

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE- Happy New Year 2026!**



#### **That's a wrap on 2025!**

Our members should be very proud of our achievements in 2025. From a financial perspective, we donated a total of \$2000 (support for three families spread throughout Nova Scotia, as well as contributions to Feed Nova Scotia and Shelter Nova Scotia). In addition, our members volunteered approximately 6200 hours in various organizations and capacities in our communities.

Our Membership was at 162 paid members for 2025.

Three luncheons were held - two at Brightwood and one at the Chester Golf and Country Club. Door prizes and gift cards were distributed at each of these events. A trivia contest, a Christmas Singalong and a 36<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary celebration cake rounded out the activities for this year. Highlights from the Executive were provided at each event.

As well, I had the opportunity to participate in last year's AGM (Annual General Meeting), held in Calgary with Presidents of the other Chapters. The minutes from that meeting are posted on the National Website. It was a great exchange of information and wonderful to see that the Heritage Clubs throughout the country continue with the Club's mandate.

The Bluenose Executive held five meetings, (four in person at Regional Office) and one offsite in 2024. I personally extend my thanks to Geraldine, Nancy & Sharon – their efforts are invaluable. We continue to appeal to members to become a member on the Executive. One vacancy (2<sup>nd</sup> VP) is available. It would be greatly appreciated if a member would volunteer for this position. Email us at [bluenosehc@gmail.com](mailto:bluenosehc@gmail.com).

### Canada Post and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers reach tentative agreements

See online for full article. Dec 22/2025

*Union to manage a ratification vote for CUPW-represented employees*

#### Key highlights :

As part of the tentative agreements, the parties have agreed to:

- Five-year agreements that expire on January 31, 2029 (Urban and RSMC).
- Higher wage increases: 6.5% increase in year one (including 5% already received) and 3.0% in year two. For years 3, 4 and 5, annual wage increases would match the annual inflation rate of the Consumer Price Index (Urban and RSMC).
- No changes to employees' Defined Benefit pension (Urban and RSMC).
- An enhanced health benefits plan for employees and better income replacement for injury-on-duty leave and leave under the short-term disability program (Urban and RSMC).
- 6 non-carry over personal days locked into the collective agreement, for a total of 13 personal days in the agreement (Urban and RSMC).
- New operating model to support weekend parcel delivery (Urban and RSMC)
- Maintaining the current job security provisions for Urban employees (Urban)
- Enhancing the current job security provisions for RSMC employees (RSMC).
- Adjusting the number of corporate post offices protected in the collective agreement to 393 (Urban)
- Moving employees to an hourly rate of pay (RSMC).

### 2026 stamp lineup celebrates Canadian hip-hop, a sweet and timeless Quebec tradition, and much more

Here are some highlights:

- Next year's annual Black History Month stamp dives into the careers and achievements of Canadian hip-hop pioneers.
- Colourful scenes from the *temps des sucres* (sugaring-off season) and Quebec's *cabanes à sucre* (sugar shacks) – traditions that are part of the intangible heritage of Quebec – grace these stamps.
- The popular Places of Pride issue returns, remembering significant events and locations across Canada that 2SLGBTQIA+ people fought to make their own.
- A new stamp commemorates the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Royal Canadian Legion, known for its National Poppy Campaign and roughly 1,350 branches that serve as community hubs across the country.
- A fascinating look at four wolf species found across Canada.
- In response to a growing demand for blood donations, a new stamp raises awareness and encourages Canadians to give.
- A set of three eerie jack-o'-lanterns help kick off October's spooky season.

# Heritage Club Bluenose Chapter Payment for 2025 & Member Benefits

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## Membership Or Renewal

If you know of anyone who wants to join or rejoin our Club, please encourage them. They can reach out to us for details at

**bluenosehc@gmail.com**

### **A reminder of the benefits our Club members are entitled to:-:**

- **Hearing Life** discount
- **Spec Savers** discount
- **Genumark product discounts**
- Special rates for **belair Travel Insurance**, including Covid-related cvg
- Discounts up to 35% for **home and auto insurance** from **belair direct**
- Membership-**Good Life Fitness** approx. 50% off the regular club access rates&Goodlife promotions
- Travel discounts with **Collette Tours**
- Special **scholarships** for your children and Grandchildren.
- A portion of your dues support local families/charities in need.
- Bluenose Newsletter four times annually

### **WELCOME NEW PAID MEMBERS:**

Paid membership for 2026 to date stands at 136 members. We ended 2025 at 162 members and are hoping to meet that number. Please 'spread the word' and encourage people to join or rejoin. Our Executive team works hard to support the ongoing growth and development of the Bluenose Chapter.

### **CONDOLENCES:**

On behalf of the membership, we would like to express our sincere condolences to families and friends of Al Matheson (passed Nov 6/2025) and Ronald McDonald (passed Dec 2/2024). They both served CPC for many years in the Halifax area. Obituaries can be found online.

### **YEAR END REPORTS:**

At the end of each calendar year, the local Executive must submit an Activity Report & a Financial Report to our National Executive. We wish to thank Sheila Shaw for auditing and signing off on the Financial Report for 2024 and 2025. Many thanks.

