


Business and Professional Women (BPW) Ontario Annual Book of Reports 2024 – 2025





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Executive Officers


Board Member Name:	Anne Harvey	
Board Position:	President	
Committee Chair (if applicable):	Strategic Planning, Membership	
Committee Members (if applicable):	Barb Hore, Marjorie Curet, Mina DiDomenico, Kelsy King-Gill, Toby Toth, Emmanuella Dwumfour – Social Media	
Home Club:	BPW Hastings and Prince Edward	
<p>Key accomplishments, events, and activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held a Membership Drive. We hired Emmanuella Dwumfour, who became a member of the Brampton Caledon club. On April 12, 2024 we held a pan-Ontario Pink Tea Party to bring awareness to BPW. • In June 2025 we started having meetings to discuss and decide the future of BPW Ontario. This will continue in September 2025 and all BPW Ontario members will be welcome to join and be a part of the future. • Started discussions regarding a Conflict Resolution Committee. The committee will begin meetings in October 2025. • Launched the Leadership Series, a BPW Canada initiative to highlight member knowledge and share that with all members across Canada. This will continue in September 2025. 		
<p>Challenges faced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of engagement. Everyone seems to be tired of meetings. 		
<p>Represented BPW Ontario at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 10, 2024 – attended a Young BPW and Women Strengthening Women collaboration planning meeting. • August 9 – 11 , 2024 – attended BPW Canada Convention as delegate for Hastings and Prince Edward. • September 21, 2024 – attended BPW Brampton meeting via Zoom. • October 2, 2024 – attended BPW London Executive meeting. • October 15, 2024 – attended BPW Brampton Caledon’s meeting. • October 22, 2024 - attended BPW Hastings and Prince Edward’s Small Business Week and brought greetings from BPW Ontario. • Attended most of the Speaker Series Zoom meetings. • In October 2024 I started attending the BPW Canada Board meetings and became the Chair of the Programs and Projects Committee. 		
<p>Suggestions/Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would like to encourage all members to get involved in the future planning meetings that will be held monthly. These meetings will not be mandatory, but if you are able to bring your thoughts and suggestions you are welcome. The growth that I had hoped for during the Membership Drive did not happen. I know we are all busy and are being pulled in so many directions, but it is time for us to decide what BPW means and how we are going to support the mandate. 		

Board Member Name:	Marlene McKinnon	
Board Position:	Immediate Past President	
Committee Chair (if applicable):	Nominations	
Committee Members (if applicable):	n/a	
Home Club:	BPW Sault Ste. Marie	
<p>How did you promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)? (Ctrl + click HERE for details):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a 		
<p>Key accomplishments, events, and activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a 		
<p>Challenges faced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a 		
<p>Represented BPW Ontario at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a 		
<p>Suggestions/Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022, I held so much hope for the future of our organization. Unfortunately, while COVID restrictions had waned personal issues flared and restricted my concentration and work ethic. My apologies to the Board Members and the members as a whole. 		


Board Member Name:	Heather Ellis	
Board Position:	Resolutions Chair	
Committee Chair (if applicable):	Resolutions and By-Law	
Committee Members (if applicable):	Mina Di Domenico Norma Yau Jocelyne Desautels Hatice Yazar	
Home Club:	BPW Hastings & Prince Edward	
<p>How did you promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)? (Ctrl + click HERE for details): This year's resolution promote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Goal 5: Gender Equality • Sustainable Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities 		
<p>Key accomplishments, events, and activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief was sent to all leaders of provincial parties and independent provincial parliamentarian • Met virtually with MPP Downey's team, MPP Williams, MPP Gelinias, and MPP Brady 		
<p>Challenges faced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee members were attending the BPW Canada Resolutions Meeting which resulted in no members attending the first and only planning meeting. RESOLUTION: Met with BPW Canada's Resolutions Chair and the decision was to only hold meetings with them as the only members attending her meetings (at that time) were from BPW Ontario. 		
<p>Represented BPW Ontario at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a 		
<p>Suggestions/Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy must take a new approach as there is too much work being done by some club resolutions' chairs with little impact at the government level. After discussions with the BPW Canada Resolutions chair, we have decided to continue to write resolutions but need to also partner and support other women's organizations/groups whose ability to write resolutions/position papers in a timelier manner. We can support by writing letters of support. 		


