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CASTLEGAR



BABINE

PHOTOS: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

# BC COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS

## FALL GENERAL MEETING OCTOBER 28, 2023



### BC Council of Garden Clubs Fall Meeting

We had approximately 100 people attending the BC Council of Garden Clubs fall meeting held at Bonsor Recreation Complex in Burnaby. Burnaby Mayor Mike Hurley was going to welcome everyone but he called in sick. Acting Mayor Daniel Tetrault stepped up to welcome us. He was overwhelmed with the amount of people attending and the magnificent display of floral art entries. The City of Burnaby is committed to green space and have recently

Photo: BC Iris Society

'How Audacious'

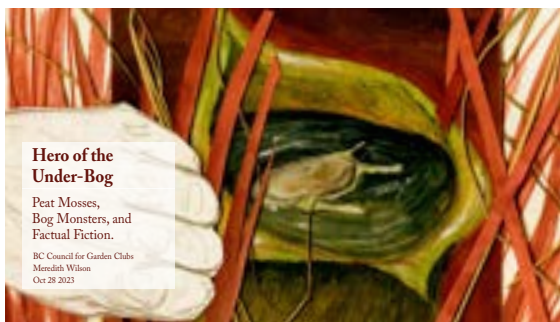
opened up three community gardens. There are some private ones but the City is working on adding more. Urban Bounty, formerly Richmond Food Security, is running their community garden programs on behalf of the City. They will offer workshops and manage the community garden spaces for the City.

We enjoyed Meredith Wilson, our Scholarship Fund recipient from UBC master's program. Her topic consisted of her master's thesis about peat mosses, bog monsters, and factual fiction. She is writing a book that's an allegory on a highly populated urban area in Vancouver where neighbourhoods sit on top of a giant bog (Mount Pleasant area)! Her book creates a story around this bog that cannot be remediated. It was a delightful presentation.

Richard Hebda, former curator of Botany and Earth History at the Royal BC Museum, is the current president of the BC Iris Society. Richard had an excellent presentation on the many different types of irises. We encourage you to look at the website <https://www.bcirisociety.com/iris-galleries/> just to get a glimpse how many varieties there are. He also recommended joining BC Iris Society for only \$15/year and you will receive a monthly newsletter.

Ian Lai, former executive director of Urban Bounty, spoke about his recent journey to the Amazon. He spoke about the Indigenous people who are struggling with the same issues as First Nations in Canada.

We have added these presentations to our website - [www.bcgardenclubs.com/resources](http://www.bcgardenclubs.com/resources).



Meredith Wilson shared some of the beautiful artwork she has created for her master's thesis.

*A Selection of  
 BCCGC Floral Art  
 Entries*



## Thank you for your prize donations!

Club or vendor	Donation
South Surrey Garden Club	\$25 Art Knapp gift certificate
North Surrey Horticultural Society	Mat, hose, and calendar
Pine Street Community Gardens	Wall plaque
Canadian Western Association of Floral Arts Clubs	Book - Insect, Weed and Disease Control
Richmond Garden Club	Lee Valley calendar and kangaroo apron
Dorothy Scott	Bottle of wine
Vancouver Shade Garden Society	<i>Disaporum cantoniense</i> 'Night Heron' plant
South Delta Garden Club	Fall planter
BC Floral Art Society	Basket of bulbs
New Westminster Horticultural Society	Hummingbird vintage puzzle
Vancouver Dahlia Society	\$30 gift certificate for Vancouver Dahlia tuber sale
Lorna Herchenson	Begonia
Fraser Valley Rose Farm	Sun Joe wood chipper/shredder
The Squamish Gardeners Club	Indoor grow light and mini African violet
Burnaby Rhododendron and Gardens Society	Bag of bulbs
Comox Valley Horticultural Society	Ergonomic trowel
South Burnaby Garden Club	Vintage garden tote
Poco Garden Club	Indoor planter in watering can
Mt. Lehman Garden Club	Succulent planter
Darts Hill Garden Conservancy Trust Society	Sculpture vase
Maple Ridge Garden Club	Two succulent planters
Pitt Meadows Garden Club	Halloween planter
Vancouver Rose Society	Rose gloves and membership
BC Fuchsia and Begonia Society	Cup and saucer
Growers Delight	Two soil amendments and two water bottles
Dogwood Garden Club	Bird house

