



*the Garden Club of Toronto*

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[www.thegardencluboftoronto.ca](http://www.thegardencluboftoronto.ca)

Dear Prospective Member:

Thank you for considering membership in the Garden Club of Toronto. The attached application package contains information on the application process, a calendar of events during the provisional year and brief information about the Club. Your Member Contact\* can answer any questions you may have and help you complete the application form.

To give you a flavour of what you can expect when you join the Garden Club, we asked members what they like most about the Club and what they have gained personally from membership. Their comments repeatedly echoed the following:

- Making new friends in a group of like-minded, interesting and accomplished people
- Enjoying a sense of teamwork and camaraderie
- Gaining knowledge and education in floral design and gardening
- Experiencing new challenges
- Providing a fresh direction in life
- Developing leadership skills
- Participating in our charitable projects
- Having fun together!

After completing your provisional year, you will join a committee of your choice, e.g., Archives, Awards, Communications, Development, Floral Design, Horticulture, Membership, Programme, Projects, Provisional, or The Toronto Flower Show Committee. You can also participate in courses, workshops, special trips and outings. Please ask your Member Contact\* to give you more information about these activities.

We hope that you enjoy your membership in the Garden Club of Toronto and look forward to getting to know you! Please contact us if we can be of assistance.

Blythe Malloy  
Membership Chair

\* an existing member of the club whom you know or a designated member who will meet with you

## PROVISIONAL ACTIVITIES - CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The following activities can be completed over a 24-month period (see NOTE below).

<b>September</b>	
*Welcome Luncheon /Induction for Provisionals	½ day
*Horticultural Meeting and Toronto Botanical Garden Tour	1 day
Tour of a Member's Garden	½ day
*Nursery Tour	½ day
<b>October</b>	
*Basic Floral Design course Tuesdays, 9:30am to 2:00pm	3 days
<b>November</b> (OR Spring date to be confirmed)	
*Provisional to take Fall OR Spring Horticulture Sessions	3 half days
<b>December</b>	
Festive Marketplace	optional
Provisional Holiday Party	optional
Club Holiday Party	optional
<b>March</b>	
Canada Blooms	volunteer opportunities and optional participation in competitions
<b>May</b>	
Past Projects Tour	½ day
<b>June</b> (dates subject to change)	
Garden Club Event (picnic/lunch/tour)	1 day

\*Each Provisional will attend a monthly meeting of each of the following committees: Floral Design, Horticulture, Communications, Programme and Projects 5 half days to be selected by the Provisional

Monthly meetings are held the fourth Thursday of September, October, November, January, February, April and May. Although attendance is not compulsory, the meetings are the backbone of the Garden Club programme.

**NOTE:** Substantial completion of all of the above \*activities is required before a Provisional becomes an Active Member with voting rights. Activities may be completed over a 24-month period and certain other courses/activities may qualify.



### **What is the Garden Club of Toronto?**

- We are the only garden club in Canada that is a registered charity.
- Our 300 plus members share a passion for flowers, gardens, the environment and beautifying public spaces.
- We are co-founders of Canada Blooms with Landscape Ontario.
- Since inception in 1946, the Club has contributed to the betterment of Toronto through projects which include gardens at The Toronto Botanical Garden, St. James Cathedral, Casa Loma, Spadina House, June Callwood Park and Highway of Heroes to name a few.
- Scholarships are awarded annually to horticultural students at Fanshawe College, Humber College, University of Guelph and University of Toronto.
- We meet at the Toronto Botanical Garden, 777 Lawrence Ave. E., Toronto.
- Having incorporated in 1947, the Club is celebrating 70 years in 2017.

### **Some of the Benefits of Membership**

- We LEARN from experts by attending courses in floral design and horticulture, and from our speakers at our general meetings held from 12:30 to 2:30 on the fourth Thursday of the month in September, October, November, January, February, April and May.
- We GIVE BACK to the community through our involvement in charitable projects, maintaining specific public gardens (i.e., The Teaching Garden at The Toronto Botanical Gardens) Outreach programs such as Gilda's Place and by volunteering at Canada Blooms.
- We CREATE floral designs, plants, and gardens and have an opportunity to compete in floral design and horticultural shows.
- We PARTICIPATE in social events such as a December holiday party, luncheons, and trips of various lengths with a focus on gardens.

### **Prospective members are invited to our Open House on April 23, 2020**

- You are invited to join us on Thursday, April 25 from 11:00 to 2:30. Free admission and parking at Toronto Botanical Garden located at 777 Lawrence Avenue East at Leslie Street, in Toronto. RSVP required.

### **For more information**

- Please refer to our website at [www.thegardencluboftoronto.ca](http://www.thegardencluboftoronto.ca)
- Or, phone our office at 416-447-5218 and leave a message.

