

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>REPORT</u>	<u>PAGE(S)</u>
Annual Meeting February 2019	2 – 4
Minister’s Report	5 – 6
Session Report	7 – 8
Trustee Report & Statistics	9
Ministry and Personnel Committee	10
Stewards’ Report	11
Music Report	12
Region 11 Report	13 – 14
Bedford House	15 – 16
Sanctuary Garden / Beekeepers	17 – 18
Book Bunch	18
Greenwood Financial Summary	19 – 22
Nomination Report for 2020	23 – 24

GREENWOOD UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING February 10, 2019

Mary Hinan-Grose welcomed us to the Greenwood United Church Annual Meeting, acknowledging the Anishinabe lands where we live. Mary then called for a motion to elect a chair and recording secretary. Shirley Lannen made the motion that Brian Nichols be chairperson and Paulette Nichols recording secretary for this meeting. This motion was seconded by David Reeve and carried.

The Agenda for the meeting was distributed. Dianne Clowater moved acceptance of the Agenda as printed, seconded by Ann Austin-Cardwell and carried. Paulette Nichols moved the acceptance of the minutes of Feb. 18, 2018, seconded by Dawn Cox, and carried.

Business Arising: There was no business arising.

Brian Nichols called upon Melissa Addison Webster who delivered an announcement about an upcoming event. Melissa invited people to a Full Moon ceremony at the "Pearl Centre" on Feb. 19th, from 7:00 -8:30 p.m. The location for this event is 11 Edgewood Avenue. More information could be found at pearlcentre.ca.

The reports as printed on pages 7 through 21, and the Bedford House Report which was added as an addendum, were presented and approved in one motion. Each report was presented, the Chair asked if there were any questions following each report, and if so, discussion followed. Peggy Gilbert spoke to the Session report. Mary Hinan-Grose presented the Trustees report. Gary Lounsbury addressed the Ministry and Personnel Report, extending thanks to all those who work together to enrich life at Greenwood. Ken Minion addressed the Stewards report, noting that the piano was recently tuned. A new humidifier has been purchased for upstairs, and there is also a new lock box for the elevator. Emil Varga expressed thanks to Ruth Benson (Treasurer) and Ken Minion (Custodian) for their ongoing commitment in supporting Greenwood. Ruth extended thanks to Shirley McKenzie and Peggy Gilbert for their assistance recording the collection each Sunday. Mary Hinan-Grose presented the UCW Report, noting that the Greenwood UCW has now disbanded. Carol Hopkinson and Mary shared a letter of thanks from the YWCA for the donations totalling \$3000 which were received over the years from the UCW to support women and families in this region.

Pat Lounsbury highlighted the report on the Sanctuary Garden. There are lots of plans for the future of the Greenwood gardens, and thanks were extended to the congregation for their encouragement and support. In Marion Griffin's absence, Dawn Cox addressed the Music Report, adding that new members are always welcome. The Presbytery Report was also presented by Dawn Cox. We are now part of Region 11, known as the "Eastern Ontario Regional Council". The first regional meeting will be held May 31 – June 2nd. There is an upcoming regional cluster meeting in Keene. There were no additions to the report from the Prayer Chain. Mary Gordon presented the Bedford House Report, highlighting the important community work which continues to be done through Bedford House. Thanks were extended to Ruth Benson and Bonnie Jull for their representation on the Bedford House Board. The support from Greenwood United Church is greatly appreciated, and it was noted that \$2500 in donations were received in 2018 from people at Greenwood. A series on subversive faith will begin the week of Feb. 11th. Ruth Benson asked that a motion be made to renew the current agreement with Bedford House. This will be dealt with under "new business".

Financial Reports: Ruth Benson addressed the Financial Reports for Greenwood United Church. Financial givings increased in 2018, but expenses also increased. It was noted that the Mission and Service givings represented 10% of our total income which was commendable. Susie Bunting reminded people to re-assess their givings and "bump them up", if possible. As recommended last year, the Zimbabwe account was closed and folded into the General account.

Nomination Report: Peggy Gilbert and Susie Bunting presented the Nomination Report. Session, the Ministry and Personnel Committee and the Nominating Committee all require one more member. Joan Moriarty agreed to another 3-year commitment on Session. After many years acting as Chair of the Board, Mary Hinan-Grose will be stepping down after the next Official Board meeting to be held in March. Thanks were extended to Mary for her faithful support of Greenwood United. A new chairperson will be required for Official Board meetings. Joyce Fee extended thanks to all those who give of their time and energy to support Greenwood. Special thanks were given to Rev. Allan for his spiritual leadership on the Greenwood journey of faith.

