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HISTORIENS CULINAIRE
DU CANADA



CULINARY HISTORIANS
OF CANADA

ANNUAL REPORTS 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Lambton House, 4066 Old Dundas Street West, M6S 2R6
Toronto, Ontario, and via Zoom

Sunday, October 5, 2025
2:00pm to 4:00pm ET

EXECUTIVE

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| President | vacant |
| Past President | Sarah Hood |
| Vice President (interim) | Jane Black |
| Treasurer | Trudy Bloem |
| Secretary | vacant |

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Membership | Sylvia Lovegren |
| Programs | Judy Chow |
| Communications | Sarah Harrison |
| Education and Outreach | Ryan Whibbs |

COORDINATORS

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Volunteers | Jennifer Meyer |
| Refreshments | Sherry Murphy, Carolyn Crawford |
| Public Relations | vacant |

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Jan Main, Kim Mouldsdale, Marcarie Riel

BOARD MEMBER EMERITUS

Fiona Lucas

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CULINARY HISTORIANS
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2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PRESIDENTS' REPORT

Last year, CHC marked its 30th anniversary. The organization has evolved over the years, and this past year, my third as interim acting president, has been one of rethinking and renewal.

On the positive side, since the time of COVID, we have branched out to become more truly a national organization. This happened first virtually and by necessity, but since lockdowns ended, we have been offering more programming outside our strongest base in the Greater Toronto Area.

Less happily, despite focused efforts by the board members, we continue to be hampered by three related challenges: a very modest paid membership, a reduced board of directors and consequent financial worries.

This year in particular we have been operating without a president, vice-president or secretary. Most current board members have been serving for a decade or more, so we need to find new ways to attract members and nurture leadership within the organization. Today we are appealing to you not to suggest how we might do so (we are never short of good ideas), but to consider playing a part in making it happen.

Since 2020, CHC has been guided by specific strategic priorities. The first set was in force from 2020 to 2023, and we adopted them again for 2023 to 2026. Each year, we determine goals and objectives to help us move ahead with these priorities.

Our three Strategic Priorities are:

1. Engaging members
2. Reaching everyone
3. Increasing capacity

Because we have not had a full complement of executive board members this year, we have not had official quorum at meetings and therefore have not been able to formalize decisions, including formal goals and objectives for this year. This has led us to focus on a few critical areas, including:

- A stronger and more varied range of events
- Cooperative initiatives with other groups, such as the Congress of the Humanities, the Silver Society, the Culinary Tourism Association and the Society for Decorative Arts

In addition, we have adopted a “make do and mend” mindset that has allowed us to do more with a smaller board by finding creative solutions for our requirements. For instance:

- We have introduced rotating chair and secretary functions at our monthly board meetings.
- We were able to recruit an outside volunteer graphic designer for our *Culinary Chronicles* journal: a big job formerly handled by a board member.
- We integrated the production of the Membership Directory with the day-to-day membership record-keeping, which streamlines a demanding annual task.
- Since I stepped down after ten years of producing a monthly e-newsletter, Sarah Harrison has stepped forward to produce an excellent quarterly edition that keeps us in touch with members and potential members.
- We have successfully navigated technical changes to the tools that help us manage online communications through Google Drive and Eventbrite.

The best news? We’ve had plenty of wins:

- We have been able to keep our membership stable.
- Our sponsorship of the Taste Canada Hall of Fame continues to honour Canada’s outstanding food writers of the past and present.
- We’ve been exploring the creation of a program of Canadian Culinary History Awards with input from an impressive national panel of advisors.
- CHC’s archives have been transferred to the University of Guelph for permanent safekeeping.
- We have been able to release a fourth edition of our *Culinary Chronicles* journal.
- We have been adding to our online library of searchable digital Canadian cookbooks, including rare titles digitized by CHC Honorary Member Mary Williamson.
- Although this past year was the first since we decided to end our longstanding sponsorship of \$1,000 per year to support the Heritage categories at the annual Royal Agricultural Winter Fair Preserving Competitions, we are pleased to be able to report that the Royal Fair organizers have maintained that category.

