

By-Town Heritage Club September 2026 newsletter



A GREAT TURNOUT AND A GREAT YEAR!

We had an almost 70-member turnout for our September AGM — a great sign that the By-Town Heritage Club is alive, well and still having fun!

For those who couldn't join us, the short version is that the club is in good shape. Membership stays strong at about 475 members, our financial position has improved considerably over the past year - the changes we made to membership fees, event subsidies and some of our operating costs have put us back on solid financial footing. We were also very pleased to receive \$2,750 in funding from the National Heritage Club this year!

We also welcomed the return of Christiane Tailleux as Treasurer and Karen Casselman as Vice-President, with both receiving the membership's approval to serve another term. A big thank-you to both for the time and energy they continue to give to the club. And a sincere thank you to the rest of your executive team - Suzanne Martin, Frank Rochon, and Richard Daoust - for everything they do.

There was plenty more discussed at the AGM, including the challenges facing Heritage Clubs across the country, our relationship with Canada Post (including whether or not our help with Santa mail will be needed this year - stay tuned for news on that next month), our national scorecard (we earned 70 out of 80 points!) and our plans for the months ahead. And speaking of those plans, there is still lots of fun to come — including our Christmas gala in November, which we'll tell you all about elsewhere in this newsletter.

All in all, it was a great AGM, a great turnout and a great reminder of why we keep doing this. Thank you to everyone who continues to support the By-Town Heritage Club, show up, have some fun and keep this club going strong!

Welcome new members...

Please join us in welcoming new member Cindy Beliveau! Cindy, we hope to see you at an event soon.



Lunches...

Our October lunch will be held at the Mandarin Restaurant, located at 2055 Tenth Line Road, on Wednesday, September 30, starting at 11:30 a.m. Yes, September 30, for the October lunch... Due to International Seniors Day falling on October 1, many restaurants were booking large groups for that Thursday. So, a reminder that the October lunch will take place on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30. If you plan to attend, please register via [email \(general@bytowndchapter.com\)](mailto:general@bytowndchapter.com).

The November lunch will be held at Hometown Sports Grill (1525 Bank Street) on Thursday, November 5, starting at 11:30 a.m. If you plan to attend, please register via [email \(general@bytowndchapter.com\)](mailto:general@bytowndchapter.com). A reminder that Bank Street is still under construction, allow yourself a bit more time to get there.

We'll share information about the December lunch once we know if our help will be needed for Santa mail or not.

We had a great AGM lunch – congratulations to Ken Fitzpatrick, the winner of the 50/50 draw. Ken took home \$155. And congratulations to all the door prize winners!



Holiday gala!

Join us for the Heritage Club Holiday gala on Sunday, November 29. We'll be taking a bus to the Saint-Eustache flea market and Cabane à sucre Constantin. Our day will start with a departure from the Riverside United Church at noon. We'll travel to the [Saint-Eustache Flea Market](#), where you will have a couple of hours to explore the Christmas market (and if shopping isn't your thing, there's a bar!). Then we'll move to [Constantin Sugar Shack](#) for a holiday meal and entertainment. Our meal includes bread/buns, appetizers, one glass of wine per person, chef's salad, tourtière, turkey and meatball stew, mashed potatoes, vegetables, fruit cake for dessert, as well as tea, coffee and milk. There will be holiday entertainment during the evening and an opportunity to shop at their retail store where delicious homemade ready-to-serve meals, preserves, baking, etc. are available for purchase. We will leave the sugar shack shortly after nine and make our way back home, arriving at the church for 11:30 p.m.

The actual cost for the evening (including parking at the church, bus ride and driver tip, bus snacks, dinner/entertainment at the sugar shack) would be \$118 per person. Our subsidized member (and spouse/partner) cost is \$100. You would be responsible only for drinks purchased during the evening.

This sugar shack experience comes highly recommended to us by a few people, and we think it will be a fun event. If you want to join us, please register via [email \(general@bytownchapter.com\)](mailto:general@bytownchapter.com).

Join us to celebrate the holiday season with a little shopping, some good food, a little entertainment and, as always, many laughs! Register now to lock in your seat(s)!

Holiday community support!

And, speaking of the holidays, and our community support and our scorecard... As I noted at the AGM, one area we lose scorecard points in, is a volunteer day. We've tried in the past to make this happen, and it just never worked out. But we think we have a solution for this year...

Each year, Toy Mountain and the Salvation Army provide toys to over 23,000 children in the Ottawa/Gatineau region, with a goal to leave no child in Ottawa/Gatineau without a gift to open on Christmas morning. We are asking members attending our events between now and December to bring a new, unwrapped toy with them. We'll gather the toys, and then we'll gather a team to deliver them to Toy Mountain and help for the day. Let's, together as the By-Town Heritage Club, really make this a special part of the holiday and help make this Christmas a special one for girls and boys in need across the community. We will be collecting toys at the October and November lunches (and if we do Santa mail...). Please consider bringing a toy when you attend the lunches...

Do you have a favourite charity? Nominate them for club support!!!

Each year, we ask our members to nominate registered charities that are important to them to receive funds from the chapter. The chapter supports two charities annually. In the past we have donated \$500 to each charity but we have decided to continue to make two donations, but of \$250 each. We think this is the best use of membership funds, while keeping our community support.

If you have a favourite charity you'd like us to support, please send a note, sharing a few words why you'd like us to help that group and if you have any involvement with them (not a requirement). Please send an [email \(general@bytownchapter.com\)](mailto:general@bytownchapter.com) by October 15, nominating your charity and perhaps you can be a Heritage Club hero to them! Members in good standing, for the current and past year, may give organizations for consideration.

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That's it for this month... I'd like to close by thanking all of you, our members... We are genuinely thankful for every one of you. Whether you're just here for the odd lunch, the gym membership or the travel insurance... or you love our lunches and come to everyone, enjoy taking a bus to the theatre, having a few laughs — and maybe a few drinks — along the way. We thank you because your dues keep us afloat. They allow us to send our newsletters, provide door prizes at lunches and subsidize our events. And, of course, we're especially grateful to those members who go a little further and support us by coming to events — which usually means buying 50/50 tickets and the odd raffle ticket along the way — all of which helps support what the club does. This year we even had four of you — Tim McGurrin, Denis and Joanne St. Georges and Pierre Gourgon — organize events for us! So, to our members, thank you. We appreciate your support, your dues and, most importantly, your appreciation of the work we do.

Your By-Town Heritage Club Executive

P.S. A reminder... with the new email/PDF newsletter distribution, links to emails and websites are not dependable. As always, to register for lunches, any activity, or for any correspondence, our email is: general@bytowndchapter.com. The email for the treasurer, for payments, is treasurer@bytowndchapter.com.

PAYMENT INFORMATION FOR ALL EVENTS AND DUES

NOTE: Dues are \$25.00 per year to renew.

PREFERRED PAYMENT METHOD – E-transfers

- Please send an email to treasurer@bytowndchapter.com with the following details:
- The reason for the e-transfer (annual membership fee, specific activity)
- The amount of your e-transfer
- Your name and membership number

ALTERNATE PAYMENT METHOD – By Cheque:

- PLEASE NOTE WE DO NOT ACCEPT POST-DATED CHEQUES FOR ANY PAYMENT
- Please send an email to treasurer@bytowndchapter.com noting you would like to attend the event, or are paying your dues, and will be paying by cheque
- Make cheque out to 'BY-TOWN HERITAGE CLUB' and mail to:

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