



**BC Council of Garden Clubs
Annual General Meeting
April 25, 2026**

DELEGATES PACKAGE

THE BC Council of Garden Clubs Annual General Meeting and spring meeting will take place from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Saturday, April 25, 2026. It will be held at the Bonsor Recreation Complex, in the Banquet Room, 2nd floor, 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby (behind Metrotown).

One designated voting delegate from each affiliated club member in good standing* will be asked to vote on the AGM minutes from 2025 and on the 2026 nominations.

After a light lunch, there will be a presentation from Dana Cromie, well-known and respected artist and gardener, who will help us explore — and perhaps embrace — our plant addictions!

Remember to bring a prize for the draw table (thank you again to New Westminster Horticultural Society for managing all of the donated prizes). Each guest will have the ability to buy draw tickets (bring small change) throughout the day. It is important to note that all monies raised from the draw table go directly to the BC Council of Garden Clubs scholarship fund.

We also encourage you to share some of your brochures or pamphlets, showcasing events and happenings within your group. Our members love to see what other clubs are doing and bring some of the ideas back to their group. We will have a table ready for you by the stage to display all of your activities.

We have shopping too, with a great group of vendors on site! Again, all the money raised from the vendor fees goes to the BC Council of Garden Clubs scholarship fund.

We are proud to continue the display of our floral art experts during the day. We all love to see the beautiful designs created so floral art and design folks, make sure to get in your entries!

Let's make sure we gardeners show how we love to take care of the environment and **bring our own coffee mugs and our own refillable water bottles!** There's a water station right near the meeting room. 🌿

So lots to see and lots to learn while enjoying the company of fellow gardeners. Make sure to get your registration form in as quickly as possible — <https://bcgardenclubs.com/registration/>. We will see you all there!

Lynda Pasacreta, President
BC Council of Garden Clubs

Email: president@bcgardenclubs.com
Website: www.bcgardenclubs.com

*Affiliated club members in good standing have paid 2026 membership fees.

**BC COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
APRIL 25, 2026
AGENDA**

Cellphones off please!

1. (10:00 - 10:05 AM) — Lynda Pasacreta, Welcome | Announcements
2. (10:05 - 10:05 AM) — **Motion** to approve agenda | **Vote** 🐞
3. (10:05 - 10:10 AM) — **Motion** to approve minutes from April 5, 2025, Annual General Meeting | **Vote**
4. (10:10 - 10:30 AM) — ELECTIONS | **Vote** 🐞
 - Vice President
 - Treasurer
 - Communications Coordinator
 - Chair, Scholarship Fund Committee
5. (10:30 - 10:45 AM) — COFFEE BREAK — visit vendors, buy draw tickets
6. (10:45 - 10:50 AM) — Scholarship Fund Committee Report, Outgoing Chair
7. (10:50 - 11:30 AM) — Sage Kosa, “Garden of Life: Habitat Creation in Our Growing Spaces”, Scholarship Fund Presentation.
8. (11:30 - 12:00 PM) — Floral Design Show — results and comments
9. (12:00 - 1:00 PM) — LUNCH BREAK — visit vendors, buy draw tickets
10. (1:00 - 2:00 PM) — Dana Cromie — “Education of a Plantaholic — How I Came to Learn About Plants and Gardening.”
11. (2:00 - 2:15 PM) — COFFEE BREAK — buy draw tickets, visit vendors
12. (2:15 - 3:00 PM) — DRAW TABLE
13. (3:00 PM) — Closing remarks
14. (3:00 PM) — **Motion** to adjourn General Meeting | **Vote** 🐞

**BC COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
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MOTIONS FOR APPROVAL

We will be asking the membership to approve two motions at the meeting:

1. **Motion** to approve minutes from the 2025 Annual General Meeting.
2. **Motion** to approve election of officers (BCCGC Bylaws, Article 3 — Elections and Appointment of Officers, 4.).
 - Vice President
 - Treasurer
 - Communications Coordinator
 - Chair, Scholarship Fund Committee

Delegates will be given a ladybug paddle at the meeting when signing in at the registration table. Make sure that your delegate is given the paddle. This is how we count votes. Please return the paddle at the end of the meeting.



