

**THE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL  
WOMEN'S CLUB OF BRAMPTON CALEDON**



**ANNUAL REPORTS**

**2024 - 2025**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD  
TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025**

**EXECUTIVE MEETINGS HELD  
VIA ZOOM AS REQUIRED**

**GENERAL MEETINGS HELD IN PERSON AT  
LOCATION BY ANNOUNCEMENT  
AND VIA ZOOM AS REQUIRED**

*Making a Difference – A Club for All Working Women.  
The Business and Professional Women's Club of Brampton Caledon is an equality-seeking group toward  
the improvement of economic, employment and social conditions affecting women.*



**A Member of The Business and Professional Women's Clubs of Ontario and  
The Canadian and International Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs  
[www.bpwontario.org](http://www.bpwontario.org) [www.bpwcanada.com](http://www.bpwcanada.com) [www.bpw-international.org](http://www.bpw-international.org)**



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**WE HONOUR OUR PAST PRESIDENTS**

## **The Business and Professional Women's Club of Brampton Caledon** **Annual Reports 2024 – 2025**

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT: LINDA FORD**

My key objectives for the 2024-2025 club year were membership growth, retention, and advocacy through our resolutions. I am pleased to report that we made significant strides in all these areas, thanks to the dedication and teamwork of our members.

We began the club's 78<sup>th</sup> year with a new name: "BPW Brampton Caledon." The club year started with an incredible kick-off meeting, setting a strong foundation for the months ahead. A special thank you to Angela and the team for organizing meetings in various locations and securing engaging speakers, which added diversity and interest to our gatherings.

Our Community Partners this year included Caledon Community Services, Ste. Louise Outreach and Food Bank, Victim Services of Peel, Honeychurch Women's Shelter, and Wellspring Chinguacousy Cancer Support Centre. Many thanks to the Canadian Progressive Club for their partnership on the fundraising drives in the Spring and during the Christmas season.

Pat Dowling successfully transitioned our bookkeeping to QuickBooks, streamlining the club's financial management. She continues to provide detailed monthly financial reports and has taken a leadership role in organizing our special events and fundraisers.

Amanda Graham-Rowe has done an outstanding job keeping our club connected to BPW International and overseeing our KIVA Micro Loans to support women entrepreneurs worldwide.

This year, we hosted two free online workshops focused on personal and professional growth. Congratulations to Nelia De Sousa and the team for organizing these valuable sessions.

Another excellent year for communications! A big thank-you to Sheila Walker for her dedication to ensuring members stayed informed through regular email communications and newsletters.

Sue Perlman did a terrific job staying connected with our members and keeping everyone posted through correspondence.

The club was highly active in advocacy, successfully submitting three federal resolutions, one provincial resolution, and one commendation for Charmaine Williams. This work required extensive research, debate, and fine-tuning, and I commend all those involved in driving these initiatives forward. Thank you, Mina, for leading these advocacy initiatives. Resolutions are really the heartbeat of the work that we do.

Our website and social media presence continue to evolve, adapting to our members' changing needs and technological advancements. Thank you again, Mina.

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We proudly awarded a bursary to a Sheridan College student, reinforcing our commitment to supporting women's education. Thank you to Amanda Graham-Rowe and Angela McKinnon for co-chairing this year's bursary.

### **Contributions Beyond the BPW Brampton Caledon Club**

- Barb Hore continues to excel as BPW District Director of Golden Horseshoe and Southwest Ontario, leading another successful district meeting with an outstanding speaker.
- Rianna Ramesar was elected Vice President of yBPW on the BPW Canada Board - an exciting achievement for our club!
- Barb Hore and Pat Dowling are co-chairing the BPW Ontario 2025 Conference & AGM on September 13, 2025, with our Past President Carol Kollar who is also a Past President of our club and BPW Ontario, providing guidance, demonstrating exceptional leadership while also organizing the annual golf tournament, and meat & seafood drives.
- Mina Di Domenico represented BPW Canada as a delegate at the UN CSW69 conference in NYC and continues to be a strong voice for our club on provincial and federal advocacy committees.

