent Auctions and our second Artisans Holiday Market.

## **Community Service Report:**

Thank you to all members who are continuing to support your Community Service initiatives. At our February meeting we received some food and donations totaling \$130.00. This brings our 2023-2024 year to date Foodbank total to \$2545.00 plus numerous bags/boxes of food!

We also received a few bags of pop tabs as well.

Our March meeting will be your last opportunity of the 2023-2024 campaign to contribute to the London Foodbank and submit your pop tabs.

At the April luncheon we will not have a community service table set up but rather encourage all of you to enjoy the luncheon, the Speakers and to participate in the Silent Auction.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Betty Dietrich

## **Silent Auction:**

The Women's Canadian Club London will host another silent auction at our Spring Luncheon on April 18th.

This time we will feature gift certificates from restaurants, musical events, deluxe golf outings and theatre performances. There will also be some lovely items of interest in the auction as well.

We decided to offer another silent auction because of the huge outpouring of interest that our December and February auctions generated.

Come prepared to bid. You will not be disappointed. It will be great fun, and you will be helping the Women's Canadian Club London with our ongoing mission to the community.

Here are some of the items that will be offered for bidding!

1. Riverbend Golf for 4
2. Sunningdale Golf for 4
3. Cuckoo's Nest tickets
4. Sunfest tickets
5. Canadian Celtic Choir Concert Tickets
6. Drayton Theatre Company two tickets, Summer Theatre
7. Port Stanley Theatre 2 tickets
8. Grand Theatre 2 tickets
9. Art and Soul Café, Port Stanley – two gift certificates
10. Coupon for massage – Cori Friday, Corrective Chiropractic, Nottinghill Rd., London, ON

Wendy Valhoff

### **London Symphonia Draw, Julian Bayley Draws:**

Congratulations to Michelle O'Hagan on winning the draw for two tickets to the London Symphonia concert on April 6th. "A Bohemian Life".

Congratulations to Deb Goldie-Ryder, Sharon MacDonald for winning Julian Bayley's book and Virginia Schoffer for winning the Ice Truck model.

### **Nominations for Board Members:**

The WCC London Board extends an invitation to those members who are interested in learning about being a councillor to a reception in the Windsor Room at **3p.m. on March 14<sup>th</sup>**. Come and ask Board members questions about the various committee roles.

Nominations will be open until May 1st for 2024/2025 Board Members.

The WCC London is a very active organization with a focus on providing excellent and interesting monthly speakers on a variety of timely topics. We would love for you to become a Councillor on the WCC London Board.

As you are aware, we hold membership meetings on the second Thursday of each month September through March, and have our final meeting combined with a luncheon in April. You would most likely need to give an hour or so of your time at each of these meetings. We have 3 Board meetings a year (June, October and January). Our Annual Meeting is combined with our June Board meeting. Hopefully, you would be able to attend these 3 meetings. You would have the choice of the committee(s) that you would like to serve on. There are several, but the most needed are online media, membership, speakers, publicity, social, youth focus and assistant treasurer.

Please consider helping us meet these needs. I'm sure that you will make many new friendships and enjoy your experience on the Board. Why not try it?

Please contact Eleanor Leatham at [eleanorleatham@gmail.com](mailto:eleanorleatham@gmail.com) for further information.

