

**Burnaby Rhododendron and Gardens Society**  
**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – December 3, 2025,**  
**at the Discovery Room, Burnaby Village Museum**

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**1. Welcome and call meeting to order** at 7:08 pm

**2. Confirmation of Quorum**

Thirteen members in good standing were in attendance, therefore a quorum was confirmed.

**3. Adoption of the Agenda**

Cheryl Fiddis moved, and Beth MacLaren seconded that the agenda be accepted. All were in favour.

**4. Minutes from December 4, 2024 Annual General Meeting**

Motion to adopt the minutes was made by Cheryl Fiddis and seconded by Verna Adamson. All were in favor.

**5. Financial Report for the October 31, 2025, Year End**

Treasurer, Susan Brandl, distributed copies of the financial report to members. When she asked if there were any questions or comments, none were forthcoming. The report was accepted as presented.

**6. Budget for the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year** – Susan provided a projection of known income and expenses to membership. Susan moved that the budget be accepted and Cheryl Fiddis seconded the motion. All were in favour.

**7. President's 2025 Year End Report**

Wendy Thompson read her report which mentioned that she had been President for twelve years and would be happy to step aside if anyone else wanted to take the position. She gave special thanks to Verna Adamson (Burnaby Blooms) and Beth MacLaren (speakers). Her report will be posted on the BRAGS website with the Minutes and financial reports.

**8. Nominations**

No nominations were to be accepted from this meeting and the following is the incoming Executive:

President – Wendy Thompson

Vice President and Past President – Verna Adamson

Secretary -- Linda Cholette

Treasurer – Susan Brandl

Directors are:

Membership – Anne Forsyth

Nomination Committee – Verna Adamson

Publicity – Evelyn Crawford

Burnaby Blooms – Verna Adamson

Non-elected positions are:

Plant Sale Coordinator – Linda Cholette

Speaker Coordinator – Beth MacLaren

Welcome & Door prizes – Judy Wellington

Website & Communications – David Forsyth

Refreshment Coordinator – Faye Kilpatrick

Newsletter -- Cheryl Fiddis

A motion to adopt the nominated Executive for the 2025/26 year was made by David Forsyth and seconded by Faye Kilpatrick. All were in favour.

A motion to accept the non-elected (appointed members) for the 2025/26 year was made by David Forsyth and seconded by Beth McLaren. All were in favor

**9. Other Business**

Meeting venues for 2026 – The City does not have space available for January, but meetings are scheduled for February, March, April, May, June, September, October, November and December in the Discovery Room.

Starting in 2026, the City will be charging BRAGS and other non-profit organizations for using space in their facilities. The rate will be \$44/hour (\$115 per meeting) for the Discovery Room and BRAGS will only be charged for the dates used. A

meeting can be cancelled with seven days notice, and in an emergency (i.e. bad road conditions). Payment can be made by credit or debit card, or by cheque, and is due ten days prior to the meeting. Other venue options were explored, however, they were more expensive than the Discovery Room, and not as convenient.

## **8. Adjournment**

Wendy Thompson called for the meeting to be adjourned at 7:20 pm. It was seconded by Cheryl Fiddis. The meeting was followed by a social and snacks.

### **BRAGS President's Year End Report, December 3, 2025**

This has been my 12th year as President of BRAGS. It has my honour to serve as president, however, I am more than ready to step aside for someone else to take it on.

We met in person in the Discovery Room in Feb, Apr, May, June, September and November and had Zoom meetings in January and October. In March we met in Studio #104 at the Shadbolt Centre as the Discovery Room was not available.

Thanks to Beth, we had a variety of very interesting speakers. Our speakers this year were:

Maria Valena of KPU, plant propagation by cuttings

Ron Long, photos from his travels in South Africa

Dwight Young, soil activation with his product Grower's Delight

Aidan Silzer-Hooker of Front Yard Farms

Jason Croutch of Fraser Valley Farms, Garden Facts & Folklore

Anna Dushyna, Medicinal Berries

Jay Akerly on crevice gardening for small places

In November, Beth presented an Ikebana workshop. The members all made an arrangement to take home which was a lot of fun. Beth also organized a most enjoyable tour on June 30 to the Fraser Valley Rose Farm and Erikson's Day Lily Gardens. We had lunch at the restaurant nearby that sells turkey products.

