

SPRING THING

Thursday, May 22, 2025

Luncheon & guest speaker

11 am - 2 pm <> RBG Centre

680 Plains Rd. W., Burlington, Ont.



By Marie Clarke-Davies

Yes, it's true. Finally!

After a brutal March weatherwise, it is now officially spring and very soon April showers will bring May flowers.

There is no better place to take in a rainbow of emerging blossoms than the Royal Botanical Gardens, which also happens to be where the CBC PNA Golden Horseshoe Chapter is holding its annual Spring Thing.

There'll be tasty food, great scenery, and a chance to catch up with friends and colleagues.

Our luncheon is being held on May 22 in RBG Centre at 680 Plains Road West in Burlington. As a bonus, your ticket to the event includes admission to all garden sites, including the Rock Garden and Laking Garden.

While there's a long list of plants that

Spring Thing - Page 2



The RBG boasts one of the largest collection of lilacs in the world and they bloom in May. Victor-Lemoine photo

Spring Thing from Page 1:

typically bloom in May, from dogwood to crabapple, from tulips to irises, the real star of the show is the RBG's impressive collection of lilacs, one of the largest, most fragrant, and most diverse in the world.

Most of the lilacs are found at the Arboretum, a 3.5-kilometre drive from RBG Centre. A heads-up though, that while parking is covered by your ticket at most RBG locations there *is* a special parking charge at the Arboretum: \$5 an hour to a maximum of \$15.

That being said, it's free to enjoy the lilacs at Hendrie Park, located next to RBG Centre and accessible by a short pedestrian tunnel under Plains Road.

There the lilacs are interspersed with other spring bloomers. Let's all hope for beautiful weather on May 22.

We should also remind you that your

ticket to Spring Thing gives you access to the gift shop at RBG Centre. It's been a big hit in previous years. ²

Even better: we'll be drawing for a dozen \$25 gift cards to the shop.

There's one more reason to attend, a very savvy guest speaker.

Diana Barbosa is with the non-profit KnowledgeFlow CyberSafety Foundation, and her topic will be "How to be #UnHackable — CyberSafety Awareness for Older Adults." She will take questions after her presentation.

I know I'm looking forward to what Diana will have to say. Over the past few weeks both my email and credit card have been targeted by scammers. I'll be happy to have as much information as possible so I can be "elbows up" when it comes to online criminals.

We hope you'll join us. Please buy your ticket today. **The cutoff is May 7.**

Golden Horseshoe Chapter Triennial **Election** & Holiday Luncheon

Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025 - Burlington Convention Centre

The Chapter has five Executive positions: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Director.

Bob Waller has already advised the Chapter Board he will be stepping down as President on Nov. 26, 2025. So has Marie Clarke-Davies

as Vice-President.

Cindy Beatty has advised the Chapter Board she will be running again for Treasurer, as has Bridget O'Toole for Secretary and Toni Tosti for Director.

If you are interested in running for a position,

please advise Bob in writing when nominations open on Sept. 1. The nominations will close on Nov. 1.

The election will be held in person at the Chapter's Annual General Meeting and Holiday Luncheon on Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025.

Now the details

3



**Thurs., May 22, 2025 <> 11 am - 2 pm <> Royal Botanical Gardens
Centre - Rooms 1-2, 680 Plains Rd. W., Burlington, Ont. L7T 4K7
Accessible. Lots of free parking**

Tickets \$25 each

**Open to all CBC PNA members and a guest, regardless of Chapter.
Admission tickets must be bought in advance by a PNA member.**

You can also buy 50/50 raffle tickets at the same time:

1 ticket \$2 - 3 tickets \$5 - 7 tickets \$10.

Collect *all* your tickets when you arrive at Registration.

>—————> Cut-off date: Wed., May 7 <—————<

Easy pay - e-transfer to payghchapter@gmail.com.

Mail - Cindy Beatty, 2716 Birch Cres., Mississauga, Ont. L5J 4H1.

Make cheques out to Golden Horseshoe Chapter CBC PNA.

Advise Cindy of the name of your guest (for name tags).

