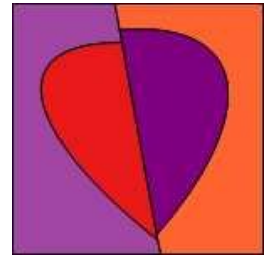




Executive Update

Hello RCQG members,
Happy New Year! Here's to another year of friendship, growth, and beautiful quilts! Through our many guild activities, I have made new friends and have had a chance to get to know many members better. I have learned more quilt tips and tricks at our sew-alongs. I have been inspired by our guest speakers. I even managed to get a quilt completed this past year. I spent time over the holidays organizing my sewing room. Now, those UFOs are front and centre! I plan to tackle them over the upcoming year!



The Executive Committee would like to continue promoting our guild benefits of friendship, growth and beautiful quilts. We are working to encourage others to join the guild. For example, elsewhere in the newsletter, notice the article in *The Ontario*, a University of Guelph publication. Hopefully, this will encourage students and faculty to join our guild. We even had a student visit our Mingle, shortly after the article was published, to learn about quilting. That is encouraging.

Also, we will be promoting our guild at The Weftfest Festival in May. By demonstrating the great work of our members, and sharing the fun things that we do during the guild year, we hope to attract new members. By the way, we are looking for volunteers to help staff our booth. If you are available to help between May 15-19th, please send me an email.

Perhaps you can help us get the word out too? Tell your family and friends about our wonderful guild, and how you are proud to be a member. We want to encourage people to join us, whether an experienced quilter or a beginner. Many of you have told us how welcoming we are. Let's see if we can extend that to others.

Thank you to those of you who have complimented and thanked the Executive for a job well done. We work hard on your behalf and appreciate your gratitude. It gives us a sense of excitement and possibility as we continue to plan for your quilting needs. Let's continue to find new patterns to explore, fabric collections to play with, and cherished moments to share with fellow guild members. Whatever the New Year holds, it's a time to embrace the journey with optimism, creativity, and gratitude.

Happy Sewing,
Cindy (on behalf of the Executive Committee)



Exciting News!

In December, student newspaper journalist Ellie Petrak submitted an article about our guild to the University of Guelph newsletter “The Ontario” for its January issue. She browsed our website, attended our December meeting and interviewed our Guild President and Past-President so that arts students at the university could learn more about our organization. See what she had to say on page 13 of the January publication: https://issuu.com/ontarion/docs/198.1_issue

February Program Guest Speaker

Karen Miller
Finger Lakes Region NY

Aurifilosophy - The Search for Knowledge and Truth (especially about the nature and behaviour of Aurifil thread)

Karen Miller of Redbird Quilt Co. will be giving her Aurifilosophy Lecture and Trunk show in February. Karen has been creating with Aurifil thread for more than 10 years and believes it to be the best cotton thread on the market! This program is designed to unlock the mysteries of thread, educate, inspire, and enable all users to achieve brilliant results.

Karen will share her Aurifil-centric trunk of quilts, a wealth of quilting information and inspiration, exclusive Aurifil resources, and swag.

Her work can be seen in her Gallery at redbirdquiltco.com/gallery



Workshops

We are about to have our Mobius Radial workshop with Audrey Esarey on Saturday, February 15th. I have sent her an email asking what instructions should go to participants. Each participant should have purchased her pattern for the Mobius Radial. All information I receive will be sent out as soon as I get it.

Karen Miller will be speaking to the Guild at our February meeting. At present there are three spots still available for her Quilters Doodles workshop on April 19th.

Next year's offerings of workshops are being considered at present. We hope that we can please our members with the choices. Remember, if you have requests for a particular workshop or area of quilting, it is best to send those requests to the Workshop/Program committee. These two committees work closely together because our greatest success with workshops comes when members have seen a presentation before the workshop.

Ann Jeffrey, Workshop Chairperson

Membership

Membership Newsletter February 2025



Happy 2025 to all our Royal City Quilters' Guild members. I hope that you had a wonderful holiday season and are looking forward to the remainder of our Guild Year with enthusiasm.