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VENDORS**

Thank you to our vendors who continue to support our BC Council of Garden Clubs scholarship fund by participating in our in-person meetings. All vendor fees are submitted to the scholarship fund to help upcoming horticultural students.

Remember to visit each one and see what kind of goodies they will have for us to purchase.

Vendor	
Front Yard Farms	Aiden Hooker
My Father's Jams	Janice Bobic
Peatlands	Eliza Olson
Grower's Delight	Dwight Young
Fraser Valley Rose Farm	Jason Croutch
Kelpman	Jim Haliburton

**BC COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS
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REPORTS

1. President:

I am thoroughly enjoying my time at the “front of the room” and will happily continue for another year. If any of our members feel a *little seed of curiosity* about stepping up to my role in 2027, I encourage you to let it grow. The experience is inspiring and invigorating, and it is a joy to connect with fellow gardeners from across our province.

One of the challenges of volunteering is succession planning. Many people are concerned with helping out an organization for the fear of difficulty finding the next person in line for the job. So the hands do not go up to help out.

We often hear replies like “I don’t have enough time,” or “I’d love to, but I am too busy.” I am sure that it is a challenge within many of our 200 garden club and community garden club members.

It is important to note that each of us on the BC Council of Garden Clubs executive team have several obligations but we really enjoy our team and working together to support our membership.

From my two years in the role as president, communications, and newsletter coordinator, I find that my commitments to the BC Council of Garden Clubs only takes up a few hours a month (which I thoroughly enjoy). My obligations to my other volunteering activities take up the majority of my volunteering efforts.

We have done some great things in our communities under the banner of BC Council of Garden Clubs. Folks looking for gardening events in their communities use our website. People looking for great speakers use our information on current speakers (thanks to our second vice president, Ron Ouwerkerk, for refreshing that information). Our website is engaging, easy to use, and three-dimensional due to webmaster Frank Girard’s ongoing work behind the scene. At many of the gardening events I attend, I am meeting young people who have benefitted from our BC Council of Garden Clubs scholarship fund. And we are growing! Because the word is out on the street that the BC Council of Garden Clubs has value. All levels of government in the province are now familiar with our organization.

So be proud, step up, and help us continue to build this organization to promote the value of gardening and how gardeners are an important solution to our climate issues today! Send me an email at president@bcgardenclubs.com. We are looking to fill the **Scholarship Fund** (say yes! – scholarship@bcgardenclubs.com) position on the team (three year role) – this is a great way to get familiar with our team and the organization!

Respectfully,

Lynda Pasacreta
president@bcgardenclubs.com

2. First Vice President:

The BC Council of Garden Clubs Floral Design Judges Committee has made great progress in developing the remainder of the flower arranging courses, levels 1 through 6.

There has been Level 1 - Introduction to Traditional Design classes in both Victoria and Mid- Island. The floral design judges have been trained to teach Level 2 – Introduction to Contemporary Design. The accompanying student books and instructor books have now been proofread.

The next step is to revise the BCCGC Floral Design Judging and Exhibiting Standards Manual.

Some of the BCCGC floral design judges have been taking Advanced Judges Training on Zoom hosted by NAFAS in the United Kingdom. Four of these floral design judges took part in judging floral design shows in Australia while they were there for a World Association of Floral Artists (WAFA) seminar. A great accomplishment for our judges to be able to judge floral art on the international stage.

As First Vice President, I am responsible for all the BCCGC floral design judges and the BCCGC horticultural judges in the province. I am also the chairperson of the Floral Design Judges Committee and the Horticultural Judges Committee. BCCGC offers on-line courses to become a horticultural judge and in-person courses to learn how to make flower arrangements and in-person courses to become a Floral Design Judge.

If you would like to take any courses offered by BCCGC I would love to hear from you!