You will be hearing about these and other achievements in more detail from my board colleagues. I wish to thank them profoundly for their inventive and dedicated efforts to achieve big results with a small outlay of resources this year. Special thanks are due to Fiona Lucas, who was a founder of CHC 30 years ago and who continues to be the backbone of the organization. Thank you all!

Despite the challenges, I hope and expect that CHC will continue to inspire people to learn about and enjoy Canadian culinary history for a long time to come. I encourage every one of you to participate in our remaining events for this year and to imagine how you can be a part of stewarding CHC into the future. Thank you!

Submitted by Sarah Hood, Past President

CULINARY HISTORIANS OF CANADA FY 24-25

REVENUE STATEMENT

| REVENUE | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | YTD |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Membership Dues | | | | | |
| * Dues FY 24-25 earned | | | | | |
| Individual | \$ 716.25 | \$ 826.25 | \$ 928.75 | \$ 928.75 | \$ 3,400.00 |
| Family/other | \$ 76.25 | \$ 76.25 | \$ 85.63 | \$ 85.63 | \$ 323.75 |
| Total Membership | \$ 792.50 | \$ 902.50 | \$ 1,014.38 | \$ 1,014.38 | \$ 3,723.75 |
| Investment Income | | | | | |
| TD GIC | \$ 89.97 | \$ 84.43 | \$ 62.55 | \$ 52.60 | \$ 289.55 |
| Total Investment | \$ 89.97 | \$ 84.43 | \$ 62.55 | \$ 52.60 | \$ 289.55 |
| Grants | | | | | |
| Grants#1 (apply against ZOOM Fees) | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 221.85 | \$ 218.89 | \$ 440.74 |
| Grants#2 (apply against MailChimp Fees) | \$ 219.48 | \$ 228.20 | \$ 223.17 | \$ - | \$ 670.85 |
| Total Grants | \$ 219.48 | \$ 228.20 | \$ 445.02 | \$ 218.89 | \$ 1,111.59 |
| Donations | | | | | |
| Dontation-AGM | \$ 55.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 55.00 |
| Donations-General | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 15.00 | \$ 15.00 |
| Donations-Programs | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Total Donations | \$ 55.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 15.00 | \$ 70.00 |
| Event Sales | | | | | |
| Cooking up History | \$ 244.53 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 244.53 |
| Victoria Christmas Baking | \$ 727.10 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 727.10 |
| Dining Out with History | \$ 17.31 | \$ 287.61 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 304.92 |
| Other-AGM Silent Auction | \$ 350.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 350.00 |
| Victorian Cake Dec | \$ - | \$ 952.88 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 952.88 |
| Nigerian Cooking | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 237.21 | \$ - | \$ 237.21 |
| Walking Tour | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 364.72 | \$ 96.36 | \$ 461.08 |
| Indigenous Culture | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 139.25 | \$ 157.08 | \$ 296.33 |
| Total Event Sales | \$ 1,338.94 | \$ 1,240.49 | \$ 741.18 | \$ 253.44 | \$ 2,579.43 |
| Merchandise sales | | | | | |
| Culinary Chronicles (\$10) | \$ 20.00 | \$ 20.00 | \$ 10.00 | \$ 10.00 | \$ 60.00 |
| Victorian Baking (booklet) (\$8) | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Victorian Baking (video) (\$18) | \$ - | \$ 18.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 18.00 |
| Other | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Total Merchandise Sales | \$ 20.00 | \$ 38.00 | \$ 10.00 | \$ 10.00 | \$ 78.00 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$ 2,515.89 | \$ 2,493.62 | \$ 2,273.13 | \$ 1,564.31 | \$ 7,852.32 |

