

GLOUCESTER ALLOTMENT GARDEN ASSOCIATION
Annual General Meeting - 4 March 2025

Orleans Public Library
Bériault Meeting Room
1705 Orleans Blvd., Ottawa K1C 4W2

Board Members present: Jacqueline Shaw, Irene Harrison, Sheena Constant, Catherine Dixon, Ashley Flynn, David Lamb, Margarita Golik, Margaret Don, Anne Ho
Regrets: Steve Vesely, Michael Grawbarger, David Smith

Call to Order - the meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Jacqueline Shaw, President.

Opening Remarks - Jacqueline Shaw welcomed the members and invited guests.

Invited Guests:

Laura Dudas, Councillor Ward 2 Orléans West-Innes and Catherine Kitts, Councillor, Ward 19 Orléans South-Navan, congratulated us for coming out on such a wintery day. Both Councillors paid tribute to Irene Harrison, who is retiring as President today. Irene has served on the Board of Directors as Registrar from 2004-2020, as Vice-President, 2020-2021 and President, 2021-2025. As Councillor Kitt's stated:

Irene has struck a careful balance in her tenure as President; building on the legacy left by the founders, she leaves GAGA with updated Bylaws, improved operating rules, and a re-energized Board, with new members and new ideas.

Canadian Organic Growers (<https://www.cog.ca>) was represented by Brendan Herbert. COG presents school programs, the Senior Organic Gardeners Program, farmers workshops, an organic demonstration garden at the Experimental Farm and has a seed sale at Pantry Plus. Information is available on their website.

Approval of the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting

Motion: That the agenda be approved as circulated.

Moved by. Linda Gloss. Seconded by Fred Haggart. Carried.

Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on March 5, 2024

Motion: That the minutes of March 5, 2024, be approved as circulated. Moved by Sheena Constant. Seconded by Mark Eldridge. Carried.

Presentation of 2024 Financial Statements and 2025 Budget

Treasurer Sheena Constant presented the financial statement and budget.

Motion: That the 2024 Financial Statement as presented by the Treasurer be adopted.

Moved by Catherine Dixon. Seconded by Fred Haggart. Carried.

Motion: That the 2025 Budget as presented by the Treasurer be adopted.

Moved by Bill Gloss. Seconded by Irene Harrison. Carried.

Resolution: Be it resolved that there be no audit or review engagement for the 2025 financial year, as permitted in the *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010, SO 2010, c 15, s 76(2)(b)*.

Moved by Catherine Dixon. Seconded by Sheena Constant. Carried.

Presentation of Board of Directors

Motion: That the 2025 list of Directors be approved as presented.

Moved by Anne Marie Provost Seconded by Pierre Provost. Carried.

Director's Reports

Jacqueline Shaw, President

Jackie oversees our grass cutting contract. We are lucky to have an excellent contractor in Jahwara Rennals, who now plays professional hockey overseas in the winter. Jahwara faces many obstacles in his work for our association. Gardeners leave piles of weeds, bags of earth and tools in the grass verges which have damaged Jahwara's equipment. Our Association pays for these repairs. Please keep your plot clear of debris and other hazards.

Steve Vesely, Registrar and Webmaster

Steve was unable to attend this meeting but wanted the membership to know that we are already 43% fully registered and paid.

Ashley Flynn, Communications and Community Building

Ashley reminds the members that we are a volunteer run organization, and that "we are only as good as our volunteers!" Please consider donating your time. Ashley is planning a Potluck, tentatively in September.

Margarita Golik, Orient Staking

Margarita welcomes any volunteers interested in helping with staking.

David Lamb, Orient Maintenance (Tilling and Compost)

Dave announced that tilling will take place in early May (weather permitting), compost will be delivered when the City makes it available, and straw will be delivered early in June.

Margaret Don, Anderson Garden (Manager)

Margaret presented the report attached.

Member Questions and Answers

- Can we implement a "plant a row" program?
- Is there a place to donate excess produce?
- Is there a volunteer willing to moderate a Facebook page?
- Ditches are filling in and need excavating. Please do not put weeds in the ditches. Louis Doyle suggests that we each try to control brush and do some lopping on our own plots.

Adjournment

Motion: That the 2025 Annual General Meeting be adjourned.

