

North York Garden Club

For those who love gardening



Cover photo - David Arnett

2026 Yearbook



Established in 1924

**as the North York Township Horticultural Society
Member of the Ontario Horticultural Association - District 5**

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North York Garden Club

For those who love gardening

Established in 1924 as the North York Township Horticultural Society

The mission of the North York Garden Club is to promote the love of gardening to our members and the public through meetings, guest speakers, flower shows, plant sales and community outreach activities.

We are a non-profit, volunteer-run organization that welcomes everyone.

Meetings are typically the 4th Monday of the month at 7:30pm

2026 meetings take place February (online), then March through June, and September through November. There are no meetings held in July, August, December and January, though club-related activities may be offered.

Meetings take place at Willowdale Presbyterian Church, 38 Ellerslie Avenue, from 7:30 to 9:00pm. The lower level is accessible. Free parking is available.

Membership benefits include:

- * Guest speakers from across the GTA and Ontario
- * Flower and Vegetable shows to enter and view
- * Award-winning digital yearbook and newsletters
- * Social - meet & mingle with refreshments at each meeting
- * Special Events (community outreach and engagement, seed exchanges, garden tours, Pop-Up Garden visits)
- * Member photography contest
- * Meet fellow gardeners to share ideas
- * Discounts at selected garden centres and events

Website [North York Garden Club](#)



Facebook

[North York Garden Club—Always Growing](#)



Instagram

[@northyorkgardenclub](#)

Email

info@northyorkgardenclub.ca

President's Message

Welcome to a new year of promise and potential!

The deep freeze has served us well, helping eliminate pests, plunging perennials and trees into true dormancy, triggering cold stratification for seeds that require such conditions to germinate, insulating soil and tender roots in the case of snow, and in many other ways. All that we have to do is follow nature's lead, winter sowing for greatest ease any seeds that need the moist-cold, and otherwise going "hands free" in the garden until late April or early May, once the ground bees are awake and other pollinators have emerged. This is our creative time, a time to think about what we'd like to continue growing or experiment with for the first time, about how we might enrich and expand the volumes of soil upon which our growing success depends, and about what else we'd like to make room for, be it art, new habitats, secret corners, heightened beauty, more food, or the intermingling of any combination of these. Whatever you choose to grow this year, do it with purpose, pivot when you need or want to, and enjoy the fruits of your labour. It's a labour of love, after all.

Another of my hopes for you this year is to continue learning, soaking in details that you find intriguing, devising new ways to approach your goals, and wringing out anything inconsequential. Do you know what I've loved doing in the last while? I've had the best of times pouring through the Club's archives at the North York Central Library. Membership logs from our earliest years handwritten with a fountain pen, articles from The Enterprise newspaper (North York's first newspaper founded November 11, 1926), previous yearbooks, photos, maps - it's a treasure trove like no other. History comes rushing at you with every turn of the page.

Did you know....

- Our founding years saw virtually equal numbers of men and women enrolled in the Club;
- Adult memberships cost one dollar, and were half that or less in years of austerity during WWII;
- Early lecturers impressed members with their lantern slides and were paid five dollars;
- Our first meeting place was Municipal Hall on Yonge Street at Stop 7a, which was a stop on an electric radial car line running from Glen Echo Road in the south, to Sutton, near Lake Simcoe, until 1930;

President's Message (continued)

- Just under half of the Club's presidents on record are women, including our longest-serving president, Gloria Broks, for a total of six years;
- Junior memberships cost 25 cents in 1927, with youth encouraged to "Come and learn how to beat Mother and Dad at growing flowers and vegetables" (The Enterprise, January 19, 1927); and
- If there was one goal encouraged by Mr. H.J. Moore of the Horticulture Branch of the Department of Agriculture, it was "Aim to plant things which are permanent and will endure and will serve as a monument to our intelligence so that the coming generations will say that we planned and planted wisely and well." (The Enterprise, January 13, 1927).

The list goes on, except these are not facts in isolation. Rather, they are threads that weave together the Club's full story, including dialogue that would make for an interesting film or book.

The year 2026 offers fresh opportunity for all of us. The question is:

"How will you wade in?"

All the best – Christine

2026 North York Garden Club - Monthly Calendar

Saturday, February 21st

Get the Jump on Spring - Outreach. 10:00am - 4:00pm.

Toronto Botanical Garden

Monday, February 23rd

General Meeting (Zoom). 7:30 - 9:00pm.

Online Zoom Meeting

Monday, March 23rd

General Meeting. 7:30 - 9:00pm.

38 Ellerslie Avenue

Saturday, April 18th

District 5 AGM & Flower Show. 9:00am - 3:00pm.

Toronto Botanical Garden

Saturday, April 25th

2nd Annual Spring Gardening Celebration. 1:30 - 3:30pm.

North York Central Library

Monday, April 27th

General Meeting. 7:30 - 9:00pm.

38 Ellerslie Avenue

Sunday, May 24th

Design Workshop for Club Members - *"Tentative"*

38 Ellerslie Avenue

Monday, May 25th

General Meeting. 7:30 - 9:00pm.

PLUS Flower & Vegetable Show

38 Ellerslie Avenue

Saturday, June 6th

Taste of North York. 12:00 - 5:00pm.

Mel Lastman Square

Sunday, June 7th

Annual Tour of Members' Gardens (rain date June 20th)

Various

Wednesday, June 10th

Bus Trip for Club Members

Oshawa Valley Botanical Garden / Parkwood Gardens

Oshawa

Monday, June 22nd

General Meeting. 7:30-9:00pm.

PLUS Flower & Vegetable Show

38 Ellerslie Avenue

Friday, July 24th to Sunday, July 26th

OHA 118th Annual Convention and Meeting.

Durham College

Monday, September 28th

General Meeting. 7:30 - 9:00pm.

PLUS Flower & Vegetable Show

38 Ellerslie Avenue

Monday, October 26th

General Meeting. 7:30 - 9:00pm.

