Common Thread Quilt Guild Annual Report

For the year ending
June 30, 2026

Presented at the AGM, November 10, 2026

Common Thread Quilt Guild Annual Report – 2025-2026

President's Report

Janice Namiesniowski

2025–2026 was a wonderful year for our guild! We enjoyed beautiful and creative quilts, inspirational speakers, opportunities to learn through workshops, and temptations from our Shops of the Month. Retreats and sew days gave us opportunities to connect and create alongside fellow quilters, while our spectacular Quilt Show provided a fitting finale to a truly "*Quiltalicious"* year!

Our bi-annual 2026 Quilt Show was spectacular, receiving glowing reviews on all fronts. The Quilt Show Committee planned and executed an event of which we can all be proud. An army of guild volunteers, along with family and friends, stepped up to help share the considerable workload required to bring such a large event to life. Their dedication, enthusiasm, and hard work made this show a tremendous success. Thank you to everyone who contributed!

Our Guild meeting format remained unchanged, with in-person meetings held at Greenbelt Church from September through December and again from April through June. From January through March, we met virtually via Zoom. This combination continued to provide opportunities for members to connect, learn, and share their love of quilting throughout the year.

This year, CTQG introduced two significant changes to improve our operations and make life easier for our volunteers; first introducing Zeffy and second transitioning to Google Workspace for Nonprofits.

We implemented Zeffy, a Canadian company offering a free online fundraising and payment platform designed specifically for nonprofit organizations. Unlike traditional platforms, Zeffy covers credit card transaction fees through its voluntary tipping model, allowing CTQG to retain 100% of the amounts collected. Zeffy will streamline many of our administrative processes such as: membership registration, retreats, workshops, quilt show registration, and sew days. The transition has been relatively smooth, thanks to the behind-the-scenes hard work of Daphne Uras, Elizabeth Barr, and Debbie Jolly. Their efforts in bringing this new system to the guild are greatly appreciated.

CTQG also adopted Google Workspace for Nonprofits, allowing us to move to role-based email addresses, such as president@commonthreadquiltguild.ca, replacing our previous Gmail addresses. This gives our guild a more professional online presence while making the transition between outgoing and incoming volunteers much simpler. Google Workspace also provides cloud-based collaboration tools and shared storage, helping us organize information and preserve continuity as executive positions change hands. Daphne Uras was the driving force behind this transition. Her work has helped lay a strong foundation for the guild's future administrative needs. Thank you, Daphne!

The CTQG Code of Ethics was updated within the Constitution to place greater emphasis on respect and kindness and to clarify the consequences of violations. Members are now asked to acknowledge the Code of Ethics as part of the membership registration process. These changes reinforce the importance of maintaining a welcoming, respectful, and supportive environment for everyone in our guild.

CTQG runs entirely on volunteer efforts. Our Executive Committee, Activity Coordinators, and many behind-the-scenes helpers combine their time, skills, and enthusiasm to keep our guild running smoothly.

Thank you to everyone who stepped up, lent a hand, or quietly kept things moving. We could not do it without you!

It has been a privilege to serve as President and work alongside such a talented and dedicated group. Thank you for making this another wonderful year of learning, friendship, and quilting. Here's to another "*Quiltalicious"* year ahead!

Financial Report

Treasurer: Libby McRobbie

Common Thread Quilt Guild
Balance Sheet
2026

		2026	2025
ASSETS			
	Cash	**41,080**	32,422
	Short-term deposit	**19,067**	18,469
	Prepaid rent	**0**	0
	Total Current Assets	**60,147**	50,891
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
	Accounts payable	**1,951**	0
	Deferred revenue	**4,200**	4,120
	Total Current Liabilities	**6,151**	4,120
	Retained Earnings beginning of period	**46,771**	48,582
	Net Income (loss) for the period	**7,769**	-1,811
	Retained Earnings, end of period	**54,540**	46,771
	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	**60,691**	50,891