11 am Reception: coffee, tea, pop, juices

11:30 am Cash Bar

12 noon Buffet Lunch:

Chef's Soup of the Day

Garden Salad with Balsamic Dressing

Grilled Vegetable and Pasta Salad

Deli Sandwiches (turkey, beef, ham, veg wraps)

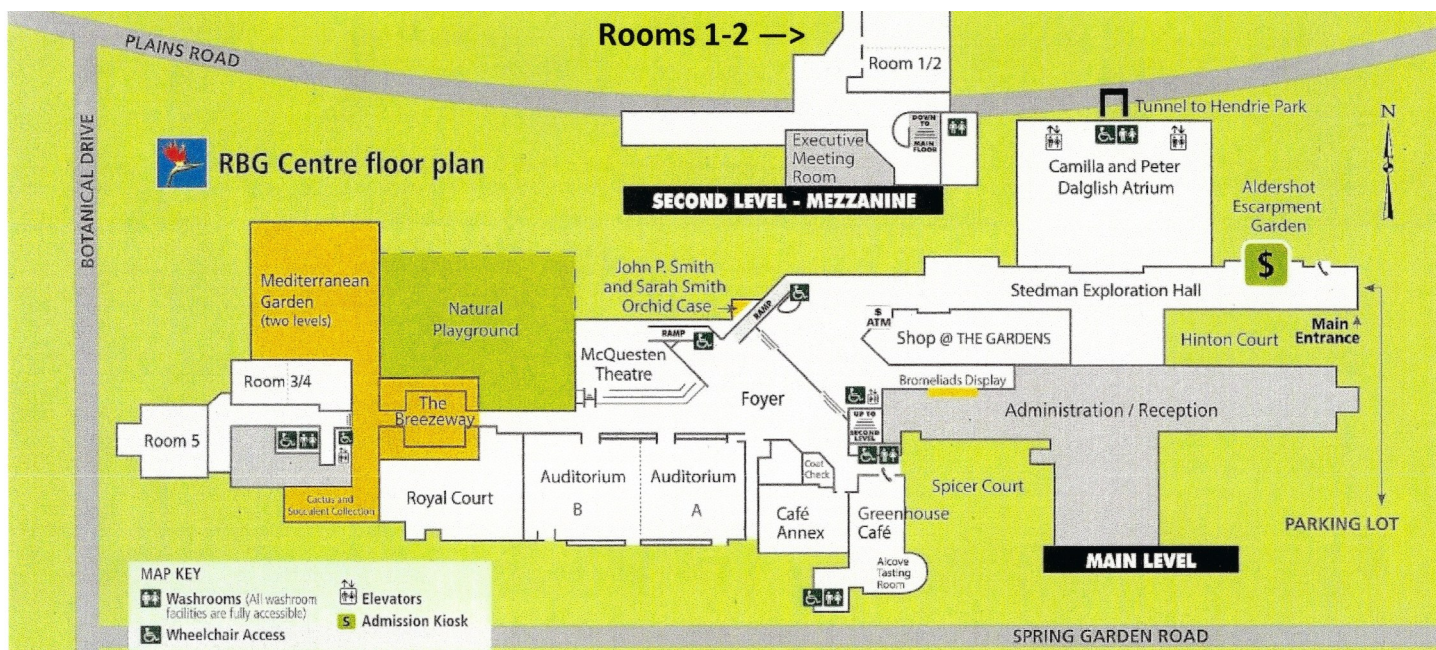
Assorted Dessert Squares

12:55 pm door prizes

1 pm guest speaker: Cyber Security Tips For Seniors

1:50 pm 50/50 Raffle draw

2 pm event ends



DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

From Toronto and East - QEW to Highway 403 West (Hamilton). Exit at Waterdown Rd. Travel 800 metres south along to Plains Road West. Turn right onto Plains Road West and travel 2km. Turn left into the RBG Centre parking lot. *Toronto 70 km.*

From Kitchener-Waterloo and West - Hwy 401 East to Hwy 6 South. Follow Hwy 6 South for about 25 km. Exit onto York Rd, make a left and then a right on the new Plains Rd. and drive south crossing over the 403. Turn left at the lights to continue on Plains Rd. West for about 1 km, passing the glass building. Turn right into the RBG parking lot. *Kitchener-Waterloo 60 km.; London 125 km.*

From the Niagara Region - Queen Elizabeth Way to Highway 403 West (Hamilton). Exit at Waterdown Road. Travel 800 metres south along Waterdown Road to Plains Road West. Turn right onto Plains Road West and travel 2km. Turn left into the RBG parking lot. *Niagara Falls 75 km.*



One more treasure ⁵

The gift shop at RBG Centre is one of the best around. It is chock-a-block with interesting high-quality items.

We will be drawing for **twelve \$25 gift cards**. That's just one more reason to attend Spring Thing on Thursday, May 22.



Cyber Security Tips for Seniors



Cyber security is the set of practices that you have in place to protect your devices and personal and financial information. Cyber criminals target individuals to gain information that they can exploit to steal money from you.

1 Create unique, strong passphrases and passwords

- Use a passphrase, a series of at least four words and 15 characters in length
- Or use complex passwords with:
 - at least 12 characters
 - upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols
- Use a different password for every account



2 Limit sharing of sensitive personal information online

Be careful what personal data you share online. Don't provide your birthdate, PIN or any personal or financial information.



