



BC Council of Garden Clubs

Annual General Meeting

April 1, 2023

WELCOME to our 80th Anniversary Celebration

The BCCGC Annual General Meeting will take place from **10:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Saturday, April 1st, 2023**. It will be held at the Bonsor Recreation Complex, in the Banquet Room, 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 2022 and on the 2023 Nominations.

There will be presentations from Maria Valana from Kwantlen Polytechnic University on Starting Seeds and our Scholarship recipient from University of Northern BC is Trevor Schibli. Also a Floral Design Show, Vendors and our 80th Anniversary cakes!

Maria Valana is a horticulture instructor at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU). She holds a Bachelor of Applied Science degree from Olds College and the Provincial Instructor Diploma from Vancouver Community College. Her education, along with her lifelong experience in horticulture, provides a solid foundation for training students in the horticulture and apprenticeship programs on a variety of horticulture topics. Maria is also an instructor for the Vancouver Master Gardeners Association and has also owned her own landscape business since 2015.

Respectfully

Cindy Tataryn

1st Vice President, BCCGC



BC Council of Garden Clubs

Annual General Meeting

April 1, 2023

AGENDA

1. (10:00 – 10:05 AM) – Cindy Tataryn - BCCGC Business - Welcome / Announcements
2. (10:05 – 10:10 AM) – **Motion** to Approve Agenda / Vote
3. (10:05 – 10:10 AM) – **Motion** to Approve Minutes from April 9, 2022 Annual General Meeting / Vote
4. (10:10 – 10:20 AM) – Ann Peters – Treasurer
5. (10:20 – 10:30 AM) – Lynda Pasacreta – Communications Coordinator
6. (10:30 – 10:45 AM) – COFFEE BREAK – (Buy Draw Tickets)
7. (10:45 – 11:00 AM) – Shonagh MacRae – Scholarship Fund Chairperson
8. (11:00 – 11:30 AM) – Trevor Schibli - Scholarship Recipient Presentation – UNBC
9. (11:30 – 12:00 PM) – ELECTIONS
 - i. President
 - ii. 2nd Vice Pres
 - iii. Secretary – Pam Robertson
 - iv. Scholarship
10. (12:00 PM) – Floral Design Show – Results and Comments
11. (12:00 PM – 1:00 PM) – LUNCH BREAK – (Buy Draw Tickets)
12. (1:00 – 2:00 PM) – Maria Valana – Starting Seeds
13. (2:00 – 2:15 PM) – COFFEE BREAK - (Buy Draw Tickets) – (Stretch your legs)
14. (2:15 – 3:00 PM) – DRAW TABLE
15. (3:00 PM) – Closing remarks / Thank you
16. (3:00 PM) – Motion to Adjourn Annual General Meeting



BC Council of Garden Clubs

1st Vice President – Cindy Tataryn

It's not too late! You can still be part of this great team!

The executive positions up for election at the 2023 AGM will be:

- (1) President – two year term**
- (2) 2nd Vice President – two year term**
- (3) Secretary – two year term**
- (4) Scholarship Fund Committee – three year term.**

Phone or email me 604-585-6786 or 1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com

I would like to thank our **Committee members**:

The Scholarship Fund Committee Shonagh MacRae (Chairperson), Patty Molnar and Anita Irani for administering the needs of the Scholarship Fund. Shonagh has done a wonderful job for the past three years and is now stepping down to fulfil her many other passions!

The Membership and Insurance Committee chairperson Lorna Herchenson for her many hours spent in updating the Membership list and the contact information for each club.

Frank Girard our Webmaster for revising the website and keeping the website up to date and all the things he does in the background to keep the website up and running.

The Information Line Committee chairperson Laurie Maitland and Lorna Herchenson for maintaining the BCCGC questions@bcgardenclubs.com emails.

The Floral Design Judges Committee and the Horticultural Judges Committee members for their help on the various projects being worked on.

You are all Greatly Appreciated!

I would also like to thank the current **Executive members**, they are also volunteers! Pam Robertson our Secretary for taking notes and copy editing everything that gets sent to members, Ann Peters our Treasurer for keeping the finances on track, Lynda Pasacreta our Communications Coordinator for writing the newsletter and helping with the social media platforms. Thank you all for your help in keeping me on track, and all the time, talent, knowledge and effort you spend working on behalf of BCCGC.

The **Speakers List** and **Judges List** are available on our website www.bcgardenclubs.com.

The **Horticulture Judges Course** is underway and may need to be extended to a three year course as there are limited shows for the students to do their practice judging. There are still copies of the Horticultural Judging and Exhibiting Standards Manual available for \$25.00 plus postage.

