

BULLETIN HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 2025



CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

December is a time of reflection, celebration and enjoyment of the good things life has to offer. The House will be beautifully decorated and is a warm and inviting place for us to get together. We look forward to our program lunch on December 12th featuring the talented Westgate Collegiate Jazz Ensemble. On December 17th, take advantage of our full turkey dinner with all the trimmings followed by an optional gathering around the piano for singing of holiday tunes.

A very special thank you is extended to Heather Meiklejohn, Chair of the Christmas Market, all of the volunteers, vendors and staff who collaborated in so many ways to make the event such a success.

There is still time to participate in the Shoebox Project. More information can be found in the Bulletin. It can be fun to share the project with a family member or friend, knowing that your gift will make the holiday season just a little better for a homeless or at-risk women.

We love and appreciate our staff! By tradition, UWC puts out a staff tip box for the holiday season. It's a great way to show our appreciation to our staff in recognition of their hard work year round.

On behalf of the Board, our very best wishes for a festive and enjoyable holiday season and a happy New Year!

UWC Activity Groups

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE BOOK CLUB

All club members are welcome to attend our book club gathering on Tuesday, December 2nd, at 1 PM. We will be discussing STATE OF TERROR written by Louise Penny and Hillary Rodham Clinton. If possible, please sign up for lunch. It is one way of supporting the club.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We meet the second Wednesday of the month from October until June, excluding January.

On December 10th Nancy Rutherford will present The Women by Kristin Hannah

On February 11th Anne Dunlop will present Bookworm:a Memoir of Childhood Reading by Lucy Mangan
Club members are welcome to attend the presentations.

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SUNROOM GROUP

Hello everyone. The Thursday afternoon Sunroom gathering is a pleasant way to spend an afternoon with some club members and share some stories and laughter along with your coffee, tea and cookies. So pop in on any Thursday afternoon between 1:15 and 3:00.

* The Group will be meeting every Thursday until December 11 - and will meet again in the New Year on January 15.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas, 🎄 and all the Best in the New Year!! 🎉

OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

Watch for updates for the New Year!

MAHJONG

We play the first and third Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. until noon.

In December we will play on the 2nd and 16th.

MYSTERY READERS

Next meeting scheduled for
January 28, 2026

SCRABBLE N' BABBLE

Scrabble and Babble will be on
Wednesday, December 3rd at 10 a.m.

SOCIAL BRIDGE

December 9th at 1pm.

WRITING GROUP

Will not have a meeting in
December. See you in January!

UWC - EXPLORE CONTINUING EDUCATION

“From Sinatra to Presley: How and Why Music Shifted From Moms and Dads to Teenagers in the 1950s.”

Get ready for a warm and lively winter escape! By popular demand, John Einarson is back—and he’s bringing the music, memories, and stories that will take us straight back to our youth.

In this fun and engaging 3-part series, you’ll explore:

- The evolution of 1950s popular music and the surprising social changes it sparked.
- The cultural explosion of rock ‘n’ roll, and how the “teenager” became a major force in music.
- Legendary moments in music history, including the iconic 1960 Sinatra-Presley TV special — a true “passing of the torch” between eras.

A circular portrait of John Einarson, a man with a friendly expression, wearing a black hat and a dark jacket. The background of the portrait is a wooden wall with a red ribbon graphic. A green speech bubble containing his name is positioned to the right of the portrait.

John Einarson

Our presenter, John Einarson, is an acclaimed musicologist, broadcaster, teacher, musician, and award-winning author of 22 music biographies, including Neil Young, Randy Bachman, The Guess Who, and Ian & Sylvia. His courses are always a hit—rich with rare photos, great videos, unforgettable stories, and plenty of laughs.

Sundays: January 25, February 1, and February 8 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Members: \$50 for the full 3-part series Non-members: \$65

Registration is now open! Sign up by emailing uwc@mymts.net, calling 204-954-8770, or registering online. You’re also welcome to visit us in person at UWC, 54 West Gate.

