



By-Town Chapter

- * Charitable support for 2025
- * Charitable support history

Heritage Club's motto is "people helping people," and By-Town chapter's charitable support has proven to support that motto 100%!

Our chapter looks to support charities, ideally that a member is involved with, that also meet the following criteria:

- Is the charity small enough that it can benefit from our level of contribution?
- Is it a local, community-based charity?
- Does it provide services to people within our community or city?
- If it is part of a larger organization, will the funds be used locally?
- Does the charity operate within the social services sector, i.e. is its focus on providing basic needs and support to people?
- Is it a registered charitable organization?
- Members in good standing for the current and past year may nominate organizations for consideration each year.

As well, the By-Town chapter joins many other Heritage Clubs in supporting the Canada Post Community Foundation for Children.

By-Town's Cause of Choice for 2025

We are pleased to announce the deserving recipient of this year's donation: Maison Marie-Louise offers a place of sharing and solidarity to families and individuals in the Ottawa community of Vanier who are temporarily in need of help. They provide training and support for families and newcomers who are going through challenging times, moving into their first apartment, or who need to move/refurnish after experiencing difficulties. Maison Marie-Louise's main financing source is a second-hand store that helps finance activities including workshops to get ready for winter, positive parenting, language courses, sewing and cooking classes, etc. This group was nominated by member Marjolaine Morin. Congratulations to Marjolaine and Maison Marie-Louise.



By-Town's Causes of Choice for 2024 are:

Canada Post Community Foundation

The chapter dedicated all our 50/50 support from the past year to the [Canada Post Community Foundation](#). At the National AGM we were able to present Canada Post, on your behalf, \$1,500 for the Foundation! This is wonderful support for the Foundation and their work for children and youth across Canada.

Foodsharing Ottawa

Nominated by member Dennis Jarvis, the By-Town Heritage Club was pleased to provide [Foodsharing Ottawa](#) with a \$500 donation to support their amazing community effort. Foodsharing Ottawa has been rescuing surplus food in Canada's capital since 2015. Their mission is to reduce the amount of food that gets thrown away in the community by providing and promoting alternative uses. Most of their rescued food is donated to local charities such as food banks and shelters.

Foodsharing Ottawa told us, "When two organizations share a common interest to serve those in the community, it is always nice when one can help the other in a concrete way. Foodsharing Ottawa is thrilled to receive this year's community support award from the By-town chapter of the Heritage Club. The award is deeply appreciated and will support efforts to benefit the community through food redistribution as well as education campaigns on ways to reduce food waste to benefit the environment by diverting surplus food from landfill."



Pictured above is a Daphne Wahnon, Foodsharing Ottawa's board chair, receiving your club's donation from member Dennis Jarvis. Congratulations Dennis on making a difference in your community!

Lanark County Interval House

Nominated by member Martin Stockton, [Lanark County Interval House](#) received \$500 from your club.

Lanark County Interval House and Community Support offers emergency and on-going programs to women and children living in or escaping from domestic violence. Founded in 1979, the organization offers a safe place for women experiencing violence at home and in their relationships.



Left to Right is Jennifer Greaves - Business & Finance Director, Erin Lee - Executive Director, and Martin Stockton, a longtime volunteer. Congratulations Martin for making a difference.

The organization told us, "We're so thankful to the Heritage Club By-town Chapter for their generous donation to Lanark County Interval House and to our longtime volunteer, Martin Stockton, for nominating us! Support like this makes a real difference, helping us keep our shelter running and allowing us to offer important outreach programs to those who need us. This year, we're celebrating 45 years of empowering women in Lanark County, and we know we couldn't have reached this milestone without the amazing support of our community. Thank you for being a part of it!"

By-Town's charitable support history...

2023:

- [St. Patrick's Home of Ottawa Foundation](#), nominated by Pia Pietrangeli
- [Kidney Foundation of Eastern Ontario](#), nominated by Sheila Watters
- [Knitted Knockers Canada](#), nominated by Lise Jette
- [Ataxia Canada](#), nominated by Christiane Tailleur and Frank Rochon

On behalf of all By-Town Heritage Club members, a cheque for \$500 was sent to each charity.



2022:

In 2022 we had three very compelling charities nominated by members and voted to support all three. Congratulations to the [Rockland Help Centre](#) (nominated by Luc Guevremont), [Victoria's Quilts](#) (nominated by Carmelle Lecourtois) and [Furry Tales Cat Rescue](#) (nominated by Gail Curran). On your behalf, each charity received \$500 to support their great work in our community.

2021:

[ALS Society](#)

Suggested by: Lise Jette

The ALS Society of Canada works with the ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) community to improve the lives of people affected by ALS through support, advocacy, and investment in research for a future without ALS. They are a registered charity that receives no government funding – all services and research are funded through the generosity of donors. They assist people and families living with ALS, offering home visits to discuss individual and family needs, providing information and education, and connecting users to other healthcare providers and community supports. They also run support groups for people living with ALS as well as respite for caregivers.