Board Member Name:	Shahina Suleman	
Board Position:	Learning & Development	
Committee Chair (if applicable):	N/A	
Committee Members (if applicable):	N/A	
Home Club:	North Toronto BPW	
<p>How did you promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)? (Ctrl + click HERE for details):</p> <p>SDG 5: Gender Equality. Advising and advocating for training and development initiatives that directly contribute to this goal by identifying and sharing opportunities for members to develop skills through skill-building and leadership opportunities. I was involved in publicizing BPW's ongoing advocacy efforts as a part of the global SDG movement. This would include promoting the organization's work to combat human trafficking and its participation in BPW Ontario led initiatives.</p>		
<p>Key accomplishments, events, and activities:</p> <p>Revitalizing the "Women Strengthening Women" Mentorship Program, I've had discussions with members of Young BPW to recreate the "Women Strengthening Women" mentorship program. This is a crucial initiative that directly supports BPW's core mission of empowering women. By engaging with younger members, I intend to ensure the program's longevity and relevance to the next generation of professionals.</p> <p>Active Participation and Representation My consistent attendance at board meetings and my role in representing the organization showcase my commitment and leadership.</p>		
<p>Challenges faced:</p> <p>The difficulty in forming a core committee stems from members being busy with other commitments. Instead of focusing on recruiting a full committee, efforts were concentrated on building a key relationship with the Young BPW group. The decision was made to focus intensely on one high-value project—the mentorship program—rather than pursuing numerous, less-developed ideas. This prioritization ensured meaningful progress and laid a solid foundation for the future, proving that strategic focus can overcome logistical hurdles.</p>		
<p>Represented BPW Ontario at:</p> <p>Championing Bold Futures. A significant research project aimed at enhancing the understanding of the employment needs of young South Asian women in Canada. The panel highlights the lived experiences of young South Asian women and gender-diverse individuals in the workforce. Their work is bringing much-needed attention to the barriers these individuals face and the steps needed to create meaningful change.</p> <p>Reimagining Cities as Safe Havens: BPW Ontario members proudly joined the Gender and the Economy Series hosted by the University of Toronto, in collaboration with the School of Cities and the Institute for Gender and the Economy (GATE), for the Feminist City 5.0: Cities as Safe Havens event. This thought-provoking conversation focused on reimagining urban environments and institutions to create equitable and sustainable access to safety and housing for our most vulnerable populations.</p>		
<p>Suggestions/Comments:</p> <p>N/A</p>		

Board Member Name:	Kelsy King-Gill	
Board Position:	VP Young BPW	
Committee Chair (if applicable):		
Committee Members (if applicable):		
Home Club:	London	
How did you promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)? (Ctrl + click HERE for details):		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 		
Key accomplishments, events, and activities:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly attended events held by Young BPW Canada chair to report back to members. Met with young BPW members throughout the term to learn about the various interests and priorities held by each and what they hoped to achieve through BPW membership. Worked towards creating a quarterly speaker event but did not achieve this desired outcome. 		
Challenges faced:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incomplete reporting on number of and contact details for young BPW members at the individual club level. Young members who are just entering post-secondary have very different interests from those completing their post-secondary and entering the workforce, which are again different from those who have been in their career for some time and are nearing the end of their time as a young BPW members – this makes it difficult to structure events or speakers which can target the desired outcomes of young BPW members as a whole. 		
Represented BPW Ontario at:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BPW London and District events 		
Suggestions/Comments:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve reporting at the club level for young BPW membership and work towards building a committee that includes young members at different stages in their career pursuits. 		

Board Member Name:	Kyla Wynia	
Board Position:	Secretary	
Committee Chair (if applicable):	N/A	
Committee Members (if applicable):	N/A	
Home Club:	BPW London	
<p>How did you promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)? (Ctrl + click HERE for details):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good health and Wellbeing & Decent Work and economic growth promoted through focused events at the BPW London club 		
<p>Key accomplishments, events, and activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voted in as BPW London President, celebrated 80th Anniversary at BPWL, gained new members 		
<p>Challenges faced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership, identifying a streamlined focus and filling executive roles 		
<p>Represented BPW Ontario at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 		
<p>Suggestions/Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 		

DRAFT

Board Member Name:	Joanne LeBreton	
Board Position:	Treasurer	
Committee Chair (if applicable):	Finance	
Committee Members (if applicable):	n/a	
Home Club:	BPW Sudbury	
<p>How did you promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)? (Ctrl + click HERE for details):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I support all Baker Tilly initiatives relating to Gender Equality. Also, my work on the board of the Greater City of Sudbury Chamber of Commerce also keeps me connected to local organization and initiatives that support many of these SDGs. I also attend local events in support of women's organizations. 		
<p>Key accomplishments, events, and activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Banking kept up to date throughout the year. Financial statements produced for mid-year meeting and year-end reporting. Held budget meeting to develop budget for coming year. 		
<p>Challenges faced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time – it was a very busy year, both personally and professionally. 		
<p>Represented BPW Ontario at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local BPW Greater Sudbury events. 		
<p>Suggestions/Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 		

Board Member Name:	Sharon Doran	
Board Position:	Editor	
Committee Chair (if applicable):	Newsletter / Book of Reports	
Committee Members (if applicable):	n/a	
Home Club:	BPW Barrie	

How did you promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)? (Ctrl + click [HERE](#) for details):

- Goal #3 – Good Health and Well Being: I have taken charge of my own diet and exercise regime, achieving a healthy BMI, and try to set a healthy example for my daughters and granddaughter.
- Goal #11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities: I have created a natural, organic, and bio-diverse garden surrounding my home that is a haven for birds, rabbits, chipmunks, squirrels, and pollinators. It consumes large quantities of CO2 while creating life-supporting oxygen. It also provides my family with a variety of seasonal fresh produce.
- Goal #12 – Responsible Consumption and Production: I make a concrete effort to purchase from local farmers, producers, and sellers, whenever possible.
- Goal #15 - Life on Land: I volunteer weekly with a local Trap-Neuter-Release organization that cares for local feral cats, ensuring they are healthy/vetted, fed and watered daily, and that they stop the cycle of reproduction. As a result, Barrie's SPCA has not had to euthanize a cat in several years.
- Goal #17 – Partnership for the Goals: I am a proud member of BPW, a group actively engaged in supporting many of the SDGs on the local, provincial, national, regional and international levels.