Payment is required at the time of registration (cheque, debit, or e-transfer to uwcfm@mymts.net).

Beverages and snacks are provided.

Don’t miss this chance to learn, laugh, and reminisce with one of the best in the business. Come learn with us!

UWC - ENGAGE PROGRAM & LUNCH

Hark, the WIRED Choir Sings!



Celebrate the season on Friday, December 12th when Westgate Collegiate's Music Director and vocal jazz ensemble, WIRED join us for some seasonal fun! This annual event is always uplifting and inspiring and the choir is sure to delight with a magical choral program of holiday favourites!

Date: December 12, 2025

Bar Open: 11:30PM

Lunch: 12:00PM

Presentation to follow.

Menu

Tortiere with beet relish or chicken pot pie (please indicate when registering), spinach salad, cranberry upside down cake with whipping cream

Cost \$25

Register ASAP and by noon, Wednesday, December 10th online, by emailing uwc@mymts.net, calling 204-954-7880, or in person. We accept e-transfer to uwcfm@mymts.net, cheque, and debit.

PROGRAM



We had a busy time this fall- with Sharilyn Knox, Mayor of Portage la Prairie; our Frescolio tasting dinner program with Chantal Hogue; our lunch program with Kate Fenske, CEO of Downtown Biz; and our dinner foray into AI and Education with Dr. Mike Holden from U of W. Thanks to all who attended as we learn together and build community.

Our December 12 lunch program brings the always popular musical event with the Westgate Mennonite Collegiate Jazz Choir - see more information in the poster.

The holiday dinner will be on December 17. We are planning to do something different this year and include seasonal music after dinner rather than a speaker. If you can help with piano playing and / or singing in a sing-along choir, please reach out to Debby Brown at debbybrown335@icloud.com.

Looking ahead to 2026, mark your calendars for Jan 16 lunch, when we welcome Judy Stupak, speaking about her life and book, *From Mennonite to Mainstream: Abandoning the Old Colony and Growing Up in Rural Canada*.

We always welcome ideas for program topics and / or speakers. See you at the club.





RALPH CONNOR HOUSE

Nestled in the heart of Winnipeg, this stunning heritage venue offers a romantic backdrop with its grand architecture, vintage details, and beautifully manicured gardens. Whether you're planning a cozy gathering or a lavish affair, Ralph Connor House provides a warm and sophisticated atmosphere that feels both exclusive and welcoming. Imagine exchanging vows in a sunlit room filled with character, toasting with loved ones in an elegant setting, and capturing timeless photos in a space steeped in history.

Let this enchanting venue be the start of your forever story.



Don't worry, Ralph Connor House isn't just for weddings—we're the perfect venue for all your special celebrations! From birthday parties and bridal or baby showers to anniversaries and corporate gatherings, our elegant and historic setting provides the ideal backdrop for unforgettable moments. Plus, we offer vendor recommendations to help bring your vision to life. Reach out today to learn more about our rental options and start planning your perfect event!



uwcevents@mymts.net



<https://www.uwcwpgmb.com/venue-booking/>

CALL US FOR MORE INFO



(204) 954-7880

CIA



We have often heard questions about how Clubs/individuals, can have impact on government policies – and does it matter anyway.

Both as a Club and as part of a larger organization, CFUW, we can be very proud of our ongoing influence on government, as the following chart outlines. The letters count, the petitions do have impact, the meetings with government officials and politicians are listened to – not all the time and sometimes, not on the issues about which we feel passionate.