This year has been a testament to the **power of teamwork, dedication, and leadership** within the BPW Brampton Caledon Club. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to every member who contributed to our successes. I look forward to building on this momentum in the year ahead!

***We do good work!***

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Ford  
President

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**PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT: CAROL KOLLAR**

No report.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Kollar  
Past President

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**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT & CHAIR OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS REPORT: AMANDA GRAHAM-ROWE**

As another year comes to a close, I am honored to reflect on my role as BPW Brampton's First Vice President & Chair of International Affairs. Serving as an Executive this year has been a privilege, and I am proud to be part of an organization that makes a significant impact globally.

This year, I:

- Managed our KIVA project: Through the Kiva organization, we expanded financial access to underserved communities, focusing on education and entrepreneurship for women and girls.
- Migrated our books to QuickBooks Online: I provided ongoing support to our treasurer for the recording of our monthly transactions and year-end processes.

As Chair of International Affairs, my goal was to highlight the remarkable work of BPW International, which mentors and empowers women across more than 100 countries on five continents.

BPW International Highlights:

- Inducted a new President, Diana Barragan: She unveiled our triennium theme, "A Call to Action for a Sustainable Future – Inspire, Innovate, Empower, Transform – Together We Shape a Sustainable Future."
- Partnered with the W7 (Women 7 Process): Ensuring women's voices are central to G7 policy discussions and advancing gender-inclusive solutions to global challenges.
- Participated in the 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69): Our collaboration and advocacy influenced international policies on economic empowerment, leadership, and equal opportunities.

I look forward to continuing our efforts to support women locally and globally. Thank you for your dedication and support. Together, we make a difference worldwide.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Graham-Rowe  
First Vice President  
and International Affairs

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**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT CHAIR'S REPORT: NELIA DE SOUSA**

Serving on the BPW Brampton Caledon Executive for the first time has been an invaluable learning experience. This year, I gained deeper insights into collaboration and teamwork, which played a crucial role in the success of our personal development and educational workshops.

We successfully hosted two free online workshops this club year, each designed to support personal and professional growth:

**Navigating Conflict Conversations** | *Saturday, September 21, 2024*

Our speaker, Sandra Sharpe, delivered an insightful session on managing difficult conversations. Despite the complexity of the topic, Sandra engaged attendees effectively, answering questions thoughtfully and fostering a dynamic discussion—a special thank-you to Sandra for her expertise and engaging presentation.

**Federal Income Tax Fairness for Single Seniors** | *Tuesday, February 11, 2025*

In collaboration with the Resolutions Chair, Mina Di Domenico, we organized a Canada-wide event addressing federal income tax fairness for single seniors. Elizabeth Brown, Director of Single Seniors for Federal Tax Fairness, provided an in-depth analysis of federal income tax law inequities. Her presentation was well received, drawing participation from BPW members and guests across Canada. This event had 67 participants.

**Mindset Reset** | *Saturday, March 22, 2025*

This workshop was cancelled due to low registration; will be offered in the 2025-2026 year.  
Description: This workshop focuses on personal development and mindfulness. Led by Joe Trimboli, a mindset coach and founder of The Wake-Up Call. Highly interactive and engaging, providing attendees with practical tools to shift their mindsets and embrace personal growth.

Respectfully submitted,

Nelia De Sousa  
Second Vice President &  
Personal Development Chair

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**TREASURER & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REPORTS: PAT DOWLING**

**BPW Brampton Caledon**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**as of April 30, 2025**

ASSETS

RBC Chequing Account	35,326.09
Manulife Bank Savings Account	12,023.29
Petty Cash	50.00
Prepaid Expenses:	
Golf	1,423.25
Fundraising (Meat Drive-Amanda Rowe)	266.00
2025 Provincial Conference	0.00
Advance Membership Expenses	0.00
June Social	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>49,088.63</u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

LIABILITIES

Prepaid Revenue:

Deferred Golf Revenue	11,820.00
Deferred Membership Revenue	3,790.00
Deferred Prov.Conference 2025 Revenue	2,250.00
Bank Charges	9.19
Deferred Dinner Revenue	100.00
Progress Club Fundraiser - IN	2,136.00
Total Liabilities	<u>20,105.19</u>

EQUITY

Retained Earnings	22,670.10
Net Income/Loss	6,313.34

Total Equity	<u>28,983.44</u>
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>49,088.63</u>
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**BPW Brampton**  
**Profit and Loss Statement**  
**May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025**

REVENUE		Revenue	Expense	Net
50/50	532.50			
Golf (Net)	14,922.23	29,177.00	14,254.77	14,922.23
Interest	258.04			
Membership (Net)	232.65	6,605.00	6,372.35	232.65
Dinner (Net)	-197.69	8,218.00	8,415.69	-197.69
Meat/Cookie Drive (Net)	0.00	8,662.00	8,662.00	
Euchre (Net)	1,108.90	1,108.90	0.00	
Membership Advertising (Net)	190.00			
AGM (Net)	-37.00	215.00	252.00	-37.00
Donations	1,007.50			
	<u>18,017.13</u>			
EXPENSES				
Bank Charges	347.26			
Conference	359.00		Provincial Conference by Zoom	
Donations	8,000.00			
Insurance	812.16			
Administration	579.31		Zoom Fees	
Fellowship	11.86			
Honourariums	500.00		Guest Speakers	
Website	805.85		Constant Contact, web hosting, Joomla Upgrade	
Bursary	0.00			
Advertising	288.35			
	<u>11,703.79</u>			
NET PROFIT (LOSS)	6,313.34			

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Dowling  
Treasurer

**The Business and Professional Women's Club of Brampton Caledon**  
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**RECORDING SECRETARY REPORT: MINA DI DOMENICO**

**CLUB LEVEL**

As Club Secretary, it has been a rewarding experience serving on several committees, including the *Personal Development Committee* alongside Nelia D'Souza. Together, we hosted two free online educational workshops this year:

- **Managing Personal Conflict**—This in-depth session explored how our minds respond to conflict and strategies for managing those responses effectively.
- **Federal Income Tax Fairness for Single Seniors** – This session drew high attendance and engagement, highlighting the strong interest in the topic.

This year's key improvement was the creation of a centralized digital repository for club documents. This initiative has significantly reduced the volume of email attachments. It provides members and executive officers with an accessible location to retrieve meeting materials, particularly helpful for those unable to attend.

**DISTRICT LEVEL**

I had the pleasure of collaborating with Barb Hore, District Director, to plan the November 2024 Golden Horseshoe and Southwest Districts Annual District Area Meeting. My primary responsibility was to design a new district meeting package to maximize networking opportunities by minimizing time spent on administrative updates. The meeting was well attended and considered a great success. Our speaker, Geraldine Stafford, delivered a powerful and relevant message. After the event, Barb and I documented key lessons learned to support continuous improvement for future meetings.

**BPW ONTARIO CONFERENCE & AGM COMMITTEE**

This year, I contributed to the BPW Ontario Conference and AGM Committee by creating a detailed project plan to support the event timeline and deliverables, developing the conference section on the BPW Ontario website, and creating a sponsorship funding platform for the event.

**BPW ONTARIO MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

I also participated in the BPW Ontario Membership Committee, where I contributed to drafting the proposed job description for a new *Social Manager* role, made recommendations for enhancements to the BPW Ontario website, and provided general feedback to support committee initiatives.

Respectfully submitted,

Mina Di Domenico  
Recording Secretary

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**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT: SUE PERLMAN**

I have enjoyed so much personalizing and sending out e-cards to Club Members, Members of other BPW Clubs and contacts of BPW Brampton Caledon for birthdays and other occasions.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Perlman  
Corresponding Secretary

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**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR REPORT: BARBARA HORE**

BPW Brampton Caledon continues to strengthen its membership base by fostering a supportive community of professional women dedicated to learning, leadership, advocacy, and collaboration. Our goal remains to attract, engage, and retain members who are passionate about advancing women's interests both locally and globally.

