



**NOVA SCOTIA ASSOCIATION OF GARDEN CLUBS  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**June 6, 2026 – 8:30 am to 9:30 am**

**Inverary Inn**

**Hosted by District 1**

***MINUTES***

1. Call to Order
  - Geoff MacDonald called the meeting to order at 8:33 AM.
2. Roll Call – Verification of Quorum:
  - Roll Call was taken by Susan Hazelwood (Secretary Fill In). 28 clubs were present.
3. Adoption of Agenda
  - Geoff MacDonald made a motion to adopt the agenda. Moved by Wanda McMaster, Inverness Garden Club. Seconded by Pamala MacLean, Dartmouth Horticultural Society. Motion carried.
4. Minutes of June 14, 2025, Annual General Meeting
  - Approved as distributed.
5. Chairperson's report: Geoff MacDonald
  - The Chairperson's report is attached.
6. Treasurer's Report and Financials: Susan Hazelwood
  - Susan reviewed the financial reports and budget.
  - Susan made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and financial statements. Moved by Tina Small, Dartmouth Horticultural Society. Seconded by Kathy D'Entremont, Yarmouth Garden Club. Motion carried.
7. Memberships: Liz Hill
  - Report attached.
8. Nominations: Deb Bowes-Lyon
  - Deb presented the Nominations Report.
    - Deb asked for nominations for Secretary and Plant Giveaway Coordinator positions. There were no nominations from the floor. Pat Mora was accepted to the position of Secretary. Chuck Boyd was accepted to the position of Plant Giveaway Chairman.
  - Deb proposed to close nominations, motion was seconded by Brenda Bailey, Village Garden Club. Motion was carried.
  - Deb read the proposed slate of officers and asked for a vote to accept. The vote was in favor, and Deb moved to accept the slate of officers. Motion was seconded by Pamala MacLean, Dartmouth horticultural Society. Motion was carried.

9. 2027 Convention – Hosted by District 6
  - Emily Liot, District Director of District 6, announced that the 2027 Convention would be held in Liverpool on June 11-13, 2027.
  
10. Door Prize
  - The door prize was won by Leona Kennedy from the Musquodoboit Valley Weeders.
  
11. Adjournment
  - Ginny Blayne, Clements made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 am.

**Chairperson's Report**  
Presented to  
**Nova Scotia Association of Garden Clubs**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**June 6, 2026**

This report has been prepared to summarize the activities and accomplishments of the NSAGC board over the past year. This will look at both accomplishments and achievements of the board and its members since we last met.

I assumed the role of Chairperson on June 14, 2025, and got to work preparing for another strategic planning session to focus on the goals of my term. The executive members all met in November, and the following were established as strategic goals to accomplish:

- 1) Continue work on the Board and Presidents' Handbooks
- 2) Continue growing membership and capitalizing on the increased interest in gardening
- 3) Grow list of garden centres that provide member discounts

In addition to this, we also carried forward the following items from the last strategic plan:

- 1) Look into judging needs and approach to courses, if applicable
- 2) Create a survey for clubs and distribute

Much work has been done on totally revitalising the board member handbook and we are presently in the editing stage of that and getting ready to review changes. I sincerely thank Deb Bowes-Lyon and Debbie Innes for all of their hard work on modernizing this document which will be in a much more user-friendly format moving forward and easier to manage for ongoing updates.

Susan Hazelwood has formed a sub-committee and is working with that committee to reach out to garden centres across the province to help grow our network of centres that will offer NSAGC members a discount. This will be worked on over the summer.

I have been working on and will soon be distributing a member survey to clubs to help evaluate the resources available and see where we may be able to help better meet the needs of clubs across the province. This survey will also offer two \$50 prizes for clubs that respond. This will help gain an understanding of the needs of clubs and help facilitate future planning and NSAGC initiatives.

A new poster has been created which can be used by clubs as a promotional piece of material at public events to help bring in new members to their clubs. Additional plans are being made to look at initiatives that will help recruit clubs to the NSAGC and new members to the clubs. We will be forming a sub-committee to generate ideas and plans over the next year to take to the board.

I have made several visits to clubs and district meetings over the past year, which I have very much enjoyed. It is amazing what vibrant turnout districts are getting at their rallies/district meetings – it is so energetic and exciting. I am looking forward to attending the events I have already been invited to this year, and I always encourage clubs to invite me to their events. As part of my visits to clubs, I have revamped our PowerPoint presentation that I use when I meet with clubs.

As we did have significant changes in board membership last year, we hosted a one-day training session in Truro in November to give new members an overview of the board and its various functions. Several members contributed to various parts of the day, and it was very useful information for our new board members that will help them grow and be successful in their roles.

We did lose a couple of members of the board this year – Janet Rose and Janet Patterson as Plant Giveaway Chairs and Melissa Weir as Secretary. While we are very sad to see them go, I thank them for all of their hard work on the board! I am also excited to report that we have replacement already in line to be nominated and we will go into the AGM with a full slate of officers to vote on, which is very exciting.

We also had a banner year for clubs joining. Since last year we had seven new clubs join the NSAGC, which is very promising for our ongoing growth across the province.