Key accomplishments, events, and activities:

- Create and distribute monthly newsletter on (or near) 15th of each month
- Support BPWO Conference/AGM, including assembly of Annual Book of Reports
- Manage the BPW Ontario website (with support from Lakeside Web)
- Manage archival files and member/board access via www.sync.com
- Update BPWO online TeamUp calendar with events

Challenges faced:

- Few requests for by members to access documents stored on sync.com
- Always the same few clubs providing photos and updates for the monthly newsletters


Represented BPW Ontario at:

- BPW Barrie Meetings

Suggestions/Comments:

- BPWO should focus solely on provincial matters and encourage BPWC to focus on national themes that benefit all clubs (membership, mentoring, marketing, insurance, etc.)
- Eliminate DD role (we currently have just one DD out of six positions), and invite club presidents to attend all BPWO Board meetings (not just twice per year)


District Directors:

Board Member Name:	Barb Hore	
Board Position:	District Director, Golden Horseshoe and Southwest Districts	
Committee Chair (if applicable):	BPW Ontario 2025 Conference	
Committee Members (if applicable):	Carol Kollar, Pat Dowling Linda Ford, Mina Di Domenico	
Home Club:	BPW Brampton Caledon	
<p>How did you promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? (Ctrl + click HERE for details):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #2. Zero Hunger: supported clubs to raise funds for their local community partners, such as food banks and school programs. • #3. Good Health and Well Being: encouraged clubs and made suggestions to have events and speakers on these topics • #4. Quality Education: supported clubs in granting bursaries and educating their members through inviting speakers • #5. Gender Equality: Encouraged and encouraged clubs to submit resolutions and invite speakers on the topic 		
<p>Key accomplishments, events, and activities: The main events I focused on this year included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensuring I stay in touch with all the clubs in the Golden Horseshoe and Southwest Districts. 2. Ensured I had a successful Annual District meeting in the fall of 2024 and documented lessons learned and what can be done to improve on the 2025 District Meeting. 3. Co-chaired the BPW Ontario 2025 Conference and AGM 		
<p>Challenges faced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weather conditions 		
<p>Represented BPW Ontario at: Over the past year, I represented the BPW Golden Horseshoe and Southwest Districts through 20 club visits, eight special club events and 9 Ontario Board meetings. These visits provided meaningful opportunities to connect with members, strengthen relationships, and share updates on provincial initiatives.</p> <p><u>Golden Horseshoe and Southwest Districts Meeting</u> On November 16, 2024, I organized and chaired a successful District Meeting in Cambridge. The event was well-attended by clubs from across both the Golden Horseshoe and Southwest Districts. Our guest speaker, Geraldine Stafford, the first civilian Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Manager at the Waterloo Regional Police Services, shared valuable insights that resonated with our members and aligned with BPW's advocacy goals.</p> <p>2025 BPW Ontario Conference and AGM I am honoured to co-chair the 2025 BPW Ontario Conference and Annual General Meeting, a cornerstone event that has been in the works for over a year. The planning committee (members noted above) has worked collaboratively to ensure a dynamic and engaging program aligns with this year's theme.</p>		
<p>Suggestions/Comments: N/A</p>		

Standing Committee Chairs

Board Member Name:	Elaine Mortensen	
Board Position:	Insurance Chair	
Committee Chair (if applicable):	n/a	
Committee Members (if applicable):	n/a	
Home Club:	BPW Kitchener-Waterloo	
How did you promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)? (Ctrl + click HERE for details):		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a 		
Key accomplishments, events, and activities:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiated Renewal of Commercial Liability Insurance Coverage- 2 Year Cancellable contract Negotiated Renewal of D & O Insurance 1 Year contract 		
Challenges faced:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Premium increases- negotiated lower rates as number of clubs has decreased 		
Represented BPW Ontario at:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a 		
Suggestions/Comments:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a 		

Task Force Committee Chairs

Board Member Name:	Emmanuella Dwumfour	
Board Position:	Social Media Manager	
Committee Chair (if applicable):	BPW Ontario Social Media	
Committee Members (if applicable):	n/a	
Home Club:	BPW Brampton Caledon	

How did you promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? (Ctrl + click [HERE](#) for details):

- #2. Zero Hunger: supported clubs that raised funds for their local community partners, such as food banks and school programs.
- #3. Good Health and Well Being: promoted club events and speakers on these topics
- #4. Quality Education: promoted club events and speakers on educational topics
- #5. Gender Equality: promoted clubs' meetings on this topic

The purpose of BPW Ontario's social media strategy is to:

- Promote our mission and values
- Increase visibility and engagement
- Support advocacy campaigns and educational initiatives
- Highlight member achievements
- Encourage recruitment and event participation
- My efforts aim to align closely with BPW Ontario's four pillars: Learn, Lead, Advocate, and Collaborate.