- 28 Statements Issued
- 61 Inputs to Gov't Policy
- 8 Law Changes Attributed
- 14 Studies Conducted

-teacher compensation; qualifications (1920)

-A women in the senate (1921)

-Disarmament Conference (1933)

Female Rep on Medical Commission

-Promotion of World Peace (1937)

-Study of Sex Discrimination (1937)

-Racial Intolerance (1941)

-Student Tax Exemption (1958)

Amendment to Estate Tax Act (1959)

-Post War Problems (1943)

-Welfare of Indians (1944)

-Declaration of Humans Rights (1949)

Penal Reform-Federal and Provincial (1949)

-Patriotism (1949)

-Study of Equal Pay for Women

-Citizen Act Amendment (1960)

-Housekeeper Tax Exemption (1958)

-Divorce (1949)

-Young Offenders: Media Presence in Court (1978)

-Tax Deductions for Tuition of Dependent (1975)

-Divorce and Separation (1964)

-Contraception and the Criminal Code (1964)

-Marriage Age (1967)

-Women and the Indian Act (1969)

-Abortion (1970)

-Child Care- National Legislation (72/87/88/91/06)

-Pensions for MPs (1973)

-Citizenship Act- Sex Discrimination (1973)

-Ethanol Blended Gasoline (1992)

-Women's Prison (1978)

-Elections Act (1980)

Charitable Donations (1980)

-Registered Pension Account (1986)

-Armed Forces and Women (1987)

-New Reproductive Technologies

-Restoration of Court Challenges Program (1992)

-Division of CPP/QPP (1994)

-Tobacco Health- Education (1997)

-Stay at Home Parenting (1999)

CIA cont'd

That building of influence comes with building a reputation for being a reasonable and reasoning organization. This is a reputation that CFUW and UWC, as part of that organization, carefully nurtures. And we do hear/see recognition of our efforts. When we speak, we are carefully that our point of view is well researched and views are supported by facts.

Five years ago, the then Speaker of the House, The Honourable Myrna Driedger, read a letter that this Club had written about behaviour of members of the house. We essentially said that the public expected better behaviour from our politicians. Did it change things? Not as much as we would have hoped BUT it did provide the Speaker with ammunition to support her crusade to 'make the House a more respectful venue for the exchange of ideas'.

So, let's continue to try to make a difference. Join the Current Issues and Action Committee, come to us with ideas of things that need the attention of a group of committed women, sign a petition of a sister organization. (like the one below)

Petition to the Government of Canada: Single Senior Women and Federal Tax Equity

CFUW individual members are encouraged to support this petition put forward by BPWCanada regarding Single Senior Women and Federal Tax Equity.

THE SHOEBOX PROJECT

Please join us in our annual Shoebox project

Every year we make Christmas boxes for women in shelters and experiencing homelessness. Won't you please join us.

Make a Shoebox full of useful daily essentials, (\$50) value.

Find guidelines at <https://www.shoeboxproject.ca/how-to-make-a-shoebox>

Drop it at the University Women's Club of Winnipeg by Thursday, December 5th and we will make sure that it is delivered.

FRCH

Hello Everyone

Friends have been busy since September with several projects on the go.

- * Imrie Demolition removed their temporary fencing and the new fence at the back parking area of the house is in place- there is a small section left that will be completed soon.
- * Regan Philpott has completed the repairs to the mezzanine area - the wall and large section of the wood paneling. Regan dealt with many challenges while doing those repairs, but as usual did an excellent job.
- * Concrete Restoration Services has now leveled and repaired the south sidewalk and driveway. They will be replacing a six foot area of the concrete at the north entrance in the Spring of 2026.
- * Parsons Plumbing has been working on replacing some of our heat pumps, thermostats, and wiring to the pumps. It is a work in progress and should be completed within the next few weeks.

The FRCH Board will be busy in the coming months applying for grants for upcoming projects in 2026.

Your Friends of The Ralph Connor House Inc Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support. It has been greatly appreciated! 😊

The Board wishes you all a very Merry Christmas, and Health and Happiness in the New Year! 🎉

Holiday Club Closure

The festive season is fast approaching. The Board has approved closure of the club from **December 19, 2025** to **January 5, 2026** inclusive. Club operations will resume on **Tuesday January 6.**

The Season of Giving

The 2026 calendars are appearing and once again the UWC is sending out an appeal to our community for any “freebie” scenic wall calendars received from insurance agencies, florists, etc.

