

Club Focus Highlights

President's Message

2023-2024 BPW Brampton Executive
BPW Programs

[Save the Dates](#) • Dates to Remember

BPW New Member [Rianna Ramesar](#)

BPW Brampton Website

Provincial Report

Focus on a Member [Angela McKinnon](#)

From the Archives 1993

Special Events: Euchre * Golf * Meat Drive

BPW Congress International Details

BPW Public Affairs Updates

Humane Society

BPW Members Business Card Directory





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www.bpwbrampton.com

Social Media
 [BPWBrampton](#)
 [BPW Brampton](#)

Women Working for Women



MEETINGS LOCATION

Fanzorelli's Restaurant
& Wine Bar

50 Queen Street West
Brampton, ON L6K 4H3

Third Tuesday of the Month

JOIN ZOOM MEETING
AS REQUIRED



The Business and Professional
Women's Club of Brampton

Club Focus

SPRING 2024

BPW Brampton President's Message

Linda Ford



2023 – 2024 was full steam ahead!

*BPW Brampton Celebrated our
77th Anniversary!!! It is a testament
to the solid history of our Club.*

The Club and the Events
have evolved but the
basis for all that we do is
still the same – *Advocacy for Women
and Supporting our Local Community
Partners* which include:

- Hope 24/7
- Victim Services of Peel
- Wellspring Chinguacousy
Cancer Support
- Ste. Louise Outreach and Food Bank
- Honeychurch Women's Shelter

The Events are hard work and
dedication by our Club, but the joy
we bring as a result of the funds raised
is immeasurable. While Government
funding declines for most, or all, of our
charitable organizations they rely
more heavily on support from groups
like our BPW Brampton.

BPW Brampton is part of an
international organization with clubs in
over 100 countries around the world.

BPW Canada priority issues for 2022 –
2024 include:

- Anti- Human Trafficking
 - Reproductive Rights and Justice
 - Women's Empowerment Principles
- Mina Di Domenico continued to take
the lead on Resolutions that support
these priorities through both Provincial
and Federal Resolutions.

We were also so lucky to have
Rianna Ramesar Chair YBPW geared
to women 18-35. These women are
our future and so critically important
to continue a great legacy.

As my term comes to a close after
stepping in for a two-year term, I
fondly reflect on all of the blessings of
taking on this role:

- Collaborating with a dedicated and
forward-thinking Executive Team
- An awesome (and growing)
membership of engaged and
supportive women
- An opportunity to lead, educate
and support like minded women
- Personal growth and giving
- Accomplishments that allow us to
give back to the community

But most importantly, I've always said
that BPW Brampton is my heart. *We
are a best kept secret and we need to
spread the word!!!*





BPW BRAMPTON EXECUTIVE 2023-2024

President Linda Ford
Interim Past President Carol Kollar
1st Vice President Angela McKinnon
2nd Vice President Amanda Graham-Rowe
Treasurer Pat Dowling
Recording Secretary Barbara Hore
Corresponding Secretary Pat Tiveron
Membership Chair Barbara Hore
Programs Chair Angela McKinnon
Publicity & Public Relations Sheila Walker
Young BPW Rianna Ramesar
Resolutions/ByLaws Mina Di Domenico
International Affairs Amanda Graham-Rowe
Bursary Committee Angela McKinnon,
Amanda Graham-Rowe
Archivist Pat Dowling
Special Events Chair Pat Dowling
Club Focus Publisher/Admin. Sheila Walker
Dinner Convenor Sheila Walker
Website/Social Media Mina Di Domenico



BPW Programs Angela McKinnon

As our 2023-2024 BPW Brampton Programs come to an end, I would like to thank all our Members for their attendance! We've had some amazing Speakers this year: we learned about climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, how to keep our brains healthy and active, where our funds are used within the community, and so much more! I look forward to a great 2024-2025 Programs year. Our Speakers are created to help inform, educate and stimulate our Members. Personally, I like to learn something new every day and continue with my goal of life long learning. If you have a friend or business colleague that you think the group would benefit from, please make your voices heard to one of our Executive Team. We want to bring forth exciting Speakers in areas that are interesting to all Members!