Since our last Newsletter I have had the pleasure of welcoming three new members – Brenda Miazga, Gerrie Rietdyk-Rollins, and Irena Swanson. I hope you will take the time to make them feel welcome if you meet in any of our forums. Brenda and Gerrie were referred by a Guild member who will receive a \$5 refund of their membership dues, as part of the *Refer a Friend* program.

And speaking of *Refer a Friend*.... just a quick reminder that our Annual Membership Fee drops from \$45 to \$35 effective February 1st. This covers the remainder of the Guild Year including free access to all the events for International Quilting Day in March. This might be just enough of an incentive to encourage your friends to join our amazing Guild.

Till the next time we "chat",
Sharon Bourque
Membership Registrar, 2024/25

Stashbusters February/March 2025

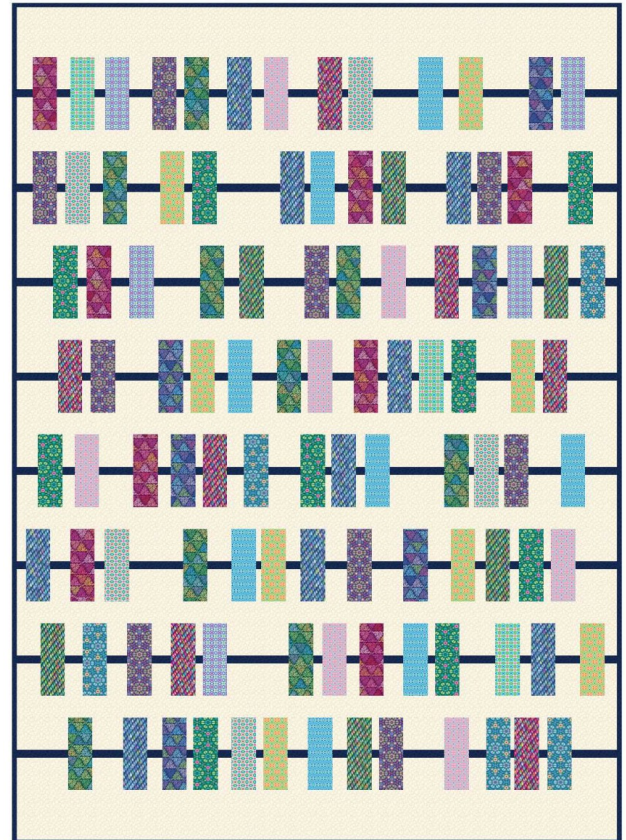
Catherine Clarke will be leading us through “Friendship Bracelet”, a free pattern offered by Benartex. This is an easy quilt that goes together quickly and allows for some improvisation. The pattern calls for 2½ inch strips (you can use those jelly rolls you love but don’t know how to use). Of course you can also use fat eighths, fat quarters, yardage or a layer cake to create the “beads” in the bracelet. Your colour scheme can be scrappy or coordinated. The pattern makes a 50” x 78” quilt but is easily adapted to quilts of various sizes.

To make a quilt of this size, the fabric requirements are as follows:

- 21 strips of a 2½ inch pre-cut roll (jelly roll) or equivalent
- 1½ yards for the horizontal strips and binding
- 2¾ yards for the background
- 1½ yards of 107 inch wide backing
- 54” x 82” batting

Here’s the link to the pattern

<https://cdn.benartex.com/fabrics/89F/FriendshipBracelet.pdf>



Stashbusters meets the first Wednesday of every month, via Zoom, from 9:30am – 3:30pm Eastern – all year long! Participants are free to come and go as they please. Participation in the group is free, and we welcome new participants at any time. There is no charge to participate. Please contact [stashbusters\[at\]royalcityquiltersguild.ca](mailto:stashbusters@royalcityquiltersguild.ca) to be added to the mailing list or learn more about this friendly group. Hope to see you on February 5, 2025!

