



**Bath Gardening Club
Meeting Minutes
Feb.19, 2026
St. John's Hall
Bath, ON**

Agenda

Welcome: Sylvia welcomed three visitors to the meeting. Two of them, Nancy Krock and Michelle Duchesne became members at the end of the meeting.

Approval of the minutes of November 20th, 2025.

Motion moved by Dawn Ford, seconded by Kim Bonner. Motion approved.

The January meeting was cancelled due to bad weather

Sharing Time:

Heather Campbell recommended gardening based travel tours with HNA TRAVELS as both informative and fun. Their contact information is 613-843 -9900 Toll free 1 -877-672-3030 For more details of her experience, email Heather at hc-smile@bell.net

For help opening and closing gardens, members suggested Bauer Landscaping, Flourish or recruiting high school students to help fulfill their volunteer hour requirements.

Recommendations for repelling rabbits during the winter: Wendy O'Neil suggested googling "rabbit deterrent".

Another recommendation was to use Plant Skid, 99.6% dried blood available at Urban Nature, Reapply monthly. According to Keith McIlwane, it is effective against deer and mice, voles and rabbits.

Sylvia reported that she attended an online, five day **Seed to Harvest Summit**. Three things that kept coming up over most of the 21 workshops were

a) How important it is to amend/feed the soil and the microorganisms that live below vs plants

b) Keeping the soil covered with plant life (giving plants just enough room to grow) and/or applying mulch material to reduce weeds, reduce the need for watering and to bump up vegetable harvests. Plant new crops as you harvest and consider a cover crop in the off season,

c) Deep watering is better than frequent watering to encourage roots to grow deeply and allow enough oxygen to get to the plant as the soil begins to dry. Water when the soil is damp two inches below the surface.

The 1000 Island Master Gardeners host an online workshop every Thursday that anyone is welcome to sign on and attend. A recent one was on seed selection and encouraged us to ask the following questions.

1. Are the seeds local?
2. Native to Ontario/Canada?
3. Are the Heirloom or Open Pollinated? This is important if you wish to save your seeds for another year. Hybrids may not look like the plant you grew or may not grow at all

Upcoming SEEDY SATURDAY Events in our area

- Saturday March 7 2026 10 am -1:00pm at the Brockville Public Library 23 Buell Street
- Saturday March 14 2026 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at Cookes Portsmouth United Church 200 Norman Rogers Drive, Kingston Ontario.

UPDATES:

Treasurer's report:

As of January 31, 2026, we are 5 months into the current fiscal year. At that time, the bank balance was \$14,978.74. The book balance was \$14,819.74. The difference is two deposits received on October 20th (\$105 and \$50) that have not been accounted for as yet. As of this writing, I have yet to see if the bank can shed any light on this difference. The remaining \$4 is the bank service charge which I need to determine is paid in advance or a liability on the current accounts rendered.

It looks as if winter time is a quiet season for revenues and expenses...but we have received almost \$2000 in fees paid by vendors for the 2026 Sunday Market. \$187.26 has been paid for Sunday Market expenses. We also had a few people whose New Year's resolution must have been to pay their memberships early. We have collected \$50 in dues.

Marjory Brunsdon applied to the OHA and they have confirmed their donation for tree planting up to \$300.

Membership:

71 members

Those people who have not paid dues to date will be removed from the list.

Programs:

The March meeting date has been changed to March 26. It will be held at the Golf Club. Start time:1:30 pm.

Heather Campbell will present a seminar on Design Elements for Gardening.

PG/MG/Bugtel:

Our club was awarded an OHA Tree Grant, which will be used to purchase 2 Eastern Redbuds for the Memorial Grove. These native trees, with beautiful pink flowers in early

spring, provide a source of nectar to early emerging pollinators and migrating birds. The Township has offered to plant them on our behalf.

Our PG has been added to the David Suzuki Foundation Butterflyway map. It celebrates our commitment to creating a vibrant, pesticide-free space filled with native plants for pollinators. We join 7,600 other habitats across North America! For more info about the Butterflyway, go to <https://davidsuzuki.org/take-action/act-locally/butterflyway/>

We've budgeted to buy grasses and bushes for the garden beds, which will provide layered, season-long resources to pollinators through every life stage. Help with planting would be appreciated.

