Peterborough Horticultural Society

Volume 165 **November 2026** Number 9

Wednesday November 25th , 2026 @ 7pm, at the Lion's Centre "Christmas Trivia" by Mary Jane Pilgrim

Annual Members Meeting will happen directly after MJs presentation



We'll be laughing and learning as MJ – Past President of our Hort Society and Master Gardener – will take us through a Christmas Trivia Quiz.
Mary-Jane Pilgrim joined the Peterborough Hort Society and the Peterborough Master Gardeners over 10 years ago and loves getting out and meeting other gardeners to "talk plants". The love of gardening is probably hereditary as she grew up in a large farm family with Dutch immigrant parents. She was definitely not a fan in those days of weeding rows and rows of vegetables but loves the colour and fragrance of her garden today. MJ was the president of the society in Peterborough for the 8 years and now serves as the Past President. She was also an assistant director for OHA District 4 in 2021-2023.

While not too applicable to this talk, MJ enjoys cycling, playing squash and making/fixing stained glass windows.

This meeting will not be available on Zoom; Guests are welcome for $5 per person

web: peterboroughhort.com **newsletter submissions:** ptbohortsoc@gmail.com
mail: P.O. Box 1372 Peterborough, ON K9J 7H6 **instagram:** ptbohortsoc
facebook: Peterborough Horticultural Society

President's Message – November 2026



As November arrives, our gardens begin their long winter rest. The colourful blooms of summer have faded, the trees have shed most of their leaves, and the cooler days remind us that another gardening season is drawing to a close. Although our gardens may look quiet, there is still beauty to be found in this season of change.

November is a wonderful time to reflect on the year behind us. We have enjoyed the beauty of our gardens, learned new things, shared ideas, and hopefully found inspiration from one another. Whether you grew a new perennial, tried a different gardening technique, welcomed pollinators into your yard, or simply enjoyed a favourite flower, every gardening season brings its own rewards.

Let's take time to appreciate the friendships and community that make our Horticultural Society so special. Thank you for your enthusiasm, your participation, and your willingness to share your knowledge and love of gardening. Every member contributes to making our society a welcoming place to learn, grow, and enjoy our common interests.

As we look ahead to winter, I encourage you to keep your gardening spirit alive. Browse seed catalogues, dream about next year's garden, try a new houseplant, or jot down ideas for changes you would like to make when spring returns.

We look forward to ending our year off with Mary-Jane Pilgrim's Christmas Trivia, our Christmas giving tables and our Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the Board, we want to wish everyone a warm and peaceful winter. We are looking forward to what 2027 has in store for our gardens.

❖ Anne Trudel-Inglis
PHS President

PHS Shirts for Members – still available!



Say hello to your new favourite gardening shirt! These shirts were so popular we will be selling them again this fall at the November general meeting. Shirts are $25 each, screen printed right here in Peterborough; funds raised from sales will help us to broaden our scholarship donations for 2027.



Membership Year = Calendar Year

Time to renew your membership for 2027!

Whether you are a novice or an expert gardener, the Peterborough Horticultural Society has something of interest for you. The annual membership fee helps support the activities of the society and entitles you to:

- Nine Amazing General Meetings with speakers, door prizes, fun and laughter
- Nine information-filled monthly newsletters
- Enter flower shows
- Sign up for our bus trips
- Receive discounts at local gardening vendors who support PHS

For membership renewals & forms, check out our Membership page (peterboroughhort.com- Printable membership form can be found there.)

For Renewals- if your contact information has not changed:
Payment options are:

- Please send an **e-transfer** in the amount of $30 (individual) or $35 (family) to **ptbohortsoc@gmail.com OR**
- Print and fill out form and mail it **to**
  Mary-Rose Daigle
  512 Dickson St
  Peterborough ON K9H-3K1
  with a **Cheque** in the amount of $30 (individual) or $35 (family).

If your contact information has changed OR you are joining as a new member:

- complete this online form
- for **"payment options"** see above

We have great speakers lined up this year and are looking forward to sharing our Horticultural interests and stories with you!

Questions? Comments? – email us at ptbohortsoc@gmail.com





Whether you call it "Fall" or "Autumn" it's a great time of year!

Christmas Giving Table

Our November 25th meeting will have a special table for members to donate non-perishable foods, cash, warm socks, hats, mittens and other items.

The hustle and bustle of Christmas Shopping is upon us, and as in other years the generous members of Peterborough Horticultural Society remember those less fortunate.



In past years we have brought warm socks, hats and mittens for men, women and children, to this very special meeting. These items are distributed to local shelters.



Non-perishable foods are always needed and greatly appreciated by Kawartha Food Share.



Also on this night, our Hospitality Table is complimentary when members bring in a small sampling of their favorite Christmas baking. Leftover goodies are taken to local shelters, and all these items are so appreciated.

Wishing you all a Wonderful Christmas and thanking you all for your continued generosity.