[Shepherds of Good Hope](#)

Suggested by: Judith Faubert

The Shepherds of Good Hope make a difference in the lives of Ottawa's homeless and most vulnerable citizens — and in our community. They aim to develop pragmatic solutions that help those in need renew their sense of worth, dignity and community. Every day, Shepherds of Good Hope help stabilize people

through their specialized shelter programs; provide permanent homes with on-site, around-the-clock support in supportive housing facilities, and serve thousands at their kitchen and drop-in centre.

2020:

A \$500 donation to the [Aphasia Centre of Ottawa](#). This organization was submitted by members France and Luc Picard. Using a broad range of community-based and family-focused interventions, the ACO enhances the capability of people with aphasia and their families to continue living healthy lives and remain in their homes. Professional staff and trained volunteers provide communication therapy, counselling, ongoing support, and advocacy.

A \$1000 donation to both the [Ottawa Food Bank](#) and the [Gatineau Food bank](#). A suggestion was made to support organizations of community importance during the COVID-19 situation. Food banks have been hit particularly hard by the COVID-19 crisis, with more residents turning to them for help. Both organizations are extremely grateful and send their thanks to the By-Town Heritage Club members.

2019:

[Shelter Movers Ottawa](#): Shelter Movers is a volunteer-based organization that provides moving and storage services at no cost to women and children experiencing abuse. Shelter Movers collaborates with community partners in Ottawa and Toronto to help families transition to a life free of abuse. This charity was nominated by member Tim McGurrin.



[Ancoura](#) is a small Ottawa charity that provides a nurturing and fulfilling environment for persons living with mental illness, through permanent, affordable housing and a supportive community. This charity was nominated by member Ray Gervais.



Erik Sparling, Ancoura General Manager, receiving their funds.

2018:

[Suzart Productions](#) (nominated by Heritage Club member and Suzart Board member Arlene Watson) is a non-profit musical theatre company specializing in affordable entertainment for the entire family. Suzart presents a chance for everyone—particularly youth—to enjoy musical theatre at an affordable price. Since

2003 the company has been delighting Ottawa audiences by staging local productions of many Broadway shows, showcasing Ottawa youth and talent.



Kristopher Tharris, President of Suzart Productions, receives a \$500 donation from By-Town Heritage Club president Claude Bruneau and Heritage Club member Arlene Watson.

Backpacks for the Homeless (nominated by Heritage Club member and organization volunteer Tim McGurrin) fills backpacks with essentials like mittens, hats, socks and toiletries and gives them to homeless people in Ottawa. They provide not only material help, but also raise awareness of the day-to-day challenges of being homeless.



Ron Pitre, from Backpacks for the Homeless, receives a \$500 donation from By-Town Heritage Club president Claude Bruneau and Heritage Club member Tim McGurrin.

2017:

VETS Canada:

Veterans Emergency Transitions Services is committed to helping homeless and at-risk veterans reintegrate into civilian life. A grassroots movement, VETS Canada began in Halifax, with volunteers helping homeless and at-risk veterans reintegrate into civilian life. This movement has grown into a federally registered non-profit charity that has hundreds of dedicated volunteers across the country. They work within the community to identify homeless veterans and quickly re-establish the bond of trust that exists between soldiers. In Ottawa, the organization's [Boots on the Ground](#) hits the streets monthly, armed with backpacks full of supplies and toiletries, to look for vets in need.



Jeff Murphy, from Vets Canada, accepts a donation from By-Town Chapter President Claude Bruneau and member Diane Pitre.

Gatineau Social Pediatric Centre

The Gatineau Social Pediatric Centre empowers families, and others involved with children, to ensure children are treated with respect and dignity. The Centre welcomes vulnerable, at-risk and children battling illness, to help them to restore their health and hope, and develop to their full potential. The Centre de pédiatrie sociale de Gatineau organizes many activities for children to support their full development. On those occasions, hundreds of volunteers offer their time and expertise to CPSG – if you'd like to help, learn more [here](#).



By-Town President, Claude Bruneau presents a cheque to Marlene, a volunteer from the Gatineau Social Pediatric Centre. Member Pierre Lemieux, also pictured, recommended the organization.

Canada Post Community Foundation

With five years of fundraising and grants under its belt, the Canada Post Community Foundation is meeting its promise to deliver a brighter future for Canadian children and youth. In 2016 The Foundation granted almost \$1.2 million in vital support to 125 community organizations across Canada. From breakfast programs, anti-bullying initiatives, camps for children living with serious illnesses, early literacy programs, crisis lines, health programs, recreational programs or special education programs, each program supported helps that community with their most vital resource—their children. Members who wish to volunteer for the Foundation can participate in its annual grant review process – helping to determine where the Foundation's funds should be allocated. An email invitation will be sent to all members during the application review process each spring.

2016 [Najda Refugee Sponsor Group](#) and [Canada Post Community Foundation](#)

2015 – [Canada Post's Community Foundation](#)

2014 – [Canada Post's Community Foundation](#), [LiveWorkPlay](#)

2012, 2013 – [Canada Post's Community Foundation](#), Ottawa Therapy Dogs

2010, 2011 – Canada Post's [Foundation for Mental Health](#)

2009 – [Hospice at May Court](#)

2008 – Ottawa's Seven Women's Shelters

2007 – [Rogers House](#)