



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

The Women's Canadian Club London Board hopes you enjoyed a happy Easter Sunday with your family and friends on March 31st.



### Upcoming:

#### **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

## **President's Remarks:**

As President, it will be my pleasure to welcome members and their guests on April 18 to the Spring Luncheon, a city representative, our special sponsor guests from TD and Western and guests from the North York Rangers Hockey Club and the Greater Toronto Hockey League. I hope you enjoy the social hour and entertainment, lunch and the speakers.

I encourage you to check out and bid on the wonderful Silent Auction items donated by local businesses, golf courses, theatres, and members.

Don't forget to register for a 2024-2025 Speaker Series membership! Next year's speakers will bring a broad range of knowledge in their various fields, including London's Mayor on Homelessness and Affordable Housing, Human Trafficking international experts and an international quoted researcher on Dementia and Super Aging.

Spring Luncheon: Congratulations on over 89% of our members and guests attending this year. Our speakers are both from the hockey world and achieve excellence through talent, determination and a strong commitment to their pursuits.

The program begins at 11:00 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel. There is a social hour from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There will be a cash bar in the ballroom and Jack Witmer will be entertaining us at the piano.

A copy of the program has been emailed to all members, guests and 1 copy will be on each table.

Members who are not attending the lunch are invited to attend the speaker presentations from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This speaker event will be livestreamed and the link will be emailed to you on April 17th. The livestream will not be recording during lunch.

## **Single Tickets for Spring Luncheon Presentations:**

Single tickets will be sold for \$25.00 between 1:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. ONLY on Thursday April 18th at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, second floor lobby. Members of our Welcome committee will greet you at a door for entry. There will be extra tables and chairs available; all welcome!

This will entitle you to hear Jennifer Botterill, our keynote speaker on the topic "Empowering Others to Achieve Excellence", 3 time Hockey Olympian Champion and Sports analyst for both Canada and the United States, and our youth speaker, 10 year old Paige Peetsma, already a hockey star!

Payment Options: cash, e-transfer, credit/debit card.

Virtual Link: Your single ticket purchase will also give you the YouTube link, so that you may watch the presentation again!

## **Silent Auction: Wendy Valhoff**

Our silent auction in February was very successful and popular with our members, so because of your interest, The Women's Canadian Club London will hold another silent auction at our Spring Luncheon from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., inside the Grand Ballroom of the Hilton Hotel. This time we have concentrated on offering gift certificates for theatre tickets and tickets to musical events. We will also have gift certificates for restaurants, a massage, a nail salon and golf venues. Three special items are an autographed hockey stick from the London Knights, along with golf packages from Riverbend and Sunningdale Golf courses.

Remember, all money raised from our silent auctions goes towards making sure that the Women's Canadian Club London can continue in its work of furthering Canadian Culture and promoting our youth program and community services. Please come ready to bid.

Final Bids and Payment Process: There will be 3 tables of items and they will be numbered 1-3. I will announce separately each table's final bid call of 10 minutes, beginning at approximately 2:55p.m.

## **Sponsor Appreciation:**

The following sponsor representatives will be attending our Spring Luncheon.

### **Platinum Sponsor Guests from TD:**

We welcome Ken Locking, Amanda Eros, Vikki Anello, branch managers for TD.

### **Gold Sponsor Guests from Western:**

We welcome Jennifer Baytor, Director, Career Management Coaching & Programming (Ivey Business School) and Catherine Ireland, Western Mustangs Director of Sports.



**Silver Sponsor:** Judy Farrell, our Sponsor committee Chair, is pleased to share the news that Horizon Place Retirement Living is now a Silver Sponsor for WCC London. We welcome our newest sponsor and look forward to an engaging partnership with you.

## **Membership Registration for the 2024 / 2025 Speaker Program :**

April 18, 2024 -11:00 a.m. to 11:50 a.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.

Memberships can be purchased at the Membership table on the second floor lobby in the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel at the listed times. Please bring your completed registration form and payment, which may be made by cash, cheque, e-transfer, credit, debit card in the amount of \$100.00. A membership registration form has been emailed to you, and it is posted on the membership page of our club's website, [www.womenscanadianclublondon.com/membership](http://www.womenscanadianclublondon.com/membership) and on our Facebook page.