38 Ellerslie Avenue

Monday, November 23rd

NYGC AGM - Elections, Awards, Potluck & Entertainment

38 Ellerslie Avenue

2026 North York Garden Club - Monthly Meetings

February 23 rd	<p>"Adding Another Layer of Life to the Garden - Creating Habitat for Native Bees and Insects with Native Plants."</p> <p>Brenda Near - President, East Gwillimbury Gardeners</p>
March 23 rd	<p>Floral Design Workshop Theme: Reflections on the XXV Winter Olympics Class Section A - DECORATIVES Alpine Skiing - a design utilizing evergreens or conifer stems / branches Ice Hockey - a design which utilizes a visible net / netting Michael Erdman - Celebrated floral designer, author, certified judge</p>
April 27 th	<p>"Micro-Greens" Jeremiah Reandino - Local grower and entrepreneur</p>
May 25 th	<p>"Bird Friendly Spaces" Paul Oliver - Founder of Urban Nature Store, Canada's go-to destination for backyard birders and wildlife watchers Flower & Vegetable Show: "Reflections on the XXV Winter Olympics"</p>
June 22 nd	<p>"Urban Agriculture: Backyard Farming the Regenerative Way" Sean Smith - Owner and head brewer at Crooked Farmz, an urban micro-farm in Toronto Flower & Vegetable Show: "2026 FIFA World Cup"</p>
September 28 th	<p>"Winter Sowing, Seed Collecting, Germination" Sayeh Beheshti - Gardener, Author, Industrial Designer, PhD Candidate Flower & Vegetable Show: "Fall Field Sports"</p>
October 26 th	<p>"Dream - Design - Dig: Planning a Successful Garden" Etobicoke Master Gardeners Photo Contest - NYGC 2027 Yearbook Cover</p>
November 23 rd	<p>Annual General Meeting & Potluck</p>

2026 OHA & Community Events

<p>February 21st 10:00am - 4:00pm</p>	<p>“Get the Jump on Spring” Toronto Botanical Garden</p> <p>North York Garden Club display and outreach, alongside vendors galore!</p>	
<p>April 18th 9:30am - 3:00pm</p>	<p>District 5 Annual General Meeting (AGM) “The Joy of Gardening ... Let’s Get Dirty” Hosted by the East York Garden Club</p>	
<p>April 25th 1:30 - 3:30pm</p>	<p>2nd Annual Spring Gardening Celebration North York Central Library Hosted by NYGC & NYCL</p> <p>A popular, volunteer-led event welcoming all ages to enjoy garden-themed displays, demonstrations, expert advice, botanical crafts and more!</p>	
<p>June 6th 12:00 - 5:00pm</p>	<p>Taste of North York at Mel Lastman Square Hosted by Neighbourlink North York</p> <p>North York Garden Club display and sale as part of this three-day festival celebrating the cultures and cuisines of our Korean, Chinese, Persian, Ukrainian, Latin, Italian, Tamil, Japanese, Caribbean, and Indian communities and more!</p>	
<p>July 24th - 26th 9:30am - 3:00pm</p>	<p>OHA Annual General Meeting (AGM) Hosted by Districts 4 & 17 Oshawa Campus of Durham College</p> <p>Garden Ontario’s website offers a printable invitation, agenda and schedules for Flower Show, Photography, Creative Writing, Publications, Arts, and Youth competitions. Entry deadlines commence May 1, 2026.</p>	
<p>August 21st - September 7th</p>	<p>CNE Garden Show is home to one of the largest flower and vegetable growing competitions in Canada, going back to the CNE’s agricultural roots. Registration for the Garden Show is available online seasonally.</p>	
<p>October 1st - 4th</p>	<p>Markham Fair Prize Book is available online and includes all information and deadlines for Flower Show and Vegetable categories.</p>	
<p>November 6th - 15th</p>	<p>Royal Agricultural Winter Fair at Exhibition Place, includes a Horticulture Competition, with annual entry details available online.</p>	
<p>April - October 9:00 - 11:00am</p>	<p>Garden Maintenance at Willowdale Presbyterian Church Members check your inbox for a date or two that suit your schedule to help keep the church gardens lush and thriving.</p>	

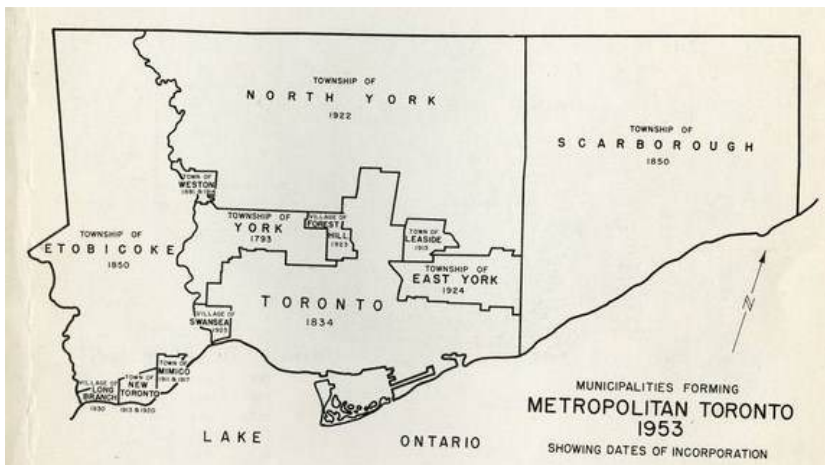
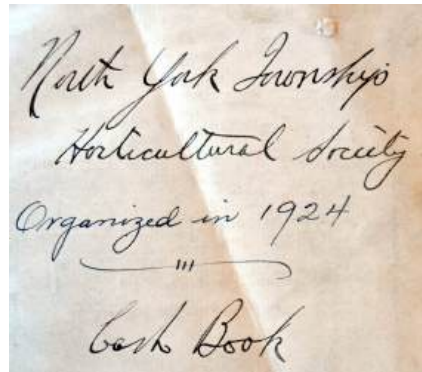
Our 102nd Year



