



By-Town Chapter

www.bytownchapter.com/

Newsletter

NB: 2014 By-Town Annual General Meeting!

The Annual General meeting will be held beginning at **11:15** on **April 3** at The Emerald Plaza Library, followed by lunch at the Yang Ming. Positions open for election for a two-year term at this time will be President, Secretary, and one VP position (currently held by Raj Mediratta). If you are interested in one of these positions and want to know more about what is involved, please contact chapter president Bob Hughes by email at president@bytownchapter.com.

Nominations should be directed to volunteer electoral officer **Ed Borza** either in advance (by phone at 613-523-6077 or by email c-e.borza@sympatico.ca) or at the meeting. If you are nominating someone other than yourself, please ensure that you obtain that person's approval first.

President's message

From all of us on the By-Town Executive, a Happy New Year wish to all members, their families and friends! And while we look forward to all that the New Year brings, let's take a moment to also look back on what we did in 2013. All in all, I'd say we had a very successful year!

Once again and after listening to member input, our monthly lunch breaks were held at a wide variety of venues, including St Eloi Cafe & Bistro in Gatineau, Perkins Family Restaurant on St Laurent, Buffet Yangming on Merivale, as well as Mill St Brewery and Big Rig Brewery. Of course, there was also our very popular spring and fall luncheons at the Travelodge, which saw attendance also from (non-Heritage Club) retirees from Engineering, Human Resources, and Marketing.

Other social activities in 2013 included watching an Ottawa 67s game at a sold-out Scotiabank suite, a Harvest Wine and Cheese Tasting at the Merivale LCBO, a Niagara-on-the-Lake Fall Wine Tour, and our Christmas Dinner at Lago Restaurant at the Dow's Lake Pavilion. Another annual success for the By-Town Chapter was our sixth Annual By-Town Golf Tournament, held this year at Chateau Cartier. Some 14 foursomes played, many others joined us for a fabulous meal at the resort's Ekko de Brasil Restaurant, and at the end of the evening, we had raised \$2500 for the Canada Post Community Foundation through the popular after-dinner auction. Many thanks to all the members who participated, organized or volunteered at these very successful events.

By-Town members also continued their reputation for stepping up to support local charitable organizations such as Ottawa Therapy Dogs (\$500), as well as Canada Post activities, such as the 'Name That Tune' contest in support of United Way. Our esteemed 'Swingin to the oldies' team held its own that day...even beating out a few more teams than the previous year! By-Town members also volunteered for several days at Canada Post's Flu Clinic, and collectively spent many hours helping to assess submissions to the CPC Aboriginal Incentive Awards.

Of course, the ongoing success story of By-Town volunteering remains the Santa Letter Writing Campaign. Together, we put in approximately 700 hours answering some 10,000 letters. This is the fourth highest total of all Heritage

Club chapters! Many thanks and congratulations to Lise Jette and Claude Bruneau for their organizational efforts, as well as to all the members who gave generously of their valuable time for this wonderful cause.

This year, the Heritage Club celebrates its 25th anniversary, and from June 6-9, By-Town will host the club's **Annual Chapter Presidents Meeting** in downtown Ottawa. As this year is a special one for the club, we hope we can count on our members to assist us in ensuring that attendees experience the very best our Nation's Capital has to offer. As we get closer to the event, watch for messages from your chapter executive identifying volunteer needs, and we would ask you to seriously consider stepping forward to help out in whatever capacity you can.

Bob Hughes, President, By-Town Chapter

By the Numbers

2013

Volunteer hours, including personal pursuits	4,800 (approx.)
Number of activities coordinated, including Santa's Heritage Days	17
Dollars donated:	
Canada Post's Community Foundation	\$2500
Ottawa Therapy Dogs	\$500
United Way	\$50
Scholarship donation	\$500

Check out pictures of many of these events at www.bytownchapter.com!

Here's what's cookin' for 2014!

And the enthusiasm never stops—here are some highlights of plans for this year. Final details will be sent by email, or check our website periodically for updates. And if you have suggestions for new locales and events to try out, please don't be shy—let us know!

February 6

- Lunch Break at Vittoria Trattoria, Riverside Drive (www.vittoriatrattoria.com)

April 3

- Lunch Break at Yang Ming Buffet, 1545 Merivale Road (Emerald Plaza)
 - NB: annual meeting! Please RSVP to Claude Bruneau at vp-claude@canadapost.com.
- Washington Cherry Blossom Tour

June 5

- The Mill Street Brewery

June 6-9

National Presidents Meeting

September

- Lunch Break – location to be determined
- Winery Tour (location and dates tbd)

November

Lunch Break – location to be determined

March 6

- Lone Star (www.lonestartexasgrill.com), St. Laurent location. Register with Karen Casselman at vp-karen@bytownchapter.com.

May 1

- Big Rig Brewery (www.bigrigbrew.com), 2750A Iris Street

July

(No activity)

August

Golf Tournament

October

- 'Embrace the Fall' at Travelodge

December

- Christmas festivities – details to be determined

You heard it here!

❖ **Prestige discount card**

Prestige Home Furnishings & Appliance has kindly offered our chapter members a VIP card (enclosed, if you are receiving this newsletter by mail). Benefits include Friends & Family pricing, no fee financing, and more!