If you wish to mail in your registration form, specific details about mailing are also on the website. If you have questions about registration, please contact our membership chair, Eleanor Leatham at [eleanorleatham@gmail.com](mailto:eleanorleatham@gmail.com)

## 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.



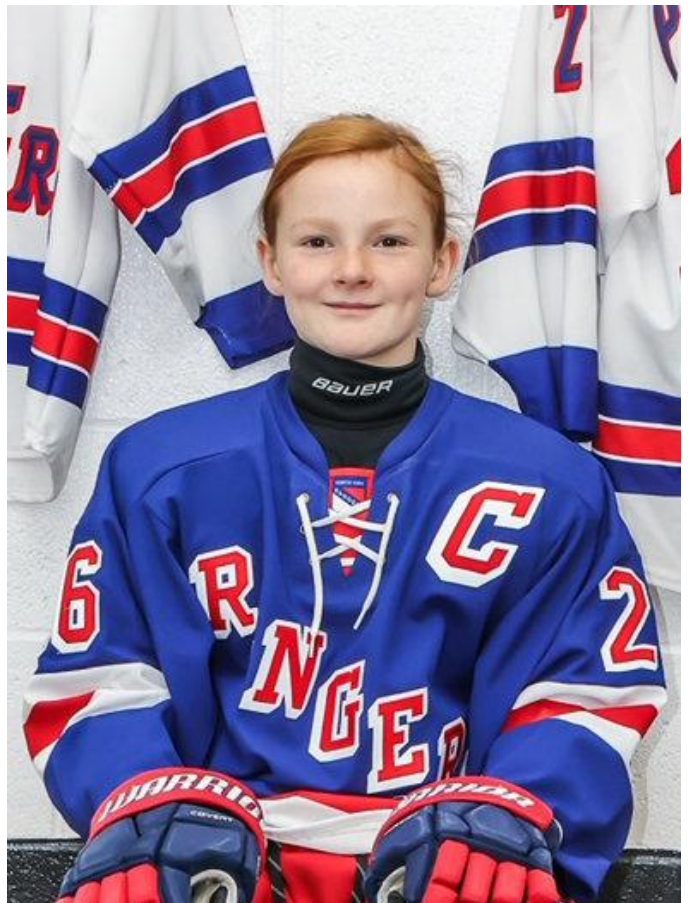
## Paige Peetsma - Youth Focus Speaker

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. By 4, she not only secured a spot on the boys' select hockey team but was thriving in a league of 6-year-olds.

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.

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.

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.

## **Short History of the Founding of the Club:**

By Cathy Cave, Past President

The Women's Canadian Club London, first began as a Speaker lecture club.

Fanny Edwards, well known for her community work, often behind the scenes, saw a need to bring the experiences of Canadians to London residents. Fanny invited women to her home to talk about a women's club, and on April 11, 1910 a public meeting was held and Women's Canadian Club London was formed. Fanny was the Treasurer for the next twenty-five years and Lady Elizabeth Gibbons was its first President. Those early years seem humble in contrast to our meetings today. Our present approach, plus our April Luncheon would be very gratifying to Fanny.

Not only has the Club grown in membership but also as a community builder. We value our Youth Focus program where we cameo their leadership skills both in school and community. In addition, we provide 4 Emerging Leader awards of \$250 each for students from all local boards. We acknowledge the piano finalist of the Kiwanis Festival with the Kathryn Sells Award. We support My Sisters' Place in December and the London Food Bank throughout the year. Pop can tabs are collected so that they assist in buying a wheelchair for a needy child identified by Thames Valley Children's Center. Our meetings today have 7 speaker presentations on a variety of different topics, 3 receptions and a Christmas music presentation, either in person or virtually.

What's not to like? I am committed more than ever to participate in such a great organization, the Women's Canadian Club London!

## **2024-2025 Speaker Series: Nancy Hawkins**

The bios of this new series of interesting, thought-provoking and informative speakers on a variety of topics, are being emailed to you with this newsletter.

I extend a warm thank you to Nancy Hawkins and her committee for their commitment of time, knowledge, and interest in attracting excellent speakers for our WCC London.

The seven (7) speaker presentations and musical presentation (December) will be live at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel from 2p.m.-3p.m. and also will be livestreamed.

Parking: The Hilton Hotel will continue its special rate of \$5.00 cash per car to their parking garage from 11a.m. There will be an attendant to collect your \$5.00.

## **Community Service Report: Betty Dietrich**

Thank you to all our members who have participated in our Community Service initiatives. At our March meeting \$105.00 was collected for the Food Bank. We also collected a large amount of pop tabs at this meeting.

This concludes our community service initiatives for this year. Our total donations to the Food Bank for 2023-2024 were \$ 2650.00 plus numerous boxes and bags of food!

In December we collected \$340.00 in funds and many boxes of supplies for My Sisters' Place and donated the artisans' registration fees of \$1250.00.

We are also overjoyed with your ongoing collecting of pop tabs and will once again accept those in

September.

**Looking ahead we will not be collecting food, monetary donations or pop tabs at the April meeting.**

I hope you enjoy the luncheon, speaker and take part in the silent auction.