All reports were moved for acceptance by Emil Varga, seconded by Mary Hinan-Grose, and carried.

New Business:

1. The Green Team is no longer meeting as a separate committee. It was initially created as an ad hoc committee to further the “green vision” of Greenwood United. The bee-keepers, the gardeners, the Stewards – in fact all who are part of this church are part of the “green team”. It was noted that whenever people of the church gather, green initiatives can emerge. After discussion, the following motion was made:
“The responsibilities of the Green Team have become part of the environmental vision of all Greenwood United Church members and committees.” . This motion was made by Ann Austin Cardwell, seconded by Gary Lounsbury and carried.
2. Ruth Benson made the following motion regarding Bedford House:
“that Greenwood United Church renew another one year agreement with Bedford House, from March 1, 2019 – February 29, 2020.” The motion was seconded by Mary Hinan-Grose and carried.
3. Dawn Cox inquired as to whether Mission and Service could be highlighted more at Greenwood. Perhaps there could be a “mission and service enthusiast”. It was decided that this would remain under the jurisdiction of Session.
4. Mary Gordon showed us samples of “wraps” which can be used in place of plastic to wrap food. They are made from cotton and beeswax. Susie Bunting knows how to make them and will share this information, perhaps at an upcoming green luncheon.
5. Ann Austin Cardwell asked for prayer support as she embarks on travels on her own for 7 weeks.

In closing Rev. Allan Reeve presented his report. As a representative of the United Church of Canada, thanks and congratulations were extended to Greenwood United Church. As Mary Hinan-Grose leaves her position as Chair of the Board, Allan thanked her for modelling for all of us, how to be an exceptional team player. At Greenwood there is a “beehive” of people who work together.

Emil Varga made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Paulette Nichols

Recording Secretary

From the Minister's Desk, January 2020

With this new decade we can no longer say “change is coming” because change has arrived. Globally, we see how past decades of warnings have delivered new climate emergencies we must negotiate and adapt to.

The United Church of Canada has now shifted to its long-anticipated new reality. From four courts filled with enthusiastic volunteers, we are now adapting to a smaller Church structure with three courts filled with older and wiser enthusiastic volunteers.

At Greenwood we've proven our adaptability. Our neighbours at Fairview United approached us this year with their news of closing. After more than 150 years of worshipping together at their hilltop sanctuary, they were preparing to move on. While congregations across the country struggle with these same realities, our adaptability was put to the test.

Greenwood created a listening team to support Fairview folks in their transition and help to ease the culture-clashes inevitable with any mixing of families. Peggy, Anne, and Brian listened well, shared stories, and grieved with Fairview folks on their journey. The two congregations decided to “move in together” before any formal decisions were made and announced. The “marriage” ceremony – or amalgamation - will happen at this year's annual meeting Sunday February 16th.

I've come to see my own work as “one ministry” with three locations. As I teach Community Development at Fleming College, I enter into the flow of it at Bedford House and at Greenwood.

The Bridging Team model we've developed at Bedford House is ready to be road tested by new groups taking up the journey. We're now training new facilitators with lived-experience-of-poverty to lead these new groups. Greenwood's partnership has been essential in creating and sustaining the life-changing experiences participants report.

I love the sweet, shared, ministry that happens at Greenwood. From the bee-like behind-the-scenes organizing that gives us each a role in keeping the hive healthy to the often-unseen work of caring and compassion (where untold cross-fertilizations occur).

To the honey we enjoy Sunday morning of shared thanksgiving. It's an honour to serve along with you as we share in a certain Hive-mind and spirit so difficult to define.

I am encouraged by you and so I trust that together, inspired by the power of love among us, we will continue to adapt and negotiate the changes life brings.

Yours in the spirit that works wonders,
Reverend Allan David Smith-Reeve

Greenwood Session Annual Report 2019

The Session is responsible for the spiritual leadership of the congregation including worship, education, pastoral care and outreach. Our committee members for 2019 were Ann Austin-Cardwell, Joyce Fee, Peggy Gilbert, Bonnie Jull, Shirley Lannen, Joan Moriarty. We were guided and supported by Reverend Allen Smith-Reeve as well many other members of our congregation.