As of this report, the club's total active members is 47.

Our club members are intergenerational, ranging in age from 20 to 92, and have diverse professional experiences. From this diversity, we learn a great deal from one another.

BPW Brampton Caledon remains the largest club in Ontario. We aim to continue to build a dynamic and thriving club.

Thank you to all members for your continued dedication and support.

It has been a pleasure serving as your membership chair.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Hore  
Membership Chair

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**PROGRAMS REPORT: ANGELA MCKINNON**

It was my pleasure to serve as the Programs Chair this year. It's one of my favourite positions on the Executive as you are very involved at the ground level in helping choose the Speakers for our Members. I am always a bit nervous when a Speaker begins speaking at our meeting as I always want them to speak on topics we are interested in, have them be knowledgeable and entertaining and have a positive impact on our Members. Our programs will wrap up with our July Social and Program Planning Meeting, one of my favourite events of the year when we look back at what we've accomplished and prepare for what's to come. We're fortunate to celebrate at Iris & David's home. It's nice to see so many local women and non members join us to celebrate women in our community who make a difference and I'm hoping it's very well attended and a fun evening.

I've enjoyed being the Programs Chair this past year and we had a great informative year with inspirational knowledgeable speakers.

I look forward to and also appreciate any input from Members to help organize our Speakers for the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela McKinnon  
Programs Chair

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**PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT: SHEILA WALKER**

Thank you for the opportunity to fulfill responsibilities as BPW Brampton Caledon's Publicity and Public Relations Chair for the 2024-2025 season. It has been my pleasure and I am proud to continue working with such an amazing group of women who share the same interests to support our community partners and many activities for BPW Brampton.

As well as Publicity and Public Relations Chair, I am also Designer/Publisher for the Club publications namely Club Focus Newsletter with three issues each year. Also on the Administration responsibilities for the Club, I organize, publish and keep up to date the Membership Directory, BPW Brampton Annual Reports, and other forms used throughout the season to promote our events.

As Publicity and Public Relations Chair, my duties include mainly:

- Constant Contact communication and management. Our Club continues to use Constant Contact as our means of communication to members and community for our many events throughout the season aligning the Club with the necessary email privacy regulations. Continuing with this system which I set up and implemented for the Club beginning in March 2016.
- Maintaining and updating the distribution email lists for optimum communication. As well, our distribution lists include the Golf Event and Euchre Event contacts which is updated and/or revised as required so that all correspondence is by Constant Contact and in agreeance with privacy regulations.
- Creating and emailing Meeting Notices, Agendas, Minutes and Treasurer Reports for Executive and General Meetings. Communicating with members by emails on behalf of the President and other members of the Executive when required.
- As our meetings have been pay with registration format this year, I am Dinner Convenor insofar as accepting RSVPs for our meetings and organizing set up and confirming number of attendees for our meeting venues.

Looking forward to continued success with our great Club!

Respectively submitted,

Sheila Walker  
Publicity and Public Relations

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**YOUNG BPW: RIANNA RAMESAR**

In my role as Young BPW Chair, I made efforts to connect with various Young BPW members, including Larissa DeLucca from BPW Brazil and Jade Boucher, who is a new member of BPW Canada. I am working with them on a registered project for Young BPW International. It should be published on the BPW International site within the next couple months. The project is an open-letter to the Government of India that asks them to declare violence against women and girls a national crisis, which is a term used by the Indian government in the past to characterize catastrophic natural disasters. As an international organization, it is difficult to influence law reform, however, the closest we can get to this is by adding as much public and political pressure as possible.

I am also still currently working on the petition regarding a nation-wide implementation of a Red-Dress Alert System like the pilot project that took place in British Columbia last year. Due to the current prorogation of parliament and the upcoming federal election, we may not be able to register the petition as soon as initially planned, however, we will move forward with the research, drafting, editing, and passing it along to various Indigenous and Indigenous women's groups for input.

**RESOLUTIONS**

I participated in the BPW Canada Resolutions Committee by collaborating with Mina Di Domenico on a federal resolution, which was submitted on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan due to the Taliban's oppressive regime of gender apartheid.