The **Floral Design Judges Course** has been extended to three years as the remaining students have limited number of shows in order to complete their practicum. There are still some Floral Design Judging and Exhibiting Standards Manuals available for \$40.00 plus postage

The **BCCGC Flower Arranging Courses** are now underway again. Anyone interested in taking these courses please contact me at 1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com

The Order Form is available on our website and also at the end of this package.

Respectfully submitted

Cindy Tataryn

1st Vice President, BCCGC

MOTIONS Passed at the October 1, 2022 – Fall General Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from BC Council of Garden Clubs Fall General Meeting dated October 30, 2021

Motion to Approve the Proposed Budget for 2023



BC Council of Garden Clubs

Treasurer – Ann Peters

COMMENTS ON THE DECEMBER 31, 2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Cash Basis of Accounting

The Council continues to record its two main sources of cash “Affiliation Member Fees” and “Members Liability Premiums” using the Cash basis of Accounting. This is to say that these two items are recorded in the Council’s financial statements when the payments are physically received. The cash received for Members Liability Insurance Premiums is recorded on the Balance Sheet. The Council receives no financial benefit from the collection of these insurance fees for its membership. The total collected from members is remitted to the insurance company.

In 2021 a decision was made to make the insurance year March to March each year, to match the fiscal year of January 1 to December 31. Therefore, the premiums paid for 2022 should have reflected the change by charging pro-rated premiums only for 2022. However, the initial notice of insurance premiums payable by the member clubs incorrectly showed the wrong rate, resulting in many clubs who had paid in the early weeks of 2022 receiving a rebate. This in turn resulted in extra expenses for mailing and bank charges, but the Executive felt that it was the only fair way to deal with the error. Subsequently, a number of clubs did not cash the cheques, or in some cases did not receive the cheques, resulting in either reissuing the refund cheques to some clubs or issuing a credit which was carried over to the 2023 premiums. A huge headache for the Treasurer and hopefully a situation that will not occur again in the future.

Operating Results

The operating results in 2022 have again been impacted by COVID 19, which lowered both income and expenses somewhat. However, we were able to return to in person meetings in the Fall of 2022 and once again provide courses, which has given some income from those sources, but has also increased the expenses. The Board continues to meet by Zoom rather than in person.

Balance Sheet

The Council continues to have a strong Balance Sheet. Retained Earnings increased again in 2022 compared to 2021 and we continue to earn a small amount of interest from our Term Deposits.

Treasurer Report

I am presenting the Council's Financial Statements this year in the same format used in the past.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Peters,

Treasurer, BCCGC



BC Council of Garden Clubs

Scholarship Fund Committee (SFC) - Shonagh MacRae

Scholarship Trust Fund (STF) Committee - Shonagh MacRae

Shonagh MacRae (Chairperson): September 2020 - April 2023

Patty Molnar: October 2021 - April 2024

Anita Irani: April 2022 - April 2025

The days are lengthening and getting just a little bit warmer. These changes signal the end of winter and the approach of our Spring meeting. As we finish off our 2022 reports, it is a great opportunity to appreciate the donors who contributed to the Scholarship Fund in 2022.

Donor	Amount
Brenda Woosnam	\$200
Benefaction Foundation	\$1,000
New West Horticultural Society	\$400
Betty Reid Girard	\$400
Gibsons Garden Club	\$150
Pitt Meadows Garden Club	\$200
North Surrey Horticultural Society	\$200
North Surrey Horticultural Society	\$150
North Shore Horticultural Society	\$200
Dunbar Garden Club	\$1000
The Vancouver Rose Society	\$500
Gorge Park Community Garden Society	\$100
BC Council of Garden Clubs	\$434.50
South Delta Garden Club	\$300
2022 Total	\$5,234.50

Thank you to all of the clubs who raised money and gave it to the Scholarship Fund so we can continue to support students across BC. With the on-going rise in inflation, the money we can give to students is a huge support. We hear this time and time again once they receive the awards.

Thank you so much to all of our past, present and future donors.

Disbursal

We are about to start planning for our 2023 disbursal amounts and are excited to report the totals in our Fall 2023 meeting. We hope to be able to increase the amounts to at least a few of our institutions.

The current value of the fund is \$303,319.59 and we are going to hear soon from Vancity Community Foundation how much we can disburse for 2023.

Again, in 2023, we will maintain our practice of giving a larger scholarship or bursary to students in longer educational programs. Unfortunately, SFU was unable to grant their scholarship to a student in 2022 so we are considering holding back their 2023 amount. The amount they normally get for the Masters Program is \$1,800 and the Committee still needs to decide if we will invest the funds into other scholarships or back into the fund.