How to Borrow Books

Unfortunately, as you know, we do not have the opportunity to view the library books in person. However, this does not prevent you from borrowing library books. Please go to our online library (via our website under 'Resources') and choose some books. There is a "Library Instructions" document there that will explain how to search through our library catalogue. After you choose books, please email me (maryanne.rcqg [at] rogers.com) with the author and title of the book(s) you would like to borrow. You can pick up your books at the next Mingle or Quilts of Valour Day at our local Legion. The next sewing dates at the Legion are February 7th, April 7th and May 31st. If those dates don't work for you, I can arrange with you when and where to pick up or return books.

Please note: If you currently have borrowed books at home, please return them at the next sew day (or contact me) as other members may have requested them.

Catalogue Review

We have 333 books in our library including books by some of our speakers such as **Timna Tarr** "Stitched Photo Mosaic Quilting", **Paula Nadelstern** "Snowflakes & Quilts", **MJ Kinman** "Gemstone Quilts", **Barbara Brackman** "Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns", **Karen K Stone** "Karen K Stone Quilts", **Phyllis Cullen** "It's All About the Face" and **Pat Speth** "Nickel Quilts & Borders".

Our library has 39 books for quick and easy quilts, 34 books for quilts using precuts and panels; 12 books for free motion quilting/machine quilting/hand quilting; 54 books for art quilts/surface design/embellishments/crazy quilts and; last but not least, 17 books on various types of appliqué.

Here's a book about using fat quarters:



Sewing with fat quarters makes quilting a breeze! Curved piecing, paper piecing, strip piecing, appliqué, fusible web, and more—use your favourite fat quarters to create a delightful array of projects from cushions and other small projects to mini quilts and bed-size quilts:

1. Piece 22 projects using fat quarters, ranging from bed-size quilts to cushions and smaller projects
2. Expand your piecing skills with techniques such as sewing half-square triangles, paper piecing, curved piecing, appliqué, and using fusible web
3. Make traditional and modern quilts from designers Jo Avery, Nicole Calver, Karen Lewis, and more!

Please have a look through our catalogue and let me know which books you wish to borrow!
Happy quilting! MaryAnne, Librarian

Show and Share Presentations and Quilt Whispering

Submit your photos for the Member Show and Share at this month's meeting. Photos should be sent in by 7:00 pm the prior Sunday evening. You can send via the Get Involved page of the Guild website or send via email to [showandshare \[at\] royalcityquiltersguild \[dot\] ca](mailto:showandshare@royalcityquiltersguild.ca)

The link to our most recent display of members' talents for December and January can be found by clicking on the image:



Do you want some quilting design help for a quilt top? Photos of your quilt tops for Quilt Whispering should be sent in by 7:00 pm Sunday evening prior to our regular monthly meeting. You can send them via the "Get Involved" page of the Guild website or by e-mail at [quiltwhisperer\[at\]royalcityquiltersguild.ca](mailto:quiltwhisperer@royalcityquiltersguild.ca)

We'd love to see your latest projects! Thanks,
Linda



Community Outreach

Our next in-person gathering will be International Quilts of Valour Day at the Legion on February 7. There will be more from Monica Ferguson about that day. While our focus on February 7 is Quilts of Valour, we will have kits available to take home for the Home for Good program. If you want to try your hand at quilting on a smaller quilt, there are kits for the hospital area of Outreach. A kit can be brought for you to take home if you contact Ann Jeffrey in advance.

Our big push at present is to reach our goal of 40 quilts for Home for Good. The new units of long-term transitional housing are supposed to be ready some time in February.

Quilts of Valour

The 7th Annual Quilts of Valour National Sew Day is Friday, February 7, 2025! RCQG members may choose either in-person or virtual participation.



In-person

Monica and April will host an in-person sew day at Guelph's Royal Canadian Legion at 57 Watson Parkway South from 10 am to 4 pm. There will be block kits and quilt kits and projects for you to work on. Bring your sewing machine (if you are able) and basic sewing supplies. Lunch will be available as a cash purchase from the Legion. If you prefer, you may bring your own lunch. We plan to join the National virtual event from the Legion.

Virtual

If you prefer, you may register to participate in the national sew day virtually. Paul Leger will be the host. To attend virtually, visit the QOV website at <https://www.quiltsofvalour.ca/> and click the link in the lower right.