Some of this year's highlights were:

Worship Accomplishments:

- Continued supporting "The Healing Touch" as an ongoing part of our services
- Continued to support our three Worship Teams
- Performed 1 Baptisms
- Assisted on a regular basis with sacraments on communion Sundays
- Continued holding potluck "Green Theme" luncheons (hosting shared with Stewarts) with topics. i.e. environmental, bees and welcoming new members.
- We registered again as a member of "Bee City" and we're the first faith community in Canada to be accepted. Our beehives are an important part of our faith community and again this year, with some assistance, we were able to provide each family in our congregation with fresh honey.
- We set up a "Listening Team" to walk with Fairview United Church as they considered selling their building and their next steps.
- Fairview United Church joined us in June for Sunday services and stayed as they were going through the process of closing their Church.
- Participated in a combined worship services at Lang Pioneer Village.
- Camp Sponsorship was offered and accepted by one of our young members.
- Celebrated the birth of Christ with a Christmas Eve Service

Pastoral Care and Outreach Accomplishments

- Gloria Madden supported us by sending greeting cards to many individuals who were ill or who just needed a cheery note. She also sent Easter Cards to the Pastoral Care list of individuals. Christmas cards were either hand delivered or sent to our shut-ins.
- Many homes and hospital visits as well as caring telephone calls have been made by our Pastoral Care Committee.
- Continue Supporting Kawartha Food Share. We started a spare change jar, where loose coins are collected and then we donate to a worthy cause. This year Kawartha Food Share and Y.E.S (Youth Emergency Services).

Music:

- We are grateful to Marion Griffin, our music director and to our choir. Their dedication, their range of music, and the joy they bring our congregation is a highlight each Sunday.

Roll Clerk:

Mary Hinan-Grose works behind the scenes assisting in ensuring that the registry of baptisms, marriages and burials, as well as the roll of members of the congregation and adherents, are properly maintained.

A big ***THANK YOU*** goes out to all individuals who have been part of our committee as well as those who supported us in any way! Your time, your effort, your commitment, your special talents – are appreciated! We couldn't carry out the role of the "Session" without the support of so many people! We are also approachable and would welcome any feedback at any time.

Submitted by *Peggy Gilbert*, Chair of Session

Greenwood Trustees

As of August 2019, Greenwood investment funds moved to Frontier Capital Funds which is part of the Canoe Financial family, and is the investment firm for the United Church of Canada Foundation.

Market value January 1, 2019	\$641,089
Market value December 31, 2019	\$694,886

Redemption this year: \$10,000

Signing authorities for the trustees on this account are the treasurer, Ruth Benson, Roger Clapperton and Mary Hinan-Grose. Two signatures are required to redeem funds from the account. The treasurer has a copy of the protocol to access information on our funds.

The trustees did not have a formal meeting this year, but continued their oversight of our physical facility and financial matters.

Roger Clapperton, Mary Hinan-Grose, Paulette Nichols, Emil Varga

Church Statistics

Members as of 1 January 2019		71
Removed by death	1	
Removed by transfer	1	69
Added by reinstatement	3	
Added by transfer	2	

Members as of 31 December 2019	74
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Adherents attending/supporting Greenwood	26
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No funerals or marriages conducted

Respectfully submitted, *Mary Hinan-Grose*, Roll Clerk

Greenwood Ministry and Personnel Committee 2019

The M & P Committee provides an oversight and supportive role for our church staff (minister, music director, custodian and secretaries). This includes coverage when staff are absent and recommending appropriate compensation for their work to the Official Board.

This year we initiated a congregation-led evaluation of all staff and received valuable feedback on people's views of life at Greenwood. We have just completed a follow-up on this feedback with staff and reported to the congregation in early January. To quote from the report,

" the congregation is very happy with the worship services, with Allan's thought provoking messages and worship style and with the Worship Teams. The feeling that Greenwood is a welcoming inclusive community is very important. ...

People enjoy contributing in a variety of ways from participating in worship services to being involved with Bedford House or pastoral care. Many said how they feel fulfilled after attending services and that their need for a spiritual community is being met at Greenwood. There was a strong sense that we are a small but committed congregation which is making a difference in our local and broader communities. Many mentioned the significance of the message of being stewards of the earth and of bridges out of poverty efforts. The congregation likes the wonderful sense of community, the open casual atmosphere and the green focus too.