The impact of receiving an award varies depending on the needs of the student. For those in a longer program, it can take a nice chunk out of their tuition cost providing substantial financial relief. For others, it buys much needed supplies. Overall, it affirms that they are on the right track, something that many students need at the end of the long educational road.

We encourage all of the BCCGC member clubs to consider making a donation. What we are able to provide to students with your support is enormous and we want to extend our reach further into the future of horticulture. Donations add to the basic fund, and as the interest compounds, the Committee gets more to spend on our scholarships, and on our students. We would love to support even more programs but can't without your support.

Donations can be made through the Vancity Community Foundation directly, or they can be sent to the Scholarship Trust Fund via the BCCGC postal address. We accept any amount from individuals or garden clubs and all donors receive a tax receipt from the Vancity Foundation.

Congratulations to all students who received an award in 2022 and we are excited to see who gets an award in 2023. As always. We will feature them in our monthly newsletter so please look out for that!

Again, we so appreciate your support.

Respectfully submitted by

Shonagh MacRae

Chairperson, Scholarship Fund Committee (SFC)

\$80 for 80 years

For the 80th Anniversary of the BC Council of Garden Clubs, we are launching a donation drive. We are asking all member clubs to donate \$80 to the fund in 2023.

With 206 member clubs, a donation of that size from each club will more than triple the amount that we took in for 2022 and donations are already rolling in. In the first month of 2023, we've received 7 contributions from both clubs and individuals alike.

Club Donations

Upper Lonsdale Garden Club - \$150

New Westminster Horticultural Society - \$480

Southern Interior Horticultural Association - \$468.15

Campbell River Garden Club - \$80

Mid Island Floral Art Club - \$80

Individual Donations

Mrs. Christine Bickson - \$80

Jennifer Zuk - \$100

Any donations to the Scholarship Fund made by Member Clubs will be added to the donation tracker and will be featured in our monthly newsletter.

Thanks for the clubs who contributed so far!

Again, we so appreciate your support.

Respectfully submitted by

Shonagh MacRae

Chairperson, Scholarship Fund Committee (SFC)

Scholarship Recipient

My name is Trevor Schibli, and I am a biology student at UNBC with a specialization in Botany and Mycology, and I will be graduating this spring with the help of the generous bursary from the BC Council of Garden Clubs. My presentation will cover how plants and plant communities interact with the other organisms in their ecosystem, including both cultivated and natural plant systems. In particular, I will be focusing on two areas that have seen increased relevance lately: plant-insect interactions and mycorrhizal relationships.

Plant-insect interactions include both helpful insects such as pollinators, as well as pests and the predatory insects that feed on them in turn. With insect populations declining worldwide, efforts are being made to bolster pollinators, as well as incorporate pest-management strategies that involve limited application of harmful pesticides.

Mycorrhizal relationships are a unique form of association formed between plants and soil fungi. At their most basic level, mycorrhizae share nutrients so that both partners benefit, but mycorrhizal relationships can facilitate much more complex interactions and even communication between plants of different species.

I look forward to joining you!

Trevor Schibli

Speaker

Maria Valana is a horticulture instructor at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU). She holds a Bachelor of Applied Science degree from Olds College and the Provincial Instructor Diploma from Vancouver Community College. Her education, along with her lifelong experience in horticulture, provides a solid foundation for training students in the horticulture and apprenticeship programs on a variety of horticulture topics. Maria is also an instructor for the Vancouver Master Gardeners Association and has also owned her own landscape business since 2015. She will be giving a presentation on 'Starting Seeds'.



BC Council of Garden Clubs

Annual General Meeting

April 1, 2023

ELECTIONS:

President (2 Year Term)

<https://bcgardenclubs.com/about/exec-board/president-terms-of-reference/>

2nd Vice President (2 Year Term)

<https://bcgardenclubs.com/about/exec-board/second-vice-president-terms-of-reference/>

Secretary (2 Year Term)

Pam Robertson from South Surrey Garden Club has agreed to stay on as BCCGC Secretary

<https://bcgardenclubs.com/about/exec-board/secretary-terms-of-reference/>

Scholarship Trust Fund Trustee (3 Year Term)

<https://bcgardenclubs.com/about/exec-board/scholarship-committee-terms-of-reference/>



BC Council of Garden Clubs
Annual General Meeting - MINUTES
April 9, 2022 – 9:00 a.m. to noon
Held online via Zoom

1. Welcome

First Vice President Cindy Tataryn started the meeting at 9:00 and welcomed everyone.