On May 4 we participated in Burnaby Blooms by having a one-day plant sale. It was a big success and we made over \$1500, which was \$300 more than the previous year. A very special thank you goes to Verna for organizing the event, obtaining donations and sending out thank-you notes, and to everyone else who donated plants, picked up donations and volunteered at the event.

We made a donation of \$500 to Wildlife Rescue in Burnaby.

I'd like to extend a big thank you to the Executive and to everyone else who has been staying involved and keeping BRAGS alive. Without you, we wouldn't have a club.

The City is reducing the number of first Wednesday that the Discovery Room will be available to us. I'm working with them to find alternatives.

Respectfully Submitted

Wendy Thompson, President

BURNABY RHODODENDRON AND GARDENS SOCIETY  
YEAR END REPORT NOVEMBER 1, 2024 - OCTOBER 31, 2025

INCOME AND EXPENSES

| RECEIPTS       | 2021  | 2022       | 2023       | 2024       | 2025       | 2026 projected |
|----------------|-------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| MEMBERSHIP     | 0     | 0.00       | 420        | 360        | 276        | 288            |
| RAFFLE         | 0     | 62.00      | 70.00      | 123        | 76         | 50             |
| INTEREST       | 61.69 | 45.36      | 154.3      | 244.23     | 445.21     | 250            |
| BURNABY Blooms | 0     | 1,028.80   | 1271.62    | 1574       | 1964       | 1500           |
|                | 0     | 0.00       | 0          |            |            |                |
| DONATIONS      | 33.53 | 56.00      | 0          | 0          | 0          |                |
| OTHER          | 0.00  | 0.00       | 7.56       | 40         | 0          |                |
| TOTAL          | 95.22 | \$1,192.16 | \$1,923.48 | \$2,341.23 | \$2,761.21 | \$2,088.00     |

DISBURSEMENTS

|                       |          |         |        |            |         |      |
|-----------------------|----------|---------|--------|------------|---------|------|
| SPEAKERS              | 550.00   | 937.50  | 810    | 1170       | 980.00  | 1200 |
| OFFICE/ADMIN          | 272.32   | 319.55  | 293.7  | 389        | 214.30  | 250  |
| BANK FEES             |          |         |        | 9          | 8.10    | 9    |
| REFRESHMENTS          | 0.00     | 16.43   |        | 0          | 26.49   | 50   |
| MEMBERSHIPS/INSURANCE | 94.12    | 94.18   | 106    | 110        | 100.00  | 100  |
| BCCGC Meeting         | 0.00     | 68.00   | 117.07 | 120        | 172.00  | 175  |
| BURNABY BLOOM         | 0.00     | 0.00    |        | 0          | 0.00    | 25   |
| RENT                  | 0.00     | 0.00    |        |            |         | 1035 |
| DONATIONS             | 0.00     | 250.00  | 100    | 500        | 500.00  | 500  |
| SOCIAL                | 100.00   | 0.00    |        | 0          | 0.00    | 100  |
| MISCELLANEOUS         | 0.00     | 0.00    | 47.03  | 0          | 100.00  | 100  |
| TOTAL                 | 1,016.44 | 1685.66 | 1473.8 | \$2,298.00 | 2100.89 | 3544 |

|                       |         |         |        |       |        |             |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|--------|-------|--------|-------------|
| REVENUE OVER EXPENSES | -921.22 | -493.50 | 449.68 | 43.23 | 660.32 | -\$1,456.00 |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|--------|-------|--------|-------------|

| ASSETS              | Oct 31/21   | Oct 31/2022 | Oct 31/23   | Oct 31/24   | Oct 31 2025 | Oct 2026 projected |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| CASH-Chequing       | 7315.72     | 6,776.56    | 7196.94     | 3955.04     | 5831.09     | 3470               |
| -petty cash(raffle) | 20.00       | 20.00       | 20.00       | 60          | 60          | 60                 |
| GIC                 | 5669.42     | 5,714.78    | 5869.08     | 6113.31     | 6397.58     | 6558               |
| GIC 2               |             |             |             | 3000        | 2000        | 2050               |
| LIABILITIES         |             |             |             |             |             |                    |
|                     | *           |             |             |             | 500         |                    |
| TOTAL ASSETS        | \$12,905.14 | \$12,511.34 | \$13,086.02 | \$13,128.35 | \$13,788.67 | \$12,333           |
| Change              | -\$921.22   | -\$393.80   | \$574.68    | \$42.33     | \$660.32    |                    |