Moved by Bill Gloss. Seconded by Mark Eldridge. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Attached:

Financial Statement for 2024

Proposed Budget for 2025

Proposed Board Members

Anderson Garden Report

Thank you to Irene

GLOUCESTER ALLOTMENT GARDEN ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the year ending December 31, 2024, with comparison to Approved 2024 Budget

	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL
INCOME		
Registration Fees net of refunds and discounts	23,400	23,760
Grant, Friends of Mer Bleue, for water at Anderson	2,000	2,000
Gardener contribution to water use at Anderson	0	339
TOTAL INCOME	25,400	26,099
EXPENSES		
Administration	2,200	1,796
Tilling	4,800	4,153
Grass Cutting	5,400	5,679
Compost Delivery and Distribution	7,000	6,757
Anderson - water	4,000	1,017
Anderson - water system maintenance	100	587
Anderson - regular maintenance	400	456
Orient - regular maintenance	100	0
Orient - Fall cleanup	2,150	1,808
TOTAL EXPENSES	26,150	22,253
NET DEFICIT / INCOME	-750	3,846

ASSETS : CASH (Bank of Montreal)

Beginning year, January 1, 2024	33,727	
Plus Net Income	3,846	
Total Assets as of December 31, 2024	37,573	

31-Dec-24
prepared by Sheena Constant, CPA

**GLOUCESTER ALLOTMENT GARDEN ASSOCIATION
APPROVED 2025 BUDGET**

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET
INCOME		
Registration Fees net of refunds and discounts	23,760	23,760
Grant, Friends of Mer Bleue, for water at Anderson	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
TOTAL INCOME	25,760 (1)	25,760
EXPENSES		
Administration	1,796	1,886
Tilling	4,153	4,776
Grass Cutting	5,679	6,500
Compost Delivery and Distribution	6,757	7,771
Anderson - water	1,017	4,000
Anderson - water system maintenance	587	675
Anderson - regular maintenance	456	1,000
Orient - regular maintenance	0	150
Orient - Fall cleanup	<u>1,808</u>	<u>2,079</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	22,253	28,837
NET DEFICIT FOR 2025	<u>3,507</u>	<u>-3,077</u>
ASSETS January 1, 2025		37,573

Notes:

- (1) The amount for donation is not included in the budget as this varies and is not part of the normal activity of the association, therefore it is not considered as regular income for the purpose of the budget.
- (2) In 2023, there was an allocation of \$12,800 for a ditch dredging project. This was removed in the 2024 budget pending a viable contractor estimate. This matter has not been finalized and is therefore not included in the 2025 budget.

31-Dec-24

prepared by Sheena Constant, CPA

**Executive
2025 Proposed Board of Directors**

President	Jacqueline Shaw
Vice-President	Irene Harrison
Treasurer	Sheena Constant
Secretary	Catherine Dixon
Communications	Ashley Flynn
Maintenance – General	David Lamb (Tilling/Compost)
Maintenance – Anderson	Margaret Don (Manager)
Maintenance – Anderson	Anne Ho (Maintenance)
Maintenance – Anderson	David Smith (Maintenance)
Maintenance – Orient	Margarita Golik (Staking)
Maintenance – Orient	Michael Grawbarger (Trees & Roads)
Maintenance – Orient	Vacant (Fall Clean-Up)
Webmaster	Steve Vesely
Registrar	Steve Vesely

Anderson Garden Report

GAGA AGM

March 4, 2025

1. **Water Supply**
Due to the abundant rainfall in 2024, only 3 loads of water were needed instead of the 10 loads that were in the budget. There were very few problems with the meters and the fittings. These were handled quickly and efficiently by Taylor Hui. However, there was a problem with the water outlets being hit by cars causing the lines to break. This year, we will be installing steel posts to protect the exposed meters.
2. **Deer Fence**
The fence always requires maintenance to replace broken insulators, tighten loose wires and ensure no contact points causing shorting out. This work is done by David Smith. Clearing the vegetation around the fence is the responsibility of all the gardeners who are assigned sections based on the number of plots they have. This system works well.
3. **Grass Cutting and the Ever-Encroaching Forest**
At Anderson, both the grass inside and outside the fence and the encroaching forest vegetation are kept mowed. The areas to be cut are currently segmented by ditches which prevent continuous machine operation. This year, we hope to build bridges to alleviate this problem.
4. **Compost**
A backhoe was brought in this year to pileup the compost which was spreading out of hand.
5. **Opening the Main Gate**
The gate is too heavy to swing open and had to be lifted or dragged. Mike Dubas solved the problem of opening the gate by putting a wheel on it so the gate can now be "wheeled" open.

THANK YOU



The Gloucester Allotment Garden Association (GAGA) would like to thank Irene Harrison for her 20 years of devoted service to the largest and oldest community garden in Ottawa. In recognition of her dedication to the GAGA, the Association has made a donation to The Ottawa Food Bank in her honour.

Thank you so much, Irene! We wish you many more years of gardening.