# Heritage Club Bluenose Chapter

## Member Benefits – Scholarships & Sponsor Info

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### SCHOLARSHIPS

**The Canada Post Heritage Club** is proud to support the next generation by awarding three scholarships of \$2,000 each to children (including adopted children or stepchildren or wards in legal guardianship) or grandchildren of dues-paying members who are beginning their post secondary education. These scholarships are intended to recognize hard-working, well-rounded students who demonstrate determination, community involvement, leadership, and a strong potential for success — not solely academic achievement.

Application timeline:

- Applications open: March 15, 2026
- Applications close: June 15, 2026
- Scholarship recipients announced: week of August 3, 2026

Eligible students are encouraged to apply and share their story, including academics, employment, volunteer work, extracurricular activities, and any challenges they have overcome along the way. We look forward to reviewing applications and celebrating the achievements of our members' families.

Questions? Please send any questions via email. Check the National website ([www.heritageclub.ca](http://www.heritageclub.ca)) under 'Forms/Scholarship Programs'.

### Belair Scholarship:

Stay tuned for more details for the 2026 program. Check the National website ([www.heritageclub.ca](http://www.heritageclub.ca)) under 'Forms/Scholarship Programs'.

## Passport to prizes contest

Enter to win one of five  
**\$10,000 travel vouchers\***



### BELAIR CONTEST: copy link to enter

#### Details of the contest:

Open now and runs until April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Prizes are 5 x \$10,000 travel vouchers.

Open to legal residents of Canada who at time of entry have reached the age of majority in their province of residence.

1 entry per person.

Contest entry pages:

(EN) [belairdirect.com/ptpcontest](http://belairdirect.com/ptpcontest) (FR) [belairdirect.com/passeportconcours](http://belairdirect.com/passeportconcours)



# Heritage Club Bluenose Chapter Member Benefits –Sponsor Info

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## Save with **Specsavers**

Welcome to the Canada Post Heritage Club we're proud to partner with this organization to provide affordable, accessible eyecare and eyewear to all its members.

All our locations provide a great range of offers, glasses, and contact lenses, as well as online booking and direct billing.

Plus, as a valued Heritage Club member, you can also get **60% off lens upgrades\*** to help you make the perfect glasses.

And don't forget, if you're eligible for provincial health care, your eye exam (including an OCT eye health scan) will be at no cost to you.\*\*

**Book an eye exam today at [specsavers.ca](https://www.specsavers.ca)**

\*Discount only available for Heritage Club members with proof of valid Heritage Club membership. Cannot be used for friends or family purchases. Offer details are subject to change. Other conditions and exclusions apply, for more details visit [www.heritageclub.ca/membership/](https://www.heritageclub.ca/membership/)  
\*\*Costs of eye exams provided by independent optometrists are covered by provincial health care for eligible seniors.

The Specsavers logo, consisting of the word "Specsavers" in white text inside a green oval shape.

Specsavers



# Heritage Club Bluenose Chapter 2025 Member Events

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## CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON—BRIGHTWOOD GOLF DEC 9/2025



Left to Right **Back Row:** Darryl Clark, Ralph Meade, Gary Lewis, Colleen Lewis, Brian Baker, Geraldine Dowling, Sheila Shaw, Sharon Simpson, Louise Danch, Marg MacKinnon, John Hopper, Carl AuCoin, Myrna MacEachern, Bob MacEachern, Julie Bodis, Len Bodis.

**Middle Row:** Dianne Baker, Nancy Hopper, Joan Meade, Louella AuCoin, Paulette Goulden.

**Seated:** Carole Reid, Juliette Dauphinee, Aubrey Dauphinee

**WINNERS OF Giftcards & Gifts:** Sheila Shaw, Myrna MacEachern, Marg MacKinnon, Aubrey Dauphinee.

A lovely time was had by all at the Christmas Luncheon! We celebrated the Heritage Club's 36th year anniversary with a cake. Additional pics are posted on our website under 'Gallery' under the Bluenose Chapter! Check it out! Thanks to Sharon for organizing a Xmas Singalong. Everyone was into the 'spirit' and our voices soared!



# Heritage Club Bluenose Chapter

## 2025 Annual Raffle & Member Questionnaire

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### ANNUAL RAFFLE DRAW WINNERS

The Chapter's annual raffle allows us to raise funds to support charitable organizations, Christmas family sponsorship, as well as Chapter events. Our fundraising activities are an integral component of our Chapter's income. This year, the raffle generated \$735. The draw was conducted on December 9/25 at the Christmas Luncheon. The lucky winners are as follows:-

**\$50 Gift Card – Ron Shanks, Danny MacDonald, Paulette Goulden, Heather Kyte, Wendell Skeir**

Congrats to all! Thanks to all who participated.

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### CHARITABLE DONATIONS REVENUE

The total revenue generated for Charitable donations from our members was \$295. Thank you for your contributions.

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### 2025 MEMBER QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to those members who responded to our questionnaire about activities for 2025.

The top choices are as follows:-

1. Luncheons
2. Wine Tour
3. Meet & Greet Evening (Appetizers)

These activities are dependent upon the level of interest by our members. Stay tuned throughout the year for information on these events. We (Nancy Hopper or Geraldine Dowling) send out, by email, information on any activity that we are proposing. If you haven't submitted your email address, you can do so by dropping us a line at **bluenosehc@gmail.com**

**NEXT EVENT:-** The next event will be held at Brightwood Golf Course in the Spring. The tentative date is Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. It will be either a Luncheon or an Evening Meet & Greet. Stay tuned to your email for confirmation of the date, time, etc.

*THANK YOU!!*