Over the next year, I will work closely with Lori Reid, our Vice-Chair to prepare her to take over this role at our next AGM. I am very grateful for all of the contributions and hard work of our board over the past year. We have a very cohesive group of people with a vested interest in moving NSAGC forward and I commend them for their hard work.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoff MacDonald  
Chairperson

## **Treasurer's Report**

### **For April 2026 AGM Meeting**

#### **Financial Statements Audit**

The Audit of the financial statements was unable to be performed prior to the AGM. Several meetings of the two auditors for 2026, Deb Bowes-Lyon and Pamela MacLean, had to be cancelled due to weather and illness. The Audit is now scheduled for the end of August. The Audit report will be included in the September Board Minutes and available to the membership on the NSAGC Website early in October.

#### **Tags & Seals**

There was one order for Tags & Seals in 2025/2026. Once again, either clubs have an inventory of these items that they have purchased in the past or flower shows are not being done by many any longer.

#### **Financial Statements Notes**

1. We have been having a few issues with BrokerLink, especially around the process for clubs to request Insurance Certificates when they need proof of insurance. Because of this and because we have been using BrokerLink for at least a decade, we have decided to go to the market and see what is available for current coverage, as well as the **possibility** for community gardens and D&O coverage for a rate that we can afford. No promises, but we will be issuing a Request for Proposal to several Insurance Companies over the summer and evaluating responses.

#### **Balance Sheet Notes**

1. The balance sheet shows that our financial position remains healthy.

#### **Profit & Loss Notes**

1. The Sale of Surplus Plants and Garden Club Dues include income from April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.
2. There were several Board retirements at the 2025 AGM so Awards expenditures increased.
3. Although the September Board, Executive and Committee meetings were held via Zoom, the cost of hotels and gas resulted in an increase for Meeting Expenses.
4. Unfortunately, we were involved in a fraudulent event last year. Fortunately, RBC was able to get back most of the money but we were still out \$750. The result of this was unanimous Board decision to only send cheques to club, not Etransfers.
5. The Insurance invoice did not arrive until April 2026.

#### **Budget Notes**

1. The budget is projected have a surplus balance of \$810 less than the 2025/2026 actual balance. This is largely due to the insurance invoice not arriving until April 2026.

## **Membership Renewals**

The Membership Coordinator, Liz Hill, and I made a couple of changes to the processes to streamline them even more than they were last year.

## **Memberships**

Here are the membership totals for past years:

2014-2015	1807 members and 7 affiliated clubs
2015-2016	1669 members and 6 affiliated clubs
2016-2017	1646 members and 6 affiliated clubs
2017-2018	1669 members and 6 affiliated clubs
2018-2019	1694 members and 6 affiliated clubs
2019-2020	Fees not collected because of COVID
2020-2021	Fees not collected because of COVID
2021-2022	1557 members and 5 affiliated clubs
2022-2023	1660 members and 5 affiliated clubs
2023-2024	1780 members and 4 affiliated clubs
2024-2025	1888 members and 5 affiliated clubs
2025-2026	1822 members and 7 affiliated clubs

We welcomed 7 new clubs as members for a total of 60 clubs as of March 31, 2026! The new clubs are Frenchvale and Area Garden Club, Louisbourg Gardeners Club, The Grey Gardeners, Sea Spray Initiative, Baxter's Harbour Garden Club, Hants Shore Community Garden Club, and North Mountain Gardening Club. We also welcomed back The First African Violet Society and Annapolis Valley African Violet Society.

Sadly, we lost 3 clubs this year. The Petal Society did not renew. The Bedford Horticultural Society closed after over 60 years due to the inability to get Executive members and other volunteers. The St. Margaret's Bay Garden Club wanted Directors and Officers (D&O) Insurance coverage which we are not able to provide at this point.

**Motion to approve the Treasurer's report.**

***Submitted by Susan Hazelwood***

**Balance Sheet**  
Year end 2025 - 2026

2025/2026    2024/2025

**ASSETS**

**Bank Accounts**

Chequing	9735.58	10412.27
Savings	17567.51	12241.72
<b>TOTAL Bank Accounts</b>	<b>27303.09</b>	<b>22653.99</b>

**Other Assets**

Convention Loan Due from Host District	1000.00	1000.00
Tags & Seals Inventory	653.78	672.70
<b>TOTAL Other Assets</b>	<b>1653.78</b>	<b>1672.70</b>

---

<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>28956.87</b>	<b>24326.69</b>
---------------------	-----------------	-----------------

---

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**LIABILITIES**

Dues - Affiliates	0.00	0.00
Dues - Garden Clubs	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

<b>EQUITY</b>	<b>28956.87</b>	<b>24326.69</b>
---------------	-----------------	-----------------

---

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>28956.87</b>	<b>24326.69</b>
---------------------------------------	-----------------	-----------------