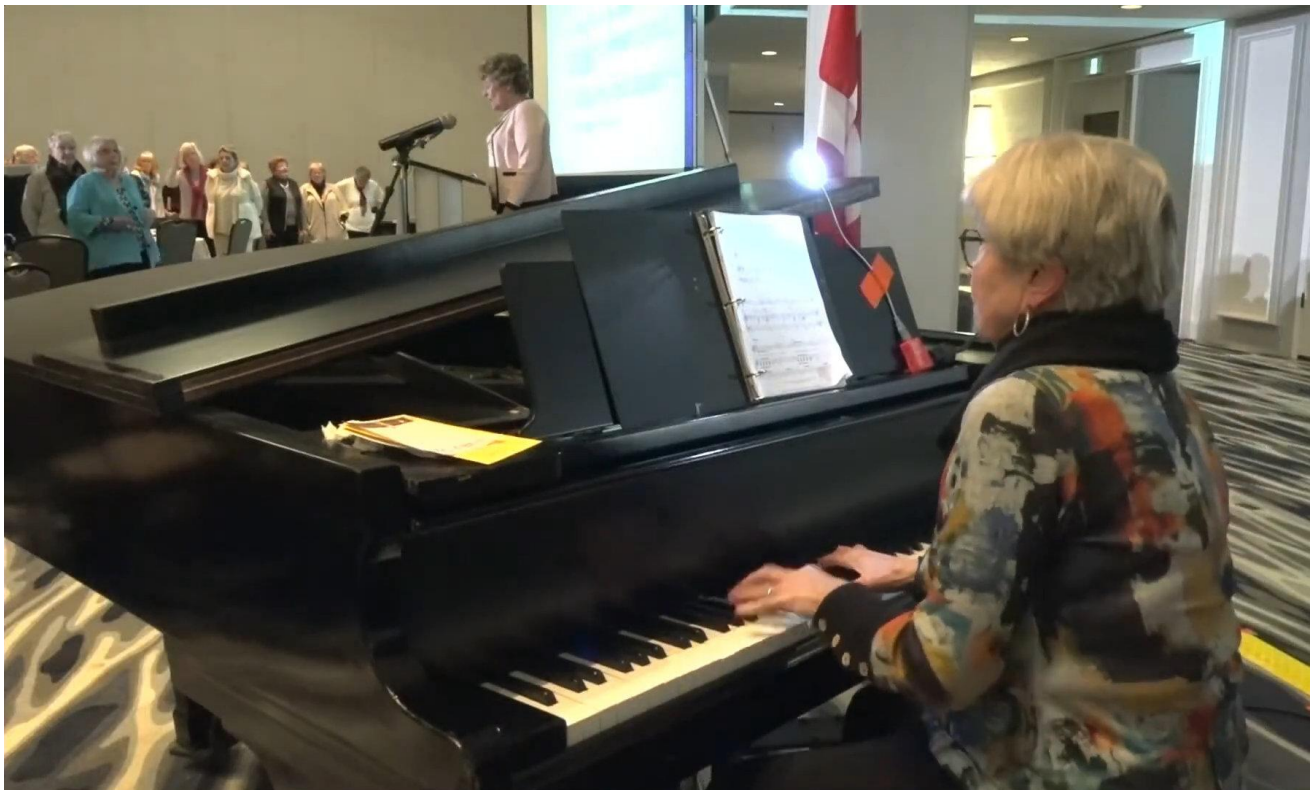


## Volunteers:

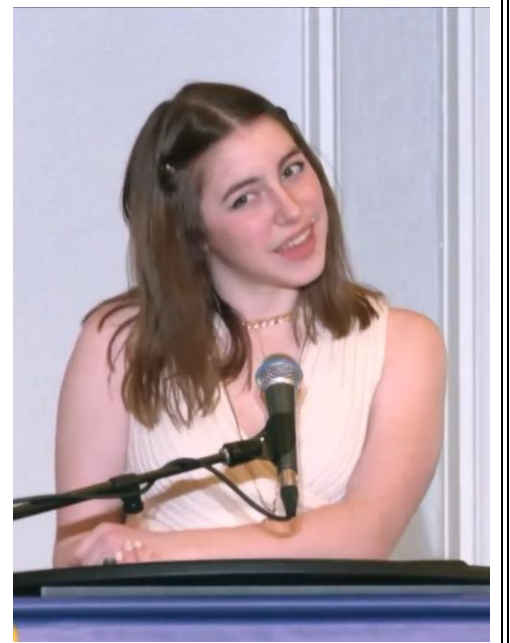
Volunteers make a huge contribution to our organization. If you are interested in being a volunteer, please contact Eleanor Leatham at [eleanorleatham@gmail.com](mailto:eleanorleatham@gmail.com) or Irene Butler at [wcclnpresident@gmail.com](mailto:wcclnpresident@gmail.com). Volunteers do not attend Board meetings.

