



# THE BULLETIN

**BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS**

**JANUARY 2021**

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(PLEASE FORWARD THIS NEWSLETTER TO ALL YOUR CLUB MEMBERS – THANK YOU!)

BY CINDY TATARYN

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

FOR ERIC HEES, PRESIDENT

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Last year was such a different year, to put it mildly!

In February, some friends and I went to the World Association of Floral Artists (WAFA) triannual show in Jaipur, India, for several weeks. India has never been on my bucket list, I am not adventurous when it comes to trying new food. Going there was way out of my 'comfort' zone. If it wasn't for WAFA being in India, and my friends going, I never would have gone. I LOVED IT!

The Floral Designs at the WAFA show were excellent and the food was terrific (not at all what I was expecting). The tours we went on to see the forts, palaces, and other tourist attractions were fabulous, surrounded by history and different architecture at every turn. I enjoyed every minute of it.

We arrived home on Sunday, March 8, and the following week it seemed like the whole world turned upside down. Nobody at the airport warned us to self-isolate, but by the end of the week that all changed! I'm usually a homebody anyway. I thought resting at home for a few weeks to get over the jetlag would be fine, a piece of cake! I don't go out much anyway. What's a few weeks of R & R at home, right? Wrong!

Staying home was not all that bad, at first. After two months I was getting out into the garden. Four

months later I was starting to get antsy. Six months later and I was thinking this is not fun anymore!

When is this ever going to end? After nine months dragged by, and not having much personal contact with anyone, I was just so thankful that a vaccine was starting to be delivered.

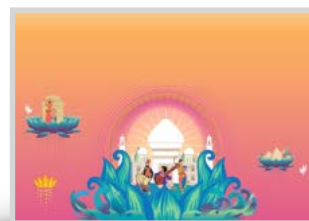
There is finally a light at the end of the tunnel. Maybe sometime in the spring I can see my garden friends again! Live and in person! But we are not there yet.

Technology scares me, so learning how to have Zoom meetings was at first a test of nerves. After a couple 'practice' sessions with friends and watching some tutorials I ended up really liking having that option. Meeting in person is way better, but when all else fails, find a new solution. Who would have ever thought that online virtual meetings, virtual demonstrations, virtual tutorials, and virtual gardening courses would become so normal!

I never thought I would enjoy India and I never thought I would enjoy virtual meetings. It sure was a strange year!

I'm sure glad to see the end of it. I've never been so happy to see a new year come along. Wishing all of you All the Best in this New Year!

Happy gardening!



# NATIVES IN OUR GARDENS

## *Mahonia*

By Lynda Pasacreta

Recently, a few of us were tending a perennial garden in a local park, and birds filled the air with a cacophony of sound. It seems the birds know that the work we do in the gardens will expose their favourite food.

Experienced photographers outfitted with massive photo lenses often stop to chat with us while we weed and plant. It is a wonderful relationship as they educate us about the more than 40 species of birds that can be found in the park, especially during migration. We educate the photographers about the favourite native plants that feed wildlife year round in the park.

At this time of year, on the West Coast, many visitors to the park are concerned about Anna's hummingbirds. Quite often they suggest we hang hummingbird feeders in the park. Loud gasps can heard from seasoned gardeners.

We point out the many flowering plants we have in abundance at this time of year. *Mahonia* (*Mahonia x media*) is an absolute favourite of the over-wintering hummingbirds.

*Mahonia*, a genus of approximately 70 species of evergreen shrubs in the family Berberidaceae, is native to North America.

*Mahonia aquifolium*, the Oregon grape, is prolific in the park. It has the prickly leaves similar to holly, with yellow flowers in late spring. Oregon grape plants are extremely beneficial and attractive to wildlife. Pollinators like butterflies, moths, bees, and hummingbirds enjoy the nectar from the flowers. The fruits, of which many remain on the plant through the winter, are favourites among birds such as towhees, robins, and waxwings. Some butterfly

and moth species rely on Oregon grape plants to host their larvae.

Oregon grape can be a colourful accent to your garden. It prefers some shade. Try growing it with sword fern, western columbine, delphinium, and fleabanes. There are three species: Cascade Oregon grape (*Mahonia nervosa*), low Oregon grape (*Mahonia repens*), along with *Mahonia aquifolium*.

