



Chapitre By-Town Chapter

www.bytownchapter.com/

Newsletter

2012 By-Town Annual General Meeting

The Annual General meeting will be held beginning at **11:30** on **April 5** at **Robbie's Restaurant** on **Walkley Road**. Positions open for election for a two-year term at this time will be President, Secretary, and Second VP.

Nominations should be directed to Second Vice President Ed Miller in advance or at the meeting. If you are nominating someone other than yourself, please obtain that person's approval first.

Cambrian members

Are you wondering why you're getting this newsletter? See message below from the president of By-Town Chapter, and on p. 6 from the Heritage Club's National president. In the meantime, if you see a By-Town activity below that you'd like and are able to participate in, you are most welcome!

President's message

As we start a brand new year, let's look back on the last, which brought some significant changes and challenges to our chapter. In June of 2011, saying thank you to Bernie Dixon as he stepped down as long-serving Chapter President, we welcomed a brand new executive committee. Your committee started its term with some very firm promises:

- o to hit the ground running... and to communicate often, and our eBulletins and eNewsletters have done just that;
- o to keep popular activities like monthly lunches, and we have had many get-togethers at Robbie's Restaurant on Walkley Road; and,
- o to explore ways to entice back retirees who were not previously not active members with fun, new activities and venues. We did that too for example in October with the very successful buffet lunch at Travelodge Hotel on Carling Avenue. We welcomed some 56 people that day, many of whom were retirees not active in the chapter, and fielded a number of questions from individuals interested in re-connecting.

Most of our activities would not have happened if it had not been for the tireless work of member volunteers. Our thanks go to those who volunteered to organize occasions such as the Christmas dinner and the Syracuse trip, and charitable events such as our annual golf tournament, the United Way Music Quiz and the Santa Letter-writing Campaign.

For 2012, as you will see elsewhere in this newsletter, we have set out an ambitious list of activities with, hopefully, something for everyone. I look forward to seeing many of you at one or more of these activities, and even more to working with some of you on organizing some of these activities.

'People Helping People'

I'd also like to take this opportunity to add a few words about the situation with Cambrian Chapter. Our Heritage Club motto speaks volumes about the many hours we devote to fulfilling needs within our communities. However, we're not often called upon to help out another Heritage Club *chapter*. Our neighbouring chapter to the west,

Cambrian, is going through a tough time, and is currently without an executive committee. Obviously, this situation impacts individual members, even beyond the offering of local luncheons and other activities, in that they receive little information about the various deals and discounts available to Heritage Club members. While the National Executive works with Cambrian members to identify future chapter executives, By-Town has been asked to help communicate with its membership with mailings like this one. If you know any Cambrian Chapter members who might be interested in helping to re-energize that chapter, please urge them to contact our National President, Bob Emmons at campbellkid1@cogeco.ca.

On behalf of the By-Town Executive Committee, allow me to wish all of you all the best for 2012.

Bob Hughes, President, By-Town Chapter

We saw you there in 2011

By-Town members are now enjoying more and more opportunities for fun and camaraderie. At the same time, we can be proud that we are raising sorely needed funds for many worthwhile causes. Here's what occupied us last year:

❖ **Lunch Break**

By-Town members enjoy having lunch together and reconnecting with former friends and colleagues. In the second half of 2011, they met in June, July, October, and November at either at Robbie's Restaurant on Walkley Road or at Travelodge Hotel on Carling Avenue.

❖ **Golf day 2011**

Last September's golf tournament brought in the highest-ever revenues, with some 44 players and three brand-new teams of active employees participating! A big thank you to the organizers, to the many volunteers who stepped up to help put together this popular event, as well as to **John Caines**, who MC'd our auction again this year—great job everyone! The proceeds from this event were donated to the Canada Post for the Foundation for Mental Health.

❖ **Embrace the Fall' lunch**

Some 56 people attended this special joint event in October with the Retired Engineers from Canada Post, organized by **Raj Mediratta**. The event began with a cocktail hour, where guests mingled and got caught up, then followed with a delicious buffet lunch. Those who had time lingered over coffee until nearly 2 p.m. By applause, everyone agreed that they had a great time.

❖ **Music Quiz raises \$960 for United Way and Mental Health Foundation**

Last November, By-Town Chapter sponsored a table at Canada Post's music trivia quiz in support of these two great causes. **Lise Jette**, **Claude Bruneau**, **Janet Gibbs Hanley**, **Lauri Mathieu**, and **Jim Phillips**, volunteered to team up and try to identify artists, titles and other information from short musical snippets. Despite hearty giggles and lots of fun, our team placed 19th (out of 19, ahem!). While we sincerely hope these great sports will sign up for this event again next year... perhaps we can also coax out a few more 'power' players...! (We'll be looking for YOU!)

❖ **'Deck the Halls' Christmas party**

By-Town members enjoyed scrumptious food, great laughs and a whole lot of fun at the 2011 Christmas party at the Kanata Holiday Inn in November. Many, many thanks to organizers **Deborah Shelton**, **Jean Miller** and **Juanita Vetter**, who did a fantastic job of co-ordinating this event!