Platforms Used

- Facebook
- Instagram
- LinkedIn (*new in 2024–2025*)
- YouTube
- Twitter/X (*used minimally this year*)

Key Accomplishments

Campaigns and Themed Content

- Promoted major initiatives such as *International Women's Day*, *Equal Pay Day*, and ongoing *membership awareness*
- Created the **Women's Wednesday series** – weekly spotlights on Canadian women making an impact, linked to our four pillars with a call-to-action to visit our website
- Promoted the **Pink Tea for Progress** event with posts, a Facebook event page, a promo video, and boosted ads via Meta platforms

Original Content Creation

- Filmed and edited reels and promo videos, including a BPW member intro and a Pink Tea recap carousel
- Managed speaker series content: edited and uploaded videos to the BPW Ontario YouTube channel
- Created a **2024–2025 social media calendar**, updated regularly with event dates and themed posts
- Covered BPW Ontario events such as the *Provincial Meeting* and *Intersectional Feminism Panel*, and marked key holidays

Platform & Process Development

- Launched a **new LinkedIn page** for BPW Ontario
- Created a dedicated **Gmail account** for marketing coordination

Growth & Engagement Highlights

- Instagram follower growth: from ~670 to over 700 followers
- Boosted engagement and visibility for Pink Tea through strategic Meta ads
- Consistent cross-promotion across platforms increased overall reach and awareness
- Conference and event posts positively impacted attendance and participation

Content Strategy Overview

- Posting Frequency: 2–3 times per week
- Content Types:
 - Member features
 - Event promotion
 - Advocacy campaigns
 - Educational messaging tied to BPW pillars
- Branding: BPW colours, logos, and tone of voice were consistently used

Special thanks to the BPW Ontario members and club contacts who contributed content, photography, and engagement throughout the year. Your collaboration has strengthened and made our online presence more meaningful.

Challenges faced:

- Consistency or capacity issues
- Platform algorithm changes
- Limited access to content/photos from clubs
- Engagement gaps (e.g., low response on specific platforms)

Represented BPW Ontario at:

- Brampton Caledon Meetings
- Met with YBPWs and members to obtain feedback on improvements

Suggestions/Comments:

- Suggested improvements - add more real-time stories
- Need for increased content contributions from clubs or members. Assign a representative from each club to coordinate with the Social Media Manager.
- Goals for the next year - grow Instagram by 10%, introduce LinkedIn strategy

BPW Ontario Club Reports

Southwestern Ontario District Clubs: Kitchener-Waterloo, London

Club Name:	BPW Kitchener-Waterloo
President Name:	Elaine Mortensen
First Vice-President Name:	n/a
Treasurer Name:	Mary Dollar
Secretary Name:	n/a
Resolutions/By-Laws Chair Name:	Elaine Mortensen
Membership Chair Name:	Elaine Mortensen
# of members April 30, 2025:	11
# of members April 30, 2024:	8
Change to membership #:	+3
Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) addressed (ctrl + click HERE for details): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good Health and Well-Being, Gender Equality, Reduced Inequalities, Peace Justice and Strong Institution	
Key club accomplishments, events, and activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summer Social, Holiday Social, Holiday Project- Donations to Marillac Place	
Challenges faced: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Growing membership, Filling executive roles	
Upcoming events/activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• n/a	
Suggestions/comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• n/a	

Club Name:	BPW London
President Name:	Kyla Wynia
First Vice-President Name:	N/A
Treasurer Name:	Norma Yau
Secretary Name:	Anastasia Kulaga
Resolutions/By-Laws Chair Name:	N/A
Membership Chair Name:	Birgit von Schmeling
# of members April 30, 2025:	29
# of members April 30, 2024:	25
Change to membership #:	+4
Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) addressed (ctrl + click HERE for details):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero hunger, Good health and Wellbeing, Gender Equality, Decent work and economic growth 	
Key club accomplishments, events, and activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gained new members, actively growing membership with YBPW, celebrated 80th anniversary in June 	
Challenges faced:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filling executive roles 	
Upcoming events/activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of Summer social, Speaker Bonnie Sitter (Author), Pillar CEO Maureen Cassidy, Jayne Dill (Death Doula, Women's Health Panel) 	
Suggestions/comments:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	

BPW LONDON PHOTOS:



April 15, 2025 Wine Tasting Event



November 19, 2024 Netwalking Speaker Series



December 10, 2024 Holiday Social Event



August 2024 Social Event

Central Ontario District Club: Barrie

Club Name:	BPW BARRIE
President Name:	Deb James (stepped down July 2025)
First Vice-President Name:	N/A (Amanda Newlove installed June 2025)
Treasurer Name:	Sharon Doran
Secretary Name:	Catherine Tsouvaltsidis
Resolutions/By-Laws Chair Name:	N/A (Tanya Saari installed June 2025)
Membership Chair Name:	Sharon Doran
# of members April 30, 2025:	18
# of members April 30, 2024:	17
Change to membership #:	+1
<p>Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) addressed (ctrl + click HERE for details):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> #1 No Poverty: Donations made to Youth Haven & Barrie Women/Children's Shelter #2 Zero Hunger: Donation made to Barrie Food Bank #4 Quality Education: Programming and workshops to educate members and guests #5 Gender Equality: Local Commendations and Leadership Panels to recognize outstanding local female leaders for their contributions to the community #12 Responsible Consumption: Meetings switched to potluck format 	
<p>Key club accomplishments, events, and activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased club membership from 17 to 18. • Successful recruitment of new executive team at May 2024 AGM. • Successful fundraising yard sale in August 2024. • Engaging program of meetings including a September 2024 member brainstorming session to set direction for club and new president (Deb James). • Dynamic IWD Panel in March 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Susan Kenny, Plant Manager, Honda of Canada Mfg. ○ Catherine Tsouvaltsidis, Senior Business Application Specialist, TD Bank ○ Jennifer Armstrong, Co-Founder, Women for Local Politics • Local Commendations awarded to 4 outstanding women in April 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Julie Bateman, owner/founder of Asskicker Activewear and Asskicker Army ○ Lucy Gower, ED of Youth Haven Barrie ○ Candice Thomas, CEO and Founder Evergreen Wellness Studio ○ Sharon Smith, BPW member, King Charles Coronation Medal Recipient 	
<p>Challenges faced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resignation of First VP, Shelley Black (March 2025). • Resignation of President, Deb James (July 2025 – after end of fiscal year captured in this report), and subsequent loss of meeting venue, Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka. 	