❖ **PHS Board**

Winter Flower Show – Pictures of Summer

Pictures of Summer Show & Tell event – this is a repeat of the Houseplant picture competition with a twist! In January you will be able to send in pictures of your most prized houseplants AND pictures from your garden from this summer. Voting will take place at the March 2027 meeting.

Details will be in the January 2027 newsletter but start snapping those summer pictures now!

Preparing Our Gardens for Winter

As November arrives our thoughts turn from enjoying the garden to preparing it for the long winter ahead. While many plants are naturally equipped to withstand our Canadian winters, a little extra care and protection can make all the difference between a plant that simply survives and one that thrives when spring returns.

Winter protection isn't just about keeping plants warm. It's about protecting roots from fluctuating temperatures, preventing winter burn, reducing damage from heavy snow and ice, and giving our gardens the best possible start for another growing season.

Here are some helpful tips to protect your garden this winter.

1. Mulch – A Winter Blanket for Your Plants



One of the best ways to protect perennials, shrubs and young plants is by applying a layer of mulch.

Apply approximately 5–8 cm (2–3 inches) of shredded leaves, straw, bark mulch or compost around plants.

Mulch helps insulate the soil and protects roots from repeated freezing and thawing.

Pay particular attention to newly planted perennials and shallow-rooted plants.

Avoid piling mulch directly against tree trunks or shrub stems, as this can encourage rot and provide shelter for rodents.

2. Protecting Roses and Tender Shrubs



Some shrubs and roses need a little extra attention to survive our Zone 5b winters.

Roses: Once dormant, protect susceptible varieties with a rose collar or mound of soil or compost around the base. Avoid using soil dug from around the plant's roots.

Hydrangeas: Protect tender varieties, particularly bigleaf hydrangeas, with a breathable burlap screen or enclosure. Remember that some hydrangeas flower on old wood, so protecting their flower buds is important.

Young shrubs: Use burlap screens to shield vulnerable plants from drying winter winds.

Newly planted evergreens: Provide protection from wind and strong winter sun, especially during their first winter.

Not every shrub needs wrapping. Choose protection based on the plant variety and its hardiness.

3. Protecting Evergreens from Winter Burn

Have you ever noticed that some evergreens turn brown or bronze after winter? This is often called winter burn. Evergreens continue to lose moisture through their needles during winter. When the ground is frozen, their roots cannot replace that moisture, and drying winds and winter sunshine can make the problem worse.



To help prevent winter burn:

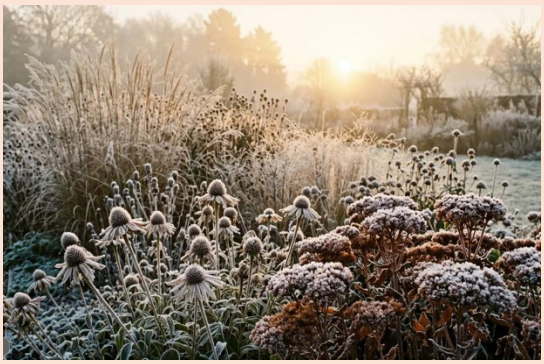
Water evergreens thoroughly in the fall before the ground freezes, particularly during dry autumn weather.

Use burlap screens to protect exposed plants from prevailing winds.

Avoid wrapping evergreens tightly in plastic, which can trap moisture and cause damage.

4. Don't Forget Your Perennials!

It can be tempting to cut everything back in the fall, but leaving some plants standing has many benefits.



Leave ornamental grasses standing to provide winter interest and shelter for beneficial insects.

Keep seed heads on coneflowers, black-eyed Susans and other plants to provide food for winter birds.

Leave healthy perennial stems where practical to provide habitat for overwintering pollinators.

Remove diseased foliage and any plant material affected by serious pest or disease problems.

Remember, a tidy garden isn't necessarily a healthy garden! Leaving some natural plant material provides valuable winter habitat.

5. Protecting Trees from Winter Damage

Young trees are particularly vulnerable to winter injury, including sunscald, frost cracks and damage from rabbits and mice.



A few simple precautions can help:

Install plastic or mesh tree guards around young trunks to prevent animal damage. Ensure guards are suitable for winter use and do not constrict the trunk.

Protect thin-barked trees from winter sunscald with appropriate tree wraps, removing them in spring according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Keep mulch several centimetres away from the trunk.

Remove heavy accumulations of wet snow from vulnerable branches gently, using upward strokes. Avoid striking frozen branches.

A Final Thought: Let Nature Help!

As gardeners, we sometimes feel the need to tidy every corner of our gardens before winter arrives.

However, nature has its own way of preparing for the cold months. Leaving fallen leaves under trees and shrubs, keeping some perennial stems standing and providing seed heads for birds all help support a healthy garden ecosystem.

Our gardens may appear quiet and dormant through the winter, but beneath the snow, life continues. With a little preparation and thoughtful care, we can help our plants weather the cold and welcome another beautiful gardening season in the spring.