❖ **WorkPerks**

WorkPerks is excited to offer you—as a paid-up Heritage Club member—and your immediate family free access to hundreds of valuable discounts from both brand name companies and local businesses. Within minutes, you have access to perks from over 1200 vendors with new perks added every week! The savings are real and include everything from special event tickets and travel to shoes and jewellery.

If you encounter problems registering for WorkPerks, please contact [Claude Bruneau](mailto:claudio.bruneau@canadapost.ca) at claudio.bruneau@canadapost.ca. (NB You must have the last three digits of your Heritage Club membership number on hand when registering.)

Note: the winner of the fall 2013 promotion was Nancy Mayer, a Regina letter carrier.

❖ **Get fit with GoodLife Fitness Clubs**

Goodlife would like to help Heritage Club members tone up and get fit with membership rate reductions. As a Canada Post Retiree and Heritage Club member, you and your spouse/partner are eligible to obtain GoodLife memberships at approximately 50% off the regular rates! GoodLife currently has over 160 locations in Canada, with helpful, qualified staff and state of the art equipment. An enrollment form can be found on our website. For a complete listing of GoodLife Fitness Clubs, please visit www.goodlifefitness.com.

Questions? Contact Heritage Club organizer [Jim Sandall](#) (Heritage Club member) at 519-686-8440.

Chapter 'bytes'

By-Town Scholarship Recipient for 2012/2013

Congratulations to John Venner, son of member Marilyn Venner, who received our chapter's \$500 scholarship.

Volunteerism

- ❖ It's in you to help out in your community. For opportunities to volunteer locally, go to www.volunteerottawa.ca.
- ❖ Are you already volunteering? The By-Town Chapter wants to know about your efforts, whether they are for the Heritage Club or in the community. Drop a line to Secretary Trish Edwards at secretary@bytownchapter.com.
- ❖ **Helping our youth** The Learning Partnership's Entrepreneurial Adventure program—in Ottawa and across Canada—is a hands-on, entrepreneurial journey that allows students to learn from business mentors and be involved in something exciting and real toward that end. Business volunteers are urgently needed in Ottawa ... now! If you have a spare four hours a month and would like to help, contact The Learning Partnership's Torre Hansson, Project Manager for the Greater Ottawa Area, by email at thansson@thelearningpartnership.ca or by telephone at 613-837-0570.

Keep in mind...

Are you an active member?

Active members are those who help support their chapter so that we may all continue to benefit from opportunities to enjoy fun events and reconnect with long-time friends and former colleagues. Active members (i.e. current year's dues are paid) receive email notices of all events; those without computers continue to receive a print copy of our first newsletter of the year.* Active members also receive regular updates about opportunities from WorkPerks, Johnson Home and Auto Insurance, and Goodlife Fitness, as well as important news such as information on the recent pay equity settlement.

*Beginning in 2015, the print newsletter will be mailed only to those members whose previous year dues were paid.

2014 membership dues are payable now

Please mail your cheque—**made out to Lise Jette**—c/o the Heritage Club office at the address below. (Cheques made out to "Heritage Club" or "By-Town Chapter" can no longer be accepted, due to associated costs.). Chapter records are audited annually.

HERITAGE CLUB (By-Town Chapter)
5 IMP. DU CHARDONNAY
GATINEAU QC J9H 7P2

Get instant updates by email

Allowing your Chapter to contact you by e-mail helps us to save money and meet your information needs in a timely and efficient manner. If you have an e-mail address, please pass it along! And if you have already given us your e-mail address, but are not yet receiving our frequent eBulletin updates, we may have lost it! Please take a few minutes to provide us with your address once again by sending an email to Trish at the address below.

By-Town Chapter Executive Committee

President	Bob Hughes	president@bytownchapter.com
Treasurer	Lise Jette	treasurer@bytownchapter.com
VP	Gail Curran	vp-gail@bytownchapter.com
VP	Raj Mediratta	vp-raj@bytownchapter.com
VP	Claude Bruneau	vp-claude@bytownchapter.com
VP	Karen Casselman	vp-karen@bytownchapter.com
Secretary	Trish Edwards	secretary@bytownchapter.com

To leave a telephone voicemail message for a member of the Executive Committee, call 613-831-4898.

Cause of Choice

Each year, By-Town Chapter chooses a worthy cause to raise funds for. In the past, we have donated to the Hospice at May Court, Ottawa's Seven Women's Shelters, and Rogers House. In 2013, the chapter donated **\$2,500** to the Canada Post Community Foundation (\$2,000 in 2012). Funds were raised at chapter events like the annual golf tournament and with the kind donation of numerous items for our auction from members and local businesses. Members also contribute generously at monthly luncheons and other events. The chapter's Cause of Choice for 2013 was Ottawa Therapy Dogs (<http://www.ottawatherapydogs.ca/>). Ottawa Therapy Dogs is a volunteer-based organization providing animal-assisted activities and therapy with its members' registered therapy dogs. The chapter also donated \$50 to United Way. If you have ideas or suggestions for an upcoming cause of choice, please let us know.

Moving?

To update your address or to relay other information, please contact Trish Edwards at the co-ordinates below.

Don't be shy!

If you have ideas for outings or activities that might be of interest to members, or if you have a skill or an interest that you're prepared to share—please, don't hesitate to contact any member of your Executive Committee. Organizations like the By-Town Heritage Club can thrive only with the willing and able help of volunteers.