

Corner Brook Status of Women Council

NEWSLETTER - May 2021

Mother's Day Stories

Tissue Paper Flowers

There's not a lot that stands out in my memory about primary school, however, I vividly remember creating tissue paper and pipe cleaner flowers in a wall paper/construction paper/whatever the teacher could find paper vase every year for Mother's Day. They were far from fancy but they were overflowing with love.

The Friday before Mother's day in 2015, my daughter's first year in school, a co-worker asked me what I was hoping to receive. Without pause I let him know that all I wanted was my tissue paper and pipe cleaner flowers in a construction paper vase. My co-worker asked if I had mentioned this to my daughter, my husband, her babysitter, or her teacher. I had not. He just shook his head and told me that he hoped I would not be too disappointed.



Had I been named a Nobel Prize winner that weekend the certificate would not have accompanied me. That Monday morning I beamed with pride as I carefully displayed my brand new, lovingly crafted tissue paper and pipe cleaner flowers in a construction paper vase. To this day they are the best flower's I've ever received. - Valetta

How Many Mother's Days?

A man stopped at a flower shop to order some flowers to be wired to his mother who lived two hundred miles away.

As he got out of his car he noticed a young girl sitting on the curb sobbing.

He asked her what was wrong and she replied, "I wanted to buy a red rose for my mother.

But I only have seventy-five cents, and a rose costs two dollars."

The man smiled and said, "Come on in with me. I'll buy you a rose."

He bought the little girl her rose and ordered his own mother's flowers.

As they were leaving he offered the girl a ride home.

She said, "Yes, please! You can take me to my mother."

She directed him to a cemetery, where she placed the rose on a freshly dug grave.

The man returned to the flower shop, canceled the wire order, picked up a bouquet and drove the two hundred miles to his mother's house.

- Author Unknown

Upcoming:

Our Feminist Book Club is expanding every month. This month's book is my personal favorite so far: *All the Young Men* by Ruth Coker Burks. The virtual/in-person meeting will be 7pm, Tuesday, May 11th. Call us for more details, there is still time to join.

I love all the fun celebrations in early May! May first is May Day, a pagan celebration marking the halfway point between the start and end of spring. This is followed quickly by Star Wars Day on May fourth; don't be surprised if on this day you receive a "May the fourth be with you" when you are saying goodbye to friends and coworkers. Wrapping up the fun Cinco de Mayo falls on the fifth of May, in Mexico it is a celebration of heritage, in Newfoundland it is commonly a celebration of taco's. Mmmmm, taco's.

Sunday, May 9th - Mother's Day - Please take a moment to recognize, thank and celebrate all the mom's in your life.

Monday, May 24th - Victoria Day - We will be closed this Monday but will be opening to the public again at 8:30am on Tuesday, May 25th.

The Final Word:

Hi! My name is Sydney Allen, and I am so excited to be joining the team here at the Corner Brook Status of Women's Council. Beginning in the first week of May, 2021, I will be offering single session, drop-in counselling with a women-centered approach to mental health for any female identifying persons in the Corner Brook and surrounding areas. I hold a bachelor's degree in Social Work from Memorial University of Newfoundland, and will be providing safe and therapeutic environments of

counselling for women who are struggling with any multitude of life experiences and need a space to chat one-on-one.

This new drop-in counselling service at the Women's Centre will take place in 1-hour sessions on a first come, first serve basis, with counselling also available via telephone or video. I will then be available for anything you may need guidance with, from advocacy and assistance navigating systems, to supplying information on relevant and current community services, to overall support or crisis intervention. The hope is that with this new option available to women we will be able to alleviate long wait-times and barriers in being able to receive counselling for females in our region.

Outside of this job, I hope to be spending the majority of my time taking advantage of the beautiful landscapes the West Coast has to offer throughout the upcoming spring and summer seasons. One of my newfound favorite activities in the past few years is hiking as I am able to combine my love for nature and being outside with exercise, while exploring new scenery each time. If not doing this, you can find me with my two dogs, trying to spend time with friends and family, and eating good food along the way!

I look forward to meeting lots of new individuals throughout my time in this role and believe it will be a great way for us to empower and uplift each other together. If you feel you may be in need of extra support or even just want to say hi, feel free to avail of this outlet. Stop by the Women's Centre on 2 Carmen Avenue from 8:30-4:30 on Mondays and Wednesdays to meet with me, or touch base with me over the phone at 709-639-8522 or email at counsellor.cbswc@gmail.com.