All staff got high praise. Thank you to Rev. Allan, Marion, Ken, Susie and Muriel. You make the committee's work easy and all of you contribute beyond your job descriptions and compensation. We also appreciate the work of the Worship Teams who lead us in service in Allan's absence. We also very much appreciate the presence of Rev. Bill Peacock.

A reminder to everyone that Rev. Allan's position is half time at Greenwood.

Submitted by *Anne Wilson, Ann Barrett and Brian Nichols*

Stewards' Report 2019

The Stewards' role is to oversee our financial obligations as well as to manage our physical property. Much of this work is undertaken by our Treasurer, Ruth Benson, and our Property Manager, and current Steward chair, Ken Minion. Our thanks to them for their great work.

Fundraising is part of our mandate, so we try to have at least two events per year. Last spring we chose to host a mid-week Italian Dinner, buffet style, which required less labour or expenditures than previous dinners. It was well received and netted us \$1200. In the fall Doug Robinson organised a Loonie Auction in place of another dinner, although coffee and donated desserts were featured. This was another fun evening which raised almost \$1000. We hope to repeat both events in 2020. In addition, Joyce Fee continues to run a retail gift card purchase program which raised \$1555 in 2019.

We were also pleased to host three polling stations for the 2019 federal election in October. This brought in extra revenue through rental and donation of earnings by our own poll workers. The next (provincial) election is in June 2022.

Greenwood is striving to become a fully accessible worship centre. We already have in place a ramp from the parking lot, a lift between floors, and large-print bulletins. Last year (2018) we installed glass-front door with an automatic opener. More recently we added two more handicapped parking spots, made one of the washrooms more wheelchair friendly, and made both washrooms gender-free. We have added handrails to the platform and installed two new speakers for better sound, and had the county place road signs in each direction on the main road. There is still more to be done but we are pleased with our accomplishments thus far.

We were saddened by the passing of Bob McKinlay who was serving as a second year Steward. Ken Minion was asked to return early from his year off and he jumped in readily.

Respectfully submitted, *Ruth Benson, Susan Bunting, Roger Clapperton, Barb Johston, Ken Minion, Doug Robinson, Emil Varga*

Music / Choir Report 2019

The Choir continues to work hard to produce pleasing music for the congregation, and, as a group, we appreciate the fact that our music is appreciated. Although we are small in number, the music produced is heart-warming and generally works well with the message. Marion is in the process of buying new music to further challenge the choir .

This year, we prepared two cantatas. For Good Friday 2019 we sang “No Greater Sacrifice” by Pamela Martin, Larry Shackley with narrators Shirley Lannen, and Brian Nichols. For the Christmas season we sang “Born A Savior, Born a King” by John Purifoy with narrators Liz Sine and Brian Nichols. Both were well-received by the congregation and guests. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate for the Christmas cantata, but we still had a modest turnout.

Greenwood again lead the music at the annual multi-church service in July at Lang Pioneer Village. The rest of the summer featured a mix of solo work and ensemble pieces by individual choir members. We also welcomed musical friends Esther Smith and Warren Craft during the year.

We are always looking for new members and encourage you to join should you feel the calling. We meet every Thursday evening from 7 p.m. to approximately 9 p.m. and about 45 minutes before church services on Sunday. You would be most welcome.

Respectfully submitted, *Marion Griffin*

East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC) Rep Report 2019

In 2 Corinthians: 12:9, St Paul was assured that God's grace was sufficient for him and as we have entered into this new structure, we believe that God continues to go with us and guide all of us during this new way of being the United Church of Canada.

We need to pray especially for those at National Council, those working on the Hub and the Assembly of Elders, those working in the regional offices because their jobs now seem to be especially challenging with the larger areas, and special prayers are offered for our Pastoral relations minister David Timpson.

In the 2018 report, I noted that the Rev. Nancy Wilson had suggested four meetings of the Cluster Group in our immediate area. She and Keene United Church graciously hosted our first gathering. Subsequent gatherings were at Northminster United Church, at Curve Lake (in a shelter beside Chemong Lake with lunch by the water and then a tour of the Petroglyphs), and at Mark Street United in December.

There, the clergy decided we should continue to have the annual Christmas dinner at noon for Retired Clergy and spouses. That was held at Westdale United Church with Jack's Restaurant catering. It was far too costly and the good news is that Westdale United Church has now a new group of UCW ladies to look after us on the future. It is always good to get together with others of somewhat like mind to have fun, chat, share stories, sing and worship.