Wishing everyone a safe, restful winter and happy gardening dreams until we meet again in the spring!

❖ **Anne Trudell-Inglis**

Celebrating Years of Service

Celebrating years of service for the following members:

25 Year Pin Recipient
Chris Tewsley

5 Year Pin Recipients
Anne Craig
Linda McElroy
Silvia Strobl
Bernie Wolfe
Sharleen Ward

There is no meeting in December and the January and February meetings will be virtual. Information on the 2027 speakers will be posted in the newsletters.

Upcoming Events and Activities

January – accepting submissions for the Pictures of Summer Flower Show & Tell
Make sure to take pictures of your gardens before it's too late. We are hoping for lots of happy, fun memories to share in the Pictures of Summer virtual flower show & tell.

Gardening Resources

OHA Garden Ontario website https://gardenontario.org lots of downloadable resources and the Autumn 2025 Trillium

Peterborough Master Gardeners website is https://peterboroughmastergardeners.com/ read the blog, ask questions, find events in Peterborough area.

There are a lot of websites, books and groups that provide resources – if you have a favourite one, please let us know and we will share in the newsletter

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PHS 2026 Annual Members Meeting

(formally known as AGM)

November 25th
after our main speaker

2026 Annual Members Meeting Agenda:

- Peterborough Horticultural Society Objectives
- Motions:
  1) 2025 AGM Minutes Review and Motion to Approve
  2) 2025-2026 Financial report and Financial Review Certificate Motion to Approve
  3) Motion to Approve Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Auditors
  4) Motion to Approve the actions and decisions of the Executive for the past year.
  5) Motion to Approve the actions and decisions of the Board of Directors for the past year
  6) Motion to Accept Changes to our Constitution
  7) Motion to Approve 2026 President's Report
  8) Recognition of 2025-2026 Board Members
  9) Installation of 2026 – 2027 Officers & Directors
  10) Motion to accept the 2026-2027 Board of Members as listed

Peterborough Horticultural Society
Annual General Meeting Minutes, Nov.26, 2025

1. Call to Order 8:00pm

2. Approvals:

Motion (1): To approve the Minutes of the PHS AGM of November 27, 2024
Approved by Jennifer Shaw and Pauline Drake. Majority Agree.

Motion (2): To approve the Treasurer's Report.
Approved by Tom Keeton and Diane Cancilla. Majority Agree.

Motion (3): That Claire Sullivan and Calvin Stillman be appointed to perform a financial review audit as of August 31,2026
Approved by Dale Finlay and Laura Jack. Majority Agree.

Motion (4): To approve the actions and decisions of the Executive for the past year.
Approved by Jennifer Shaw and Calvin Stillman. Majority Agree.

Motion (5): To approve the actions and decisions of the Board of Directors for the past year.
Approved by Fred Doris and Charlene Pratt. Majority Agree.

Motion (6): To accept the President's Report as presented by Anne Trudel-Inglis
Accepted by MJ Pilgrim and Sylvia Strobl. Majority Agree.

3. Presentation of Officers of the Peterborough Horticultural Society 2025-2026 Board:

PRESIDENT – Anne Trudel-Inglis	DIRECTORS	Amanda Berrett
VICE-PRESIDENT – Jennifer Shaw		Laura Jack
SECRETARY* – Mary-K Dunn		Maura Holek
TREASURER* – Mary-Rose Daigle		Marjorie Vendrig
PAST PRESIDENT – MJ Pilgrim		

**The Secretary and Treasurer positions are appointed positions.

Silvia Strobl, President of Lakefield Horticultural Society, to 'install' the 2025-26 Board and officers.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM on November 26, 2025 (moved by Nancy Weller McCraken and seconded by Jennifer Shaw).

Peterborough Horticultural Society Income & Expense FY26
2025-09-01 through 2026-08-31 (In Canadian Dollars) (Cash Basis)

Income	
Bus Trips	8,705.00
Donations	437.62
Gov't Grants	3,000.00
Interest	526.67
Membership & Guest Fees	4,055.00
Other Sales	675.00
Total Income	17,399.29
Expenses	
Bus Trips	5,077.56
Cost of Goods Sold	418.65
Donations & Community Grants	705.00
Fees & Charges (Accounting, Bank, Social Media)	326.66
Flower Shows	40.00
General Admin	450.51
Hospitality	192.17
Meeting Room	1,474.90
OHA & District 4	2,969.25
Printing	138.49
Scholarships & Awards	1,050.00
Speakers	823.00
Volunteer & Member Appreciation	632.20
Total Expenses	14,298.39
Net Income	3,100.90

Peterborough Horticultural Society Balance Sheet
As of 2026-08-31 (in Canadian Dollars) (Cash Basis)

Cash/Bank Accounts	$10,731.33
Investments	$16,171.97
Receivables (HST Rebate)	$430.68
Total Assets	$27,933.98
Total Equity	$27,933.98
Total Liabilities and Equity	$27,933.98