Thank you once again for your outstanding support over the past year.

On behalf of the Community Service Committee I wish all the membership a happy, safe and enjoyable spring and summer. We look forward to seeing you in September!

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

The winners of the March 14th draws were:

- Sandra Morrissey - London Symphonia Tickets for May 4th
- Sandra Pearson - Ice Culture's Ice Truck Model
- Jill Golding - Ice Culture's book "Ideas That Work(ed)"

### **Nominations for Board Members: Eleanor Leatham**

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 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) and our Annual Meeting is combined with the June Board meeting. Hopefully, you would be able to attend these meetings. You would have the choice of the committee(s) that you would like to serve on. There are many, but the most needed are community service, online media and technology, speakers, sponsorship, 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?

If you are interested or have any questions or recommendations, please email [eleanorleatham@gmail.com](mailto:eleanorleatham@gmail.com)

### **Volunteers:**

Volunteers make a huge contribution to our organization.

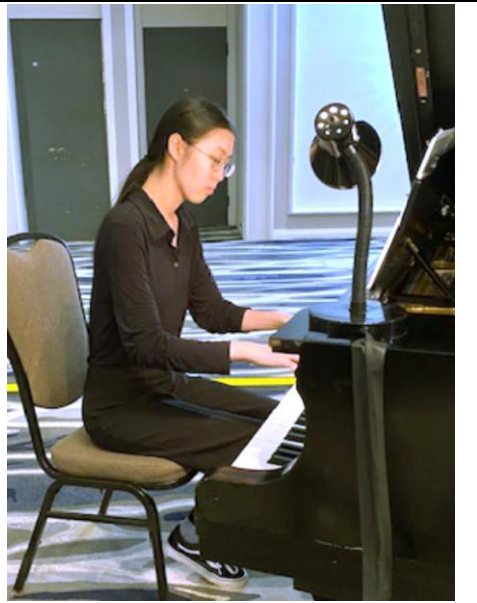
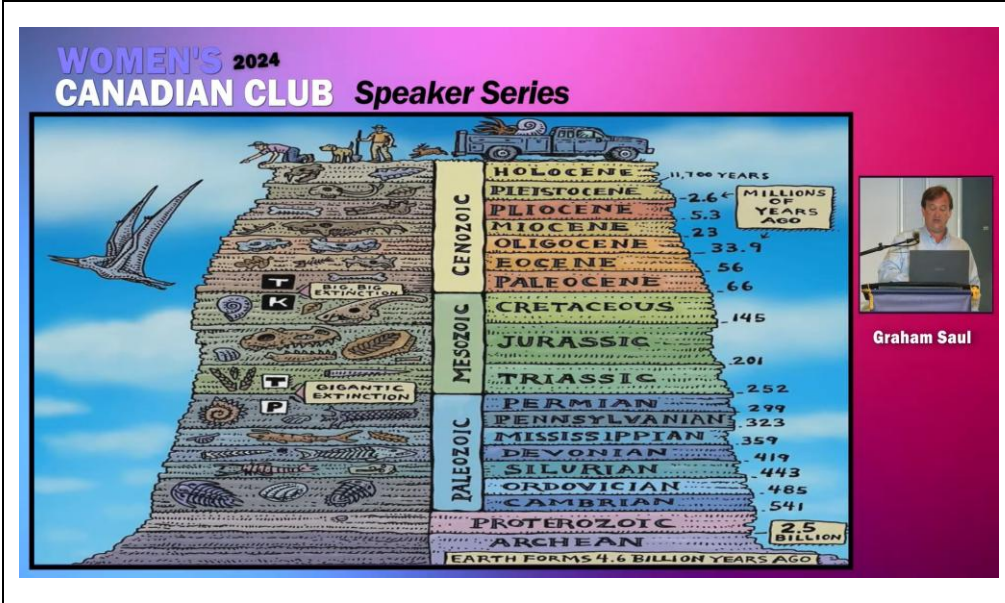
As a volunteer, you do not attend Board meetings. Instead, we would love your help at the monthly events! You are especially needed on our Social and Welcome Committees.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer (need to be a WCC London member), please contact Eleanor Leatham at [eleanorleatham@gmail.com](mailto:eleanorleatham@gmail.com) or Irene Butler at [wccldnpresident@gmail.com](mailto:wccldnpresident@gmail.com)

The WCC London Board extends a special thank you to our volunteers on this year's Welcome Committee who always had a friendly greeting for you and answered questions at the ballroom doors. We also thank our Social committee volunteers for their contributions to the receptions, and our club photographer, Vivien Stanfield for the photos of the speakers in the Windsor Room.

## Photo Memories of Our March Event:











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