I will continue my work as an advocate and feminist amidst the global attack on women's and gender-diverse people's rights.

Respectfully submitted,

Rianna Ramesar  
Young BPW

## **The Business and Professional Women's Club of Brampton Caledon** **Annual Reports 2024 – 2025**

### **RESOLUTIONS/BY-LAWS/PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT: MINA DI DOMENICO**

Serving as the Resolutions, By-Laws, and Public Affairs Chair for BPW Brampton Caledon has been a privilege. Over the past year, I have supported our club's policy development and advocacy efforts while actively participating in provincial and national BPW committees.

#### **BPW ONTARIO**

This year, the Club Resolution Committee submitted the following to BPW Ontario:

- **Resolution: Addressing Gender-Specific Mental Health Needs and Reforming Ontario's Mental Health Care System**  
Developed in collaboration with BPW Niagara Falls. Special thanks to *Dawn McCormick Tracz* for her insightful feedback, which helped strengthen the resolution.
- **Commendation: Charmaine Williams, MPP**  
Recognized for her advocacy in mental health, community safety, and women's empowerment. Williams currently serves as a Member of Provincial Parliament for Brampton Centre.

#### **BPW CANADA**

At the national level, the Resolutions Committee submitted three resolutions to BPW Canada:

- **Federal Income Tax Equity for Single Senior Women**  
In collaboration with the BPW Canada Online Club, our club co-hosted a national virtual event attended by 67 participants. The event aimed to educate members and guests on tax equity issues affecting single seniors.
- **Criminalizing Coercive Control in Intimate Relationships**  
A follow-up to last year's femicide resolution, this proposal addresses the urgent need to criminalize coercive control as part of efforts to combat gender-based violence.
- **Supporting Afghan Women and Girls**  
This resolution urges the Canadian government to increase humanitarian support and advocate for the protection of Afghan women's rights, particularly access to education, healthcare, and personal safety under Taliban rule. Thank you to Rianna for participating in the development of this resolution.

#### **CLUB BY-LAWS & REGULATIONS**

This year, there were no updates to the Brampton Caledon Club's bylaws or regulations. All current documents are available in the Members' Area of the club's website for reference.

#### **PUBLIC AFFAIRS ENGAGEMENT**

In my Public Affairs role, I submitted articles to the *Brampton Caledon* and *BPW Ontario* newsletters and delivered relevant updates at Executive and General Meetings.

#### **UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (NGO-CSW69)**

I was honoured to be part of BPW Canada's delegation to the 69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69), held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York (March 10–21, 2025).

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This year's session, *CSW69 / Beijing+30*, marked the 30th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995). It included a review of global progress on gender equality and its connection to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The event included both in-person and virtual sessions. Following the conference, I submitted a detailed report with observations and recommendations to the BPW Canada UN Chair. For additional information, please consult the UN Women and BPW Canada websites.

Respectfully submitted,

Mina Di Domenico  
Resolutions / By-Laws / Public Affairs

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**WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA CHAIR REPORT: MINA DI DOMENICO**

**WEBSITE**

This year, we continued to build on last year's successful upgrade of the BPW Brampton Caledon website, implementing several enhancements to improve usability and member engagement, including the Community Partners and Tax Receipt Page.

The page was updated to simplify the donation process for members wishing to support our community partners—many thanks to Pat Dowling for her collaboration on this improvement. Introduced a new Online Membership Form, a digital membership form was introduced, allowing prospective members to join the club online instead of completing a paper form and improving the Annual Golf Tournament Registration Process through dedicated web forms, including Registration, Golf Hole Sponsorship and Event Sponsorship. These updates have streamlined participation and increased the efficiency of event coordination.

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

A comprehensive Social Media Strategy Document was developed and shared with the Executive Team to guide decisions on which platforms to prioritize for promoting club events and initiatives.