4 Enable multi factor authentication (MFA)

MFA uses two or more different ways of verifying that you are who you say you are to add an extra layer of protection for your accounts and devices.

3 Install software updates and patches

Install software updates as soon as they're available for all of your connected devices.

5 Protect your devices

Install anti-virus and anti-malware software on all your connected devices and keep this software up to date.



6 Phishing. Don't take the Bait

Phishing is one of the most common tactics that cyber criminals use to steal your information. Phishing messages are often sent as emails, text messages (known as smishing) or phone calls.

Breathe. Phishing messages often pressure or threaten you to respond quickly.

Links: Don't open any link or attachment you're unsure of.

Delete any messages that seem too good to be true, like winning a contest you didn't enter.



Elder Abuse
Prevention
Ontario

For more information

Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario
416-916-6728 | eapon.ca
admin@eapon.ca | @EAPreventionON

RESOURCES

Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre
www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca
Government of Canada
www.cyber.gc.ca



DEFUND THE CBC? 7 AT WHAT COST?

CBC PNA National President Dan Oldfield has written an excellent opinion piece on the folly behind defunding CBC/Radio-Canada. It's been published in Canada's National Observer. Here's what Dan had to say:

It was Oscar Wilde who once opined that, "A cynic is a man who knows the price of everything, but the value of nothing."

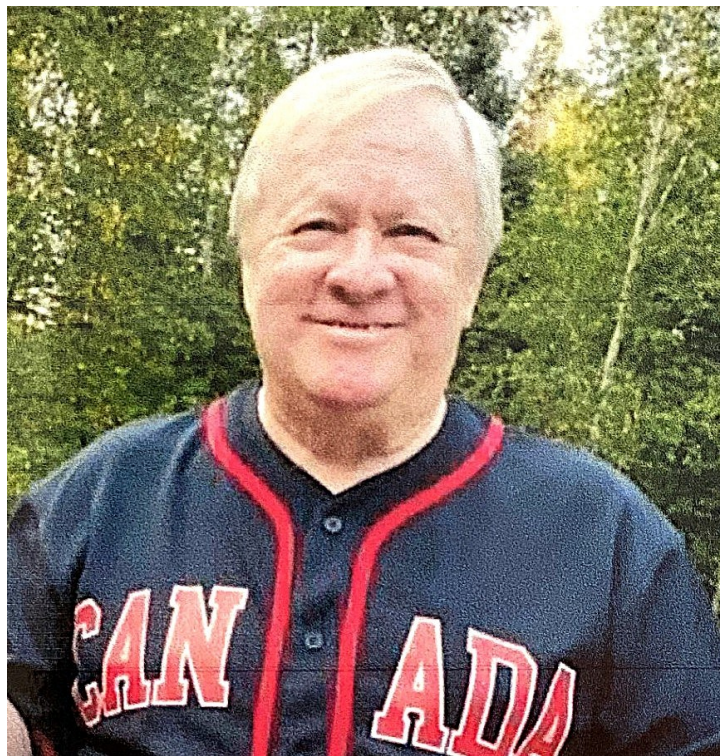
Sadly, this appears to be the case with a man who seeks to be Canada's next prime minister. The quote is particularly apropos when it comes to his promise to "defund the CBC."

When pondering the loss of CBC, I think about the stories that won't be told, the little and big, the national and the local. I think about the musicians never being heard, the songs not sung, the writers not read and the artists of all kinds not seen. In Canada, CBC offers talented Canadians a stage, often a starting point and audience.

The threat from Conservative Party Leader Pierre Poilievre is just one of a collection of three-word slogans, but there's a lot more to it than meets the eye. Like most three-word slogans, it sounds simple enough: no more money for the CBC.

But Poilievre claims defunding would just be on English services, demonstrating a profound lack of understanding of how the CBC works. The English and French arms of the organization work in the same buildings, and share the same infrastructure, human and physical resources.

He claims his plan would save a billion dol-



lars, but 40 per cent of the billion dollars provided in the government appropriation to the broadcasting corporation supports French services. And that doesn't fully include various shared resources. So, where are the billion bucks coming from?

The Conservative Party claims to be fiscally conservative. While that point can be argued, one might concede the party pays attention to both sides of the balance sheet: spending and benefits.

Defund the CBC? - Page __

When you plan to gut a 90-year-old national cultural institution such as the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, it might be worth asking, “At what cost?”

That’s definitely not the case here, which makes one conclude the attack on the CBC is not about fiscal responsibility.

According to a study conducted by Deloitte, every dollar taxpayers invest in the CBC offers better than a 2-to-1 return. CBC/Radio-Canada is the country’s most important cultural institution, and the largest commissioner of original Canadian content. It drives Canada’s creative sector. It anchors a cultural community that contributes billions of dollars to the economy and creates tens of thousands of jobs. Surely, to those who consider themselves fiscally responsible, those numbers should mean something.