Respectfully,

Cindy Tataryn

1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com

3. Second Vice President

Day of Event (DOE) insurance FAQ is on the website now. The DOE insurance may be a useful tool for your events, functions, and other activities in order to ensure that attendees or volunteers at events or functions who are not members of your club are covered by insurance. However, the DOE insurance is a “one-off” insurance and cannot be used again in a calendar year. For non-members attending events or functions for your community garden or garden club on a multiple basis in a calendar year, you may wish to consider “Associate” or “Non-Voting” members for your garden or club. The only real cost that these members need to bear is the \$2 for the insurance. They will then be covered by the BCCGC insurance umbrella.

Respectfully,

Ron Ouwerkerk

2vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com

4. Treasurer

Our records were reviewed in January 2026 after the end of our fiscal year by Joyce Whinan, a member of one of our affiliated clubs. She found them to be in order and has given us a letter to that effect.

The budget for 2026 was approved by the membership at the Fall 2025 meeting. It shows a predicted profit of \$1,740 mainly because any expenses are kept to a minimum.

We hold two meetings a year, one in spring, which is our AGM, and another in the fall. Both of these meetings run at a loss because we provide excellent speakers and a catered lunch for our members whilst charging them for registration for these meetings at less than cost. All of the proceeds from the vendor tables and the draw table at the meetings go to the Scholarship Fund. Our largest source of so-called income is for insurance collected from member clubs. However, BCCGC makes no profit on these premiums as they are forwarded in full to the insurance company. Our executive are all volunteers and receive no remuneration for their positions, while costs are kept to a minimum so that overall we remain in a good position financially. We currently have several term deposits amounting to a total of \$19,510.84 and the balance in our current account at the end of February was \$47,882.71. Of this amount, we will be paying the insurance company for outstanding premiums, plus at the time of writing, we still have to make most of the payments for the two meetings to be held during this year.

I am confident that this report provides a clear overview of the Council's finances. Please feel free to raise any questions at the upcoming meeting.

Respectfully,

Ann Peters

treasurer@bcgardenclubs.com

5. Chair, Scholarship Fund Committee

Scholarship Fund Committee

Betty Girard — Chair (2023 – 2026)

Debbie Mellenger — Treasurer (2024-2027)

Pam Robertson — Secretary (2025-2028)

Supporting future horticulturists financially is way to help provide stability and your gift helps keep students housed, fed, and on the move!

Donations and Revenue

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we raised \$14,035.40 in 2025. There was a 25% increase in the number of individuals and groups that donated compared to 2024 with 8 individuals and 27 groups making donations this year.

Individual Donations

Martine and Charly Arnold	\$200
Patricia E Molnar	\$100
Jennifer and Richard Zuk	\$100
Deborah Mellenger	\$196
Betty Girard	\$559
Diane Cardoso	\$75
Shaundehl Runka	\$100
Anonymous	\$50

Group Donations

Gorge Park Community Garden	\$100
Bowen Island Garden Club	\$100
Society of Horticultural and Floral Design Judges BC	\$100
Heights Garden Society	\$250
View Royal Garden Club	\$100
South Surrey Garden Club	\$400
Vancouver Dahlia Society	\$700
Richmond Garden Club	\$100
South Burnaby Garden Club	\$100
Upper Lonsdale Garden Club	\$150
Clayton Park Community Garden	\$80
Dunbar Garden Club	\$3500
Floral Artists of the Fraser Valley	\$250
Castlegar Garden Club	\$280
North Surrey Horticultural Society	\$300
Creston Valley Garden Club	\$500
BC Floral Art Judges (in honour of Valerie Best)	\$200
South Delta Garden Club	\$500
TRU Friends of the Garden	\$250

Capilano Garden Club	\$100
BC Floral Art Society	\$100
Upper Lonsdale Garden Club	\$150
Seed to Sky Garden Club	\$150
Vancouver Rose Society	\$500
New Westminster Horticultural Society	\$400
Dogwood Pavilion Seniors Society	\$1000
North Island Rhododendron Society	\$500