2. BCCGC Business – Cindy Tataryn, First Vice President

After addressing some housekeeping issues and reviewing our guidelines for using Zoom, Cindy reviewed our agenda and the speakers. She then encouraged everyone to visit the Council's website and specifically the events calendar, which is getting a lot of listings now that clubs and community gardens are back to being able to host events again.

Cindy also noted that our AGM voting, for which each club will have one vote, will take place after the meeting and be distributed via email. The vote will remain open until Saturday, April 16. Finally, she asked that everyone "Save the Date!" for our fall meeting, which is scheduled for Saturday, October 1, 2022. It will hopefully be able to happen in person, at the Bonsor Recreation Complex in Burnaby.

3. Treasurer's Report – Ann Peters, Treasurer

Ann Peters briefly reviewed this past year's financials, which were sent out via email to our members in the delegates' package ahead of the AGM. Covid has affected the Council's finances in both good and bad ways, in the sense that we have had low expenses, but that's primarily due to not meeting in person and having to halt the courses we offer. She then reviewed the balance sheets.

4. Scholarship Trust Fund Report – Anne Sprung, Committee Chair

Anne Sprung presented information on the Scholarship Fund, which was also supplied in the delegates' package sent out ahead of the meeting. She was pleased to report that clubs and individuals have continued to be generous in supporting the fund. After reviewing the donors and the disbursements over the past year, she noted that the fund increased in value by \$18,000 last year. The committee is looking at increasing the amounts of the scholarships, as the fund grows. Anne then featured some of the recipients and reviewed how to make a donation. Finally, she noted that the Scholarship Trust Fund Committee are agreed in their support for the changes being made to the Constitution and Bylaws, in relation to the fund, which will be presented on next.

5. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws – Brenda Woosnam and Lorna Fraser

The proposed revisions to the constitution and bylaws, and the rationale for making the necessary updates, were circulated ahead of the meeting in the delegates' package. Brenda briefly reviewed the reasons for looking at the C+B and the Deed of Trust agreement with the Vancity Foundation to bring them into alignment with how the Scholarship Fund and the committee actually work. She also noted that the changes were already unanimously approved by the BC Council's executive and the Scholarship Trust Fund Committee.

Lorna then gave a quick overview of the BC Council and how we operate, and how questions have been arising over the need to update the C+B for a handful of years. Thankfully, we have finally been able to dedicate the time and energy to ensuring the changes meet everyone's needs.

6. Speaker: Emily Lemke, "The Communication Ecology of Click Beetles"

Anne Sprung introduced Emily Lemke, who is a student in the Master of Pest Management program at SFU. She is also a recent recipient of one of the scholarships we support through the Scholarship Fund. Emily has the goal of becoming a professional entomologist and has also worked as a co-op student with Agriculture Canada.

Emily started out by reviewing what click beetles are, noting that they aren't usually considered damaging pests in their adult click beetle form, but the larvae – which are known as wire worms – can be devastating to crops like potatoes. For many years they were controlled by pesticides but now that those toxins are regulated the species has grown.

Now studies focus on pheromone monitoring and use pheromone trapping – scientists have been setting out traps across North America to see if the pheromones attract all varieties of the beetles. They have found that the pheromones clearly worked in all locales and on different varieties. They also tested how much of the pheromones needed to be in the traps and the best times of day to set them out – different varieties had different peak seasons but in general the best times were 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

In conclusion, Emily noted that it looks like trapping is going to be a promising method to replace pesticides. She then answered questions from attendees. Cindy thanked Emily on behalf of everyone.

7. BCCGC Business – Cindy Tataryn, First Vice President

Cindy noted that the floral designs that accompany this presentation and scroll through over the breaks are from the Level 2 Floral Design students.

Lynda Pasacreta, Communications, discussed our website and how it is in the process of being updated to be easier to use and have a more modern feel. And to make it easier to add and access all of your club information and events.

Cindy reviewed the elections taking place at this AGM:

President – we are still in need of a president for the BC Council. The position remains open, please contact Cindy if you would like to learn more.

Treasurer – Ann Peters has agreed to stay on for another two years.

Communications – Lynda Pasacreta has agreed to stay on for another two years.

Scholarship Trust Fund –Anita Irani from the Richmond Garden Club has agreed to step in and serve the open three-year term.

Cindy thanked Anne Sprung for her three years of service to the Scholarship Trust Fund committee and Brenda Woosnam for being the chair of the Constitution and Bylaws committee, and Lorna Fraser and Pam Robertson for their contributions as well. Thank-yous were also extended to Ann Peters for her

work as treasurer, Lynda Pasacreta for her work on communications and the newsletter, Lorna Herchenson for her work in supporting the membership and arranging the insurance and for the information line, Frank Girard for his website work and tech support, the Scholarship Trust Fund committee members for their work this year, Laurie Maitland for monitoring the information line, and Lynne White for teaching flower arranging.