In former days the Bay of Quinte Conference annual gathering was always a highlight. One clergy described it as the reward for enduring Presbytery meetings during the rest of the year.

This year the East Central Ontario Regional Council's May meeting was held at Cambridge Street United Church in Lindsay. This is the church where Reverend Paul Reed had recently retired. As well as business, the highlight was the Ordination Service for four new clergy and the re-admission of one former clergy. Paul's son Daniel was ordained as was my cousin Sarah Magie (whose two parents are also ordained). Kathleen Whyte and I were delighted to be part of the joint choir at that service.

The second meeting of ECORC was held in November in Belleville and at that meeting the UCW was allowed to have a vote. Most committees had recently held their first meeting and were getting underway in the new system.

Again Greenwood took part in the Annual Lang Pioneer Village service on July 21 with several congregations attending; several of us from Greenwood enjoyed being in the choir . A special thank-you goes to Allan Smith Reeve and Bill Peacock for their parts in the leading of the service and to Marion Griffin for bringing her keyboard and leading the music. A good number of Greenwood folk attended the congregation of about 100 worshippers. Many stayed for a picnic lunch under some lovely, shady trees and some of us also toured the village. My friend visiting from Britain thoroughly enjoyed the time there , and we have all come to look forward to this annual event.

During the summer of 2019 we welcomed our friends from Fairview United Church to our site. Although it happened in 2020 we cannot ignore the vote that the Rev. David Timpson supervised on January 19 and that the Reverend Bill Peacock was commissioned to complete the following Sunday when both congregations voted unanimously to become united.

Thank you also to both Fairview and Greenwood congregations for your generous support of the Mission & Service Fund, our local congregation and local projects such as the Food Bank, Youth Emergency Shelter (YES), and contributions to the St. John Centre.

Change is often challenging and at times we may be tempted to question new ways, but we do know that God goes with us and the Holy Spirit does guide when we are open.

Thank you for the privilege of being your representative over many years. It is always good to be involved in the wider church family.

Respectfully submitted, *Dawn Cox (Mary Hinan-Grose, alternative)*



2019 Annual Report to Greenwood United Church

We're beginning to change the conversation, bridging poverty and privilege in Peterborough

The year 2019 delivered a powerful boost to our efforts to build Bridging Teams, as part of the Bridges Out Of Poverty framework in Peterborough. The McConnell Foundation funded a Strategic Clarity process for us, with a coach guiding us through the Innoweave process. It was hard work. Much research was required to help us focus our future and determine the social impacts, but the result is well worth it. You can review the full document on our website * , but here are the two key statements:

Bedford House is a catalyst for social, economic, and spiritual innovation. By 2030, Bedford House will have changed the conversation from *fixing poverty* to creating a community practice of *fair sharing*. We will connect people across economic classes in a broadly based network of support.

The Bridging Team at The Mount is entering its third and final phase, with two under-resourced participants eager to train to become facilitators of new Bridging Teams. In addition, we have recruited another five low-income leaders to train as story-tellers, to help lead Bridging Teams in the future and to serve as spokespeople for the program. All these participants and volunteers – and many other interested citizens – gather once a month at our recently initiated Neighbours Network. All Greenwood members are heartily invited to join us at The Mount, the first Wednesday of every month, starting at 5 pm, for a good meal, good times, and lots of new learnings.

We are now using seed dollars from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to complete a Feasibility Study into scaling-out, or replicating, our Bridging Teams model. We envision the model being used in communities and churches right across Canada. It's a daunting task; however, we hope this will lead to a multi-year funding package from Trillium, starting in 2021.

Like all new ideas and initiatives, we continue to struggle with balancing work and money: too much of one, too little of the other. What keeps us going, though, is the wealth of day-to-day indicators that this is what God calls us to do.

* www.bedfordhouse.ca

Ruth Benson and Bonnie Jull continue to represent the congregation's interest at our Board meetings. Ruth has been an exceptionally conscientious steward of the financial resources that flow into the Greenwood coffers to keep Bedford House afloat. Donations from individuals grew again this year and go to support the under-resourced participants. They are the experts teaching us about poverty. Together we're learning new definitions of community.

With Reverend Allan spending more and more time in his teaching duties at Fleming College, we are now paying Katherin Snajdr-Zabehlicky, our former Fleming intern, as our Project Manager. She co-facilitates the Bridging Team, is developing evaluation mechanisms for the program, and keeps us all organized!