The Board extends a special thank you to our volunteers on the Welcome committee who always had a friendly greeting for you and answered questions at the Ballroom doors, the Social committee volunteers for their contributions to the receptions, to our club photographer, Vivien Stanfield for the lovely photos she captured at our live events this year, and to our pianist, Jack Witmer, for entertaining us before each event.

## Photo Memories of Our February Event:



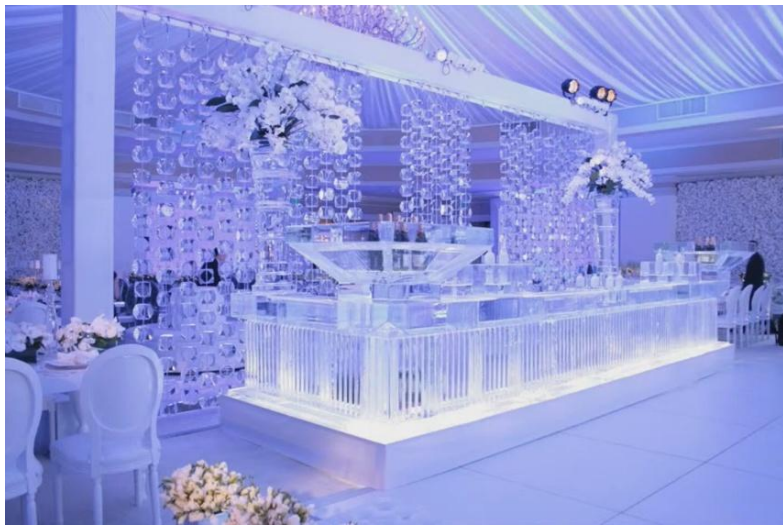




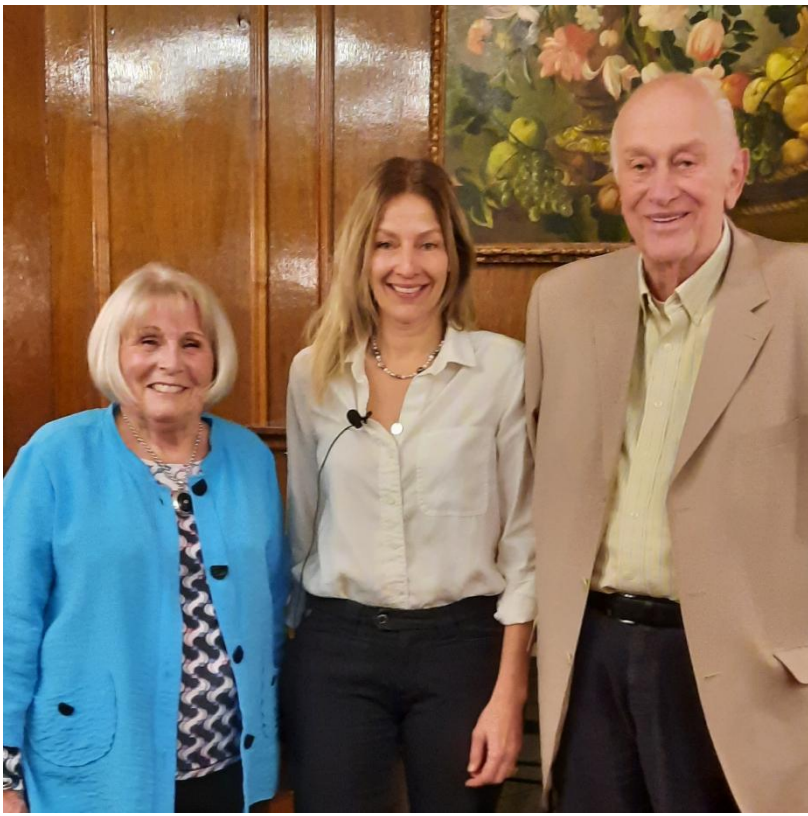












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