We'll be photographing and inventorying pollinators during Pollinator Partnership's Annual Bioblitz, which takes place from June 22nd - 28th. We'll host three 1-hour sessions during that week. Our club photographer Don Taylor will be on hand. If photography or bug spotting is your thing, while helping scientists in the process, come join us! For more info about Pollinator Week, go to <https://www.pollinator.org/pollinator-week> To see our bug inventory from last year go to <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/2025-bath-pollinator-garden-and-bugtel>

We haven't inventoried night-pollinating moths at the PG yet, so we'll be attempting to do that one night during National Moth Week, June 19th-27th. Come join us! For more info about National Moth Week, go to <https://nationalmothweek.org/>

Postcards have been created to publicize the PG, MG and Bugtel. We'll be handing them out at the Sunday Market in Bath and other events like Communities in Bloom. If you'd like to participate in any of these activities, please reach out to Kim or Carol.

Fritz's Fertilizer Fundraising

Mixing and Order Pick up will take place on Saturday May 9 at St. John's Hall. Rain or shine. Mixing will be inside the Hall in the morning.

Thank you to those volunteers who have already signed up. We still need help setting up the tables and supplies on Friday May 1 as well mixers and order pick up people. More information regarding price/bag and how to order will follow in March. We already have **52 bags ordered!**

Baaa Bath Gardening Club's Canada Day Parade float

Planning has started and members are welcome to join this fun project.

Parade registration with the Township opens on March 2nd, volunteers are sewing sheep ears, sheep bodies are being readied for decorating and we are looking for wagons and walkers for the parade.

Contact Laurie Minorgan at minorgan138@gmail.com or Diane Nolting at pdnolting@gmail.com if you would like to be part of this. Please note both Diane and Laurie will be out of the country from March 17 to April 4.

Communities in Bloom takes place April 11 th in Napanee. People who have volunteered for past events report that it is a great opportunity to showcase our gardening club, and learn more about other local organizations and resources. Contact Sylvia at sylwhalen@icloud.com for more information or to volunteer at the BGC table. Kim and Carol plan to share their pollinator resources.

This is the link to Communities in Bloom Organization FYI

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=fbf2935c03&attid=0.0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1858556277661597378&th=19caeb1665177ec2&view=fimg&fur=ip&permmsgid=msg-f:1858556277661597378&sz=s0-l75-ft&attid=ANGjdJ-tITmTTU5-Y4KD-rsawaKb-4Y3O7IIP_ytfxpwyCRibU1no27kNqeQC7WasvKjqrwfBnp4Tme1cYX5dTfRMlbBamJFfV0ubZyAmgQN1HZtYRDndWRue3fsg5E&disp=emb&zw

BGC Newsletter and Trillium

Kim Bonner has volunteered to be our new editor. Many thanks, Kim

Role of the Club President

Sylvia provided an overview of the scope and responsibilities related to the roles of the President and Vice President Executive positions:

As President, she is responsible for

- Ensuring all executive positions are filled and that those taking on the roles understand what they are to do.
- Arranging and chairing membership and executive meetings as well as the Annual General Meeting, including finalizing the agendas and minutes.
- Reviewing, responding to and/or forwarding communications coming in and reviewing outgoing messages
- Ensuring that the constitution and any policies developed are followed and are within the guidelines established by the OHA
- Being the conduit from OHA to the BGC and attending District 3 meetings twice a year. Anyone is welcome to attend these meetings and Sylvia would welcome anyone to join her to go to the Spring meeting in Brockville on May 2nd
- Participating in any hands- on events of her own choosing

While the Vice President is a President in waiting, other executive positions can be co-led.

The Sunday Market in Bath

Linda Cohen is the lead for this project and she is looking for 4 or 5 members to share the workload. Linda can be contacted at cohenlinda52@gmail.com for more information.

Speaker:

Kaoru Miller, a tea sommelier and owner of CHA CHA TEA, provided members with a wealth of information about the properties of tea, types of tea and flavours, preparation and the opportunity to taste three different flavours.

Members wanting more information can contact Kaoru at chachatea.com

Next Meeting

March 26, 2026

1:30 pm

Loyalist Golf Club

Bath ON

Speaker: Heather Campbell will present **Garden Design:3 Unique Perspectives**