A second Fleming intern, Heather Lewis Cochrane, was an enthusiastic participant in the Just Food program, and a rigorous researcher on our Innoweave project. And now, in 2020, we have a new student Tarin Atwood joining us to help with the team work and to develop marketing products.

Lynn Smith-Reeve is our head trainer. She offers Bridges out of Poverty workshops in Peterborough and the City of Kawartha Lakes. Lynn also heads up the development of our Bridging Team Facilitator Training program. A manual, sponsored by the City of Peterborough and the Greater Peterborough Community Foundation will support new Bridging Team facilitators.

With this new effort to spread the word, Bedford House will soon have a brand new look! Sarah Crane of Frolic Design is working with us on this initiative with Trillium funding, so that we will be ready to launch some fund-raising efforts. Her project includes a website refresh for Bedford House, and a whole new website strictly for the Bridges program.

Two additional staffing notes: Katherin's husband Michal is lending a hand in our bookkeeping and reporting areas; and Miriam Lyall is heading up a Fund Development plan to contribute to our Feasibility Study.

I end on a note of gratitude – once more – for the loving embrace of Greenwood United Church. Your support in our joint venture extends your reach deep into the community that surrounds us, and lets us go about the business of changing the conversation. Thank you.

Mary Gordon, chair (Bedford House)

A Glimpse at What We Have Done In Our Green Bee Garden – 2019

The garden was initiated by the “bees”. It was felt that it would be beneficial for our bees to have some flowering plants that would be closer to their homes.

Research was done in many ways: consultation with master gardeners, bee experts as well as internet research and congregation input on their wants/needs.

For our site, It was found that native plants or heirlooms would be the most successful as well as the least maintenance and kindest to our environment. Planting in swaths in colors blue, purple, violet, white, yellow and in a natural kind of style was what bees liked the best.

Thus....our decision to let our field go wild and let the natives take over (with a little help from our gardeners!) The upper grass area would be cut and a more formal garden would surround the arbor lowering the risk of bee stings.

The first year, we attempted to plant in hay bales, planted some veggies and threw out our “seed bombs”. Lower branches of the surrounding maples were trimmed and used as a shelter for birds in our field; bird houses were positioned in various places.

Since having the “bones of the garden” usually comes first in a plan, a drawing of a wandering pathway throughout the field and an arbor were made; then it became a reality. The arbor was to provide an entrance to our garden (in case we might have a future event such as a wedding) and the pathways would be used by bee keepers as well as church members and community neighbours.

Two benches for seating were dedicated, some logs were placed for more casual seating and two birdbaths were donated.

With strong muscles and shovels in hand, larger shrubs were planted on the outer edges of the pathway (spirea, lilac, crab apple, nannyberry, willow) and in front of the bee cage (honeysuckle). Many smaller perennial plants were donated by church members. Two memorial trees (mountain ash & flowering crab) were also a big addition.

The baseball screen was to serve as a support for vines; however, due to the rocky soil, planting was tricky - so far we have some wild roses and hops vine as well as a variety of hardy perennials to soften the structure.

There was also a plan to have “pocket gardens” along the paths. One has been placed closer to the bee hive as well as one at the far end of the parking lot. The parking lot garden was created using a “lasagna” planting method and was placed there for individuals who felt safer entering on a level surface.

Gardens take many hours of planning and creativity, many seeds and plants to be planted but don't happen over-night – they also take patience – so as we continue to work on our “creation” may we grow together serving the bees as well as other members of our community!

Many a muscle has been strained but I am sure we are all looking forward to the future beauty and the many more gardening adventures that lie ahead!

Thank you to EVERYONE who has contributed in ANY way.

Submitted on behalf of garden committee members, *Pat Lounsbury*

Book Bunch 2019

Like reading? Enjoy discussions? Our book club members like to get together on the afternoon of the fourth Wednesday of each month to share their thoughts. We take turns hosting in our homes and leading the discussions. While novels dominate our selection, their subject matter ranges from social commentary and psychological drama, to memoir and Canadian humor(or is that humour?).

2019 book list included *One Brother Shy* by Terry Fallis, *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn, *Conclave* by Robert Harris, *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult, *Beartown* by Fredrik Backman, *The Rejected Writer's Book Club* by Suzanne Kelman, *Ragged Company* by Richard Wagamese, *The Huntress* by Kate Quinn, *Educated* by Tara Westover.

New members are always most welcome. *Joyce Fee*