Upcoming events/activities:

- September 10, 2025 – speaker/member Tanya Saari will provide a tour and discussion about Redwood Park Communities' projects, and success.
- October 8, 2025 – speaker/member Veronica Doran, a best-selling local author, will speak about romance literature being a space for women, by women.
- November 12, 2025 – Barrie Olive Oil – Guided Tasting Experience
- December 10, 2025 – a holiday social TBD
- January 14, 2026 – virtual (winter) meeting with focus on local advocacy
- February 11, 2026 – virtual (winter) meeting with focus on provincial advocacy
- March 11, 2026 – IWD2026 Panel / Commendation Winners
- April 8, 2026 – Workshop - TBA
- May 13, 2026 – Annual General Meeting and Election
- June 10, 2026 – BPW BARRIE 80th ANNIVERSARY EVENT (details TBD)

Suggestions/comments:

- BPW Barrie would like to thank outgoing President, Deb James, for her leadership throughout the 2024-2025 fiscal year.
- BPW Barrie appreciates the 2025 one-day Conference approach with resolutions handled virtually in advance and would like to see this concept continued in the future.

BPW BARRIE PHOTOS:



Golden Horseshoe District Clubs: Brampton Caledon, Niagara Falls

Club Name:	BPW Brampton Caledon
President Name:	Linda Ford
First Vice-President Name:	Amanda Graham-Rowe
Treasurer Name:	Pat Dowling
Secretary Name:	Mina Di Domenico
Resolutions/By-Laws Chair Name:	Mina Di Domenico
Membership Chair Name:	Barbara Hore
# of members April 30, 2025:	42
# of members April 30, 2024:	37
Change to membership #:	+5
<p>Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) addressed (ctrl + click HERE for details):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #2. Zero Hunger: Our club has raised funds for our community partner, Ste Louise. • #3. Good Health and Well Being: Our club has included speakers on these topics • #4. Quality Education: Our club sponsors a bursary and continues to educate its members through speakers and free virtual workshops. • #5. Gender Equality: Our club submitted both federal and provincial resolutions regarding gender equality. 	
<p>Key club accomplishments, events, and activities:</p> <p>My key objectives for the 2024-2025 club year were to grow membership, retain existing members, and advocate for our resolutions. I am pleased to report that we made significant strides in all these areas, thanks to the dedication and teamwork of our members.</p> <p>We began the club's 78th year with a new name: "BPW Brampton Caledon." The club year started with an incredible kick-off meeting, setting a strong foundation for the months ahead. A special thank you to Angela and the team for organizing meetings in various locations and securing engaging speakers, which added diversity and interest to our gatherings.</p> <p>Our Community Partners this year included Caledon Community Services, Ste. Louise Food Bank, Victim Services of Peel, Honeychurch Women's Shelter, and Wellspring Chinguacousy Cancer Support Centre. Many thanks to the Progressive Club for their partnership on the spring and Christmas fundraising drives.</p> <p>Pat Dowling successfully transitioned our bookkeeping to QuickBooks, streamlining the club's financial management. She continues to provide detailed monthly financial reports and has taken a leadership role in organizing our special events and fundraisers.</p> <p>Amanda Graham-Rowe has done an outstanding job keeping our club connected to BPW International and overseeing our KIVA Micro Loans to support women entrepreneurs worldwide. This year, we hosted three free online workshops focused on personal and professional growth. Congratulations to Nelia De Sousa and the team for organizing these valuable sessions.</p> <p>Another excellent year for communications! A big thank-you to Sheila Walker for her dedication to ensuring members stayed informed through regular email communications and newsletters.</p> <p>Sue Perlman did a terrific job staying connected with our members and keeping everyone posted through correspondence.</p>	

The club was highly active in advocacy, successfully submitting three federal resolutions, one provincial resolution, and one commendation for Charmaine Williams. This work required extensive research, debate, and fine-tuning, and I commend all those involved in driving these initiatives forward. Thank you, Mina, for leading these advocacy initiatives.

Our website and social media presence continue to evolve, adapting to the changing needs of our members and technological advancements. Thank you again, Mina.

We proudly awarded a bursary to a Sheridan College student, reinforcing our commitment to supporting women's education. Thank you to Amanda Graham-Rowe and Angela McKinnon for co-chairing this year's bursary.