Common Thread Quilt Guild

Income Statement

	Year Ended Jun 30, 2026	Year Ended Jun 30, 2025	Year Ended Jun 30, 2024
REVENUES			
Guest fees	**165**	205	150
Guild pins and nametags	**155**	186	235
Library fines and fundraising	**0**	222	114
Membership	**8,160**	9,400	8,520
Newsletter advertising	**2,152**	1,904	2,176
Quilt Show	**24,576**	0	22,620
Retreats	**13,105**	13,295	12,110
Sew days	**322**	574	744
Shop of the Month - Fundraising	**1,706**	1,788	1,639
Term deposit interest	**598**	1,008	905
Workshops	**3,565**	2,865	1,840
Challenge income	**0**	410	0
Misc income	**0**	0	5
Total Revenue	**54,504**	31,857	51,058
EXPENSES			
Bank charges	**291**	252	249
Challenge (includes prizes)	**300**	675	300
Community Projects	**2,029**	2,905	1,884
Equipment Lending	**0**	1,665	626
Guild pins and nametags	**203**	203	203
Insurance (via CQA & Marsh)	**1,656**	594	398
Library	**0**	0	736
Membership	**42**	249	168
Newsletter	**0**	0	0
Office and general	**1,430**	1,633	1,657
Programme	**3,446**	3,758	3,816
Quilt show	**13,201**	0	13,199
Rent	**7,000**	5,310	5,370
Zoom	**560**	444	518
Retreats	**11,418**	9,943	9,563
Sew days	**322**	539	367
Shop of the Month	**1,050**	1,050	1,092
Website	**197**	221	351
Workshops	**3,590**	4,227	3,265
Total Expense	**46,735**	33,668	43,763
NET INCOME (LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD	**7,769**	-1,811	7,294

Reviewer's report

September 18, 2026

Emily Adam, President
Common Thread Quilt Guild
Orleans, On.

RE: Common Thread Quilt Guild 2025/2026 Financial Statements review

I have reviewed the financial statements prepared by the treasurer. A few minor adjustments were identified during my review and have been corrected.

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that would cause me to believe that these financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and results of operations.

I have one recommendation for the Guild to implement; this is to prevent fraudulent activity. I would recommend preparing a monthly bank reconciliation, this will include:

a. A copy of the bank statement
b. A copy of the detail GL for the bank account
c. A copy of the cheque register and/or eTransfer register
d. The president will review those documents for accuracy and sign the bank reconciliation

Yours Sincerely,

Louise Garrahan, Reviewer

CC: CTQG Treasurer

Attachments: CTQG Balance sheet 2025-2026 and CTQG Income Statement 2025-2026

Membership

Committee Chair: Debbie Jolly.

Membership Total = 207; Returning Members =170; New members = 37 (including one youth membership); New members taking advantage of the Spring Special (May/June 2025) =7; Executive members receiving free membership =16. Note: Membership was lower this year by approximately 31 members.

Guild attendance at in-person meetings (Greenbelt Church) averaged 104 members. Zoom (Jan-Mar) meetings had similar numbers. Membership fees remained at $40.00 and new members who joined in May/June for the 2026-2027 year received one or two months free. Guest Fees $5.00. CTQG name tags supplied by Regimbal increased to $20.

Online membership registration, using Zeffy, was implemented for the spring membership drive. This method gives Membership the benefits of; streamline applications and payments with no need to manually link applications and payments, payments must be made at time of application therefore no additional work required to chase payments, online payments reduce workload for processing cash/cheque and an automatic creation of membership list, rather than manual input into Excel.

To facilitate the transition to paperless/cashless for the membership, Debbie incorporated a number of tools to educate and guide. Including a PowerPoint presentation (in person and website), distributed flyers with step-by-step guides and made available at guide meetings “volunteers + laptops “to assist members complete their membership registration. A very successful transition to the new way. Of course, in the end cash/check and paper registration can still be accepted. Zeffy issued digital membership cards, but cardstock membership cards can be issued until stock runs out.

Many thanks to those members who assisted at the membership desk this year. During the registration season (June, September, October 2026) volunteers were essential to help process the applications and payments. With the launch of Zeffy, our volunteer roles have changed slightly, with the need in the future for volunteers with laptops to help members apply and pay online.

Quilty Pleasures, our Orleans based Quilt store, continues to support our Guild with the donation of four Fat Quarters as door prizes at our in-person meetings. We thank them for their generous support of our Guild.