Left: Frederick J. Goode,
founder,

North York Township Horticultural Society

Below: Front page of the
1924 membership log book



North York Horticultural Society

Club President History

Founder	Mr. Frederick J. Goode	1975/76	Mr. Lloyd Taylor
1927/28	Mr. A.W. Galbraith	1977/78	Mr. George Rickard
1929/33	Mr. Dan Ross	1979/80	Mrs. Alison Hanson
1934/36	Mr. W.T. Wells	1981/82	Mr. John Chalmers
1937/38	Mr. J.A. Bathgate	1983/84	Mr. Bower Forward
1939	Mr. W.A. Curtis	1985/86	Mr. Roy Crawford
1940	Mr. R.N. Tynall	1987/88	Mrs. Jean Porter
1941/45	Mr. John S. Hall	1989/90	Mr. Tom Nickson
1946	Mr. A.J. Tilton	1991/92	Mr. Lloyd Taylor
1947/48	Mr. G.A. Lummis	1993/94	Mrs. Gaby Crawford
1949/50	Mr. Lorne Deare	1995	Mr. Tom Nickson
1951/52	Mrs. G.W. Fiebig	1996/97	Dr. Jack Cameron
1953/54	Mr. E.A. Overton	1998/99	Mrs. Edith Geduld
1955	Mr. D. J. Attwell	2000/01	Dr. Jack Cameron
1956/58	Mrs. N. Ransford	2002/05	Gloria Broks
1959	Mrs. J. McKinnear	2006/07	Diane Wilton
1960/61	Mr. Morris Earl	2008/09	Patrizia (Pat) Cappelli
1962/63	Mr. J.B. McFarland	2010/11	Gail Bebee
1964/65	Mrs. Doris Spafford	2012/13	Soo-Ling Huang
1966/67	Mrs. J. D. Ballantyne	2014/17	Janet Love
1968/69	Mr. L. Kirwin	2018/19	Gloria Broks
1970	Mrs. A. B. Meiklejohn	2020/22	Mary Ann Nelson
1971/72	Mrs. Marion Cecil	2023/24	Janine Dyck
1973/74	Mr. Robert Gowdy	2025/26	Christine Pierroz



2025 Year in Review

In 2025, the North York Garden Club celebrated new milestones, among them our 101st Anniversary, 100 years of combined volunteer service by our Board, and our 100th member. The Club further participated in five outreach events, co-hosting one for attendees of all ages entitled, “Spring Gardening Celebration,” together with the North York Central Library. Club members also took part in three community planting events, including the Yonge St. Beautification Planter Project. Rounding out the year were: a Tour of Members' Gardens, Pop-Up Gardens, a bus trip to Whistling Gardens and Walter’s Greenhouses & Garden Centre, a Floral Design Workshop for Novices to encourage budding designers, creating vase arrangements for the 100th anniversary of Willowdale Presbyterian Church, and a well-attended Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Having surpassed a century of joyful learning, gardening, and community contributions, Board members connected with a team at the North York Civic Centre through Councillor Lily Cheng (Ward 18, Willowdale), to design a commemorative centennial plaque (1924-2024) for the North York Garden Club. Funding was approved by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFRA). The plaque, which highlights the Club’s early history as recorded in our archives at the North York Central Library, will feature the yellow blotch pansy found in our logo. It is anticipated to be unveiled in 2026, in the vicinity of Mel Lastman Square.

In what is certainly a rare occurrence, we discovered that our 2025 Board had provided 100 years of combined volunteer service to the Club, and so honoured their collective contribution with a North York Garden Club Award presented at the Nov. 24, 2025 AGM. Anchoring the group were Patrizia (Pat) Cappelli (27 years of service), and Gloria Broks (25 years), together with stalwarts Soo-Ling Huang (15 years), Rocco DeMiglio (13 years), Mary Ann Nelson (8 years), Richard Sage (6 years), and Tom Cloutier (4 years), supported by Sheri Ferdinand-Brugel (1 year), and Christine Pierroz (1 year). There are times when we must celebrate the moment, and this was one such occasion.

Another cause for celebration was the registration of the Club’s 100th member towards the end of August. We finished the year with 101 members, but made sure to enjoy a chocolate cake with red rose icing and ice-cream at our

2025 Year in Review (continued)

September general meeting and flower show. Membership increased by 26 members in 2025 from the previous year, and we look forward to learning and growing together.

Fundraising activities in 2025 included the sale of donated plants and floral-themed items at select outreach events, and the sale of shirts embroidered with the Club logo, as well as our popular 50/50 draw and refreshments donations collected at general meetings.

The November 24, 2025 AGM was a wonderful evening that included awards, elections, a delicious potluck, and live entertainment with singer/musician Joseph (Joe) Thomson.

Gloria Broks and Lorraine Luski presented the award for highest points earned at North York Garden Club flower and vegetable shows throughout the year to Zela Gilbert. A certificate and Sheridan gift card were given to acknowledge Zela's achievement. Tom Cloutier, organizer of the 2025 Photography Contest, presented three finalist photos that were among 30 entries from 12 members. Members had subsequently voted online for the winning submission, which was by David Arnett. David received congratulations, a Sheridan gift card, and the honour of having his photo featured on the 2026 Yearbook cover. District 5 representative Cindy Scythes awarded a District Appreciation Certificate to outgoing Board members Gloria Broks, Pat Cappelli, and Richard Sage, and to treasurer Soo-Ling Huang, whose successor, Sandy Cloutier, was appointed in February 2026. Cindy congratulated all four recipients, including on behalf of District 5 Director Ursula Eley, who sent remarks reflecting on her own interactions with each recipient over the years and praise for a job well done. Newly elected to the Board were directors Janet Love, as well as Natasha Mansouri, whose focus will be membership. Re-elected to the Board was director and club ambassador Rocco DeMiglio.

Throughout the year, the Board of Directors met monthly via Zoom, two weeks in advance of the eight general meetings. Leads and co-leads worked on an *ad hoc* basis to organize outreach events such as Taste of North York and delivery of food donations to Neighbourlink North York, plus three adjudicated flower and vegetable shows that were training grounds for new clerks and judges.

2025 Year in Review (continued)

Board members also served as delegates during the District 5 Meetings of Societies, in-person at the OHA District 5 AGM in Scarborough, and during the OHA Annual Meeting.

The gardens at the Club's meeting place, Willowdale Presbyterian Church, continued to be so well maintained by volunteers, led by Mary Ann Nelson, that the site was included in the annual Tour of Members' Gardens. A special addition to the gardens on May 4, prior to the tour, included three serviceberry bushes delivered through a Treemobile grant, which were planted by club volunteers and the congregation to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Willowdale Presbyterian Church.

