

1. *Viewers profoundly affected by film at CW4WAfghan-Halton Fundraiser*
2. *Ottawa Symposium Thanks Champion of Education in Afghanistan Award Winners*
3. *We Couldn't Do it Without You*
4. *Highlighting A Sustaining Supporter - ETFO*
5. *Additional Reading -Exciting News*

Viewers profoundly affected by Film at CW4WAfghan-Halton Fundraiser

By Linda Middaugh

On Thursday October 20, at Film.ca in Oakville, CW4WAfghan Halton members welcomed over 50 guests who attended their fall fundraiser. Guests viewed the acclaimed, award winning documentary film *Frame by Frame*. After decades of war and an oppressive Taliban regime, four Afghan photojournalists face the realities of building a free press in a country left to

stand on its own – reframing Afghanistan for the world and for themselves. This film had a distinct Canadian connection as one of the four photojournalists, *Farzana Wahidy*, pictured above, attended Loyalist College in Belleville, Ontario on a scholarship. The others featured in the documentary are Farzana's husband, Pulitzer prize winning photojournalist Massoud Hossaini along with Wakil Kohsar and Najibullah Musafar. The film had a profound effect on the audience that evening. Thank you to those who attended and to the Women's Arts Association of Canada for their support. Together we raised \$800 for teacher training in Afghanistan.



Ottawa Symposium Thanks Champion of Education in Afghanistan Winners



Linda Middaugh and Louise Pascale receive their Champion of Education in Afghanistan Award

By Dale Butterill

CW4WAfghan Symposium Afghanistan Ascending-Strengthening Education Together Ottawa 2016

The annual symposium was yet another outstanding learning experience and the icing on the cake was seeing Halton's Linda Middaugh receive the prestigious *Champion of Education for Girls and Women in Afghanistan* Award. **Linda Middaugh** is the first Halton chapter member to be honoured in this way. **Dr. Louise Pascale**, Executive Director of *The Afghan Children's Songbook Project* and symposium speaker, also received the award.

In **Lauryn Oates**, Programs Director's keynote address, *'The Innovation Tree: Planting the Seeds for a Thriving Future in Afghanistan,'* she articulated how **CW4WAfghan's** specialized approach to program development has allowed us to 'go deep,' and develop high expertise in important areas. She discussed how CW4WAfghan pays attention to emerging opportunities that can become new areas of focus such as: storybook production and distribution, educational technology, digital literacy and computer science education. Tracking results and assessing programs' impacts enables CW4WAfghan staff to fine tune and make necessary adjustments to our programs. The

Darakht-e Danesh Library which provides Afghan teachers with direct access to educational resources is a good example of CW4WAfghan's innovative, solution-oriented approach to programs.

On Saturday, **Khalil Shariff**, Chief Executive Officer, *Aga Khan Foundation Canada*, delivered a truly inspirational keynote that lifted the spirits in the room. He noted that where 'despair rules' families cannot invest in the future and stated the antidote to despair is hope. The goal of development work is to build a successful society. The framework he described for accomplishing this, the Architecture of Hope, contains five fundamental principles:

- Let the community lead and align with the progressive forces;
- Build and sustain strong institutions outside of government for stability;
- Make massive investments in people;
- Take the long-term view. Change does not happen on a short timetable;
- Reject all silver bullets. Development work is multi-pronged, not one thing, e.g., poverty reduction.

He commended CW4WAfghan for applying these principles and ended by reminding us never to underestimate the power of our support.



We were blessed with many other outstanding speakers including Dr. **Rebecca Miller**, Chief of Staff, American University of Afghanistan and **Sally Armstrong**, award winning journalist, expert human rights activist and friend of CW4WAfghan members. Without a doubt, we left Ottawa enriched and enlightened.

We Couldn't Do it Without You

By Linda Middaugh

CW4WAfghan-Halton (formerly CSAW) thanks you for your interest, time, financial and in-kind support over the last 18 years. Since 1999, your contributions have resulted in thousands of Afghan children being able to get an education. It's remarkable! As of Dec. 31, 2016, we have received \$722,500.00 in donations that we distributed to our partners in Afghanistan. Once again, we are pleased to name our **long-term, sustaining donors: Women of Halton Action Movement (WHAM), Zonta Club of Oakville, Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario-Halton Local, Brampton Business and Professional Women's Group, Ontario Secondary School Teachers-District 20 Halton and Kortright Hills Public School, Guelph.** We applaud the many named below for their support this past year:

-The **Women of Halton Action Movement (WHAM) & Zonta of Oakville** who donated \$20,000 from their 2016 International Women's Day Dinner Party (IWD) for a 13 year total to over \$154,200.00!!!

-The **Ontario Secondary School Federation (District 20 Halton) & the Elementary**

Teachers' Federation of Ontario-Halton Local who sponsored and attended the 2016 IWD Dinner Party fundraiser and directly contributed to Afghan teachers' salaries by donating \$750 from each teacher's union for teacher training as well as a \$500 sponsorship and over 6 tables of tickets!