Website

Committee Chair: Daphne Uras and Assistant Sherrill Teahan-Ghaicha

In the fall and winter of the 2026-27 guild year, the guild Treasurer, President and Website administrator set up Zeffy as the replacement for Ninja forms. Zeffy can do much more, managing memberships, event registration, donations, and taking payments of all kinds. Zeffy is Canadian, very well supported, and free to use for organizations who have proved their non-profit status (even the credit card payments are free from charges). Guild members are advised that Zeffy sets up a default 15% donation to Zeffy (so they can offer their services to non-profits for free), and that when making a purchase or donation, they can reduce, remove or increase this amount. After more detailed work, primarily by Daphne Uras, assisted by Debbie Jolly of Membership and Elizabeth Barr of Quilt Show Registrar, Zeffy went live on April 1, 2026. We are grateful to have such dedicated and knowledgeable quilters on board for this project.

In Spring 2026, the Website Administrator an Assistant, a new volunteer position. Sherill is doing an efficient job of assessing the website, making updates, cleaning up existing pages and re-organizing data to make everything more functional as well as more attractive. She is generously currently doing almost all website work so that the website administrator could focus on setting up and managing other new systems. The website was regularly updated to provide up-to-date information about events such as guild meeting programme topics and shop of the month, challenges, retreats, workshops, and sew days. The website also offers valuable information about membership, community projects and resources available to members such as the library inventory, the monthly newsletter, a map (and list) of our advertisers, and more. The Quilt Show registrar also made updates to the website.

In the Spring of 2026, the Website Administrator set up the Guild with Google Workspace for Nonprofits. As the position also entails switching email accounts from outcoming to incoming executive members or activity coordinators, this switch to Google Workspace will reduce the work load with this task. The Website is still a working project, but much has been done, giving it a cleaner, easier look.

Program

Coordinator: Ruth Lenarduzzi

September 9,2025 - Josee Lusignan of Soaring Circle. A very good speaker and enjoyed by our members. Josee spoke about the Sew Shapes Campaign and its positive impact on Indigenous youth in northern communities. Our members have taken this to heart and have contributed many cut shapes and a lot of fabric. I plan on continuing with this very worthy initiative.

October 14,2025 - Jennifer Tryon of Homemade in Kingston. A former TV journalist who now owns a quilting shop and is involved in many crafts. She was also involved with Soaring Circle and made a video with Josee on the subject of the sew shapes campaign for northern Indigenous schools.

November 11, 2025 - Michelle VanDyk presented her quilting journey. She discussed the importance of pushing creative boundaries and developing new skills as a quilter. Michelle is a member of our guild.

December 9, 2025 - Jen McMillan gave a presentation on needle turn applique with a trunk show. She inspired a POP quilt block experiment with our members. She enjoys the combination of pink, orange and purple. Members were given pink, orange and purple cotton squares and ovals to practice needle turn applique and create a unique quilt. This is still in progress.

January 13, 2026 - Irene Roderick of Texas gave a Zoom presentation on abstract and improvisational quilting. Very interesting.

February 10, 2026 - Silly Moon Quilting from B.C. talked on ZOOM about the use of quilting rulers. It was very interesting and inspired quilters to buy a special foot and acquire some of their rulers. The owner was very accommodating for us. I found out quite late that a scheduled presenter was unable to present due to illness and she was able to step in and help us out.

March 10, 2026 - Brett Lewis-Natural Born Quilter, from Alberta gave a presentation on his quilt and fabric designs based on the natural environment and bold colours. His ZOOM trunk show was very good; quite personal.

April 14, 2026 - Monika Henry of Penny Spool Quilts gave a presentation, Beat the Scrap Chaos-Organizing Your Scraps for Quilting Success. Email information was also provided for

our members. Her presentation was not as dynamic as I would have liked although the information was helpful.

May 12, 2026 - Community Projects Panel Challenge reveal. The participants showed their quilts with the tale of its creation. It was amazing to see beautiful creative results from some old and not-so-pretty panels. The panel quilts were displayed at the Quilt Show and then off to the Community. A successful guild activity all-round,

June 9, 2026 - Bill Stearman did a backpack presentation for us. He was a very inspiring speaker and well liked by our members.