For questions, please email Monica at rcqg.qov@gmail.com

Home for Good

It's fun to see the Home for Good quilts coming in over the last couple of months. From time to time, we get glimpses like this French Braid quilt on Roxanne C's longarm. Did you start one? How is it coming along? How would you like to help us provide quilts for the transitional housing units slated to open this year? All lap- and throw-sized quilts or quilt tops are welcome, but because adult males make up two-thirds of the homeless population, generously-sized quilts are especially suitable. As a general guideline, we recommend quilts approximately 60x80 inches in size.



We have recently received another two generous fabric donations and would love to make a kit from the Guild stash for you to complete. If you'd like to sew a kit from our stash, please ask!

We are always looking for people to quilt the tops we receive. Both longarm and domestic machine quilters are invited to pick up a bundle for quilting. We always have them available at Mingles and can arrange for pick up/drop off from one of our homes. Outreach quilts are a great way to improve your quilting skills before you tackle one of your own projects.

We know some of our members enjoy hand stitching bindings and labels. Let us know if you'd like to stitch some bindings and we'll put a quilt or two aside for you. Ann J and Becky F

International Quilting Day



6th annual virtual celebration of
International Quilting Day

Katie Pasquini Masopust
2024 Inductee
Quilters' Hall of Fame

Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry
Internationally recognized; One
of 30 most influential quiltmakers

Free for guild members; \$25 for non-member guests
Info at royalcityquiltersguild.ca/iqd2025/

March 15, 2025

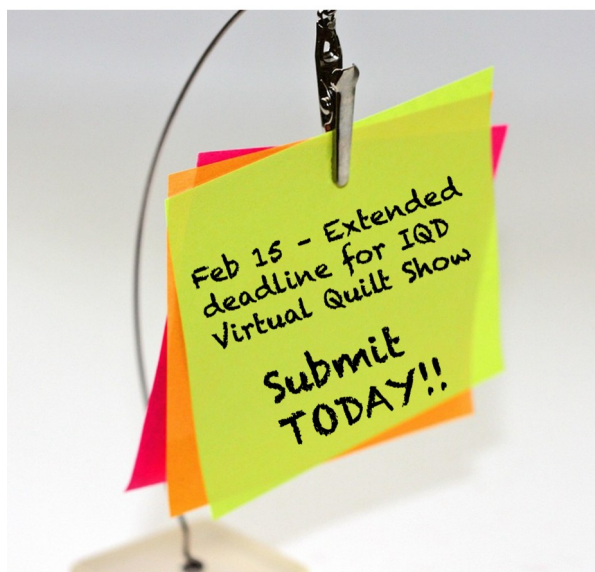
Deadline extended to February 15th for Virtual Quilt Show

Our 6th annual Virtual Celebration of International Quilting Day is Saturday March 15, 2025. Each year, one of the highlights of the event is the virtual quilt show, and we invite you to participate. Please share photos of your quilted creations with attendees from across North America. Your creations inspire others and are a pleasure to view.

All those attending International Quilting Day are welcome to submit up to two quilts to the Virtual Quilt Show. If you've shown an item somewhere else, it's still welcome at IQD. Most of our attendees will not have seen it.

The following information about your entry will be required:

1. Pattern name
2. Pattern designer or original design
3. Quilter, if other than yourself
4. Artist's statement or brief history of the quilt – limit of 50 words
5. Up to five photos of each creation. We recommend an overall view along with several close-ups of interesting details
6. Submissions are open through February 1, 2025 giving you lots of time to think about your entries and take good photographs.



Visit the Virtual Quilt Show section of the [IQD website](#) to upload your photos and details. You will need to log in to your Google account. If you do not have a Google account, you may ask someone to submit the photos and information on your behalf. Check out the International Quilting Day website for more details.

January Mingle

January's Mingle at Guelph's Royal Canadian Legion was nothing short of a stitchin' good time. The event was filled with laughter, creativity and, of course, plenty of quilting camaraderie. We had a few rounds of quilting bingo. Each participant went a little scrappy, making their own bingo cards using 2½" squares. At the end of the day, we had enough bingo cards to create two community outreach quilts. I'd like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who contributed their time, energy and fabric to make this project a success.