| EXPENSES | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | YTD |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Admin Operations | | | | | |
| AGM Expenses (Q1) | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 18.06 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 18.06 |
| Other | \$ 119.67 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 119.67 |
| Total AGM | \$ 137.73 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 137.73 |
| Processing fees | | | | | |
| Bank | \$ 22.35 | \$ 14.85 | \$ 20.85 | \$ 21.35 | \$ 79.40 |
| DreamHost (Q2) | \$ - | \$ 234.89 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 234.89 |
| Dropbox | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| EventBrite | \$ 108.71 | \$ 124.49 | \$ 85.18 | \$ 27.94 | \$ 346.32 |
| Mailchimp | \$ 219.48 | \$ 228.20 | \$ 223.17 | \$ 218.89 | \$ 889.74 |
| PayPal | \$ 103.58 | \$ 12.09 | \$ 10.39 | \$ 11.70 | \$ 137.76 |
| Square | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Zoom (Q3) | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 242.84 | \$ - | \$ 242.84 |
| Total Processing Fees | \$ 454.12 | \$ 614.52 | \$ 582.43 | \$ 279.88 | \$ 1,930.95 |
| Insurance (Q4) | | | | | |
| D & O Insurance | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 653.40 | \$ 653.40 |
| Liability insurance | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 686.88 | \$ 686.88 |
| Total Insurance | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1,340.28 | \$ 1,340.28 |
| Membership & Honoraria | | | | | |
| Ontario Historical Society (Q2) | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 65.00 | \$ - | \$ 65.00 |
| Honoraria | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| CAFS | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 200.00 | \$ - | \$ 200.00 |
| Total Mem & Hon | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 265.00 | \$ - | \$ 265.00 |
| Other Expenses | | | | | |
| PO Box Rental (TFPO) (Q1) | \$ 195.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 195.00 |
| Postage & Mail | \$ 20.19 | \$ - | \$ 11.21 | \$ - | \$ 31.40 |
| Printing (non-program) | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Other-IT | \$ 21.00 | \$ 10.72 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 31.72 |
| Total Other | \$ 236.19 | \$ 10.72 | \$ 11.21 | \$ - | \$ 258.12 |
| Outreach / Education Program | | | | | |
| RAWF (Q1) Sponsorship | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Taste Canada (Q1) Sponsorship | \$ 1,500.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Other-Misc | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Total O/E Programs | \$ 1,500.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Event Programs | | | | | |
| Even Venues | \$ 150.00 | \$ 50.00 | \$ - | \$ 450.00 | \$ 650.00 |
| Event expense (hon) | \$ 493.23 | \$ 577.85 | \$ 284.60 | \$ 250.00 | \$ 1,605.68 |
| Printing | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Other | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Total Event Programs | \$ 643.23 | \$ 627.85 | \$ 284.60 | \$ 700.00 | \$ 2,255.68 |
| Merchandise Materials | | | | | |
| Culinary Chronicles | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Victorian Baking Booklets | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Video production | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Printing | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 128.72 | \$ - | \$ 128.72 |
| Other-Misc | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Total Merchandise | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 128.72 | \$ - | \$ 128.72 |
| TOTAL EXPENSE | \$ 2,971.27 | \$ 1,253.09 | \$ 1,271.96 | \$ 2,320.16 | \$ 7,816.48 |
| REVENUE NET EXPENSE | -\$ 455.38 | \$ 1,240.53 | \$ 1,001.17 | -\$ 755.86 | \$ 35.84 |

NOTES:

* Memberships revenue recognized per quarter, as earned

Balance Sheet

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2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Earlier this year, I shifted to a new role after being secretary for the previous two years. Since taking on the role of communications chair, I have had the pleasure of restarting the digital newsletter for the benefit of our membership.

To date, we have released three newsletters this year on a quarterly basis (January, April and September). At present, we have over 1,000 subscribers to keep abreast of culinary news as it relates to Canadian content.

We have also been updating the website with current and upcoming CHC events, including the Taste Canada Award nominees for 2025.

Over 5,000 people have joined our Culinary Historians of Canada Facebook group. We are slowly growing the number of people who like our Culinary Historians of Canada page, currently at 170 followers. I assist in moderating the page to ensure that the appropriate content gets posted to the group and page. I also post there occasionally, but I am grateful to Programs Chair Judy Chow for posting our events on the group page on a regular basis.

None of this would have been possible without the support and guidance of our past president and prior Communications Chair, Sarah Hood. She has mentored me in creating the newsletter and updating the website on the back end.