Volunteers were at the heart of everything we accomplished as a club in 2025, bringing boundless enthusiasm to 1,391 hours of service to the Club, in our North York community, and at events such as the Canadian National Exhibition, Markham Fair, and the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

To all our 2025 volunteers, we can't thank you enough! Whether you fed us, hosted us, helped us, or represented us, we appreciate you!

Angela Bontje, Gloria Broks, Brenda Burton, Liz Camilleri, Pat Cappelli, Tom Cloutier, Sandy Cloutier, Rosa Maria de Barros, Rocco DeMiglio, Rosalinda DeMiglio, Sheri Ferdinand-Brugel, Sarah Fernandes, Lisa Forsyth, Zela Gilbert, Myint Gillespie, Soo-Ling Huang, Vicki Johnson, Kathie Kowal, Swan Li, Janet Love, Lorraine Luski, Jennifer Lynde, Azi Margan, Natasha Mansouri, Ann McConnell, Mary Ann Nelson, Joan Patterson, Christine Pierroz, Jeremiah Reandino, Richard Sage, Lucja Segal-Seiden, Rosemary Sheppard, Gary Shorney, Ranji Sithamparapillai, Louise Veffler, Jo-Anne Wilson, Diane Wilton, and Yvonne Zhang.

To our community supporters whose donations made our outreach possible, please accept our gratitude and thanks for reaching in when we needed you!

Metro, Yonge & Church

Shoppers Drug Mart, Yonge & Finch

Woodhill Garden Centre, Bayview & Steeles

2025 Year in Review Photos





Ontario Horticultural Association

Keeping Ontario Beautiful

www.gardenontario.org

Established in 1906 by the Province of Ontario, the Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) is a network of 270 affiliated clubs/societies with over 30,000 members in 19 districts. OHA, organized under the authority of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFRA), is a volunteer, charitable organization whose mission is to provide leadership and assist in the promotion of education and interest in all areas of horticulture and related environmental issues. It is led by an executive of dedicated volunteers that includes representatives from every district.

Benefits of the North York Garden Club's affiliation with the OHA include organizational support, website hosting, and resources such as a speaker's bureau, liability insurance, director and treasurer's bonding, support for new officers, networking and educational opportunities and a quarterly newsletter.

The North York Garden Club is part of OHA District 5, made up of 14 societies which stretch from Lake Ontario to Lake Simcoe. Participating societies garden in a variety of conditions, urban, suburban and rural. Included in our midst are four societies whose identity is defined by horticultural interest as well as by location: the *Greater Toronto Rose and Garden Horticultural Society*, the *Greater Toronto Water Garden and Horticultural Society*, the *Rhododendron Horticultural Society*, and the *Greater Toronto Bulb & Horticultural Society*.

Our District contact is Ursula Eley.



North York Garden Club Flower Shows

All members, including beginners, are invited to participate in the **May, June and September** flower and vegetable shows; no experience is necessary.

Show entries are displayed by class and are judged by accredited judges from the Ontario Horticultural Association who are not club members. In each class, recognition is given for first, second, third and honourable mention(s).

All rules and standards are based on the **Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards for Horticulture and Floral Design (OJES 2019)**.

Show Committee members will be available to answer questions or if help is needed.

The Show Committee reserves the right to make additional rules deemed necessary for the success of the show. NYGC is not responsible for personal injury, or property lost, stolen or damaged at any club function.

Flower Show Rules

1. Competition is limited to paid up members only. Obtain an exhibitor number from the Flower Show Lead.
2. All cultural exhibits must be grown and entered by the exhibitor unless otherwise stated. However, a paid up member can put in an entry of another paid up member for a legitimate reason.
3. Youth: (for Decorative Class) a member who is 18 years or under.

Flower Show Procedures

1. All flower show exhibits must be registered with the Flower Show Lead **between 7:00 and 7:15 pm**.
2. Entry tags are available at any meeting prior to a show.
3. Entry tags for all shows should be **filled out at home** (see page 14 for instructions) and include exhibitor's full name, exhibitor's number, section, class and variety.
4. Exhibitor **must provide Flower Show Lead with total number of entries** prior to placing them in the appropriate class.
5. Once staged, exhibits **may not be moved** or removed until close of the show.

Flower Show Procedures, continued

6. Only exhibitors may remove exhibits at close of show.
7. **Exhibitors may make one entry, in any class, in any show.**
8. Only persons designated by the Show Committee shall be permitted in the showroom while entries are being placed and judged.

Flower Show Results

1. Points will be awarded on the basis of: 1st – 3 points, 2nd – 2 points, 3rd – 1 point. Five points will be given for a “Best in Show.”
2. No award need be made for a mediocre exhibit, even though it may be the only one entered in the class.
3. Plants not winning first prize may be entered in future shows.

SECTION <u> B </u> CLASS <u> 6 </u>			
VARIETY <u> African Violet </u>			
EXHIBITOR'S NO. <u> YOUR NUMBER </u>			
NAME <u> YOUR NAME </u>			
1ST <input type="checkbox"/> AWARD	2ND <input type="checkbox"/> AWARD	3RD <input type="checkbox"/> AWARD	HON. <input type="checkbox"/> MENTION
1ST <input type="checkbox"/> AWARD	2ND <input type="checkbox"/> AWARD	3RD <input type="checkbox"/> AWARD	HON. <input type="checkbox"/> MENTION
SECTION <u> B </u> CLASS <u> 6 </u>			
VARIETY <u> African Violet </u>			
EXHIBITOR'S NO. <u> YOUR NUMBER </u>			
NAME <u> YOUR NAME </u>			

How to Complete the Show Entry Tag

Available at the general meeting prior to the show and to be filled out at home.

Please fill in both the top and bottom parts of the entry tag. After the judging, the bottom stub is removed.

Without a complete tag there is no record of your entry.

Enter your Exhibitor's Number.

If you do not have one, ask at the entry desk and you will be given a number to use at all shows.

Fold Here when top and bottom sections are complete.