- **Ms. Sheila Zanyk**, a member of our steering committee, and **her enrichment students at Kortright Hills Public School in Wellington** who for the fifth year, held an Evening of Arts that raised over \$800 in donations

- **Brampton Business and Professional Women** who donated \$800 towards the **Lantern Fund** for teacher training in Afghanistan

- The **Retired Teachers of Ontario** who awarded us a \$3,000 grant to purchase an Afghan school starter kit consisting of a mini-library and a science kit.

- **St. George's Lowville Anglican Church** that provided storage, meeting and event space for our organization.

- **Marianne Vanderwel** who produced our newsletter for 2016 by donating her financial and publishing skills.

- **Our supporters** who donate every year, some as many as 18 years!

- **Our volunteers and our customers**, who assisted us in selling over \$5300 worth of Afghan goods and books this year.



Bette sells goods in Oakville



Elaine sells goods at Forestview

Highlighting a Sustaining Supporter- ETFO

By Linda Middaugh

What a Friend We Have in ETFO! The **Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario-ETFO** has supported our efforts to advance educational opportunities for Afghan women and their families for over 15 years! Both the **provincial ETFO** organization and the **local ETFO in Halton** have contributed to the success of our organization. They provided monetary support for the first conference that we held in Burlington, Ontario in 2003 as well as sponsoring additional national conferences held in various cities in Canada over the last several years. In 2012 when we hosted the national conference in Oakville, they became the premier sponsor of a dinner honouring women's advocate, journalist and author, Sally Armstrong, who has shone a light on the plight of women in Afghanistan since 1996.

At the local Halton level, we have received funding of over \$11,000 for the education of girls and women in Afghanistan including teacher training programs that we call **The Lantern Fund**. Since 2000, ETFO has also been a founding sponsor of the community event called *The Dinner Party*, a celebration of **International Women's Day** that also raises money for our organization. To date, ETFO's sponsorship is well over \$7500 at this event. ETFO was the main organization that contributed to the success and to the large attendance of the Dinner Party by promoting the event to teachers' groups in Halton. Our education program, *Canadians as Global Citizens*, has been supported by ETFO-Halton by providing teacher training and resources for local teachers interested in



implementing the program in partnership with our chapter. They have purchased and provided every elementary school library in Halton with the *Breadwinner Trilogy*, a book written by award winning Canadian children's author, Deborah Ellis, that tells the story of Parvana, an Afghan girl in the time of the early Taliban. ETFO has also provided our local group with a meeting room for our monthly meetings.

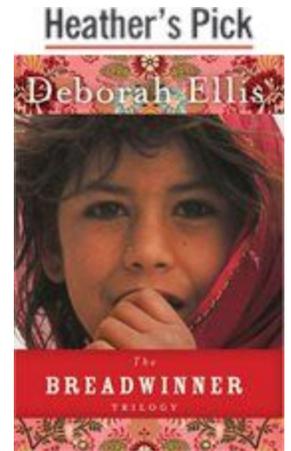
Simply put, both **ETFO-Halton** and the **provincial ETFO** organization have been incredible supporters of *Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan* nationally as well as locally. ETFO, you have contributed to the success we have achieved over the last 18 years. THANK YOU!

Additional Reading - Exciting News

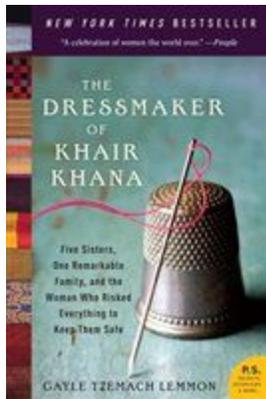
By Elaine Scott

The Breadwinner: The Movie

Deborah Ellis wrote the novel *The Breadwinner* after becoming aware of the brutal treatment of women and girls by the Taliban in the 1990's. The main character, Parvana, is motivated to take a job after her mother loses her job and her father is unjustly arrested. Parvana cuts her hair to disguise herself as a boy in order to earn money to save her family from starvation. **The exciting news is that an animated movie based on this book is now being created!** Angelina Jolie Pitt will be the Executive Producer for the upcoming film. Jolie Pitt said, "I am delighted to be working with a talented team of artists who I know will do justice to the richness, creativity and strength of the Afghan culture and to little girls like Parvana." The film is scheduled for release in North America in the Fall of 2017 and there will be a movie tie in edition of the story available in paperback in August 2017.



The Dressmaker by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon: Book Review



This is an inspiring story of the resilience of Afghan women and how they rose above the challenges presented to them during the time of the Taliban rule in Afghanistan in the 1990's. This true story presents how five sisters became entrepreneurs in a country where women were made invisible in the public sphere, banned from working and prevented from getting an education. It is indeed a riveting story of triumph over adversity.

“Now, more than ever, your support does matter...
to her life and to yours.”

Please donate. Change a life.

1515 Rebecca Street Ste 227 Oakville ON L6L 5G8

Phone 905 825 3622

Halton@cw4wafghan.ca

www.CW4WAfghan.ca/chapters/halton

For annual and impact reports for CW4WAfghan

<http://www.cw4wafghan.ca/resources/library>