Consider, too, the impact of about 5,000 tax-paying citizens losing their jobs, and how that will affect their families and communities.

Money is not the only thing that matters. When you take away funding from the CBC, what else do you lose?

For millions of Canadians who live in smaller centres and rural communities, it is essential to have a national public broadcaster because the CBC is their only source of local news and information. The CBC also provides services to Canadians living in remote northern areas. Who else will broadcast in eight Indigenous languages? CTV? Global?

It’s easy for a politician who lives in a city like Ottawa to think that what they see on the private networks or get from Fox and Friends is what everybody wants. This demonstrates a profound ignorance of Canadian culture and geography.

Private broadcasters are in the business of



making money. That’s why CTV and Global carry U.S. sitcoms in prime time, and why serving all Canadians is not their priority. What are the chances the CRTC, Canada’s broadcast regulator, will mandate that private broadcasters open stations in Yellowknife and Iqaluit?

Poilievre claims to be a populist, but he’s missing that mark with the public broadcaster, too. A recent survey by the Centre for Media, Technology and Democracy found that while they would like to see changes to the CBC, 78 per cent of Canadians want to preserve it.

Ultimately, the shibboleth to “defund the CBC” is about ideology. It’s being proposed by a party leader who, by his own admission, doesn’t watch or listen to the CBC, yet deems it to be too left-leaning. One hopes that Canada will not turn into a nation that allows its politicians to decide what everyone sees, hears or reads.

Perhaps it’s a reflection of the time we live in, that slogans are catchy and appealing. But when you plan to gut CBC, I must repeat my earlier question “At what cost?”



**The CBC Pensioners
National Association**

Preserving our Future, Sharing our Past

**L'Association nationale
des retraités de la SRC**

Assurer notre avenir, partager notre passé

9

ENROLMENT FORM – RETIREE

Please print

Name			
Street	City	Prov.	Postal Code
Telephone	Email		

☐ **I wish to join now** (please fill in the remaining sections of this form).

☐ I am uncertain about joining at this time. I understand that, with the information given above, a representative of Association may contact me and, upon request, provide assistance with the enrolment process.

I, _____, wish to join the CBC Pensioners National Association and hereby authorize the CBC to deduct monthly membership dues from my pension cheque and remit them to the Association. I also authorize the CBC to provide the Association with such personal information relating to me as the Association may require to facilitate the administration of dues and other services related to the welfare of pensioners.

All personal information provided to the Association by you or by the CBC is held in strict confidence.

Membership dues are 0.32% of a member's gross pension payment. For every \$1,000 of monthly pension, a member would contribute \$3.20.

CBC ID (See Notification of deposit, above your name)	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Gender (optional)
Civil Status <input type="radio"/> Single <input type="radio"/> Married <input type="radio"/> Widower <input type="radio"/> Divorced <input type="radio"/> Separated <input type="radio"/> Common-Law		
Preferred language <input type="radio"/> English <input type="radio"/> French	Date of retirement (dd/mm/yyyy)	

Spousal information

Name			
Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Gender (optional)	CBC Employee <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	CBC Retiree <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Signature Required

Date

This form can be mailed to:
The CBC Pensioners National Association
P.O. Box 8670
Ottawa, ON K1G 3H9
or press the submit button to send via
email to info@cbcpensioners.ca

Golden Horseshoe Chapter Executive



President:

Bob Waller

(905) 278-1267

bobbywaller@hotmail.com



Vice-President:

Marie Clarke-Davies

(416) 529-8294

marie.clarke.davies@gmail.com

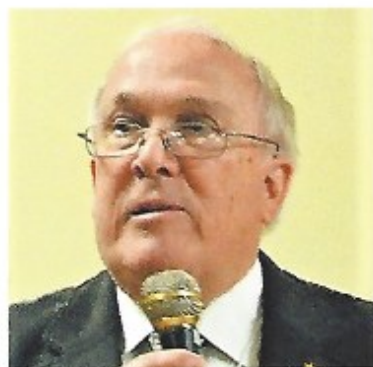


Treasurer:

Cindy Beatty

(905) 823-7887

cbeatty7887@rogers.com



Immediate Past President:

David Knapp LVO

(905) 331-5435

dknapp7@cogeco.ca



Secretary:

Bridget O'Toole

(437) 778-0472

bridget.otoole53@gmail.com



Director:

Toni Tosti

(289) 213-8547

tonitosti01@gmail.com

Have you changed your E-mail address recently or perhaps set up an E-mail account for the first time? If so, please let us know. The same goes if you've changed your home address or phone number.