Rules for Cultural Classes

- 1. For the purpose of showing, containers will be provided by the exhibitor unless otherwise noted.**
2. Where a definite number or quantity of specimens is specified in the show schedule, neither more nor less than that number or quantity shall be exhibited. A bud showing colour is considered a bloom.
3. Where a class exists for a special type or variety of specimen, that type or variety may not be shown in a more general class.
4. By “stem or stalk” is meant a plant structure carrying one or more flowers and buds. It may be branches, e.g., sweet pea, primulas or iris.
5. By “spray” is meant portions of plants, laterals or side shoots with a number of flowers on one stem, e.g. chrysanthemums, climbing and floribunda roses.
6. By “spike” is meant a thick, upright stem carrying several flowers, usually with short pedicels, such as gladioli and snapdragons.
7. African Violets must be single crown only.
8. All roses should be named if possible.
9. An exhibitor must have been in possession of a houseplant for a period of three months prior to entering it in a show. Any houseplant having won a first prize may not be entered again for a period of one year. Grooming is important. Remove any soil, spray residue, insect remains, damaged or dead florets or leaves, etc., from the specimen plant. Container grown plants should have a clean soil surface and clean container.
10. A Dish Garden is defined as compatible plant material growing in a shallow dish depicting a scene. Complementary objects such as bridges, figures, etc., may be used.
11. A Planter is a container in which plants are artistically grouped and does not include complementary objects.
12. Potted bulbs must be planted, cultured and brought to bloom by the exhibitor.

Rules for Floral Design Classes

1. A design can be a combination of fresh and/or dried plant materials and/or organic objects arranged to create an artistic unit.
2. The designer uses the elements of design: space, line, form, colour, texture and pattern in the accepted principles of art: balance, rhythm, proportion, scale, contrast and dominance to interpret the theme and create a design of harmony and distinction.
3. Natural materials such as decorative foliage, twigs, driftwood, evergreens, moss, rocks, grasses and flowering shrubs, etc., may be used as an adjunct in any of the decorative classes and may be obtained from any source.
4. The discreet use of artificial grapes, painted and treated material will be permitted.
5. All arrangements are to be the work of the exhibitor and flowers may be obtained from any source.
6. Wiring or tying of flowers is permitted if it does not show, otherwise points will be deducted.
7. No soil allowed in Floral Designs.
8. All miniature (mini) entries during the year are to be staged in a niche that measures 5½ in X 4½ in X 2 in. The entry cannot exceed 5 inches in height or touch the top or the sides of the niche.
9. For the purpose of showing, containers are defined as follows:
 - **Baskets:** A container of such material as wood fibre, metal, glass, pottery, etc., with or without a handle (see container).
 - **Container:** The receptacle in which flowers are exhibited; in decorative classes, it is an integral part of a design.
 - **Vase:** A container that is taller than it is broad.
 - **Bowl:** A container that is broader than it is high.



Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards for Floral Design



Mass Design - A design with a large quantity of plant material arranged in a closed silhouette with few or no voids.

Pavé Design - A technique of placing groups of plant material that have been cut short, close together to form undulating mounds of colours, textures and shapes. Any plant material may be used.



Curvilinear Design - Consisting of curvy or flowing lines.

Water Viewing Design - Usually a line design in a shallow container(s) with $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the container surface showing water.



Line Design: Forms the structural framework of the design. It is the visual path along which the eye is led from one point of interest to another. As the primary foundation of all designs, it can convey interpretation, suggest a mood or an idea, etc. Line directions may be vertical, horizontal, diagonal and/or curved. Lines may be composed of linear material or created through the repetition of forms, sizes, textures and colours in a linear direction.



Some Flower Show Terms Explained

Cacti versus Succulent?

Did you know that all cacti are succulents, but not all succulents are cacti? Succulents, like aloe (indoor plant) and Hens-and-Chicks (outdoor plant) have a moisture-storing capacity and are found in many botanical families. Cacti, however, are defined by, round, cushion-like structures called areoles. This is where the spines, branches, hair, leaves and even flowers originate. Some succulents may look like cacti but if they don't have the round areoles, they are not part of the cactus family.

Is that a Pom Pom, Cactus or Formal Dahlia?



Pom Pom Dahlias have fully double flowers similar to the Ball and Mini Ball but are smaller. In fact, at less than 2 inches in diameter, they are the smallest of the dahlia forms. They are also more globular or spherical in shape. Ray florets are curled spirals for their entire length and fully curled for at least 50% of their length.

Cactus Dahlias have fully double flowers with long, pointed ray florets. These may be either straight or may curve back towards the stem (recurved). Ray florets are rolled back (revolute) for more than 50% of their length and radiate in all directions from the centre of the flower.



Formal Dahlias have relatively broad, flat ray florets with edges partially rolling back (revolute) or forward (involute). Ray florets are uniform and regularly arranged and tend to curve towards the stem of the plant (recurved). Flowers have no visible central disc and are fully double.

Some Flower Show Terms Explained, continued

Do you know your rose type?

Hybrid Teas

These roses bear large flowers that commonly grow one to a long stem and bloom continually throughout the growing season. The bush can grow quite tall, with an upright habit (a term rosarians use to describe the shape or look of a plant). Hybrid tea roses are usually budded onto a vigorous rootstock, and are a great choice if you like large flowers with a pleasant rose form and if you like to make rose arrangements or have cut flowers in the house.



Great White Nord

Floribundas

These plants have flowers that are smaller than hybrid teas and which grow in clusters on short stems. The bush is usually quite compact and blooms continually throughout the growing season. Most floribundas are budded, but commercial growers are beginning to grow them on their own roots. Choose floribundas if you need fairly low-growing plants that produce great numbers of colorful flowers.



Polyanthas

A forerunner of modern floribundas, the plant itself can be quite large, covered with small flowers. Their usual habit is compact, hardy, and generous-blooming. The variety you see most often is "The Fairy" - a wonderful variety, covered with small pink flowers on a plant that can spread to several feet in height and width.



What are the Judges Looking for?



Sedum:
Remove side sprays beneath the main bloom.



Dahlias: Bloom pose (excluding Pom Pom) is 45 degrees to the stem. Symmetry is the key. No gaps in the head. Centres regular and closed.

Roses: Bloom should be $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ open.

Petals arranged symmetrically with a circular outline.



Rose spray: May exhibit all stages of development. Symmetry is important.

Pot-et-Fleur: One container with plants in or out of pots, plus cut flowers in tubes of water or oasis. Moss, decorative wood and rock may be included. No cut foliage is permitted. Cut flowering or fruited branches may be included.



Beans: Pods well matched and good colour. No spotting, smooth and fleshy. Well-filled pods but not over-filled.

