

Good morning members,

Hope you enjoy this recap of our April meeting that was held on Wednesday. It was a fantastic evening that featured a wonderful talk by Chloe Hurst on ‘A Gothic Garden in Carleton Place’ which followed updates from executives and several of our volunteer teams on the many activities and contributions to our community that are underway and planned.

A big thank you to Debbie Guthro for providing this written recap, and to Rob Drapeau for taking and contributing the photos.

Also, please check out the attached **April Newsletter** that has lots of great content again this month. Especially take note of the section on the upcoming flower show. Our thanks to Linda Bartlett and contributors for another job well done.

**Opening Remarks**

President Rick Roberts called the meeting to order. Kilby McCann acknowledged the Algonquin Ani-shin-aabe Nation.



**Treasurer’s Report**

Linda Bartlett presented the financial report, showing a balance of \$8,066.00. The society has received the \$1,000 cheque from OMAFRA. Additionally, Linda prepared and distributed printed copies of this month's newsletter.

**Banner Presentation**

Linda Bartlett and Irene Tobis introduced the new banner and explained why the old one had to be replaced. The old banner, which had been found after two years at the Carleton Place Library, was used during the last Summer Flower Show.



The new banner will be 6 feet high by 2 feet wide and made of vinyl. Two banners will be created at a cost of \$40.00 each.

Questions were raised regarding the abundance of information and the absence of "D2" in the verbiage. Linda explained that similar banners from other societies follow this format. Motion

Rob Drapeau moved to approve the new emblem (Native Blue Flag Iris) and the redesign of the CPDHS banner. This was seconded by Anita Ruus. The motion passed with 55 in favor, 0 against, and 2 abstentions.

### **Book Club Update**

Member Margaret Coombs shared that the Winter Book Club is reading Braiding Sweetgrass, a book about an Indigenous woman's relationship with botany and the native way of life.



### **Director's Update – Paul Pietsch**

Paul Pietsch announced that he would be visiting [Moore Water Gardens](#), where they sell bare-root plants like water lilies and sacred lotuses. He will also be going to [Nursery Canadale](#), which specializes in Japanese maples (less hardy varieties). Members were encouraged to let Paul know if they wanted him to pick anything up on their behalf.



**Show and Tell – Anne Harbord**

Anne Harbord brought in two Cana Lilies (Cleopatra) with green shoots that were potted in December.



**Director's Update – Bri Logan**

Bri Logan, lead for the Children's Table at [Earthfest \(May 3, 2025\)](#), shared that the table will feature recycled materials and themed mugs. She is seeking donations of small Aloe Vera plants or other small plants and is looking for volunteers to assist at the event. Interested members should contact Bri.



Bri also coordinated the Garden Youth Program at Rona on March 29, 2025, titled "Plant a Pasta," which was a great success. She thanked her volunteers: Janet, Barb, and Valencia.

**Director’s Update – Barbara Fowler**

Barbara Fowler reported that the Flower Show Workshop on March 29, 2025, had 17 attendees. Helen Halpenny provided valuable information and tips. The next workshop will be held on April 26, 2025, and will be led by Linda Bartlett. A registration table is set up at the back of the room for those interested.



**President’s Update – Rick Roberts**

President Rick Roberts reminded members about membership renewals and the upcoming D2 meeting on May 3, 2025, in Pakenham. Members are invited to attend; please contact Rick if interested.



Rick also noted that, due to lingering winter weather, potting-up days may be delayed. Updated dates will be sent out via email, so members should stay tuned.

**Break and Treats**

The meeting paused for a break, during which members enjoyed delicious treats and cake.

**Show and Tell – Daniel Brumar**

Member Daniel Brumar brought in a beautiful Flayoni Orchid, which grows in the mountains of Taiwan in cool, dry conditions. These orchids go dormant in winter, then bloom and grow new leaves and bulbs in the summer.





Daniel reminded everyone of the [Orchid Show at Algonquin College on April 26-27, 2025](#).

**Guest Presentation – Chloe Hurst**

Our guest, Chloe Hurst, gave an excellent presentation on her Gothic Garden in Carleton Place, sharing how it all began.





Chloe kindly provided a pdf version of her presentation to share here... includes lists of the many plants that she spoke about. (pdf)

 The Goth Garden.pdf

**Door Prize Winners**  
Congratulations to the door prize winners: Donna Holmes, Ann Cochrane, Brenda McCoe, Sarah Lewis, and Anne Harbord, who each went home with a flower or flower bulbs.

**Special Thanks**  
To Barbara Fowler and Heather Lebeau for managing the registration table for the upcoming Flower Show Workshop on April 26, 2025. Laura Cupper staffed the membership table. Thank you to all involved.

**Closing Remarks**

Rick Roberts concluded the meeting by reminding everyone about the next General Meeting on May 7, 2025, featuring a presentation on "*Tiny Forests, Big Impact*" by **Stephanie Benoit**.  
**Meeting Adjourned**

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*Happy gardening, Rick*

**Member Communications**  
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