Happy Spring Ladies! Hope to see you again soon at our next event!



Save the Dates!

the

BPW Brampton Dates to Remember



SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

Speaker: Joy Foster, Inspirational Speaker, Podcast Host, Singer and Recording Artist to name a few of this bold, dynamic women's skill set.

Topic: What do you see when you look in the mirror?

OCTOBER 17, 2023

Speaker: Dr. Bisleen Attili, ND is a Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Certified Naturopathic Doctor who has founded her own virtual clinic called The Mental Empowerment Centre
Topic: From Menarche to Menopause: A Women's Guide to Optimizing Her Hormones.

NOVEMBER 10, 2023

BPW Progressive Charity Euchre Event
The Scottish Centre
(AKA Glasgow Rangers Supporters Club Bramalea)
185 Advance Blvd., Unit 2, Brampton L6T 4H9 905.458.7718

NOVEMBER 21, 2023

Speakers: BPW Community Partners
Topics: This is a chance for our chosen Community Partners to discuss how they impact the community and utilize the donation funds they receive from BPW Brampton.

Community Partners include:

Hope 24/7 - Report from Carrie Campbell
Family Life Resource Centre, Honeychurch - Melody Watson
Victim Services of Peel - Sarah Rogers
Wellspring Chinguaousy - Kim McDermott
St. Louise Outreach Centre & Food Bank - Pearl Folders,
Board Vice President

DECEMBER 12, 2023 CHRISTMAS SOCIAL (2nd Tuesday of December)
Evening Hosted by BPW Brampton Member Iris Diegel & David Nava at their Home, Catered Dinner & Christmas Celebration!

Topics: To Be Determined

• Opportunity for Members and Guests to Give Donations to: St. Louise Outreach Centre & Food Bank of Food Items; Blankets; Personal Care Products, etc.

JANUARY 16, 2024

Speakers: Sandra Sharpe, Certified Municipal Manager III, Qualified Mediator, Trained Facilitator, Government Relations, and Communications Professional, City of Caledon — AND — Carrie Percival, Chair, Downtown Brampton Business Improvement Area (BIA), Owner of the Brampton Academy of Martial Arts, Downtown Brampton
Topic: Dissolution of Peel

FEBRUARY 20, 2024: International Theme Meeting

Speaker: Jill Knowles, CFP, CIM, CFDS - Senior Wealth Advisor, Portfolio Manager for Scotia Wealth Management; and, Jill will share her lifetime experience in Tanzania, Africa. **Topic:** Jill went on a trip of a lifetime to Tanzania, Africa, which included a Mount Kilimanjaro climb and a significant coaching and volunteer component. The volunteer component supported The Dare Women's Foundation, to build a shelter in Arusha and help empower women with starting their own businesses to support themselves. Jill describes her incredible journey about empowerment, transformation, supporting women, as well as personal growth and leadership.

• International Theme Honouring BPW Clubs Worldwide
• Celebrating BPW International Night with our Traditional Candle Lighting Ceremony

MARCH 19, 2024: BPW Brampton 77th Anniversary Meeting

Speaker: Dr. Justine Blainey-Broker is a Chiropractor, a wife, a mother of two and a warrior for health and wellness. She is an active community volunteer, working with Excelsiors Lacrosse and Brampton Women's Hockey. Dr. Blainey-Broker is also a popular motivational speaker at schools, York University, local businesses and charities. She believes that everyone deserves a healthcare team that focuses on prevention, optimal health and open communication.
Topic: The Aging Brain and How to Keep It Healthy!

APRIL 16, 2024: Resolutions

Speaker: Mina Di Domenico
Topic: Given the timing of when Resolutions are ready, there will be two "virtual" meetings for 2024. Mina will present the results from April 16th Focus on Provincial Resolutions submitted by Clubs across the Province, and May 7th Focus on Federal Resolutions submitted by Clubs across Canada.

APRIL 2024: ~~POSTPONED TO NOVEMBER 15, 2024~~

BPW Progressive Charity Euchre Event
The Scottish Centre
(AKA Glasgow Rangers Supporters Club Bramalea)
185 Advance Blvd., Unit 2, Brampton L6T 4H9 905.458.7718

MAY 21, 2024:

BPW Brampton Elections & Annual General Meeting
Speaker: Linda Ford, BPW Brampton President
Topic: Elections & Annual General Meeting. Come Out and Support BPW Brampton and Be Part in its Direction. Consider Being on the Executive!

