

CFUW AURORA/NEWMARKET SPEAKERS – 2019 – 2020

**Tuesday September 24, 2019
7:00 p.m. for 7:30 start**



**Debbie Dew and Artists from
L'Arche Daybreak**

**Celebrating 50 Years of L'Arche
in Canada:
Our Story through the Arts**

L'Arche, a community with and for adults with developmental disability, began in Canada in 1969 on a large farm property on Yonge Street in Richmond Hill. The second L'Arche community in the world (the first being founded by Jean Vanier in 1964 in the village of Trosly-Breuil, France), it came to be called "L'Arche Daybreak." The mission of L'Arche is to help persons with a developmental disability flourish and develop their gifts through life in a supportive community built on relationships of mutuality. One of the gifts to flourish has been their creativity and artistic expression.

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of L'Arche in Canada, Richmond Hill artist and L'Arche Board Member and friend, Jacquie Boughner, curated an online art show, which features one artist from each of the 31 L'Arche communities across Canada. The show can be viewed at: <http://art.larche.ca/en/main-gallery/>

The L'Arche Daybreak Craft Studio, which began 23 years ago, includes workshops focused on ceramics, candle-making and visual art (paper and card making and fine art.) Debbie Dew, herself an expert potter, with years of experience working with people, has coordinated the Daybreak Studio almost since its inception and is passionate about awakening and supporting the creativity and unique gifts of each artist. She will talk about what that process is like, together with one of the individuals who has inspired and surprised her.

**Tuesday October 22, 2019
7:00 p.m. for 7:30 start**



Zarina Nekzai

**One Woman's Journey from
Afghanistan**

Zarina Nekzai is from Afghanistan and is recognized for building an outdoor ice hockey rink for girls in Kabul in a quest to fight for women's rights and gender equality. The joy that she witnessed at the hockey rink inspired her to write a book, "Hockey Girls of Kabul." She continues to feel the need to do more to help women and girls across the world who feel as though they have been left behind.

Zarina recognizes that she is now "privileged to be living in a country where access to education sets the foundation for community life, where inclusion and protection from discrimination are valued and where gender equality and empowering women and girls is a priority and continuous mission"

Zarina will tell the story of her journey from Afghanistan and share her Big Dream for the future. Zarina lives in Barrie and is a member of CFUW Aurora Newmarket.

**Tuesday November 26, 2019
7:00 p.m. for 7:30 start**



Kathryn Morton

**Maplelea
Canadian Dolls for Girls**

In 2003, after a decade of research Kathryn Morton was proud to launch a product line of dolls that would align with the values she wanted to instill in her own daughter. She didn't want to emphasize body image, dating, glamour and sophistication like so many dolls lining toy shelves today. Maplelea dolls were designed to be positive, age-appropriate role models for girls aged 6-12+. They promote healthy active lifestyles and a knowledge and pride of the country we call home.

In the global world in which we live it is increasing important for our young people to have an understanding and appreciation of what makes Canada unique—our history, our landscapes, and our wonderfully diverse culture. Through the detailed stories in the journals and pages that accompany Maplelea dolls and their accessories, Canadian kids not only learn about what life is like in other parts of Canada, but see themselves reflected in the shared Canadian experiences and interests of the Maplelea Girls. It has been Kathryn's hope that the Maplelea stories inspire children to actively explore and celebrate all things Canadian.

Maplelea Canadian Girl dolls, accessories, doll furniture and matching clothing for girls are distributed exclusively online at www.maplelea.com, and through their store in Newmarket, ON.

**Tuesday January 28, 2020
7:00 p.m. for 7:30 start**



**Deborah Kesheshian,
Margaret Bahen Hospice,
Newmarket**

**Hospice: The Way Healthcare is
Meant to Be**

Deborah Kesheshian, Doane House and Margaret Bahen Hospice, Newmarket
"Hospice: The Way Healthcare is Meant to Be"

Deborah has been the Director of Development for Margaret Bahen Hospice and Doane House Hospice since 2017. She has a passion for hospice care since her own father died at Hospice Georgian Triangle. She was very grateful for the dignified and compassionate care her father was given and for the support the family received.

Hospice is a continuum of care, that can begin very early in a person's diagnosis with a life-limiting illness. Doane House Hospice has offered community care for those with a terminal illness who are living at home since it opened in 1989. Staff and volunteers also offer care for the care-givers, specializing in grief and bereavement support. Margaret Bahen Hospice is a 10-bed facility that opened in November 2017. It provides 24/7 nursing-medical care, social work services, spiritual support, pharmacy & complementary therapies to care for residents and their families. Over 150 volunteers are currently involved.