GRASSES: exhibited in their distinctive leaf structure, colour foliage or decorative heads; cut stems as long as possible with all leaf blades intact.

HOUSE PLANTS: grown by owner for at least 3 months prior to the show; no oiling or artificial shine permitted; staking should be unobtrusive; containers should be clean and in good repair; viewed and judged from all sides for uniformity of growth.

GROOM, GROOM, GROOM: If you are taking the time to enter the show, take the time to clean up your entry by removing seed heads, wilted blooms and damaged leaves.

READ THE SCHEDULE: The schedule specifies the number of stems and/or blooms. Entries not adhering to the schedule will be labelled 'not according to schedule' (NAS) and removed from the show.

May 25th Flower & Vegetable Show
Theme: Reflections on the XXV Winter Olympics
One entry per class per member

Class	Section A - DECORATIVES
1	Alpine Skiing - a design utilizing evergreens or conifer stems / branches
2	Curling Events - a design incorporating rocks or a stone
4	Ice Hockey - a design which utilizes a visible net / netting i.e. chicken wire
5	Snowflake - a miniature design using predominantly white, fresh plant material
Class	Section B - CULTURAL
6	Aquilegia (Columbine) - 1 stem
7	Iris - any colour, 1 spike
8	Lily of the Valley - 3 blooms
9	Bleeding Heart - 1 stem
10	Painted Fern - 3 fronds
11	Fern - any other variety, 3 fronds from one cultivar
12	Allium - 1 stem with head
13	Flowering branch of a shrub - named, 1 branch, not to exceed 30"
14	Any other garden favourite - 1 stem, 1 entry per member
Class	Section C - HOUSE PLANTS
15	African Violet in bloom
16	Any other house plant in bloom
17	Any house plant, foliage, pot not to exceed 6"
18	Any cactus plant or succulent plant
Class	Section D - FRUITS & VEGETABLES (Displayed on exhibitor's own plate)
19	A leafy vegetable, 3 leaves
20	Rhubarb - 3 stalks pulled, not cut; trim leaves to 2" fan shape
21	An exhibit of cut herb(s)- 3 stems, one cultivar in a container of water

June 22nd Flower & Vegetable Show
Theme: 2026 FIFA World Cup
One entry per class per member

Class	Section A - DECORATIVES
1	Maple the Moose (mascot Canada) - a design incorporating a Maple Syrup container or dried maple leaves/keys
2	Zayu the Jaguar (Mexico) - a design using plant material suggestive of "spots" (e.g., lilies, polka dot plant)
3	Clutch the Bald Eagle (USA) - a design incorporating a feather(s)
4	BMO Stadium - a tiered design of different heights
5	Laced Up - a Small design -5 1/2" to 10" H x W x D incorporating a shoelace (See OJES p. 150)
Class	Section B - CULTURAL
6	Pansy - 3 stems, one cultivar
7	Hosta leaves - same plant, 3 stems, over 4" from top of leaf to base
8	Hosta leaves - same plant, 3 stems, under 4" from top of leaf to base
9	Hosta leaves - different cultivars, 5 stems
10	Daisy-like flower - any variety, 3 stems (e.g., Calendula, Aster)
11	Any other flower not listed above - 2 stems; 1 entry per member
12	Any other perennial flower not listed above - 3 stems
13	A collection of different leaves (not Hosta) - 5 stems
14	A collection of 5 or more cut flowers in a vase (no shrubs)



June 22nd Flower & Vegetable Show

Theme: 2026 FIFA World Cup

One entry per class per member

Class	Section C - FRUITS & VEGETABLES (Displayed on exhibitor's own plate)
15	An exhibit of 3 fruits - same variety
16	An exhibit of 1 leafy vegetable - 3 leaves (e.g., Swiss Chard)
17	An exhibit of any Herb - 3 stems in a container of water- 1 cultivar
Class	Section D - HOUSE PLANTS
18	House plant in bloom
19	House plant grown for foliage
20	African Violet in bloom
Class	Section E - ROSES (named, if possible)
21	Rose - hybrid tea, 1 bloom or natural spray
22	Rose - polyantha, 1 spray (e.g., The Fairy)
23	Rose - climber or ramblers, 1 spray in bloom
24	Rose - miniature, 1 bloom or spray
25	Rose - Canadiana, 1 bloom or spray
26	Rose - David Austin, 1 bloom or spray
27	Rose - Modern Shrub, 1 bloom or spray
28	Rose - any variety not listed above, 1 bloom or spray



September 28th Flower & Vegetable Show

Theme: Fall Field Sports

One entry per class per member

Class	Section A - DECORATIVES
1	Diamond - a Pavé design in a four-sided container using fresh and/or dry plant material
2	Field Post - a vertical line design (OJES P. 143-144)
3	Grey Cup - a mass design in a tarnished silver (grey) container using fresh or dried plant material
4	Catcher's Mask - a design incorporating any type of mask - your interpretation
5	Tackle - a miniature design (5" H x W x D) with fresh and/or dried plant material incorporating a tack (OJES p. 145)
Class	Section B - CULTURAL
6	Collection of different herbs, named if possible - 5 stems
7	Coleus - any variety, 1 stem
8	Fall like flowers (Aster, Rudbeckia) - 1 spray or 3 stems
9	Collection of different Hosta leaves, named if possible - 5 stems
10	Grasses - 3 stems, cut length not to exceed 4ft
11	Sedum - any colour, 1 stem
12	Hydrangea - 1 stem
13	Goldenrod - 1 stem
14	Any other perennial favourite (named) - 1 stem
Class	Section C - ROSES (named, if possible)
15	Rose, Hybrid Tea - 1 bloom or natural spray
16	Rose, Modern Shrub - 1 bloom or spray
17	Rose, climber or rambler - any variety, 1 bloom or spray
18	Rose, grown for fragrance - 1 bloom
19	Rose, miniature - 1 bloom or spray
20	Rose, any other variety not listed above - 1 bloom or spray