JUNE 4, 2024: June Social

Our Famous June Social - Invite a Guest!
Location and More Information to Follow!

JUNE 17, 2024

26th Annual Ladies Charity Golf Tournament
Glen Eagle Golf Club, 15731 Regional Rd. 50,
Caledon, ON L7E 3H9.
More Details to Follow!

- GOLDEN HORSESHOE AND SOUTHWEST DISTRICTS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Saturday, October 21, 2023, Kitchener
- FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2024: International Women's Day
- PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE 2024 - Virtual Meeting Saturday, June 15, 2024
- PROGRAMS MEETING FOR 2024-2025: Tuesday, July 9, 2024: Suggestions for Speakers for Next Season are welcome! Please contact Programs Chair to add your voice.
- BPW NATIONAL CONVENTION 2024: August 8 to August 11, 2024 to be held in Moncton, New Brunswick
- WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH: October
- SMALL BUSINESS MONTH: October
- WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2024: World Food Day
- PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE 2025 - Saturday, September 13, 2025 BPW Brampton are Hosts for this "in person" Conference
- BPW INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS: New Actions Through Cooperation, November 17-20, 2024, St. Kitts.





Welcome to a
New Member
Barbara Hore



RIANNA RAMESAR



Rianna joined BPW
Brampton in
September of 2023.

She currently holds the position of
YBPW Chair for our Club, as well
as, being an active participant
on our Resolutions and Bylaws
Committee.

She has studied business at
Niagara College and has
enrolled in a law clerks program
which will be complete in May.
Rianna will be attending the

University of Toronto in September.

Her family is originally from Trinidad and moved
from Edmonton to Brampton when she was four
years old. She enjoys reading, boxing, studying
Spanish and spending time with friends and family.

Our club extends a very warm welcome to Rianna
and looks forward to spending many more years
working alongside her in the Club.

BPW Brampton Website
www.bpwbrampton.com
Mina Di Domenico

The BPW Brampton Website has a new look
and with it, a new feature. You can now
receive an income tax receipt for
upcoming charity events. BPW Brampton has
partnered with the Charitable Impact Foundation to
offer this new feature. How it works:

The Foundation application works like a bank
account whereby members and friends can donate
online via the BPW Brampton website under the
fundraising page. Anyone giving to the event will
immediately receive a tax receipt. Pat Dowling, our
Club Treasurer directs funds to our community
partners. The Charitable Impact Foundation submits
the Funds to the community partner and our
community partners receive a report with the funds
stating the funds result from a BPW Brampton
fundraising event.



Provincial Report

Barbara Hore
District Director
BPW Golden Horseshoe
Southwest Ontario

CLUB CLOSING

We are sad to report that the
Cambridge Club will be closing by
the end of this month. Club

President Lin Buxton who has held this position for
many years will be transferring her membership and
that of at least one other member to the Niagara
Falls Club where they will be warmly welcomed.

Lin has been a dedicated member for many years
and put an incredible amount of work into the Club.
As the District Director for that Club, I am
dissappointed to see it close but I thank Lin and the
other members for their efforts.

PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE 2025

Plans are already underway for
Provincial Conference 2025 that our
Club will host. Pat Dowling and Barb
Hore will be the Conference Chairs. It will be held
on Saturday, September 13, 2025 at the Brampton
Golf Club on Kennedy Road, Brampton.

Many thanks to Mina Di Domenico for all of the
hours spent researching possible meeting venues.
Also, a big thank you to Amanda Graham-Rowe
who was instrumental in securing the golf club for
us. As a result of her being a member at the
Brampton Golf Club, we are enjoying many perks
that are offered to members only.

More information will be forthcoming as we move
closer to the date.





Focus on a Member
Barbara Hore

As an interesting means to learn about our members, following are a few questions presented to Angela McKinnon to get to know her better! What better way to learn about our upcoming President for 2024 to 2026!