Last year 416 calendars were collected. They were divided between Deer Lodge Centre, Misericordia, and Victoria Hospital. The hospitals really appreciate receiving the calendars, which brighten up the patients’ rooms. Deer Lodge Centre finds that the calendars are an important tool to assist their dementia patients in orienting to the days and seasons.

As usual, there will be prizes for the calendars from the furthest point internationally, nationally and locally as well as a prize for the person who donates the largest number of calendars.

Congratulations to Eleanor Stardom who started the project twenty-two years ago. She will be collecting calendars until Friday, January 2, 2026.

School is in session and brain food is needed!

Please bring in your donations for the **Mulvey School snack program** by December 12th and Rhoda Sewell will deliver them so they can be used before the holiday break. You can find the red donation basket in the room with the Keurig machine, near the parishioners door.

STILL LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT GIFT



Our UWC Gift of Membership gift card is the perfect gift that lasts all year long. For the \$100 Introductory fee new members will enjoy all the many benefits UWC has to offer.

Become a UWC Member

Now is the perfect time to join UWC! For just \$100, enjoy an exclusive *Introductory Year* membership packed with incredible benefits. Don't miss out—unlock new opportunities, connect with a thriving community, and make the most of everything UWC has to offer!



Exclusive rental discounts
at the historic Ralph
Connor House



Members-only programs
designed to inspire and
engage



Access to continuing
education courses to
expand your knowledge



Vibrant social groups
catering to a variety of
interests and passions

Check out our website at www.uwcwpgmb.com for more details. You may also download the application form [here](#) or email uwcmember@mymts.net.

DECEMBER MENUS

MEALS BY WESTGATE CATERING

The regular price for club lunches is \$25.00. The cash bar opens at 11:30 AM, and lunch is served at 12:00 PM. Wednesday dinners cost \$35.00, with the cash bar opening at 5:30 PM and dinner served at 6:00 PM. Meal prices include buns, coffee or tea, taxes, and gratuity.

To secure your spot, sign up [online](#), email uwc@mymts.net, visit in person, or call 204-954-7880. To avoid penalties, you must cancel at least 24 hours in advance.

Menu substitutions are available if requested in advance, and any special preferences, such as seating or parking, should be indicated at the time of reservation.

Please note reservation deadlines:

Tuesday lunches — reservations close the previous Friday at noon

Wednesday Program dinners — reservations close the previous Monday at noon

Friday Program lunches — reservations close the previous Wednesday at noon

Tuesday lunch menus

2nd	Beef stir fry, rice, and apple pie
9th	Chicken Caesar salad, garlic toast, and chocolate cake
16th	Vegetable soup, assorted sandwiches, and assorted dainties ***price for this meal is \$15***

Program meal and menu

12th	Lunch - Tortiere with beet relish OR chicken pot pie ***please indicate when registering***, spinach salad, cranberry upside down cake with whipping cream
17th	Dinner - Roast turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, orange glazed carrots, green beans almondine, strawberry almond salad, and yule log ***price for this meal is \$40***



UNIVERSITY
WOMEN'S
CLUB

2025

December

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 UWC Christmas Decorating	2 10:00 Mahjong 11:30 Club Bar and Lunch 1:00 Contemporary Book Club Poinsettia Delivery	3 10:00 Scrabble and Babble	4 1:15 Sunroom 2:30 FRCH Board Meeting	5 UWC is Closed External Event	6
7	8 UWC is Closed	9 11:30 Club Bar and Lunch 1:00 Social Bridge	10 1:00 Wednesday Book Club	11 1:00 Finance Meeting 1:15 Sunroom 7:00 External Event	12 11:30 UWC - Engage Program Lunch and Choir	13 External Event
14 External Event	15 UWC is Closed	16 10:00 Mahjong 11:30 Club Bar and Lunch 1:15 Board Meeting	17 1:30 CIA Committee Meeting 5:30 Program Dinner	18 1:15 Sunroom Bulletin Submissions Due	19 UWC is Closed for the holidays	20
21	22	23 External Event	24	25 Christmas Day	26	27
28	29	30	31 New Years Eve!	New Years Day!		