September 28th Flower & Vegetable Show

Theme: Fall Field Sports

One entry per class per member

Class	Section D - FRUITS & VEGETABLES (Displayed on exhibitor's own plate)
21	Beans - 5 on a plate
22	Any leafy vegetable, 3 leaves displayed in a container of water
23	Pepper - 3 peppers
24	Garlic bulbs, any variety, 3 bulbs
25	Tomatoes - 3 tomatoes
26	Rhubarb - 3 stalks (pulled not cut, trim leaves 2" fan shape)
27	Carrots, 3 specimens, one cultivar
28	Crabapples- 5 fruits on a plate
29	Any slug/insect eaten leaf showing the damage (minus insects)
Class	E - HOUSE PLANTS
30	House plant grown for foliage
31	Cactus plant
32	Succulent plant
33	A named herb rooted in a pot
34	House plant in bloom
35	Native Perennial—1 stem (e.g. Wild ginger, Solomon's Seal, New England Aster)
36	Native Woody Branch or Vine in bloom or fruit, not to exceed 30" (e.g. Dogwood, Trumpet Vine)

Please take the opportunity to share your garden successes and design flair with

others. If you need help getting started, ask a Flower Show Committee member or any other club member for advice. All paid members of the club can enter flower shows.

See Ontario Judging & Exhibiting Standards Book for reference.



Photography Contest

Dates	Classes
October 1, 2026	Class 4) 2027 Yearbook Cover

All photos submitted for the photography competition must include a horticultural element to the composition.

Judging is completed by a survey vote of all eligible members in advance of the October meeting and the winning photo will be shared with members at the November AGM.

RULES

- All photos should be **as taken** (only small adjustments should be made such as cropping, light corrections and sharpening)
- Number of entries per person: up to 4 photos per class
- Photo size: standard 4" x 6" or nearest size available (portrait orientation preferred)

PROCEDURES

- All entries must be submitted **by end of day October 1st, 2026**
- Entries to be emailed to **thomascloutier@hotmail.com** with the following email subject line: **2027 NYGC Photo Contest**



North York Horticultural Society Constitution

Operating as the North York Garden Club

(Revised 2009)

NAME

The name of the organization shall be the North York Horticultural Society, henceforth referred to as “the Society”.

AUTHORITY

The Society is organized under the authority of the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizational Act of the Province of Ontario, and all articles of this constitution shall be read to conform with the Act.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to promote the love of gardening to our members and the public through open meetings, guest speakers, flower shows, plant sales and community outreach programmes.

GOALS

The goals of the Society shall be to encourage interest and improvement in horticulture:

- ◇ by holding meetings for instruction/discussion on subjects connected with horticulture;
- ◇ by encouraging the improvement of private and public grounds;
- ◇ by holding exhibitions and awarding premiums;
- ◇ by promoting the protection of the environment;
- ◇ by promoting the circulation of horticultural information.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to persons of the full age of 18 years or over.

The annual membership fee shall be as set by the executive and voted on by members at the annual general meeting.

Life membership may be granted at the discretion of the executive. Life members will not be liable for an annual fee.

Youth membership shall be granted to all children under the age of 18.

Fees to be set by the executive.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

At every annual general meeting there shall be two financial reviewers appointed by the membership, to hold office until the next annual meeting. These shall not be members of the board or a member of their immediate family. The date of the annual meeting will be decided upon by the Board.

North York Horticultural Society Constitution Operating as the North York Garden Club Continued

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- ◇ The Board of Directors shall be composed of a past president, president, vice-president, treasurer and additionally 8 directors to hold office for a two year term, four to be elected annually. A director may hold office for two consecutive terms.
- ◇ The recording and corresponding secretaries shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. The recording and corresponding secretaries shall not have a vote unless they have been appointed from within the Board. The recording and corresponding secretaries may be combined.
- ◇ The treasurer shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and shall have a voice but no vote.
- ◇ All officers and directors shall be entitled to a vote, except the president, who may cast a deciding vote.
- ◇ A quorum will consist of 50% of the executive plus one.
- ◇ In the case of a vacancy, the remaining board members may choose a replacement from the members to fill the position for the remainder of the term.
- ◇ Non board members may attend as guests and to make presentations with up to 14 days notice.

REVISIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Any proposed amendments to the constitution must be advised to the membership in writing or electronic transmission at least 60 days prior to a general meeting. Two-thirds of those present must be in agreement with any revision or amendment.

Cannabis Policy

The North York Garden Club is excluding and prohibiting the use of cannabis in any shape or form, including seeds, from participation in any of the North York Garden Club meeting locations or flower show entries, as either a cut specimen, potted plant, or as part of an arrangement.

North York Horticultural Society By-Laws

FISCAL YEAR

The Fiscal year is from November 1st to October 31st.

ANNUAL FEES

The annual fees will be recommended by the Board of Directors ("Board"). The members of the Society will be notified of any recommended change in the fees 60 days prior to the Annual General Meeting and will vote on any change at the Annual General Meeting.

HARRASSMENT POLICY

The North York Horticultural Society shall not discriminate against, nor harass, any person contrary to the Human Rights Code in Ontario.

MEETINGS

The Annual General Meeting ("AGM") will be held at 6:30 pm on the fourth Monday in November at Willowdale Presbyterian Church, 38 Ellerslie Avenue.

Regular meetings for the members of the Society will be held at least seven times a year at times specified by the Board.

Board meetings will be held at the times agreed upon by the Board. A quorum for the Board is 50% of the Board plus one.

Special Board meetings may be called at any time by the President or upon written request by Board members and called by the Corresponding Secretary. Seven days notice should be given prior to any special Board meeting, unless agreed otherwise by all Board members.

Meetings of the North York Garden Club may be held in person or may be held via electronic means provided that such meetings allow all in attendance the ability to hear and also the opportunity and ability to have a voice to vote as provided by the by-laws.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICERS

- ◇ **PRESIDENT** The President shall preside at all Society meetings, decide on all questions of order and advance the interest of the Society and ex-officio be a member of all committees. The President will also have any other powers and duties assigned by the Board, and represent the Society at the Ontario Horticultural Association and District annual meetings.
- ◇ **VICE-PRESIDENT** The Vice-President shall perform all duties of the President in the absence of the President, assist the President and perform any other duties assigned by the Board.
- ◇ **RECORDING SECRETARY** The Recording Secretary shall attend all Board meetings and AGMs, record all proceedings of such meetings, be responsible for the safe-keeping of the constitution, minutes and other pertinent data and perform any other duties required by the Board.