❖ **Santa's Heritage Days**

Over a five-week period, nearly 30 By-Town members volunteered more 470 hours and helped answer nearly 8,000 letters to Santa. An amazing response! Your generosity of time and spirit is much appreciated not only by Santa, but also Canada Post and your Chapter. There were too many to name here but big thanks to every-one, including co-ordinators **Lise Jette** and **Claude Bruneau**, who organized these mega-volunteer-a-thons.

Check out pictures of many of these events on our website!

2011 by the numbers

Volunteer hours	982
Volunteers	100+
Number of activities coordinated	14
Dollars donated	\$2,050
Scholarship donated	\$ 500

Here's what's cookin' for 2012!

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.

February

- Valentine's Day Sleigh Ride
- Winterlude walk at Dow's Lake
- Canal Skate

April

- Lunch Break at Robbies (5th)
– NB: annual meeting! ***RSVP (see below)**

June

- Brunch in Gatineau (7th) at La Station

August

- Golf Tournament (17th)

October

- Embrace The Fall luncheon at Travelodge (4th)
- Fall bus trip (Wine tour to Prince Edward County?)

December

- Santa Heritage Days
- Christmas Social

March

- Lunch @ Buffet Yang Ming on Carling Avenue.
***RSVP (see below)**
- Ski Outing
- Curling Bonspiel

May

- 'Cue the Summer' at Travelodge (on 3rd)
- Bus trip to NYC or Boston.

July

- (No activity)

September

- Lunch Break** (on 6th)

November

- Lunch Break** (1st)
- United Way activity — Music Quiz

***Please RSVP at your earliest opportunity to Ed Miller at first-vp@bytownchapter.com.**

Special Notes:

Some of these activities are dependent on weather, so watch for an impromptu email notice.

If you have suggestions for new locales for our Lunch Breaks, please—let us know.

You heard it here!

❖ 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 700 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:Claude.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.)

The winner of the WorkPerks sign-up promotion for employees and retirees last fall was Joel Bernaldo, Shift 1 Postal Clerk at the Winnipeg MPP.

❖ **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 organizer [Jim Sandall](#) (Heritage Club member) at 519-686-8440.

❖ **Pay equity – are you entitled?**

Last November, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled in a pay equity case involving some current and former Canada Post employees who were/are part of the PSAC bargaining unit. The ruling means that eligible employees will be compensated for 50 per cent of the wage gap found to exist from August 24, 1982 to June 2, 2002 by the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal. If you would like more information about the Pay Equity Settlement process, please visit the Canada Post Pay Equity website at canadapostpayequity.ca or send an email to payequity@canadapost.ca. The website will be updated on a regular basis. On the Pay Equity website, people can sign up to receive automatic email updates as new information becomes available.

Chapter 'bytes'

By-Town Scholarship Recipient for 2011/2012

Congratulations to Stittsville's Keegan Rowe, son of By-Town member Rosaleen and the late Randy Rowe, who retired in 2006 after working in Marketing, Sales and Project Management. \$500 to Keegan Rowe.

Rest in Peace

By-Town Chapter sends condolences to the family and friends of **Doug Turmaine** and **Robert Blair** who passed away on January 5, 2012 and September 7, 2011, respectively.

Remembrance Day 2011

Laying a wreath on behalf of Canada Post at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier during Remembrance Day ceremonies was Bytown's **David Campbell**, who retired from Supplier Quality Assurance – Procurement. David served in the Air Force from 1962 to 1974. Thank you to David, to our troops the world over, and to all our veterans.

Former By-Town President honoured

Former Chapter President Bernie Dixon was recently presented with a special commemorative plaque in recognition of his many years of dedication to the Heritage Club. Warm thanks to Bernie and his wife Edna for their time and efforts on behalf of the Chapter.

Volunteerism

- ❖ It's in you to help out in your community. For opportunities to volunteer locally, go to <http://www.volunteerottawa.ca>.
- ❖ Are you already volunteering? The By-Town Chapter wants to know about your efforts. Drop Secretary Trish Edwards a line 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 print copies of four newsletters each 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.

2012 membership dues are payable now

Please mail your cheque—made out to Lise Jette—c/o Secretary Trish Edwards at the address below. (Cheques made out to “Heritage Club” or “By-Town Chapter” can no longer be accepted, due to associated costs.) Trish will record your payment and give it to Lise for deposit.

Secretary, By-Town Chapter
6 SONATA PL
OTTAWA ON K1G 6H2

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
First VP	Ed Miller	first-vp@bytownchapter.com
Second VP	Raj Mediratta	second-vp@bytownchapter.com
Third VP	Claude Bruneau	third-vp@bytownchapter.com
Secretary	Trish Edwards	secretary@bytownchapter.com

To leave a telephone voicemail message for a member of the Executive Committee, call 613-734-8640.

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 2011, the chapter donated \$2050 to the Canada Post Foundation for Mental Health. Funds were raised at chapter events like the annual golf tournament and with the kind donation of numerous items for our auction. Members also contribute generously at monthly luncheons and other events. If you have ideas or suggestions for our next cause of choice, please let us know.

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.

Moving?

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