Don't miss the next Mingle (Hey! They're free!). We'll be sewing for Quilts of Valour and celebrating the Guild's 34th Anniversary on Monday, April 7. Watch the newsletter for more details and yes, there will be cake.



Congratulations to Kestrel Michaud! Kestrel was RCQG's Guest Speaker at our February 2023 meeting. Collette Dumont (March 2024) was another big winner! See the rest of the Road to California winners at <https://online.roadtocalifornia.com/contest-winner.php>

Retreat

We are pleased to announce plans for RCQG's second annual sewing retreat. This five day/four night event offers attendees distraction-free sewing. Retreat staff will prepare meals and an evening snack (including clean-up!) beginning with lunch on Monday and ending with lunch on Friday. Spend your days as you please: sewing, socializing, strolling the grounds, or shopping nearby quilt shops!

Mark your calendar now for November 24-28, 2025!



5 days of uninterrupted sewing
Free from distractions
At a tranquil location 35 minutes away
Home-cooked meals prepared for you
Sewing & socializing to your heart's content

November 24-28, 2025

Hidden Acres Retreat Centre
1921 Line 37, New Hamburg, ON

Registration opens March 1 for members
and April 1 for non-members

Visit our online store to reserve your spot.
Only \$478 for 13 meals & 4 nights lodging.
Limited single rooms available at \$545.
Pay a deposit now and pay balance by Sept 1.
Space is limited. Reserve yours soon!

We will stay at the beautiful Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp & Retreat Centre located at 1921 Line 37 in New Hamburg, Ontario. For more information about the venue, visit their website <https://hiddenacres.ca/>

The cost for our retreat is \$478 for shared rooms and \$545 for single occupancy rooms. This price includes 13 meals, four night lodging, evening snacks, and gratuity for the caterers. Please visit RCQG's online store to make a non-refundable deposit of \$50 (shared rooms) or \$55 (single occupancy). Your early response will allow us to make necessary commitments to the facility. The final non-refundable payment of \$428 for shared rooms, and \$490 for a single room, is due September 1, 2025. While payments are non-refundable, they can be transferred to someone else should an emergency arise that requires you to cancel your attendance. In that unlikely case, we will try to help you find someone interested in purchasing your spot.

Registration is limited to RCQG members starting March 1, 2025. We will open registration to non-members on April 1, 2025.

Register early online on or after March 1 at <https://rcqg.square.site>

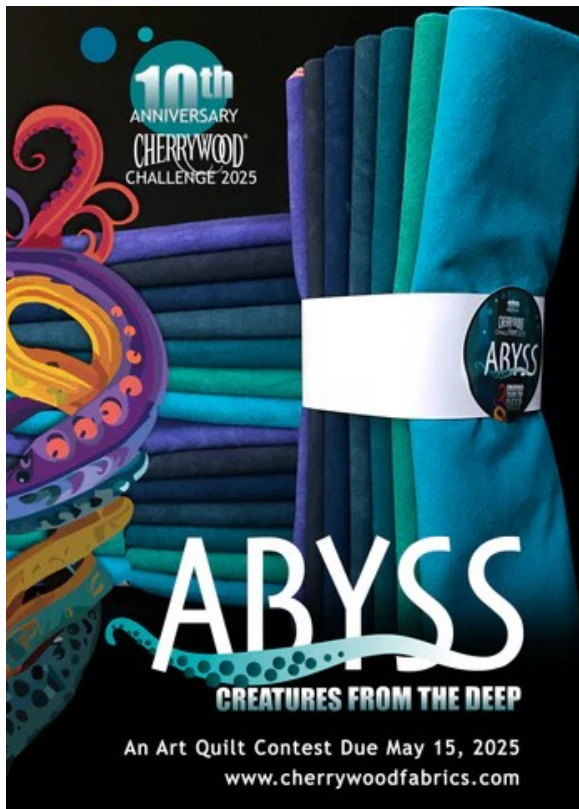
All participants will need to bring sheets, towels and pillowcases. Pillows and blankets are provided. The caterer requires at least two weeks' notice so they can do their best to accommodate any special dietary needs (e.g. food allergies). We will ask about dietary restrictions closer to the actual event. Please note the venue is accessible and accommodating.