---

# Profit & Loss Statement

Year End 2025-2026

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2025/2026</b>	<b>2024/2025</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Income from Sales</b>			
Newsletter Advertising	50.00	200.00	
Sales of Surplus Plants	3885.00	2664.00	<b>Note 1</b>
Sales of Tags & Seals	30.00	0.00	
<b>TOTAL Income from Sales</b>	<b>3965.00</b>	<b>2864.00</b>	
<b>Income from Other Sources</b>			
Affiliated Garden Clubs Dues	350.00	300.00	
Garden Clubs Dues	9295.00	9440.00	<b>Note 1</b>
Interest	207.75	178.21	
Donation	20.00	10.00	
<b>TOTAL Income from Other Sources</b>	<b>9872.75</b>	<b>9928.21</b>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>13837.75</b>	<b>12792.21</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>General Expenses</b>			
Awards	179.18	75.00	<b>Note 2</b>
Newsletter	0.00	0.00	
Photo Contest	278.92	262.00	
Plant Giveaway	3543.66	3127.35	
<b>TOTAL General Expenses</b>	<b>4001.76</b>	<b>3464.35</b>	
<b>Meeting Expenses</b>			
Board Meetings	1539.34	857.04	
Board Members	1679.79	1052.99	
<b>TOTAL Meeting Expenses</b>	<b>3219.13</b>	<b>1910.03</b>	<b>Note 3</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Bank Fees	105.90	108.12	
Fraudulent Expense	750.00	0.00	<b>Note 4</b>
Incidentals (postal, printing, etc.)	312.79	82.66	
Insurance	0.00	1392.00	<b>Note 5</b>
Joint Stocks Membership	31.15	31.15	
Web Site	767.92	1112.33	
<b>TOTAL Operating Expenses</b>	<b>1967.76</b>	<b>2726.26</b>	
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>9188.65</b>	<b>8100.64</b>	

**OVERALL TOTAL**

---

**4649.10      4691.57**

**Note 1** Includes April 2025 and up to March 31, 2026

**Note 2** Several Boad retirements at AGM

**Note 3** September Board meeting and planning committee meetings were held via Zoom

**Note 4** Result of a hack when dispersing Municipality Grant to a club

**Note 5** Invoice not received by March 31

## Budget 2026/2027

	2026/2027 Budget	2025/2026 Actuals
<b>INCOME</b>		
<b>Income from Sales</b>		
Newsletter Advertising	50.00	50.00
Sales of Surplus Plants	3800.00	3885.00
Sales of Tags & Seals	30.00	30.00
<b>TOTAL Income from Sales</b>	<b>3880.00</b>	<b>3965.00</b>
<b>Income from Other Sources</b>		
Affiliated Garden Clubs Dues	350.00	350.00
Garden Clubs Dues	9300.00	9295.00
Interest	210.00	207.75
Donation	0.00	20.00
<b>TOTAL Income from Other Sources</b>	<b>9860.00</b>	<b>9872.75</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>13740.00</b>	<b>13837.75</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>General Expenses</b>		
Awards	50.00	179.18
Newsletter	0.00	0.00
Photo Contest	280.00	278.92
Plant Giveaway	3800.00	3543.66
<b>TOTAL General Expenses</b>	<b>4130.00</b>	<b>4001.76</b>
<b>Meeting Expenses</b>		
Board Meetings	1550.00	1539.34
Board Members	1680.00	1679.79
<b>TOTAL Meeting Expenses</b>	<b>3230.00</b>	<b>3219.13</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Bank Fees	110.00	105.90
Fraudulent Expense	0.00	750.00
Incidentals (postal, printing, etc.)	150.00	312.79
Insurance	1450.00	0.00
Joint Stocks Membership	31.15	31.15
Web Site	800.00	767.92
<b>TOTAL Operating Expenses</b>	<b>2541.15</b>	<b>1967.76</b>
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>9901.15</b>	<b>9188.65</b>

**OVERALL TOTAL**

---

**3838.85      4649.10**

# MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR'S REPORT

2026 Convention

- There will be changes in the Membership Renewal Form this year.
- One change is; there will be a date on the form so that I can track when each club renews their membership.
- Also the membership renewal deadline has changed from February the 28<sup>th</sup> to Sunday February the 14<sup>th</sup> 2027. Again I stress that the deadline for membership renewal for 2027 will be February the 14<sup>th</sup>.
- There is a reason for this change and that reason is, that others within the NSAGC depend on these forms for information, such as the Treasurer to update the Insurance Company, the Secretary to update the manual on club contact information and the Plant Give-Away people so they will have the correct numbers for the give-away plants.
- One must remember that we are all volunteers and give freely of our time and energy to complete our given tasks so we ask that you all help us by renewing your clubs memberships in a timely manner.
- Please read the renewal forms carefully, fill out the forms completely and print legibly. Don't forget to circle the method of payment.
- The Membership Renewal Letters and the Membership Renewal Forms will be sent out this fall to the directors who will send them to their respective clubs.
- A club can renew their memberships any time they like in the fall or winter. It is best if clubs do not wait until the last minute to send on their memberships. If your club does not meet in the winter then send in your membership in the fall before you end your meetings for the winter.
- Are there any questions?
- In closing I will again remind you that the deadline for renewing memberships for 2027 is Sunday February the 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Thank you for your cooperation and enjoy the rest of the convention.