In bloom now and throughout the winter, *Mahonia x media*, an interspecific hybrid shrub, is an important nectar source for our feisty little feeders. The parents of *Mahonia x media* are *Mahonia oiwakensis* subsp. *lomarifolia* and *Mahonia japonica*. Hummingbirds love the long-lasting, soft, yellow candelabra-shaped flowers. Visitors to the park are stunned by the strong upright form and magnificent height (can reach up to 13 feet) along with the large expanse of yellow blooms of *Mahonia x media*.



*Mahonia aquifolium*

## Keeping Members Connected

### North Surrey Horticultural Society

Our club usually meets from March through October, however in this unusual year we have found ways to keep connected over the winter. One of these is our **MONDAY MUSINGS**, a forum for sharing information about an aspect of gardening, and this has been a great success.

Each Monday a member of our club sends out a timely tip or story or seasonal tutorial by email to all members. We've received information on growing garlic (a video), growing peonies - a five-part tutorial, making porch pots, making fairy gardens and miniature gardens, landscaper vs. gardener - (husband/wife gardening style ), Together We Can Do This - encouraging suggestions during Covid, gardening resources from a Master Gardener, making a greenery wreath (video), recipes, and a slideshow of beautiful gardens.

Such a variety of topics to share and the feedback is uplifting for the contributor. And it has prompted other sharing; eg. a daily chuckle is shared to keep up our spirits.



*Tree Peony: Souvenir de Maxime*

Hello BC Council of Garden Clubs members!

We at PomoArts, in collaboration with artists Claire Sower and Marney-Rose Edge, are seeking photo submissions for an upcoming exhibition in Summer 2021, to be titled *Garden Escapes*. We thought it would be a great idea to ask your newsletter readers to participate and potentially have their **favourite gardens painted!** Here is a link to our website where the photo call is posted:

<https://pomoarts.ca/exhibitions/call-for-photos-garden-escapes>

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Rachel Alford  
Gallery Assistant  
They/She  
604-931-2008 x116  
[GalleryAssistant@pomoarts.ca](mailto:GalleryAssistant@pomoarts.ca)





# Keeping Members Connected

## Capilano Garden Club

The Capilano Garden Club turns 30 this year, but in-person celebrations will have to wait until 2021 at least!

With COVID-19 restrictions eliminating our opportunity to hold monthly meetings inside, the Capilano Garden Club Planning Committee got together and came up with some alternatives. Along with monthly Zoom meetings, we met outdoors in September, masked and physically distanced, and toured the Sunset Blvd Butterflyway Pathway in North Vancouver. To comply with the provincial health requirements in September, members signed up in advance and were placed into four distinct time slots for this tour. We also took the opportunity to have a plant and garden sale table to do a little fundraising for our club. One of our members, Kitty Castle, is a David Suzuki Ranger for the Sunset Butterflyway Pathway. She conducted informative tours in the late afternoon. Starting in 2019, some Capilano Garden Club members contributed plants towards this pathway and helped to build and maintain it. The District of North Vancouver, along with the David Suzuki Foundation, also played a part in supporting this valuable project. This pathway garden is designed to nurture butterflies and wild pollinators. It is part of a citizen-led movement growing highways of habitat for bees and butterflies. It brings nature to neighbourhoods throughout Canada, one butterfly friendly planting at a time.

Our garden club members appreciated seeing the results of their hard work over the past years and under Kitty's direction it will be expanding further in 2021. Photos of butterfly garden taken by Joan McLeod.

Every year our club has a "Make and Take" event with a social at Christmas. A twist on the tradition this year involved collecting Christmas greenery and having a pick-up point in a local park for social

distancing and small group restriction purposes. We challenged members to produce a Christmas project to show two days later on a Zoom call. We suggested revisiting our previous projects such as swags, wreaths, frames, and bells, with no restrictions. Over twenty members joined us for the Zoom event, shared their projects and showed an amazing variety of seasonal creations and talent, some of which are included in our pictures.