We look forward to spending the last week of November with you!! If you would like to help plan activities for the retreat, please reach out to one of us. We want to hear your best ideas! Our email addresses are in the Guild directory.

Retreat Organizers:

April Temple-Spears & Monica Ferguson

Opportunities



Kits available at [Cotton Harvest](#) in Seaforth. Look for more info online.

This is another Stash Buster project you can do. Looks like fun!

2025 Stash Buster Challenge from Border Creek Station

Make 1 or 2 blocks a week to sew your stash into a striking quilt. Excellent instructions and several layout ideas to make the quilt your own.



Advertising

Remember to visit your local quilt stores and service providers! We would like to thank all our advertisers for their continued support of our guild, and we need to ensure that we also support them. Clicking on an advertisement will take you to that company's website, so that you can further explore their offerings. If you would like to advertise your business within our newsletter, please contact [advertising\[at\]oyalcityquiltersguild.ca](mailto:advertising[at]oyalcityquiltersguild.ca)



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2024 Grand National DELIGHTS

A touring exhibition of 37 fibre art pieces each exploring a delightful image or activity.

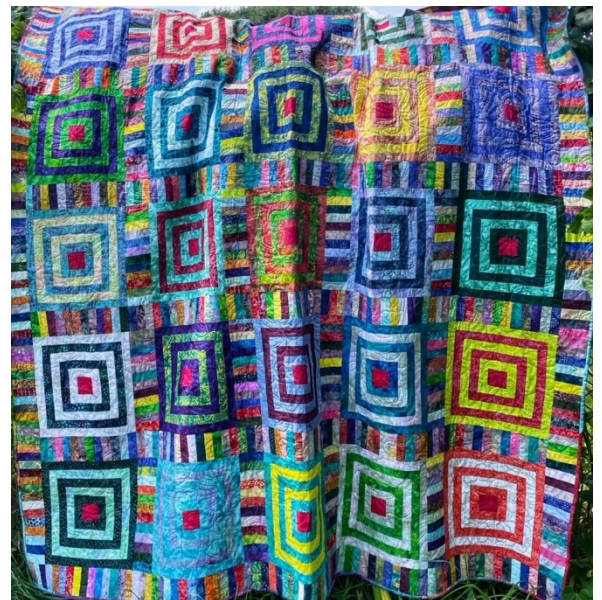


Etobicoke Quilters' Guild Quilt Fever 2025

This biennial quilt show and sale is taking place on March 28, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and March 29, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The admission price of \$10.00 includes your ticket for all the door prize draws.

Activities include daily draws and door prizes, Pick-to-Win, a Members' Boutique offering great bargains, crafts and treasures, and a Merchants' Mall with vendors selling fabrics, notions, kits and patterns to supplement all quilting and sewing needs and stashes! There's a Cafe on site where you can grab lunch or a snack and view many comfort quilts. More information is available at

https://etobicokequiltersguild.com/quilt_show/



News from the CQA

Quilt Canada will be held June 18-21, 2025 at Mississauga's International Centre. Keep up with the latest Quilt Canada news at <https://canadianquilter.com/quilt-canada-2025/>

February 17 – Entries for the 2025 National Juried Show will close at noon EST. Visit <https://canadianquilter.com/njs-2025-call-for-entry/> for details.

February 25 – Registration for Quilt Canada workshops, lectures and tours opens for CQA/ACC members. Discounts will be in place through March 11. See the schedule and pricing information at <https://canadianquilter.com/quilt-canada-2025-classes-and-lectures/>

March 12 – Registration opens for all at full price. See the schedule and pricing information at <https://canadianquilter.com/quilt-canada-2025-classes-and-lectures/>

May 17, 2025

Last day to book group rate at Four Points by Sheraton

May 22, 2025

Last Day to book group rate at Holiday Inn Toronto International Airport

June 19-21, 2025

National Juried Show at Quilt Canada at the International Centre, Mississauga



Connecting Youth to Culture: The mission of **Soaring Circle** is to empower Indigenous youth through education, improving their access to career and entrepreneurship opportunities, while inviting the active participation of all Canadians in moving reconciliation forward.