8. Speaker: Maria Valana, “Getting to Know Your Soil”

Maria Valana is a horticulture instructor at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU). She holds a Bachelor of Applied Science degree from Olds College and the Provincial Instructor Diploma from Vancouver Community College. Her education, along with her lifelong experience in horticulture, provides a solid foundation for training students in the horticulture and apprenticeship programs on a variety of horticulture topics. Maria is also an instructor for the Vancouver Master Gardeners Association and has also owned her own landscape business since 2015.

Maria began by breaking down the difference between soil and dirt: dirt is the basic mineral component in soil, but soil has all of the organic components. Soil fertility is the ability to provide nutrients for plants to grow – the macro ingredients are the nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium (NPK) while the micro ingredients are small quantities of other elements, such as iron, zinc and magnesium. Nutrients are lost every year through erosions and leaching, and the accumulation of salts in the soil (its salinity) can reduce plants’ ability to withdraw water from the soil, which can result in delayed germination or non-germination of seeds, death of new transplants, or reduction of growth for new and established plants.

Soil is greatly improved by what lives in it – earthworms, microscopic cells like bacteria and fungi, nematodes. Biological growth is encourage by providing such organisms with organic matter for food, applying compost and manure and practicing conservation tillage (just enough to loosen the clumps of soil). These organisms are in the rhizosphere (the area surrounding the roots of plants) existing in a symbiotic relationship with the plants, but synthetic fertilizers can kill them.

Maria then covered soil composition and different types, noting that loam has the best texture for plant growth, and spoke to the optimal field capacity for water saturation: never let it completely dry out, but also don’t work or water if the soil is too wet. The Ph. level determines alkalinity or acidity – below 5.0 means some nutrients are too present; in alkaline conditions nutrients are less available and salinity can be a problem. She then showed how to determine the silt, clay and sand percentages in your soil (can do a Mason jar test at home, see www.growitbuildit.com) and how to use a home Ph. test (or you can send samples to a lab).

Next, once the soil is a good combination, you want to supplement with organic matter (compost) and nutrients – limestone raises your Ph., sulfur lowers it. Fish emulsion is also useful for enriching soil, just

be careful buying manure as sometimes it is not composted properly or it could have pesticide toxicity. Build organic matter by adding in cover crops, manure, healthy crop residue, and compost. For the best plants use a lower level of nitrogen and organic fertilizers; watch out for synthetic/inorganic fertilizers that can kill soil organisms. Tomatoes and peppers can benefit from secondary macronutrients like calcium and magnesium. The ideal Ph. is 6.5 to 7.5 – to lower it naturally use sphagnum peat moss.

Maria then reviewed the ideal nutrient balance and showed examples of how certain deficiencies look in plants, then took questions from attendees via the chat panel. Cindy thanked Maria on behalf of everyone.

Cindy then provided a brief overview of the many projects the BC Council attends to over the course of the year. Then Lynda did the prize draw and Caroline Haywood of View Royal Garden Club won the Lee Valley gift card.

13. Adjournment

MOTION: to adjourn the BC Council's 2022 AGM via Zoom. 1st by Anne Sprung, South Surrey Garden Club, 2nd by Lynda Pasacreta, Richmond Garden Club. Meeting ended by Cindy Tataryn at 12:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by BC Council secretary Pam Robertson.

2021 AGM VOTE RESULTS

The vote on the two motions put forward to the membership during the AGM was held after the meeting via SurveyMonkey. The survey was sent to the email addresses of delegates for all current ACMs (or to the club liaisons if no separate delegate was designated). In total, 61 clubs voted. The voting was open Sunday, April 10, to Saturday, April 16.

MOTION: to accept the AGM Meeting Minutes from March 27, 2021 – motion passed by 98.33%, 59 yes, 1 no, 1 abstained

MOTION: to accept the revised Constitution and Bylaws – motion passed by 100%, 60 yes, 0 no, 1 abstained

Voting coordinated and tallies provided by Pam Robertson, Secretary.



BC Council of Garden Clubs

ORDER FORM: (For prices and information e-mail Cindy Tataryn at ctataryn@telus.net)

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 and 2 are pre-requisites)

Level 4 _____ (Levels 1, 2, and 3 are pre-requisites)

Please print legibly:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Email: _____ Club: _____

Return this form to: (Cheques are payable to: BC 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: ctataryn@telus.net