Project pictures are included as follows:

- Bell: S. Stevens
- Christmas basket: D. Perry
- Gnomes: S. Korteling
- Swag: D. Ward
- Topiary: E. Seagel
- Wreath: L. Verpoorten
- Frame: J. McLeod

Joan McLeod  
Programme Committee Member  
Capilano Garden Club



Capilano Garden Club Christmas Greenery







## 2021 Winter Horticulture Programs

### Arborist Winter Tree Identification Workshop

Take your Tree ID skills to the next level, with this Winter Tree ID course. Join an ISA Certified Arborist as they walk you through the steps to correctly identify trees using tips and tricks they have learned over the years. Class begins with an on-line video-conference session (Wednesday evening) and continues outdoors for a hands-on field session (Saturday morning).

*2 sessions, \$125. Wednesday, February 17 (via Zoom), 7pm – 8:30pm, and Saturday, February 20, 9am – noon.*

### Plant Identification Certificate

Explore gardens and the fabulous mix of plant material in the Lower Mainland. This course provides an overview on types and variety of plants, plant characteristics, and their optimum growing conditions. Discover which plants are hardy and fit into different themed garden areas – from drought tolerance to easy maintenance – let's look at the possibilities!

*8 sessions, \$225. Tuesday evenings in-class, 6:30 – 9:00pm (April 13 & 27) and Saturday mornings off-site, 9am – 12 noon (April 17, May 1, 15, & 29, June 12 & 26).*

### Permaculture Design Certificate

Include another option for your landscape clients by becoming a certified Permaculture Designer focusing on sustainable and self-sufficient landscapes. Gather with a group of environmentally conscious and creative people to learn and grow with plants and animals while exploring gardens, farms, and forests across the Lower Mainland. Together we will learn how nature designs itself and how we can become sustainable designers ourselves. This rapidly growing, sustainable design practice has become popular with environmentally conscious clients.

*12 sessions, \$995. Thursdays and Fridays, 5:30 – 9:30pm (April 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, & 30) and Saturdays and Sundays, 10am – 6pm (April 17, 18, 24, & 25, May 1 & 2)*

### Organic Landscape Specialist Certificate

Have you ever thought about gardening organically? Organic gardening is much more than simply replacing man-made chemicals with those derived from nature. It is understanding that gardens are living systems that must be nurtured. Topics include soil health, composting, water-wise gardening, permaculture concepts, landscape health and healthy lawns. Learn how to incorporate these practices into your garden using the latest, cutting edge, organic methods.

*10 sessions, \$400. Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30 – 9:30pm (February 8, 10, 17, 22, 24 & March 1, 8, 10) and Saturdays, 1:00 – 4:00pm (February 20 & March. 6).*

For full course information:

Website: [www.burnabycce.ca/horticulture](http://www.burnabycce.ca/horticulture)

Email: [Peter.Isaacson@burnabyschools.ca](mailto:Peter.Isaacson@burnabyschools.ca)

751 Hammar skjold Drive, Burnaby, BC V5B 4A1 604-296-6901 [www.burnabycce.ca](http://www.burnabycce.ca)

# BC Council of Garden Clubs

## Come join our team!!!

Our next Annual General Meeting is **March 27, 2021, from 9:00 am to noon**. This will be a Zoom meeting, so please **Save the Date** and mark your calendar! As at all AGMs there will be an election for Executive positions.

The Executive positions coming up for election for two-year terms are:

- **President**
- **Second Vice-President**
- **Secretary**

We also have a **Scholarship Trust Fund Trustee** position coming vacant which is a three-year term.

Our **Communication Coordinator** position is also vacant with one year remaining of a two-year term.

If you are interested in any of these positions please contact First Vice-President Cindy Tataryn at 604-585-6786 or email [1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com](mailto:1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com), or contact Past President Lorna Fraser at [pastpresident@bcgardenclubs.com](mailto:pastpresident@bcgardenclubs.com).

We need to fill all of these positions in order to continue moving forward and providing insurance, communication, and other services to the member clubs. COVID-19 has posed challenges to all the clubs and the BCCGC Executive, but gardeners are a resilient bunch and we will get through this together!!

Cindy Tataryn

First Vice-President

[1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com](mailto:1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com)

[www.bcgardenclubs.com](http://www.bcgardenclubs.com)





## **PRESIDENT:**

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

### **TERM OF OFFICE:**

The President is elected in odd numbered years for a term of two years. The maximum a President can serve is two consecutive two-year terms.