TRUE COLOURS Quilt Along 2025

It's not too late!
 The CQA/ACC **True Colours QuiltAlong 2025** is celebrating diversity and inclusion, with a focus on support for 2SLGBTQI+ communities leading up to Pride Month in June 2025. The goal is to ensure everyone feels welcome in the quilting circle.
 It starts in January. It is hoped that by making quilts and either gifting them to people we know, or donating them to organizations that support 2SLGBTQI+ communities, we will continue the conversation about diversity and inclusion. Check this page for inspiration and donation ideas. [True Colours Quilt Along 2025 - Canadian Quilters Association/Association Canadienne de la Courtepointe](#)



Includes a 3 Night **Hotel Stay**
 \$500 towards **Travel Expenses**
 In-store \$500 **Shopping Spree** at your Janome dealer

Visit your Janome dealer for full contest details.



Janome **2030 QDC** sewing machine
 and a Toronto afternoon **Guided Adventure**
 CN Tower, **Dinner** at the top of the world, plus more!

Visit your Janome dealer for full contest details.

WEFTfest

WEFTfest Call for Entries Now Open!

WEFTfest (Woolwich Expressions in Fibre Traditions) will be held May 15-19, 2025 at the St. George Banquet Hall. This festival will feature Canada's most important heritage art piece: *Quilt of Belonging*. A richly hued portrait of the human family, *Quilt of Belonging* is a 120 foot- (36 metre-) long collaborative textile art project. Its 263 blocks portray the rich cultural legacies of all the First Peoples in Canada and every nation of the world at the dawn of the new Millennium.

Apply now to be a vendor, designer, artist, quilter and/or teacher for this unique chance to sell your product in the same room as the Quilt of Belonging. Visit <https://weftfest.ca/> to learn more.



Quilted! The Virtual Summit <https://tickets.quiltedsuit.com/?ac=vUgDv0I2>



This FREE 2-day online summit on Feb. 4 and 5 includes 25+ classes & workshops on topics ranging from... quilting trends like appliqué sweatshirts, modern quilting techniques, and watercolour quilt design. to getting organized in your quilt room, shopping your fabric stash, coordinating fabrics with patterns, and new ideas for using your scraps...to improving your quilting skills with free quilt math calculators, long-arming tips & ideas, easy binding techniques to get those projects DONE, half-square triangles, and more.

RCQG Schedule

Please note the schedule below is subject to change. Please refer to the RCQG website for additional program information.

Activities	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
Guild Meetings via Zoom	Guild meeting Karen Miller (2 nd Tuesday)	Guild meeting Paula Nadelstern (2 nd Tuesday)	Guild meeting Terry Rowland (2 nd Tuesday)	Guild meeting Tara Miller (2 nd Tuesday)	Guild meeting Lilo Bowman (2 nd Tuesday)
Mingles and In person events	National QOV Sew Day Friday, Feb 7 Legion Hall A 10:00 am to 4:00 pm	None	Quilts of Valour Mingle Mon, April 7 Legion (Lounge) 10:00 am to 4:00 pm	May Mingle Sat, May 31 Legion Hall A 10:00 am to 4:00 pm	None
Fireside chat for new members via Zoom		Fireside Chat March 27			
Virtual Sew days and NYB Quiltalong on Zoom	<i>Monthly Virtual Sew day (2nd Saturday)</i>	<i>Monthly Virtual Sew day (2nd Saturday)</i>	<i>Monthly Virtual Sew day (2nd Saturday)</i>	<i>Monthly Virtual Sew day (2nd Saturday)</i>	<i>Monthly Virtual Sew day (2nd Saturday)</i>
Workshops on Zoom <i>Fees apply</i>	Audrey Esarey Workshop Feb 15		Karen Miller Workshop April 19		
International Quilting Day on Zoom		<i>International Quilting Day March 15</i>			