Deborah will help us understand the scope and service of hospice care in our region today.

Tuesday February 25, 2020
*****Afternoon Meeting*****
1:00 p.m. for 1:30 start



**Kelly Mathews, Author of
*Eaton Hall: Pride of King
Township***

History of Eaton Hall

**Kelly Mathews - Author Eaton Hall: Pride of King Township
"History of Eaton Hall"**

In 1901, Florence McCrea Eaton married into one of the most prosperous families in the Dominion of Canada. Fourteen years later she became Lady Eaton when her husband, John Craig Eaton, was knighted. Not long after the death of her husband, Lady Eaton retired from her home in Toronto to the seventy-two-room, Norman-style chateau she had built on their King City property. She named it Eaton Hall. The estate fueled the local economy and community, supported the Canadian World War II effort and established a firm place in the hearts and minds of the residents of King Township. Rediscover an enchanting and bygone age with the life and history of Lady Eaton and her grand Eaton Hall.

Author and local historian Kelly Mathews will present the fascinating story behind Eaton Hall. Ms. Mathews is an employee of Seneca College and a graduate of York University's Kinesiology and Sport Administration program. She is a member of local historical societies in King and Aurora, and a long-standing member of the King Township Heritage Advisory Committee and the King museum.

Eaton Hall: Pride of King Township was published in 2015. Her second book, *The Road to Marylake*, in 2017. Ms. Mathews has been commissioned to write the definitive history of King Township, scheduled for publication in 2020. Some have speculated that Eaton Hall is haunted, although Ms. Mathews reported in an interview with YorkRegion.com that she has never encountered anything unusual during her hundreds of hours working alone in Eaton Hall, often late into the night, while researching her book. However she has discovered some eerie things, including a two-faced portrait of Sir John Craig Eaton.

Copies of *Eaton Hall: Pride of King Township* will be available for sale at the meeting.

Tuesday March 24, 2020
7:00 p.m. for 7:30 start



**Arlene Stephenson,
"Downsizing Diva"**

Downsizing: All the Right Moves

Arlene Stephenson has been a York Region resident for over 30 years and is passionate about supporting her community and assisting seniors through the challenge of downsizing, de-cluttering, organizing and moving. Arlene holds the Downsizing Diva franchise for Newmarket, Aurora, Richmond Hill, Thornhill and King City.

With a Certified Professional Consultant on Aging (CPCA) designation, Arlene has a deep appreciation of the challenges associated with growing older and is prepared to offer insight, service and support to seniors who need to organize and/or move. Arlene believes we all have a role to play in helping to create a world that each of us would like to age into. She is honoured to be able to pursue this passion through her work with seniors at Downsizing Diva.

**Tuesday April 28, 2020
7:00 p.m. for 7:30 start**



**Debbie Pond, Director
U-R Home**

**Human Trafficking in “Our
Backyard”**

Human Trafficking – we think it only happens to people living “over there” but it can happen to ANYONE and is happening in “our backyard.” Survivors say they lived in our communities but were UNSEEN!

Debbie Pond is Executive Director and a founding member of U-R Home, a York Region charity that works to bring awareness to human trafficking and develop supports to assist survivors in having the life they desire. Debbie came to her passion for this work after a 35-year career as a Royal Canadian Mounted Police Officer. She retired in 2013 to advocate for vulnerable and marginalized individuals. She brings her breadth of experience as a former frontline officer to her volunteer work in a related group called Defend Dignity, which advocates for change in our laws and policies around the many forms of sexual exploitation. Debbie sits on numerous anti-human trafficking committees and works collaboratively with other like-minded agencies to address human trafficking and sexual exploitation in our communities.

Debbie’s love for people and travel has taken her on numerous volunteer trips to Africa where she works with young girls and women to empower them and give them the tools to effect change in their communities. In recognition of her work, Debbie was awarded the Member Order of Merit of the Police Forces Medal in 2007 and the International Woman of Courage Award in 2017.

Debbie will discuss what human trafficking entails, the varied forms of exploitation, what it looks like in “our backyard”, how to recognize signs of trafficking and recruitment tactics. She will also look at the role social media plays in human trafficking and how the mindset of a trafficked person impacts their ability to “just leave.”

Debbie believes that we can end all forms of human trafficking but it is each person’s responsibility to challenge the harmful attitudes and stereotypical norms in our society. She will share her experience of walking with survivors and the realities of their lives after exiting. She will challenge you to become an advocate to assist in ending human trafficking in “our backyard”.

**Tuesday May 12, 2020
May Celebration
TBA**