Contributions Beyond the BPW Brampton Caledon Club

- Barb Hore continues to excel as BPW District Director of Golden Horseshoe and Southwest Ontario, leading another successful district meeting with an outstanding speaker.
- Rianna Ramesar was elected Vice President of yBPW on the BPW Canada Board—an exciting achievement for our club!
- Barb Hore and Pat Dowling are co-chairing the BPW Ontario 2025 Conference & AGM on September 13, 2025, with our Past President Carol Kollar – also a Past President of our club and BPW Ontario, providing guidance, demonstrating exceptional leadership while also organizing the annual ladies charity golf tournament, semiannual meat & seafood drives and our Christmas holiday cookie and cake Drive.
- Our members joined the BPW Ontario Tea Party.
- Mina Di Domenico represented BPW Canada as a delegate at the UN CSW69 conference in NYC and continues to be a strong voice for our club on provincial and federal advocacy committees.

This year has been a testament to the **power of teamwork, dedication, and leadership** within the BPW Brampton Caledon Club. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to every member who contributed to our successes. I look forward to building on this momentum in the year ahead!

We do good work!

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Ford
President

Challenges faced:

- Confirming dinner numbers. We are finding ways to remind our members to confirm their reservations.

Upcoming events/activities:

- Our club program and fundraising details can be found on the BPW Brampton Caledon website. www.bpwbramptoncaledon.com
- BPW Brampton Caledon created a BPW Ontario conference committee that began working on the details of this conference last year.

Suggestions/comments:

-

BPW BRAMPTON CALEDON PHOTOS:

BPW Brampton Caledon, Pink Tea Event, April 2025



Pat Dowling and Linda Ford at the 2025 Annual Ladies Charity Golf Tournament



Club Name:	BPW Niagara Falls
President Name:	n/a
First Vice-President Name:	n/a
Treasurer Name:	Nancy Broerse
Secretary Name:	Recording: Katherine Reid Corresponding: Jocelyne Desautels
Resolutions/By-Laws Chair Name:	n/a
Membership Chair Name:	n/a
# of members April 30, 2025:	15
# of members April 30, 2024:	9
Change to membership #:	+6
Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) addressed (ctrl + click HERE for details):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	
Key club accomplishments, events, and activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 8, 2025 IWD2025 ROUNDTABLE • March 29, 2025 Judging for STEM at Brock U. - Donation \$500.00 to a grade 12 team of two sisters, presented at the Awards Ceremony, Wednesday April 2, 2025 • April 12, 2025, Saturday, Famous Five Pink Tea • May 16, 2025 Fundraiser Bingo supporting Community Crew Lunch for Kids, \$5000.00 donation presented Monday June 23, 2025 	
Challenges faced:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • many members not doing their share – not helping out when needed 	
Upcoming events/activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 24, Laugh, Listen, Learn 	
Suggestions/comments:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a 	

GTA District Clubs: Bowmanville, North Toronto

Club Name:	BPW Bowmanville
President Name:	Tina Jordan
First Vice-President Name:	Pamela Cooper
Treasurer Name:	Valerie Mayers-Griffith
Secretary Name:	Karen Gleeson
Resolutions/By-Laws Chair Name:	Corinna Traill
Membership Chair Name:	Judy Hagerman
# of members April 30, 2025:	15
# of members April 30, 2024:	15
Change to membership #:	0
<p>Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) addressed (ctrl + click HERE for details):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #3 Good Health & Wellbeing - Grand Opening of Aniya Health Care Centre for Women's Health (October 4, 2024) • #1 No Poverty – Stuffing Purses for the Un-homed Event (November 26, 2024) • #1 No Poverty – Presentation Speaker from Big Brothers & Big Sisters (January 28, 2025) • #5 Gender Equality – Presentation Speaker from Build Like a Girl (February 25, 2025) • #10 Reduced Inequalities – Presentation Speaker for Black History Month (February 25, 2025) • #10 Reduced Inequalities – Cont'd Discussions for Black History Awareness (March 25, 2025) 	
<p>Key club accomplishments, events, and activities:</p> <p>More Executive Members, More participation! Rebuilding our foundation and focus! Getting back to the basics!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund Raiser - Grand Opening of the Aniya Health Care Centre for Women's Health (October 4, 2024) • #1 No Poverty – Stuffing Purses for the Un-homed Event (November 26, 2024) • #1 No Poverty – Presentation Speaker from Big Brothers & Big Sisters (January 28, 2025) • #5 Gender Equality – Presentation Speaker from Build Like a Girl (February 25, 2025) • #10 Reduced Inequalities – Presentation Speaker for Black History Month (February 25, 2025) • #10 Reduced Inequalities – Cont'd Discussions for Black History Awareness (March 25, 2025) 	
<p>Challenges faced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a 	
<p>Upcoming events/activities:</p> <p>BPW Bowmanville's 75th Anniversary!!!</p> <p>When: THURSDAY, 16th of OCTOBER, 2025</p> <p>Where: Three Six Kitchen, 36 King St. East, Bowmanville, ON</p> <p><i>Remembering the Past – The Future is Ours" - You're Invited to Celebrate with Us!</i></p>	
<p>Suggestions/comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a 	

BPW BOWMANVILLE PHOTOS:



Club Name:	North Toronto BPW
President Name:	Shahina Suleman
First Vice-President Name:	Pauline Platt
Treasurer Name:	Pauline Platt
Secretary Name:	Maide Yazar
Resolutions/By-Laws Chair Name:	Hatice Yazar
Membership Chair Name:	
# of members April 30, 2025:	11
# of members April 30, 2024:	11
Change to membership #:	0

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) addressed (ctrl + click [HERE](#) for details):

SDG 5 – Gender Equality. Advancing gender equity in leadership, the workplace, and the community. The activities included discussing advocacy, mentoring, and policy work to eliminate gender-based barriers.

SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth. Supporting women in accessing meaningful employment and entrepreneurship. Representation and speaking up to promote fair workplace practices and pay equity through training and employer engagement.

SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities. Creating spaces for diverse women (e.g., young members, newcomers, refugees) to participate and lead. Discussions and actions at the club advocate for inclusive policies that address systemic inequality.

Key club accomplishments, events, and activities:

Despite having a small but committed group of 8 active members, the BPW North Toronto club has continued to fulfill its mandate and uphold the objectives of the organization with professionalism and dedication.

- **Monthly In-Person Meetings:** Members have met regularly in person to stay engaged, collaborate on initiatives, and strengthen club cohesion.
- **Representation at the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW):** One member represented the club, contributing to the global conversation on gender equality.
- **Resolutions Development:** Members actively contributed to advocacy efforts by drafting and submitting policy resolutions to advance women's rights and economic security.
- **Succession Planning:** Future leadership is being thoughtfully planned, ensuring continuity and sustainability of club efforts.
- **Continued Community and Organizational Involvement:** Despite limited numbers, the club has remained active, visible, and aligned with the broader mission of BPW.

In the short term, our club is launching a new initiative titled "**Bring a Friend, Make a Friend**", with the primary goal of building a strong, connected network through meaningful and enjoyable gatherings. Rather than focusing on active recruitment, we are prioritizing opportunities for

members to socialize, strengthen existing relationships, and organically welcome new faces into our circle.

To support this goal, we will host **quarterly social gatherings** designed to foster networking, friendship-building, and community engagement. These events will be intimate, light, and engaging, featuring a guest speaker, simple refreshments (such as coffee and pastries or lunch), and a manageable format that encourages full participation. Our key objectives are to build excitement through social media promotion, offer value through compelling speakers, keep events affordable with a nominal fee, and ensure that every gathering supports genuine connection.

Through "**Bring a Friend, Make a Friend,**" we aim to create a space where friendships grow and a strong community takes root.

BPW North Toronto held a special event featuring author Zsuzsanna Man (pen name Z.S. Man), entitled "**Bring a Friend, Make a Friend**". The purpose of the event was to showcase Zsuzsanna's collection of short stories from her book "The Magicians", and to offer a unique experience for attendees (especially those who brought a friend) to learn about the therapeutic power of writing and storytelling. From her perspective, when it comes to overcoming the everyday challenges that we often experience in the world as women, we can reimagine the narratives that we tell ourselves and use writing to help heal emotional wounds.

Challenges faced:

While we have eleven members listed in our records, many others are not actively participating. Engagement is primarily limited to a core group of dedicated members who consistently attend and support the chapter's activities. For others, participation is hindered by work-related constraints, physical challenges, or a preference to remain inactive, such as paper-based members.

Upcoming events/activities:

- **June 28, Bring a Friend, Make a Friend Event to visit to *The 52: Stories of Women Who Transformed Toronto*.**
- **September 10. First Club Meeting after the summer break.**

Suggestions/comments:

- N/A

NORTH TORONTO BPW PHOTOS:



BPW North Toronto held a special event featuring author Zsuzsanna Man (pen name Z.S. Man), entitled "**Bring a Friend, Make a Friend**".

Southeastern District Club: Hastings & Prince Edward

Club Name:	BPW Hastings and Prince Edward
President Name:	Toby Toth
First Vice-President Name:	Heather Ellis
Treasurer Name:	Chantal Fraser
Secretary Name:	Barb Schultz
Resolutions/By-Laws Chair Name:	Heather Ellis
Membership Chair Name:	Michelle Venema
# of members April 30, 2025:	10
# of members April 30, 2024:	12
Change to membership #:	-2
<p>Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) addressed (ctrl + click HERE for details):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 03 - women's well being support (marches, walks, vigils and fundraising), 08 - highlighted women's businesses (moved about the region for meetings at different women's run spaces), 17 - grew partnerships with other organizations in the area (like Alternative's for Women, Chamber of Commerce, UNAC Quinte) 	
<p>Key club accomplishments, events, and activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raised \$1111 for Alternatives for Women (re rural community IPV education and housing help) • Associate Program was very successful (running it again this year) • Still kickin' :) 	
<p>Challenges faced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • numbers - not enough people, not enough time, not enough money, not enough attendees • reach - getting calendar together sooner than later and communicating / advertising it out • follow up - keeping up with each other, after action reports and lessons learned, keeping in contact with sister organizations and attendees (non-members) 	
<p>Upcoming events/activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace Festival (Belleville 20,21 September), Small Business Week Women's Event (late October), Black History Month event (Feb), Women's Day celebration (March) and Ally events (showing up where other organizations are doing work that fits our mandate. • Monthly Business Meetings, including a 5-minute Diversity Spotlight • Possible Sunday nights at the library for workshop / open discussion nights for women in the community 	
<p>Suggestions/comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Calendar / Federal Contact List / showcase the women of BPW across the province / nation ? 	