Revenue from BCCGC Meetings

2025 AGM	\$895.40
2025 Fall Meeting	
	<u>\$900.00</u>

Total Donations and Revenue in 2025: \$14,035.40

Vancity Community Foundation Statement of Account 2025

Opening Balance (January 1, 2025)	\$ 330,942.86
Disbursement to institutions in 2025	\$ 14,000.00
Expense allocation	\$ 4,736.35
Closing balance (December 31, 2025)	\$ 387,920.81
Funds available for disbursement in 2026	\$ 15,517.00

Disbursement to Academic Institutions 2025

We disbursed a total of \$14,000 to 12 different programs offered through 9 academic institutions. The programs varied in length from certificates to graduate degrees. KPU Farm School was added to our list of supported programs in 2025. Unfortunately, the SFU Master of Integrated Pest Management program remains closed to new admissions, so we were unable to award the BCCGC Mildred Wells Graduate Scholarship in 2025.

Academic Institution	2025
Camosun College	\$ 1,200
Kwantlen Polytechnic University	\$ 1,300
KPU Farm School	\$ 500

Okanagan College	\$ 600
Pacific Horticulture College	\$ 800
Thompson Rivers University	\$1,200
UBC - Rose Bancroft Scholarship	\$ 1,500
UBC - Horticultural Bursary	\$ 1,900
UBC Botanical Garden - Horticulture Training Program	\$ 1,200
University of the Fraser Valley	\$ 1,300
University of Northern BC	\$ 1,500
Vancouver Island University	\$ 1,000
TOTAL	\$ 14,000

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Girard, Chair

scholarship@bcgardenclubs.com



BC COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS

REGISTRATION FORM FOR SPRING MEETING/AGM APRIL 2026

Date: Saturday April 25, 2026

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Place: Bonsor Recreation Complex, 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby

Light lunch

It would be appreciated if each club would donate one garden-related item for the draw. Thank you!

Please register EARLY before April 15, 2026

(Space will be limited)

Registration in advanced is \$40 per person including lunch and refreshments

Late Registration - \$45 payment at the door will be accepted

No refunds after April 15, 2026

Attendee substitutes are acceptable

No telephone registration will be accepted

Register online: <https://bcgardenclubs.com/registration/>

In order to promote your club, please bring your club logo (8" x11") for your table as well any club literature for the information table.

Send registration form and payment payable to **BC Council of Garden Clubs** as follows:

If paying by cheque: Ron Ouwerkerk, 8119 Laval Place, Vancouver BC V5S 4B1

If paying by E-Transfer: treasurer@bcgardenclubs.com

REGISTER EARLY!!! SPACE WILL BE LIMITED!!!

Name of Club: _____

Voting Delegate: _____

Attendees: _____

TOTAL PAYMENT Due: \$_____

BC COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS

ORDER FORM: (For prices and information e-mail Cindy Tataryn at 1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com)

Please indicate your choice with "Yes" or a checkmark:

Judges Manuals:

I would like to order the:

Horticulture Judges Manual _____

Floral Design Judges Manual _____

Judges Courses:

I would like to take the:

Horticulture Judges Course _____

Floral Design Judges Course _____

Flower Arranging Workshops:

I would like to take the Flower Arranging Workshops:

Level 1 _____

Level 2 _____ (Level 1 is a pre-requisite)

Level 3 _____ (Levels 1 - 2 are pre-requisites)

Level 4 _____ (Levels 1 - 3 are pre-requisites)

Level 5 _____ (Levels 1 - 4 are pre-requisites)

Level 6 _____ (Levels 1 - 5 are pre-requisites)

Please print legibly:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Email: _____ Club: _____

Return this form to: (Cheques are payable to: B.C. Council of Garden Clubs)

Cindy Tataryn
16699 - 104 Avenue,
Surrey, BC., V4N 1Z5.

You can also order by email. Send in your request to Cindy Tataryn at: 1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com