Current work in progress includes an automated Website-to-Social Media Feeds. Website updates are automatically shared across selected social media channels, reducing manual posting and ensuring consistent communication and collaboration with the BPW Ontario membership committee. Our committee partnered with BPW Ontario's Social Media Manager to expand the reach of our event promotions across multiple platforms. Thanks to *Emmanuella, Nelia, and Angela* for actively participating in the Social Media Subcommittee.

Respectfully submitted,

Mina Di Domenico  
Resolutions Chair

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**SPECIAL EVENTS CHAIR REPORT: PAT DOWLING**

On Monday, June 17, 2024 we held our 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Ladies Charity Golf Tournament at Glen Eagle Golf Course. We had 79 golfers and 101 ladies for dinner. Along with Scotiabank's Team Community Program we raised a total of \$18,000.00!!! Our community partners for this event were Salvation Army/Honeychurch, Wellspring Chinguacousy Cancer Support Centre, Victim Services of Peel and Caledon Community Services.

Unfortunately with the closure of the Glasgow Rangers Centre, we were unable to hold our Fall Euchre Night. We did ask those individuals that did purchase tickets to consider donating their ticket cost to the Ste. Louise Foodbank as we had no way of raising any funds due to the cancellation. We are happy to announce that we raised \$1,000.00 and this was donated to Ste. Louise. In lieu of the closure and the cost of the evening for participants, we have decided to forego any future Euchre Events. We had 29 successful Euchre Nights which is a record we are very proud of.

Our Fall 2024 Meat Drive held in conjunction with the Canadian Progress Club raised \$2,000.00 for Ste. Louise Food Bank.

Our Christmas 2024 Cookie Drive raised in total \$5,000.00 due to a large donation on behalf of the Canadian Progress Club to Ste. Louise Foodbank. We are very grateful to the Canadian Progress Club to allow us to join in with their fund raisers to make such powerful impacts on our community partners.

We had a successful Spring 2025 Meat Drive and once again with the collaboration with the Canadian Progress Club we raised \$1,000.00 for Wellspring Chinguacousy Cancer Support Centre.

We are currently looking into our club participating in Bingo in order to be able to continue our endeavour to raise funds for our Community Partners.

Once again a big thank you to both our membership and to the Canadian Progress Club. Without everyone stepping up with volunteering time, money, prizes and ideas we would not be able to make a difference in the lives of the women and families in our communities.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Dowling  
Special Events Chair

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**WE HONOUR OUR PAST PRESIDENTS**

1947-49	Margaret Van Alstyne (McLean) *	1982-83	Wilma Taras
1949-50	Audrey Robinson (Brendle) *	1983-84	Pat Whitford
1950-52	Lilas Trout *	1984-85	Pat Whitmore
1952-54	Florence Chin *	1985-87	Mary Andrews *
1954-55	Elizabeth Birss *	1987-89	Paddy Silverthorne *
1955-56	Jean Wilson (Lansdell) *	1989-91	Dittie Voegele (Hay)
1956-57	Eleanor MacDonald *	1991-92	Helen Armstrong
1957-58	Irene Abbott *	1992-94	Carol Edestrand
1958-60	Jessie Black (Evans) *	1994-95	Darla Campbell
1960-62	Greta Capps *	1995-97	Carol Kollar
1962-64	Gladys McBride *	1997-99	Doris Smith
1964-66	Isabel McMullen *	1999-2001	Tracey Marshall
1966-68	Dena Heather *	2001-03	Susanne Balpataky
1968-70	Mary Lock *	2003-05	Irma Dafoe
1970-72	Ann Felesko *	2005-07	Linda Ford
1972-74	Mary Lester	2007-09	Snigda Malik
1974	Margaret MacKenzie	2009-11	Barbara Hore
1974-76	Helen Kirk	2011	Heather Moogk
1976-79	Hannah Yarronton *	2012-2015	Pat Dowling
1979-80	Louise Scisizzi	2015-2018	Janet Brousseau *
1980-81	Gladys Martin *	2018-2020	Indira Persaud
1981-82	Barbara Dunning *	2020-2022	Lynne Taylor
		2022-	Linda Ford

\* Deceased and Respectfully Remembered.