Northern Ontario District Clubs: Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury

Club Name:	BPW Sault Ste. Marie
President Name:	Emily Noble
First Vice-President Name:	n/a
Treasurer Name:	Marlene McKinnon
Secretary Name:	Sharon Selkirk
Resolutions/By-Laws Chair Name:	n/a
Membership Chair Name:	n/a
# of members April 30, 2025:	6
# of members April 30, 2024:	6
Change to membership #:	0
Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) addressed (ctrl + click HERE for details):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post Secondary Awards to Sault College and Algoma University (both since 1966) to a student in a non-traditional program. 	
Key club accomplishments, events, and activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued with the Post Secondary Awards. 	
Challenges faced:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low membership and continued outbreaks of COVID, RSV and measles has restricted our activities within the community. 	
Upcoming events/activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75 Anniversary of founding to include invitation to join club with PSA's 	
Suggestions/comments:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a 	

BPW SAULT STE. MARIE PHOTOS :



June 12, 2025, BPW Sault Ste. Marie President Emily Noble, BPWO IPP Marlene McKinnon, BPWC 1st VP Norma Yau, BPW Sault Ste. Marie Secretary, Past President BPWSSM, BPWO. BPWC Sharon Selkirk.

Club Name:	BPW Sudbury
President Name:	Celine Tremblay
First Vice-President Name:	Open
Treasurer Name:	Lindsey Kilgour
Secretary Name:	Open
Resolutions/By-Laws Chair Name:	Rebecca Ducharme
Membership Chair Name:	Angèle Dymtruk
# of members April 30, 2025:	11
# of members April 30, 2024:	14
Change to membership #:	-3
<p>Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) addressed (ctrl + click HERE for details): BPW Sudbury has made great strides this year in improving our visibility and voice on social media and in the community. Through social media, we are raising awareness on many of the 17 goals.</p> <p>Beyond digital presence, we've prioritized frequent community touchpoints. In lieu of regular monthly meetings, we have sometimes chosen to visit local businesses or find ways to support women in our community directly, reinforcing our commitment to sustainable development and community support.</p>	
<p>Key club accomplishments, events, and activities:</p> <p>This year, we've taken every opportunity to support women-led businesses and create memorable, community-focused events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Support Visits: Our tour to Jen's Closet, a new female-owned consignment store, gave us an opportunity to connect with and promote a local entrepreneur. • Self Defense Class: A small group of women participated in a female led self-defence class • Women Take Nashville Event: Our flagship event of the year, which drew over 65 participants, featured a professional line dancing instructor, a vibrant atmosphere, and a raffle table exclusively filled with contributions from women-led businesses. We were also honored to have Norma Yau, BPW Canada First Vice President and Membership Chair, in attendance. We raised some operating funds which will be used towards meaningful sponsorships or entry fees to events we want to support. • Member Spotlights: We have been showcasing our members on Facebook, highlighting their personal and professional achievements. This initiative has strengthened our bonds internally while providing visibility that can support members' careers. • Interactive Meetings: With our return to in-person meetings, our gatherings have become more dynamic, fostering deeper connections and more collaborative discussions. • BPW Sudbury has made great strides this year in improving our visibility both on social media and in the community. Our social media strategy has been drastically enhanced, with consistent and engaging posts on Facebook and Instagram. We've shared updates on our initiatives, events, and advocacy work, aiming to increase our presence and attract new members. 	
<p>Challenges faced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large decrease in membership • Resignations from the executive, leaving many positions unfilled • Lack of participation from members 	

Upcoming events/activities:

Looking ahead, BPW Sudbury is excited to continue our momentum:

- Attendance at the BPW Ontario Provincial Conference
- Planning another signature event like Women Take Nashville
- Increased participation in community events, including the Mulligans and Mascaras Golf Tournament, International Women's Day celebrations, and other meaningful local initiatives that align with our mission.
- Arranging a working meeting to re-strategize our mission and purpose, revise and document our internal processes and establish standing committee goals/improvements

Suggestions/comments:

- n/a



Boodle Box (assembling gift boxes for the women's shelter)



Touring and promoting a new consignment store



Self Defense Class with Members and guests



Women Take Nashville Public event/fundraiser



Summer Social

BPW Canada Convention / AGM 2026

It's our 50th Party!

Celebrate! Advocate! Educate!

Join us for BPW Canada's 50th Party!

**BPW CANADA
Convention
2026**
Regina, Saskatchewan
August 13th to 16th



Enjoy the prairie sunshine while at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel!
Balconies off every bedroom!
Windows in our meeting rooms!

C'est notre 50^e congrès!

Célébrons! Défendons! Éduquons!

Joignez-vous à nous pour cette 50^e fête de BPW Canada! !

**CONGRÈS
BPW CANADA
2026**
Regina, Saskatchewan
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel &
Conference Centre Regina
Du 13 au 16 août



Profitez du soleil des Prairies pendant votre séjour !
Un balcon à chaque chambre !
Fenêtres dans toutes les salles de réunion !