Community Projects

Coordinator: Elizabeth Barr

Our Guild Members continue to answer the call to help make the lives of those facing life altering challenges in our community a little more comfortable. Immense gratitude for the members and non-member friends who brought forth fabric donations, donated their time helping to make kits, staff our table so efficiently, piece, quilt and bind. Continued fabric donations have resulted in a healthy amount of fabric, opportunities for pre-cut kits, and a very well received **Community Projects Panel Challenge**. This year, we saw a decline in the quality of some quilts being submitted. From poor binding and low-quality fabric to gaps in batting and sometimes, no batting at all in some quilts. This highlights the need for better communication of what our expectations are so that our members' valuable time and resources are not in vain. It also brings up possible opportunities for "how-to" workshops. If we can support our members to become better quilters, everyone benefits.

Community Projects continues to have regular, ongoing needs assessment conversations with our partners to ensure we meet their needs as best as possible. This 2025-2026 Guild year, a total of 539 quilts went out into the Community:

- 314 Cuddle Quilt to Ottawa General Hospital NICU
- 64 Wheelchair Quilts to Perley Rideau Health Centre
- 57 Quilts (51 Comfort Quilts and 6 Bed) to Ottawa Hospice
- 63 Quilts to CHEO Longterm Care in various sizes and age-appropriate themes
- 35 Quilts to Interval House (21 bed, 11 children's, 2 dog quilts (specifically donated for that purpose)

These quilts were delivered with the greatest pride in our guild and am honoured to pass onto you the sincerest gratitude shown by those receiving our gifts of love.

CTQG Workshops

Co-Chairs: Heather Wolczanski and Joanne Villeneuve

The following workshops were presented in the 2025-2026 guild year:

1. *Introduction to Rope Bowls,* October 28, 2025, Instructor: Laura Malo, 7 participants.
2. *The Veil - Precision Piecing Masterclass*, February 28 & March 1, 2026, Instructor: Peter Byrne, 15 participants. (Zoom)
3. *Faux Cathedral Windows*, Instructor: Michelle Van Dyk, March 28, 2026, 12 participants.
4. *Improv for Planners,* Instructor: Monika Henry, May 28, 2026, 11 participants.

Guild Challenge

Coordinator: Elizabeth Barr

This year Community Projects initiated a Panel Challenge, in aid of reducing the volume of panels in the Community Projects fabric stash. Thirty Panel Challenge kits were made, 27 were signed out, making for a 90% participation rate. Twenty-one were completed (77.7% return rate). The quilts were shown at our May meeting, proudly hung on display at our 2026 Quilt Show and have since been distributed into the Community.

Retreats

Coordinators: Catherine Parkinson and Laurelle Callaghan

In 2025-2026, the guild held all 6 in-town retreats at the Notre-Dame-des-Champs Community Centre, 3659 Navan Road. Homemade meals were provided by attendee volunteers at all the retreats. Attendees volunteered for various tasks required to run the retreat smoothly. A strong man was employed for the set up and tear down of tables/chairs. The number of participants and dates were as follows:

- Retreat #1 October 17-19, 2025 - 30 attendees
- Retreat #2 October 24-26, 2025 - 28 attendees
- Retreat #3 January 23-25, 2026 - 28 attendees
- Retreat #4 January 30-February 1, 2026 - 32 attendees
- Retreat #5 April 17-19, 2026 - 33 attendees
- Retreat #6 April 24-26, 2026 - 20 attendees, plus 5 one-day attendees*

* For Retreat #6, because we had a low registration, we allowed members to attend for one day only and pay for only one day.

Sew Days

Coordinators Joanne Villeneuve and Ruth Oswald

In person sew days give attendees the opportunity to showcase projects, share tips, and resources. Virtual (via Zoom) sew days attendees enjoy sewing together without venturing out in cold winter weather. Ruth prepares a summary of shared tips and resources for the attendees of the virtual sew days.

In-person sew days were held on: September 12, 2025; October 11, 2025; November 8, 2025; December 13, 2025; April 11, 2026; May 9, 2026; and June 6, 2026.

Virtual sew days were held on January 10, 2026; February 14, 2026 and March 14, 2026.

The Guild's Accuquilt Go! fabric cutter and dies are made available during in-person sew days. Guild members are encouraged to come to the community center during Sew days to use the Accuquilt Go! without having to pay any fees, unless they remain for a substantial part of the day and/or make use of other guild tools.