ANGELA MCKINNON



WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT ROLE WITH BPW BRAMPTON?

My current role is Programs Chair and First Vice President. I will be taking on the role as President in May. I'm both excited and nervous! Excited to continue the great work BPW Brampton has done in the past and to grow our membership as many Clubs have recently closed. And nervous to take on this role.

However, there are so many great mentors in our Club to help me in this journey.

WHEN DID YOU JOIN BPW AND WHY?

I joined about 8 years ago I think? I was looking for a women's group to network with as I had recently started my home staging business and I also wanted to give back to the community through some type of charity organization. I met Pat Dowling at a business seminar and she encouraged me to join as I am sure she has done with many women over the years.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO ACCOMPLISH AS A MEMBER OF BPW?

As a member, I'd like to help the Club expand and continue to support local women's charities.

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST ISSUES FOR WOMEN YOUR AGE?

I think my biggest challenge at my age is taking care of aging parents, as well as, supporting adult children as they navigate through the years of full time work and having young children. I feel very fortunate that I have my health and am able to help them with their young children whenever I can.

WHAT MESSAGE WOULD YOU GIVE TO NEWER MEMBERS AND WOMEN IN GENERAL?

Boy that's a big one! I would say for newer members that getting involved in the Executive is a very rewarding experience. It really builds comradeship with local women like myself. My advice for women in general is, it's never too late to pursue your dreams and goals in life. I'm working on my third career and having a blast doing something I never thought possible.

From the Archives
The Brampton Guardian, 1993

Professional Women's Club
Helping Brampton Women in Need

The Brampton Business and Professional Women's Club has been part of this city for 46 years now, but many people are unaware of the community work the club does.

But that might soon change, as the group becomes more active in various aspects of community of life, especially those related to womens' issues.

A few weeks ago, the group donated over \$4,600 of furnishings to the Salvation Army's Family Life Resource Centre. Director Dittie Voegele said this money paid for new vertical blinds on all the windows in the family and single rooms at the home, plus in the lounge area.

New chairs were also added to each room. "We just wanted to spruce things up," Voegele said, "so it doesn't look as institutionalized."

Two full size cribs were also purchased for the centre, along with six smaller portable cribs.

To help women receive an education, the club this year is providing five, \$500 dollar bursaries to females in Brampton attending either of Sheridan College's campuses. Applications for the bursaries are screened by the college, she said, with the club awarding them to the most needy applicants.

In addition, the club supports a nursery at a Brampton high school, allowing young mothers to drop their children off and continue their studies during the day.

To help fund these worthwhile community endeavours, the club holds bingos two mornings a month at Rutherford Bingo Country.

New members are also being sought, with more information available by calling 454-9200.

By Paul Russell



Special Events Pat Dowling



Our Charity Progressive Euchre Event for April 2024 is POSTPONED until Friday, November 15, 2024 due to poor ticket sales.



Following this is our Meat and Seafood Drive featuring McGregors Meat & Seafood Ltd. We are asking you to please pass onto your family and friends. This drive is very popular and gets us ready for BBQ season.

Remember to have an order form for each person you sell to so that pick up of the items will be quick and easy. Pick

up details to follow. All order forms and payments are sent to: treasurer@bpwbrampton.com.



We are following this up with our 26th Annual Ladies Charity Golf Tournament being held on Monday, June 17, 2024.

GOLF It will be held again at Glen Eagle Golf Club, 15731 Regional Road 50, Caledon. This is a best ball 9 hole ladies only tournament including golf, cart, lunch and dinner. We will be having live and silent auctions, raffle prizes and vendor tables. We are looking for hole sponsorship and prizes so please let us know what you can donate and we will make arrangements to get them picked up.



BPW Brampton has collaborated with Charitable Impact to allow people to make a donation directly to the event and receive an immediate donation receipt. We encourage you to visit our website and under the event itself you will find a link to make your donation to. The recipients for this event will support Honeychurch, Victim Services of Peel and Wellspring Chinguacousy Cancer Support Centre.

Many thanks to all of our members and their continued support of our club and our community.