North York Horticultural Society

By-Laws, continued

- ◇ **TREASURER** The Treasurer shall deposit all receipts and pay all bills as directed by the Board. All cheques must be signed by any two of the President, Vice-President, Recording-Secretary and Treasurer who are authorized signing officers. The Treasurer shall prepare a financial statement for each Board meeting and the prior year's audited financial statement for each AGM.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

A nominating committee will be established by the Board. At the AGM, following the presentation from the nominating committee, nominations will be received from the floor and elections will be held. Any nominee must have been given prior consent. Newly elected Officers and Directors will be invited to the December Board meeting but will not take office until January of the following year.

INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

The Society shall indemnify, out of its funds, every present or past Director or Officer and his or her heirs, executors and administrators against:

all costs, expenses and liabilities incurred by the Director or Officer in relation to any claim, action, suit or proceeding against the Society, the Director or Officer in connection with the Society's affairs.

This indemnity does not apply to any costs, expenses or liabilities due to the Director's or Officer's criminal offence or failure to act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Society.

REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

On a vote of 60% of the Board, any Officer can be removed from office for cause on seven calendar days notice.

COMMITTEES

To assist in the running of the Society, the Board may form committees including, but not limited to, the following: Flower Shows, Membership, Program, Judges, Yearbook, Plant Sale, Newsletter, Publicity, Prizes, Sunshine cards, Email notices, Website and Community Outreach.



North York Garden Club Board of Directors

2026 Board of Directors

President	Christine Pierroz
Recording Secretary	Sheri Ferdinand-Brugel
Director - Community Outreach	Mary Ann Nelson
Director - Photography	Tom Cloutier
Director	Janet Love
Director and Club Ambassador	Rocco DeMiglio
Treasurer	Sandy Cloutier
Director - Membership	Natasha Mansouri

Lead(s)

Lead, Flower Shows	Lorraine Luski
Lead, Flower Show Judges	Gloria Broks
Lead, Social Media & Website	Christine Pierroz
Lead, Hospitality & Raffle	Sarah Fernandes
Lead, Sunshine	Mary Ann Nelson
Lead, Speakers Program	Pat Cappelli
Lead, Newsletters & Yearbook	Tom Cloutier



Responsibilities of the Officers of the North York Garden Club

Executive

President: the President shall preside at all meetings of the Society, decide all questions of order, advance the interests of the society and may be an ex-officio member of all committees and represent the Society at the Ontario Horticultural Association and District Annual meetings.

Vice-President: the Vice-President shall perform all duties of the President in the absence of the President and shall be responsible for co-ordinating the plant sale and such other duties as may from time to time be assigned by the Board.

Recording Secretary: the Recording Secretary is appointed and shall attend all meetings of the Society, record all proceedings of such meetings, be responsible for the safe-keeping of the minutes and other pertinent data, and shall perform any other duties as may be required by the Board.

Corresponding Secretary: the Corresponding Secretary is appointed and shall do the correspondence of the society, keep records, provide the North York Central Library with materials to add to the archives there, book rental rooms and other duties assigned by the board as required.

Treasurer: the Treasurer shall deposit all receipts and pay all bills as directed by the Board. All cheques shall be signed by any two of the signing officers, which should include the President and Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be prepared to give a financial statement at each executive meeting and an annual statement at the Annual General Meeting.

Responsibilities of the Officers of the North York Garden Club

Directors

Director/Corresponding Secretary: the Corresponding Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Society, receive all correspondence, disseminate information as required, and perform any other duties as may be required by the Board.

Director/Flower Shows: the Flower Show Director shall work with a committee to set the show schedule for the year, correspond with the yearbook editor, arrange for the set up of the shows, the taking in of entries, booking clerks to assist the judges, order the ribbons/cards for prizes, tally the points for awards, get the trophies engraved and gifts purchased for winners, chair the awards event.

Director/Membership: the Membership Director keeps an up to date record of the members, accepts the annual fees, distributes membership cards, arranges for name tags, arranges to have members greeted at each meeting to hand out tags and contacts members yearly regarding renewals.

Director/Program: the Program Director arranges for the speakers at our monthly shows, receives a brief biography for each, arranges for speakers to be greeted, introduced and thanked at each meeting and to receive a cheque.

Director/Publicity: the Publicity Director sends out the monthly publicity for our shows and special events to the media.

Director/Photography: the Photography Director arranges for the Photography contest to be held at the October meeting and will arrange for the judging procedure and topics. Topics will be included in the annual yearbook and in the newsletters.

North York Garden Club Membership Form

(for new registrations and renewals)



North York Garden Club *For those who love gardening*

Established in 1924 as the North York Horticultural Society

info@northyorkgardenclub.ca

northyorkgardenclub.ca

MEMBERSHIP – 2026

Your club membership commences on January 1st and ends on December 31st in any given year. The individual membership fee is \$25.00 or \$30.00 for a family (two or more) membership.

Make cheque payable to North York Horticultural Society.

Please complete the following information:

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Garden Club Involvement: (Please indicate where your interest in assisting the Club)

Membership _____ Plant Sales _____ Community Gardens _____

Refreshments _____ Flower Shows & Workshops _____ Other Committees _____

PLEASE NOTE: To help preserve the environment and reduce costs, your newsletter will be sent to you electronically. A hard copy will be provided on request.

PLEASE NOTE: Photo & Media Release Permission

From time to time, pictures are taken to record special events, shows and meetings etc. Please indicate below if you give permission for your picture to be included in future publications.

YES _____ NO _____ MEMBER SIGNATURE: _____



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North York Garden Club Membership Benefits

Member Benefits

- Guest speakers
- Flower and Vegetable Shows
- Digital yearbook & newsletters
- Social time with refreshments
- Special events
- Photography contest
- Meet fellow gardeners, share ideas
- Discounts at select garden centres and events

 **Sheridan Nurseries**
20% off - Ellesmere & McCowan

 **vandermeer
nursery**
10% discount on all plant material


WOODHILL
Garden Centre Inc
\$25 off per \$100 purchase


10% off most seed stores
(show your card & ask)

North York Garden Club Membership Benefits

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North York Garden Club

For those who love gardening



Cover photo - David Arnett

2026 Yearbook



Established in 1924

as the North York Township Horticultural Society
Member of the Ontario Horticultural Association - District 5