Fat Quarter Club

Coordinators: Susan Baker and Del Jazzy

Members bring a fat quarter of quilt fabric in pre-designated theme, get a ticket and a winner is drawn from the participants, who win the fat quarters. Projects made from the draws are eligible for a cash prize in June. Marian Burke won with her quilted jacket. The themes were; turquoise, sunset colours, silver & gold, black & white, pink, eye spy, and orange & blue.

Library

Co-Chairs: Veronica Baker and Sharon Kes

Library fines collected for the 2025-2026 year were $58. No new books were purchased this year. Three books were accepted as donations. All books donated to the library must be less than 10 years from publication. Rulers were discontinued due to lack of circulation. A library cull of books was performed the summer of 2025 and a Book sale was held.

Shop of the Month

Coordinator: Monique Boileau-Levesque

September 2025: Élégante Virgule from Sainte-Thérèse Québec,
October 2025: Homemade from Kingston,
November 2025: Quilty Pleasures, Orleans,
December 2025: Les Ateliers Quilt et Coton from Buckingham Quebec,
January, February, March: No shops during Zoom months,
April 2025: Sew Crafty from Drummond Ontario,
May 2025: Fran's Quilting from Orleans,
June 2025: Mad Moody Quilting from Pincourt Que.

Newsletter

Editor: Marian Burke

There were 10 regular newsletters sent out through the 2025-2026 Guild year. As well, we did one 'Special Summer Edition' advertising our advertisers.

Newsletter Advertising

Coordinator: Cathy Duchesne

For the 2025-2026 year there were a total of 22 advertisers for our newsletter from across Ontario, Quebec and even the Maritimes.

This year there was a special summer newsletter devoted to advertisers. Goals for 2026-27 include recruiting new businesses and continuing to encourage members to use discount codes or mention guild affiliation when shopping. Our advertisers need to know the ads are effective in reaching customers.

CTQG 2026 Quilt Show

Committee Chair: Tammy Davies and Janice Namiesniowski

The 2026 Quilt Show was a significant achievement for our guild, generating profit of $11,390 that will be used to support Guild operations and activities. Our fiscal success was driven by a robust Merchant Mall, an increased ticket price ($12), and enthusiastic public support. 1138 tickets sold, vendor fees $10,500, Judging was done on a cost recovery basis and the Cafe was a stand-alone venture undertaken by St. Mary's Anglican Church, Navan.

For the first time, registration for the 2026 Show was done completely online. This led to improved accuracy and expedited the processing of quilts throughout registration, drop off, set up, judging and take down. A great deal of one-time development and testing was required to launch and trouble shoot the new registration system. Building on the system OVQG put in place in 2025, our Registrars and our consultant, Allan Stephens, worked effectively together to refine and add additional functionalities to create the CTQG registration system. The new system was used to generate a digital quilt layout plan.

The previous venue, Earl Armstrong Arena was unavailable due to renovations. The Lois Kemp Arena, in Blackburn Hamlet was chosen as it provided the scale needed to showcase our members' work. The logistics enabled a focus on creating a safe, accessible, and welcoming environment for both vendors and the public. Parking was a challenge but not impossible. A parking attendant in the mornings aided visitors in finding parking - on site and in other locations.

A multi-channel marketing campaign balanced traditional outreach with cost-effective digital strategies. New to the campaign were two high-visibility, 12-foot dark pink feather flags that were placed at the corner nearest to the venue and at the entrance (The flags were cost-shared with OVQG) and a prominent billboard advertising the Show was placed near the Superstore on Innes Road.

The "volunteer spirit" was the engine of the 2026 show. The online Volunteer "Sign-Up" application used for volunteer registration was very effective and easy to use. 240 volunteer shifts were filled and were an integral part of the Quilt Show's success.

The Members' Market featured 11 CTQG members' work and over 400 items for sale, 136 of which sold. The market achieved a perfect security record with no losses, thanks to the use of overnight covers and consistent volunteer presence. Based on the feedback we received from Guild members, visitors to the show, vendors, volunteers and Quilt Show Committee Members, we can conclude that the 2026 Quilt Show was a resounding success. Aside from some concerns about the high temperatures and available parking, folks were generous in their praise for planning, layout and execution of the Show. But it was the creativity of our members and the calibre of their work that left folks in awe.

Note: Positions held but no report required.
Secretary: Sherrill Crowder
Past President: Diane Grover