Finally, I'm grateful to our army of book reviewers who keep us abreast of the new cookbooks arriving piping hot from the ovens of various publishing houses. Special thanks to Ivy Lerner Frank, the book review editor. Big thanks to all our intrepid reviewers: Julia Armstrong, Judy Corser, Luisa Giacommetti, Sher Hackwell, Frances Latham, Maya Love, Fiona Lucas, Jan Main, Bennett McCardle, Abby Stansfield, Elka Weinstein, Ania Young,

Submitted by Sarah Harrison, Communications Chair
Culinary Historians of Canada

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CULINARY HISTORIANS
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2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING EDUCATION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Culinary Historians of Canada: Thirty Years of Public Food History

This year, the Education & Outreach Committee presented a poster and interactive exhibit entitled “Culinary Historians of Canada: Thirty Years of Public Food History” at the Canadian Association for Food Studies (CAFS) annual conference, held at George Brown College in Toronto from June 1–5, 2025. The poster, written by Ryan Whibbs with help and review from Fiona Lucas, explored CHC’s three-decade legacy in promoting awareness of Canada’s rich culinary heritage, our support of Canadian food-historical scholarship, the diversity of our programming and events, the practical wisdom accumulated from working with Canadian recipes and historic technologies, and the joy this legacy brings to CHC members and the wider public. Sarah Hood hosted a popular interactive exhibit, accompanying the poster, with images and facts curated to provoke curiosity and interest in CHC’s more hands-on approach to exploring our history by combining cooking with research.

This experience offered exposure to a new community of potential members, challenged our committee to create a scholarly poster presentation, and resulted in a display that reimaged what an academic poster presentation might look like! We hope to explore more potential opportunities to collaborate with CAFS and other scholarly societies in the future.

Submitted by Ryan Whibbs, Chair

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Culinary Historians of Canada Report of the Membership Committee 2025

Dues-Paying Members in Good Standing in 2025: 128

Honorary & Reciprocal Members: 14

Membership has decreased by three since last year. Reminders were sent out to lapsed members at the end of 2024. Renewal notices for those with memberships expiring at the 2025 AGM were sent out August 27. As of the time of this report, seventeen formerly lapsed or new members have joined or rejoined CHC. Two current members have indicated that they will not renew. And forty-nine members have not yet renewed.

Last year we adjusted the membership pricing slightly. ~~One of the things that was~~ We added as a new category of student membership and we gained five student members since the 2024 AGM. Otherwise, we have not had any feedback pro or con about the adjusted membership rates.

Sylvia Lovegren, Chair



2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE REPORT

| EVENT (Leaders / Guest Speakers) | LOCATION | DATE |
|---|---|------------------------------|
| Baking for the Victorian Christmas table (Sherry Murphy, Mya Sangster) | Campbell House, Toronto, ON | November 9, 2024 |
| Hogman-Eh! New Year's Eve festival (Exhibit organized by Trudy Bloem) | Ottawa, ON (hosted by Scottish Society of Ottawa) | December 31, 2024 |
| Food & historic sites in Atlantic Canada (Jan Feduck) | Virtual event on Zoom | January 5, 2025 |
| Victorian cake decorating workshop (Monika Paradi, Sherry Murphy) | Scarborough, ON | February 9, 2025 |
| Cooking of Nigeria (Ozoz Sokoh) | Virtual event on Zoom | April 13, 2025 |
| Mother's Day tea party (Philip Cheong – Silver Society; Sarah Harrison, Mya Sangster) | Toronto, ON (co-hosted with the Silver Society of Canada) | May 11, 2025 |
| Walking tour – St. Lawrence neighbourhood (Dr. Laura Carlson – Heritage Toronto) | Toronto, ON | June 14, 2025 |
| Interpreting indigenous cuisine (Shane Chartrand) | Virtual event on Zoom | July 7, 2025 |
| Remembering dairies of Oshawa (Melissa Cole) | Oshawa Museum Oshawa, ON | August 10, 2025 CANCELLED |
| Maize masterclass (Ivan Wadgyamar) | Toronto, ON (hosted by The Depanneur) | September 7, 2025 |
| Annual General Meeting (Dr. Andrea McKenzie – L.M. Montgomery lecture) | Lambton House, Toronto, ON | October 5, 2025 |

Submitted by Judy Chow, Programming Chair