### **To become a member**

- Fill out the application form available on the Membership page on our website or pick one up from our office or a member.
- If you are acquainted with a current Garden Club member, please ask that person to act as your member contact.
- If you don't know a current member, we will arrange for you to meet with a member from our Membership Committee.

## Membership fees

- First year members, called Provisionals, pay \$325 to cover the cost of membership and courses in floral design and horticulture. An additional \$50 to \$100 should be budgeted for plant materials.
- After the first year, annual dues are \$225 (as of 2020) payable by May 31. Unlike donations, fees are not tax deductible.
- If an applicant who has paid fees and been accepted decides to withdraw
  - i. after August 15 but before the Provisional Programme begins, they will receive a refund of \$225 (\$325 less \$100 programme fee)
  - ii. after the start of the provisional programme, they will not receive a refund, but may defer their membership for one year.
- All requests for withdrawal must be made in writing to the Provisional Chair. Extenuating circumstances will be taken into consideration.

## Time commitment for Provisionals (new members)

- In your first year, you will set aside approximately 20 days, from September through June.
- All our events are held during the day. Some courses run from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm, others from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm.
- September and October are especially hectic with a welcome lunch, garden visit, two horticulture sessions and a compulsory Floral Design course held on three consecutive Tuesday mornings.
- After completing all the requirements, the Provisional 'graduates' in May and becomes a member of the Club. If, for some reason, the Provisional is unable to complete all required activities, it is possible to extend their Provisional status for two years.

## Time commitment for members

- A member is expected to serve on at least one committee after completing the Provisional year. A minimum of 4 hours each month (excluding July and August) should be set aside for this.
- As a registered charity, with only one part-time employee, our activities are supported by Club members who serve on committees such as Awards, Canada Blooms, Floral Design, Horticulture, Membership, Provisionals, Programme and Projects.
- Provisionals attend meetings of most of our committees to enable them to decide which ones they would be interested in joining.

## Our aims

- To stimulate a knowledge and love of gardening amongst amateurs
- To aid in the protection of native plants, trees, birds, and soil
- To take an interest in civic planting

## Our vision

- Sharing the wonder of nature through education, engagement and creativity

## Our mission

- Volunteers inspiring our community through a focus on floral artistry and horticulture with a commitment to education and charitable initiatives.

## Our values

- We are respectful, dedicated, resourceful, enthusiastic, charitable, innovative, creative and nurturing.

The Garden Club of Toronto  
777 Lawrence Ave E. | Toronto, ON | M3C 1P2  
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## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

*Please Print*

LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ PROVINCE: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EXTENSION: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE CLUB? \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF MEMBER CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach a cheque for \$325 made payable to the Garden Club of Toronto to your application package and mail or drop it off at the address below.**

Membership Committee  
The Garden Club of Toronto  
777 Lawrence Avenue East  
Toronto, ON M3C 1P2

For more information:

(416) 447-5218 or [office@thegardencluboftoronto.ca](mailto:office@thegardencluboftoronto.ca) or [www.thegardencluboftoronto.ca](http://www.thegardencluboftoronto.ca)



# **MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE**

The questionnaire below will be entered into our database of interests and experience for all Garden Club of Toronto members. These records are used by committees to identify members who could fill specific roles. It also helps members to communicate their interest in joining a committee or working on a special project. Please **mark with an X** all categories that apply to you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Provisional Year: **2020-21**

## **INTERESTS**

- Archives Committee
- Awards Committee
- Communications Committee
  - Advertising
  - Newsletter
  - Publicity
  - Social Media
- Development Committee
  - Fundraising
  - Special Events
- Floral Design Committee
  - Teaching
  - Staging
  - Exhibiting
  - Judging
- Horticulture Committee
  - Teaching
  - Staging
  - Exhibiting
  - Judging
  - Gardening
- Programme Committee
  - Hospitality
  - Cooking
  - Travel
  - Trip Planning
  - Show Experience
  - Special Events
- Projects Committee
  - Community Projects
  - Environmental Issues
  - Landscaped Gardens
  - Teaching/Edible Gardens
- Visual Arts And Crafts
  - Photography
  - Painting
  - Crafts

## **Experience**

- Accounting
- Administration
- Advertising
- Archives/Library
- Board Experience
- Catering
- Computer Skills
- Design (Staging For Shows)
- Event Planning
- Financial
- Floral Design
- Fundraising
- Graphic Design
- Horticulture
- Hospitality
- Landscaping
- Legal
- Marketing
- Master Gardener
- Media
- Management
- Mentoring
- Photography
- Project Management
- Publicity
- Recording Secretary
- Statistics
- Teaching
- Trip Planning
- Visual Arts
- Website Design
- Writing/Editing