Club or vendor	Donation
The Garden Club of Vancouver	\$30 Hunters Garden Nursery, gift bag with bulbs, fertilizer, seeds, and seed starting pots
Langley Garden Club	Wine, crackers, and tapenade
Chilliwack Garden Club	Combination solar light and bird feeder
The Friends of Park & Tilford Gardens Society	Six foot obelisk
Mayne Island Garden Club	Window vase
White Rock Garden Club	Vintage puzzle - house plants
Vancouver African Violet and Gesneriad Club	African violet in self-watering pot
Lynn Valley Garden Club	Mugo pine
Capilano Garden Club	Book - Nature West Coast
Dunbar Garden Club	\$25 Hunters Garden Nursery gift certificate
Clayton Park Community Garden	Packs of seeds and two books
Gibsons Garden Club	Bottle of sparkling wine
Vernon District Garden Club	<i>Anthurium</i> plant
Vernon & District Garden Club	Silver ULU earrings and ULU mug
<b>TOTAL MONIES RAISED FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND</b>	<b>\$689</b>



The draw table was jammed with treasures!

## Thank you to our vendors!

We enjoyed shopping with the businesses that continue to support BC Council of Garden Clubs. We had a couple of new vendors participate too which made the shopping even more fun.

Remember to buy from these folks!

Thank you to the following:

Kelpman ([www.kelpman.com](http://www.kelpman.com))



My Fathers Garden Jam - Janice Bobic, [myfathersgarden@telus.net](mailto:myfathersgarden@telus.net)

Growers Delight (<http://organicdirtsupplements.ca>)



Fraser Valley Rose Farm  
([www.fraservalleyrosefarm.com](http://www.fraservalleyrosefarm.com))

Phoenix Perennials  
and Specialty Plants

Phoenix Perennials  
([www.phoenixperennials.com](http://www.phoenixperennials.com))



“Best in Show” - Ann Peters, BC Floral Art Society



## Thank you Julie!

What a fun day! The Mayne Island Garden Club recently joined the BC Council of Garden Clubs, so when I saw the invitation to attend this year's Fall Meeting, I promptly signed up! I used to attend when I was on the executive of the South Burnaby Garden Club and always found these meetings to be both fun and informative. And this recent meeting, on October 28, didn't disappoint. In fact, it was a great day and well worth the ferry ride over to attend! I was able to reconnect with some of my South Burnaby pals and meet new people!

One of the highlights for me was the floral arts display. Like other attendees, I oohed and aahed at each display and marvelled at the creativity. When the judge made her presentation, I appreciated how she noted what was positive about each design and what would make each one better. I found it fascinating when she explained, for example, how making something taller or not including a particular branch would improve the design. I never see those comments as criticism, rather I see them as suggestions on how to make the design even better than it is. Could I pick a favourite? No, they were all wonderful!

Another highlight for me had to be the presentations: Richard Hebda on irises (making us all want to go out and buy irises!), Meredith Wilson (a scholarship recipient who shared her superb project on bogs), and Ian Lai (who regaled us with his experience in South America).

And then there was the prize draw at the end of the meeting. How fun was that! So many contributions and such a variety. Everyone seemed to enjoy perusing the tables ahead of time to decide on their favourites. I am delighted with the plant I won – a *Disporum cantoniense* (Night Heron) courtesy of the Vancouver Shade Garden Society. The best part of the draw is that the money raised from ticket sales goes to the scholarship fund.

In conclusion, I'd like to thank all the organizers for arranging such a lovely day. I look forward to attending the next meeting!

Julie Schueck, Chair  
Mayne Island Garden Club

Floral Art Judge Mei Harper.



## Motions for Approval, BC Council of Garden Clubs Fall General Meeting

### 1. Motion to approve Minutes from 2022 Fall General Meeting:

Motion to approve the minutes of the 2022 Fall Meeting by Lisa Colby, Richmond Garden Club, seconded by Gabriella Brass, Squamish Garden Club. Passed.

### 2. Motion to accept the Proposed Budget for 2024:

Motion to accept the Proposed Budget for 2024 by Linda Wright, Vancouver Master Gardeners, seconded by Victor Froese, Canadian Western Association of Floral Arts. Passed.

### 3. Motion to adjourn the Fall Meeting:

Motion to adjourn the Fall Meeting at 3:16pm by Colleen Marx, Chilliwack Garden Club, seconded by Garth McFadden, Vancouver African Violet and Gesneriad Club. Passed.



Save the date for our BC Council of Garden Clubs  
Annual General Meeting Saturday, April 6, 2024.