After service two consecutive terms, the President must step down. The former President may stand for another office at any time, and may stand for the position of President at a future date.

### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

The President of the BC Council of Garden Clubs has the responsibility of:

- Leading and managing the development and implementation of Council strategies and policies.
- Management of its financial resources
- Efficient and effective execution of the Council's mandate
- Upholding the current Constitution.
- Supporting Council members

### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The President has the responsibility to:

- Act as primary spokesperson for the BC Council of Garden Clubs.
- Direct and monitor the Council's activities.
- Develop and recommend strategic plans to the Council Executive Board for the implementation of the Council's vision and mission.
- Report to the Council Executive Board and Council Members and make recommendations regarding the Council's vision and mission.
- Lead and manage within the parameters established by the Council Executive Board, Council members and Council committees.
- Call and attend Board Executive meetings and provide regular reports to the Council Executive Board  
Submit an annual budget to the Treasurer for the Annual General Meeting.
- Prepare a report to the Council membership to be presented at each of the Council's meetings.

## **SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT:**

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

### **TERM OF OFFICE:**

The Second Vice-President is elected in odd-numbered years for a two-year term. The Second Vice-President may stand for multiple terms of office.

### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

The Second Vice-President of the BC Council of Garden Clubs has the responsibility of:

- Overseeing and co-ordinating the registration and promotion logistics of the Council's two annual meetings.
- Ensuring that Council's Meeting Registration process and policies are maintained.

- Upholding the current Constitution.
- Supporting Council members

### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The Second Vice-President has the responsibility to:

- Promoting the Council's meetings, including:
  - Ensuring that appropriate flyers and information are developed and distributed to the membership (Bulletin, website, Facebook etc.).
  - Overseeing the registration process, including but not limited to working with the Treasurer to ensure payments are received, tracking registrations, confirming a quorum.
  - Present a final report to the Board after each meeting.
  - Arrange for the table centerpieces for the meetings.
- Attend Board Executive meetings and provide regular reports to the Board
- Submit an annual budget for the Second Vice-President's position to the Treasurer for the Annual General Meeting.
- Confirm a quorum at the beginning of each Council Meeting and as requested.
- Provide a report to the members at the Annual General Meeting

### **SECRETARY:**

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

### **TERM OF OFFICE:**

The Secretary is elected in odd numbered years for a term of two years. The Secretary may stand for multiple terms.

### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

The Secretary of the BC Council of Garden Clubs has the responsibility of:

- Facilitating, in consultation with the President, notification of meetings, development agendas, meeting space, and related activities
- Recording and maintaining records of the activities of the Council.
- Oversees membership and Council Members Liability Insurance.
- Upholding the current Constitution.
- Supporting Council members

### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The Secretary has the responsibility to:

- Facilitate, in consultation with the President, notification of meetings, preparation and distribution of agenda items.
- Ensure arrangement for meetings are met (booking the space and ensuring payment by the Treasurer).
- Prepare accurate, complete minutes of Executive Board Meetings and BC Council of Garden Clubs' Meetings, to include, but not limited to:
  - Date and time of meeting, form and venue, present and absent Executive Board members, confirmation of quorum
  - Record of all decisions taken, brief summary of all issues discussed and any directives or authorizations given by the Board, or a Committee, or the members.

- Record whether resolutions were unanimous or include dissents. Election results should be noted.
- Retain and safeguard the official Board and Committee Minute Books and Corporate documents.
- Oversee Membership records including ensuring payments are received and records updated as required.
- Attend Board Executive meetings and provide regular reports to the Board
- Submit a Secretary's annual budget to the Treasurer for the Annual General Meeting.
- Provide a report to the members at the Annual General Meeting

### **SCHOLARSHIP TRUST FUND TRUSTEE:**

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

### **TERM OF OFFICE:**

One member of the committee is elected each year for a three-year term. Members may stand for multiple terms.

### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

The Scholarship Fund Committee of the BC Council of Garden Clubs has the responsibility of:

- Overseeing the disbursements of funds from the BC Council of Garden Clubs Scholarship Fund held and administered by VanCity Community Foundation
- Promoting the scholarship fund and increase awareness of the fund with member clubs
- Searching for additional educational institutions providing the horticulture courses of study that meet the criteria of the Committee
- Upholding the current Constitution.

### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The Scholarship Fund Committee has the responsibility to:

- Oversee the annual disbursement of scholarship funds by VanCity Community Foundation
- Ensure that educational institutes are awarding the funds as per the criteria set by the Committee
- Promote the fund to the member clubs, encourage donations and participate in fundraising activities on behalf of the Fund, including organizing and coordinating vendor tables at the Council's AGM and Fall meetings,
- Provide a report to the member clubs at the Annual General Meeting and the Fall Meeting,
- Provide regular reports to the BC Council of Garden Clubs Executive Board by the Chair of the Committee who is also a member of the Executive.
- Submit a budget for committee activities at the AGM
- Committee Chair to attend Board Executive meetings and provide regular reports to the board



## COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR:

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

### TERM OF OFFICE:

The Communications Coordinator is elected in even-numbered years for a term of two years. The Communications Coordinator may stand for multiple terms.

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

The Communications Coordinator of the BC Council of Garden Clubs has the responsibility of:

- Overseeing the compiling and distributing of information and news for publication on the Council's website, Facebook page, Twitter and Bulletin Express, and other electronic communications platforms.
- Upholding the current Constitution.
- Supporting Council members

### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Communications Coordinator has the responsibility to:

- Compile, distribute and ensure timely publication of Council news and information in the various electronic platforms used by the Council including but not limited to the Council website, Facebook page, and Twitter by:
  - including regular reports from Board Executives and their committees;
  - promoting Council events and members' events;
  - soliciting articles and reports from member clubs;
  - recruiting volunteers to support and provide services for the various electronic platforms;
  - if appropriate, soliciting and managing sponsored content, promotions and ads.
- Ensure that publication on electronic platforms is consistent and timely.
- Attend Board Executive meetings and provide regular reports to the Board.
- Submit an annual budget to the Treasurer for the Annual General Meeting.
- Submit a Communications area annual budget to the Treasurer for the Annual General Meeting.
- Provide a report to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

#### **Benefits of volunteering for you:**

- Makes you happy
- Increases self-confidence
- Provides a sense of purpose
- Counteracts the effects of stress, anger, and anxiety
- Make new friends and contacts

#### **What are your volunteering goals?:**

- Try something new
- Do something rewarding with your spare time
- Meet people with different outlooks or experiences
- Expand on your interests and hobbies



## SPEAKER DIRECTORY LISTING FORM

## BC COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS WEBSITE

Many of us are well underway with Zoom meetings in place of in-person meetings. There was a recent suggestion to BC Council of Garden Clubs to create a resource for clubs of guest speakers who will present via Zoom.

Guess what? That resource is already there. Visit [www.bcgardenclubs.com](http://www.bcgardenclubs.com) and click on the Speaker section. You browse through the Speaker Directory to assist you on choices.

If you have had a **great speaker recently, who did a presentation on Zoom**, remember to visit the Update Speaker Listing and share that information with fellow members.

## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

We would love to feature your club in the newsletter. You are invited to submit an article at any time (please include photos). Photos should be high resolution and you should include the name of the photographer if possible. Articles should be in the range of 300–500 words. If you have an idea for a longer piece, connect with the newsletter editor in advance to discuss your idea.

Articles are due on the 15th of the month preceding publication. If they are submitted after that date, they will be held for the next issue. The next due date is January 15th for February 1st. Submissions/inquiries: [newsletter@bcgardenclubs.com](mailto:newsletter@bcgardenclubs.com).

Lynda Pasacreta, Editor  
Pam Robertson, Copy Editor

## BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS

Eric Hees | President  
Lorna Fraser | Past President  
Cindy Tataryn | First Vice-President  
Second Vice-President | **vacant**  
Pam Robertson | Secretary  
Ginette Handfield | Treasurer

Brenda Woosnam | Scholarship Trust Fund  
Communications Coordinator | **vacant**  
Lorna Herchenson | Membership Committee  
Lynda Pasacreta | Newsletter Committee

[BCgardensclubs.com](http://BCgardensclubs.com) | [www.facebook.com/bcgardenclubs](http://www.facebook.com/bcgardenclubs)

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