BPW International Congress Mina Di Domenico



The Executive has decided by a large majority on January 11, 2024, to move the Congress of 2024 from Argentina to St. Kitts. The reasons for this decision were financial insecurity, political instability and lack of documents 11 months before Congress: no contracts, no indication of sponsors, continuously changing quotes. All documents should be complete 12 months prior to Congress according to our Procedure Manual. The turn of Latin America to organize an International Congress has been postponed to 2027.

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to St. Kitts. St. Kitts and Nevis is an independent State. The Commonwealth Countries and Europe do not need a visa. For those countries which need a visa, the local authorities will help provide the visa and facilitate the whole process.

The Congress will take place from November 17 to November 20, 2024. The handover of office for the Executive Board and the other office holders will take place on November 21. The Congress Hotel is the St. Kitts Marriott Resort. The link to make a hotel reservation will be provided shortly.

Dr. Catherine Bosshart, BPW International President 2021-2024



BPW Public Affairs Updates

Mina Di Domenico

History in the Making

For over 50 years, BPW members in partnership with the Royal Commission on the Status of Women, allied child care advocates, educators, parents, and policymakers have worked tirelessly to campaign levels of government for legislative recommendations on a federal child care law.

On February 29, 2024, a historic and significant victory took place in parliament - the passing of Bill C-35 an Act respecting early learning and child care in Canada was adopted unanimously by the House of Commons.

This landmark legislation affirms in law the Government of Canada's commitment to build a primarily not-for-profit and public system of early learning and child care that provides accessible, inclusive, and low-fee child care services for all in Canada.

The Act sets out the federal government's commitment to long-term funding for the provinces and Indigenous peoples for the establishment and maintenance of a community-based early learning and child care system. The legislation also requires that a National Advisory Council on Early Learning and Child Care be established to provide the federal government advice on all matters related to early learning and child care.

Bill C-35 sets out a framework, and a federal commitment to be about transformative change in how child care services are funded and delivered. This is a start. Bringing about change still requires BPW members and allied advocates to monitor, report on progress, address challenges, and hold all levels of government accountable to ensure the implementation of significant policy reform and funding services adequately becomes a reality for every child and family in Canada.

UN CSW68

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

The CSW is instrumental in promoting women's rights, documenting the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women. Established in 1946, CSW is a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).



Since 1947, BPW International has been a non-governmental organization (NGO) that has had Consultative Status with the United Nations through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). This year, BPW Canada had 20 delegates attend CSW68. I had the honour of being one of the delegates.

The 68th annual Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68), the UN's largest annual gathering took place in New York City from March 11 - 22. There were 10,000 in attendance with many more online. The priority theme this year: "Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective." The CSW68 event is attended by governments, civil society organizations, experts, and activists worldwide to agree on actions and investments that can end women's poverty and advance gender equality.

I'm in the process of writing BPW Canada's report. Stay tuned for more information.

Mentorship Program

Women Strengthening Women (WSW)

Join the Women Strengthening Women (WSW) program, a transformative online experience designed exclusively for BPW Ontario members, offering a unique opportunity to connect, learn, and grow within the supportive community of BPW Ontario.

Choose Your Role: Mentee, Mentor, or Both!

Whether seeking guidance to develop specific skills or eager to share your experiences and empower others, WSW welcomes you as a mentee, mentor, or both! This program allows you to make meaningful connections from the comfort of your home while benefiting from the flexibility and convenience of online mentoring.

How It Works

To kickstart your WSW journey, email Chantal Fraser at chantal@empoweredpath.ca for the MentorCity link. There, you will create your profile and find your ideal mentee-mentor match. We also welcome previous participants to rejoin and continue their mentoring journey.



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Catherine Rivera
 Board President

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 stelouisefoodbank85@hotmail.ca

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 Off Hours: (416) 704-0946

Humane Society

The Human Society is always in need of old towels, bed sheets, blankets, etc. used for the comfort of cats and dogs in their care. Please drop off donations of these items to the following Brampton location:
 475 Chrysler Drive, Brampton, ON L6S 6G3
 (905) 458-580





The Business and Professional Women's Club of Brampton is an equality-seeking group toward the improvement of economic, employment and social conditions affecting women.

Making a Difference - A Club for All Working Women.




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